

SBSC Weekly Highlights, May 14, 2007

'Got Carbon?' CPRS Scientist Presents on Climate Change: USGS scientist, Kenneth Cole, will be giving an invited presentation on May 15th at the 23rd annual Pacific Climate Workshop, entitled "POST-YOUNGER DRYAS WARMING: AN ANALOG FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS?" The presentation will be part of a special session on the ecological effects of abrupt climate change. Cole has been extensively researching carbon content within well-preserved ancient plants found in packrat middens to better understand climatic trends over larger timeframes. Contact: Ken Cole, CPRS, (928) 556-7466 -230, Flagstaff, AZ

SBSC Provides Endangered Bird Survey Training: On May 15th and 16th, USGS scientist Mark Sogge will assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by teaching at a Southwestern Willow Flycatcher survey training workshop in Albuquerque, NM. In this workshop, one in a series of annual survey trainings held across the Southwest, Sogge will teach students about the status, habitat use, and breeding ecology of this endangered songbird. Students will also be trained on the standardized survey technique (developed by USGS) that has been tailored specifically for this bird. The training course is required in order to receive a USFWS Endangered Species permit to conduct the flycatcher surveys. Biologists from a variety of state and federal agencies, Native American tribes and pueblos, nongovernmental organizations, and consulting firms will attend the training, which includes a field visit to see and hear flycatchers within nearby breeding sites. Contact: Mark Sogge, SBSC Flagstaff, AZ, 928-556-7194; mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Invited Speaker - USGS SCEP Biologist Eben Paxton (SBSC CPRS) was invited to speak at a meeting of the Society of American Foresters, Northern Arizona Chapter on May 3rd, 2007. Along with co-author Mark Sogge, he presented a talk titled "Saltcedar as Avian Habitat", describing how many bird species will utilize the exotic habitat, despite the commonly held belief that saltcedar is poor wildlife habitat. Contact: Eben Paxton (928-523-2025, eben_paxton@usgs.gov).

Invited Speaker - USGS SCEP Biologist Eben Paxton (SBSC CPRS) will be an invited speaker for a migration symposium to be held at the 77th annual meeting of the Cooper's Ornithological Society in Moscow, ID, June 19-22. Eben will be presenting a talk titled "Survivorship Across the Annual Cycle of a Migratory Passerine: Conservation Implications for the Willow Flycatcher", in which he will describe results from recent work which suggests that the majority of mortality in the Willow Flycatcher occurs during migration, and how that information can help guide management activities and future research. Eben's co-authors are Scott Durst, Mark Sogge, and Thomas Koronkiewicz. Contact: Eben Paxton (928-523-2025, eben_paxton@usgs.gov).