

# Matt Falcy

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## Education

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Ph.D. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology with minor in Statistics, 2011. Iowa State University  
M.S. Forest Science, 2004. Universidad de Chile  
Master of Environmental Management, 2002. Portland State University  
B.S. Biological Science, 1997. University of California, Davis

## Applied Research Experience

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**Fish Conservation Biologist**, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

Duration: June 2010 to present

Duties and accomplishments:

- 1) Create complex mathematical, statistical, and ecological simulation models to answer natural resource management questions.
  - Developed hierarchical, state-space Bayesian statistical stock-recruitment models to estimate magnitude of uncertainty in estimates of fish population trend, productivity, carrying capacity, and abundance-habitat relationships.
  - Programmed numerous population viability models that use Bayesian estimates of uncertainty.
  - Developed novel model to synthesize the genetic and demographic interactions of hatchery and wild fish.
  - Conducted analyses to determine effects of harvest on population viability.
  - Developed salmon forecasting techniques using artificial intelligence.
  - Added a time domain to existing spatial mark-recapture models to model habitat use.
- 2) Develop decision support tools.
  - Created Bayesian belief network models to capture the structure of decisions about research priorities, tide gates restoration, cold water refugia, and hatchery practices.
  - Developed rule-set guiding the harvest bag limits of coastal fall Chinook.
  - Optimized effort across multi-objective monitoring using calculus and stochastic dynamic programming.
  - Created geospatial tool for designing biological reserves on stream networks.
- 3) Deliver scientific and technical support to implement conservation and fishery management goals.
  - Served on leadership team that developed Coastal Multispecies Conservation Plan.
  - Assembled data, developed appropriate models, and reported metrics of population health for the Rogue Fall Chinook Conservation Plan and the Coastal Multispecies Conservation Plan, and Coastal Coho Recovery Plan, and the Rogue and South Coast Multispecies Plan.
  - Answered questions from staff, stakeholders, and technical reviewers about conservation plan analyses.
  - Modeled abundance metrics needed to implement coastal coho fishery.
  - Developed methods to calculate the proportion of hatchery fish spawning naturally.

## Applied Research Experience (continued)

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- 4) Provide statistical consulting for staff at ODFW.
  - Implemented regression, ANOVA, BACI, generalized linear models, mixed effects models, hierarchical models, meta-analysis, generalized additive models, variograms, kriging, conditional autoregressive spatial analysis, time series analysis, state-space models, PCA, MANOVA, ordination, regression trees, neural networks, LASSO and other shrinkage techniques, model selection with AIC, BIC, WAIC, DIC, Bayes factors, likelihood ratios.
  - Frequently addressed questions from staff about power analysis, mark-recapture analysis, monitoring designs, spatially-explicit analyses, analysis of existing data.
  - Provided review and recommendations for economic/budget analyses for executive administrators.
- 5) Represent agency and communicate science to diverse audiences
  - Member of the Hatchery Scientific Review Group, established by the U.S. Congress.
  - Taught workshops and delivered presentations at professional societies and academic institutions
  - Published ideas and original research in prestigious international journals and subject-specific journals.
  - Provided peer review to authors submitting articles to leading academic journals.
  - Spoke at international and local professional society meetings, university, etc.

## Publications

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- Falcy, M.R.** 2018. A cost-optimization framework for planning applied environmental science. *BioScience* 68:912-922
- Falcy, M.R.** and Suring, E. 2018. Detecting the effects of management regime shifts in dynamic environments using multi-population state-space models. *Biological Conservation* 221:34-43.
- Falcy, M.R.** 2016. Conservation decision making: Integrating the precautionary principle with uncertainty. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 14:499-504.
- Falcy, M.R., McCormick, J.L., Miller, S.A.** 2016. Proxies in practice: Calibration and validation of multiple indices of animal abundance. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management*. 7: 117-128.
- McCormick, J.L, and **Falcy, M.R.** 2015. Evaluation of non-traditional modelling techniques for forecasting salmon returns. *Fisheries Management and Ecology* 22:269-278.
- Falcy, M.R.** 2015. Righting the resource management ship: a response to Grose. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 30:294-295.
- Falcy, M.R.** 2015. Density-dependent habitat selection of spawning Chinook salmon: broad scale evidence and implications. *Journal of Animal Ecology* 84: 545-553.
- Falcy, M.R.,** and Danielson, B.J. 2014. Post-hurricane recovery and long-term viability of the Alabama beach mouse. *Biological Conservation* 178: 28-36.
- Falcy, M.R.,** and Danielson, B.J. 2013. A complex relationship between moonlight and temperature on the foraging behavior of the Alabama beach mouse. *Ecology* 94: 2632-2637.

## **Publications** (continued)

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- Falcy, M.R., and Danielson, B.J.** 2013. Assessment of competitive release of endangered beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus ammobates*). *Journal of Mammalogy* 94: 584-590.
- Duthie, A.B., and **Falcy, M.R.** 2013. The influence of habitat autocorrelation on plants and their seed-eating pollinators. *Ecological Modelling* 251:260-270.
- Bangs, B., **Falcy, M.R.**, Scheerer, P.D., and Clements, S. 2013. Comparison of three methods for marking a small floodplain minnow. *Animal Biotelemetry* 1:18.
- Falcy, M.R., and Danielson, B.J.** 2011. When sinks rescue sources in dynamic environments. In Liu, J., Hull, V., Morzillo, A., and Weins, J. (Eds.). *Sources, Sinks, and Sustainability*. Cambridge Studies in Landscape Ecology.
- Chilcote, M.W., Goodson, K.W., and **Falcy, M.R.** 2011. Reduced recruitment performance in natural populations of anadromous salmonids associated with hatchery-reared fish. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 68:511-522.
- Deitloff, J., **Falcy, M.R.**, Krenz, J.D., and McMillan, B.R. 2010. Correlating small mammal abundance to climatic variation over twenty years. *Journal of Mammalogy* 91(1):193-199.
- Falcy, M.R.** 2009. Theoretical perspectives on habitat destruction. In Kudrow, N.J. (Ed.). *Conservation of Natural Resources*. Nova Sciences Publishers. ISBN: 978-1-60741-178-9
- Falcy, M.R., and Estades, C.F.** 2007. Effectiveness of corridors relative to enlargement of habitat patches. *Conservation Biology* 21(5):1341-1346.

## **Oral Presentations at Conferences and Universities**

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- Science as Bayesian model averaging, with applications to density dependence. 2020. Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Bend, OR.
- Middle Fork John Day Spring Chinook life cycle PVA. 2019. AMIP LCM Meeting. Hood River, OR.
- Detecting management regime shifts in dynamic environments. 2019. North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission Meeting. Portland, OR.
- SNO BiRD: Stream network optimizer for biological reserve design. 2019. Fisheries Department, Oregon State University. Corvallis, OR.
- Designing biological reserves on stream networks. 2019. Oregon Chapter of American Fisheries Society. Bend, OR.
- Effects of sea lions on Willamette River winter steelhead viability. 2018. Fisheries Department, Oregon State University. Corvallis, OR.
- Effects of sea lion predation on Willamette River winter steelhead viability. 2018. Salmon Ocean Ecology Meeting. Newport, OR.
- Effects of sea lions on Willamette River winter steelhead viability. 2018. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Willamette River Science Review. Corvallis, OR.
- Population viability of Willamette River winter steelhead: An assessment of the effects of sea lions at Willamette Falls. 2018. Pacific Coast Steelhead Management Meeting. WallaWalla, Wa.

## Oral Presentations at Conferences and Universities (continued)

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- Detecting the effects of management regime shifts in dynamic environments using multi-population state-space models. 2017. National Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Portland, OR.
- Bayesian Analysis for Beginners. 2017. Two day workshop at the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Bend, OR.
- Conservation decision making: Integrating the precautionary principle with uncertainty. 2017. Oregon State University. Corvallis, OR.
- Conservation decision making: Integrating the precautionary principle with uncertainty. 2016. Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Seaside, OR.
- Combining genetics and demographics in a viability model of hatchery-wild systems subject to environmental change. 2015. National Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Portland, OR.
- Estimating spawner population abundance of coastal Fall Chinook: is non-random sampling optimal? 2014. Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Eugene, OR.
- Exploring patterns in coastal coho abundance and productivity. 2014. Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Eugene, OR.
- Population viability analysis with Bayesian state-space parameter estimation. 2013. The International Environmetrics Society. Anchorage, AK.
- A Bayesian meta-analytic assessment of the effect of watershed geomorphology and lithology on chinook salmon recruitment. 2013. Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society. Bend, OR.
- Artificial neural networks: finding complex environmental signals or just fitting noise? 2012. Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society- Forecasting Symposium. Portland, OR.
- Individual and population-level responses of the Alabama beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus ammobates*) to environmental variation in space and time. 2011. Biannual beach mouse conference. Daphne, AL.
- Post-hurricane recovery and viability of the Alabama beach mouse. 2010. American Society of Mammalogists. Laramie, WY.
- Optimal habitat selection of predator and prey in explicit space. 2009. Iowa State University Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Spring Symposium. Ames, IA.

## Teaching Experience

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**Invited Instructor**, Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Duration: October 20 to December 22, 2018. 8 hours total.

Co-taught Quantitative and Computational Ecology seminar. Created and delivered lectures; created and lead computer exercises.

**Guest Lecture**, Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Duration: February 15, 2018 and January 17, 2019. 2 hours total.

Presented a case study for a senior capstone course.

**Invited Instructor**, Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society.

Duration: February 28 to March 1, 2017. 8 hours total.

Delivered workshop on *Bayesian Analysis for Beginners* for fisheries professionals.

Workshop emphasized underlying theory and computational implementation.

## **Teaching Experience** (continued)

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**Instructor**, Oregon State University, Department of Integrative Biology (formerly Zoology).

Duration: September 2009 to March 2010. 30 hours/week.

Taught evolution to 110 upper-division undergraduates and graduate students. Responsible for all aspects of this course, including development of lecture material, homework assignments, exercises, exams, and final grades.

**Instructor**, Mt. Hood Community College.

Duration: January 2008 to April 2008. 30 hours/week.

Taught cell biology to 20 non-major students. Responsible for all aspects of this course, including development of lecture material, homework assignments, exercises, exams, and final grades.

**Graduate Mentor**, Portland State University.

Duration: September 2001 to December 2002. 20 hours/week.

Assisted, advised, and taught undergraduates in the University Studies Program - a general education curriculum at Portland State University. Led discussion groups, assigned and evaluated assignments, and occasionally presented lectures.

**Volunteer**, United States Peace Corps, Nicaragua.

Duration: March 1998 to March 2000. 20 hours/week.

Taught English as a second language at a high school in Nindirí, Nicaragua.

## **International Experience**

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**Fellow**, Organization of American States, Chile.

Duration: January 2003 - January 2005. 40 hours/week.

Collaborated with researchers at University of Chile. Developed individual-based, spatially-explicit, and object-oriented simulation models using Visual Basic. Address social tradeoff between forest harvest practices and wildlife viability. Modeled animal population dynamics to address management uncertainty about the effect of spatial configuration of habitat on population persistence.

**Volunteer**, United States Peace Corps, Nicaragua

Duration: March 1998 to March 2000. 40 hours/week.

Developed environmental awareness projects with administrators of a national park. Taught English as a second language.

## **Foreign Language**

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I lived and worked in Nicaragua for two years as a Peace Corps Volunteer. I then enrolled in the University of Chile as a foreign student and completed a master's degree entirely in Spanish.

## **Computing**

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I am highly proficient with R and MATLAB. I have worked extensively in these platforms for 15 years. I frequently use BUGS, JAGS, and NIMBLE for Bayesian analysis.

## Professional Society

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Ecological Society of America  
American Fisheries Society

## Recognitions

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- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife *Team Pride Award*, 2014.
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife *Award of Excellence*, 2015.
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife *Individual Pride Award*, 2016.

## Professional References

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Dr. Jim Peterson | Work Associate  
Professor and USGS Unit Leader  
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Professor, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology  
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