



Meet the Scientist!



<http://www.naturalinquirer.org>



Ms. Reid is a trained professional. The animal pictured was not injured and was released back into the wild. Never handle or approach wild animals.

A wildlife biologist studies animal populations and the habitats with which animals associate.

Janice Reid

Wildlife Biologist

B.S., University of California, Berkeley
USDA Forest Service scientist

Important Scientist Characteristics:

A curiosity about animals and a desire to discover the secrets of animal habits and movements are important characteristics for a wildlife biologist. A commitment to consistent data collection processes and producing repeatable, credible results is also important.

Example of a simple research question I have tried to answer:

What are the trends in spotted owl habitat and how do those trends affect spotted owl survival in the Oregon Coast mountain ranges? Forest habitat in this area of Oregon is constantly changing.

Technology or equipment used in research:

I use leg bands made specifically to fit the spotted owl. The leg bands attach with a plastic push-in rivet. These bands create a unique identification of individual owls that can then be used to determine the population trends.

Most Exciting Discovery

We placed transmitters on spotted owls. Using the information from the transmitters, we discovered the owls can travel long distances in search of a new home.

When did you know you wanted to be a scientist?

I knew I was interested in science when I observed tadpoles at various stages of development in a small stream behind my childhood home.