

ROBERT J. CRAIG

PLANNING  
COMMISSION  
EXHIBIT # 77

ADDRESS:

90 Liberty Highway  
Putnam, CT 06260  
Phone/fax: 860 928-2178  
E-mail: rcraig@snet.net

EDUCATION:

THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, Storrs, CT

Doctor of Philosophy, Zoology, May, 1981

Emphasis of studies: ecology, behavior, and evolution of birds; also proficient in a variety of computer skills.

Grade point average: 3.9 out of 4.0.

Thesis: *Comparative Ecology of the Louisiana and Northern Waterthrushes*. Despite overlapping more than 90% in foraging behavior and in foraging microhabitat selection, the two species of waterthrushes occupied habitats with widely overlapping structural features. Moreover, the species were not interspecifically territorial and they had territories with similar prey density and composition. Conditions necessary for the occurrence of competition, such as resource limitation, did not appear to be present in this wetland habitat.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, Storrs, CT

Master of Science, Zoology, May, 1975

Emphasis of studies: ecology, behavior, and evolution of birds.

Grade point average: 3.3 out of 4.0.

Thesis: *Distributional Ecology of Marsh Birds of the Connecticut River*. The diversity of plant communities, marsh size, and features of the physical environment strongly influenced the species richness of marshes, and differences in these factors between sites were closely related to changes in species composition.

RUTGERS- THE STATE UNIVERSITY, New Brunswick, NJ

Bachelor of Science, Wildlife Biology, May, 1973; graduated with honors.

Emphasis of studies: wildlife biology, ecology, zoology, botany; related work in statistics, geology, soils, and chemistry.

Grade point average: 3.2 out of 4.0.

PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE:

- 1999-present BIRD CONSERVATION RESEARCH, INC.  
Director. Develop research program on designing refuges for birds, provide technical assistance to towns concerning their open space needs. Employ students as researchers in carrying out large scale projects. Develop membership and donor lists; write grants.
- 1994-1996 U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, Honolulu, HI  
Leader, Pacific Island Recovery Team. Direct and provide scientific guidance to a 10-member team which is charged with developing conservation strategies for endangered wildlife of the tropical Pacific.
- 1991-1993 NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE, Saipan, Commonwealth No. Mariana Islands.  
Associate Professor Rank. Taught Introductory Biology, Botany, Human Biology, Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology. Studied strategies of habitat exploitation by members of the native forest

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bird community.

Project leader for expeditions other Mariana Islands. Oversaw multidisciplinary research by seven faculty, established research goals, planned trip logistics. Edited annual symposium proceedings, directed development of database.

### DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE, Saipan, Commonwealth No. Mariana Islands

1990-1991 Wildlife Biologist. Studied the community ecology of Pacific island birds; determined foraging ecology, social behavior and microhabitat partitioning of forest birds, structure and species composition of forest habitat. Used ecological and paleontological data in developing plans to reestablish extinct populations of island species; determined management needs of endangered species of birds and mammals. Project leader for the following endangered species: Rota White-eye, Nightingale Reed-warbler, Tinian Monarch, Mariana Crow. Supervised 2 research technicians.

### UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, Storrs, CT

Department of Natural Resource Management:

1987-1990 Assistant Professor-in-residence (postdoctoral appointment). Studied vertebrate colonization of newly created wetlands, community ecology of Pacific island birds, microhabitat effects on Bald Eagle energetics, and status and trends of wildlife using New York Harbor. Taught Ornithology, Wetlands Biology, Inland Wetlands Ecosystems (graduate seminar). Supervised graduate and undergraduate students.

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology:

1978-1981 Lecturer; Teaching Assistant. Taught Ornithology; also served as Teaching Assistant in Herpetology, Comparative Anatomy, and General Biology.

1974 Research Assistant. Studied the structure of marsh bird communities of the Connecticut River and mapped major plant associations of the marshes.

### CONNECTICUT DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, Hartford, CT

1985-1986 Zoologist. Researched the distribution, ecology, and conservation of animals and plants, particularly endangered species. Projects: factors influencing the foraging ecology of ecologically similar species; time and energy budgets of wintering Bald Eagles; population dynamics of a grassland bird community; quantitative assessment of bird community composition in Connecticut's principal forest zones.

1975-1977 Ecologist. Researched the distribution and population status of rare vertebrates and plants; characterized important natural areas; assisted in dividing Connecticut into bioclimatic regions, which serve as a basis for resource management in the state.

### QUINEBAUG VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Danielson, CT

1983-1986 Adjunct faculty. Taught Ornithology, Botany, Floristics, Field Zoology, and General Biology; also contracted to develop a herbarium.

### U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE, Storrs, CT

1975, 1977 Zoologist. Determined the distribution, population status, and habitat requirements of Connecticut's rare vertebrates; used these data to prepare a management handbook.

### NEW JERSEY STATE MUSEUM, Trenton, NJ

1972-1973 Museum Preparator. Prepared study skins of birds.

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### PROFESSIONAL

ACTIVITIES: Wilson Ornithological Society: life member since 1979. .  
American Ornithologists' Union: member since 1974.  
Association of Field Ornithologists: member since 1987.  
Ecological Society of America: member since 1989.  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Breeding Bird Survey: field observer.  
New England Hawk Watch Association: field observer 1973-1980.  
Center for Field Research: grant proposal reviewer.  
National Geographic Society- grant proposal reviewer.  
University of Massachusetts Press: book reviewer.  
*The Auk*: manuscript reviewer.  
*Journal of Field Ornithology*: manuscript reviewer.  
*The Wilson Bulletin*: manuscript reviewer.  
*Micronesica*: manuscript reviewer.  
Holder of master bird-banding permit.

HONORS: Sigma Xi: elective member.  
Alpha Zeta: elective member.  
Fellowship, University of Connecticut: 1978-1981.  
Summer Fellowship, University of Connecticut: 1979, 1980.  
Who's who in the East: 1986.  
Northern Marianas College, President's Achievement Award, 1993.

### GRANTS AND

CONTRACTS: University of Connecticut Research Foundation grants:  
1974- Distributional Ecology of Marsh Birds of the Connecticut River. 1978-79- Comparative Ecology of the Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes.  
1988, 1989- Ecology of a Pacific Island Bird Community.  
American Museum of Natural History, Frank M. Chapman research grant:  
1978- Comparative Ecology of the Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes.  
Sigma Xi research grant:  
1978- Comparative Ecology of the Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes.  
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection contract:  
1982- The flora and fauna of six "critical" natural areas; deposited nearly 1000 specimens into the Connecticut State Museum.  
The Nature Conservancy contracts:  
1983, 1984- The Population Status of Rare Species of Animals and Plants.  
1994- Characterization of the avifauna of the Connecticut River marshes, and assessment of historic changes in the river's avifauna.  
Association of Field Ornithologists, E.A. Bergstrom research grant:  
1985- Prey Selection and Prey Depletion by Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes.  
Connecticut Department of Transportation grant:  
1987-89- Wetlands Mitigation (with Univ. Conn. Depts. of Geography, Natural Resources, Biology, Geology).  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant:  
1989-90- New York-New Jersey Estuary Characterization (with Univ. Conn., Dept. Natural Resources, Marine Sciences Institute).  
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, McIntire-Stennis Program:  
1990- Riparian Forest Disturbance and the Ecological Energetics of Bald Eagles.

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- CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife/ SNM Corporation contract:  
1992- Population Surveys of the Mariana Crow.
- U.S. Dept. of Education, Minority Science Improvement Program:  
1993- Physical and Biological Science Program Improvement and Expansion Project.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contract:  
1995- Preparation of a recovery plan for the Nightingale Reed-warbler.
- Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor (National Park Service) grant:  
2002- Population density and distribution of forest birds in the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor.
- Pfizer Foundation grant:  
2003- Population density and distribution of forest birds in the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor.
- Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor (National Park Service) grant:  
2004- Population density and distribution of forest birds in the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor.

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- New Jersey State 4-H Leader: 1970-1973.  
New Jersey State 4-H Camp: Conservation Instructor 1970; Counselor 1971-1973.  
Natchaug Ornithological Society: member 1973-1990; President 1978-1979; Field Trip Chairman 1981-1987.  
Sharon Audubon Festival, Ct.: speaker, field trip leader intermittent years 1976-1984.  
Moss Nature Sanctuary Committee: Chairman 1989-1990.

- BOOKS: Craig, R.J., M. Altshul and K.G. Beal. 2003. Forest birds of the last green valley: the density distribution, habitat ecology, and conservation of the forest birds of eastern Connecticut. Bird Conservation Research Contribution No. 11. 197p.  
\_\_\_\_\_. 2004. Great day trips to Connecticut's critical habitats. Perry Heights Press, Wilton, CT. 240p.

- MONOGRAPHS: Dowhan, J.J. and R.J. Craig. 1976. Rare and endangered species of Connecticut and their habitats. Conn. Geol. Nat. Hist. Surv. Rept. Invest. 6. 137p.  
Craig, R.J. 1979. The rare vertebrates of Connecticut. U.S. Dept. Agr., Soil Cons. Serv. 169p.  
\_\_\_\_\_. 1990. Historic trends in the distributions and populations of estuarine marsh birds of the Connecticut River. Univ. Conn. Agr. Expt. Sta. Research Report 83. 38p.  
\_\_\_\_\_. and A. E. Marshall. 1998. Recovery plan: Nightingale Reed-warbler *Acrocephalus luscini*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region One, Portland, Oregon.

### PAPERS AND BOOK

- REVIEWS: Craig, R.J. 1978. Field checklist: birds of the Storrs area, Connecticut. Natchaug Orn. Soc.  
\_\_\_\_\_. 1979. Rare and endangered reptiles and amphibians of Connecticut. Conn. Herp. Soc. Bull. 8:18-24.  
\_\_\_\_\_, M.W. Klemens, and S.S. Craig. 1980. The northeastern range limit of the Eastern Mud Turtle, *Kinosternon s. subrubrum*. Jour. Herp. 14:295-297.  
\_\_\_\_\_. 1981. Breeding biology of waterthrushes. Conn. Warb. 1:44-47.  
\_\_\_\_\_. 1982. Finding birds in Yale Forest. Conn. Warb. 2:31-33.  
\_\_\_\_\_. 1984. Comparative foraging ecology of Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes. Wilson Bull. 96:173-185.  
\_\_\_\_\_. 1984. *Amphibians and reptiles of New England: habitats and natural history*. Univ. Massachusetts Press, 1984. Herp. Rev. 15:45 (book review).  
\_\_\_\_\_. 1985. Comparative habitat use by Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes. Wilson Bull. 97:347-355.

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- \_\_\_\_\_. 1987. Divergent prey selection in two species of waterthrushes (*Seiurus*). *Auk* 104:180-187.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1987. Population densities of forest birds in northeastern Connecticut. *Conn. Warb.* 7:27-31.
- \_\_\_\_\_, E.S. Mitchell, and J.E. Mitchell. 1988. Time and energy budgets Bald Eagles wintering along the Connecticut River. *J. Field Orn.* 59:22-32.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1989. Observations on the foraging ecology and social behavior of the Bridled White-eye. *Condor* 91:187-192.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1990. Foraging behavior and microhabitat use of two species of white-eyes (*Zosteropidae*) on Saipan, Micronesia. *Auk* 107:500-505.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1991. *Connecticut Birds*. Univ. Press of New England, 1990. *Wilson Bull.* 103:329-330 (book review).
- Stinson, D.W., J.D. Reichel, R.J. Craig, and D.T. Aldan. 1991. New and unusual bird records from the Northern Mariana Islands, 1988-1990. *Micronesica* 24:261-271.
- Craig, R.J. and J.S. Barclay. 1992. Seasonal dynamics of bird populations in small New England wetlands. *Wilson Bull.* 104:148-155.
- \_\_\_\_\_. and K.G. Beal. 1992. The influence of habitat variables on marsh bird communities of the Connecticut River estuary. *Wilson Bull.* 104:295-311.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1992. Ecological characteristics of a native limestone forest on Saipan, Mariana Islands. *Micronesica* 25:85-97.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1992. Territoriality, habitat use, and ecological distinctness of an endangered Pacific island reed-warbler. *J. Field Orn.* 63:93-110.
- \_\_\_\_\_. and R. Chandran. 1992. Wildlife species recorded during the Aguiguan expedition: 20-25 May 1992. *Proc. Marianas Res. Sympos.* 1:1-7.
- \_\_\_\_\_, R. Chandran, and A. Ellis. 1992. Bird populations on Aguiguan: a ten year update. *Proc. Marianas Res. Sympos.* 1:8-15.
- \_\_\_\_\_, R. Kaipat, B.A. Lussier, and H. Sabino. 1992. Foraging differences between small passerines on Aguiguan and Saipan. *Proc. Marianas Res. Sympos.* 1:16-22.
- \_\_\_\_\_, A. Ellis, and R. Kaipat. 1992. Genetic isolation and the comparative morphology of small passerines on Aguiguan and Saipan. *Proc. Marianas Res. Sympos.* 1:23-27.
- Chandran, R., R.J. Craig, Z. Keys, C. Sheu, and J. Dubrall. 1992. Structure and composition of native forest on Aguiguan. *Proc. Marianas Res. Sympos.* 1:51-56.
- Craig, R.J. and E. Taisacan. 1994. Notes on the ecology and population decline of the Rota Bridled White-eye. *Wilson Bull.* 106:165-169.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1994. Regeneration of native Mariana Island forest in disturbed habitats. *Micronesica* 26:97-106.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1996. Seasonal population surveys and natural history of a Micronesian bird community. *Wilson Bull.* 108:246-267.
- Fancy, S.G. and R.J. Craig. 1998. Forest bird and fruit bat populations on Sarigan, Mariana Islands. *Micronesica* 31.
- Craig, R.J. 1999. Conservation of rare and endangered white-eyes (*Zosteropidae*) in the tropical Pacific. *Bird Conservation Research Contribution* 1:1-8.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 2000. Studying the design of bird refuges along the Connecticut River. *Bird Observer* 28:73-75.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 2000. Birds of the quiet corner: field checklist of the birds of northeastern Connecticut. *Bird Cons. Res. Contr.* 2.
- \_\_\_\_\_. and K.G. Beal. 2002. Microhabitat partitioning among surviving members of a Pacific island bird community. *Wilson Bulletin* 114:102-116.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 2002. Flock structure of the Bridled White-eye on a tropical Pacific island. *J. Field Orn.* 73:70-73.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 2002. Endangered species, provincialism, and a continental approach to bird conservation. *Bird Conservation Research Contribution* 7:1-17.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 2002. A new view of endangered species conservation: reply to Askins. *Bird Conservation*

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Research Contribution 9:1-7.

\_\_\_\_\_. (in press). Marsh birds of the Connecticut River Estuary: a 25-year perspective. Bird Conservation Research Contribution 12:1-14.

\_\_\_\_\_. and K. G. Beal. (in preparation). Determinants of species-area relationships in marsh-nesting birds.

REPORTS:

Craig, R.J. 1977. Critical habitats of the Connecticut coastal area. Conn. Dept. Env. Prot. Report. 129p.

Lefor, M.W., J.S. Barclay, J.C. Cooke, R.J. Craig, S.N. Gadwa, T.E. Murray, P.H. Rich, and R. Segal. 1990. An annotated bibliography for wetlands mitigation. Joint Highway Research Advisory Council Project 87-06 Report. 112p.

Craig, R.J. 1991. Land bird research. Pp. 21-39. *in* Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Div. Fish & Wildl. Annual Report.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1991. Rota Bridled White-eye research. Pp. 45-50. *in* Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Div. Fish & Wildl. Annual Report.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1991. Nightingale Reed-warbler research. Pp. 55-63. *in* Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Div. Fish & Wildl. Annual Report.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1991. Mariana Crow research. Pp. 68-72. *in* Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Div. Fish & Wildl. Annual Report.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1991. Black Drongo research. Pp. 80-83. *in* Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Div. Fish & Wildl. Annual Report.

CONFERENCE  
ABSTRACTS:

Craig, R.J. 1978. Comparative ecology of the Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes. NE Bird-banding Assoc. Conf.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1984. Distributional ecology of marsh birds of the Connecticut River. 7th Ann. Conn. Dept. Env. Prot. Conf. on the Connecticut River.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1985. Rare birds of the Connecticut River marshes: an analysis of population trends. Conn. Dept. Env. Prot. Natural Diversity Conf. Abstr. 1:12.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1986. Predation by Louisiana and Northern waterthrushes in relation to available prey. Assoc. Field Orn. Conf. Abstr. 26:3.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1988. Ecological determinants of estuarine marsh bird distributions along the Connecticut River. Amer. Orn. Union Conf. Abstr. 106:25.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1990. Ecological and morphological divergence in a Pacific island reed-warbler. Wilson Orn. Soc.-Assoc. Field Orn. Conf. Abstr. 102:39.

\_\_\_\_\_. and K.G. Beal. 1992. Seasonal foraging ecology of a Micronesian passerine assemblage. Amer. Orn. Union Conf. Abstr. 110:31.

INVITED  
SEMINARS:

Pennsylvania State University, 1987: Ecological Energetics of Bald Eagles.

Mohegan Community College, 1987: Conservation Ecology of Bald Eagles in Connecticut.

University of New Haven, 1988: Ecological Determinants of Estuarine Marsh Bird Distributions Along the Connecticut River.

University of Connecticut, 1988: Bird Conservation in Micronesia.

Central Connecticut State University, 1989: Foraging Relations Among Members of a Pacific Island Bird Community.

Central Connecticut State University, 1990: Ecological and Morphological Divergence in a Pacific Island Reed-warbler.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Bird Recovery Committee Conference, 1993: Status of the Mariana Islands Bird Fauna.

22nd International Ornithological Congress, 1998: Conservation of rare and endangered white-eyes

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Zosteropidae) in the tropical Pacific.

International Crane Foundation, 2001: Conservation of endangered species in the tropical Pacific.

The National Aviary, Pittsburgh, PA, 2004: An approach toward regional open space planning via landscape level mapping of forest bird density distributions.

**PERSONAL:** Married  
Excellent health