



# The Wildlife Society Western Section

~~Vol. 54, No. 2~~

**Vol 55, No. 2**

Summer Newsletter 2009

## Issue highlights:

2010 Annual Conference... 2 - 4    New Mailing Address... 7  
Grant Application Guide... 5    Chapter Events & Info... 8 - 12  
Officer and Committee Reports... 6 - 7  
2010 Natural Resources Communication Workshop... 10 - 11

## President's Message

*Scott Osborn*

"Mr. President, we have a problem." The voice on the phone wasn't John Ehrlichman informing Richard Nixon of the Watergate break-in. It was esteemed Western Section Past-President Rhys Evans, calling to tell me our dinner plans in Monterey had to change. The Section's Executive Board had finished a successful meeting a few hours earlier and had planned a group dinner. Unfortunately, a review of the restaurant's menu that afternoon led to the conclusion that it was too "meaty" for our vegetarian-oriented Board members.

The solution to this particular problem was easy. The incredible cohesiveness shown by the Board during the meeting fractured as small groups formed and went their separate ways to dinner. I joined a group of Presidents, past and present, and enjoyed some delicious Monterey seafood. And while our food was excellent, the conversation during dinner was also quite stimulating and enjoyable. One topic in particular dominated the conversation and, although the tone was mostly professional, there was dramatic disagreement among us on this issue.

Without going into details, the basic point of disagreement revolved around the question "What is the role of TWS in resolving dysfunctional wildlife regula-

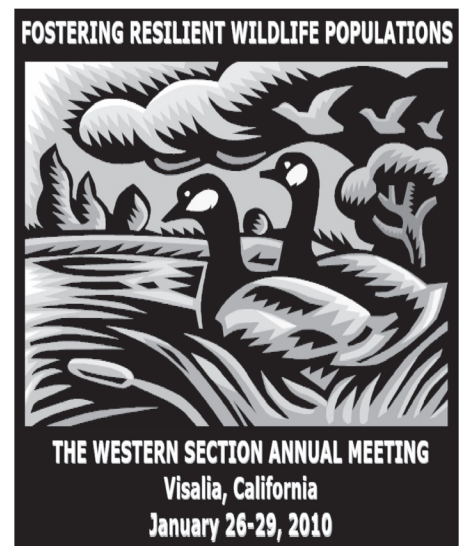
tory processes?" The particular issue we were discussing involves take-determination for a listed species, but we could just as easily have been talking about a particular hunting regulation or the review process for a CEQA project. All of us at the table agreed there are problems with the current process in question. But we differed on how the Western Section should get involved, if at all.

## ***"What is the role of TWS in resolving dysfunctional wildlife regulatory processes?"***

One President (X) argued that TWS can and should organize training workshops for consultants to ensure that they have the information necessary to conduct the appropriate analyses. Another more cynical President (Y) insisted TWS would be providing cover for a failed regulatory process if fundamental changes weren't implemented along with the training. A third President (Z), perhaps looking for middle ground, suggested that TWS could offer the workshop but insist that it is only providing the informational tools to conduct the take assessments and not providing a seal of approval for the consultants' work. These basic points were rehashed repeatedly, using examples from our own experience and fueled by some excellent wine (thanks, Tina and Armand!).

Being stubborn, Type-A personalities (as Presidents often are), we didn't reach agreement by the end of dinner and so the conversation continued back at the hotel. Under the influence of yet more wine, the debate degenerated and devolved onto other topics, ending when President Z could more aptly be called President Zzzzzs. But I thought a lot about the argument during my long drive home the next day. Presidents X, Y, and Z all had the stewardship of wildlife as their primary motive in arguing their approaches, but their experiences had led them to different positions. To an extent, we all recognized the validity of the others' arguments. I thought back to one of the first events I helped organize for the Western Section, which was a workshop on

*Continued on Page 6*



**2010 Annual Conference of the Western Section of The Wildlife Society  
January 27-29, 2010**

Visalia Convention Center, Visalia, CA

Conference updates will be posted to <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/> as available.

**Preliminary Schedule:**

Tuesday, January 26 : Pre-Conference Workshops To Be Announced  
 Wednesday, January 27: On-site Registration (12 noon); Afternoon Concurrent Sessions; Welcome Mixer, Poster session, and Chapter Meetings  
 Thursday, January 28: Morning Concurrent Sessions; Afternoon Plenary Session; Annual Business Meeting and Member's Forum; Annual Awards Banquet and Raffle  
 Friday, January 29: Morning and Afternoon Concurrent Sessions; Student Leadership Lunch and Career Fair; Western Section Executive Board meeting (all members are welcome)  
 Saturday, January 30: Field Trips (to be announced)

**Conference Theme and Plenary Session  
“Fostering Resilient Wildlife Populations”**

We have probably all participated at some point in our careers in a restoration or enhancement project benefiting wildlife. It might have been as a kid building and putting up nest boxes, or more recently restoring a meadow after a fire, or mitigating impacts from a development project. Fostering, of course, is the promoting, nurturing, and developing of something, in this case resiliency; or the ability to bounce back from adversity.

This isn't anything new, but it may be more important now than at any other time in our lifetimes. Wildlife populations are under assault from a suite of stressors that will only get worse as we face the greatest environmental challenge in history, climate change. Invasive species, wildfire, pests, disease, drought, development, and other threats will take their toll and the ability for spe-

cies to survive will require them to adapt quickly. Their ability to adapt will depend on the quality of habitats available to them and the capacity of these habitats to be resilient.

The theme for next year's conference is meant to recognize the efforts that are underway or being planned to conserve and restore ecological processes and habitats that will hopefully provide wildlife populations a hedge against adversity and the risks and vulnerabilities they face.

The presentations and panel discussion being planned will stimulate thinking and attempt to focus our collective efforts to identify and meet the most pressing wildlife management challenges lying ahead. The plenary session will be held Thursday afternoon. Speakers will be announced as they are confirmed.

**Conference Hotel  
Accommodations**

Conference attendees have two options for lodging. Both are affordable, provide complimentary breakfast included with your nightly rate, and are within easy walking distance to the convention center, site of the 2010 Annual Conference. More hotel registration details will be listed on the conference web site.

1. Comfort Suites  
 210 E. Acequia Ave  
 Visalia, CA 93291  
 (559) 738-1700  
[www.comfortsuites.com](http://www.comfortsuites.com)  
 Standard Room Rate \$95.00

2. Hampton Inn  
 4747 W. Noble Ave.  
 Visalia, CA 93277  
 (559) 732-3900  
[www.visalia.hamptoninn.com](http://www.visalia.hamptoninn.com)  
 Standard Room Rate \$95.00

*The latest updates will post to <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western>*

## Call For Papers

# FOSTERING RESILIENT WILDLIFE POPULATIONS

### Abstract Submission:

Please submit abstract(s) electronically using the interactive form on the Section website. The deadline for submission of both Oral Presentation and Poster abstracts is October 15, 2009.

We are soliciting abstracts for posters and 20-minute oral presentations for the concurrent technical and poster sessions. Abstract content should be consistent with technical session topics listed below, and may consist of either final or interim original research results. The conference program and session chairs will evaluate submitted abstracts to determine final concurrent session topics. In general, presenters should expect to speak for no more than 17 minutes, allowing for an introduction and limited Q&A after each presentation. All papers associated with the general meeting will be presented Wednesday through Friday, January 27-29, 2010.

### Concurrent Session Topics and Chairs:

Amphibians and Reptiles: Rhys Evans;  
Climate Change Effects on Wildlife: Sarah Petiglia  
Disease and Wildlife Management: Deana Clifford  
Fire in Wildlife Management: Kevin Shaffer  
Game Species Management: Doug Updike  
Genetics Techniques in Wildlife Research and Management: Ben Sacks  
Large Scale Conservation Strategies (easements, landscape planning): Tina Bartlett  
Managed Forests (timber, grazing, recreation):TBA  
Neotropical Migrants: Geoff Geupel  
Non-game Species Management (rodents, lagomorphs, bats, carnivores): Scott Osborn  
Raptors: Jeff Lincer  
Shorebirds and Wetlands: Dave Shuford  
Statistical Innovations and Modeling: Mark Herzog  
Techniques in GIS: Tom Lupo  
Waterfowl: Greg Mensik and Dan Yparraguirre  
Wildlife and Pollution Events: Julie Yamamoto  
Wildlife Education: Bruce Foreman  
Wildlife/Human Conflicts: Jason Holley  
Wildlife Response to Restoration: John Carlon

#### Please Note:

Speakers are expected to pay full registration if they plan to participate in the full conference. A limited number of speakers may qualify for one-day compensated registration to the conference, however complimentary registration does NOT include admission to the banquet, welcome mixer or social events. Contact Armand for more information



## Student Activities

### Student–Professional Lunch

The Section will host a student–professional lunch after the career fair at noon on Friday, January 29, 2010. Students will have the opportunity to discuss career choices, the job market, and job qualifications with practicing professionals from the Western Section. Students should indicate their intent to attend the lunch when they register for the conference. Although the event is free to registered conference participants, space is limited. Those not indicating their intent to attend on the registration form will be accommodated as space allows.

### Career Fair

The Career Fair is an opportunity for agencies and businesses to showcase their career opportunities and for students and other individuals to learn more about the current job market, qualification requirements, and opportunities. To participate as a vendor in the career fair, please contact our 2010 Career Fair coordinator Karen Swaim, [kswaim@swaimbio.com](mailto:kswaim@swaimbio.com).

### Workshops

**Orienteering with Map, Compass, and GPS** with Darla DeRuiter, Feather River College and David Wright, California Department of Fish and Game

**A Résumé Workshop!** taught by Barbara Peters from the Career Center at Humboldt State University (along with other professionals) will offer outstanding guidance on job searching to students, new professionals, or others seeking employment.

### Student Volunteers

Currently enrolled students may qualify for registration refunds in exchange for volunteering time at the conference for a number of conference-related tasks. Typical jobs include assisting at the registration desk, operating PowerPoint and related equipment during presentations, or setting up materials prior to the conference. In some cases, students may be able to work in a session they already plan to attend. Additional information will be posted to the web site as it becomes available. Note: Students must pre-register AND pre-pay for the conference. Upon certified completion of a minimum of six hours' volunteer service, a request for reimbursement will be provided.

### Student Travel Grants

A limited number of student travel grants may be available. Contact the Awards and Grants Committee Chair; [rburg@parks.ca.gov](mailto:rburg@parks.ca.gov) for additional details.

### Seeking Nominations for Section Awards:

- Dasmann Professional of the Year
- Conservationist of the Year
- Chapter of the Year
- Yoakum Award for Outstanding Service
- Garrison Award for Outstanding Mentoring

Contact [rburg@parks.ca.gov](mailto:rburg@parks.ca.gov)

## Important Registration Detail:

**We will offer a first-ever Early-Bird registration with substantially reduced fees for Section members and students. Watch for the email notice coming in September, 2009.**

**Regular, on-line registration for this meeting is expected to open in late October, 2009.**



## Grant Application Guide

### Research Grants

All Research Grant Proposals are limited to four pages and must contain:

A TITLE PAGE with the following information: project title, applicant's name, institutional affiliation, address, degree being sought or highest degree obtained, telephone number, fax number, email address, total budget, amount requested from TWS, desired starting date, and a brief ABSTRACT of the proposed project, stating the purpose, methods, and significance of the project to conservation.

An INTRODUCTION explaining the rationale for the project, specific goals and objectives, and hypotheses to be tested.

METHODS and PLAN OF ACTION describing data collection methods, sample size, detailed timetable, including the project's completion date.

A project BUDGET is required.

### Travel Grants

To encourage high standards of professional achievement, the Western Section has established an honorarium fund to assist participation in professional meetings, conferences, symposia and other continuing education activities.

Eligibility: Applicants must be current dues paid members of the Western Section. Funds will not be provided when employer or agency funds are available to the applicant. Applicants must not have received a Travel Grant (from TWS-WS) in the current year.

Non-TWS and International Conferences/Symposia: Travel grants to International and non-TWS conferences/symposia will only be reviewed by the Awards and Grants Committee if the requester is presenting a paper or poster at the subject conference. A travel grant may be granted contingent upon the papers acceptance by the program committee.

Priority will be given to attendees of

TWS meetings (at any affiliated level) and to presenters of a poster or paper at a given conference, symposium, etc. A maximum of two grants may be awarded for a particular meeting (depending on funding). Combined requests for shared expenses for the same meeting by two or more students will be considered.

To apply for a travel award, submit:

1. Application form (see web site);
2. Abstract of paper/poster (if presenting)
3. Evidence of acceptance of the abstract (if required), and
4. Draft text of paper/poster to be presented (2-4 pages)

Failure to provide the above requested material will disqualify the applicant.

### Review & Approval of Grant Requests

Requests for funding must be submitted to the Awards and Grants Committee. Proposals will be reviewed on a continual basis and support will depend on fund availability. The Awards and Grants Chair shall distribute copies to all Board members for review and consideration. Approval of requests will require a majority vote by the TWS-WS board.

Amount: Applicants should consider the award only as a supplement to other funding sources, as the awarded amount may not cover the full cost of attending a meeting. Individual travel grant/reimbursement will not exceed \$300.00 per applicant per event/per year.

Conditions: Travel awards are to be used only for registration fees, meals, lodging, and or transportation expenses. Rates of reimbursement shall be as follows : Mileage (personal vehicle) may be claimed at the rate consistent with the federal IRS guidelines for travel reimbursement. The actual cost of meals, not to exceed \$6.00, \$10.00 and \$15.00 for breakfast, lunch and dinner, respec-

### **Robert C. Stebbins Research Grant**

The Western Section offers a grant to support student research projects in herpetology, funded by a generous gift from Swaim Biological Incorporated. The grant honors Dr. Robert C. Stebbins, who has taught and mentored many Western Section members and is known for his Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians as well as numerous scientific publications. The Stebbins grant will fund up to \$500.00 in research expenses. An application describing the proposed project and its relevance to wildlife management should be sent to the Awards and Grants Chairperson as detailed on this page. In addition, an electronic version should be provided.

tively, and the actual cost of lodging, not to exceed \$75.00 per night.

Administration: Western Section funds will be budgeted in the spring of each year.

Requests/applications should be submitted to the Awards and Grants Chair. Each applicant must submit a written request at least 60 days in advance of attending an event. The application must clearly state the amount of support requested and identify how costs will be incurred. A statement that alternative funding is not available from any other source must be included in the application.

Applicants must submit receipts for reimbursement. A statement of the professional benefits derived from attending the event and a summary evaluation of information gathered must accompany the receipts.

Completed applications should be e-mailed to rburg@parks.ca.gov or sent to The Wildlife Society, Western Section Attn: Awards and Grants Chair, PO Box 6756, Albany, CA 94706

## President's Message

*Scott Osborn, continued from Page 1*

responsibility and ethics. My co-chair for the workshop was another esteemed Section President, Lowell Diller. Lowell summarized his conclusion from the workshop as, "Collaboration is the best way to ensure confidence." Collaborators in World War II were reviled for aiding the enemy, but today "collaboration" has taken on a new positive meaning. In science, collaboration is almost a necessity. Many research projects and the development of policy require multiple sets of expertise and perspectives to ensure the topic is adequately addressed. When wildlife biologists from academia, wildlife agencies, and industry work together on a question, we have a higher likelihood of reaching conclusions that all these often conflicting parties can agree to. At least that's the theory.

Applied to the debate in Monterey, the collaboration theory would suggest that TWS should be involved in training consultants, as argued by President X. But our involvement shouldn't be limited to providing information. To avoid the perception that TWS sanctions a flawed system, as President Y feared, we should use our involvement to effect positive changes in the system and thus inspire more confidence in it. Of course, this would require a greater commitment from us than merely showing up and providing information. But we should expect that. Our mission is to promote excellence in wildlife stewardship, after all.

***"...promote  
excellence in  
wildlife  
stewardship..."***

## Treasurer

*Gary Falxa*

Are you a Western Section member who has financial investment experience? If so, the Section could use your help. About 2 years ago, Section bylaws were amended to establish an Endowment Fund. The interest generated from the fund would be used to support the Section's education, outreach, and scholarship programs, while the core funds (the principal) remain invested. Thanks to a generous bequest from the Donaldson Family Trust, the Section has been able to start the Endowment Fund with an initial investment of \$38,000.

### ***Trustee needed for Western Section's Endowment Fund***

Section bylaws call for the fund to be managed by 3 Trustees—the Section Treasurer plus two Trustees appointed by the President. Marshall White, a Section member and investment professional, has generously volunteered to serve as one of the two appointees. We are seeking one more Trustee. These are challenging times for earning interest on investments, and a volunteer with relevant investment experience would be great. My goal is to work with the other Trustees to develop an investment plan during the summer, via conference calls and email, and perhaps meeting at the Monterey TWS National conference in September.

This is a great opportunity to serve the Section and help its programs. Trustees must be Western Section members. If interested, please contact me (gfalxa"at"suddenlink.net). Thanks!

## President-Elect

*Armand Gonzales*

Planning is in full swing for the 2010 Annual Meeting to be held in Visalia, and more details are found on pages 2 - 4 in this issue. I welcome any thoughts or suggestions you may have so please feel free to contact me. Also, please participate in this unofficial survey: How can the Section make attendance at these annual conferences more affordable? Fewer frills like pastries and fruit at breaks? Lower registration fees resulting in a lower profit? More scholarships through increased efforts in finding sponsors? Input from members on how to offer affordability while maintaining our long-established quality events is always welcome.

***"How can the Section  
make attendance  
at these  
annual conferences  
more affordable?"***

## Newsletter Editor

*Cynthia Perrine*

Is there anybody out there? Sometimes it's hard to tell! In an attempt to capture the Western Section's newsletter readership, a counter has been added to the Newsletter web page.

Effective October 1, I'm taking on new responsibilities with TWS Western Section. Thus, I will step down as editor once a new editor is confirmed.

As always, we encourage you to enjoy the newsletter electronically to save resources. However, to request that your name and address be added to the paper copy distribution list, please contact me at csgperrine"at"yahoo.com.



## Past-President

*Rhys Evans*

My actions as Past-President have been many and varied. For the upcoming national meeting in Monterey, I've helped with fundraising, arrangements, abstract review for the Program Committee and I'm co-chairing a special symposium currently scheduled for Monday morning, "Defense Department Lands: Islands of Biodiversity." The National Military Fish and Wildlife Association ([www.nmfwa.org](http://www.nmfwa.org)) --I'm Past President of that group, too--has signed on as a sponsor of the "national" TWS meeting for the second time; I hope you have time to attend the aforementioned symposium or at least stop by booth 202 in the exhibitor/vendor hall.

We're VERY pleased to acknowledge outstanding support of the Monterey meeting by our Western Section as well as our chapters. Every Western Section chapter signed on as sponsors, and we BLEW AWAY every other section. I'm proud of all of you! The Western Section and the California Central Coast Chapter each met the challenge of sponsoring at \$2500. Bay Area and North Coast agreed to \$2000; Sacramento-Shasta joined in at \$1,150, and Nevada, Hawai'i, San Joaquin and Southern California are all sponsoring at \$1000. Thanks a million (or at least several thousand times) to those Chapters. Meanwhile, chapters and individuals can also help us out by finding donations for our silent auction, raffle and as various prizes for the photo contest, quiz bowl and more.

***"Every  
Western Section  
chapter signed on as  
sponsors."***

I'm continuing to help with Professional Development; we have workshops planned to kick into gear again early next year, once Monterey 2009 is complete. Several workshops are in development; stay tuned to the web site for announcements

My final task is perhaps the most important one: Past President is responsible for identifying candidates for President-Elect. I sincerely welcome nominations, even self-nominations. I also can tell you that it's an honor to serve as President-Elect, President and Past President of this fine organization. Yes, there is some work involved, but there are rewards aplenty, and the Executive Board is a pretty awesome group of people to work with. We already have the contract for our 2011 meeting signed,

so a big part of the job is already done (it'll be the first week of February 2011 in Riverside). Just think of how much you can shape the future of the Western Section as we approach our 60th year. If you like what we're doing, great! Throw your hat in the ring to keep it going! If you don't like what we're doing, throw your hat in the ring, because change is good! Please consider nominating qualified individuals or nominating yourself by dropping an e-mail to [sirsnav@verizon.net](mailto:sirsnav@verizon.net). THANKS!

***Nominations for  
President-Elect  
are now  
OPEN!***

***The Western Section has a new mailing address:***

***TWS Western Section***

***P. O. Box 6756***

***Albany, CA 94706***

The Western  
Section of  
**THE WILDLIFE  
SOCIETY**



## California Central Coast

*Cynthia Perrine*

### 2009 Bat Workshop Summary

The 2009 “Bat Workshop” at Chimineas Ranch in eastern San Luis Obispo County was co-sponsored by the Central Coast Chapter and the Western Section. 17 participants attended, representing environmental consulting firms, state agencies, federal agencies, universities, and students. Dave Johnston and Joe Szewczak instructed 3 full days and nights of lecture, laboratory, and field content. The generous scholarships provided by Helen Johnson provided registration payment for 3 students to attend!

During the workshop we detected 9 species and caught 2, including: *Parastrellus hesperidus*, *Lasiurus cinereus*, *Myotis californicus*, *Myotis ciliolabrum*, *Myotis yumanensis*, *Tadarida brasiliensis mexicana*, *Eumops perotis*, *Antrozous pallidus*, and *Eptesicus fuscus*. Despite the low number of captured individuals, workshop participants engaged in hands-on activities like net placement, net set-up and take-down, measuring and recording data for captured individuals and those who had current rabies vaccinations also practiced extracting bats from the net and handling bats during data collection. The first capture was a poorwill, who was admired briefly before release!



A participant uses calipers to measure the wing on the canyon bat (*Parastrellus hesperidus*) during data collection, prior to release

(Photo Credit: Christina Williams)

Sincere appreciation for our esteemed instructors, Joe and Dave, in their sixth year of teaching this workshop for TWS! Thanks also to the California Department of Fish and Game for hosting us at the ranch facility, especially to Wildlife Biologist Bob Stafford and Craig Fiehler for assisting in facilities coordination and Jennifer Moonjian, Scott Osborn, and Dave Hacker for additional field assistance. Volunteer Christina Williams, a Cal Poly student, provided excellent assistance to the caterer and kept the meals, snacks, and (most importantly) coffee running smoothly.

Proceeds from the workshop benefit the efforts of the Section's supplemental programs, including research grants and travel scholarships for wildlife students. Make plans to join us for the 2010 Bat Ecology and Field Techniques workshop, or note that a workshop on Acoustic Monitoring of bats will be offered in March 2010.

***A workshop on  
Acoustic Monitoring  
of bats  
will be offered in  
March 2010.***

## Hawaii

*Bill Standley*

The Hawaii Chapter continues to sponsor a number of wildlife conservation projects throughout the state. The Chapter recently partnered with local non-profit groups, Community Links Hawaii and Malama Hawaii, to implement a grant from the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to begin to raise awareness about impacts of feral Mallards on Koloa maoli, (Hawaiian Duck), and other native waterbirds under the mini-campaign “Domesticated Birds Gone Wild.” Three television vignettes were produced and aired on local television channels (and were also placed on YouTube – search for “koloa maoli.”)

The Chapter has continued our participation as a partner with the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in a cooperative effort to construct a predator-proof fence and remove all alien mammals within the proposed fence at the Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve on the island of Oahu, and it is hoped that construction can begin later this year. Once completed, the project will create a 59-acre area of coastal habitat free from alien mammals, including feral dogs, cats, mongooses, and rodents.

The Chapter will once again participate in the annual Hawaii Conservation Conference (HCC) in July, both through financial support of awards for best student presentation and best student poster, and the University of Hawaii Hawaiian Internship Program (UH-HIP). Chapter members are also helping to organize the Conservation Opportunities and Career Fair at this year's HCC.

Next Page: Hawaiian ducks say “Mahalo”



## Humboldt State

*Sara Peterson*

The HSU student chapter had another busy year, as we offered many activities to aid students with their future wildlife careers. Activities included telemetry, nest camera, and resume workshops; a monthly lecture series; a photo contest, selling calendars comprised of the winning photos; and our ever-popular coffee table and annual Beast Feast, both fund-raisers to support the HSU Conclave team.

Enthusiastic, new executive board members promise to usher in the next academic year with more activities! Promoting both student involvement in The Wildlife Society and career building skills with another calendar full of workshops. Each year we increase student attendance at the Western Section annual conference, and we expect this trend to continue with the national conference being held more locally, in Monterey. HSU's conclave team will compete in the quiz bowl, defending the title they earned in Miami last year.

Current board members are: President: Jesse Sargent; President-elect: Stephen Barlow; Treasurer: Casey Eganey; Secretary: Bonnie Schlotfeldt; Representative to Western Section: Sara Peterson; Representative to North Coast Chapter: Jesse Sargent; Faculty Advisor: Dr. Mark Colwell.

## Sacramento-Shasta

*Shaun Oldenburger*

The Chapter's 4th Annual Natural Resource Symposium is scheduled for November 4, 2009, at CSU Sacramento. See Symposium Announcement and Call for Papers on page 12.

Current Chapter Officers:

President – Laura Patterson (Dept. of Water Resources)

Vice President – Hal Holland (Westerly Ecological Services)

Treasurer – Melinda Bradbury

Secretary – Linda Leeman (EDAW)

Chapter Representative – Shaun Oldenburger (Dept. of Fish and Game)

## San Francisco Bay Area

*Natasha Dvorak*

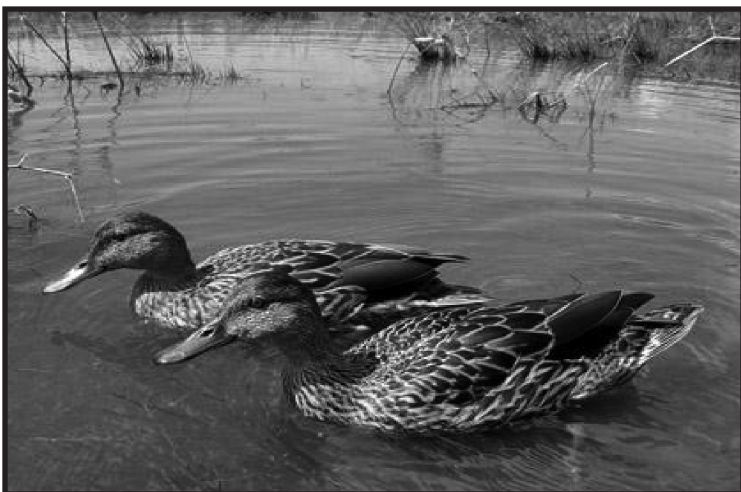
The Chapter held a chapter meeting on May 13th, hosted by Doug Bell, our new Chapter President and Wildlife Program Manager for East Bay Regional Parks. Doug gave a presentation on his research on wind turbines and bird kills in the Altamont Pass Wind Area.

On June 6 – 7 the chapter sponsored an overnight family-friendly camping trip to the Sunol Wilderness Area. Karen Swaim has an Alameda whipsnake pit-trapping setup in the area and we checked traps with her. As a bonus, we also saw foothill yellow-legged frog tadpoles.

## University of Nevada, Reno

Introducing... the new University of Reno - Nevada Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society. We just finished our first year in the making and have already enjoyed a variety of fun and exciting events. We kicked off the year with monthly meetings with inviting and interesting lectures and events for all of the club members. One of our first lecturers was Becky Pierce who informed us about the mishaps and pleasures of working with Mountain lions in the California-Nevada area. We also had the great pleasure of meeting Steve Siegal the Nevada chapter's president. Other lectures covered everything from how to get involved with the club to how to get involved with Graduate students who need a hand in preparing their research projects.

We surveyed the club and just about everyone is looking for more hands on! For next year, we are planning on more "Workshops" which we hope to have hands-on learning with specialists in the area of trapping, tagging, relocation, identification and more. We have already had two very successful BBQ fundraisers that not only allowed for a relaxed way to get to know more members but included the support of the Nevada Department of Wildlife and the faculty and staff at UNR. Our club is also planning a few summer activities for those of us who stay in town over summer. We are planning a camping and ID hike just outside Reno at one of our reservoirs and a fun tube float down the Truckee River once it gets a bit warmer. We are also looking forward to raising more funds to pay for a group to go to the National conference in Monterey California. Thanks for allowing us to be part of this fantastic society we look forward to creating a viable, long-standing student chapter at UNR!





## Natural Resources Communication Workshop

January 11 - 15, 2010

Chico, California

The Natural Resources Communication Workshop, sponsored by the Western Section of The Wildlife Society, is designed to help natural resource workers more effectively communicate with general as well as technical audiences through personal presentations using good visual aids. The workshop focuses on the use of computer-generated images created with Microsoft's PowerPoint software. The workshop is practical-oriented and enhances participants' communication skills in planning, preparing, presenting, and evaluating presentations. Since many of the problems in natural resources management are people-oriented, more effective communication can significantly improve many management programs.

### Workshop Content (See Schedule on Page 13)

1. Discussion topics include:
  - Planning communication principles, audience analysis, graphic design
  - Preparing: creating computer-generated graphics, photo-graphic composition, rehearsal tips
  - Presenting: equipment setup, speaking tips, dealing with difficult audiences
  - Evaluating: evaluation of performance
2. Each participant will bring a selection of computer-generated images (ex., graphics created with PowerPoint or other presentation software programs) for organization into an illustrated talk.
3. Each participant will prepare graphics to be used in their presentations. (titles, graphs, charts, maps, cartoons, etc.)
4. Each participant will give a 5- and 15-minute presentation to be evaluated. The presentation will include graphics prepared during the workshop. These presentations will be evaluated by the class and the instructors.

### Application Procedure

The initial deadline for applications is Friday, October 30, 2009. Late applications are accepted (such applicants will become participants if the workshop is not yet full; otherwise, they will be placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations). The registration fee is \$749. The workshop is limited to 16 participants. Since more applicants usually apply than there are spaces available, the registration fee is not due until an applicant has been officially accepted into the workshop (this occurs shortly after the October 30 deadline).

Since the workshop has a limited capacity, all applicants will be contacted after October 30, 2009 to notify them if they have been accepted. Instructions on paying the registration fee will be provided at that time. Payment must be received before applicants will be fully registered. Failure to make timely payment will result in alternate applicants being selected.

To apply, send a letter, fax, or email describing: (1) your current position within your agency or organization, (2) how you will use the training, (3) any special reasons why you feel you should be chosen as a participant, and (4) if you already have official agency/organization approval to attend. In your application, include your address, phone number, fax number, and email.

### Instructional Team

**Dr. Jon K. Hooper**, Professor, Calif. State Univ., Chico (Certified Wildlife Biologist, Certified Interpretive Trainer, Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology, 35 years teaching communication workshops around the country),

**Mr. Ethan Rotman**, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game (Coordinator, Fishing in the City in the San Francisco Bay Area, Certified Interpretive Trainer, Certified Interpretive Guide, Certified Interpretive Manager, 30 years of professional experience as an environmental interpreter and communicator).

**Ms. Kim Rubin**, (tour guide, interpreter, 9 years experience facilitating the Natural Resources Communication Workshop).

### Location

California State University, Chico (90 miles north of Sacramento)

### University Credit

Participants receive 1-unit CSUC Continuing Education credit; the workshop is worth 32 hours of continuing wildlife education credit through The Wildlife Society's Professional Development Program (Category II).

To apply or for more information, write or call:

Dr. Jon K. Hooper  
Dept. Recreation & Parks Mgmt  
California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA 95929-0560  
(530) 898-5811 or 898-6408  
fax: (530) 898-6557  
e-mail: jhooper@csuchico.edu

**Natural Resources Communication Workshop****Application deadline is October 30, 2009 (See details on opposite page)****Monday**

8:00 - 8:30	Registration
8:30 - 10:00	Workshop Overview (Step 1: Pass the "Source Test")
10:00 - 12:00	Planning the Presentation Using the Targeted Design Approach" (Step 2: Determine Your Target)
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch
1:15 - 4:00	"Outlining the Presentation" (Step 3: Organize It)
4:00 - 5:00	"Designing Great Graphics" (Step 4: Visualize It)

**Tuesday**

8:00 - 10:00	"Designing Great Graphics" (cont'd)
10:00 - 12:00	Lab Exercise: "A PowerPoint Presentation Anyone Can Create"
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch
1:15 - 2:15	"PowerPoint Pitfalls (and How to Purge Them from Your Presentation)"
2:15 - 4:00	Lab
4:00 - 4:30	"Computer Hardware: Scanners, Card Readers, etc."
4:30 - 5:00	"Adding Audio and Video to PowerPoint"

**Wednesday**

8:00 - 9:00	Lab Exercise: "An Introduction to Photoshop Elements"
9:00 - 11:00	Lab
11:00 - 11:30	"Digital Photography"
11:30 - 12:00	"Presentation Do's and Dont's" (Step 5: Plan Facilities and Equipment)
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch
1:15 - 1:45	"Adding Presentation Sheen" (Step 6: Rehearse It)
	"Working with a Host" (Step 7: Use a Host)
1:45 - 3:00	"Verbal Victories: Dealing with Difficult Audiences" (Step 8: Present It)
3:00 - 5:00	Lab
6:30 - 9:00	Lab (optional)

**Thursday**

8:00 - 12:00	5-minute briefings by participants (Step 9: Evaluate It)
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch
1:15 - 4:00	5-minute briefings by participants
4:00 - 4:30	"Cataloging Your Digital Images Using Photoshop Album"
4:30 - 5:00	"Hints from the Pros" (time permitting)

**Friday**

8:00 - 12:00	15-minute briefings by participants
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch
1:15 - 4:30	15-minute briefings by participants
4:30 - 5:00	Summary and workshop evaluation

Participants in the 2010 workshop will not only learn professional tips for using PowerPoint, but also will gain exposure to Photoshop Elements (digital photo editing and cataloging software).



*Announcement*  
&  
*Call for Abstracts*

**Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society  
Natural Resources Symposium**

Wednesday, November 4, 2009  
California State University, Sacramento  
University Union, Foothill Suite  
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This symposium is an opportunity for biologists conducting research, management, regulation, restoration, and conservation activities in the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter Area to exchange information, ideas, results, and progress of their work on natural communities, wildlife, and plant species.

The symposium registration fee includes abstract package and morning and afternoon refreshments. Early registration \$30.00 (by October 7th); Late registration \$40.00; Students: \$10; Free for presenters!

⇒Download the registration form from the Sac-Shasta web site!

Questions? Contact [ltriffleman@westerveltecologicalservices.com](mailto:ltriffleman@westerveltecologicalservices.com)  
or [wstwssacshasta@gmail.com](mailto:wstwssacshasta@gmail.com)  
or call 916-646-3644 (Lucy Triffleman) or 916-358-2916 (Sandi Jacks)

**Call for Abstracts (Due September 30)**

Presentations are limited to 20 minutes, including time for questions and answers. Written abstracts will be made available to all attendees.

Presentations will be selected based upon the review of abstracts, which should be no more than 400 words in length (not including author information). Abstracts should include author's name with full address, e-mail address, telephone, fax numbers, and audiovisual requirements.

Authors will be notified if their abstract is selected by October 9th. The registration fee is waived for presenters. Please e-mail abstracts as a Word document no later than September 30th to BOTH [wstwssacshasta@gmail.com](mailto:wstwssacshasta@gmail.com) AND [ltriffleman@westerveltecologicalservices.com](mailto:ltriffleman@westerveltecologicalservices.com).

Scott Osborn, President  
Ca. Dept. of Fish & Game  
1812 9th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811  
916/324-3564  
ScottOsbornTWS@gmail.com

Rhys Evans, Past-President & Professional  
Development co-chair  
237 West Pine Ave, Apt 7  
Lompoc, CA 93436  
805/736-9285  
sirsnav@verizon.net

Armand Gonzales, President-Elect  
Ca. Dept. of Fish & Game  
1701 Nimbus Rd., Ste A  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670  
916/358-2876  
agonzales@dfg.ca.gov

Don Yasuda, Section Representative  
and Membership Committee Chair  
PO Box 1016  
Diamond Springs, CA 95619  
dymasudaTWS@comcast.net

Gary Falxa, Treasurer  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
1615 Swanson Lane  
Eureka, CA 95503  
gfalxa@earthlink.net

Janae Scruggs, Secretary  
Sacramento County Airport System  
6900 Airport Blvd  
Sacramento, CA 95837  
916/874-0820  
jscruggs@tidepool.com

John Harris, Transactions Editor  
Biology Department, Mills College  
5000 MacArthur Blvd.  
Oakland, CA 94613  
510/430-2027  
johnh@mills.edu

Cynthia Perrine, Newsletter Editor  
csgperrine@yahoo.com  
530/570-7036

Tim Belton, CA Central Coast  
805-720-4480  
eecomman@yahoo.com

Lisa Ollivier, CA North Coast  
Pacific Southwest Research Station  
1700 Bayview Drive  
Arcata, CA 95521  
(707)825-2953  
lollivier@fs.fed.us

Christian Commander, Davis Student co-  
chair  
cjcommander@ucdavis.edu

Bill Standley, Hawaii  
US Fish and Wildlife  
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm 3-122  
Honolulu, HI 96850  
808/792-9423  
bill.standley@wildlifer.com

Sara Peterson, Humboldt Student  
sapearth@yahoo.com

Shaun Oldenburger, Sacramento-Shasta  
Ca. Dept. of Fish & Game  
1812 9th Street  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95814  
916/445-3763  
soldenburger@dfg.ca.gov

Natasha Dvorak, San Francisco Bay Area &  
Professional Development co-chair  
Environmental Science Associates  
1425 N. McDowell Blvd. Suite 105  
Petaluma, CA 94954  
(707) 795-0937  
ndvorak@esassoc.com

Craig Bailey, San Joaquin Valley  
Westervelt Ecological Services  
600 N Market Blvd, Suite 3  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
559/308-6122 c  
craigtw@yahoo.com

Jeff Lincer, Southern California  
jefflincer@gmail.com

Richard Burg, Awards and Grants  
CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
8885 Rio San Diego Drive #270  
San Diego, CA 92108  
619/204-0182 c  
rburg@parks.ca.gov

Rick Truex, Conservation Affairs  
USDA Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Research Station  
2480 Carson Rd.  
Placerville, CA 95667  
rtruex@cw.com

Katie Moriarty, Student Affairs co-chair  
Oregon State University  
ktmoriarty22@gmail.com

Darla DeRuiter, Student Affairs co-chair  
Feather River College, Quincy, CA  
530.283.0202 x262  
dderuiter@frc.edu

Denise Walker-Brown, Professional  
Development co-chair  
deniselwalker@hotmail.com

Tina Bartlett, Professional Development  
co chair  
Ca. Dept. of Fish & Game  
1701 Nimbus Rd., Ste A  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670  
916/358-2892  
tbartlett@dfg.ca.gov

Jim Yoakum - Historian  
PO Box 369  
Verdi, NV 89439  
775/345-0114

Contract Staff

Webmaster  
Eric Renger  
twswest@twswest.org

Registrar  
Candace Renger  
twswsregistrar@sbcglobal.net

Bookkeeper  
Mike Chapel  
mike.chapel@yahoo.com



**The Wildlife Society**  
**Western Section**  
P.O. Box 6756  
Albany, CA 94706

**2010 Annual Conference ~ Visalia, CA ~ January 26 - 29**

*Call for Papers Now Open, details on Pages 2 to 4*

## **Calendar of Events**

### **2009**

September 20 - 24 ~ TWS National Conference, Monterey, California

November 4 ~ Natural Resources Symposium, CSUS (Page 12)

### **2010**

January 11 - 15 ~ Natural Resources Communication Workshop, Chico, Calif. (Page 10 - 11)

2010 Western Section Annual Conference, Visalia, California (Pages 2 - 4)