



NEWSLETTER | December 2024



The [Biodiversity Heritage Library \(BHL\)](#) improves research methodology by collaboratively making biodiversity literature openly available to the world as part of a global biodiversity community.

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It is hard to quantify how vital a resource is until it is removed from reach! Thank you again for all the wonderful work done by BHL.

RESEARCHER

Support BHL with Your Year-End Giving

As we reflect on the achievements of 2024, we invite you to support BHL with a year-end donation. Your contribution helps us inspire discovery by providing free access to biodiversity knowledge. Thanks to our global partners and generous support from people like you, BHL makes over 62 million pages of biodiversity literature openly accessible.

[Donate Today >>](#)

BHL Datasets Now Openly Accessible on AWS Cloud



BHL data is now hosted on AWS, and comprises over 62 million pages of scientific text from the 15th to the 21st centuries. BHL's vast collection represents an unparalleled biodiversity resource with enormous potential to be used for longitudinal studies and conservation efforts. Transitioning to AWS services represents a transformative opportunity for BHL.

[Learn more >>](#)

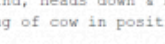
Smithsonian Digital Volunteers: Transcription Center

Home > Browse Projects > Journal kept by Bailey on field trip to Wyoming and New Mexico, March 15-June 1906 > Viewing page 3 of 145

Viewing page 3 of 145

This transcription has been completed. [Contact us with corrections.](#)

3. Journal

Reached Cheyenne Wells about 8 A.M. for breakfast. A few rabbit & coyote tracks, lots of horned larks. Fences full of tumble weeds. Cattle drifted into humped-up bunches along fence toward wind, hair full of snow, tails to wind, heads down & backs up looks lonely and sad. .

Prairie dog holes full of snow but the mounds show plainly. None of the PDs have been out since the snow. No tracks or signs.

Lots of ~~the~~ ~~the~~ kills & some pretty fresh ones apparently made while it was snowing.

At Kit Carson saw one jack rabbit but was not sure whether campestris or melanotis. It was light but not white & probably was melanotis. Ran into a weed patch near a ranch & not far from brushy bottoms. Coyotes are reported by the

The Power of Community Science: How Smithsonian Volunteers Transform Scientific Field Notes

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Smithsonian Libraries and Archives (SLA), Smithsonian Transcription Center (STC), and the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL), over 43,000 pages of transcription materials have been integrated from STC into BHL. An additional 151,362 scientific name access

points have now been added to the BHL search index for SLA archival field notes. These transcriptions enhance BHL's full-text search, enable taxonomic name recognition, improve accessibility for vision-impaired users, and support climate research.

[Learn More >>](#)



**Welcome, Tiago Lubiana,
BHL's first Wikimedian-in-Residence!**

In this inaugural role, Tiago will expand BHL's data presence within Wikimedia platforms, convert legacy data to structured data on Structured Data on Commons for BHL's vast image collection, and provide training to the broader biodiversity wiki community.

[Learn more >>](#)



**Farewell to BHL Program
Director, Martin R. Kalfatovic!**

In June, BHL wished a fond farewell to Martin Kalfatovic as he retired from the Smithsonian Libraries and Archives to take up the position of Managing Director of the IIF Consortium. Martin reflected on his 12 years as Program Director in his departing blog post.

[Learn more >>](#)



2024 BHL Annual Meeting: Securing Our Future While Celebrating Our Past

The 2024 BHL Annual Meeting took place in Chicago, Illinois, from May 13-17, co-hosted by The Field Museum of Natural History and the Chicago Botanic Garden. The Field Museum, renowned for its extensive scientific specimen and artifact collections, provided attendees with access to behind-the-scenes tours of the anthropology, paleontology, botany, and library collections. The Chicago Botanic Garden, a leading conservation science center, showcased its stunning 385-acre landscape with a private tram tour, a cicada walk in the woods, tours of the Japanese and crescent gardens, and visits to the library and rare book room. The public symposium attracted over 130 attendees in person and online.

[Learn More >>](#)



In Memoriam: Nancy E. Gwinn

Dr. Nancy E. Gwinn, past BHL Executive Committee Chair (2011-2017) and Director Emerita, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, died in the Washington, DC area on April 29, 2024. An important advocate for BHL as Director of Smithsonian Libraries, Nancy was an early supporter of what would become BHL.

[Learn more >>](#)

In Memoriam: William Ulate Rodríguez

William Ulate Rodríguez, past BHL Technical Director, died in St. Louis on September 20, 2023. William was a passionate advocate of using the tools of bioinformatics to better understand life on our planet. William's friends and colleagues shared their fond memories of his life and work.

[Learn more >>](#)



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