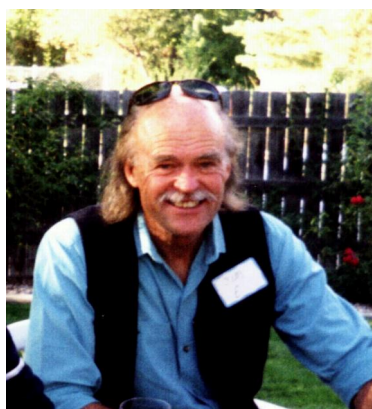




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[DR. JAMES ELLIS](#)[EVELYN CLARK](#)[NREL IN THE LIMELIGHT](#)[AWARDS](#)[HAPPENINGS](#)[CONGRATULATIONS](#)[GRAD STUDENT NEWS](#)[VISITORS](#)[PEOPLE - WELCOME TO NREL](#)[GIFTS TO NREL](#)**DR. JAMES ELLIS**

James Ellis, 63, an ecosystem scientist at the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory of Colorado State University, died in an avalanche in western Colorado on March 14, 2002. The world is diminished by his loss.

Dr. Ellis' preeminent work on understanding the interplay between people and natural processes in arid ecosystems set a global standard for novel research spanning scientific disciplines. He applied integrated, interdisciplinary approaches to understanding pastoral ecosystem ecology throughout the world - in Africa, the Mideast, Asia, and North America. His work exerted broad impacts on contemporary science, but more,

played a fundamental role in supporting wise management and policy in the developing world. Particularly notable was his extensive research on the ecology of pastoralism in the Turkana District of Kenya during the 1980s; studies supported by three major grants from the Ecosystem Studies Program and the Anthropology Program of the National Science Foundation. This project produced over 200 scientific publications. It was the first example of a major research project integrating social and ecosystem science; an example that has been frequently imitated.

Dr. Ellis was a Senior Scientist at CSU's Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory since 1971, serving as its' Associate Director from 1986-1992. During 1989-1995, he was a Professor in the Range Science

Department. From 1993-1995, he served as director of the Center for Environment and Sustainable Agriculture for Inrock International Livestock Research and Training Center, an organization that works with people around the world to increase agricultural productivity and rural employment while protecting the environment. From 1995-1996, he served as a program leader for the Conservation and Development Center for African Ecology at the University of itswatersand, South Africa.

Jim lived in a house in the foothills northwest of Fort Collins that was built largely by his own hands. He was an active outdoorsman and a superb athlete, running marathons when he was 60. He is survived by his wife and longstanding scientific colleague, Dr. Kathleen Alvin, and four sons, Gregory, Eric, Ian, and Stefan.

A memorial service was held and attended by over 250 family members, friends, and colleagues on Friday, March 22, 2002 in the CSU Lory Student Center. The James E. Ellis Humans and the Environment Fellowship has been established at NREL as a memorial to remember and honor Jim's life. If you would like to contribute to this fund, donations may be sent in care of the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523 -1499. Our gift will help us continue to realize the maximum benefits of NREL's educational and research mission by supporting future students who hold the same values that Jim held and shared with us at NREL. This fund was established in his memory to celebrate his life and perpetuate his work by supporting the NREL in a very meaningful way. We want to thank the many people who have already contributed to this fund.



LOSS OF EVELYN CLARK

Evelyn Clark passed away on Monday, Jan 21 in her home. She was 96 years old. She and Francis Clark were married on Aug. 15, 1933. Other are friends and colleagues who care for and have contributed greatly to NREL's future. They established the Francis Clark Soil Biology Scholarship in 1997 out of their belief in the importance of continued research in soil biology and keeping the NREL on the cutting edge of science. The purpose of this fund is to benefit students at Colorado State University who are desirous of pursuing studies in Soil Biology and it is restricted to students whose major professor is a member of the scientific staff of the NREL. We all will greatly miss Evelyn's lively sense of humor and caring spirit.

NRELS 35th Anniversary Reunion and Symposium

The NREL and the College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University will be holding NREL's 35th Anniversary Reunion and Symposium entitled "Our Vision For The Future of Ecosystem Science" on October 30, 2002 in the Cherokee Park Room, Lory Student Center, CSU. This event will provide an opportunity for former colleagues and friends who have worked and studied at NREL, from its beginning as the headquarters of the Grassland Biome Program to the present, to visit and reflect on NREL's challenges for continuance as a global leader in ecosystem science. The Symposium will conclude with a lecture given by the past recipient of NREL's Award of Excellence in Ecosystem Science, Dr. David C. Coleman, Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia. Immediately following Dr. Coleman's talk, a reception will be held at Ammons Hall where Dr. Thomas Rosswall, Executive Director, International Council for Science, Paris, France, will be presented with the 2002 Award of Excellence in Ecosystem Science.

NREL IN THE LIMELIGHT

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The I Symposium, "iodiversity Science and lobal Research," at the American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting and Science Innovation Exposition was held in oston in February. The symposium, organied by Diana all and by Andrew Dobson from Princeton University, attracted a capacity audience and the speakers, each leaders of I projects, were interviewed by media including the USA National Public Radio, National eographic, Nature Magaine, and Radio Netherlands International. The speakers presented findings across issues as varied as biodiversity itself, but their unifying message was that Information Technology IT has become a vital tool for understanding global biodiversity issues that are crucial for sustainability.

IOY Announe e Lun o Eore Your Word oder Mon - M 2002

iodiversity Month is a result of a November 2001 meeting sponsored by the US National Committee for DIERSITAS and organied by I. Explore our orld iodiversity Month is a national contribution to the I and marks the United Nations International Day for iological Diversity on May 22. Celebrations are being coordinated by I, which is based at NREL and is an initiative of DIERSITAS, the international program on biodiversity science. For more information, visit <http://www.biodiversitymonth.org>. NREL participated in one such event, "Amoebas to ebras: A Celebration of iodiversity" coordinated by the I Secretariat and held at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science on May 18, 2002. Using interactive displays and demonstrations, NREL's scientists and students who work on ecosystems ranging from Colorado lakes and prairies to African savannahs and Antarctic deserts will be on hand to explain how state of the art science is being used to help understand biodiversity.

AWARDS

Non

ill Parton, Eldor Paul, and Dave Schimel received the orld's Most Cited Authors' Award from the American Society for Information Science Technology ISI, 2001. ISI has created a new list of Highly Cited Researchers based on the important scientific developments of the last two decades. The recognition of their contributions by fellow scientists, reflected in the outstanding number of references their papers have garnered, has placed ill, Eldor, and David in this group.

Jill aron received the USS iological Resources Division Award for outstanding contributions in 2001.

ill Parton received a special award from the American Meteorological Society as a member of the Editorial oard, lossary of Meteorology, Second Edition, in January 2002.

Tom Stohlgren was selected as University of ashington's Jill Adams Distinguished Lecturer in otany, 2001 and received the USS utstanding Performance Award for quality of work.

CSU

Ingrid urke received CSU's Distinguished Teaching Scholar Award in 2001.

Mark Easter was one of two recipients of the Campus Sustainability Award in 2002. In the fall of 2001, NREL formed an ad hoc committee of scientists and staff, chaired by Mark, to review environmental impacts and evaluate ways to reduce these impacts through reduced consumption of materials and energy. The committee included ina Adams, Andy Parsons, Dan Manier, eneva Chong, Nancy us, Steve Del rosso, and Kristen Howerton. Through the audit, the most significant environmental impacts in NREL's business and research practices were identified, as were the solutions that will reduce NREL's ecological footprint.

Kathy Alvin received the Certificate of Recognition for outstanding Contributions to the Internationalization of CSU, Office of International Programs, 2001.

Dave Theobald received the Exceptional Service Award, Graduate Discovery Internship Program of the College of Agricultural Sciences, 2001.

HAPPENINGS

USAIDGL -CRSP PROJECT IN EAST AFRICA

The NREL, along with the International Livestock Research Institute ILRI, Nairobi are the lead organizations in a project conducted in East Africa, which maintains a strong outreach activity. The project, sponsored by the US Agency for International Development/Global Livestock Collaborative Research Support Program, provides information on policy and management options for promoting wildlife conservation and livestock-based livelihoods for pastoral people who reside in or near wildlife reserves or protected areas in Kenya and Tanzania, East Africa. During 2001 and early 2002, project scientists from NREL Jim Ellis, Randy Oone, and Shauna Urnsilver, ILRI, and other African collaborating institutions conducted 10 mini-workshops for Maasai communities and 8 full workshops for Maasai community members, and personnel representing agencies responsible for parks management, wildlife conservation, or livelihoods and development for pastoral people. In total, these workshops and conferences reached over 300 agency representatives and community members, providing information on options for conservation and development.

CPR INTERVIEW

Dan Manier was interviewed by Colorado Public Radio in December 2001 on the role of fire and habitat change in mule deer population declines in western Colorado with the host of "Colorado Matters." The educational interview was broadcast throughout the state.

NREL WORKSHOP - GLOBAL CHANGE STUDIES

Dennis Jima co-chaired a NREL-hosted workshop in January 2002 to define the new science plan for terrestrial focused global change studies. The planning process is being referred to as the People-Atmosphere-Land PAL Scoping Activity. The charge to this group has come from the IP and the IHDP secretariats for consultation with various scientists to develop a science plan for global change research that takes into account the rich research progress of the past decade, and to provide a vision of the research needed in the coming decade. The plan developed during this meeting was accepted at the IP 17th Scientific Committee Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Provost has announced that Jim Slusser has been promoted to Senior Research Scientist.

The NREL Executive Committee has approved David Merritt as a new NREL Scientist. We are delighted to have Dave at NREL because he brings expertise and interest in riparian plant ecology and focus on species invasions along river corridors. Dave will be moving to NREL in the Fall of 2002 and will be working with Dave Theobald and others. He is also a Riparian Plant Ecologist with the US Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Dr. Thomas Lovejoy, a member of NREL's Executive Advisory Committee and past Chief Biodiversity Advisor for the World Bank, is the new President of the H. John Hein III Center for Science, Economics and the Environment, Washington DC.

GRAD STUDENT NEWS

Ard

Mark St. John received a graduate Fellowship with Diana Hall, PI, from a NSF Ecological Circulatory Collaborative Grant, "Identifying Ecosystem Controls on Soil Biodiversity," for 2001-2003. Mark will attend workshops, with other ECC graduate student awardees, at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies, which Peter Roffman coordinates.

Todd Ojtowicz, Diana Hall, advisor was awarded the graduate Degree Program in Ecology Scholarship. He will use this scholarship to receive training with mite taxonomists.

Ne

Moffatt Ngugi, a PhD student from Kenya, is working with Rich Conant and Mike Coughenour advisors on a project funded by NASA entitled "An Integrated Multi-scale Investigation of Grassland Management: Implications for Carbon Cycling."

DeededGrdun

Tamara Hochstrasser, Deb Peters, advisor successfully defended her PhD, "Pattern and process at a grassland-shrubland ecotone." Tamara works with Deb in Las Cruces, New Mexico at the Jornada Experimental Range.

Kris Metger, Mike Coughenour, advisor successfully gave her PhD defense, "Relationships among species richness, productivity and scale along a precipitation and nutrient availability gradient in Serengeti, East Africa." Kris is a post-doc with Monica Turner, University of Wisconsin.

Lindsey Christensen, Mike Coughenour, advisor received her PhD degree in May. She is a post-doc with Pam Matson at Stanford University. Shuree Egsuren, Jim Ellis, past advisor successfully defended her MS thesis, "Herbaceous Forage Availability and Carrying Capacity in the TNP, Mongolia" in April 2002.

Jerry Hudson, Kathy Alvin, advisor successfully defended his MS thesis, "Responses to Climate Variability of the Livestock Sector in the North West Province, South Africa," for a Master of Arts in Anthropology. His research was funded by NREL's NAA grant.

Andres Cibils, former NREL graduate student advised by Dave Swift, obtained a post doctoral position at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Nicole DeCrappeo, MS, Diana Hall, advisor is running the soil lab for Monica Turner in Yellowstone National Park for the summer.

VISITORS

Roy Ehnlke and Carol Kerven, MLURI, Aberdeen, Scotland, Jim Reardon - Anderson, Georgetown University, Mark Stafford Smith, CSIR, Alice Springs, Australia, and Philip Thornton, ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya visited NREL February 20-22, 2002 for a PI and social scientist's meeting for the "Biocomplexity, Spatial Scale, and Fragmentation: Implications for Arid and Semi-arid Ecosystems" SCALE project. This is a NSF biocomplexity project.

. Orlotsetseg, Research Scientist from the Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology, Mongolia, is

Page last modified: June 11, 2002

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