

**ETHAN P. WHITE**

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**PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION**

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<b><u>Institution</u></b>	<b><u>Major/Area</u></b>	<b><u>Degree (honors) and Year</u></b>
Colorado College	Biology	B.A. ( <i>magna cum laude</i> ), 1998
University of New Mexico	Biology	Ph.D. ( <i>distinction</i> ), 2005
Univ. of AZ & U.C. Merced	Ecoinformatics	NSF Postdoc, 2005-2007

**APPOINTMENTS**

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2012-present Associate Professor, Dept. of Biology and Ecology Center, Utah State University  
2007-2012 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biology and Ecology Center, Utah State University  
2005-2007 NSF Postdoctoral Fellow in Biological Informatics, Univ. of AZ & U.C. Merced

**FIVE MOST RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS**

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Wilson, G., D.A. Aruliah, C.T. Brown, N.P. Chue Hong, M. Davis, R.T. Guy, S.H.D. Haddock, K. Huff, I. Mitchell, M. Plumbley, B. Waugh, **E.P. White**, and P. Wilson. 2014. Best Practices for Scientific Computing. *PLOS Biology* 12: e1001745

**White, E.P.**, E. Baldrige, Z.T. Brym, K.J. Locey, D.J. McGlinn, S.R. Supp. 2013. Nine simple ways to make it easier to (re)use your data. *Ideas in Ecology and Evolution* 6:1-10

Morris, B.D. and **E.P. White**. 2013. The EcoData Retriever: improving access to existing ecological data. *PLOS ONE* 8:e65848. <https://github.com/weecology/retriever>.

Coyle, J.R., A.H. Hurlbert, and **E.P. White**. 2013. Opposing mechanisms drive diversity patterns of core and occasional bird species. *American Naturalist* 181:E83-E90.

**White, E.P.**, S.K.M. Ernest, P.B. Adler, A.H. Hurlbert, and S.K. Lyons. 2010. Integrating spatial and temporal approaches to understanding species richness. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 365:3633-3643.

**FIVE OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

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**White, E.P.**, K.M. Thibault, and X. Xiao. 2012. Characterizing species-abundance distributions across taxa and ecosystems using a simple maximum entropy model. *Ecology* 93:1772-1778.

**White, E.P.** and A.H. Hurlbert. 2010. The combined influence of the local environment and regional enrichment on bird species richness. *American Naturalist* 172:E35-E43.

Supp, S.R., X. Xiao, S.K.M. Ernest, and **E.P. White**. 2012. Experimental evidence suggests that macroecological patterns are determined primarily by species richness and total abundance. *Ecology* 93:2505-2511.

Xiao, X., **White, E.P.**, M.B. Hooten, and S.L. Durham. 2011. On the use of log-transformation vs. nonlinear regression for analyzing biological power-laws. *Ecology* 92: 1887-1894.

Thibault, K.M., S. Supp, M. Giffen, **E.P. White**, S.K.M. Ernest. 2011. Species composition and abundance of mammalian communities. *Ecology* 92:2316.

## SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

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- **Ecoinformatics:** **1.** Founder of EcologicalData.org – a website designed to use social media tools to allow ecologists to collaborate on the discovery and utilization of available ecological datasets. **2.** EcoData Retriever – Leader of open source software development to automate the process of designing and configuring database structures for ecological databases as well as downloading, cleaning up and installing the data for the end user (<http://ecodataretriever.org>).
- **Computational science education.** **1.** Teacher of two Utah State University courses on introductory and advanced computer programming and database management for biologists. **2.** Developer of a website for providing information about computational approaches in biology (<http://programmingforbiologists.org>). **3.** Software Carpentry Advisory Board member and instructor (<http://software-carpentry.org>), helping lead a group dedicated to providing online and in-person training to improve the use of advanced computational tools by scientists.
- **Database development and provision:** **1.** Team leader for the development of the Mammalian Community Database – an effort to assemble and publish global scale information on the composition of mammalian communities. This database is published in Ecological Archives (Thibault et al. 2011). **2.** Lead database expert on the team that manages the databases for the Portal Project, an important time-series in ecology. The project includes four major datasets (mammals, plants, ants, and weather) that differ substantially in form and complexity. This team transitioned the databases from Microsoft Excel flat files to a relational database running in Microsoft Access in 2004 and transitioned them again in 2010 to a more stable and secure MySQL database that is available to all participants in the project via a secure Linux server.
- **Working groups:** **1.** Smithsonian Evolution of Terrestrial Ecosystems (2010-2011). **2.** NCEAS working group on species-abundance distributions (2006-2008). **3.** Co-organized and hosted an LTER sponsored working group on patterns of species richness in space and time
- **Editing & Reviewing:** **1.** Associate Editor for PLoS ONE and PeerJ. **2.** Grant reviewer for NSF (panelist and *ad hoc*), NSERC, and NRF. **3.** Journal reviewer for Science, Nature, PNAS, PLOS Biology, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Ecology, Ecology Letters, American Naturalist, etc.

## COLLABORATORS AND OTHER AFFILIATIONS

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**Collaborators:** J. Coyle (U. North Carolina), S. Durham (Utah State), B. Enquist (U. Arizona), J. Green (U. Oregon), M. Hooten (Colorado State), N. Isaac (Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK), A. Kerkhoff (Kenyon College), Helene Morlon (Ecole Polytechnique), B. Morris (U. North Carolina), Kiona Ogle (Arizona State), Charles Price (U. Western Australia), J. Stegen (Pacific Northwest National Lab), J. Weitz (Georgia Tech), M. Giffin (Utah State), J. Gittleman (U. Georgia), J. Gohen (U. Wyoming), A. Hurlbert (U. North Carolina), F. Smith (U. New Mexico), R. Sibly (U. Reading, UK), S. Lyons (Smithsonian Institute), S. Supp (Utah State), P. Adler (Utah State)

### **Advisors**

Ph.D. – James H. Brown (University of New Mexico);

Postdoctoral – Jessica L. Green (U. of Oregon) and Brian J. Enquist (U. of Arizona)

### **Advisees**

Thesis – Elita Baldrige (Utah State), Kenneth J. Locey (Utah State), Xiao Xiao (Utah State), Kristinia Riemer (Utah State)

Postdoctoral scholars – Katherine M. Thibault (NEON), Daniel McGlinn (Utah State University)