

CALIFORNIA SECTION WILDLIFE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Editors

VOL. 1, #1

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This is the first issue of the California Section Newsletter. The Council at its meeting in Fresno thought that our Section was sufficiently well organized and financially sound to put out a regular newsletter. Present plans call for a Spring edition (this issue), a Fall edition with the announcement of the annual meeting and a call for papers, and a Christmas edition giving the program of the annual meeting and a ballot for the election of officers. As the Fall and Christmas mailings were necessary anyway, this will mean an increase of only one mailing per year. The Newsletter will be held down to four or five pages so that it can be mailed for three cents. This issue contains a roster of members in California, Nevada and Hawaii, so news items have been held down to a minimum. News of interest to the members of the Section, as well as suggestions on improving the Newsletter will be gratefully received, and should be sent to the Editor or given to one of the Council Members.

ANNUAL MEETING

The second annual meeting of the California Section of the Wildlife Society was held at the Hotel Californian in Fresno on January 31 and February 1, 1955. The meeting was a great success and Fred Jones and his committee that organized the meeting deserve a pat on the back.

The Monday morning session was on "Agricultural Wildlife". Walter Howard presided and the following papers were presented:

- "Waterfowl Depredation Control Measures", by Clinton Lostetter
- "The Stillwater Management Area", by Dave Marshall
- "The Agricultural Significance of Muskrats in the Central Valley", by E. W. Jameson and Bollo Talbert
- "Chemicals and Wildlife-Current Problems", by Robert Rudd and Richard Genelly
- "The Digestibility of Valley Oak Acorns", by Harold Bissell

The afternoon session was devoted to "Wilderness Fish and Game" with Fred Cronemiller presiding. The following papers were presented:

- "Wilderness Preservation", by Dana Abel
- "Wildlife Problems in State Parks", by Elmer Aldrich
- "A Sooty Grouse population near Sage Hen Creek", by Bob Hoffmann
- "Game Problems in Wilderness Areas", by David Selleck
- "A Wilderness Deer Herd", by Dick Taber
- "Some Wildlife Problems of the South Fork of the Kings River Area", by Sam Davis, a professional packer "
- "Wildlife problems in National Parks", by Lowell Summer

The Tuesday morning session opened with an address by Seth Gordon, Director, California Department of Fish and Game. The main program of the morning was devoted to "Quality versus Quantity in Hunting and Fishing", and was presided over

by Dave Thomson. The following papers were presented:

"The Future of the Hunting and Fishing Heritage", by Walter Howard
"Quantitative and Qualitative Aspects of California Pheasant Hunting and Management", by Chester M. Hart
"Roadside Fishing from the Hatchery Product", by Eldon Vestal
"The Back-Country Lake Program", by Bob Eilers
"The Quantitative Aspects of Fish and Game Management", by Ben Glading
"Preserving the Qualitative Aspects of Hunting and Fishing", by A. Starker Leopold

The Tuesday afternoon session was entitled "New Waters for Old", and was presided over by Bob Lewis. The following papers were presented:

"Beaver-Trout Relations in Sage Hen Creek", by Richard Gard
"The Future of Stream Flow Maintenance in California", by Jack Fraser
"The Use of Louvers as a Means of Guiding Fish at the Tracy pumping Plant",
by Daniel Bates
"The Future of Fishing in the State Water Plan", by Ed Dwyer

All of the talks were followed by a discussion period, and Fred Cronemiller had a particularly lively session going on wilderness fish and game.

Following the talks on Tuesday afternoon, a brief twenty minute business session was held. The election of officers was announced. As President for the past year, Starker Leopold becomes a Council Member, so the Council is now composed of; President - Walter Howard, Vice-President - Frank Koslik, Secretary-Treasurer - Carol Ferrel. Council Members; Starker-Leopold, Henry A. Hjersman, Charles Yocom, Ray Dasmann (replacing Bob Lassen).

President Leopold reported on the action of the Council. The plan to put out a Newsletter was announced. There was a report of a survey being conducted of Wildlife Society Regions versus Sections and their conflicting boundaries. If the Regions are to be reorganized, it was suggested that California, Nevada and Hawaii form a new Region, but that the California Section remain unchanged, with Nevada and Hawaii members being invited to join and attend. The new Region might be called Far-Western, There was a vote of thanks to the members planning the meeting; Fred Jones, Eldon Vestal, William Thomson, and David Selleck.

On Monday night a banquet was held, and Dr. Walter P. Taylor spoke on "Hungry Deer and Conservation". This interesting talk was based primarily on a new book soon to be released under the auspices of the Wildlife Management Institute. The two volume work will be eagerly awaited by all of us.

There were 134 persons registered at the meeting, of whom 69 were Wildlife Society members. The following shows the number of persons attending from various groups; California Department of Fish and Game - 73, Faculty and Students of various colleges and universities - 47, Fish and Wildlife Service - 4, Forest Service - 2, National Park Service - 2, Sacramento Junior Museum - 2, State Division of Beaches and Parks - 1, Sportsmen, Packers, Ranchers - 3.

Attached is a roster of members of the Wildlife Society residing in California, Nevada and Hawaii. Those marked with an asterisk are members of the California Section. All members of the Society who are not members of the California Section are invited to remit their \$1,00 dues to the Secretary-Treasurer, Carol Ferrel, Department of Fish and Game, 926 "J" Street, Sacramento, California.

The first issue of the newsletter is being sent to all California members of the Society; however, future issues will go only to California Section members.

California now has 189 members of the Wildlife Society, more than any other State. It is hoped that in the next year we can boost this membership to 250. Applications for membership in the Society and the California Section are enclosed with this Newsletter and everyone is urged to contact someone they know who should become a member. If you want more applications write to Carol Ferrel. It is necessary to be a member of the parent society in order to join the California Section.

Efforts to get new members should be stressed now, as it is easier to get members early in the year than later, because then they can look forward to receiving current issues of the Journal as they come out instead of a stack of back issues.

We are gaining recognition from the Wildlife Society due to our large membership, and it is hoped that more of the National meetings will be held in the West.

President, Walter Howard, has announced the appointment of Carol Ferrel as Secretary-Treasurer, Wallace Macgregor as Editor of the Newsletter, and Bill Graf as Chairman of the Program Committee for the 1956 meeting.

The 1956 meeting will be held at Davis, January 26 and 27, 1956, Further details and a call for papers will appear in the Fall Newsletter.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

STARKER LEOPOLD is taking off for a month this spring fishing for marlin and rainbows in New Zealand. He expects to spend some time there with Thane Riney who is in charge of wildlife research in New Zealand. Upon returning Starker will go on a years leave from U.C. to complete a book on "Game Birds and Mammals of Mexico", Plans call for his replacement during that period by Dick Taber,

GORDON GULLION has compiled the results of his study of Gambel quail near Las Vegas into a bulletin that will be published by the Nevada Fish and Game Dept.

BILL LONGHURST brought into the M.V.Z. at Berkeley four specimens of Tule Goose, killed in the Napa marshes during the Christmas holidays. No authentic Tule Goose had been reported for nearly ten years, and the bird was considered possibly extinct until this contrary evidence turned up,

BOB LASSEN is hot on the program of popularizing coot shooting through learning how they should be cooked. Mr. C. A. Rietz who teaches International Cuisine at Mills College is supervising the sauce and gravy research with help from Trader Vic. If this approach works, it might accomplish more than damage permits and special seasons.

FEED CRONEMILLER gave a paper on "Soil Surveys for Game Range Development" at the North American Wildlife Conference in Montreal, DICK GENELY presented a paper entitled "Chemicals and Wildlife Analysis of Research Needs". Other Californians attending the conference were BEN GLADING and GEORGE DIFANI,

NORM ALSTOT is working in cooperation with the Department of Water Resources to study the effects of the proposed Feather River development. It is encouraging to note that the effects of these large water projects on game as well as fish life are now being considered at the planning stage.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BILL LA MARR who was appointed Chief of the Wildlife Protection Branch of the Department of Fish and Game. Bill is a member of the Society and has been with the Department for more than 18 years.

THE BERKELEY FOOD HABITS AND DISEASE LABORATORY is scheduled to move up to Sacramento about July 1, 1955.

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

* Indicates paid members in the Section

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Fallon, Nevada
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Carson City, Nevada
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