



The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



Volume 18, Issue 1

March 2010

CHAPTER NEWS

Randi Logsdon



Welcome to the New Year with the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter! We have new and exciting things happening this first quarter of 2010. We are very pleased to announce that the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter received the Chapter of the Year award at the Western Section of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting award ceremony in Visalia on January 28, 2010. We were recognized for all the hard work we put into organizing member events, professional mixers, a natural resources symposium, workshops, our brown-bag lecture series, and continuing our active involvement with community events such as Earth Day, Creek Week, and the Nature Bowl. We were also recognized for helping young professionals with our scholarship program. We wouldn't have won the award without the participation of all of you, our members, so thank you for showing up and being involved!

The Chapter closed 2009 with a Board Meeting on December 10 and held two additional successful mixers: a student-professional breakfast with the UC Davis student chapter on November 8 in Davis, and a holiday mixer with the Association of Environmental Professionals at the Blue Cue in Sacramento on December 3. On January 27, 2010, the Chapter elected its new officers! Short biographies are in this issue. The new officers are already busy planning events and activities for the year. Some of our proposed events include more TWS mixers, brown-bag seminars, Creek Week clean-up in April, a community outreach event in the spring, a certification workshop in May, a members-only rafting trip and barbeque in the summer, a giant garter snake workshop in the fall, and another natural resources symposium on November 3.

Details on our activities are included in this newsletter. Don't forget to also check our web site to keep up on the latest events with the Chapter:

<http://joomla.wildlife.org/sacramentoshasta/>.

Happy New Year!

Key Words in this Issue: 'new officers' 'professional mixer' 'brown-bag lecture series' 'Creek Week' 'rafting' 'scholarships' 'brown pelican' 'certification' 'CESA' 'Chapter of the Year' 'jobs' 'UC Davis student chapter' 'mountain lion' 'giant garter snake' 'tidal marsh' 'oil response'

President's Message

Lucy Triffleman

In January, Laura Patterson stepped down from the "executive office" having presided over the chapter when it saw a substantial jump in membership and the successful implementation of many local TWS events, despite the reality of our current economy. These actions led to us receiving the Chapter of the Year award from the Western Section during their annual conference several weeks ago, and near-record membership levels.

This year, I hope to build on the successes of 2009 and further diversify our events to reach out to even more new members while acknowledging the hard work and continued support of current TWS participants. Therefore, look for events focused on continued professional development, such as the return of our brown bag series and Natural Resources Symposium, outreach opportunities to both College and primary-school aged future professionals, and most importantly, lots of fun mixers and outings. You can read more about this below and in our upcoming newsletters as well as on our web site, which is currently being revamped to show the most current and useful information.

Finally, if you are interested in volunteering for any of the events described in this newsletter, or just have more ideas, you can attend our monthly Professional Development Team (PDT) meeting, generally held the **first Thursday of the month at Hopyy Brewery from 5:30-7:30**. We would appreciate your help! The dates and times of this, and all meetings, will be posted on the web site soon.

I look forward to meeting everyone this year--it's going to be the best year EVER!

Scholarships

Laura Patterson

We are accepting applications for travel and academic scholarships now! The deadline for academic scholarships is **June 1, 2010**, so get your applications in soon. Details are on our web site.

Treasurer's Report

Hal Holland

The chapter balance as of the start of the year was \$20,023.17. Transactions since January 1 have resulted in expenditures totaling \$965.22, and revenue totaling \$10. The expenditures are related to the following activities: \$500 being provided as a community outreach contribution to Nature Bowl, \$365.22 going to donations and chapter meeting expenditures at the TWS Western Section Conference; and \$100 deposited for the Spring Mixer on March 18th. The income is the result of a chapter membership fee. Chapter balances remain strong and diversified in both a savings account and an interest bearing CD.

Your New Officers

The following Board members took office on January 27, 2010, at the Chapter meeting:

President: Lucy Triffleman

Lucy is a conservation planner with the national mitigation banking firm Westervelt Ecological Services in Sacramento. She has worked performing botanical and wildlife surveys throughout the southwest and has worked in several federal regulatory positions in Oklahoma and California. She has a B.S. in Wildlife Biology and a B.A. in Spanish Arts and Languages from Colorado State University, Fort Collins.
ltriffleman@westervelt.com

Past-President: Laura Patterson

Laura is a Staff Environmental Scientist at the California Department of Water Resources in the Environmental Compliance and Evaluation Branch. She has a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from UC Davis and a M.S. in Biological Conservation from CSU Sacramento.
Sac-shasta@comcast.net

Vice President: Shaun Oldenburger

Shaun is a wildlife biologist in the Waterfowl Program with California Department of Fish and Game (DFG). He received his B.S. from Iowa State University in Animal Ecology and his M.S. from UC Davis working on breeding mallards in the Central Valley.
Soldenburger@dfg.ca.gov

Treasurer: Hal Holland

Hal is the Mitigation Bank Coordinator with the national mitigation banking firm Westervelt Ecological Services. He has a B.S. in Ecology, Behavior, and Evolution from UC San Diego.
hholland@westervelt.com

Secretary: Melinda Bradbury

Melinda worked as a biologist for the California Energy Commission. She is now self-employed and has worked with several non-profits in the region. Not only is she a biologist, but also a certified yoga teacher.
Melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net

Section/Council Representative: Linda Leeman

Linda is a Senior Wildlife Biologist with the environmental consulting firm, EDaw. She specializes in designing and conducting biological analyses, focused wildlife surveys and habitat assessments, wildlife impact analyses, restoration and mitigation planning, and endangered species permitting.
Linda.Leeman@edaw.com

Membership Coordinator: Canh Nguyen

Canh is an Environmental Scientist in the Resource Assessment Program for the DFG's North Central Region. He graduated from UC Davis in 2000 with a B.S. in Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology.
Cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov

Newsletter Editor: Randi Logsdon

Randi is a permit and conservation biologist at DFG, Wildlife Branch. She has a B.S. in Biology from Humboldt State and a B.A. in Communication Studies from CSU Sacramento. She was a Fulbright scholar in 2006.
Rlogsdon@dfg.ca.gov

Our Next Board Meeting

Our next board meeting will be held at Brew it Up! in downtown Sacramento, on **Thursday, March 18, 2010, at 3:00 P.M.** Please feel free to attend or let us know if there is a topic you would like us to discuss.

Membership

Canh Nguyen

To help support the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter, become a member! Membership dues will help keep workshops affordable, offer more scholarships, maintain the website, support local events, and offer great social/mixer events. Membership is \$10 and can be accessed through the website below:

http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/images/pdfs/chaptersignup_formfillable.doc.

UC Davis Student Chapter

*Chris Mosser, UC Davis TWS Student Chapter
President and Representative*

The Davis student chapter had a few key activities during the Spring Quarter. We co-hosted an international speaker with the Davis student chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology. The speaker gave an exciting lecture on Israel's human-wildlife conflict program. Other invited talk topics included the UC Davis Raptor Center, California tiger salamanders, and western and Clark's grebes monitoring. Field trips included an outing to Stebbins Cold Canyon to look for salamanders and a trip to Año Nuevo to see the elephant seal colony. We also hosted a wildlife quiz bowl for our student members.

UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brew-it-Up Mixer on March 18

Enjoy quality beer, appetizers, and a great social setting! We are set for the mixer on March 18th from 6pm to 8pm at Brew It Up! in downtown Sacramento. This is a great opportunity to connect with other environmental and biological professionals in the Sacramento region. We will be covering a round of beer and appetizers, so please tell everyone you know – friends, family, co-workers, associates, students, that girl/guy next door, etc. We'd love to have a packed house - it would be a good sign for things to come for the rest of the year!

When: March 18th - 6pm to 8pm

Where: Brew it Up! Brewery & Grill

Located at 14th and H St in Downtown Sacramento

Cost: Free with reservation

Certification Workshop

The Chapter officers will discuss at their next board meeting the possibility of our Chapter hosting a Wildlife

Biologist Certification Workshop in May of this year. This would be a one-day workshop with a lecture/discussion in the morning, a working lunch, and one-on-one application review and advice. The workshop would be around \$20 with possible assistance from the Chapter. Please let your officers know if you would be interested in attending.

Brown-bag Seminar Series

Keep your eye on the web site for details on the Brown Bag Seminars sponsored by the Sac-Shasta Chapter. Talks by guest speakers will range in topic from research to restoration to policy changes and implementation. There is sure to be something for everyone! These seminars are geared to inform interested people during the lunch hour, so plan to bring your lunch with you. Our first brown-bag seminar will be **April 13, 12-1**, at **1610 Arden Way, Sacramento**. Valary Bloom of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be presenting information on the newly released Draft Tidal Marsh Recovery Plan. On **June 8** Marc Kenyon of the DFG will talk about mountain lions and conflicts with humans, at the **Federal Building Cafeteria Conference Room, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento**. The remaining seminars (TBA) will be held the 2nd Tuesday every other month through October (**8/10, 10/12**). For additional information contact Sandi Jacks: SJacks@dfg.ca.gov or 916-358-2916.

Yolo Wildlife Area Walking Tours

The second Saturday of each month (April, 9 am to noon; May and June, 8 am to 11 am), tours are led by an experienced field trip leader for birding at the Yolo Wildlife Area. Participants will view flooded seasonal and permanent wetlands, native grasslands and young riparian forests, as well as seasonal migrating and resident waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds, raptors, and wading birds. A \$5 donation is requested. Meet in parking Lot A. The Yolo Basin Foundation also offers wetland tours within the City of Davis and a lecture series. Details are at www.yolobasin.org/events.cfm.

Nature Bowl

The Sac-Shasta Chapter continues its involvement in helping out with the DFG sponsored education event known as the Nature Bowl, a science and conservation competition for third- to sixth-grade students in the Sacramento Valley. Students in Sacramento County attended semi-finals on March 8, 2010, at Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, with more on **April 14, 2010** at Nimbus Hatchery. Sacramento County residents who would like more information about the Nature Bowl, or who would like to volunteer as coaches, should call Bruce Forman, DFG, at (916) 358-2353, or visit <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/education/naturebowl/>. Non-

Sacramento County residents who are interested in the program should contact the Nature Bowl office nearest them: Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, (916) 648-1406 ext. 102; American River Nature Center, (530) 621-1224; Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, (530) 846-7505; Solano Land Trust Office, (707) 432-0150, ext. 200; or the Placer Nature Center (530) 878-6053.

Creek Week 2010

The Chapter is supporting Creek Week 2010, which takes place **April 9-17**. Events are listed at <http://www.creekweek.net/node/4>. The Splash Off will take place on **Friday, April 9th 11:00 a.m. – noon** at Howe Park. The Clean-up and Celebration takes place on **April 17 at Carmichael Park from 12:00 to 2:00 pm**. If you would like to volunteer at the Celebration or at a clean-up site, you may volunteer online at <http://www.creekweek.net/node/2>. The Sacramento Area Creeks Council is always looking for crew leads and volunteers.

JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Avian field positions available for **technicians** to conduct research on effects of fuel treatments and wildfire on wildlife community structure in and around South Lake Tahoe, CA from May 3- July 30. Field vehicles are provided and shared housing is available for \$250/mo. One or two technicians needed to perform avian point counts, nest searching, and habitat assessments. Nest searching will focus on woodpeckers and other cavity nesters. Applicant must have point count experience and the ability to identify Western forest birds by sight and sound. Previous point count experience of Western birds is required and preference will be given to applicants with experience with nest searching or habitat assessment/vegetation sampling. These positions require long days in the field and flexible schedules, so a sense of humor, positive attitude, patience, and self-motivation are essential. Successful applicants will have demonstrable academic and/or field experience, work well independently and with others, communicate effectively in a variety of situations, demonstrate the willingness and ability to live in shared housing, enjoy working outdoors, and be conscientious about safety. Ability to accurately collect data with attention to detail is also required. Salary: \$10-16/hour, depending on experience. To apply: Please include "Avian Field Technician" as the subject of your email. Email cover letter, resume, and 2 references to:

Gina Tarbill, gtarbill@gmail.com
US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station
2480 Carson Rd., Placerville, CA 95667

Field Technicians, Sierra Monitoring Project

Scientific Aide positions are available with the California DFG - North Central Region. Positions will be based out of Rancho Cordova, California. Rate of Pay: \$11.58 - 13.34 per hour depending on education and field experience. Work Hours: Normal work schedules are Monday - Thursday, 10 hrs per day, not to exceed 40 hours in one week. Season: Begin May 1 and continue through August 14. Positions may be extended depending on funding. To Apply: Applicants that meet the minimum requirements and are interested in scheduling an interview may call or email Canh Nguyen at (916) 358-2881 or cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov. A brief cover letter and resume outlining experience and qualifications will be accepted until the position is filled. Duties: Under the supervision of California DFG staff, field personnel will work as part of a resource assessment team. Technicians will travel to remote locations to deploy and retrieve automated electronic survey devices, and to follow standardized wildlife and vegetation survey protocols. Technicians will perform small mammal live-trapping and/or plant identification. This work is part of a long-term, biodiversity monitoring project for linking species occupancy trends to land use and climate change in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California. Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities Required: Please email Canh Nguyen for a copy of the full announcement.

Recruits wanted for 2010 oil spill response team training program

The International Bird Rescue Research Center (IBRRC) is now accepting applications for their 2010 Oil Spill Response Team training, sponsored by the San Francisco Foundation Cosco Busan Oil Spill Fund. Submit an application by **March 26, 2010**. Over the course of the year, participants will be trained in oil spill response. The hope is that participants will be able to join a world renowned team of experts. While this will be a volunteer position at first, you would be considered for spill response, which could be a temporary paid position. Current oil spill response team recruits are being sought for two distinct roles - the Field Response Team (search and capture of oiled birds), and The Rehabilitation Team (the care of the oiled birds in a hospital-like setting). Training workshops are either on a Saturday or Sunday at IBRRC's Fairfield bird center. Field team trainings will have field trips. These dates are the tentative 2010 schedule: Orientation: **April 10**, Training: **June 5 & 6**, Training: **August 14 & 15**, Training: **October 16**, Graduation: **Dec 4 or 11**. For more complete information, see <http://cts.vresp.com/c/?IBRRC/bb52e197dc/b285062ab2/320f0e470a> or contact Rebecca Dmytryk to request an application by email, rebecca@ibrcc.org.

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI)

The Wildlife and Botany Program of SPI's Forestry Division has an opening for a qualified **biologist** to help manage SPI's forestlands in northern California. The successful applicant will be required to locate to the Redding area. The position will deal primarily with wildlife issues, but familiarity with botany issues is desirable. The position is based out of SPI's Anderson office, and the primary geographic focus will be Humboldt, Trinity, Siskiyou, Shasta, Tehama, Lassen, Modoc, and Plumas Counties. Occasionally, there will be a need to travel to remote forest sites throughout northern California. Rate of pay is dependent on experience. Send a cover letter and resume by **March 31** to: SPI Forestry Division Personnel Coordinator, P.O. Box 496014, Redding, CA 96049-6014. Contact (530) 378-8200 for a flyer describing duties and qualifications.

Check out The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Careers Online: <http://www.info.wildlife.org/l.jsp?d=2248.138231.825.8sNcrbHoWDivx5UbTq2bAqA..A> . For local job announcements, check: http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=190&Itemid=303 or http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=196&Itemid=331.

Jobs at DFG: Exam bulletins for Environmental Scientist and Fish and Wildlife Technician are currently available at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/exams/>. Exams from other state agencies as well as for DFG are listed here: <http://jobs.ca.gov/OEC/index.aspx>. Seasonal positions for DFG are listed at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/vacancies/seasonal.aspx>.

If anyone has job or volunteer opportunities to post in our next newsletter, please contact the editor.



(photo downloaded from Flickr, photographer unknown)

Pelican Rescue Volunteers Needed

For the past month, brown pelicans have been turning up dead or injured in baffling numbers up and down the California coast. The exact cause of these deaths is still unknown. Volunteers are needed to help with rescue operations. You may contact the IBRRC in Cordelia if you are interested in volunteering or donating money to help feed the birds (<http://www.ibrrc.org/>).

CESA Activity

Check Fish and Game Commission (FGC) or DFG web sites, or you may find announcements in the California Register, regarding the latest developments with CESA petitions and other important wildlife issues. Get involved! We urge you to read through the FGC agendas for upcoming meetings and show up to comment on issues that are important to you. The next meeting is **April 7-8** in Monterey (<http://www.fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2010/2010mtgs.asp>).

The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter welcomes comments and input from our members. If you have suggestions for articles, questions you want answered, things you'd like to see us do, or events to announce, please let us know! Contact any one of the Board members.

NOTICENEW INFORMATION***

**The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society,
1017 L street #245
Sacramento, CA 95814**

President – Lucy Triffleman (ltriffleman@westervelt.com)

Vice President - Shaun Oldenburger (soldenburger@dfg.ca.gov)

Secretary - Melinda Bradbury (melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net)

Treasurer - Hal Holland (hholland@westervelt.com)

Chapter Representative to Western Section – Linda Leeman (Linda.Leeman@edaw.com)

Newsletter Editor – Randi Logsdon (rlogsdon@dfg.ca.gov)

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