

Title The Unique Natural History of New Zealand, and Challenges to Preserve and Protect It

Speaker Jay Mager

Biography

I'm currently a professor of Biology at ONU, where I've been for ~14 years and currently teach courses in general biology, ecology, animal behavior, ornithology, and environmental methods. I am a behavioral ecologist/ornithologist by training, having received a BS in Biology at Hiram College, a MS in Zoology at Miami University, and a PhD in Neurobiology & Behavior a Cornell University. Most of my research has involved learning more about the behavior of the Common Loon, with application to loon conservation and management.

Abstract

For the presentation, I wish to talk a bit about the biogeography and natural history of New Zealand (based upon study abroad trips I've co-led), and discuss some of the current environmental concerns and issues facing the country (perhaps emphasizing the loss of many native birds due to the introduction of mammals to the country), and how the country has, and is currently trying to mitigate them.