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By means of this letter I am extending an invitation to attend the annual meeting in Portland, Oregon in 2009. Several societies dedicated to the scientific study of fishes, amphibians, and reptiles will convene at the Hilton Portland & Executive Tower from 22-27 July 2009 (including the American Elasmobranch Society, the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the Herpetologists' League, the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, the Northwest Society of Vertebrate Biologists, Herpetological Conservation & Biology Board, and the Early Life History Section of the American Fisheries Society). The deadline for abstract submission and pre-registration is 31 March 2009. All participants must register for the meeting and those presenting research results in contributed or invited sessions must submit an abstract. Each participant is allowed to give one oral presentation and one poster.

The annual meeting includes a plenary session of lectures, invited symposia presentations, contributed paper presentations, poster presentations, committee and board meetings, workshops, and social events. The meeting website is: <http://www.dce.k-state.edu/jointmeeting/>.

Additional information for the meeting can be found on the ASIH website (<http://www.asih.org/annualmeetings>).

Costs associated with the meeting include registration (pre-registration is less expensive than on-site registration; registration is less expensive for members of one of the participating societies than it is for non-members), transportation to and from the meeting site, and room and board. Each person attending the conference is required to cover these costs as none of the sponsoring societies have funds to cover participant costs.

On behalf of all participating societies, I invite you to attend the 2009 meeting and look forward to seeing you in Portland.

Sincerely,

Maureen A. Donnelly