BENJAMIN BAISER
Assistant Professor
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
110 NEWINS-ZIEGLER HALL
PO BOX 110430
GAINESVILLE, FL 32611-0430
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PHONE: 352-392-1947
FAX: 352-392-6984
BBAISER@UFL.EDU

Education

2003 – B.A. (Environmental Studies and Biology) University of California Santa Cruz
2009 – Ph.D. (Ecology and Evolution) Rutgers University

Ph.D. Dissertation – Biodiversity in a rapidly changing world: From local interactions to large-scale patterns. (Adviser: Julie L. Lockwood)

Employment History

2013- Current – Assistant Professor, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

2009-2013 – Post-doctoral Researcher, Harvard University, Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA

2011 – Adjunct Instructor, Emerson College, Boston, MA

2006-2009 – Graduate Teaching Assistant, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

2004-2006 – Graduate Research Associate, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Publications (Peer Reviewed)

17. **Baiser, B**., Elhesha, R., & Kahveci, T. (2016). Motifs in the assembly of food web networks. *Oikos*, 125: 480-491.

16. Poisot, T., Gravel, D., Leroux, S., Wood, S. A., Fortin, M. J., **Baiser, B**., Cirtwill, A., Araujo, M. B., & Stouffer, D. B. (2016). Synthetic datasets and community tools for the rapid testing of ecological hypotheses. *Ecography*, 39: 402-408.

15. Poisot, T. E., **Baiser, B**., Dunne, J. A., Kéfi, S., Massol, F., Mouquet, N. and Gravel, D. (*2015*). mangal-making complex ecological network analysis simpler. *Ecography*, 38: 001–007, 2015

14. Valle, D. R., **Baiser, B**., Woodall, C. W., Chazdon, R (2014). Decomposing biodiversity data using the Latent Dirichlet Allocation model, a probabilistic multivariate statistical method. *Ecology Letters*, 17(12), 1591-1601.

13. Ellison, A. M. and **Baiser, B**. (2014). Hemlock as a foundation species. Hemlock: A Forest Giant's Life in the Shade and on the Edge (ed D.R. Foster). Yale University Press, New Haven, CT.

12. **Baiser, B**., Whittaker, N., and Ellison, A. M. (2013). Modeling foundation species in ecological networks. *Ecosphere* 4(12):146. http://dx.doi.org/10.1890/ES13-00265.1

11. *Sirota, J., **Baiser, B.**, Gotelli, N. J., and Ellison, A. M. (2013). Organic-matter loading determines regime shifts and alternative states in an aquatic ecosystem. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*, 110(19):7742–7747.

10. †**Baiser, B**., Buckley, H. L., Gotelli, N. J., and Ellison, A. M. (2013). Predicting food web structure with metacommunity models. *Oikos*, 122:492–506.

    † selected as editor's choice April, 2013 issue

9. **Baiser, B**., Olden, J. D., Record, S., Lockwood, J. L., McKinney, M. L. (2012). Pattern and process of biotic homogenization in the New Pangaea. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 279:4772– 4777.

8. **Baiser, B.**, Gotelli, N. J., Buckley, H. L., Miller, T. E., and Ellison, A. M. (2012). Geographic variation in network structure of a Nearctic aquatic food web. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, 21:579–591.

7. **Baiser, B.**, *Ardeshiri, R., and Ellison, A. M. (2011). Species richness and trophic diversity increase decomposition in a co-evolved food web. *PLoS ONE* 6(5): e20672.doi:10.1371/journ al.pone.0020672

6. **Baiser, B.,** and Lockwood, J. L. (2011). The relationship between functional and taxonomic homogenization. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, 20:134-144.

5. Sackett, T. E., Record, S., Bewick, S., **Baiser, B.**, Sanders, N. J., and Ellison, A. M. (2011). Response of macroarthropod communities to the loss of hemlock (Tsuga canadensis), a foundational species. *Ecosphere* 2:art74. [doi:10.1890/ES11-00155.1]

4. Boulton, R. L., **Baiser, B.**, Davis, M. J., Virzi, T., and Lockwood, J. L. (2011). Variation in laying date and clutch size: The Everglades environment and the Cape Sable seaside sparrow. *The Auk*, 128, (2):374-381.

3. **Baiser, B.**, Russell, G., and Lockwood, J. L. (2010). Connectance determines invasion success via trophic interactions in model food webs. *Oikos*, 119:1970-1976.

2. **Baiser, B.**, Lockwood, J. L., La Puma, D., and Aronson, M. (2008). The perfect storm: two ecosystem engineers interact to degrade deciduous forests of New Jersey. *Biological Invasions*, 10:275-285.

1. **Baiser, B.**, Boulton, R. L., and Lockwood, J. L. (2008). Influence of water depth on nest success of the endangered Cape Sable seaside sparrow in the Florida Everglades. *Animal Conservation*, 11:190-197.

***indicates undergraduate co-author**

Publications (Non-peer reviewed)

1. Lockwood, J.L., **Baiser, B.**, Boulton, R., Davis, M., and La Puma, D.A. (2007) Detailed study of Cape Sable seaside sparrow nest success and causes of nest failure: Recovering

small populations of Cape Sable seaside sparrows: 2007 annual reports. US Fish and Wildlife Service, Vero Beach, FL and Everglades National Park, Homestead, FL.

2. Lockwood, J.L., **Baiser, B.**, Boulton, R. and Davis, M. (2006) Detailed study of Cape Sable seaside sparrow nest success and causes of nest failure: 2006 annual report. US Fish and Wildlife Service, Vero Beach, FL.

Grants and Awards

2015 – National Science Foundation- Division of Environmental Biology- **$300,000**- (total) **$19,897**- PI: B. Baiser
2015 – National Science Foundation- Advances in Biological Informatics- **$896,105**- Co-PI: B. Baiser
2014 – Eppley Foundation for Scientific Research: **$25,410**- PI: B. Baiser
2013 – Early Career Seed Award, IFAS, University of Florida: **$48,510**- PI: B. Baiser
2013 – Travel award and invitation to *Scaling Up: Population and Community Ecology* - ESA workshop for early career scientists: **$600**
2010 – REU supplement for NSF 05-4168, DEB 10-25362**: $7,000**- Co-Pi: B. Baiser
2009 – Hutcheson Memorial Forest Fund: Spot mapping the breeding birds of Hutcheson Memorial Forest: **$1,500**- PI: B. Baiser
2008 – Hutcheson Memorial Forest Fund: Spot mapping the breeding birds of Hutcheson Memorial Forest: **$1,500**- PI: B. Baiser
2007 – Hutcheson Memorial Forest Fund: Spot mapping the breeding birds of Hutcheson Memorial Forest: **$1,500**- PI: B. Baiser
2007 – Society for Conservation Biology travel award: **$800**
2006 – NAOC travel grant: **$400.00**

Courses Taught and Mentoring

Current– Introduction to Applied Statistics for the Agricultural and Life Sciences

Current–Multivariate Statistics for the Life Sciences

2011– Instructor - Ecology and Conservation, Emerson College

2010-2012 – Mentor - Harvard Forest REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates)

2009 – Teaching Assistant - Ornithology, Rutgers University

2008 – Co-Instructor - Field Methods in Ecology and Evolution, Rutgers University

2007 – Mentor - Breeding Bird Census, Rutgers University

2006-2008 – Teaching Assistant - General Biology, Rutgers University

2004 – Teaching Assistant - Vertebrate Ecology and Conservation, Rutgers University

Presentations

2015 – Ecological Society of America, Talk Titled: *Motifs in the Assembly of Food Webs*

2014 – Invited Seminar Georgia Southern University, Talk Titled: *Causes and consequences of the network structure of food webs.*
2014 – Invited Seminar Florida State University, Talk Titled: *Causes and consequences of the network structure of food webs.*
2013 – Ecological Society of America, Talk Titled: *Modeling foundation species in food webs*
2012 – Ecological Society of America, Talk Titled: *Predicting food web structure with metacommunity models*
2011 – Ecological Society of America, Talk Titled: *Species richness and trophic diversity increase decomposition in a co-evolved food web*
2010 – Ecological Society of America, Talk Titled: *The relationship between functional and taxonomic homogenization*
2009 – Rutgers-Princeton-Penn Graduate student symposium: Talk Titled: *Food web topology and species richness control invasion success via trophic interactions in model food webs*
2009 – Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management: Talk titled: *The perfect storm: two ecosystem engineers interact to degrade deciduous forests of New Jersey*
2006 – North American Ornithological Conference-Vera Cruz Mexico: Poster titled- *The Effect of Water Level on the Nesting Success of the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow*
2006 – Symposium for Conserving Birds in Human-Dominated Landscapes: Poster titled- *The Effect of Water Level on the Nesting Success of the Federally Endangered Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow*
2005 – Fire Ecology and Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Recovery Symposium: Talk titled: *The Effects of Water Level on Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Breeding Biology*
2002 – University of California at Santa Cruz, Senior research symposium poster session: *Time Budget Analysis of Nest Red-Tailed Hawk Behavior*

Other Positions Held

2008-2009 – Ecology Graduate Student Association Seminar Coordinator
2009 – Editorial assistant for *Biological Conservation*
2009-Current – Reviewer for:
Biological Conservation
Diversity and Distributions
Ecology
Ecology Letters
Ecological Monographs
Global Ecology and Biogeography
Journal of Biogeography
Natrue Communications
Oecologia
Oikos
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences