

Distance Sampling Workshop - January 28-29, 2006 by *Samantha Strindberg, Ph.D.*
Organized by the Antioch New England Graduate School and Center for Tropical Ecology and Conservation. 40 Avon Street, Keene, NH 03431

Workshop Description:

During this one and a half day workshop you will be given a brief introduction to distance sampling methods commonly used to estimate density or abundance of biological populations. This will include an overview of line and point transects and the assumptions that underlie these techniques. We will also consider the biases that arise when the assumptions are violated and how one can improve the precision of density or abundance estimates. You will be introduced to the Distance 5 software that can be used for the design and analysis of distance sampling surveys. During practical sessions using the Distance 5 software you will be able to work on prepared exercises and analysis of your own data or a survey design for your own study.

Preparations for the workshop:

Computer and software: You should bring a laptop computer to the workshop if possible or have another computer available for the practical sessions (with Windows 95 or higher). Install the Distance 5 software on this computer prior to the workshop, if you can. Distance 5 can be downloaded from <http://www.ruwpa.st-and.ac.uk/distance/>. The software will also be available for installation during the workshop if Distance 5 cannot be downloaded and installed beforehand.

Instructor:

Dr. Samantha Strindberg is Associate Conservation Scientist / Biometrician with the Living Landscapes Program of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in New York. Her work involves new model development for strategic conservation planning, as well as adaptation and modification of existing techniques to deal with challenging biological monitoring problems. She provides statistical design and analysis assistance to WCS colleagues, especially with regard to cost-effective design and analysis of distance sampling surveys, and has designed and taught training courses in quantitative analysis and research design for WCS staff. Samantha completed her Ph.D. on 'Optimized Automated Survey Design in Wildlife Population Assessment' under the supervision of Prof. Stephen Buckland in the Statistics Department of the University of St Andrews, Scotland. She worked for the Research Unit for Wildlife Population Assessment (RUWPA), also at the University of St Andrews. She implemented the visual data display and survey design component of the Distance 5 software, as part of her work for RUWPA. This software is the custom application for the design and analysis of distance sampling surveys.

Cost:

ANE Students:	\$ 100
Other Students:	\$ 150
ANE Faculty:	\$ 200
Non Students:	\$ 250

Please note, there are no more seats available for this workshop. For more information about the workshop please contact us at the Center for Tropical Ecology and Conservation