



The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



Volume 12, Issue 2

July, 2004

From the Editor

Sara Lee

Hope everyone enjoyed the recent holiday. This issue of the Magpie has a lot of exciting workshop announcements so be sure to check those out!

As you know, The Magpie is available on the Chapter website: www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/index.htm. If you know someone who did not receive an email announcing this issue, please refer that person to the website or have him/her contact me: slee@esassoc.com.

As always, if you have suggestions for the newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact me. ☺ Enjoy!

CHAPTER NEWS

Treasurer's Report

Kirsten Christopherson

As of 25 June 2004, the account balance is \$18,314.40. Based on a member's recommendation at our annual business meeting in February, an audit of the financial records from January 2003 to June 2004 will be taking place in early July. Two Chapter members, who are not board members, have agreed to look through the financial records to ensure that the Chapter is spending and tracking our funding appropriately. A summary of the audit report will be available in the next newsletter.

Comings and Goings...

It is with great regret that the Chapter Board has accepted Barbara Corbett Kermeen's resignation as the Chapter Representative to the Western Section. Barbara became active in the Chapter at the Western Section Annual Meeting in 2002. The Chapter had a vacant position, and Barbara stepped up to the plate, was nominated and approved all in the same five minutes. We weren't going to let Barbara with her enthusiasm and ideas get away. The Chapter has benefited greatly from the knowledge she gained while serving the Western Section, and we hope that we continue to put it all to good use. Always determined to

do the right thing and keep us on the straight and narrow, she has given us invaluable support in our endeavors and told us when she thinks we are crazy. Both have been greatly appreciated, and we will miss her at our business meetings. Although, she is no longer going to be a regular, we hope we have not lost her insights entirely and we will continue to use her as a resource whenever possible. From all of us at the Board, thanks!

On the other hand...

The Chapter is happy to welcome **Linda Leeman**, who will help coordinate Chapter outreach efforts and activities. We also welcome back former Chapter President **Craig Bailey** from his trip to Africa. Look for an article about Craig's trip in the next issue!

Chapter Social a Hit!

In mid-May the Chapter hosted a "social nite" at the Brew it Up! pub in downtown Sacramento. It was a good crowd - several Chapter and Section members attended, as well as several students from the UC Davis Chapter. It was a great opportunity to meet new people and old friends. I think it's safe to say good times were had by all! Special thanks to Melinda Dorin for organizing the event. The Chapter will plan another mixer in the future, so stay tuned!

Tri-colored Blackbird Survey a Success!

During the third week of April, volunteers conducted a statewide survey for tri-colored blackbirds to estimate the nesting population. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of volunteers most of the historical colony locations were surveyed and some new colonies were found. Results of the survey and other information related to tri-colored blackbird conservation will be published in the upcoming issue of the Central Valley Bird Club Bulletin. For information, go to www.CVBirds.org.

Website Updates

If you have information you would like to see on the website (www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/index.htm) or any suggestions on how to make the website more useful, please contact the Chapter webmaster **Teresa McGaffic** (tmcgaffic@wildlandsinc.com) or President **Mike Grifantini** (MikeG@rfpco.com). Teresa is our new webmaster and is working hard to renovate the Chapter website!

UPCOMING EVENTS, INFORMATION SOURCES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chapter to Offer Tracking Workshop

The Chapter is planning a Tracking Workshop for October 2004. This is in the early stages of development so the agenda and registration materials are not available yet, but as soon as we have the dates we'll let you know. Due to the type of workshop with a large field component registration will be limited. It will be held in the Sacramento area. Stay tuned to the Chapter web site <http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/index.htm> for more information, or email **Melinda Dorin** at mdorin@energy.state.ca.us to receive workshop information as it becomes available.

Chapter to Offer Permitting Workshops for College Seniors and 1st-year Professionals

The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter is planning a series of workshops to provide overviews of the various permits that environmental professionals typically deal with in California. These workshops will include discussion of permit applications, requirements, and responsible agencies.

Permits that will be presented in the series are CEQA/NEPA compliance, Streambed Alteration Agreements, SWPPPs, CWA 404 and 401, and Section 7 and Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act.

The workshops are scheduled to begin in mid- to late-September.

Chapter to Initiate Scholarship Program

Over the years the chapter has constantly debated how to best serve its members, the local communities, and the environment. While many ideas have come from

Board members, it was decided to ask our general membership for additional input regarding how to accomplish these goals.

In the short-term, and until further direction comes from the membership, the Board has agreed to initiate a scholarship program for college students in the area served by the chapter. There may be several scholarships granted each year, depending upon the ebb and flow of the chapter's budget. The intent is to find deserving students that wish to have a career in wildlife biology or a closely-related field and to assist them in a modest manner. During the next several months scholarship application guidelines and the scholarship form, itself, will be developed. The chapter's website will be the conduit for information regarding the program.

With this effort the Board will move ahead with one concept that has strong support as a chapter goal—to assist young individuals that wish to break into a wildlife biology career!

Aspen Workshop

The Chapter is in the early stages of planning a workshop on aspen and meadow restoration. Fire suppression, overgrazing and hydrological changes are factors that have led to the degradation of these important montane habitats. However, in recent years, public and private forest managers have been undertaking projects for restoring aspen and meadow habitats. The aim of this workshop will be to explore the logistical and policy issues associated with carrying out these sorts of projects on-the-ground. Wildlife biologists, foresters, agency staff and other interested parties are invited to attend this workshop which will likely be held in the woods this Fall. For more details, contact **Brett Furnas** at (530) 225-3221 or bfurnas@dfg.ca.gov.

A Recent Aspen Restoration Project on the Lassen National Forest



NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP – January 3-7, 2005

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

Workshop Content:

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

To view the agenda, click [here](#).

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FLASH!!!

Participants in the 2005 workshop will not only learn professional tips for using PowerPoint, but also will gain exposure to Photoshop Elements (photo editing software) and Photoshop Album (digital cataloging software).
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Instructors: Dr. Jon K. Hooper, Professor, Calif. State Univ., Chico (Certified Wildlife Biologist, Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology, 30 years teaching communication workshops

around the country) and Mr. Ethan Rotman, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game (Coordinator, Fishing in the City in the San Francisco Bay Area, 20+ years professional experience as an environmental interpreter and communicator)

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

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

Application Procedure: The initial deadline for applications is **Friday, October 29, 2004**. Late applications are accepted (such applicants will become participants if the workshop is not yet full; otherwise, they will be placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations). The registration fee is \$645. The workshop will be limited to 16 participants. To apply, send a letter, fax, or email describing: (1) your current position within your agency or organization, (2) how you will use the training, and (3) any special reasons why you feel you should be chosen as a participant. In your application, include your address, phone number, fax number, and email. To apply or for more information, write or call:

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

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter wants to better understand who our members are and how the Chapter can best serve you. You will soon be receiving a questionnaire asking for your input on the Chapter.

Some of the benefits that the Chapter currently offers include:

- workshops and conferences to enhance professional knowledge
- updates on current research, management, and policy issues affecting wildlife resources in our area
- information on jobs and graduate schools
- a network of other wildlife professionals

This will be your opportunity to ensure the Chapter continues to meet your needs and to provide

suggestions for other member activities such as more social events, community service, public outreach, or other membership involvement.

Please take the time to fill out the questionnaire when it arrives. It is important for us to know what is important to you!

Employment Opportunities...

Keep checking the website for jobs and volunteer positions!

<http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/getajob.htm>

The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society, 1008 10th Street, PMB 245, Sacramento, CA 95814

*President- Mike Grifantini
President-Elect- Brett Furnas
Secretary- Natalie Cull
Treasurer- Kirsten Christopherson
Chapter Representative- vacant
Past-President- Melinda Dorin*