

Oregon Chapter of the Wildlife Society  
**Pre-Conference Workshop & Training: GPS & Wildlife Surveys**  
February 10, 2010 – The Riverhouse Conference Center, Bend, Oregon

This 4-hour workshop, led by Jim Lahm, professional trainer with Electronic Data Solutions, will teach students about some of the newest mobile Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies for collecting biological field data. Mobile GIS enables field-based personnel to capture, store, update, manipulate, analyze, and display geographic information.

Traditionally, the processes of field data collection and editing have been time consuming and error prone. Field data and edits were collected using sketches and notes on paper maps and forms. Then, back in the office, these edits and drawings were deciphered and manually entered into the GIS database. This resulted in spatially imprecise map features and error-laden databases.

Use of mobile GIS allows wildlife biologists not only to collect spatially accurate data, but to record all of the relevant attribute data directly into the database, without having to transcribe later into a desktop GIS program.

In this class, we will present the use of the mobile GIS application ArcPad®, running on a Trimble® GPS receiver. ArcPad allows users to create and edit spatial data (points, lines, and polygons) using a range of mobile devices, from mini laptops and Tablet PCs to PDAs. We demonstrate the use of lightweight Trimble GPS receivers that can collect geographic data with accuracy ranging from sub-meter to 2 meters after post-processing.

Students will learn how to operate these Trimble GPS units and how to use ArcPad in the field with a real-world wildlife data collection application. We will also teach you how to collect field data when a GPS signal cannot be reached (like under a bridge or in a dense stand of trees).

In the classroom, we will show you how to prepare ArcPad for use in the field and how to update the Geodatabase with the field collected data. There will be opportunities for questions throughout the workshop. Trimble GPS units will be provided. Please be dressed for winter weather in Bend for the field component of this workshop.

\* Wednesday February 10, 1:00pm – 5:00 pm.

\* Registration will soon be available at: <http://joomla.wildlife.org/oregon/>. Low registration fee (\$15/students, \$40/non-student members, \$50/non-student non-members). Space is limited so register soon (same form as the 2010 Annual Meeting). Half of the seats will be saved for students.

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