



The Wildlife Society Western Section

Vol.52, No. 1

Spring Newsletter 2006

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President's Message

Kevin Hunting



Former president Cynthia Perrine awards Kevin Hunting with the honorary plaque that has the names and years of the Section's prior leaders, officially welcoming him into his term.

I would like to introduce our spring newsletter by first thanking all of our members for their continued support of the Wildlife Society and Western Section. As we continue the process of refining our identity and refocusing our conservation, education, and professional development activities, I encourage each of you to become more involved in your professional organization and support the Western Section. Consider contacting one of the board members, committee chairs, and chapter representatives listed on the back page of this newsletter and participating in one or more Section activities.

The 2006 Annual Meeting, held in February in Sacramento, was a success with nearly 500 participants attending 17 concurrent technical sessions and 4 workshops. Workshop topics included energy and avian interactions, funding for wildlife research and

management, certification under the Wildlife Society certified wildlife biologist program, and using current technology for data capture and management. The conference was preceded by a symposium focusing on marten and fisher ecology and management that provided participants with a complete overview of current marten and fisher research topics and management techniques. The entire conference program is currently available on the Western Section web site at http://www.tws-west.org/2006tws-wwsConference%20Program_012806.pdf. For those of you unable to attend in 2006, I encourage you to consider joining us for the 2007 annual conference in Monterey.

As a result of the hard work and dedication of our two past presidents and the board, I'm happy to report a substantially improved financial picture for the Section. Immediately following the conference, we repaid short-term loans to the chapters that generously helped us recover from difficult financial times. The Section is considering options for creation of a prudent reserve and can now focus on funding the programs and activities that best serve its membership.

The Section is facing a busy year with several positive changes on the horizon. Our able and motivated past president, Cynthia Perrine, continues work on an overhaul of the Section web site. Watch for additional content, a new and improved interface, and access to additional professional development re-

Continued on Page 9.

Is there anything you would like included in the next newsletter? Write Katie (information on last page) by June 30.

Upcoming Events

The TWS-WS website, <http://www.tws-west.org> will list workshops as dates and locations are confirmed (and indicated in bold, below). Several unique and exciting opportunities are on the horizon:

- ⚙ **INTRODUCTION TO REMOTE CAMERA TECHNIQUES IN WILDLIFE STUDIES;** June 8-11, 2006; Eagle Lake Field Station; Susanville, CA (Lassen County). We aim to provide a comprehensive introduction to camera trapping equipment and methodology so participants acquire the basic knowledge to implement their own surveys. Each participant will have hands-on experience setting up and/or monitoring passive, active, and video stations.
- ⚙ **BAT ECOLOGY AND FIELD TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP;** September 7 - 10, 2006; Hastings Natural History Reservation (Monterey County). An introduction to the ecology of California's bats through lectures and demonstrations on physiology, species accounts, anatomy, foraging behavior and diet. Field techniques of mist-netting, assessing food habits and acoustic monitoring will be demonstrated. Due to the handling component of the workshop, participants must furnish proof of rabies vaccination to participate in mist-netting. Registration begins later this spring, but start your rabies series now.
- ⚙ **BAYESIAN STATISTICS:** August 8-9, 2006, Arcata CA (Humboldt County). An Introduction to Bayesian Statistical Inference for Natural Resource Scientists and Managers (including Bayesian Mixed-Effects Modeling and Capture Recapture Analysis). If you know what all that means (I don't!), this course is for you!
- ⚙ **BIRD SPECIMEN PREPARATION WORKSHOP;** October 14-15, 2006; Arcata (Humboldt County). A one and a half day workshop teaching preparation of avian museum study skins will be held at Humboldt State University. Topics will include the importance of specimens to avian conservation and research, specimen documentation, permit issues, and preparation materials and methods. The workshop will fo-

cus on hands-on specimen preparation; each participant will prepare at least one specimen, more if time permits. Maximum Registration: 18

- ⚙ **Raptor Ecology** (tentative, Spring 2007)
- ⚙ **Mohave Ground Squirrel Workshop**, April 2007, Ridgecrest

From this list, you can see that we're quite busy, but there's always the future! If there is a subject you'd like to see offered (or a workshop that you would like to organize) please let us know!

The PDC has successfully completed four Certification Workshops since July. We don't have any more scheduled, but if you can find 8-15 interested people in one area, please contact PDC or your Chapter Rep. TWS encourage members to consider formal certification as Certified or Associate Wildlife Biologists and to work toward Professional Development Certificates.

The four "Mini-Workshops" on Wednesday afternoon (before the February Annual Meeting) were all successful and well attended. We greatly appreciate the contributions of Debra Schlafman (USFWS), Linda Spiegel, Rhys Evans and Chris Stermer, who coordinated these events. Our thanks for a job well done! Look for several more "mini-workshops" and a pre-meeting symposium before our 2007 meeting in Monterey. Several topics are under consideration; we'll keep you waiting until we've narrowed it down.

Finally, I'd be surprised if Don Yasuda doesn't mention this in his article, but repetition can be a good thing. If you'd like to get regular updates of TWS Western Section events, sign up for the TWS-WS Members Listserver e-mail. This is NOT a discussion forum, so you won't get smothered with e-mails. We keep it to a maximum of 3-4 messages per month, so it won't fill your in-box. It's the best way to learn about workshops, training, elections and other Western Section events!

For more details on PDC activities and Workshops, regularly visit our website, and contact us directly at: rhyse@adelphia.net or deniselwalker@hotmail.com

Annual Conference Symposium - Fisher and Marten in California

Katie Moriarty and Symposium Committee

Preceding the Annual Conference in February the California North Coast Chapter and Section hosted "Fisher and Marten in California: Moving Science and Management Forward." This one and a half day symposium included a list of invited speakers from around the country. Each was tasked to present a topic in their area of expertise. The goal was to summarize the majority of current research from both published and unpublished projects, providing a strong knowledge base for the audience. Following the talks, there was a moderated discussion for all who wished to participate. At the final count, there were 166 registrants, 22 speakers, and 14 posters.

Both Pacific fisher (*Martes pennanti pacifica*) and marten (*M. americana*) are within the family mustelidae and are forest carnivores with similar life history characteristics and ecological requirements. Each seems to exist in areas that harbor a high density of canopy cover, diverse forest structure, relatively large trees for denning and resting sites, and appear to be sensitive to forms of habitat alteration. Marten are smaller with a body similar in size to a house cat, light brown and slightly orange in color, and typically reside in high elevation habitats. Historically in California marten were reported to occur throughout the Sierra Nevada, southern most portion of the Cascades, and within coastal northern California. At present their population is discontinuous in many areas of their former range. In addition, it is debated whether or not the Humboldt subspecies has been extirpated.

In contrast fisher are larger, at 3-6 kilo-



The "Marten and Fisher in California" Symposium brought together a collaboration of new ideas and management strategies from both the speakers and attendants.

grams, are dark blackish brown, and reside in lower elevation forests. They once occupied much of the Cascade Mountains, Coast Ranges, and the Sierra Nevada. In the western U.S. it appears they have been extirpated from Washington, reside in small numbers in two disjunct populations in Oregon, and also are separated into two populations in California – one in the northwest (northern Coast Range and Klamath Mountains) and the other with a restricted distribution in the southern Sierra Nevada. The two populations in California are separated by nearly 300 miles. Various organizations have petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the Pacific as endangered. The petition submitted to the Service in 1990 was declined a year later due to an insufficient amount of scientific information. Two years after a 1994 petition was received, Pacific fisher were again denied increased protection due the lack of evidence provided to indicate that populations from the Pacific Coast and Rocky Mountain areas were separated by physical, physiological, ecological or behavioral factors. The latest petition was submitted in December 2000 and in April

2004 the Service found that the "petitioned action is warranted, but precluded by higher priority actions."

The Symposium's discussion provided a good culmination to all of the information provided in the presentations. After several hours, three working groups formed – the north coast region, Sierra Nevada, and northeast California/southern Oregon. These fisher-marten working groups will be collectively working towards the conservation of fisher and marten and their habitat through a variety of avenues. These include providing a forum for information exchange among scientists and managers, identifying information needs and facilitating research

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Mark Your Calendars!

2007 Annual Conference

**January 31 - February 2
Monterey, CA
Portola Plaza Hotel**

President Elect

Julie Vance

To begin, I would like to thank all of the Section members for their confidence and support. It was both flattering and very humbling to become the successful candidate for president-elect of the Western Section. I am still "getting my feet wet" on Executive Board issues and procedures, but I have already observed the tremendous dedication and vast amounts of time committed by the Western Section board members. I consider myself lucky to

have the ability to work with such a great group of people. I am already starting to work on next year's annual conference, which will be held in Monterey. Tomorrow past-president Cynthia Perrine and I will be touring the conference facilities, and I will start on the detailed planning that is necessary to put on the quality conferences that Section members have come to expect. I welcome any and all suggestions from Western Section members on what you would (or wouldn't) like to see at next year's Annual Conference.

Lastly, I write this entry on the vernal equinox, a date which always makes me reflect; it represents an ending and a new start. As the late spring rains keep vernal pools filled, newts are leaving their breeding streams, and the trees are all in blossom, I wish you all luck and spiritual renewal as you all embark on this year's field season.



Vernal pool allocarya

Section Representative's Report - News from TWS

Marti Kie

TWS Council met on March 23 and 24 in Columbus, Ohio in conjunction with the 71st North American Wildlife & Natural Resources Conference. We were joined by the new Director of Publications, Dr. Philippa Benson, who brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the TWS team. Some highlights of Philippa's career include: 7 years with the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science at Conservation International; diverse writing, editing, and production experience with the Congressional Environmental Study Council, International City Management Association, Alcoa Corporation, and National Institutes of Health; degrees in Geology and English from Oberlin College; M.A. in Professional Writing and Information Design from Carnegie Mellon University; and, Ph.D from Carnegie Mellon where she completed psychological studies of literacy in science.

Philippa led discussions on the limitations of the existing TWS website, measures to improve it in the short term, and fascinating possibilities for its evolution into a major information engine for TWS members.

Council conducted a wide variety of business on behalf of the Society, including the following:

- Received a report from the Global Involvement Task Force and discussed strategies for expanding TWS membership and participation in the international arena.
- Approved a new Memorandum of Understanding between TWS and the Human-Wildlife Conflict Collaboration.
- Agreed to pursue discussions with the Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation regarding the creation of a new award for outstanding land stewardship.
- Approved interim status for new working groups including the Ethnic and Gender Diversity WG, the Human Dimensions WG, and the Invasive Species WG.
- Approved a draft charter of the Wildlife Diseases Working Group.
- Proposed bylaws changes to create new membership categories (Commercial, Agency, and Family Memberships).
- Proposed bylaws changes that would, among other things, facilitate the possible formation of a new Canadian Section.
- Agreed to study the concept of developing certification programs for wildlife technicians and wildlife enforcement personnel.
- Celebrated another year of fiscal health, with TWS realizing a net profit in 2005. Brisk sales of the new *Wildlife Techniques Manual* were a contributing factor.

Continued on Page 9.

A thanks to the volunteers...

Katie Moriarty

The Western Section's Annual Conference is its largest event of the year. In order for it to run smoothly nearly 2 dozen volunteers are needed. Typically these people are college students and young professionals with various levels of expertise. In exchange for 8 hours of work, they get reimbursed for the early registration fee. This year we had wonderful assistance from 21 dedicated people that all went well beyond the call of duty. For the first time, Feather River Community College was involved. Organized by their professors, Darla DeRuiter and Darrel Jury, there were 9 volunteers from this school. A scholarship was awarded to FRC by both the Section and the Sac-Shasta Chapter. Below are the students' responses to their experience.

Hello, my name is Jason Hellwich. I am a student at Feather River College and was able to attend the Western Section of The Wildlife Society's Conference. My trip was made possible by financial assistance from the Western Section and Sacramento-Shasta Chapter. I would like to thank them for the opportunity to attend. My original intent in attending was to meet wildlife professionals, get a first hand look at The Wildlife Society, and to learn as much as I could. By the conference's end, I had met with professionals from many fields, I had gotten an insider's view of The Wildlife Society as a whole, and I had learned a lot about different wildlife studies. I think the most important thing I will take from this conference won't be the culmination of all

the interesting data that has been collected, but the exciting feeling I get when I realize how much still needs to be collected. I am reminded that we students and professionals are still pioneers in this study of wildlife, and that there is still a lot to explore in this wild frontier of a field. Thank you. /s/ *Jason Hellwich*

I came to the TWS conference to learn more about pathogens transferred in trapping and the subsequent results of infected species. The conference was very informative and a wonderful learning opportunity. Thank you Western Section and Sac-Shasta Chapter for making this experience possible. I look forward to attending many more wildlife conferences in the future. /s/ *Lauri Smith*

I want to thank you for giving me this chance to come and see these great presentations. I gathered much information on many careers and jobs. I hope to get my foot in the door on any of them for the summer. I was really impressed by the Fish and Game and hope to find something in that field. My peak of interest lies with waterfowl and wetlands projects. I hope to find a job in any of these fields or gain as much information as possible until I do. Thanks again for the chance to attend the conference. I hope to do it again sometime. Thank you, /s/ *Tyler Jacobsen*

Upon attending the Western Section Wildlife Society Conference I really did not know what to expect. I have never attended such an event until now. It was a great opportunity for me to volunteer, meet people in the fields that I'm interested in, watch interesting presentations on a broad range of topics, and have fun in the process. I walked away from

Feather River College Student Testimonies

this conference with a better understanding of what is out there and a clearer focus of what I want to do in the future. /s/ *Sean Kawa*

I wish to thank TWS for providing the supportive opportunity to learn invaluable knowledge regarding the agencies and variables inherent in making informed adaptive management decisions. /s/ *Linda Dieter*

I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to attend The Wildlife Society conference. What a valuable educational experience to be exposed to current research and developments in the field! It really helped my understanding to see how concepts we learn about in class are actually applied in the professional scientific community. I feel like my career goals are more defined as a result of attending. Thank you for the opportunity! /s/ *Danielle Wagner*

On the last day of the Annual Wildlife Society Conference, I would like to thank the people that made this possible. My thanks go to the board members of the Western Section and the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter. My hopes and goals for this conference were to see the wildlife field from inside, from the professional's perspective; to meet and greet those professionals; and to pick up some knowledge along the way. By providing this opportunity, TWS has expanded my horizons, both in wildlife concerns and topics, but also in what it will mean to work in my chosen profession. By attending this conference, my desire to learn as much as I can, and my drive to graduate and begin my own career, has only grown. Thank you for this memorable opportunity. /s/ *Elise LaVanaway*

Awards and Grants Committee

Rich Burg

The following awards were presented at the TWS-WS Banquet on Thursday February 9, 2006:

Raymond F. Dasmann Award



Cynthia Perrine and Archie Mossman.

The Raymond F. Dasmann Award for the Professional of the Year went to **Dr. Archie S. Mossman**. His contributions span a career of more than four decades and represent important and significant additions to our body of knowledge dealing with multiple species game ranching, wildlife management, and conservation biology. In addition, Dr. Mossman was a Professor at Humboldt State University from 1961 to 1996 teaching and mentoring numerous wildlife professionals during his long tenure. The presentation of this year's Dasmann Award was especially poignant, because Dr. Raymond F. Dasmann, for whom the award is named, collaborated with this year's honoree in their earlier years and with whom he had a long friendship.

Conservationist of the Year Award



Local CWA representatives and Cynthia Perrine.

The Conservationist of the Year Award went to the **California Waterfowl Association (CWA)** for their work to preserve, protect, and enhance California's waterfowl resources, wetlands, and associated outdoor heritage. Through habitat partnerships with private landowners, public entities, and other nonprofits, 80,000 acres of wetland, upland, and riparian habitats have been restored from 1993 to 2005.

In addition CWA annually tracks, monitors, and/or takes positions on over 100 pieces of state legislation and dozens of federal measures that could either positively or negatively impact wildlife habitat conservation.

James D. Yoakum Award



Cynthia Perrine and Michael Chapel.

The James D. Yoakum Award for Outstanding Service and Commitment to The Western Section went to **Michael Chapel**. Mike has been a long standing member of the Section and has held positions as Secretary, Treasurer, President-elect, and President. In the spring of 2004, the Section experienced a significant financial crisis. Mike stepped up during this difficult time and agreed to serve as the Section's Treasurer. He took over our bookkeeping and financial transactions, worked with accountants to deal with taxes, and helped to prepare budgets. Most importantly, Mike conducted a study of recent financial trends in the Sections expenditures and revenues, and produced a set of recommendations for future conduct of the Section's financial affairs. Mike's depth of experience and historical perspective were a key to emerging successfully from this challenging time. His calm demeanor, sense of humor, and professional attitude were a real source of strength and inspiration.

Students!!!!

Our workshops provide essential training that expands your experience and looks great on a resume. Look at the upcoming events (*Pg 2*) and apply for a grant or scholarship (*next page*). You might also consider writing the Student Affairs Committee to find out how to become a volunteer! Don't wait....

Featured below are the board members of the CNCC - Sandra Hunt-vonArb, Even Lautenheiser, Joel Thompson, Denise Walker-Brown, Gary Falxa, Lisa Ollivier, Cynthia Perrine (Western Section).
Chapter of the Year Award



The Chapter of the Year Award went to the *California North Coast Chapter*. Among their accomplishments/events of the past year include a resume workshop co-sponsored with the HSU student chapter, Annual Spring Awards Banquet including an excellent presentation by Emil McCain on the Jaguars and mountain lions of southern Arizona, Co-sponsored two, 2-day amphibian workshops with FRAWG (Forest Reptile and Amphibian Working Group) on the ecology and management of forest headwater habitats, ½ day workshop focusing on proper use of the topographic map and compass in the field, one-day willow flycatcher (WIFL) workshop with presentations on WIFL ecology, conservation and survey techniques, with an emphasis on the north coast region. Additionally, the chapter worked with the Western Section on the successful co-sponsored Marten and Fisher Symposium held preceding the 2006 Annual Conference.

Please see Page 11 for more Awards and Grants information.

Awards and Grants Committee (continued)

Western Section Grants

The Western Section of The Wildlife Society (TWS-WS) has historically supported conferences and symposia and studies through grants. Board members review all funding requests and make selections based on the following criteria:

- Consistency with TWS purposes and objectives as cited in the Western Section By-Laws
- Timelines and relevance: Local, regional, or national level
- Proposals must demonstrate a clear need for funding and should define a time-line for project implementation/Endorsement and/or financial support of local TWS Chapter
- Demonstration of shared costs; a detailed budget showing amount and use of TWS-WS grant is required
- Quality and brevity of submitted request
- Availability of funds and amount of funding requested
- Applicant must be a member of TWS-WS
- Conference or symposium organizers receiving grant funding must submit a schedule of proposed sessions
- Ability of the applicant to successfully implement the proposed project

Submitted requests should attempt to address the above-listed criteria. Grant recipients must submit a report to the Executive Board at the conclusion of the event or study. In addition, if the recipient conducted a study, they must present either preliminary or final findings from that study at the annual conference. This reporting requirement will be included in a letter from the Section which accompanies the actual disbursement of the grant.

If you are interested in submitting a grant request, download the application form (on-line <http://www.tws-west.org/grants.html#grants>) and mail the request to:

The Wildlife Society Western Section
Attn: Awards and Grants Chair ; PO Box 3275
Oakland, CA 94609-0275

The following TWS member received a past-presidents pin for his service to the Western Section at the annual business meeting:

John Harris, Past-President 2005

The following TWS members received plaques for their service to the Western Section at the annual banquet:

Cynthia Perrine, President 2005

Jessica Martini-Lamb San Francisco Bay Area Chapter Representative, 2003-2005

Lyla Hunt, U.C. Davis Student Chapter Representative 2003-2005

Sean Baumgarden, U.C. Davis Student Chapter Representative 2003-2005

Gary Falxa, California North Coast Chapter Representative 2005-2005

Michael Chapel, Treasurer 2004-2005

Rob Fowler, Humboldt State University Student Chapter Representative 2004-2005

Mary Auth, TWS-WS Transaction Editorial Assistant 1995-2004

Membership

Don Yasuda

Our current 2006 Section membership stands at 631 members. We have 58 student members and 12 life members. The majority of members renewed along with their TWS memberships (343), followed closely by those renewing along with signing up for the Annual Conference (211) and the rest renew through our Section website or through the mail. Our membership is down from past years (see table), which means that there are several of you that will be reading this newsletter that have not renewed your Western Section membership for this year. As a reminder, memberships are for the

Sacramento-Shasta Chapter

Melinda Dorin

The Chapter met at the Western Section Annual Meeting and as always we have an ambitious plan for the year. We did not send out ballots this year, as all positions were uncontested. We are in the process of revising our bylaws to allowing for uncontested elections to be ratified by our membership. Website updates are in process. Check it out at <http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/index.html>.

We are more than happy to post student activities, job openings and events. Just let us know. Membership is at about 110 people so far for 2006. Chapter finances are steady. We have given a \$390 travel grant to a group of students at Feather River College to attend the Western Section Annual Meeting. In February we also gave out \$2000 in scholarships to both undergraduate and graduate stu-

calendar year. I will be sending out another renewal reminder shortly (maybe even before you see this newsletter!). Please consider renewing your membership as it helps ensure that the Section can continue to put on the quality Professional Development workshops and symposia that you've come to expect. In addition, members usually receive a discount rate for these workshops and events. Your membership also helps support the Annual Conference and the awards, grants and scholarships that are given annually. The Western Section is stronger for having an active and informed membership of individuals work-

ing or involved in the wildlife profession. Please encourage your peers to join the Western Section (www.tws-west.org) by referring them to our website where they can get information on membership benefits and can join online. Also, please notify me if your address or email changes so that I can keep our membership records up to date and can ensure you are notified of Section news in a timely manner.

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Year	Number of Members
2006	631 (to date)
2005	759
2004	860
2003	864

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**Western Section
Members Mailing List**

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TWSWSMembers>)

The Western Section uses a Yahoo Group list to share information with members and interested individuals, such as:

- ◆ news of upcoming Professional Development Committee activities and workshops
- ◆ availability notices for our electronic newsletter
- ◆ information of interest to Section members
- ◆ other important Section news

As a moderated list, only Executive Board members can send messages - this is not a members forum. You can subscribe by going to the group site and joining or by sending a blank email message to: [TWSWSMembers-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:TWSWSMembers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Once you join, you will automatically be sent a document with more information on how to manage your subscription. If you have questions about the list, contact Don Yasuda at dyasudaTWS@comcast.net.

Section Representative's Report

Continued from Page 4.

The Executive Director, Dr. Michael Hutchins, and the President, Dr. Bob Brown, have participated in many Section and Chapter meetings across the nation. This involvement has been well received and effective in increasing understanding of the many improvements underway in TWS products and activities.

Looking ahead to future meetings, Council agreed that TWS should endeavor to "green" its future annual conferences, and will ask the planning committee for the 2007 meeting (in Tucson, Arizona) to make this a conference objective. These deliberations were inspired by the outstanding example of the joint meeting of the TWS Idaho Chapter, TWS Northwest Section, Northwest Scientific Association, and Society of Lichenologists that was held 6–8 March in Boise, Idaho, as reported on by Wini Kessler, our NW Section Rep. Council appreciated how organizers for this meeting had given careful attention to the envi-

President's Message

Continued from Page 1.

sources. Cynthia and Section Secretary Katie Moriarty formed and are developing a student affairs committee to improve outreach and communications to our student members. And our highly capable and productive professional development committee, co-chaired by Rhys Evans and Denise Walker-Brown, are planning some excellent professional development opportunities for the Section membership.

During the spring and summer months, I'm hoping to work closely with our grants awards chair Richard Burg, to increase grant opportunities to students pursuing degrees in the wildlife and ecological sciences. With our financial picture now stabilized, we can focus resources on up and coming professionals and help cultivate new Section and Society leaders. Increased financial support for the profession, and grants for qualified wildlife research projects, goes hand in hand with our student affairs committee growth and evolution of the Section to meet the changing needs of the profession.

Please join us by becoming more involved in 2006!

ronmental implications and had taken many steps to minimize potential impacts of the gathering.

The TWS senior staff also told us about their discussions on how to improve the "green score" of TWS activities and the headquarters office. Philippa Benson has made our publishing partner, Alliance Communications Group, aware of a new high-grade recycled paper that could potentially be used for our publications. Recycling is already the norm at TWS headquarters, but they are looking at other opportunities such as installation of inexpensive motion sensors that would switch lights off if nobody is using those office areas. Senior staff agrees that such thinking should be expanded to the annual conference.

Council's next face-to-face meeting will be at the TWS Annual Conference scheduled for 23–27 September 2006 in Anchorage, Alaska. I hope that all of you are making plans to attend this meeting, and encourage your participation in the Members' Forum and the meetings of your TWS Council.



The Western Section of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

New Webpage Near Complete!!

Keep an eye out the next few months for a new design and updated features!

Western Section Members!

We want you to know about our upcoming workshops first, so check our website frequently and subscribe to the TWSWS Members e-mail list.

Registration is now open for three different events:

Remote Cameras

June 14-18, Lassen County

Bayesian Statistics

August 8-9, Humboldt County

Bat Ecology and Field Techniques

September 7-10, Monterey County

Chapter Event Coordination Policy - *A Notice from Professional Development*

Rhys Evans

Professional development has released a document to provide guidelines for coordination of workshops, seminars and symposia between recognized chapters and the TWS-West Section-level Professional Development Committee. The Chapter Coordination policy will provide more opportunities for your local chapter to have workshops without some of the more tedious technicalities required. The intent would be to help chapters by explaining how to access the resources available to the Section. For instance, with a minimum of 60 days notice (180 would be ideal) the Section could send a notice on our list server, grant the chapter access to other publicity mechanisms, and provide web services for a fee. In addition, chapters can request assistance from the Registration Coordinator under contract to the Section. Another linked opportunity would be

that chapters could use electronic, web-based registration via the Western Section web site to be processed by the Registration Coordinator. Lastly and perhaps more importantly, the event would have the possibility of getting under the "umbrella" coverage through the Section's liability insurance. Many facilities will require documented proof of liability insurance prior to allowing the use of their property, and this document can be provided if adequate advance notification is provided. Liability insurance is especially important for any event that includes field trips, driving or other activities including potential risk. This policy is now available on our website or from the Professional Development Committee: rhyse@adelphia.net or deniselwalker@hotmail.com.

Humboldt Student Chapter Wins Again

Will Goldenburg

Humboldt state sent about 27 students and two advisors to the Western Section Wildlife Conclave in Las Cruces New Mexico. Along the way we camped in some of the most amazing areas in the southwest desert including Madera Canyon, Arizona, and the Chiricahua Mountains. In all we saw over 280 vertebrate species with some highlights being, badgers, mountain lions, vermilion flycatchers, javelina, and countless others. We had a great showing at the actual conclave barely missing the quiz bowl win to Colorado State. But our team players Brian Mulligan, Luke Knox, Jeff Stoddart and Jake, played well and beat other teams by over 100 points at times. Humboldt won the animal behavior contest hands down, with our skit centered around placenta eating! We had countless awards in the Art contest and Sporty Pair was awarded second place in the research poster contest.

A new event was added this year called the wildlife triathlon, and involved a timed marathon of telemetry, setting small mammal trapping grids, and orienteering. Four students from Humboldt took the win with the fastest time and the most accurate trap grid. Due to all our awards Humboldt state was awarded overall Champions of the Conclave, and now our only problem is finding space in our building for all the awards and plaques! We are excited for next spring when will travel to College Station, Texas to compete at Texas A+M to try and hold our title.

Fisher and Marten in California and Annual Conference Workshops

Continued from Page 3

to fill those needs, and professional education and public outreach. Both the north coast and northeast/southern Oregon working groups have met this spring. Many of the presentations will be available soon on Yreka's FWO fisher website.

The professional development committee would like to applaud the success of this symposium. Bill Zielinski, Lowell Diller, Gary Falxa, Scott Osborn, Katie Moriarty, Denise Walker-Brown and others deserve our appreciation and public acknowledgement for bringing a "hot topic" to the center of attention.

36th Annual North American Symposium on Bat Research



The 36th Annual North American Symposium on Bat Research will be held at the Hilton Riverside in Wilmington, North Carolina (www.wilmingtonhilton.com) from 18-21 October 2006. The local contact and program director for the 36th NASBR is Mary K. Clark, mary.k.clark@earthlink.net. Registration details can be found on the Society's website: www.nasbr.org. Pre-registration and call for papers begins 12 June 2006 and ends 18 August 2006.

Dear TWS Members:

Now is the time to nominate members or organizations for several Western Section awards. If you have a meeting or other opportunity to get this message out to other members, please do so. Feel free to forward this request via email if you have those addresses.

Want to recognize your colleague for their outstanding work? Why not submit your nomination for one of several awards offered by your section. The deadline for nominations is October 30, 2006. Please see below for details about these awards. These details are also posted on the section's web site at <http://www.tws-west.org/>.

The Raymond F. Dasmann Award for the Professional of the Year

The "Dasmann Award" is presented by the Western Section to Professionals who have made an outstanding contribution to wildlife resources management and understanding in California, Nevada, Hawaii or Guam.

Qualifications of nominees: Nominees can be any member(s) of the Wildlife Society-Western Section, who develops, applies, administers or completes an especially significant program of management, education, research or communication that results in an outstanding contribution to wildlife resources in the Western Section geographic area.

The Conservationist of the Year Award

The Conservationist of the Year Award is presented by the Western Section to (a) person(s) or group, either engaged in wildlife conservation as a profession or as an avocation, who has (have) made an outstanding contribution to wildlife conservation in California, Nevada, Hawaii or Guam. *Qualifications of nominees:* Nominees can be any individual or group who has demonstrated an active concern for wildlife conservation by accomplishing projects or programs that have significantly enhanced wildlife resource conservation within the Western Section geographical area.

How to make your nominations

Please support your nomination with a summary of the nominee's professional history, a narrative of the special program(s) for which the nomination is being made, and any other pertinent supportive materials. Mail, email (preferred) or fax your nomination with supporting materials by October 30, 2006 to:

Richard Burg
Awards and Grants Committee Chair
8885 Rio San Diego Drive; Suite 270
San Diego, CA 95814
email: Rburg@parks.ca.gov
fax: (619) 220-5400; phone: (619) 688-6104

Expect to receive a confirmation that your nomination has been received. Please let me know if you do not receive a confirmation.

Call for Manuscripts for the 2006 Volume of the "Transactions of the Western Section of the Wildlife Society"

Original papers in the field of wildlife ecology and management, habitat management, conservation biology, and related natural resource topics are being solicited for publication in the 2006 issue of the "Transactions of the Western Section of The Wildlife Society." All papers of interest to the 800-900 Western Section members will be considered for publication in the "Transactions" which are published annually. The "Transactions" has a continuous publication record since 1966 and is distributed free to all Western Section members. Manuscripts are due by 1 May 2006 to ensure publication in the 2006 issue, however, manuscripts may be submitted after that date but they might not be published in the upcoming volume. All manuscripts submitted for publication are peer reviewed by qualified referees. Submitted manuscripts must follow the format in the 2005 "Transactions" or the latest issue of "Manuscript Guidelines for Journal of Wildlife Management" (<http://www.wildlife.org/publications>).

Please submit manuscripts to:

Barrett A. Garrison, "Transactions" Editor, California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento Valley * Central Sierra Region, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. E-mail: bgarrison@dfg.ca.gov; phone: 916-358-2945; fax: 916-358-2912. Electronic submissions of manuscripts in MS Word are highly encouraged.



The Wildlife Society
Western Section
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Conference WrapUp, Election Results, and more

2006 - a year of heightened Section involvement. Look inside for details on the Section's plans from professional development, membership, our presidents' reports, and a new chapter coordination policy!

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