

Bryan Pfeiffer

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Employment

Writing Instructor, The University of Vermont

Lecturer on practical and professional writing at the graduate level in the Field Naturalist and Ecological Planning programs, which prepare students for careers in ecology, conservation and natural history.

2012 - present

Writer

Author, essayist and journalist specializing in wildlife and wild places. Publication credits include *Aeon*, *Orion*, *The New York Times*, *Field and Stream*, *Vermont Life*, and the on-line news site *VTDigger.org*. Regular columnist for *Northern Woodlands* magazine. Blog at www.bryanpfeiffer.com.

1998 - present

Field Naturalist and Nature Guide

Founder and operator of Vermont Bird Tours, offering guided natural history outings across North America. Frequent lecturer on birds and natural history.

1997 - present

Consulting Field Biologist

Conduct field inventories of birds and insects for clients that include governments, non-profits and private landowners. Co-designed and served as chief field lepidopterist for the Vermont Butterfly Survey (2001-2007).

2001 - present

Wildlife Photographer

Create images from nature and offer innovative digital photography workshops informing hundreds of students in academia and private life.

2000 - present

Maple Corner Media

Co-founder of an alliance of writers specializing in journalism, publishing, public relations and digital media (www.MapleCornerMedia.com). Latest project is *In This State*, a syndicated column about Vermont, its innovators and unusual places (www.MapleCornerMedia.com/inthisstate).

2010 - present

Editor and Staff Writer, The Times Argus and Rutland Herald

Award-winning journalist covering natural history, environmental policy and government. As assistant editor, supervised staff of reporters for the combined Sunday edition for these two family-owned newspapers.

1986 - 1999

Air-Quality Chemist, Environmental Research Group, Inc., Ann Arbor, MI

Supervised air pollution monitoring projects at private industries and at a federal Superfund site. Produced technical reports on test results.

1980 - 1984

Selected Recent Essays, Articles, Publications and Commentaries

"The Snowy Owl," an essay for *Aeon* magazine. <http://aeon.co/magazine/nature-and-cosmos/the-snowy-owl-is-a-messenger-from-the-arctic/>

February 2014

"Peacham Bog," an essay for *Orion* Magazine's feature "The Place Where You Live," online at <http://tinyurl.com/c3dxlgm>. Print version in press for Summer 2013.

March 31, 2013

"The Real Meaning of Groundhog Day," Vermont Public Radio commentary. <http://www.vpr.net/episode/52928/pfeiffer-ground-hog-day/>

February 2, 2012

"Charlie Cogbill's Trees," *VTDigger* and several Vermont newspapers.

January 27, 2012

"Snowy Owls Invade Vermont," *VTDigger* and several Vermont newspapers.

January 13, 2012

"A Winter Moth," Vermont Public Radio (commentary). www.vpr.net/episode/52622/pfeiffer-winter-moth/

December 14, 2011

"Are You Gullible or Lariphobic?" Northern Woodlands magazine.	Winter 2011
"Eat More Birds," Vermont Public Radio (commentary).	December 1, 2011
"Dragonfly Swarms – Revisited," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2011/08/08/dragonfly-swarms-revisited/	August 8, 2011
"An Ode to Warblers," Northern Woodlands.	Summer 2011
"When It Rains Birds," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2011/05/06/when-it-rains-birds/	May 6, 2011
"Mob Mentality," Northern Woodlands.	Spring 2011
"The Snow Goose Scoop: A status report on Greater Snow Goose," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2010/10/08/the-snow-goose-scoop/	October 8, 2010
"Feather Morphology," Northern Woodlands.	Winter 2010
"A Mystery Solved," an essay on an Ectoedemia species, Northern Woodlands.	Fall 2010
"A Conservation Action Plan for Bicknell's Thrush (<i>Catharus bicknelli</i>)," a suite of summary documents, in collaboration with Vermont Center for Ecostudies, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Canadian Wildlife Service and Bird Studies Canada. www.bicknellsthrush.org/conservation.html .	July 2010
"Solving Shorebirds," Northern Woodlands.	Summer 2010
"Size and Time in the Grand Canyon," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2011/03/10/size-and-time-in-the-grand-canyon/	March 10, 2011
"Impressions: An Analysis of Wing Prints in Snow," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2011/01/31/impressions/	January 31, 2011
"The Last Butterfly," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2010/11/08/the-last-butterfly/	November 8, 2010
"Twisted Duck Sex," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2010/10/30/twisted-duck-sex/	October 30, 2010
"Glenn Beck and the Fog of Journalism," The Daily Wing. www.dailywing.net/2010/10/21/glenn-beck-and-evolution/	October 21, 2010
"Mercury in the Mountains," white paper prepared for the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. www.vtecostudies.org/PDF/researchnotes2.pdf	January 2010
"Maple Leafcutter and its Turtle-like Existence," Outside Story series. http://northernwoodlands.org/outside_story/article/maple_leafcutter_and_its_turtle-like_existence/	September 24, 2009
"Salamander Strategies," a white paper prepared for the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. www.vtecostudies.org/PDF/Research%20Notes%20No%203%20-%20Salamanders.pdf	January 2009

Journal Articles

- Blust, M. and B. Pfeiffer. The Odonata fauna of Vermont. *Bulletin of American Odonatology*. In press.
- Pfeiffer, B. M., G. Hanisek. 2007. Ovipositing behavior of *Stylurus scudderi* Selys. *Argia*. Vol. 18. No. 4.
- Pfeiffer, B. M. 2004. The view from Vermont. *Argia*. Vol. 16, No. 3. p 22.
- Pfeiffer, B. M. 2003. Two new dragonflies for Vermont. *Argia*. Vol. 15, No. 3. p 14. Oct. 2003.
- Pfeiffer, B. M. 2002. *Williamsonia fletcheri* encountered in Vermont. *Argia*. Vol. 14, No. 3. p 10.
- Pfeiffer, B. M. 2002. Interesting encounter between *Dromogomphus* and *Sympetrum*. *Argia*. Vol. 13, No. 4. p 14.
- Elfont, E.A., Brooks, N.R., Pfeiffer, B.M., Kochanowski, A. and Dimino, M.J. 1979. Cytochemical evidence of a role for lysosomes in steroidogenesis: acid phosphatase and 3 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase in porcine corpora lutea. *Micron*, 10(3), 225. 1979.

Field Reports

Pfeiffer, B. An investigation of Odonata in Vermont rivers and peatlands. For the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. May 27, 2009 (amended March 11, 2010).

Pfeiffer, B. M. The dragonflies and damselflies of Teal Farm, Huntington, Vermont. For the Foundation for a Sustainable Future. April 5, 2006.

Pfeiffer, B. M. The breeding birds of Teal Farm, Huntington, Vermont. For the Foundation for a Sustainable Future. March 20, 2006.

Pfeiffer, B. M. A Study of Breeding Birds in the Southeast Quadrant of South Burlington, Vermont. For the City of South Burlington. June 2004.
<http://www.wingsenvironmental.com/images/seqbirds.pdf>.

Books and Chapters

"The History of Avian Conservation in Vermont," a section for *The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds of Vermont*, edited by Rosalind Renfrew. University Press of New England. 2013.

"PANTALA: What an Insect Tells Us About Sex, Evolution and the Human Condition." Book in progress.

"The Natural World," a chapter on the natural history of the Long Trail, in Slayton, T., ed., *A Century in the Mountains: Celebrating Vermont's Long Trail*. 141-158. The Green Mountain Club, Inc. 2009.

Murin, T., B. Pfeiffer. 2002. *Birdwatching in Vermont*. University Press of New England.

Teaching and Lecturing

"Lakeside Confidential," a presentation to the annual meeting of the Vermont Federation of Lakes and Ponds, Fairlee, Vermont. June 7, 2013

"Animal Attractions," a presentation in the Distinguished Writers Series for the New England Federal Credit Union, Williston, Vermont. March 26, 2013

Digital Photography for Naturalists, a workshop for the Field Naturalist and Ecological Planning programs, University of Vermont. March 22, 2013

"Darwin Meets St. Valentine," a presentation to Green Mountain Audubon, Richmond, Vermont. February 12, 2013

"A Wing and a Prayer: Faith, Fact and the Ivory-billed Woodpecker," an address to the Golden Eagle Audubon Society, Boise, Idaho. March 10, 2012

"Into the Canyon, Into the Earth: The Natural History of the Grand Canyon," a lecture in the North Branch Nature Center's Naturalist Journeys series, Montpelier, Vermont. January 27, 2012

Digital Photography. Most recent workshop series delivered in Montpelier, Vermont. January 2012

Better Birding Lecture Series. Concepts and themes in birdwatching. Delivered the first Monday of the month in Montpelier, Vermont. Throughout 2012

Digital Photography, a lecture and workshop on theory and practice delivered at Nichols College, Dudley, Massachusetts. October 23, 2011

"The Mushroom and the Thrush," address to the annual meeting of the Northern Rivers Land Trust, Hardwick, Vermont.	June 12, 2011
"A Charles Darwin Birthday Celebration," a lecture at Fairbanks Museum, St. Johnsbury, Vermont.	February 12, 2011
"Photography for Farmers," a presentation to the Women in Sustainable Agriculture Conference, Fairlee, Vermont.	November 2, 2010
"Chasing Woodpeckers, a lecture for the Greensboro Historical Society, Greensboro, Vermont.	June 26, 2009
"Why I Love Charles Darwin," lecture celebrating Darwin's 200 th birthday in the "Why I Love ..." series at Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, Vermont.	February 12, 2009
"A Bird's Eye View," fund-raising lecture at Studio Place Arts, Barre, Vermont.	April 27, 2008
"Chasing Woodpeckers," lecture for the Tunbridge Historical Society, Tunbridge, Vermont.	January 9, 2008
Keynote address at the wrap-up celebration of the Vermont Breeding Bird Atlas, Norwich, Vermont.	November 17, 2007
"A Closer Look at Shorelines," a presentation to the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, Inc., Montpelier, Vermont.	July 23, 2007
"Ivory-billed Woodpecker: Dream or Discovery?" a lecture at North Branch Nature Center, Montpelier, Vermont.	June 16, 2006
"Wild Orange," a presentation to the town of Orange, Vermont.	April 27, 2006
"WEC, Wires and Wildlife," keynote address to the annual meeting of Washington Electric Cooperative, East Montpelier, Vermont.	May 3, 2005
"Skippers and Skimmers," an OSHER Lifelong Learning presentation, Rockingham, Vermont.	February 4, 2005
"Life Along Lewis Creek," keynote address to the Lewis Creek Association, Starksboro, Vermont.	October 17, 2004
"The Mushroom and the Thrush," keynote address to the Vermont Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, Essex, Vermont.	April 2, 2004
"The Mushroom and the Thrush," keynote address to the annual meeting of the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Quechee, Vermont.	September 6, 2003
"A Vermont Vision: The Future of Odonata Study in the Green Mountain State," a presentation to the New England Odonate Conference, Athol, Mass.	April 17, 2004
"The Mushroom and the Thrush," keynote address to a meeting of the Green Mountain Club.	April 4, 2003
"Jericho-Underhill Wild," an address to the Jericho-Underhill Land Trust.	February 10, 2003

Radio and Television Broadcasts

Birding in Vermont, Vermont Public Television Developed and hosted one-hour special on birdwatching practices and enjoyment across Vermont.	March 7, 2007
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Nature Notes, WCAX

Original field naturalist featured on weekly nature segments during the evening newscast.

2004 – present

For The Birds, WDEV

Co-host award-winning weekly radio program on birds and birdwatching.

1990 – present

Event and Conference Leadership

Annual Meeting of the Dragonfly Society of the Americas

Organized annual meeting for 85 biologists in Orono, Maine. Created and maintained web site. Produced on-line and printed maps and conference materials. www.wingsenvironmental.com/dsa/

June 24-27, 2010

The Montpelier BioBlitz

Organized and coordinated 24-hour biological assessment of the Vermont state capital. Created and maintained web site. Produced all BioBlitz materials. www.northbranchnaturecenter.org/bioblitz/

July 11-12, 2008

NymphFest

Organized regional meeting on the discovery and identification of larval Odonata involving biologists and amateur naturalists in Athol, Massachusetts. www.odes.millersriver.net/nymphfest2008.htm

February 9-10, 2008

The Vermont BioBlitz

Conceived organized and coordinated first major BioBlitz to be held in Vermont, drawing more than 120 biologists and naturalists and countless visitors to Quechee, Vermont.

June 25-26, 2004

Biodiversity University

Conceived and co-organized informal institute bringing distinguished biologists to Vermont to conduct field courses. Instructors included Robert Michael Pyle (butterflies), James Lloyd (Lampyridae), Paul-Michael Brunelle (Odonata), Jerry Jenkins (botany).

1999-2005

Exhibits

WINGS, photography at Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, Vermont.

June – July 2012

ArtWalk Montpelier, prints on display at Global Gifts, Montpelier, Vermont.

December 9-16, 2011

WINGS, an exhibit of 29 prints at the Korongo Gallery, Randolph, Vermont.

Oct 14 – Nov 23, 2011

Education

B.S Chemistry with Honors, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. 1980.

Affiliations/Memberships/Public Service

Montpelier Parks Commission (elected commissioner)

Vermont Center for Ecostudies, research associate

Dragonfly Society of the Americas (executive council member)

Lepidopterists Society

Xerces Society

Vermont Entomological Society (past president)

American Birding Association

American Bird Conservancy

Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Scientific Advisory Group on Invertebrates, Vermont Endangered Species Committee

North Branch Nature Cener (capital campaign committee member)

North Branch Nature Center (former board member)

Green Mountain Club

Upper Winooski Field Naturalists

Fairbanks Museum

Birds of Vermont Museum

Plainfield Fire & Rescue (former volunteer firefighter)

Journalism Awards

Vermont Press Association Mavis Doyle Award, 1994

New England Press Association, First Place, Best Serious Column, 1989

Take Pride in America and Vermont Award, 1989

Vermont Press Association Outstanding Daily Reporter, 1988

Interests

Birdwatching

Insect observation

Backpacking

Mountain climbing

Photography

Cross-country skiing

Bicycling

Running

Competitive table tennis

Ice Hockey

Newspapers

Greasy-spoon diners