

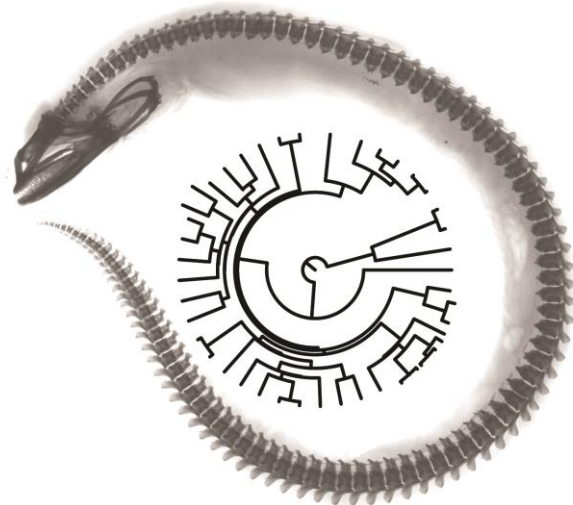
# " From Grasslands to Coral Reefs: What DNA Can Tell Us about Biodiversity "

by Dr. Joshua Reece, Valdosta State University

*Do all species show reduced genetic variation  
after prolonged reductions in population size?*



*How can we use phylogenies to understand  
the evolution of complex morphological  
traits?*



**Monday, November 30, 2015**

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Science 2, room 109

For further information: [www.csufresno.edu/biology](http://www.csufresno.edu/biology)

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I will present two examples of my research that share the common theme of using DNA to understand the evolution of biodiversity in time and space. First, I will discuss my work on the population genetics of the most endangered bird in North America, the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. Second, I will provide an example of how comparative phylogenetics can be used to understand the evolution of complex traits like body size and shape in moray eels and hagfish.

Dr. Joshua S. Reece is a population biologist who specializes in evolutionary and conservation genetics. He has a BS and MS in Biology from the University of Central Florida, and a PhD in Ecology and Evolution from Washington University in Saint Louis. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California in Santa Cruz in comparative phylogenetics, a postdoc at the University of Central Florida in climate change biology, and is now an assistant professor at Valdosta State University.

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If you need a disability-related accommodation or wheelchair access, please contact Lindasue Garner at the Department of Biology at 278-2001 or e-mail [lgarner@csufresno.edu](mailto:lgarner@csufresno.edu) (at least one week prior to event).