

**WILLIAM H. THOMAS**

Director The New Jersey School of Conservation, 1 Wapalanne Road, Branchville N.J. USA  
Phone 973-655-7614 FAX 973-948-5131 Email : thomasw@mail.montclair.edu

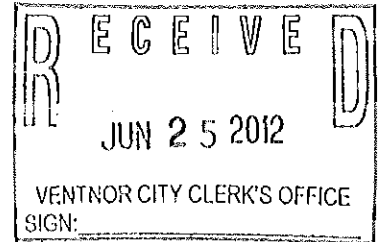
**CURRENT POSITION**

Director, the New Jersey School of Conservation, Montclair State University  
Faculty, Doctor of Environmental Management Program Montclair State University

**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

City Administrator Ventnor N.J.

Labor Relations Union Carbide Metals Division, Marietta Ohio



**EDUCATION**

- 1999 Arizona State University *Ph.D. Anthropology*  
Dissertation Topic: The Implications of Traditional Knowledge for Modern Conservation  
1990 Arizona State University *M.A. Anthropology*  
1976 Marietta College *B.A. Economics*

**BOOKS**

- Thomas, W.H., Tama Alulu & R. FitzGerald  
2012 Field Guid to New Guinea Birds of the Hewa Territory. The National Geographic Society  
Genographic Project. NewGuineaConservation.org.

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Thomas, W. H.  
2011. The Forest Stewards: using tradition to conserve New Guinea's Star Mountain wilderness.  
In Biodiversity, Biogeography and Nature Conservation in Wallacea and New Guinea, Vol.1. Ed.  
D. Telnov The Entomological Society of Latvia, Riga pp. 7-16.
- Helgen, K. M. Opiang & W. H.Thomas,  
2011. The mammal fauna of Wanakipa, Southern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea In  
Rapid Biological Assessments of the Nakanai Mountains and the upper Strickland Basin:  
surveying the biodiversity of Papua New Guinea's subline karst environments. Eds. Richards, S.  
& B.G. Gamui . RAP Bulletin of Biological Assessment 60. Conservation International pp. 235-  
245.
- Thomas, W. H.  
2011. Partnering with the Hewa to conserve their Bio-cultural heritage: The Papuan Forest  
Stewards Initiative. In Rapid Biological Assessments of the Nakanai Mountains and the upper  
Strickland Basin: surveying the biodiversity of Papua New Guinea's subline karst environments.  
Eds. Richards, S. & B.G. Gamui . RAP Bulletin of Biological Assessment 60. Conservation  
International pp. 104-107.
- Thomas, W. H.  
2010. Everyone Loves Birds: Using Indigenous Knowledge of Birds to Facilitate Conservation in  
New Guinea. In Ethno-ornithology; Birds, Indigenous peoples Culture and Society. Eds. S.  
Tidemann and A. Gosler. Earthscan, London. pp. 265-278.

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**PUBLICATIONS**

Thomas, W. H.

2010. The Forest Stewards: An Innovative Approach to Conserving Cultural and Biological Diversity in the Heart of New Guinea. In *Indigenous Peoples and Conservation: From Rights to Resource Management*. Eds. Walker P. S., K., Rylands, A B., Woofter, A., & C. Hughes. Conservation International. pp.269-276.

Beehler, Bruce and W.H. Thomas

2010 . Birds in the Art and Adornment of the Highlands of New Guinea. In *Eternal Warriors: Masterpieces of Highlands Art from the Jolika Collection*. C. Hellmich ed. Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco. (In Press).

Thomas, W.

2010 Integrating Indigenous Knowledge of Birds Into Conservation Planning in New Guinea. In *trends in Ornithology Research*. P. Ulrich et.al. (eds.) Nova International Science, Hauppauge New York. pp.106-128.

Thomas, W.H.

2009 The Forest Stewards initiative: a new institution for safeguarding traditional ecological knowledge in Papua New Guinea. *Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand* 39 (4): 187-191.

Thomas, W. H.

2009. How Do They See It? Traditional Resource Management, Disturbance and Biodiversity Conservation in New Guinea. In: *Landscape, Process and Power: Re-evaluating Traditional Environmental Knowledge*. S. Heckler and R. Wilson (eds.) Berghann Books, Oxford.

Thomas, W. H.

2008. Finding Common Ground: Birds, Biodiversity and the Implications of Human Activity for Conservation in New Guinea. *Environmental Mangement* 45: pp 82-92.

Thomas, W.

2008 Traditional Environmental Knowledge and Its Implications for Modern Conservation Among the Hewa of Papua New Guinea. In: *The Highlands of Papua New Guinea and Twentieth-Century Anthropology*. K. Creely (ed.). University of California San Diego. Melanesian archives.

Thomas, W. H.

2007. Better Late Than Never. In *Adventurous Dreams*, Rocky Mountain Books. September 2007.

Thomas, W. H.

2007. The Great Rivers Heartland Forest Stewards. National Geographic Conservation Trust Research Reports.

Thomas, W. H.

2006. Appearances Can Be Deceiving. *Conservation In Practice* Jan-March 2006 Vol.7 No.1 p.45.

Thomas, W. H.

2003. One Last Chance: Tapping Indigenous Knowledge to Produce Conservation Policies. *Futures* 35 (2003) 989-998.

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**PUBLICATIONS**

- Thomas, W. H.  
2003. Back to the Future: Combining Tradition, Technology, and Global Markets for Forest Conservation in New Guinea. *Middle States Geographer*. Volume 35, pp. 86-91.
- Thomas, W. H.  
2002. One Last Chance: Tapping Indigenous Knowledge to Produce Conservation Policies. *Futures* 35. *CSA Sociological Abstracts*.
- Thomas, W. H.  
2002. Best Practices in the Use of Indigenous Knowledge. UNEP Commission on Indigenous Peoples. Nuffic//UNESCO /MOST. New York & The Hague Netherlands pp. 120-29.
- Thomas, W. H.  
2002. The Cultural Ecology of the Spruce-Parkland Tundra Habitat. Marquette University Archaeology Institute. Milwaukee WI.
- Thomas, W. H.  
2000. Using Indigenous Knowledge to Conserve the Headwaters of the Strickland River. *PNG Biodiversity Digest* 10. p.8.
- Thomas, W. H.  
2000. Traditional Environmental Knowledge and Its Implications for Modern Conservation Among the Hewa of Papua New Guinea. University of Michigan dissertation abstracts.
- Thomas, W. H.  
1999. Indigenous Knowledge and Conservation in Papua New Guinea. *WILD EARTH*. pp. 41-45.
- Thomas, W. H.  
1999. Using Indigenous Knowledge for Wildlands Conservation. *Indigenous Knowledge Monitor (IK)*.
- Thomas, W. H.  
1998. "Traditional Knowledge – Modern Myths" - National Geographic Online Essay @Nationalgeographic.com
- Thomas, W. H.  
1991. In Search of Hewa Cannibals. *The Explorer's Journal*.

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**PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS**

Thomas, W. H.

2009. Enemy of Nature or steward of Biodiversity? The role of human disturbance in fostering biodiversity. *Proceedings of the 2009 Metanexus Conference: Cosmos , Nature, Culture*. Tempe, Arizona.

Thomas, W. H.

2006. Sustainable Management or Sustainable Disturbance: Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation in New Guinea. *Proceedings of the 2006 IUFRO Conference*. Bari, Italy.

Thomas, W. H.

2004 Out with the Old and in with the New. *Proceedings of the Society of Conservation Biology Conference*. Columbia University New York, N.Y.

Thomas, W.H.

2004 Finding Common Ground: Birds, Biodiversity and the Implications of Human Activity in New Guinea. *Proceedings of the Conservation Without Borders Conference*. The Center for Tropical Ecology and Conservation, Antioch New England.

Thomas, W.H.

1999 Using Indigenous Knowledge to Assess Biodiversity on a Landscape Level. *Proceedings of the Environmental Services and Land Use Change Workshop*. Eds. T. Tomich, D. Thomas and M. van Noordwijk. The International Center for Research in Agroforestry. Chang Mai Thailand.

Thomas W. H.

May 1990 Are Cree Hunting Practices Clues to Pleistocene Extinctions? *Proceedings of The International Conference of Hunter-Gatherer Societies*, Fairbanks Alaska.

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PAPERS AND LECTURES PRESENTED

- 2011 Society for Ethnobiology 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. Historical and Archaeological Perspectives in Ethnobiology. Columbus Ohio. *Creating Field Guides to Mobilize Ethnobiological Knowledge*.
- 2009 Metanexus Conference: Cosmos , Nature, Culture. Tempe, Arizona..  
*Enemy of Nature or steward of Biodiversity? The role of human disturbance in fostering biodiversity.*
- 2006 IUFRO conference Bari, Itali. *Sustainable Management or Sustainable Disturbance: Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation in New Guinea.*
- 2006 ESA Mid-Atlantic Ecology Conference, Montclair New Jersey. *The Forest Stewards*. Invited presentation.
- 2005 Australasian Ornithological Conference, Blenheim New Zealand. *Finding Common Ground: Birds Biodiversity and the Implications of Human Activity for Conservation in New Guinea*
- 2005 The University of Missouri, Columbia Missouri. *The Forest Stewards*.
- 2004 Society Of Conservation Biology Conference, Columbia University N.Y. N.Y. *Out with the Old and in with the New.*
- 2004 Keynote Address, The Governor's School on the Environment, Richard Stockton College.
- 2004 8th Invitational Environmental Education Research Seminar. Rhodes University South Africa. *Missed Opportunities in Participatory Conservation* (Unable to attend due to state budgetary restrictions).
- 2004 American Association Of Geographers Centennial Meeting. Philadelphia P.A. *The Noble Savage Trap.*
- 2004 The Center for Tropical Ecology and Conservation, Antioch New England. Conservation Without Borders Conference. *Designed to Fail: Misunderstandings and Missed Opportunities in Participatory Conservation.*
- 2003 DANISH UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, Copenhagen, Denmark. *Sustainable Management or Sustainable Disturbance* (Unable to attend due to state budgetary restrictions).
- 2003 Keynote Address, The Governor's School on the Environment, Richard Stockton College.
- 2003 5<sup>TH</sup> NEW GUINEA BIOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, University of Goroka, Papua New Guinea. *Sustainable Management or Sustainable Disturbance: Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation in New Guinea.*
- 2003 CONFERENCE ON THE ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL IMPLICATIONS OF SUSTAINABILITY. Temple University, Philadelphia. *How Do They Do It? Looking to Traditional Societies for Clues on the Relationship Between Progress and Sustainability.*
- 2003 MIDDLE STATES GEOGRAPHERS CONFERENCE, Montclair New Jersey. *Back to the Future: Combining Tradition, Technology, and Global Markets for Forest Conservation in New Guinea.*

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**PAPERS AND LECTURES PRESENTED**

- 2002 SOCIETY OF CONSERVATION BIOLOGY CONFERENCE, Canterbury England. Topic:  
*Native Guides and Field guides: Using Indigenous Knowledge As A Conservation Template.*
- 2002 SOCIETY OF ETHNOBIOLOGY, Storrs Connecticut. Topic: *Using Indigenous Knowledge to  
Assess Biodiversity at the Landscape Level.*
- 2002 MIDDLE STATES GEOGRAPHERS. Montclair State University. Topic:  
*Back to the Future: Combining Tradition, Technology and Global Markets for Forest  
Conservation in New Guinea.*
- 1999 INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN AGROFORESTRY Conference  
Chang Mai Thailand. Topic: *Using Indigenous Knowledge to Assess Biodiversity on a Landscape  
Level.*
- 1998 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY SCIENCE ON SATURDAYS, Princeton University, Princeton NJ  
Topic: *Modern Conservation and Traditional Lifestyles in Unexplored New Guinea.*
- 1997 KEYNOTE ADDRESS, SIGMA XI INDUCTION, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy,  
Philadelphia PA. Topic: *Traditional Knowledge and Biodiversity.*
- 1996 STRATEGIES FOR FUNDING EXPLORATION, Drexel University, Philadelphia PA. .  
Topic: *Funding Individual Expeditions.*
- 1990 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF HUNTER-GATHERER SOCIETIES, Fairbanks Alaska.  
*Are Cree Hunting Practices Clues to Pleistocene Extinctions?*

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**GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND CONSULTANCIES**

- 2011 National Geographic Society Genographic Project: \$8,600
- 2010 New Jersey Board of Public Utilities : \$2.65 million
- 2009 Indo-Pacific Conservation Alliance Forest Stewards Program: \$110,000
- 2008 Indo-Pacific Conservation Alliance Forest Stewards Program: \$110,000
- 2007 Indo-Pacific Conservation Alliance Forest Stewards Program: \$110,000
- 2007 Department of Energy Solar America Showcase grant.
- 2006 Indo-Pacific Conservation Alliance Forest Stewards Program: \$40,000
- 2005 Consultant Conservation International Melanesian Program Forest Stewards
- 2005 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC Research Grant C74-05 Forest Stewards
- 2004 Consultant Endangered Islands Expedition [www. eiexpedition.com](http://www.eiexpedition.com)
- 2000 Casino Redevelopment Authority Grant: Renovation of Ventnor City Ice Rink
- 1999-2000 New Jersey Historic Preservation Grant:  
Renovation of Ventnor City Hall \*\*\*This was a 3 stage matching grant worth approximately \$1.5million
- 1998 Coordinator Headwater of the Strickland Fund
- 1997 Consultant for the Manokwari Recovery Project, Johnson & Johnson Company: Irian Jaya.
- 1996- 97 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC Research Grant #5682-96  
Papua New Guinea. Ethno-ecological exploration of the Headwaters of the Strickland River
- 1995 Consultant for the Lake Manyara Visitor Center Project, Lake Manyara Tanzania.
- 1994 Explorers Club Grant  
Papua New Guinea. Ethno-ecological Exploration of the Headwaters of the Strickland River.
- 1993 Explorers Club Grant  
Papua New Guinea. Ethno-ecological exploration of the Headwaters of the Strickland River.
- 1988-90 Arizona State University Graduate Research Grant. Ethnographic research on  
Cannibalism in Papua New Guinea.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

I periodically act as a reviewer for the National Wildlife Federation and the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Society.