

Dr. Anne Wiley is an ecologist who uses biochemical markers to study seabirds and other vertebrates. Most of Anne's research relies on stable isotopes, alternate forms of elements that move from food and environment to animals and can be used to track their movements and diet. Because the abundance of stable isotopes remains unchanged in bones and other animal tissues after formation and long after death, they can be used to reconstruct the biology of animals that lived thousands of years ago, or modern animals that cannot be observed first-hand. Anne has spent much of her career studying oceanic seabirds of the Pacific, such as the endangered Hawaiian petrel (*Pterodroma sandwichensis*), which can range hundreds of miles within a period of days. Other research foci include historical trends in seabird diet, the relationship between foraging and sexual ornaments, and the salt intake of marine vertebrates.

Anne's career began in her native state of Michigan where she earned a Bachelors of Science in biology at the University of Michigan, then a Ph.D. in zoology at Michigan State University. Anne became enamored of vertebrates while growing up with a menagerie of animals on a farm in rural Michigan and during her undergraduate years, where she worked to preserve mammal specimens at the University of Michigan's Museum of Zoology. Anne found her niche as a doctoral student, when she learned to use stable isotopes to answer otherwise intractable questions in vertebrate ecology. After earning her doctorate, Anne spent two years working the National Museum of Natural History (Smithsonian Institution) as a postdoctoral fellow in the Bird Division. She now heads a stable isotope biogeochemistry lab at the University of Akron, where she is an Assistant Professor.