



# THE MAGPIE

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY / SACRAMENTO-SHASTA CHAPTER



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## CHAPTER NEWS

*Randi Logsdon*

What a fantastic year it has been so far for the Sac-Shasta Chapter. We started the spring off right by launching a Facebook page and Twitter account. You can keep track of local job postings, upcoming conferences, and new state, local, and national policy issues just by joining Facebook. You can add photos, announcements, and other items that we may have missed or that you feel are important.

Our revenue exceeds expenditures this year, and we are able to plan exciting membership events and outings, including a membership barbecue at Cosumnes River Preserve with a tour of restored wetlands, and a summer rafting trip on the American River.

We continue our informative brown bag series, involvement with community natural resource events such as Creek Week, involvement with environment education programs such as the Nature Bowl, and of course our annual Natural Resources Symposium.

Workshops planned for this year include certification—helping biologists become certified—and one for the State and federally listed giant garter snake.

We also continue to strive to keep you updated with important news and announcements from the Wildlife Society National and the Western Section.

The Board has decided to issue the Magpie quarterly, in March, June, September, and December. With a regular schedule, you can be sure to look forward to not missing very many of the events, opportunities, news, and announcements that are beneficial for wildlife professionals.

We thank you for your support and for joining us for another exciting year.

Key Words in this Issue: Facebook, Twitter, membership barbecue, Cosumnes River Preserve, restored wetlands,

rafting, brown bag series, Creek Week, Nature Bowl, certification, giant garter snake, scholarships, travel grants, TWS National, TWS Western Section, environmental education, Natural Resources Symposium, mountain lions, job opportunities, Gulf oil spill, CESA, California tiger salamander, Pacific fisher

## President's Message

*Lucy Triffleman*

With the increase in temperatures and allergies in full swing, we here at the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society know that the field season is fully upon us. With this time of year come busy schedules and long days for many of our members, but also lots of opportunities to get out and enjoy the great outdoors with your fellow wildlifers. We have taken advantage of this season by participating in the 2010 Creek Week clean-up and planning several large outdoor barbecues, tours and workshops that are coming up soon. All of these events are described in detail below.

This spring, we have also launched our new Facebook page (<http://www.Facebook.com/pages/Sacramento-Shasta-Chapter-of-The-Wildlife-Society/108639722498005?ref=ts>)

and Twitter account. On these sites we are putting up information on upcoming conferences, workshops and social events, as well as job postings and photographs of TWS members in their natural habitats. Please feel free to view this site or add items of your own! We have also re-vamped our website to make it easier to identify upcoming local, Section, and National TWS events and scholarships.

We look forward to seeing all of you either in person at our upcoming events or on our social networking pages. Thank you for your continuing support and have a fantastic summer!

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## Scholarships

We are accepting applications for travel and academic scholarships now! The deadline for academic scholarships is **December 1**, and for travel scholarships is two months prior to the event. Details and the application are on our web site ([http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=192&Itemid=305](http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=192&Itemid=305)). We already received one applicant from Cosumnes River College, so get your applications in soon. TWS National is also accepting travel scholarships to the National meeting in Snowbird, Utah. Go to [www.wildlifesociety.org](http://www.wildlifesociety.org) for details.

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## Treasurer's Report

*Hal Holland*

As of the end of May 2010, the current Sacramento-Shasta Chapter balance was \$18,580.18. Our investment strategy for Chapter funds continues to focus on highly liquid investments. Therefore, over half of the Chapter balance is invested in a 6-month CD, due to renew in mid-June. The remaining funds are in an interest-bearing savings account and a business checking account, to allow for expenditures as approved in the 2010 annual budget. For the first half of 2010, our revenue has outpaced expenditures by \$230.01, so we continue to operate in the black. However, as we enter the summer, we have several activities, including social events, which will adjust our balance.

Key activities to report on for the first half of 2010 include: the Executive Board approving a new procedure for issuance of check cards to key Board members, filing of our 2009 tax return, and revising our accounting procedures to ensure consistency in tracking and recording financial transactions.

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## Executive Board Meeting Notes

Our last Executive Board meeting was held on Friday, May 21 at BJ's in Roseville. Topics discussed were taxes, a meeting with the Sacramento Zoo to discuss development of educational materials on zoo species, a regular quarterly schedule for the Magpie, updates on camping/rafting trips, and the brown bag series schedule. The Board also discussed putting together a file of pictures from people affiliated with TWS for future slide shows at brown bags, socials, etc.

At the March 18th Board meeting, Lucy Triffleman presented a TWS Western Section update. Attendance at the Western Section Annual meeting in Visalia was better than expected, given the slow economy and tight budgets. John McNerny was elected President-elect. Multiple chapters discussed the possible National policy that you must be a National member to be a Chapter or Section member. There was strong dislike for this possible new policy from many chapters, including Sac-Shasta.

Sac-Shasta Chapter membership was reported as 109 members in 2009, and only 58 members as of March 18, 2010. Forty were a carry-over from last year, with more memberships hoping to come from a reminder being sent via email to over 300 people.

The Chapter is looking into developing relationships with the Center for Land-Based Learning for youth environmental education opportunities. Ideas discussed include a one-day workshop this summer and a mentoring program next year.

The Board also discussed hosting a giant garter snake workshop, approximately the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in October. USGS offered to co-host the event, since they already received CALFED funds to host a similar event this year. More information will be posted on the web site and included in the next Magpie issue.



### ***Our Next Board Meeting***

Our next Board meeting will be held **Friday, August 6** at the **Pyramid Brewery on K Street, Sacramento**. Please feel free to attend or let us know if there is a topic you would like us to discuss.

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## Membership

*Canh Nguyen*

Membership numbers for the current year are down from last year. Please join the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter to help support the Chapter. 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](http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/images/pdfs/chaptersignup_formfillable.doc)

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## UC Davis Student Chapter Spring Quarter Report

Chris Mosser, UC Davis TWS Student Chapter  
President and Representative

Spring Quarter activities included:

- Picnic Day:
  - o We raised about \$125 selling 4x6 postcards.
  - o We held a photo contest, where the public voted on the single best of 23 wildlife photos taken by student members. Student club member Beth Jacobs' mountain gorilla photo had the most votes, and won a rock climbing trip through Outdoor Adventures.
  - o We raised \$175 via a silent auction, where the 8x10 photos from the photo contest were sold.
  - o We painted faces of approximately 200 kids, everything from butterflies to tigers. We did this free of charge this year, but quickly decided that this would make a great fundraising opportunity next year.
- Herping at the UC Davis Quail Ridge Reserve:
  - o 10 species were observed.
- A viewing of the documentary "The Restoration of Isabel Island, Mexico," about rat eradication from islands used by seabirds.
- Elections for 2010-11 officers:
  - o Co-Presidents - Monica Stupacuk and Bridgette Kirk
  - o Secretary/Treasurer - Karin Petrites
  - o Chapter Representative/Public Outreach - Max Lambert

## UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Members Only BBQ at Cosumnes River Preserve

**Sunday, June 20th**

Join The Wildlife Society for a barbecue at the Cosumnes River Preserve Visitor's Center, complete with a tour of wetland restoration sites led by Harry McQuillen, BLM Preserve Manager. The tour will begin at 3:30 and the grill heats up at 5. This event is free to Chapter members and families are welcome. Membership for the Chapter is \$10.

Please RSVP by **Thursday, June 17th**. Email: [ltriffleman@westervelt.com](mailto:ltriffleman@westervelt.com). When you RSVP, please indicate if you would be interested in carpooling/driving from the Visitor's Center to the tour location.

### Certification Workshop

Ever think about becoming a Certified Wildlife Biologist, Associate Wildlife Biologist, or now the new Certified Wildlife Technician, but were too intimidated by the lengthy and somewhat complicated application process? This workshop provides an excellent opportunity to learn how to calculate and assign credits for education and experience to the various categories for qualification. The advice and guidance is invaluable for maneuvering through the application. The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter will be hosting the Western Section's Certification Workshop on **August 8<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 4** at Westervelt Ecological Services. Space is limited to the first 10 registrants. More information and a registration form are available at our web site.

**When: August 8th, 9 AM to 4 PM**

**Where: Westervelt Ecological Services, 600 North Market Street, Suite 3, Sacramento**

**Cost: \$15.00, includes lunch**

### 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 range in topics 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. The remaining seminars (TBA) will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday every other month through October (**8/10, 10/12**). For additional information contact Sandi Jacks: [SJacks@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:SJacks@dfg.ca.gov) or 916-358-2916.

### Members Only Rafting Trip and BBQ

Join other TWS members and their families for a fun rafting trip down the American River followed by a group picnic in a classic Sacramento setting. We will put in for the rafting at Sunrise Boulevard and take out at River Bend Park where we will dine and enjoy quality beverages under the shade of the numerous elegant oak trees at this great location. Members and their families pay \$15 per person for the rafting trip and picnic, which includes raft rental, food, games, and transport back to where the raft was put in. Only want to come to the picnic? This portion of the event will be FREE for all Sac-Shasta TWS members and their families. If you're not a member, don't worry--you can join before the event or even the day of. Membership to the local chapter is only \$10 and we'll have plenty of membership applications with us. This is a great opportunity to connect with other members in the Sacramento region and enjoy the fabulous outdoor resources we all work so hard to protect. We'd love to see you!

**When: August 21st, noon to 5 PM**

**Where: Sunrise Blvd (American River Raft Rentals, 11257 South Bridge Street, Gold River, CA) and River Bend Park (Rancho Cordova)**  
**Cost: \$15 per person for members (rafting and picnic), FREE for members (picnic only)**

Please RSVP to Lucy Triffleman ([ltriffleman@westervelt.com](mailto:ltriffleman@westervelt.com)) by **August 13**.



### **2010 Natural Resource Symposium Call for Abstracts**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2010**  
**California State University, Sacramento**  
**University Union, Foothill Suite**  
**9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

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

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

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

Please e-mail abstracts as a Word document to [nicole.m.smith@mwhglobal.com](mailto:nicole.m.smith@mwhglobal.com) no later than **September 24th**. Authors will be notified if their abstract is selected by October 8th. The registration fee is waived for presenters.

For more information, contact Canh Nguyen, [cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov).

### **The Wildlife Society 17th Annual Conference in Utah**

Registration for The Wildlife Society Annual Conference is now open. Go to [www.wildlife.org/registration/](http://www.wildlife.org/registration/).

The conference takes place **October 2-6, 2010** in Snowbird, UT (just outside of Salt Lake City).

This year's conference includes a lively Plenary significant to all of us, "There's More to Diversity Than Just the Wildlife." There will also be concurrent sessions with symposia and contributed papers and posters. There are 18 different workshops and more than a dozen field trips scheduled.

There will be plenty of opportunities to meet old friends and colleagues and make new acquaintances at the Opening Night Reception/Dinner and the Student-Professional Mixer.

For travel information, preliminary program, and other details, visit the conference site (<http://www.info.wildlife.org/l.jsp?d=3253.166215.825.0q2Nz9dA.A>).

### **PAST EVENTS**

#### **Brown-bag Seminar Series**

Our first brown-bag seminar was held on April 13. Valary Bloom of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service presented information on the newly released Draft Tidal Marsh Recovery Plan. On June 8 Marc Kenyon of the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) talked about a study on mountain lions and conflicts with humans. The talk was fascinating in that it challenged a lot of common beliefs about the association between human behavior and mountain lion attacks. For example, people always say "don't run"; however, data showed that people who did run from an attack sustained fewer injuries than those who stood still. Data also showed that human behavior that most attracted a cougar's attention was not jogging, but crouching. Such information is not only interesting, but can help to educate the public, as human-mountain lion interface areas increase, keeping interactions between cougars and humans at a minimum.



#### **Nature Bowl**

This year's event was held in March and April, with the winning teams named on May 15. The winners were third- to sixth-grade students from Eureka Elementary School in Granite Bay, Deterding Elementary School of Carmichael, Grass Valley Charter School, and Lake Forest Elementary and Holy Trinity School of El Dorado Hills. A total of 84 teams from eight counties participated

in Butte, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties. Top winners of the 26th annual Nature Bowl competition received an outdoors experience like no other. The talented students helped DFG wildlife professionals stock trout at the Halsey Forebay in Auburn on June 3.

The Nature Bowl competition is sponsored by DFG, the American River Natural History Association, American River Conservancy, California Waterfowl Association, Placer Nature Center, Save our Sandhill Cranes, Yolo Basin Foundation, California State University, Sacramento, and the Regional Sanitation Plant. The Sac-Shasta Chapter continues involvement with helping to provide volunteer coaches, and donated \$500 for this year's competition.

### Creek Week 2010

On April 17, the Chapter participated in the clean-up of Bannon Creek Park in Natomas, as part of Creek Week 2010. TWS volunteers worked to remove trash and debris from the Bannon Creek channel and a large amount of invasive vegetation from the surrounding creek bank. This was followed by a celebration at Carmichael Park which included a free barbecue and booths from numerous environmental organizations from throughout the region. Additionally, TWS and Westervelt Ecological Services made a combined donation of \$500 toward the continuing efforts of Creek Week and other local environmental clean-up efforts. You can view additional pictures of the day's events on the Chapter's Facebook page.



## JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Biologist** position at the Los Vaqueros watershed (Watershed Resources Specialist) is now open. Effectively, this person manages the mitigation monitoring program, manages the consultant that assists with the program, and supervises a small group of employees. If you are interested in the job, or know someone who is, the link is below.

<http://www.ccwater.com/employment/index.asp?action=view&jobID=470>

Check out The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Careers Online: <http://careers.wildlife.org>. The site just got better, giving

you an opportunity to create a profile, post your resume, create job alerts, and search postings, with a discount to employers.

For local job announcements, check:

[http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=190&Itemid=303](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](http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=196&Itemid=331).

Jobs at DFG: Exam bulletins for Environmental Scientist (ES), Staff ES, Senior ES, Fish and Wildlife Technician, Fish and Game Warden, and Senior Wildlife Forensic Specialist 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>.

### Gulf Oil Spill Volunteer Opportunities

The International Bird Rescue Research Center is no longer coordinating volunteers, but has put together this website to help you find volunteer opportunities: <http://www.ibrrc.org/gulf-oil-spill-how-to-help-2010.html>. You can also contact the BP Community Support Group Hotline at 1-866-448-5816.



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

## \*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\*NEW INFORMATION\*\*\*

### Gulf Oil Spill Crisis Online Resource

In response to the unfolding oil-spill crisis in the Gulf, TWS National has created a new online resource center with extensive coverage of the crisis updated daily.

The site includes first-hand accounts from professionals on the ground, daily news updates, links to relevant scientific literature, information about volunteer opportunities, a gallery of oil-spill images, and additional news and resources about a crisis that may have catastrophic impacts on wildlife and habitats for years to come.

As the nation's leading scientific society for wildlife professionals, TWS will play a leading role in how our profession addresses the short- and long-term impacts of this crisis. To learn more about their online

coverage—and to subscribe to RSS feeds for instant notifications sent directly to your inbox—please go to <http://www.info.wildlife.org/l.jsp?d=2978.160980.825.6EZ0FnB6Tak-MbTt7krZB6w..A>.

### **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, status of California tiger salamander or Pacific fisher, 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 **June 23-24** at Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom. See <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2010/2010mtgs.asp> for agenda and future meetings.

### **Remember**

By National membership vote and a change in bylaws, Associate Wildlife Biologists and Certified Wildlife Biologists must minimally be members in good standing of The Wildlife Society to retain their Certifications.

*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.*

### **The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

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