



The Wildlife Society Western Section

Vol.51, No. 3

Winter Newsletter 2006

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President's Message

Cynthia Graves Perrine

It's been a good year. As I finish my term as President, I'll be glad to see new faces joining as active members of the organization at the chapter, section, and international level. With Kevin Hunting at the helm and two great candidates running for President-Elect the Section is in good hands. I look forward to a switch in focus from the Section's business restructuring to taking on more pertinent conservation issues. As a Section, we can build on this strengthened foundation and get back to what is really important - helping wildlifers conserve, manage, and study our amazing resources.

Although most of my working day is spent behind a desk, I often see good wildlife here on campus. I recently had a wild turkey scratching around outside my window. While campus has some good (and sometimes surprising) wildlife, regular walks in our aquatic park stokes my interest and returns me to my biologist roots. There are plenty of residents to keep an eye on year-round, belted kingfishers, American coots, and pied-billed grebes for starters. I try not to be-

come desensitized to the more common sightings, but it happens.

A similar desensitizing occurs in relation to one's involvement with the Wildlife Society. Like commonly encountered wildlife, the Society can be taken for granted as a resource that will always be there. Truth be told, despite several important, ongoing policy and outreach endeavors our membership numbers are dropping. The Society is suffering because something has been lacking within our ranks at each level of the organization. One chapter within the Western Section recently asked the question, "should we even continue to exist as a chapter?" The parent organization has been wrestling with decreasing membership and a possible identity crisis. At the Section level, an infusion of young, creative wildlifers is keeping our programs going. I just hope it is enough for the long haul. I hope they don't burn out before we ensure that our Section's many services are sustainable.

In January, I'll participate in the Society's strategic planning meetings. I hope to provide perspectives



on Section and student involvement, to brainstorm with the other members about how our Society can best be a resource to the profession and impact the wildlife we all serve in our daily jobs, and how the Section and the Society can best work together.

I look forward to my year as Past-President; it has been an honor to serve the Section. See you in Sacramento in February and in Monterey in 2007!

Mark Your Calendars!

**2006 Annual
Conference**

**February 8-11
Sacramento, CA
Double Tree Hotel**

See pages 8-13 for details

**2007 Annual
Conference**

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

Upcoming Events

Your Professional Development Committee has several upcoming events in the next few months. Additional information on all of these is or will be available on our frequently updated website www.tws-west.org, click on "Meetings and Workshops."

Wildlife Society Certification mini-workshops.

We've recently completed these workshops in San Diego, Fresno and Sacramento. Professional Certification is strongly recommended by The Wildlife Society, as an indication of an individual's education and professional experience. There are two levels, Certified Wildlife Biologist (generally at least a BS degree and five years actual experience as a professional biologist) and Associate Wildlife Biologist (Bachelor's degree, but less than five years experience). Certification is looked upon favorably by employers, regulatory agencies and outsiders to our profession. This Workshop is also quite cheap, but the certification application itself has an additional fee. If you think you'd like to attend or perhaps help us to organize one in your area, contact the PDC or your chapter officers.

Preceding the annual meeting in February, we have a one-and-a-half day **Martes Symposium** (See Page 8), and four half-day workshops on Wednesday afternoon (See Pages 9, 10, 12).

Other workshops offered this year:

- * **Section 7 ESA Workshop** (Spring). Using lecture, discussion, negotiation and even some role-playing, learn tricks of the consultation process from some of our region's experts. This is planned to be more than the 4-hour workshop we sponsored in 2001, but less than the five-day course offered by the Fish and Wildlife Service.
- * Workshop on "capturing" wildlife with **Remote Cameras** (summer). The technological advances in this field in the last few years have been astounding. The goal of this workshop is to provide a comprehensive introduction to camera trapping equipment and methodology, such that participants have the basic knowledge to implement their own surveys. Topics to be ad-

ressed include framing research question / objectives; sampling considerations; choosing equipment; field set-up, monitoring and troubleshooting; data collection, storage and analysis. The workshop would be a mix of lecture, demonstration, hands-on field experience / training and discussion.

- * **Raptors Symposium** (Autumn). This will feature presentations on virtually every raptor species in the west. We'll provide plenty of information as we develop this event, which is sure to be a headliner next fall.

As always, if you have ideas for workshops, or if you'd like to help with organizing one, let the PDC co-chairs know about it!

Again, check www.tws-west.org for more information on these events and other ones that are too early in development for a formal announcement...

Thank you !

Rhys Evans and Denise Walker-Brown
Co-Chairs, Professional Development Committee
The Western Section of The Wildlife Society

Section Members!

A tentative workshop in planning is a *Museum Preparatory Techniques Workshop*. It would be a 1.5 day event where participants would learn what materials are needed to prepare museum specimens and perform basic "popsicle stick" taxidermy. This would be a unique project for us and would require a high amount of materials for each participant. Planning for this workshop shall NOT continue unless there is interest from the membership. Please contact Denise Walker-Brown by email with ideas, any professional development needs that could be included, and a cost you might expect. If there is not enough interest by March 1, this workshop will not be offered.

WIFL Enlightenment...

Denise Walker-Brown

The willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) is a rare to uncommon summer visitor that arrives up north from Central and South America mid-May to June and begins to migrate back south between August and September. During the breeding season they inhabit substantial thickets of dense willows with edges over wet meadows, ponds, slow streams and backwaters. True to their name they sally forth to catch insects from exposed perches at the top of willow thickets.

Since 1991 in California, the willow flycatcher (all subspecies) has been listed as endangered. The California Department of Fish and Game has attributed the loss and degradation of riparian habitat as the principal reason for the willow flycatcher population decline. Due to small known populations within the Sierra Nevada and Cascade regions most of the studies and management efforts have been concentrated in these areas. However, satellite detections of confirmed breeding willow flycatchers have been occurring with more frequency in northern California. Surveys within Humboldt County have detected presence and confirmed breeding pairs along the Eel, Van Duzen and Mad River. Other studies have identified birds in Trinity County. These detections are rais-



Instructors Brad Valentine and Pablo Herrera explain habitat characteristics that willow flycatcher often utilize.

ing interest in the habitat being utilized and concern for management of riparian habitat within northern California.

On September 19, 2005, the California North Coast Chapter of the Wildlife Society in conjunction with the Western Section sponsored the second Willow Flycatcher Workshop: Status, Regulations and Survey Methodology for the Willow Flycatcher in North Coast California. The workshop was a one day affair with presentations held in the morning at Humboldt State University and the afternoon session re-

garding habitat assessment and survey protocol overview at Cock Robin Island. Special thanks go to the Chapter and Section Members Brad Valentine (California Department of Fish and Game), Rob Hewitt (LBJ Enterprises), C.J. Ralph (PSW Redwood Sciences Laboratory), and Pablo Herrera (PSW Redwood Sciences Laboratory); all of whom were valuable instructors. They presented current information on willow flycatcher identification, southern Oregon and northern California habitat characteristics, and the willow flycatcher survey protocol.

The workshop was well-received by 18 participants from throughout northern California. Humboldt State University provided an excellent classroom facility and Cock



Continued (WIFL Workshop) on Page 7.

Wetland and Wildlife Workshop - Hawaii Chapter

Submitted by Bill Standley



This Year's Wetland Management in the Hawaiian Islands Workshop attracted 100 wetland professionals from around the Hawaiian Islands and the mainland. This workshop strives to bring together a broad spectrum of individuals, agencies and organizations involved in wetland management in Hawaii and

around the Pacific for an update on a wide variety of topics including wildlife habitat management, research, wetland restoration, reviews of mitigation projects, wetland delineation and regulations, fundraising, and updates on endangered water bird recovery in Hawaii. This year's workshop provided information about Koloa duck hybridization, and the increasing threats to the genetic integrity of this endangered species. In addition the workshop helped facilitate a discussion about research topics needing investigation regarding wetlands and the species which inhabit these areas.



San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Jessica Martini-Lamb

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter held its fall meeting and social on November 10th at the Pyramid Alehouse in Berkeley. The event was well attended, including a few newcomers to TWS, as well as Cynthia Perrine, Western Section President, and Sandra Staples-Bortner, TWS Program Director. Cynthia and Sandra were scouting locations for the 2009 national meeting.

An elections committee was established at the fall meeting. Tom Roberts, Environmental Science Associates, volunteered to head the elections committee. Christine O'Rourke, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, and I also volunteered for the committee. If you are interested in running or nominating a candidate for Chapter President, Presi-

dent-Elect, or Chapter Representative, please contact Tom at (510) 839-5066 or troberts @ esassoc.com.

Christine O'Rourke reported on the Chapter's finances and membership. The Chapter currently has over \$14,700 between its checking and investment accounts. Membership renewals through the Western Pond Turtle workshop (held earlier this year), updates from the Western Section, and recent outreach from the Chapter's Secretary/Treasurer have increased membership to over 130 members.

The Chapter's next meeting will be held at the Western Section Annual Conference in Sacramento on Wednesday, February 8, 2006, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Report of the Financial Review Committee

John Harris

The Financial Review Committee met on January 5, 2006 to review the Section's finances for 2005. The Committee included Past President John Harris, President Cynthia Perrine, President Elect Kevin Hunting, Treasurer Mike Chapel, and Membership Chair Don Yasuda. Treasurer Chapel presented a balance sheet with all checks and deposits, profit and loss statements for the year, and a summary comparison of budgeted and actual results for the year. The Committee examined a sample of about 5% of all transactions and also compared monthly reconciliations with monthly bank statements. The Section began 2005 with a balance of \$56,137.26, with a liability of \$18,400 in the form of loans from chapters, leaving net equity of \$37,737.26. The Section ended 2005 with a balance of \$58,040.67, with a liability of \$10,900, leaving a net equity of \$47,140.67.



VOTE

Kerhoulas

See Page 16

Barry Garrison

Review of papers for publication in the 2005 volume of the "Transactions of the Western Section of The Wildlife Society" is ongoing. There are seven papers for the 2005 volume, and all but one has been accepted for publication at this time. One paper was rejected. We are on schedule to have the 2005 volume printed and available for Western Section members at the 2006 Annual Conference in February 2006 in Sacramento. I have retained an Editorial Assistant to

help with the editorial process, layout, printing, and distribution. All published papers from the 1966 to the 2002/2003 volumes of the "Transactions" were recently posted on the Section's web site along with a chronological index that wildlifers can use to access the papers. Authors and keywords are also in the index. After distribution to Section members, papers from all future issues of the "Transactions" will be posted on the web site shortly thereafter. The web

Transactions Report

address to access the papers is www.tws-west.org, and then the "Section News" page must be linked to get to the online "Transactions" papers. The "Transactions" guidelines were updated and given to the 2006 Annual Conference organizers to distribute to those presenting papers at the conference to encourage them to publish their papers in the "Transactions."

Gary Falxa

This year has been a good one for the chapter. We've had a variety of well-attended events and workshops, and the chapter's coffers are in good shape, thanks to the Section's loan payment and revenue from a Willow Flycatcher workshop, and two spring 'herp' workshops on management and protection of wetland habitats in coastal forests, cosponsored with the Forest Reptile and Amphibian Working Group (FRAWG). The chapter also helped with the great reunion this summer of HSU wildlife alumni (Conservation Unlimited).

The chapter has held 2 events in recent months. On September 9, the chapter welcomed returning and new HSU students at our annual fall mixer at the Korbel Schoolhouse, where students and wildlife professionals (including, notably, 3 HSU professors) gathered to socialize, eat BBQ, and play volleyball. December 2 was the chapter's winter mixer/elec-

tions, also at Korbel. Another chance for north coast wildlifers to socialize, compete for door prizes, celebrate the holiday season, and elect new chapter officers. The election results: President-elect: Ahmed Soliman; Chapter representative to the Western Section:

California North Coast Chapter

Sandra Hunt-von Arb; Secretary: Evan Lautzenheiser; Treasurer: Gary Falxa; and Student representatives: Rachel Frieze and Jessica Pouder. Lisa Ollivier is our incoming chapter president, elected last year.

Continued on Page 8



Wildlife students and professionals gather at CNC's winter mixer for socializing, elections, and the raffle.

Student Affairs Committee

Katie Moriarty

The Student Affairs Committee (SAC) was recently created. Ideally, SAC will provide an avenue for increased student involvement within the professional realm by increasing education and training opportunities. In November our "Wildlife Society 101" presentation was given to students at Humboldt State. This was an opportunity to inform the attendees about TWS and what students can do within the Society, what grants are available, and how to get involved. It was also a critique from the students about the presentation. Overall, it was found to be very helpful and the most widespread complaint was the 25 minute presentation was too short.

Student Affairs has several goals for the upcoming year. Its main purpose will be to facilitate better communi-

cation between the universities, colleges, and community colleges that have wildlife and conservation science curriculum without formal programs. To have a functional committee of this nature, we need your assistance. In these beginning stages, we are gathering the contact information of possible representatives at each school. This person may be a student, but it would be preferable to have a representative who will serve for consecutive years. The responsibilities of this representative would be few (keeping students posted on current activities); however, having a contact is important. At present there are a mere 23 schools on our radar, but only a handful of these have representatives.

Ideally, this list of represented schools will increase by January and the committee will begin operation. All local and Section wide events can be advertised; however, these professional development activities are often not focused on the students. There are three activities that will be organized and available for schools. Initially, "Wildlife Society 101" will be offered. A Map and Compass workshop is in progress and, with the chapters' assistance; a resume workshop could be available. Other ideas are always welcome.

As everyone knows, the conference in February is a good way to get involved with the Section. There are still volunteer opportunities. To get more information, please write to ktmoriarty22@yahoo.com.

Membership Committee

Don Yasuda

Well, it's that time of year again – Membership Renewal time! If you've already renewed your membership for 2006... THANK YOU. Your membership dues help the Section host the Annual Conference and also provide many high-quality Professional Development workshops. Best of all, your membership pays for itself in reduced member rates for the Annual Conference and workshops.

If you haven't renewed your Western Section and Chapter memberships, please do so as soon as possible. If you also belong to The Wildlife Society, you should renew your Western Section membership through their website (<https://store.wildlife.org/>), otherwise please renew via our Western Section website (<https://>

securedata.net/tws-west/memberform.html).

When you join the Section, we automatically add you to our TWSWSMembers Yahoo Group mailing list. We use this list to send you notice of upcoming workshops and other important information about the Western Section. Do not worry, this is not a list server, only official messages from the Western Section will be sent to this list. Since we use this list to share important information, it is critical that we have a current email address for you. You can manage your own subscription information by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TWSWSMembers/>. You

can also unsubscribe your old email by sending a blank email (from your old email account) to TWSWSMembers-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com and then you can subscribe your new email by sending a blank email (from your new email account) to TWSWSMembers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Or you can just send me the information and I'll make the changes! Also, please send me any address change information so we can keep our membership database up to date.

For more information contact Don Yasuda, Membership Committee, at dyasudaTWS@comcast.net

Rich Burg

I am very pleased to announce the Western Section approved two \$500.00 grants at their November board meeting. Abby Benson, a graduate student at CSU Fullerton was awarded a grant to support her study titled "*Dispersal and demography of the thirteen-lined ground squirrel, a potential host for plague*".

Jessie Quinn, a PhD Candidate at U.C. Davis was awarded a grant to support a study titled "*Habitat use, dispersal and survival of American badgers (Taxidea taxus) in fragmented habitat: a model of grassland connectivity*". I applaud both recipients and hope they never stop asking questions.

Additionally, the committee has been working diligently on acquiring nominees for the Raymond F. Dasmann Award for the Professional of the Year and Conservationist of the Year awards, to be presented at the annual conference and is accepting nominations from the Section Membership at large for candidates for the following Section Awards:

Raymond F. Dasmann Award for the Professional of the Year

The "Dasmann Award" is presented by the Western Section to Professionals making an outstanding contribution to wildlife resources management and understanding in California, Nevada, Hawaii or Guam. Qualifications of Nominee: The nominee can be any member(s) of the Wildlife Society-Western Section, who develops, applies, administers or completes an especially significant program of management, edu-

Continued from Page 3.

Robin Island (owned by California Department of Fish and Game) provided an outstanding location to discuss a patch of potential willow flycatcher habitat. There was some hope of catching a glimpse of a migrating willow flycatcher during the workshop. Unfortunately, due to the cold foggy afternoon session our timing was off (for all the LBJ's).

The general feedback from partici-

pants indicated they went away well fed and with a better understanding of the survey protocol and habitat requirements for willow flycatchers in northern California. To increase our detection chances next time we will try to have the field outing in the morning (perhaps during the breeding season).

Many Thanks go to the California Department of Fish & Game for ac-

Awards and Grants Committee

cation, research or communications 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 or group, engaged in wildlife conservation either as a profession or as an avocation, who has made an outstanding contribution to wildlife conservation in California, Nevada, Hawaii or Guam.

Qualifications of Nominee: The nominee 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.

Nominations should include a summary (or resume/ curriculum vita) as to why you are nominating this person. Summaries should include education history, professional experience, personal service, research, previous awards received, and/or other accomplishments.

The nominations can be emailed to the Awards and Grants Committee Chair at rburg@parks.ca.gov or mailed to the following address.

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

Willow Flycatcher Workshop

cess to Cock Robin Island, Humboldt State University for classroom facilities, Green Diamond Resources for transportation, to all of you who helped in pulling this workshop together, and to all the great instructors for making this an informative interesting workshop with valuable and useful information.

FISHER AND MARTEN IN CALIFORNIA

“Moving Science and Management Forward”

Double Tree Hotel, Sacramento February 7-8, 2006

The Western Section’s annual conference will be preceded by a symposium focusing on the fisher (*Martes pennanti*) and marten (*M. americana*) in California. The 1½ day symposium will provide updates on research and management efforts and the status of these species in California in a series of invited talks by experts. In addition, the symposium will provide a forum for wildlife managers, scientists, and representatives of regulatory agencies and other organizations to exchange ideas and identify critical information needs. Please see our webpage for presentation titles and a detailed schedule.

Register Online! www.tws-west.org

Online symposium registration is available at the Western Section website (<http://www.tws-west.org/> click on “Meetings and Workshops”, “2006 Annual Conference...”, and “Registration”). Register with the **SAME** form as the Annual Conference, but registration for the Annual Conference is **NOT** necessary to attend this symposium.

Western Section Member Rate	\$140
Nonmember Rate	\$175
Student/Young Professionals Rate	\$60

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, February 7

06:45	Registration
08:00	Introduction
08:30	Presentations
10:00	Break
10:20	Presentations
12:20	Lunch
13:50	Presentations
17:00	Wrap Up
18:00	Poster Social

Wednesday, February 8

08:00	Introduction
08:20	Information Needs
09:00	Break
09:15	Moderated Discussion
10:50	Break
11:00	Moderated Discussion
11:50	Wrap up

CNC Chapter - Continued

Continued from Page 5.

On September 17, in conjunction with the Western Section, the chapter sponsored the second Willow Flycatcher Workshop: Status, Regulations and Survey Methodology for the Willow Flycatcher in North Coast California.

The chapter has some projects in the works for 2006, including a local workshop on West Nile Virus and wildlife, local biologist breakfasts, and workshops focused on raptor species such as accipiters or eagles, so stay tuned. The Chapter and Section continue planning for the jointly-sponsored Fisher-Marten symposium, scheduled for February 7-8, 2006 at the DoubleTree Sacramento, just prior to the section’s annual conference. See details above.

The classic Section website we all know and love will be soon be a thing of the past. The site will include an interface that is easy to use, houses all of our prior information, and has a purchasing interface for registration, membership and more. Attend the business meeting at the 2006 Conference for details (or just keep checking the site). Yes, the newt is coming.

“Monitoring Wildlife Populations: State of the Science”

The advent of multi-scale population monitoring, ecosystem-based community assessment methods, and pervasive use of advanced analytical and statistical tools has changed the way we view and apply monitoring. The plenary and concurrent technical sessions will explore these topics and describe current landscape-level monitoring programs from determining factors contributing to population decline and vulnerability to supporting regional-scale planning and management efforts.

Schedule-At-A-Glance (*see pages 10 - 12 for session details; website for updates*)

Tuesday, February 7th

7:00 to 18:00 Fisher and Marten Symposium (*Page 8*)

Wednesday, February 8th

8:00 to 12:00 Fisher and Marten Symposium

12:00 Registration for Conference

13:00 to 17:00 Workshops

Funding Wildlife Management and Research programs *See description this page*

TWS Biologist Certification *See description page 12*

Avian Issues Associated with Energy Facilities and Infrastructure *See description this page*

Technologies for Assessing and Monitoring Wildlife Populations *See description page 11*

18:00 to 20:00 Welcome mixer and social (ticketed)

19:30 to 21:30 Chapter Meetings

Thursday, February 9th

8:00 Registration

9:00 to 12:00 Plenary Session

13:00 to 17:00 Concurrent Sessions

Conservation Planning

Ecology and Management of Forest Carnivores

Ecology and Management of Reptiles and Amphibians

Ecology and Management of Invertebrates

Ecology and Management of Large Mammals

Ecology and Management of Small Mammals

Oak Woodland Ecosystems

17:00 to 18:00 Annual Business Meeting and Member's Forum

18:00 Annual Award's Banquet & Raffle (ticketed)

Friday, February 10th

8:00 to 11:50 Concurrent Sessions

Desert Ecosystems

Riparian Ecosystems

Ecology and Management of Seabirds

Water and Wildlife

13:00 to 16:30 Concurrent Sessions

Mitigation Banking

Ecology and Management of Raptors

Ecology and Management of Bats

Ecology and Management of Shorebirds

Ecology and Management of Landbirds

12:00 to 13:30 Student Leadership Lunch and Career Fair

Descriptions of Featured Workshops Funding Wildlife Management Projects and Research Programs

This workshop will feature representatives from government and non-government organizations that offer both competitive and non-competitive funding sources for wildlife management and research activities. Participating organizations will provide written materials and guidance on accessing funding for specific management and research projects and will participate in a panel question and answer session at the conclusion of the workshop.

Avian Issues Associated with Energy Facilities and Infrastructure

This half-day Symposium will focus on the latest research results obtained by the Energy Commission -sponsored Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program and administered by the U.C. Santa Cruz - Predatory Bird Research Group. The goal is to provide a forum for all interested parties to discuss key findings and identify future research needs related to avian issues with energy facilities and associated infrastructure. Topics will include, reducing avian collision with wind turbines and conductors, identifying and retrofitting high electrocution-risk distribution poles, and tools intended to convey technical information. *See following pages for additional workshop summaries*

16:30 Western Section Board meeting

Saturday, February 11th

Field Trips!!!!

The Section and Sac-Shasta Chapter are collaborating with the Central Valley Bird Club to offer 3-5 birding excursions to various known bird observation sites in the Sacramento region. In addition, we anticipate offering the following trips Feb. 11th:

- Tour of the Wildlands, Inc. wetlands mitigation bank
- Tour and demonstration of the raptor banding program at the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory
- Tour of the Sacramento County Bufferlands habitat restoration program

Check Sac-Shasta's website for details - www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta; Upcoming events (<http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/upcoming.html>)

Finalized List of Sessions, Authors, and Abstract Titles

Conservation Planning (Gail Presley)

Gray, L. **The Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program**

Billig, S.C. **Habitat Conservation Planning on a Private Timberland**

Carr, J.K. **A Comparison of Monitoring Measures in Habitat Conservation Plans Approved Before and After Changes in Federal and California Policies and Requirements.**

Doubledde, R.A., Foreman, S., Gallagher, G., and L. Banister **Developing a Conservation Strategy and an Adaptive Management and Monitoring Program for the Solano Habitat Conservation Plan.**

Collins J., Monaco, J., Lozano, S, Enright, M, and B. Ortega **Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP): a Practical Guide to Year One Implementation**

Winchell, C. and J. Groom **Monitoring Coastal California Gnatcatchers at a Regional Level**

Mitigation Banking (Tina Bartlett)

Bailey, C. **Mitigation Banks – Promises and Pitfalls.**

Bayon, R. **Markets and Biodiversity: A Global Overview.**

Bruggeman, D.J., Jones, M. Lupi, F., and K. Scribner. **Conservation Banking at the Landscape-Scale for the Red-cockaded Woodpecker**

Fox, J. **The Experience of Species Conservation Banking in the United States.**

Teresa, S. **The Devil is in the Details: The Art and Science of Mitigation Bank Deals, Long Term Stewardship Requirements, and Management Costs.**

Desert Ecosystems (Rhys Evans/Amy Fesnock)

Boarman, W.I. **Reducing Raven Predation on Desert Tortoises**

Bacon, K.T., and A.L. Fesnock. **Declining Population of the Federally Threatened Desert Tortoise within Joshua Tree National Park.**

Recht, M.A. and G.A. Adest. **The Battle Graphic as and Ecological Tool**

Berry, K.H., A.S. Demmon, R. L. Woodward, and R.M. Evans. **Urban Effects on Adjacent Populations of Wild Desert Tortoises: Dogs and Disease**

* Sequin-Larrucea, E., and P. Brussard. **Status and Behavior of the Pygmy Rabbit (*Brachylagus idahoensis*) in Nevada's Great Basin Desert**

Lalumiere, K.N., and A.L. Fesnock. **California Tree frogs: Assessment of Status, Threats, and Management Strategies within Joshua Tree National Park**

Barrows, C. **Non-equilibrium Population Dynamics in the Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard (*Uma inornata*)**

Brown, P.E. and R.D. Berry. **Desert Bats and Management Issues**

Barrows, C. **Range Contractions and Current Status of the Flat-tailed Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma mcallii*) in the Coachella Valley**

Riparian Ecosystems (Geoff Guepel)

Cormier, R. Wood, J., Guepel, G., and C. Howell. **Habitat Relationships of Breeding Landbirds in Riparian Habitat Along the San Joaquin River.**

Geupel, G., Gardali, T., Stralberg, D., and G.H. Golet. **Using Results of Bird Monitoring to Set Biological Objectives in Riparian Habitat**

* Halterman, M.D., Oring, L. **Shifting Populations of Yellow-Billed Cuckoos on the Sacramento River: A 20-Year Perspective**

Howell, C.A. **Indicators, Umbrellas, and Endangered Species: What is our Monitoring Goal?**

Lindgren, E., and F.X. Villablanca. **Low Nest Survivorship in a Coastal California Warbling Vireo Population**

Nur, N. **Patterns of Songbird Nest Success on Restored and Remnant Riparian Habitat on the Cosumnes River Preserve, in Relation to Flooding and Weather.**

Wednesday Workshop: Technologies for Assessing and Monitoring Wildlife Populations

This workshop will consist of a series of hands-on sessions demonstrating the use of new and emerging technologies for measuring wildlife population parameters. This workshop will focus on recent advancements in hardware being used in wildlife research and monitoring. Advancements in handheld GPS devices, wildlife GPS tagging devices, handheld computers, remote camera stations, and wildlife recording equipment are all potential tools to be presented and discussed.

Finalized List of Sessions, Authors, and Abstract Titles (*continued*)*Riparian Ecosystems (Geoff Guepel) continued*Reeves, K., Jones, J.S., and J.R. Smith. **Lower Mokelumne River Small Mammal Inventory**Thorngate, N. **Trends in Abundance and Productivity of Riparian-Associated Breeding Birds in Central Coastal California.***Ecology of Oak Woodlands (Barry Garrison)*Garrison, B.A. and S. Hall. **Wildlife Habitat Changes in Mixed-Conifer Forests in the Central Sierra Nevada.**Tietje, B., Winslow, D., and D. Tempel. **A Deadly Tree Disease--Sudden Oak Death--Threatens Wildlife Habitat in Coastal California Woodlands.***Ecology and Management of Bats (Betsy Bolster)*Pierson, D.P., Rainey, W.E., and L.S. Chow **Acoustic Sampling of Bat Assemblages: Challenges of Spatial and Temporal Replication**Szewczak, J.M., and Arnett, E. **Do Wind Turbines Generate Ultrasound that May Attract Bats?**Tatarian, G. **Assessment and Management of Bats in Buildings**Tatarian, G. **Developing Successful Mitigations for Bridge-Roosting Bats**Brown, P.E., and Berry, R.D. **Bats and Foraging Habitat – Critical Management Issues**Johnston, D.S. **Winter Ecology of Pallid Bats in Central Coastal California**Taylor, D.A.R., and S.R. Tuttle **Water for Wildlife: Improving Access and Reducing Mortality for Bats and other Wildlife at Livestock Water Developments***Ecology and Management of Forest Carnivores (Keith Hamm)*Brown, R.N., Gabriel, M.W., Matthews, S.M., Higley, J.M., Wengert, G. and J.E. Foley **Pathogens associated with pacific fishers (*Martes pennanti*) in northwestern California: implications for trapping and translocation.**Brown, S.K., Updike, D., and H.B. Ernest **Genetic state-wide studies of black bears in California: preliminary findings**Gabriel, M.W., Brown, R.N., Foley, J.E., and R.G. Botzler **Spatial and seasonal differences in exposure of *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* in gray foxes (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) in northern Humboldt County, California.*** Jordan, M.J., Barrett, R.H. and K.L. Purcell **Using camera traps to conduct a population survey of fishers (*Martes pennanti*) in the southern Sierra Nevada**Kurushima, J., Collins, J., Well, J. and H. Ernest **High resolution DNA marker panel for puma ecology and forensics.**Lindstrand, L. III **Pacific fisher distribution and habitat in the Shasta Lake region of northern California.**Matthews, S.M., Higley, J.M., Goddard, C.A., Pole, A.J. and K.T. Mellon **Evidence for population decline of Pacific fisher (*Martes pennanti*) on the Hoopa Valley Reservation, California.*** Perrine, J.D., Pollinger, J., Sacks, B.N., Barrett, R.H., and R.K. Wayne **Genetic structure among lowland and montane red fox populations in California.**Slauson, K.M., and W.J. Zielinski **Characteristics of summer & fall home ranges of American martens in coastal northwestern California.**Hamm, K.A. **Overview of symposium: Fisher and marten in California “Moving science and management forward”***Ecology and Management of Large Mammals (Steve Torres)*Busby, M.A., and T.A. Merchant. **The Irvine Wildlife Corridor Plan: Reconnecting the Coast to the Mountains.*** Heeg, E.R., Ernest, H.B., and D. Updike. **The Landscape Genetics of Invasion: A Study of California Wild Pigs**Hess, S.C., J. Jeffrey, Ball, D.L., and L. Babich. **Efficacy of Feral Pig Removals at Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii.**Hopkins, R.A., Dickson, B.G., McRae, B.H., and P. Beier. **Conservation Strategies for Cougars in Riverside County, California: from Models to Management.**Papouchis, C.M. **Distribution and Trends of Mountain Lion Mortality in the Americas.**Stankowich, T., and R.G. Coss. **Predator Behavior and Proximity Affects Risk Assessment in Columbian Black-tailed Deer.**Torres, S. **Cougar Management Guidelines.****Attention Western Section Members:**

Don't forget to vote on-line for your next President-Elect & bylaws revision!
See pages 14 - 19 for more detailed information, candidate statements, and bylaws text.

Finalized List of Sessions, Authors, and Abstract Titles (continued)Ecology and Management of Small Mammals (John Harris)

Hosea, R.C., Finlayson, B.J., Sanborn, J.R., Brodberg, R.K., Mekeber, A., Vasquez, M., Blondina, G., and D. Crane.

Perchlorate Concentrations in Upland Game from a Former Rocket Motor Assembly and Test Facility on the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, Riverside County, California and Implications for Future Game Management.

McAdoo, K.J., Barrington, M.R., and M.A. Ports. **Habitat Associations of Northeastern Nevada Rodents**

* Quinn, J.H. **Assessing the Current Status of the American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*) in California.**

Ecology and Management of Reptiles and Amphibians (Hartwell Welsh)

Bobzien, S. **Evaluating the Influence of Water Quality and the Distribution of Aquatic Herpetofauna within the East Bay Regional Park District.**

Germano, D.J. **Sex and Habitat Effects on Home Ranges of Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards**

Pope, K.L., Lawler, S.P., and H.H. Welsh Jr. **Introduced Trout Affect Ecosystem Subsidy and a Threatened Frog**

Welsh, H.H. Jr., Lind A.J., and C.A. Wheeler. **Spatial Ecology of a Population of the Aquatic Garter Snake,**

***Thamnophis atratus*, Associated with a Montane, Cold-Stream Environment in Northwestern California.**

Uyehara, J.C., Hubbard, V.K., and S. Sweet. **Monitoring Arroyo Toad Populations within the Los Padres National Forest, California.**

Ecology and Management of Invertebrates (Sandy Shanks)

Kimsey, L. **Insects: Should we Care?**

Tupen, J., and J. Wiggins. **Observations on the Feeding Behavior of the Decollate Snail (*Rumina decollata*): Implications to an Endangered Mollusk in Central California.**

Thorp, R. **Monitoring Bumble Bee Populations to Detect Population Fluctuations and Declines.**

Furnish, J. **Status and Trends of Mollusks under the Northwest Forest Plan's Survey and Manage Program.**

Johnson, P.G. II, and P. Jump. **Challenges in Monitoring the Kern Primrose Sphinx Moth.**

Ecology and Management of Raptors (Allen Fish)

Bittner, D.J., Oakley, J., Lincer, J., and L. Nelson. **Monitoring Golden Eagle Populations: The State of the Science**

Lishka, J.J., Eakle, W.L., Kirven, M.N., and R.E. Garcia. **Raptor Management at Lake Sonoma, California**

* Hull, J., Hull, A., Keane, J., and W. Reisen. **West Nile Virus Antibody Prevalence in California Raptors**

* Pitzer, S., Ernest, H., and A. Hull. **Gender Determination in Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks Using Molecular Techniques and Morphological Characters.**

Carlson, J.G., Keane, J.J., Piatro, D.D., and S.J. Gill. **Site Occupancy and Detection Probabilities of Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks in the Southern Sierra Nevada: Design Considerations for Monitoring Accipiters**

Young, R.J., Morrison, M.L., Golightly, R.T., and J.S. Romsos. **Assessment of Northern Goshawk Territories within the Lake Tahoe Basin**

Stermer, C.J., Sears, C., and K. O'Connor. **Developing and Evaluating Predictive Models of Habitat Use and the Distribution of the Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) within Sierra Nevada Range**

Ecology and Management of Seabirds (Gerry McChesney)

McIver, W.R., Carter, H.R., Golightly, R.T., McChesney, G.J., and D. Welsh. **Reproductive Success of Ashy Storm-Petrels (*Oceanodroma homochroa*) at Santa Cruz Island, California**

* Blusso, J., Colwell, M., and J. Takekawa. **Space Use of Foraging Forster's Terns (*Sterna forsteri*) in South San Francisco Bay, California.**

Capitolo, P.J., McChesney, G.J., Carter, H.R., Parker, M.W., Hall, J.N., Young, R.J., and R.T. Golightly. **Population Status of Common Murres in Northern California, 1996-2004.**

* Student presentation

Wednesday Workshop: Wildlife Society Biologist Certification

This workshop will provide you with the tools and knowledge needed to start the process of certification. Professional Certification is strongly recommended by The Wildlife Society, as an indication of an individual's university and continuing education, and their professional experience. There are two levels, Certified Wildlife Biologist (generally at least a BS degree and five years actual experience as a professional biologist) and Associate Wildlife Biologist (degree, but less experience). Both current students and practicing professionals are welcome to attend. We don't guarantee that participants will become certified if they attend but we will definitely take the mystery out of it and give you great tips for completing your application and any additional requirements.

Finalized List of Sessions, Authors, and Abstract Titles (*continued*)Ecology and Management of Seabirds (Gerry McChesney) continued

McChesney, G.J., Parker, M.W., Carter, H., Kress, S.W., and R.T. Golightly. **Restoration of Common Murre Colonies in Central California.**

Nevins, H., Phillips, E., Jessup, D., and J. Harvey. **Beach COMBERS: Using Surveys of Beached Marine Birds to Monitor Natural and Human-related Mortality in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 1997 – 2005.**

Golightly, R.T., Penland, T.F., and S.H. Newman. **Use of an Inland Lake by Western Gulls.**

Jaques, D. **Effects of Night Roost Loss on Brown Pelican Distribution in Southwest Washington.**

Irwin, J., and J. Buffa. **Boardwalk Use by Cassin's Auklets at Southeast Farallon Island.**

Ecology and Management of Shorebirds (Mark Colwell)

Conklin, J.R. and M. Colwell. **Diurnal and Nocturnal Roost Site-Fidelity of Wintering Dunlin (*Calidris alpina pacifica*)**

Hartman, A. and L.W. Oring. **Population Ecology of Long-billed Curlews Breeding in Non-native Grasslands.**

* Nelson, Z. and M. Colwell. **Evidence for Conspecific Attraction in the Breeding Distribution of the Western Snowy Plover in Coastal Northern California.**

Stenzel, L.E., Page, G.W., Warriner, J.C., Warriner, J.S., Gearing, D.E., Eyster, C.R., Ramer, B.A., and K.K. Neuman.

Survival and Natal Dispersal of Juvenile Snowy Plovers in Central California.

Stenzel, L.E., and G.W. Page. **Changes in Winter Shorebird and Waterfowl Abundance and Community Structure Over 34 Years in a Depositional Estuarine System**

Warnock, N., Bishop, M.A., Takekawa, J.Y., and T.D. Williams. **Spring-time Site Use by Migratory Pacific Flyway Shorebirds: Ecological and Management Considerations**

Ecology and Management of Landbirds (Dan Airola)

Ernest, H., Woods, L., Well, J., Kurushima, J., Carney, R., and V. Kramer. **West Nile Virus, Genetics, and the Yellow-billed Magpie**

Smallwood, K.S., and B.J. Nakamoto. **Impact of West Nile Virus on Yellow-Billed Magpie and American Crow in the Sacramento Valley, California**

Uyehara, J.C., Mori, S., and K. Purcell. **Bird Population Declines in the Four Southern California National Forests.**

Riensche, D. **Hatching Success through Wildlife Education and Stewardship**

Punkay, E.M. **Birds on Golf Courses: Does Human Disturbance Influence Flight Behavior?**

Water and Wildlife (Marti Kie)

Hoffman-Floerke, D.K. **Hetch Hetchy--To Drain or Not to Drain?**

Harris, C.S. **Lower Colorado River Habitat Restoration for Neotropical Migratory Birds and Water Acquisitions and Uses.**

Boles, J. **Salton Sea Restoration Program.**

Barnum, D.A. **Mitigation of Central Valley Evaporation Ponds - Does it Really Work?**

Feliz, D. **Shorebird Management Rotating with Rice Production at the Yolo Wildlife Area.**

Williams, R.D. **Wildlife and Hydropower Re-licensing in the Sierra Nevada: Issues and Answers.**

Poster (Kevin Hunting)

Alvarez, J., and M.A. Shea **Response of California Red-Legged Frogs (*Rana draytonii*) to Large-Scale Silt and Vegetation Removal from Aquatic Habitat**

Demers, S., Colwell, M., Takekawa, J., and J. Ackerman. **Space Use of American Avocets in South San Francisco Bay**

Hosea, R.C., and B.J. Finlayson-**Controlling the Spread of New Zealand Mud Snails on Wading Gear**

Johnston, D.S. **An Improved Technique to Capture Bats Using Macro or Stacked Nets**

* Melcer, D.T., Takekawa, J., and K. Miles. **Home Range, Habitat Use, and Mercury Concentrations in California**

Black Rails (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*), Petaluma River Tidal Marshes, California

* Ostfeld, D. and A. Duff. **Developing Predictive Models for Bat Species at Crater Lake National Park using Ordinary Kriging**

Reeves, K., and J.S. Jones. **Impact of Flooding on a Burrowing Owl Colony in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta**

Wengart, G.M. and B.B. Littlefield. **Using Chin Spot Patterns to Identify Individual Mountain Yellow-Legged Frogs**

* *Student presentation*

Julie A. Vance - President-elect**Personal information:**

Born November 9, 1972; married; 2 dogs, 2 cats, and a newt.

Education:

B.S. Biology (Ecology Option) 1996, California State University, Fresno

M.S. Biology (Ecology emphasis), 2000, California State University, Fresno

Thesis Title: Instream movement of the California Newt (*Taricha torosa sierrae*) in an intermittent Central California foothill stream

Current Position:

June 2005-present, Senior Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Game, San Joaquin Valley and Southern Sierra Region

Previous Positions:

Dec 2004-June 2005, Staff Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Game, San Joaquin Valley and Southern Sierra Region

1999-Dec 2004, Environmental Scientist, California Department of Water Resources, Division of Planning and Local Assistance, San Joaquin District

1998-1999, Graduate Student Assistant, California Department of Water Resources, Division of Planning and Local Assistance, San Joaquin District

Involvement with The Wildlife Society: I have been a member of the San Joaquin Chapter and Western Section since 1998, and a member of the parent society since 2003. I was president of the San Joaquin Chapter from 2004-2005 and Conservation Affairs Committee Chair for the San Joaquin Chapter from 2000-2004.

Professional Memberships: Ecological Society of America (ESA), The Wildlife Society (TWS), The Western

Section of the Wildlife Society (TWS-WS), San Joaquin Chapter of the Wildlife Society (SJVC-TWS), Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR), American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH), Society for Conservation Biology (SCB), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) (both State and Local Chapters)

Candidate Statement:

I was simultaneously honored and more than a little alarmed when I received the call asking if I was willing to run for president elect of the Western Section. My initial response was “no way.” Thankfully, our past Western Section president who made that call doesn’t give up quite so easily. The reason for my immediate response was that I knew that the Western Section has been going through some very rough times financially, which has resulted in repercussions to the organization of the Section and our overall way of doing business. In addition, even at the best of times stepping up to the office of president comes with a tremendous amount of responsibility and demands on personal time. However, John Harris did a good and convincing job of explaining how much progress has been made to make the Section once more financially solvent and organizationally solid. As I listened to his description of what the recent Section officers and other volunteers have [amazingly] done to turn the Section around, I was reminded of the fact that the Section is an amazing professional and educational asset, and that it is only through the willing work of volunteers that this resource continues to be viable and available for wildlife professionals. Needless to say, my answer changed to “yes” by the end of that telephone call. Despite my initial hesitation, if elected to the office of president elect, I will do my best to keep the Section going down a stable path, and will assist the Section in continuing to offer low cost, quality educational opportunities and annual conferences. Another effort that I would like to dedicate some time to is recruitment into the Society and the wildlife profession in general. While the Humboldt Student Chapter is always reliable in bringing good student attendance to the annual conference, other geographic areas within the Section have not been doing as well in bringing young professionals into the Society. Possibly this is because many of the traditional wildlife management professors and professionals that once encouraged their students to participate are retiring, or maybe it is because recruitment

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Karen Swaim - President-elect**Personal information:**

Born September 10, 1964, Boulder, Colorado, mother of two.

Education:

B.S., 1989 Biology, California State University, Hayward
M.S., 1994, Biology, Environmental Option, California State University, Hayward

Current Position:

1996- present, President of a small environmental consulting and research company

Previous Positions:

1992-1996, Environmental Analyst and Assistant Project Manager, LSA Associates Point Richmond, CA.

Involvement with The Wildlife Society:

2005, 2006, Career Fair Coordinator

1997, Workshop presenter, "Alameda Whipsnake Ecology and Field Techniques"

1989 – present, Member of the Western Section, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Professional Memberships:

The Wildlife Society, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, Herpetological Education, Research and Preservation Society (HERPS), Biological Field Studies Association.

Candidate Statement:

It is truly an honor (and a bit of a surprise) to be nominated for the role of President of the Western Section of The Wildlife Society. I have a background in ecology and zoology, which I have applied to wildlife management of non-game species. Specifically, I focus on working with reptile and amphibian populations in central California. I first became involved in the Western Section as a student presenting a portion of my Master's work at a conference. From there, I entered the world of environmental consulting. I try to keep a large dose of conservation research in my company duties. Until two years ago, my main involvement with the Western Section had been limited to attending the meetings and selected workshops that focused on the herps. I also had the opportunity to be a workshop presenter in 1997, with an ecology and field techniques workshop on the threatened Alameda whipsnake. More Recently, I have become interested in promoting and supporting career development for biologists. I was the Career Fair Coordinator in 2005 and am currently working to put together the 2006 Career Fair.

***Karen Swaim - President-elect (continued)***

I believe career development, recruiting bright young minds (young is a relative term), and continued professional development for current members should be an important focus for the Section. This outreach should strive to target the young urban population, which normally has little opportunity to develop an appreciation for wildlife and how it benefits our entire society. Outreach to the public to promote sound wildlife management and conservation policy for both game and non-game species should also be a focus for the membership. If elected, I would dedicate myself to promoting these types of activities and outreach.

Julie A. Vance - President-elect

Continued from Page 14.

into the field of wildlife biology is dwindling in general. I just read a recent article in the Napa Valley Register that cited some disturbing statistics from the Government Accountability Office (GAO); interest is waning in State and Federal wildlife work. Several possible reasons were discussed, but one possible reason was that young people are now seemingly disconnected from hunting, fishing, and rural life. Another reason was that there is actually a higher interest in conservation, environmental policy and recreation than more "traditional" fields. I think that an important goal of the Section and Wildlife Society as a whole should be to demonstrate how the field of wildlife biology is an important component of conservation and environmental policy. It is likely that many students and young professionals are unaware of the Wildlife Society and what it has to offer. As Western Section president, I will make it a priority to focus on outreach and education. Thank you for your support and confidence.

Voting Procedure

Instructions for Voting

1. Log onto the Western Section Web site, www.tws-west.org
2. From the home page, click on the link "2006 Voting for President Elect and Bylaws Revision."
3. Record your votes and supply your e-mail address (to verify voting eligibility).
4. Send the vote by clicking the "submit" button.
5. Verify that your vote was received by confirming e-mail message to address supplied.

Election Tallies and Eligibility

Votes will be tallied by Past-President John Harris and all votes will remain confidential.

You are eligible to vote in the election if you are a *current* Western Section member.

John Harris

Bylaw Revisions

As a result of the financial crisis of spring 2004, the Western Section has been functioning without paid staff support for nearly two years. During that time, the Section has functioned with a Treasurer and Secretary appointed by the President. Under the existing bylaws, these are not Section officer nor Executive Board positions, and the bylaws allocate tasks typical of such positions to an Executive Director (paid staff) position. The Executive Board, with the encouragement and support of chapters, is proposing a revision of the bylaws to create Treasurer and Secretary positions. In addition, several other changes are proposed, including the following:

1. The Humboldt State student chapter is added.
2. Descriptions of chapter boundaries, which appear in chapter bylaws and are negotiated between chapters and The Wildlife Society directly, are eliminated from the Section bylaws. A current list of chapter boundaries will be maintained in the Operations Manual.
3. The use of electronic balloting, which the Section has been using for some time, is inserted where appropriate.
4. The membership dates are revised to reflect current practice.
5. The Student Affairs committee is added, and the Professional Affairs committee, which has not been active for a number of years is deleted, its functions having passed to other committees.

Proposed ADDITIONS are bold, italic, and underlined. (Proposed DELETIONS are bold, italic, and in parenthesis.)

* *The proposed bylaw revision is available (12 point font) as a pdf with color highlighted changes on the web**

BYLAWS OF THE WESTERN SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE I. NAME, AREA AND AFFILIATION

Section 1. NAME - The name of this organization shall be the Western Section of the Wildlife Society (hereinafter referred to as the Section).

Section 2. AREA - This Section shall have as its area of organization the States of California, Nevada, Hawaii and the Territory of Guam.

Section 3. CRITERIA FOR AFFILIATION - The Section shall conform to Bylaws, Code of Ethics, objectives, policies and positions as adopted by The Wildlife Society, Inc. (hereinafter, The Wildlife Society, Inc., may be referred to as The Society).

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION

Section 1. OBJECTIVES - Consistent with the objectives of The Society, the Section objectives are:

1. To encourage the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.
2. To recognize and commend outstanding work in the profession and in other efforts of wildlife conservation and ecology.
3. To support and promote the activities and objectives of The Society regarding wildlife needs, problems, and events in the Western Section area.

Section 2. IMPLEMENTATION - To achieve these objectives, this Section proposes to:

1. Provide opportunities for ***(better liaison) communication*** among ***Section*** members and ***between Section members*** and The Society.
2. ***Provide opportunities for continuing education for Section members.***
3. Evaluate and respond to ***(the principles involved in)*** proposed or enacted social actions that could ***(effect) affect*** wildlife or its habitats.
4. Recognize and commend outstanding professional achievements in the maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and their habitats.
5. Encourage communication between members and non-members to facilitate understanding and effectiveness of research and management of wildlife resources.

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

Section 1. WESTERN SECTION - In order to carry out its objectives the Section shall be governed by a board of directors called the Executive Board (hereinafter the Executive Board will be referred to as the Board), and ***shall include Chapters which provide member-oriented activities at local levels (shall be organized into geographic districts each of which shall be served by a Chapter).***

Section 2. CHAPTERS - ***Chapters may be formed or dissolved according to the bylaws of The Society.*** - The Chapter names and areas included

within the Chapter boundaries shall be:

(Humboldt Chapter) California North Coast Chapter - (Del Norte, Humboldt Counties of California).

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter - **(Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Mateo and San Francisco Counties of California.)**

Sacramento-Shasta Chapter - **(Colusa, Yolo, Sutter, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Sacramento, Amador, Alpine, San Joaquin, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Counties of California.)**

San Joaquin Valley Chapter - **(Stanislaus, Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, San Benito, Kings, Tulare and Kern Counties of California.)**

California Central Coast Chapter - **(Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties of California.)**

Southern California Chapter - **(Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside, San Diego and Imperial Counties of California.)**

Nevada Chapter - **(All counties of the State of Nevada and Inyo and Mono Counties of California.)**

Hawaii Chapter - **(State of Hawaii and Territory of Guam.)**

U.C. Davis Student Chapter - **(Students at the University of California at Davis.)**

Humboldt State University Student Chapter - (Students at Humboldt State University.)

ARTICLE IV. SECTION YEAR

The Section operating and fiscal year shall begin January 1.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Voting Member - Voting membership in the Western Section shall be available to any voting member of The **(Society) Section** who resides in or conducts professional activities within the organizational area of the Section (Article 1. Section 2) and who pays current Section dues. Only Section Voting Members **who are also current members of The Wildlife Society** may hold office in the Section, vote on official matters affecting the Society, and represent the Section and Society on business, by Board or officer appointment.

Section 2. OTHER MEMBER - Other membership in the Section shall be available to any person who does not meet the criteria of Voting Member, but does pay Section dues. Other Members shall be entitled to all rights, privileges, and responsibilities of Section Voting Members, including voting in Section elections, except those reserved for Section Voting Members (Article V, Section 1).

Section 3. CHARTER MEMBER - Voting and Other Members of the Society residing in California on July 30, 1953 shall be considered Charter Members.

Section 4. HONORARY MEMBER - Honorary Members of the Section shall be persons who, by a majority vote of Section Members, have been thus recognized for their achievements. A Section Honorary Member need not pay Section dues. Honorary Members who are voting members of The Wildlife Society shall have the same rights and privileges as Section Voting Members (Article V, Section 1). Honorary Members who are not voting members of The Wildlife Society shall have the same rights and privileges as Other Members (Article V, Section 2).

Clause A - Persons granted Honorary Membership by The Society and residing in the Section shall likewise be recognized as Honorary Members of the Section.

Section 5. DUES - Annual dues shall be payable by each member to the Treasurer **(no later than April 1)**. Members who have not paid their **(Wildlife Society and) Western Section dues by November 15 in a given year** shall lose their Voting Member status in the Western Section **for that given year**. Annual Section dues also may be paid to The Society's Washington, D.C. office, along with Society dues, and subsequently will be remitted to the Section.

Clause A - Annual dues shall be set by a vote of the Section membership, and shall remain in effect until a vote to change them is taken.

Clause B - Voting may be conducted by mail, **electronically** or by members present at Annual or Special meetings, provided due notices are given.

Section 6. RESIGNATION - Members may resign at any time by giving notice to the Section's Treasurer, or will be considered to have resigned if annual Section dues are not paid.

Section 7. REINSTATEMENT - Persons who are dropped from the rolls of the Section for non-payment of dues or resignation may be reinstated into membership in the Section upon re-application and payment of appropriate dues.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS AND OFFICERS

Section 1. NOMINATING AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE - The three-member Nominating and Elections Committee, selected by the Board (Article IX, Section 1), shall prepare a slate of two (2) candidates for each of the following positions: President-Elect, and Section Representative to The Society.

Clause A - All nominees must be Voting Members (Article V, Section 1).

Clause B - Prior approval shall be obtained from candidates.

Clause C - The nomination slate shall be submitted to the membership at least 30 days prior to (mail) balloting.

Clause D - Additional nominees may be added to the Nominating and Elections Committee's slate upon the signed support of six (6) or more members, provided prior approval has been obtained from each nominee.

Clause E - A member may be elected for no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same elective position.

Section 2. BALLOTING - Written **or electronic** ballots for the President-Elect shall be received from the members by the Secretary and shall be counted by the Nominating and Elections Committee. For ballot counting purposes, the President shall appoint a replacement for any member of the Nominating and Elections Committee who has been nominated for an office.

Clause A - Members in arrears shall forfeit their rights to vote during the period of their delinquency.

Clause B - A signed absentee ballot may be submitted to the Secretary by a member prior to the scheduled time for counting ballots.

Clause C - The candidate receiving the largest number of votes (on the written ballot) shall be declared elected. No one may hold more than 1 elective position simultaneously. In the event of a tie vote, an uneven number of members of the Board shall cast a secret deciding ballot.

Clause D - Balloting for Section Representative to The Society will be administered by The Society.

Section 3. **(OFFICERS - Officers of the Western Section shall consist of President, President-Elect (who shall serve as Vice-President), and the Immediate Past President. Their duties are:)**

EXECUTIVE BOARD - The Executive Board shall act as the governing body for the Section and shall be made up of officers of the Board, the Section Representative to The Society, the Transactions Editor, chair of the Professional Development Committee and the duly elected or appointed Chapter Representatives. Officers of the Western Section shall consist of President, President-Elect (who shall serve as Vice-President), Past President, Section Representative to The Society, Treasurer, and Secretary. All Board members must be Voting Members of the Section. Duties of Executive Board members are:

Clause A - PRESIDENT - The President shall have general supervision of the Section officers, shall appoint, with the advice of the Board, the Transactions Editor and Chairs of all standing and ad hoc committees, shall preside as the Chair at meetings of the Board, and shall be an ex officio member of all committees, except the Nominating and Elections Committee. The President may represent the Section or appoint alternate representatives to other Section, or Society boards, committees or meetings.

Clause B - PRESIDENT-ELECT - The President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in the absence or upon the inability of the President to serve, and shall perform any duties assigned by the President. In the event the President-Elect cannot serve in the President's absence, the Board shall appoint a President, pro tempore. The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of the President at the close of the President's term of office. **The President-Elect chairs the Program Committee.**

Clause C - PAST PRESIDENT - The immediate Past President shall be responsible for assisting and advising the President and the Board in all matters concerning the Section and for conducting other duties as assigned by the President. The Past-President chairs the Nominating and Elections and Financial Review Committees. **(and Program Committees.)**

Clause D - TREASURER - The Treasurer reports to the President and shall be responsible for the funds of the Section and shall submit financial reports at each Board meeting and at the Annual meeting of the Section.

(Clause D - Clause D - EXECUTIVE BOARD - The Executive Board shall act as the governing body for the Section and shall be made up of the above named officers, the Section Representative to The Society, the Transactions Editor and the duly elected or appointed Chapter Representatives. All Board members must be Voting Members of the Section.)

Clause E - SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SOCIETY - The Section Representative shall represent the Section to The Society. This person shall represent and serve as liaison to The Society for the Section, provide the editor of *The Wildlifer* with news and items of interest from the Section area, and serve as a contact among The Society sections and members in their respective areas.

Clause F - CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES TO THE WESTERN SECTION - Each Chapter shall elect, or appoint, following their respective bylaws a Chapter Representative to the Western Section. **(The Chapter Rep-**

representative shall serve as a member of the Section Executive Board.) This person shall represent and serve as liaison to the Section for the Chapter, provide the Section with periodic written reports (not less than 1 per year) on Chapter activities, and serve as a contact among the Section, Chapters, and members from their respective areas. **(When voting as a member of the Board, the Chapter Representative shall vote as a representative of all Section members.)** Chapter Representative duties include: ensuring that all Chapter officers are members of The Society, that an annual financial statement from the Chapter is submitted to the **President (Executive Director)**, and assisting the Section President by verifying mailing addresses, conducting membership drives, polling individual members, serving on Board committees, and assisting in routine Section business. In the event that a Chapter is inactive and fails to elect or appoint a Chapter Representative, the Board shall appoint a Chapter Representative from the geographic area of the inactive Chapter.

Clause G - Secretary - The Secretary shall record and distribute the minutes of all meetings.

Note: Section 4 below is deleted in its entirety

(Section 4. **THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - The Executive Director shall be the principal staff person for the Section.**

Clause A - SELECTION AND TENURE - The Executive Director shall be selected by a majority vote of the Board, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Personnel Committee shall select a candidate for the vote by the Board.

Clause B - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **The Executive Director shall be the Executive Officer of the Section under the general direction of the Board and also shall serve as Corporate Secretary and Treasurer. The President shall directly supervise the Executive Director.**
2. **The Executive Director shall be responsible for executing the policies and programs developed by the Board and Section membership, and for carrying out all administrative, managerial, and business affairs of the Section through its officers, staff, Board, committees, appointed representatives, Section, and Chapters. Duties shall include, but not be limited to development of professional training and business opportunities, presentation of reports to the Section membership at its annual business meeting and quarterly Board meetings, external communications, dissemination of Section policies and activities, and carrying out other duties as assigned by or assumed under the broad policies of the Board.**
3. **The Executive Director, as the Corporate Treasurer, shall be responsible for all funds of the Section. Assets in all accounts shall be made subject to the single signature of the Executive Director, other designated staff, or other Voting Members approved by the Board.**
4. **The Executive Director shall be responsible for maintaining current files and retaining historical records of the Section. Duties also include recording the minutes of all meetings, correspondence, and the issuance of meeting minutes.**
5. **The Executive Director shall be bonded at the Section's expense in the amount specified by the Board. An independent audit shall be made of the Section's accounts at the close of each fiscal year, as directed by the President, before reporting at the annual business meeting.**
6. **The Executive Director shall have the authority to make personnel and support staff decisions as necessary to support the Section's activities. The Personnel Committee shall approve all personnel decisions.**
7. **The Executive Director shall directly supervise all personnel and support staff employed or contracted by the Section.)**

Section 5. **TERM OF OFFICE - The officers and Board members (serve for approximately one (1), two (2) or three (3) year(s),) are installed at the Annual Business Meeting, take office immediately following the Annual Conference, and unless reelected, terminate their duties at the conclusion of the next Annual Conference, or at such time as their successors are elected and installed.**

Clause A - **PRESIDENT - The President shall serve for one (1) year, upon conclusion of the term the President becomes the Past President.**

Clause B - **PRESIDENT-ELECT - The President-Elect shall serve for one (1) year. Upon conclusion of the term the President-Elect succeeds to**

the Presidency.

Clause C - **PAST PRESIDENT - The Past President shall serve a one- (1) year term (that coincides with that of the President.)**

Clause D - **SECTION REPRESENTATIVE - The Section Representative shall serve for three (3) years, and may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms.**

Clause E - **CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE - Chapter Representatives serve on the Board according to Chapter Bylaws.**

Clause F - TREASURER - The Treasurer shall serve for one, two (2)-year term, is appointed by the President, and may be reappointed for successive terms.

Clause G - SECRETARY - The Secretary shall serve for one, two (2)- year term, is appointed by the President, and may be reappointed for successive terms.

Section 6. **VACANCIES - If the office of President is vacated for any reason, the President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President for the balance of the unexpired term of the President. All other Board officer vacancies in any expired or unexpired terms of an elective office or member or appointed member shall be filled through appointment by the Executive Board, although an appointed President-Elect or Section Representative shall serve only until the next scheduled Section election where the membership shall elect the next President or Section Representative. All appointees must be Voting Members of the Section.**

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1. **REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - Regular membership meetings shall be held at such times and places as determined and published by the Executive Board.**

Clause A - **ANNUAL MEETING - The Annual member's meeting is held at the Section's Annual Conference. (The regular meeting is generally held in February shall be known as the Annual Meeting, and) The Annual Meeting shall be for the purposes of installing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.**

Clause B - **MEETING NOTICE - Members must be notified at least one (1) month prior to annual and regular meetings and at least ten (10) days prior to special meetings.**

Clause C - **QUORUM - Quorum for the Annual Meeting of the Section shall be over 50 percent of the membership or 25 members in good standing, whichever is less: and for Board meetings, six (6) members of the Board.**

Clause D - **MEETING RULES - Order of business and parliamentary procedures at Section meetings shall follow Robert's Rules of Order, latest revision, unless new rules are adopted by the Board.**

Clause E - **BYLAWS - Section Bylaws shall be available for inspection during every meeting. If these Bylaws are revised, the new revision must be approved by The Society before becoming effective.**

Section 2. **SPECIAL MEETINGS - Special meetings may be called by the Board at any time, provided due notice (Article VII, Section 1B) and the purpose of the call are given.**

Clause A - **Only items listed in the call for a special meeting shall be acted upon at the special meeting.**

Clause B - **All Clauses under Section 1 of this Article apply as well to special meetings.**

ARTICLE VIII. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCES

Section 1. **CONDUCT - The Board shall conduct its affairs in conformance with the provisions of these Bylaws, and those of The Society. The Board is authorized to act for the Section between meetings and shall report its interim actions to the members at each succeeding membership meeting. Any Board action may be overridden by two-thirds of the Voting Members attending a membership meeting.**

Clause A - **ATTENDANCE - Members may attend board meetings, but may participate therein only when asked to do so, and they may not vote at such meetings.**

Section 2. **FINANCE - Funds of the Western Section shall be under the supervision of the Board and shall be handled by the Treasurer (Executive Director). The financial records of the Section shall be periodically examined by the Financial Review (Audit) Committee (Article IX, Section 2G).**

(Clause A - The Executive Director will be bonded (Article VI, Section 4, Clause B).)

Clause A (B) - **Funds shall be derived from dues, professional development proceeds, grants, special assessments, work projects, and contributions.**

Clause B (C) - **Funds shall be placed in a federally-insured bank or savings and loan association.**

Section 3. **REPORTS - Within 20 days after an election or other official action(s) the President (Executive Director) shall report such action(s) to the Executive Director of The Society, and the Section Representative. A statement of calendar-year income and expenses, together with starting and ending bal-**

ances, must be submitted by the **Treasurer to the President (and to the Executive Director of The Society in January of each year or federal tax reporting by The Society).**

Section 4. FILES - The Section shall maintain a file containing "Bylaws of The Society and the Section" (Bylaws); minutes of all regular and special meetings of the membership and the Board; correspondence pertinent to Section affairs; all committee reports; financial statements and records; and all other material designated as pertinent by the Board. A Section "Operations Manual" will be maintained by the Executive **Board (Director)** and copies of the Bylaws and Operations Manual will be provided to all incoming Board members.

(Clause A - The Executive Director will maintain a historical record of the Section's activities.) A historical record shall be maintained by the Section.

Section 5. RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS - Two or more members may submit resolutions or statements to the **Conservation Affairs (Resolutions and Public Statements) Committee** (Article IX, Section 2E) for possible consideration by the Section's Board. These shall be accepted or rejected by the Board, and, if involving new policy, prepared for submission to the Section membership. Such new items must be approved by two-thirds of the Section membership voting and must be transmitted to The Society **(and the Western Section Representative, by the Western Section Representative (Executive Director))** if approved. Actions falling within previously established Section policies may be carried out by any Section officer upon approval of the Board. On issues where there are no previously established policies and that demand action of a reasonably short notice, the President, or designated representative, may present a Public Statement on behalf of the Section provided that: 1) the concept of the statement be brought to the Board's attention and is accepted by them prior to public issuing of the statement; and 2) copies of the statement are sent to the membership in the next regularly scheduled newsletter after public issuing of the statement. Furthermore, the Section may issue statements pertaining to subjects in its locale;

a) when the content of the statement falls within the established policy of The Society; and

b) in the absence of existing statements by The Society.

The Section will not issue statements that may be in conflict with the policy of The Society without prior approval of The Society's Council. All statements will follow the "Guidelines for Conservation Affairs Activities" (Appendix 4.421b of the Operations Manual) and conform to The Society's policy regarding conservation affairs (Appendix 4.421l of the Operations Manual). The Section membership, The Society, and the Western Section Representative, must receive copies of any Resolution or Public Statement within 15 days of such action.

Section 6. OPERATIONS MANUAL - The Executive **Board (Director)** shall maintain an Operations Manual listing current procedures, and policies, together with the duties and responsibilities of officers and committees.

ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES

Section 1. APPOINTMENTS - The Section President shall consider suggestions of the Board when appointing chairs of all standing committees, except the Nominating and Elections Committee (Article VI, Section 1) and committee chairs specified in Section 2 of this Article, and all ad hoc committees. The Section President with concurrence from Committee chairs shall appoint other Section members as necessary to the committees. Committee chairs shall complete their committee's duties with the President's assistance. All committee chairs shall submit a written summary of committee activities to the President and the Executive Director before the close of each Annual Conference.

Section 2. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Clause A - NOMINATING AND ELECTIONS - See Article VI, Section 1.

(Clause B - PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS - This committee shall encourage the maximum number of qualified persons residing or working within the Section's organizational area to become members of The Wildlife Society and the Western Section, and it shall encourage Certification of eligible professionals. The committee may be assigned special activities by the President, such as advice on accreditation, or serve on building fund drives.)

Clause B - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - This Committee shall develop workshops, conferences, and symposia on current topics or needs of wildlife professionals. **The President appoints the chair of this committee, and (Executive Director;)** Chapter Representatives, and other Section members shall serve on this committee.

Clause C - PROGRAM - This committee shall develop and arrange programs for the Section's Annual Conferences. The **President-elect (Past President)** shall chair this committee, and the **Past President, (President-Elect, Executive Director,)** Professional Development Committee Chair, and Section and Chapter representatives, and other Section members shall be members.

Clause D - **CONSERVATION AFFAIRS (RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS)** - This committee shall review legislative proposals, administrative regulations, environmental assessments and impact statements, and other subjects or issues affecting wildlife or wildlife habitat within the organizational area of the Section and make recommendations to the Board for any action that should be taken by the Section. This committee shall seek and employ methods of informing the public of basic wildlife management concepts and of Section and Society activities and interests. It will also function as a liaison with agencies and other professional societies. The Chair may ask any Section member to assist with reviews. This committee shall receive proposed resolutions from two (2) or more members at any time, and shall prepare, submit and recommend action on such items to the Board in accordance with Article VII, Section 5.

Clause E - FINANCIAL REVIEW - This committee shall be chaired by the Past President and consist of at least two (2) additional members. It shall review the financial records and support documents of the Section **(as maintained by the Executive Director)** at least annually. **(The committee also shall review these records and documents prior to any change in employment of the Executive Director.)**

Clause F - PERSONNEL - The Personnel Committee shall be responsible **for hiring any employees or contract staff. (the Executive Director and approving all personnel and support staff decisions recommended by the Executive Director.)** The President shall chair this committee, and the Past President and President-Elect shall serve on this committee.

Clause G - AWARDS AND GRANTS - This committee shall administer the Section's awards and grants programs. It shall also maintain a current file of the recipients of past Section awards and grants.

Clause H - Student Affairs - This committee serves to promote increased student involvement within the natural resources field, provide an opportunity to link and maintain connectivity with all universities and colleges in the Section, address student or university-related issues and concerns, and provide education and professional development opportunities to the student body at large.

ARTICLE X. PUBLICATIONS

Section 1. NEWSLETTER - The Board shall cause to be published and distributed to the membership, funds permitting, articles and news concerning activities of the Section and/or matters of importance.

Section 2. OTHER PUBLICATIONS - The Board may authorize the issuance of such regular or special publication as it deems fitting and desirable within the scope of the objectives and purposes of the Section as set forth in Article II.

ARTICLE XI. AWARDS

Section 1. PURPOSE - The Section, operating through the Board and the appropriate committees, shall give recognition and publicity to outstanding professional achievements by members. The name of this award shall be the Raymond F. Dasmann Award for Professional of the Year. Recognition shall also be given to notable wildlife conservation achievements, events, or milestones occurring within the Section's area of influence by citizens, groups, organizations, or institutions, not necessarily members of The Society. The name of this award shall be the Conservationist of the Year Award. **(Outstanding technical presentations at the annual conference shall be recognized by the Nelson-Hooper Award for the Best Technical Presentation.)**

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of The Western Section of The Wildlife Society, its Executive Board shall transfer all assets, accrued income, and other properties to the Council of The Wildlife Society with the understanding that said assets will be held for a maximum of five (5) years from the date of dissolution of the Section, for re-distribution to another Section that may be established in approximately the same geographical area within said five-year period. If another Section is not established within said area and period of time, The Wildlife Society Council may use or distribute all assets, accrued income, and other properties as best determined by The Wildlife Society Council in accordance with The Wildlife Society Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

Section 1. PROCEDURE - These Bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority of the Section members voting by mail, **electronically** or at any annual or special meeting if due notice of the proposed changes (Article VII, Section 1B) is followed.

Section 2. CONFORMANCE - No amendment to these Bylaws shall be enacted that results in a conflict with The Wildlife Society Bylaws. If these Bylaws are revised, the new revision must be approved by The Society before becoming effective.



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Western Section
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Oakland, CA 94609

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The 2006 Annual Conference and Election Material

Have you renewed your membership for 2006? Don't panic if your mailing label says "expires 2005" but you have recently renewed. There is a several week lagtime in updating the database.

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