

R. TRAVIS BELOTE

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EDUCATION

PhD, Biological Sciences, 2008 Virginia Tech
MS, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, minor in Statistics, 2003 University of Tennessee
BA, Environmental Studies, minor in Biological Sciences, 2000 University of Tennessee

PUBLICATIONS

Belote, R.T., N.J. Sanders, and R.H. Jones. 2009. Disturbance alters local-regional richness relationships in Appalachian forests. *Ecology* 90: xxx-xxx (in press)

Belote, R.T. and R.H. Jones. 2008. Tree leaf litter composition and nonnative earthworms influence plant invasion in experimental forest floor mesocosms. *Biological Invasions* 10: xxx-xxx (in press)

Belote, R.T., R.H. Jones, S.M. Hood, and B.W. Wender. 2008. Diversity-invasibility along a disturbance gradient in Appalachian forests. *Ecology* 89: 183-192

Weltzin, J.F., **R.T. Belote**, L.M. Thomas, J.K. Keller, C.E. Engel. 2007. Ensuring that “authors” write – the authors reply. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 5: 11

Belote, R.T. and J.F. Weltzin. 2006. Interactions between two co-dominant, invasive plants in a temperate deciduous forest. *Biological Invasions* 8: 1629-1641

Weltzin, J.F., **R.T. Belote**, L.M. Thomas, J.K. Keller, C.E. Engel. 2006. Authorship in ecology: attribution, accountability, and responsibility. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 4: 435-441

Belote, R.T., J.F. Weltzin, and R.J. Norby. 2004. Response of an understory plant community to elevated [CO₂] depends on differential responses of dominant invasive species and is mediated by soil water availability. *New Phytologist* 161: 827-835.

Sanders, N.J., **R.T. Belote**, and J.F. Weltzin. 2004. Multi-trophic effects of elevated atmospheric CO₂ on understory plant and arthropod communities. *Environmental Entomology* 33: 1609-1616.

Weltzin, J.F., **R.T. Belote**, N.J. Sanders. 2003. Biological invaders in a greenhouse world: will elevated CO₂ fuel plant invasions? *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 1:146-153.

Un-refereed Publications - Select Technical Reports

Belote, R.T. 2008. *Diversity, invasibility, and stability of Appalachian forests across an experimental disturbance gradient*. Dissertation. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA.

Belote, R.T. 2003. *Effects of elevated CO₂ on a forest understory community dominated by two invasive plants*. Thesis. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.

Coles, J., K. Decker, and **T. Belote**. 2005. Final Vegetation Classification for Canyonlands National Park. Report to National Park Service, Northern Colorado Plateau Network. Moab, UT.

Belote, Travis and Jim Von Loh. 2005. Plant Association Illustrated Field Key – Arches National Park. Report to National Park Service, Northern Colorado Plateau Network. Moab, UT.

Belote, Travis and Jim Von Loh. 2003. Preliminary Vegetation Classification Report for Hovenweep National Monument. Report to National Park Service, Northern Colorado Plateau Network. Moab, UT.

MEMBERSHIPS

Ecological Society of America (2001 – present)
 Society for Conservation Biology (2008 – present)
 Association of Southeastern Biologists (2002; 2005 – present)
 Southwestern Association of Naturalists (2008 – present)
 Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere (2002; 2005 – present)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- (1) **Ecologist**, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Southwest Biological Research Center, Flagstaff, AZ
- (2) **Graduate Research Assistant**, Virginia Tech, Department of Biological Sciences, Blacksburg, VA
- (3) **Staff Ecologist, Statistical Assistant**, Engineering-Environmental Management Inc., Littleton, CO
- (4) **Biological Science Technician, Crew Leader**, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming
- (5) **Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant**, University of Tennessee, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Knoxville, Tennessee
- (6) **Volunteer in Park, Wildland Fire Fighter**, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee
- (7) **Interpretive Park Ranger**, National Park Service, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska
- (8) **Air Quality Intern**, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Knoxville, Tennessee
- (9) **Resource Educator/Interpreter**, Student Conservation Association, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND RELEVANT TRAINING

- Reviewer for the journals: *Acta Oecologica*, *The American Midland Naturalist*, *Biological Invasions*, *Ecological Research*, *Ecology*, *Forest Ecology and Management*, *Journal of Applied Ecology*, *Journal of Ecology*, *Plant and Soil*, and *Plant Ecology*; 2 chapters for books edited by Inderjit; and proposals for the Ecology Program of the National Science Foundation
- SEEDS conference mentor (Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity, and Sustainability)
- Science fair judge for elementary schools in southwest Virginia (2006)
- Served on committee for Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior seminar series (Virginia Tech 2007-08)
- Volunteer in Park (VIP), Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Fall 2000 - Spring 2003)
- Bio-statistics: PC-ORD multivariate ecological community software course, November 2003
- Human Resource Management: Supervising Federal Employees, National Park Service, June 2003
- Wildland Firefighter Type II, S-190 and S-130 (recertification needed)
- Wilderness First Aid (2008)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor - Biology 130 Lab: Biodiversity (introductory course for biology majors)
- Instructor - Biology 102 Lab: Humankind in the Biotic World (intro. course for non-biology majors)
- Prepared and conducted numerous educational programs on park flora, fauna, and cultural resources in two high profile national parks (Great Smoky Mountains NP and Denali NP)

Undergraduate student research mentor

- Aaron Teets, Virginia Tech, "*Response of medicinal plants to alternative forest management options in the Southern Appalachian Mountains*" [presented at Association of Southeastern Biologist meeting]
- Roo Vandegrift, Virginia Tech, "*Soil resource responses to timber harvesting disturbance in Appalachian Forests*" [presented at Association of Southeastern Biologist meeting]
- Anna Morkeski, UMASS/Virginia Tech, "*Litter dwelling arthropod community response to altered tree leaf litter composition*" (mentor for experimental design and field data collection portion of project)

GRANTS AND AWARDS*

- Gloria Barron Scholarship awarded by The Wilderness Society (2008)
- WPI Environmental Graduate Fellowship (2007)
- Virginia Tech College of Science "Make-A-Difference" Scholarship (2007)
- Virginia Tech Graduate Research Development Program Award (2007)
- Travel Award – Association of Southeastern Biologists Meeting (2007)
- Best Student Poster – Virginia Tech, Dept. of Biological Sciences Research Day (2006)
- Cash Award for performance – USNPS, Grand Teton National Park (2003)
- Travel Award – Association of Southeastern Biologists Meeting (2002)

* Monetary amount available upon request

PRESENTATIONS

Belote, R.T., R.H. Jones, T.F. Wieboldt, C.A. Haas, and T.R. Fox. 2008. Diversity, stability, and invasibility of Appalachian forests following logging disturbance. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, August 2008.

Belote, R.T. and S.P. Prisley. 2008. Wilderness areas protect positive productivity-diversity relationships because of their location in ecoregions with complex topography. Society for Conservation Biology Annual Meeting, Chattanooga, TN, July 2008.

Belote, R.T., J.A. Homyack, C.J. Atwood, E.B. Sucre, C.A. Haas, T.R. Fox., and R.H. Jones. 2007. Implications of silvicultural disturbance in Appalachian forests: Results from the Southern Appalachian Silviculture and Biodiversity (SASAB) project. Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Annual Conference, Johnson City, TN, October 2007. [poster]

Belote, R.T., R.H. Jones, C.A. Haas, and T.R. Fox. 2007. Effects of silvicultural disturbance on diversity, species composition, and soil resource availability in Appalachian forests. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, August 2007. [poster]

Belote R.T., R.H. Jones, S.M. Hood, B.W. Wender. Diversity-invasibility relationships not a paradox in harvested Appalachian forests: the rich get richer following disturbance. Association of Southeastern Biologists Annual Conference, Columbia, SC, April 2007

Teets, A.F.*, **R.T. Belote**, A.L. Hammett, R.H. Jones, C.A. Haas. Response of medicinal plants to alternative forest management options in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Association of Southeastern Biologists Annual Conference, Columbia, SC, April 2007 [poster]

Vandegrift, A.W.*, **R.T. Belote**, R.H. Jones. Increases in soil organic matter following canopy disturbance mediates soil nutrient responses to timber harvesting intensity. Association of Southeastern Biologists Annual Conference, Columbia, SC, April 2007 [poster]

Belote, R.T., S.M. Hood, B. Wender, R.H. Jones, and S.M. Zedaker. 2006. Diversity and invasibility following logging disturbance in Appalachian oak forests. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Memphis, TN, August 2006. [poster]

Belote, R.T., S.M. Hood, B. Wender, R.H. Jones, C. Haas, T. Fox, S.M. Zedaker, and D. Smith. 2006. Disturbance intensity determines the relationship between native and non-native species diversity in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Association of Southeastern Biologists Annual Meeting, Gatlinburg, TN, April 2006. [poster]

Belote, R.T. 2005. Relationship between native and non-native plant species richness is dependent on silvicultural disturbance in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Program Annual Conference, Cherokee, NC, November 2005. [poster]

DeVan, C.M.*, J.F. Weltzin, and **R.T. Belote**. 2005. Elevated [CO₂] facilitates development of understory vegetation within a closed-canopy deciduous forest. Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference, Athens, GA, March 2005.

Belote, R.T. 2005. Effects of elevated CO₂ on a forest understory community dominated by two invasive plants. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Seminar, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, February 2005. [invited]

Belote, R.T. and J. Weltzin. 2003. Forest understory community responses to elevated CO₂. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Savannah, GA, August 2003. [poster]

Belote, R.T. 2003. Effects of elevated CO₂ on a forest understory community dominated by two invasive plants. Oak Ridge National Laboratory Seminar, Oak Ridge, TN, May 2003 [invited]

Belote, R.T. 2003. Exotic invaders in an understory forest community: the effects of elevated CO₂ on species' interactions. Evolutionary and Behavioral Ecology Seminar, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, March 2003 [invited]

Belote, R.T., J. Weltzin, and R. Norby. 2002. Will rising CO₂ levels affect Southern Appalachian invasive species? Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Program Annual Conference, Gatlinburg, TN, November 2002. [poster]

Belote, R.T., J. F. Weltzin, and R. J. Norby. 2002. Plant communities, exotic invaders, and the role of elevated CO₂. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Tucson, AZ, August 2002.

Weltzin, J.F., **R.T. Belote**, N.J. Sanders. 2002. Biological invaders in a greenhouse world: will elevated carbon dioxide facilitate plant invasions? Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Tucson, AZ, August 2002.

Belote, R.T., J. F. Weltzin, and R. J. Norby. 2002. What are the effects of elevated CO₂ on a plant community dominated by two invasive plants? Association of Southeastern Biologists Annual Meeting, Boone, NC, April 2002.

Belote, R.T. 2001. Plant invasions and global change. Plant Organismal Biology Group-University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Knoxville, TN, December 2001 [invited]

Sanders, N. J., J. F. Weltzin, **R.T. Belote**, and R. J. Norby. 2001. What are the combined effects of global climate change and biological invasions on insect community structure? Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Madison, WI, August 2001 [RTB presented]

Belote, Travis. 2000. Journey Home: Restoration Ecology in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cades Cove District Resource Education, Fall 2000 [invited]

* indicates undergraduate author

REFERENCES

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