



Irby Lovette  
Biosketch

Irby Lovette is Associate Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Cornell University, Director of the Fuller Evolutionary Biology Program at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and the Associate Director of the Lab of Ornithology.

Lovette teaches Cornell's introductory evolutionary biology courses. In addition, he leads field courses in Kenya, Panama, and elsewhere. He has published many research articles in notable journals, including *Science*, *Evolution*, and the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*.

Lovette studies the evolutionary biology and behavior of birds. He notes that islands are 'natural laboratories' for research on bird evolution, and Lovette's field studies have taken him to many archipelagos, including 6 months in residence on tiny Isla Daphne in the Galapagos devoted to studying the biologically famous Darwin's Finches. Lovette's research has the general theme of using DNA-based approaches to explore the biology of wild animals, from determining the grand evolutionary tree of life to testing which males in a population end up fathering the most offspring.

Lovette received his BA from Dartmouth College in 1992 and his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1999. He joined the Cornell faculty shortly thereafter.