

Curriculum Vitae

Eric T. Simandle, Ph.D.

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Profile

Ecologist, educator, and academic leader with 20+ years of experience in teaching, mentoring, and applied research in conservation biology. Former Faculty Senate President with extensive governance and curriculum-development experience. Committed to L. L. Nunn's founding vision for Deep Springs College: rigorous academics, meaningful labor, and democratic self-governance.

Education

Ph.D., Ecology, Evolution & Conservation Biology, University of Nevada, Reno, 2006

B.S., Biology & B.S., Zoology, Colorado State University, 1995

A.S., Life Science, Mohawk Valley Community College, 1992

Professional Appointments

Research Associate, University of Nevada, Reno — 2025–present

- Review and refine spatial models for species relevant to the Clark County NV Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP).

Statistician/Biologist (GS-12), U.S. Geological Survey — 2020–2024

- Directed statewide species distribution models for 45 vertebrate species; authored a 500+ page conservation report for Basin and Range National Monument.

Research Faculty, University of Nevada, Reno — 2019–2020

- Modeled distributions and habitat requirements of threatened species for use in conservation planning.

Professor of Natural Sciences, Paul Smith's College — 2006–2018

- Designed and taught small, field-oriented courses in Conservation Biology, Herpetology, Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy, Ecology, and Advanced Biology.
- Mentored 15+ senior theses and capstone projects.

- Faculty Senate President (two terms), overseeing budgets, promotions, and faculty development.

Instructor (Visiting), Deep Springs College — 2003–2004

- Led independent study on the amphibians and reptiles of Deep Springs Valley; co-taught summer seminar on black toad conservation.

Professional Development

Conservation Teaching and Learning Studio, American Museum of Natural History, 2017

- Intensive NCEP workshop on evidence-based active learning and the assessment of critical thinking.

Research & Conservation Leadership

Expert Reviewer, Clark County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP).

Member, Houston Toad Recovery Team, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Coordinator, Amargosa Toad Working Group.

Co-PI on multiple U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of Interior grants (> \$200,000).

Honors and Awards

STAR Award, U.S. Geological Survey (2021)

Stoye Award, American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists (2000)

Invited participant, The Nature Conservancy Efroymson Fellowship Workshop (2002)

Invited participant, Bodega Marine Laboratory Applied Phylogenetics Workshop (1999)

Selected Publications

Simandle, E. T. and T. C. Esque. In Review (2025). Species distribution modelling for select vertebrates of Basin and Range National Monument. USGS Biological Reports.

Tracy, C. R., M. R. Gordon, E. T. Simandle, et al. 2024. The *Bufo boreas* complex in the Great Basin, USA. In D. H. Olson & D. S. Pilliod (eds.), *Amphibians of the U.S. West: Biogeography, Diversity, Threats, and Conservation Actions*, *Amphibian Biology* Vol. 9.

Gordon, M. R., E. T. Simandle, F. Sandmaier & C. R. Tracy. 2020. Two new cryptic endemic toads of *Bufo* discovered in Central Nevada. *Copeia* 108(1):166-183.

Gordon, M. R., E. T. Simandle & C. R. Tracy. 2017. A new cryptic toad species from northern Nevada. *Zootaxa* 4290(1):123-139.

Simandle, E. T., M. M. Peacock, L. Zirelli & C. R. Tracy. 2005. Sixteen microsatellite loci for the *Bufo boreas* group. *Molecular Ecology Notes*.

Jones, D. J., E. T. Simandle & C. R. Tracy. 2003. Predation on the Amargosa toad by an introduced species. *Herpetological Review* 34:229.

- Murphy, J., E. T. Simandle & D. Becker. 2003. Population status and conservation of the black toad. *Southwestern Naturalist* 48(1):54-60.
- Simandle, E. T., K. E. Nussear, R. E. Espinoza & C. R. Tracy. 2001. Lizards, lipids, and dietary links to animal function. *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology* 74(5):625-640.
- Nussear, K. E., E. T. Simandle & C. R. Tracy. 2000. Misconceptions about colour and infrared radiation in animal energy exchange. *Herpetological Journal* 10:119-122.

Professional Presentations

- Simandle, E. T., T. C. Esque, J. L. Jones & K. E. Nussear. 2022. Applications of species distribution modelling to the conservation of reptiles and amphibians in Nevada. The Wildlife Society, Reno, NV.
- Sears, M. W., K. N. Nussear & E. T. Simandle. 2020. Biophysical ecology and the evolution of methods. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Austin, TX.
- Tracy, C. R., B. Haggerty, M. Forister, E. T. Simandle, et al. 2010. Phylogeography and phylogenetics of Western toads in the Great Basin. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology.
- Simandle, E. T. & C. R. Tracy. 2003. The Mane Question: Untangling why lions have it. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Toronto, Canada.
- Simandle, E. T. 2000. Metapopulation structure and conservation of the rare Amargosa toad. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, La Paz, Mexico. (Recipient of Stoye Award).

Professional Memberships

- Sigma Xi – The Scientific Research Society
Society for Conservation Biology
Ecological Society of America
The Wildlife Society
American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists