

CALIFORNIA SECTION WILDLIFE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Editor:  
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926 "J" Street  
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ANNUAL MEETING

The 1956 annual meeting will be held on the Davis campus of the University of California, January 26-27, 1956.

Accommodations will again be available on campus. Reservation requests are enclosed and should be filled out and returned to the Housing Office, University of California, Davis, California, as soon as possible. Members are asked to double up as much as possible. Singles are \$3.00 and doubles \$2.00 per night. Fifty beds have been reserved. The Registration fee for the meeting will be \$1.00 and the banquet, \$2.00, including a social gathering prior to the banquet with free beer, cokes, etc.

Ade Zajanc will display pyrotechnics used in waterfowl management in banquet hall and fire them in open field on the north side of the hall. Robert P. Boone, Regional Supervisor of Federal Aid, U, S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon, will be the banquet speaker. Following Mr. Boone's address, slides brought by members will be shown along with an excellent movie of mountain sheep by Don McLean.

Plans are being made to have an exhibit of wildlife photos in conjunction with the annual meeting. Members having black and white photos of 8"x10" size or larger that they would like to show are urged to send them to Quentin Tomich, Department of Zoology, University of California, Davis, California. Photos should be accompanied by a 3x5 card giving name of the photographer, photographic data and a title or brief description if needed. Colored slides should be numbered and accompanied by a sheet bearing the numbers and information listed above. Colored slides may be brought to the meeting by members not wishing to mail them.

The following is a tentative schedule of the papers to be given as submitted by Program Chairman Bill Graf.

- PROGRAM -

Thursday - January 26

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| 8:00-12:00 | Registration, Horticulture Auditorium, \$1.00. Banquet tickets, \$2.00 (including pre-banquet refreshments). |
| 9:00       | Meeting will be called to order by President Walter E. Howard.   |
| 9:05       | Welcome to Campus. J. Lowell Myler, Director of Field Stations, University of California, Davis.             |

MORNING SESSION

General

Frank M. Kozlik, Vice President, Presiding

- 9:15-9:30 Review of California Reclamation Projects in Relation to Fish and Wildlife Conservation. Everett A. Pesonen, Administrative Officer (conservation) Bureau of Reclamation,
- 9:45-10:00 River Basin Studies in California and Nevada. Warren H. Nord, in charge of River Basin Studies, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 10:15-10:30 Waterfowl Banding in Canada. Albert Naylor, Assistant Game Manager, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 10:30 Recess
- 10:45-11:00 The Importance of Aquatic Habitat in the Management of Waterfowl Areas. Howard R. Leach, Assistant Game Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 11:15-11:30 Ecology, Wildlife and Wilderness. Walter P. Taylor, Claremont Graduate School, Claremont.
- 12:00 Lunch - University Cafeteria.
- 1:30-1:45 Business Meeting (open to non-members)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Leo Shapovalov, Department of Fish and Game, Presiding

Fisheries

- 1:45-2:00 Trout Tagging Activities, Bob Butler, Associate Fisheries Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 2:15-2:30 Black Bass Tagging. Bruce B. Kimsey, Associate Fisheries Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 2:45-3:00 Colorado River Investigation. Richard D. Beland, Assistant Fisheries Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 3:15 Recess
- 3:30-3:45 Striped Bass Studies, John Skinner, Assistant Fisheries Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 4:00-4:15 Catfish Studies. George W. McCsmmon, Assistant Fisheries Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 4:30-6:00 Social gathering with refreshments. Parish Hall, admitted by Banquet ticket pinned to coat.

- 5:30-5:45 Display of Pyro-technics used in Waterfowl Management, Parish Hall, Prepared and filed "by Ade Zajanc, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento.
- 6:00 Annual Banquet, Parish Hall, Banquet address, Robert P. Boone, Regional Supervisor of Federal Aid, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon. Showing of members' colored 2x2 slides and Mountain Sheep movie by Don McLean,

MORNING SESSION

A. Starker Leopold, University of California, Presiding

Management

Friday - January 27

- 9:00-9:15 Nevada's Experience with Desert Quail Management, Gordon W. Gullion, Senior Game Technician, Nevada Fish and Game Commission.
- 9:30-9:45 Pheasant Studies. Jack Bechtel, Assistant Gsme Manager, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 10:00-10:15 Mourning Dove Productivity Records and the Use of Wire Cone Nesting Sites. John B, Cowan, Associate Game Manager, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.
- 10:30 Recess
- 10:45-11:00 Chukar Partridge Studies. Harold Harper, Assistant Game Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Pish and Game.
- 11:15-11:30 Social Aspects of Law Enforcement in Wildlife Management, John O. Rhein, Pish and Game Patrol Captain, Calif, Dept. Fish and Game.
- 11:45-12:00 The Fallacy in Predator Control. Rick Warner, Indep. Sportsmen, San Jose, California.
- 12:15 Luncheon

AFTERNOON SESSION

William Graf, San Jose State, Presiding

Big Game

- 1:30-1:45 Mortality Factors in Pronghorn Antelope. Jim Yoakum, Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Corvallis, Ore.
- 2:00-2:15 A Progress Report on Pronghorn Antelope. H. A, Hjersman, Game Biologist, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.

2:30-2:45            Some Problems Related, to the Movement of Deer, Raymond Dasmann, Assistant Professor of Game Management, Humboldt State College, Arcata, California.

3:00-3:15            Barton's Flat - Deer Management in Operation. Jerome V. Mankins, Assistant Game Manager, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game.

3:30-3:45            Federal Aspects of Law Enforcement in Wildlife Management. Jim Savage, Game Management Agent, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento.

4:00                 Adjournment.

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ELIMINATION OF DUES

The Council has discussed the possibility of eliminating the \$1.00 Section dues and depending on the annual meeting registration dues to cover expenditures. Our expenses have been lower than anticipated and the treasury is in good shape.

This will be brought before the membership at the Davis meeting for action.

COLOR-MARKING WHITE GEESE \_ by Frank Kozlik

During March and April, 1955, the Pittman-Robertson project, California 30-R, trapped and banded 859 migrating geese near Tulelake, California. To help trace their migration to the breeding grounds, some of the white geese were color marked. Usually only one recovery is obtained from a banded bird, which is made when the bird is killed or found dead. Most of the time the majority of the banded birds disappear from the population unreported. By coloring the geese, it was hoped that reports would continue to come in as these birds made their way northward. Technicians in the other states of the Pacific Flyway and Canadian officials were notified of this study.

During March, 42 lesser snow geese were dyed pink with Bhodamine B. These birds were considered to be early migrants. By late April, most of the lesser snow geese had moved on, but 33 were caught from the few remaining flocks. These geese were dyed green with malachite green to distinguish them from those colored earlier. During the entire banding period, eight Ross's geese were trapped, and they were dyed yellow with picric acid.

The birds were colored by dipping the outstretched wings in an alcohol solution of the dye. As the birds closed their wings, the sides of the body became colored. The dye spread rapidly and soon colored the entire bird. The geese were held overnight in a warm building so that they were thoroughly dry before being released. After they were released, they joined the other geese in the area, who accepted them as one of their kind.

Some of the colored geese remained in the Tulelake area well into May. On May 11th, about 15 of the green colored geese and four of the pink geese were still there. Out-of-state reports for the pink geese showed two birds at Burns, Oregon, in April; two separate observations of single geese in Alberta in May; two separate observations of single birds in May on the Arctic Coast;

and, two geese seen in June on Banks Island, north of the Arctic Coast. It was expected that the birds would retain their color until they molted on the breeding grounds. However, one of the pink geese must not have molted or was still in a very gradual molt when it returned to Tulelake during the first week in November. The color of this bird was very faded but was still discernible.

The green geese were reported only once. On July 7th, while banding molting geese on Banks Island, E. H. McEwen of the Canadian Wildlife Service, caught one of the green birds. This was in the same general area where two of the pink geese had been seen.

After leaving Tulelake, the Ross's geese were seen on June 7th, flying over the Hay River near Great Slave Lake. Eight geese were reported - all that had been colored.

From previous band recoveries, it was known that some of the snow geese leaving Tulelake in the spring migrate to Alaska and Siberia to nest. However, none of the colored birds were reported from that portion of the flyway.

Results from a study of this nature are entirely dependent on the reports of the observers. The help of these reporters is greatly appreciated, especially the excellent cooperation of the personnel of the Canadian Wildlife Service,

#### ERRATTA

In the September issue of the newsletter, the 1955 meeting of the International Association of Game and Fish Commissioners was reported as occurring in Atlanta, Georgia. This meeting actually took place in Augusta, Georgia.

#### NEWS OF MEMBERS

PAUL BERG and GEORGE KOSTAL have recently been assigned to the River Basins Studies working out of Sacramento. Berg is formerly from California and had his training in Montana. Kostal comes from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in Omaha.

Two of our wildlifers recently made "TIME" magazine. ELLIOTT MC CLURE was featured in an article on his work on auran reservoirs of Japanese Encephalitis.

LEE TALBOT'S work for the International Union for the Protection of Nature, a function of UNESCO was also described in a recent issue of "TIME" magazine. Lee has been making a study of species threatened with extinction in the Near East and South East Asia.

He found that in almost every case, man or his activities was responsible for the threatened extinction of various species. His work on the Indian rhino was especially interesting. It seems that the rhino horn is highly valued as an aphrodisiac and rhino horns bring a terrific price on the market.

He found one case of a local belief working to a rare animal's advantage.

The Burmese brow antlered deer was formerly considered in danger of extinction but due to a local "belief that their meat aggravates venereal disease, the natives now leave this deer alone and it has now become locally abundant.

Lee told of his experiences on this project before an informal gathering of local wildlifers at STARKER LEOPOLD'S home early in November and had some excellent colored slides of the country and species involved.

It seems that while hunting rhinos, the roles of hunter and hunted were frequently reversed. Lee tells of going on hands and haunces through the jungle after Sumatran rhinos, and chasing and being chased by Indian Rhinos while on elephant back. In one case, the rhino caught up with his elephant and took an 18" gash out of the side of the animal.

ABE ZAJANC of the Fish and Wildlife Service reports the following news of service personnel: BRUCE YEAGER was transferred from Yuba City to Eureka. AL MISSELDINE will be stationed at Yuba City. He formerly was with the Idaho Eish and Game Department.

RUDY SWITZER, formerly of the California and Arizona Departments of Eish and Game, is stationed at Klamath Falls.

ADE ZAJANC has been transferred to the Denver Research Laboratory from depredation studies in Region I. He will be working on the coot depredation problem.

BILL ANDERSON spent a month's vacation in Mexico. His camera went on the fritz while surrounded by nesting birds of all sorts on Isla Ires Murias southwest of Mazatlan and the boys clear up at Imperial Valley could hear him cussing.

SECTION'S OFFICERS - 1956-57

The nominating committee of Mert Rosen, Dick Davidson and Fred Evenden has supplied the following list of candidates for the Section's officers in 1956-57. This ballot must be returned to Secretary-Treasurer Carol Ferrel, Department of Fish and Game, 926 "J" Street, Sacramento 14, California, by January 18, 1956.

PRESIDENT

Frank M. Kozlik	
William M. Longhurst	
Richard Taber	
<u>VICE PRESIDENT</u>	
Carol M. Ferrel	
Robert S. Rudd	
Charles E. Yocom	

COUNCIL (Vote for Two)

William Graf	
Chester M. Hart	
E. W. Jameson, Jr.	
Wallace C. Macgregor	