



The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



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CHAPTER NEWS

Randi Logsdon



Happy Thanksgiving! The Chapter is gearing up for the winter season. It's an exciting time for us because it means nominations and selection of new board members. The Chapter is accepting nominations for all positions on the board, so please send your nominations to our President. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please attend our next meeting.

Our summer/fall season this year was a bit slower than in past years. We had a brown-bag seminar on rattlesnake courtship behavior, and the Chapter made a \$100 contribution to the Women in Wildlife Reception at the National conference in Portland. The Chapter also authorized sponsorship of the Nature Bowl again this year, with a match from the Western Section.

We have another brown-bag seminar and a holiday mixer coming right up, so read on to get the details. Also read on to find out more of what the Board has been discussing. The Chapter may be quiet, but our Board never sleeps.

The Chapter wishes to extend its members a wish for a warm, rewarding, and happily eventful holiday season.

Key words in this issue: Board member nominations, Nature Bowl, Creek Week, scholarships, monitoring, montane region, holiday mixer, Western section conference, natural resources communication,

certification workshop, rattlesnakes, Creek Week, Nature Bowl, sandhill crane tours, swan tours

President's Message

Canh Nguyen

Where did the time go! November is here and in about three months, the Chapter will have a new set of officers. I am excited to see the Chapter move forward with our goals for outreach, professional networking, and having fun with what we are passionate about. With that said, I'm writing this message to pitch the Nomination Request for new officers. If you're wondering what an officer's role is for our Chapter, contact any current officers and they will tell you that their positions have been rewarding. These benefits include networking with others in the environmental fields; gratification that we are helping to develop students into professionals; and connecting with those that we've been in communication with, but have not seen in person. Board meetings come with free food and drinks. Plus, it's super impressive to have it on your resume! Of course there is the other side, in which you work hard to put together workshops, symposia, mixers, and other events. Even then, all that hard work pays off with fulfilling returns. So, available for grabs are: **President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Western Section Chapter Representative, Newsletter Editor, Membership Coordinator, Scholarship Coordinator, Professional Development Chair, and Webmaster Chair.**

Thank you all for the opportunity to be President of the Chapter for two years. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding our Chapter.

Our next executive board meeting is in December 2012. It is open to all; it's a great opportunity to see the roles of the officers and what we discuss, and possibly introduce new ideas. Please continue to follow us on Facebook or Twitter, or go "old school" and give me or any of the officers a call!

Scholarships

Randi Logsdon

The Chapter has not received any scholarship applications since July. The next deadline for academic scholarship applications is **December 1st**.

There is still money available for travel scholarships, including student travel to the Western Section meeting in February. Get your applications in if you are interested! See our website for details on how to apply.

Executive Board Happenings

Randi Logsdon

The Board reviewed the 2012 budget through October 23. For much of the activities, spending was less than the budgeted amount, and income was higher than expected. Overall, income and expenditures are just about even. Membership numbers have increased.

The Professional Development Committee Chair discussed upcoming brown-bag seminars and social events. The Scholarship Committee received no applications, and is considering using the funds to pay travel for students' attendance at the Western Section meeting in February. The Board also discussed advance planning for next year's Natural Resources Symposium, since this year's had been canceled.

The Board was happy to welcome the new UC Davis Student Chapter President, Karin Petrites, and to get an update on what is happening with their Chapter. The Board discussed another committed donation the Nature Bowl and sponsorship/volunteers needed for Creek Week. The Board also decided to have another meeting in December for new Board nominations, so the new Board members can be introduced at the Chapter meeting on January 30th during the Western Section meeting in Sacramento.

Our Next Board Meeting

Our next Board meeting will be held on **December 20th, 5:30 – 7:00 PM**, location TBD. Check our website or contact our President to verify the time and location. Please feel free to attend or let us know if there is a topic you would like us to discuss.

Chapter Representative to the Western Section Report

Laura Patterson

Since the last newsletter, the Western Section's Executive Board has met twice, once in August and once in November. A large portion of the Board's business these days revolves around planning the 2013

annual conference and its associated pre-conference symposia and workshops, as well as future planning for 2014 and 2015. We also discussed how to support the National Conference in Portland and ended up funding two workshops. The Board has also been discussing ways to assist students and student chapters. In addition to funding travel grants and academic scholarships, we're looking at ways to help colleges without chapters form them if they choose and to encourage those colleges with chapters to become more active on the Western Section Board. The search is still on for a new editor for the Transactions of the Western Section of TWS, and we've discussed the future of the publication, as well as how the Western Section's newsletter may be formatted and delivered differently in the future. The Board is involved in supporting numerous conservation and outreach efforts, including encouraging Congress to fully fund the State and Tribal Wildlife Grant Program, contributing to Nature Bowl and looking for ways to expand it beyond the Sacramento area, K-12 education, and nature walks. In addition, the Conservation Affairs Committee has started meeting regularly again. The Board is also working on a member survey that we hope will guide us toward better serving the needs and interests of our membership. Also, look for a new logo in the not too distant future...

I'm really excited about the 2013 Annual Conference. Hopefully we'll see you there!

Membership

Randi Logsdon

Membership as of October 25 was 197. If you're not already a member, 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 community outreach projects, 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.

Treasurer's Report

Sean Marquis

As of October 23, 2012, the Sacramento-Shasta balance was \$28,409.54. Primary sources of income over the past quarter were from memberships and a profit from the Swainson's hawk workshop. Primary expenses were from an academic scholarship and outreach. We anticipate scholarship-giving, outreach, and more mixers over the next year. We are on track to meet our annual budget, and we look forward to maintaining that course.

ING CD	\$ 10,016.64
ING Savings	\$ 1,942.95
Calfirst CD	\$ 6,000.00
B of A Checking	\$ 10,449.95
Total	\$ 28,409.54

Recent income and expenditures (July 12, 2012 - October 23) were:

Expenses:

\$ 55.71 Board meeting
100.00 contribution for Washington fly-in event
1,000.00 academic scholarship
Total \$ 1,155.71

Income:

\$ 770.00 membership dues
19.07 banking interest
590.00 workshop registration
Total \$ 1,379.07



The Association of Environmental Professionals, American Planning Association, and Sacramento-Shasta Chapter annual Holiday Party will be held on **Thursday, December 6th** at Gallery 21ten in Sacramento (2110 K Street, 21st and K), from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. The event is free to members who RSVP to Janet Dallas at janet.dallas@aecom.com by **Tuesday, November 27, 2012** at 5 p.m. The price is \$10 for non-members, and for members who RSVP after November 27th. RSVP quickly if you'd like to attend, as there will be a cap of 80 guests.

UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brown-bag Seminar on Long-term Monitoring in Montane Regions

Come join us for our last brown bag of the year at the Federal Building, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, Cafeteria Conference Room C-1003 on Thursday, **November 29th, 12 - 1 PM**. Stacy Heminway, Environmental Scientist for CA Department of Fish and Game (DFG) will present an overview of the Ecoregion Biodiversity Monitoring project (EBM), including project goals and methods, and a snapshot of monitoring to date. The EBM project is an ongoing, long-term project which provides baseline data and monitors changes in occurrence, distribution, and phenology of wildlife and habitats, and links changes to climate and land use patterns in montane regions of Northern California. Locations within the study area are visited to monitor presence of bird, mammal, and plant species, utilizing methods such as automated recorders, camera traps, and genetic sampling. For more info, contact: Tracy Walker at 916-204-5682 or tracy.walker@aecom.com.



TWS-Western Section Announcements

The Western Section annual conference is in Sacramento at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel from **January 30, 2013 - February 1, 2013**. Register now! Early registration ends **December 15**. Pre-registration closes **January 18**. Pre- and post-conference workshops and symposia dates vary, please see the registration form for details: http://wildlifeprofessional.org/western/ac2013_reg.php.

A Natural Resources Communications workshop will be offered in Chico **January 7-11, 2013**. Information may be found on the Western Section's website.

The Western Section is announcing another Certification Workshop, co-sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, in Santa Rosa (Sonoma County) on **Saturday, December 1st**. Additional information is available on the Western Section website under Events - Conferences and Workshops. Registration is \$15 including lunch, and limited to 25 participants. Professional Certification is strongly recommended by The Wildlife Society, as an indication of an individual's academic record, continuing education, and professional experience. Certification is also looked upon favorably by many employers, regulatory agencies, and outsiders to our profession. This workshop will provide the tools and knowledge needed to start the process. Students and professionals are welcome! Pre-register for this

workshop by sending an e-mail to Rhys Evans, sirsnav@verizon.net.

TWS National Announcements

Take advantage of complimentary access to The Wildlife Society ultimate educational resource: **The Wildlife Society Live Learning Center** at <http://tws.sclivelearningcenter.com/index.aspx?PID=6892>. This online portal connects you to recorded sessions from The Wildlife Society Annual Conference which recently took place in Portland, as well as previous conferences, so you can catch up on sessions you missed and continue your professional development between conferences. Recorded sessions are a great way to stay current on the trends shaping your industry and they make excellent training tools for you and your colleagues.

To access your complimentary educational content, visit the [Live Learning Center](#) and log in with your existing account. Don't have an account? Visit the website to create a new one now.

Creek Week 2013

Creek Week clean-up day is **Saturday, April 13, 2013**. The Sacramento Area Creeks Council is seeking both sponsorship and volunteers for next year's events. If you are interested in donating or volunteering, please visit the website at <http://saccreeks.org/get-involved/>.



Nature Bowl 2013

The Chapter has committed to another donation to the Nature Bowl. The DFG is now accepting registration for volunteer coaches for next year's event. Workshops are being held throughout January and competitions are throughout the spring. Read about the Nature Bowl and

all the details at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/2/naturebowl/>.

PAST EVENTS

August Brown-bag Seminar

Tracy Walker



Mike Cardwell, a local rattlesnake expert from Sacramento State University, presented a talk on courtship behavior in Mojave (above) and North Pacific rattlesnakes (below), and the correlation between rattlesnake courtship and the epidemiology of rattlesnake bites. About 15 people attended, and the talk was really interesting, revealing new facts about these species' life histories.



JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Fish and Wildlife Technician position with DFG in Napa – see www.nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=9893.

For the latest information on seasonal openings, visit the DFG website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/vacancies/seasonal.asp>. Open Exam bulletin for **Environmental Scientist** (multiple State agencies) is on <http://jobs.ca.gov/Bulletin/Bulletin/Index?examCD=9PB01>. If you are on the Environmental Scientist list, you can check for vacancies at http://jobs.spb.ca.gov/wvpos/search_p.cfm?classcode=0762.

Check out The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Careers Online: <http://careers.wildlife.org>, and the TWS-West job site at: http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195&Itemid=286. For local job

announcements, check:

http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=196&Itemid=331.

DFG has announced an open exam for **Wildlife Habitat Assistant**. See the bulletin at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/exams/>. The bulletin provides a detailed description of the qualifications needed. To apply for this exam, submit a Standard State Application (Form 678) by the Final Filing Date of **December 3, 2012** by mail or in person. Log on to www.jobs.ca.gov and create your online application by clicking on the "My Profile" tab. Address any questions regarding this exam to the Human Resources Branch at (916) 653-8120.

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

NOTICE



Sandhill crane

wetland tours are the first three weekends of each fall/winter month through February at Woodbridge Ecological Reserve (ER) near Lodi. The docent-led tours start approximately 90 minutes before sundown and run to about 30 minutes after sunset. Pre-tour registration is required online at www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/cranetour and may be made up to six weeks in advance. Suggested donation is \$10 per adult. The South unit of Woodbridge ER is accessible to the public at any time. It features informative interpretive panels, and viewing of sandhill crane 'fly-over' at sundown is common. The Woodbridge North unit (accessible only by tour) includes a bird-viewing blind and typically receives the 'fly-in' where the cranes come to roost for the night. For more information please visit the website or call (209) 948-7708.

Docent-led swan tours will be held in rice fields near Marysville, Saturdays in November, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. These will be driving tours along a short route with very little walking required. See tundra

swans, ducks, geese, cranes, shorebirds, white pelicans, herons, egrets and raptors. Pre-registration is required on the DFG website, www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/2/SwanTours. Tours are free, but registrants are encouraged to make a donation online to the California Wildlife Foundation to support this program. For more information please call (916) 358-2852. Wildlife watchers and other visitors are reminded to buy passes before visiting Wildlife Areas and Reserves at www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing or one of DFG's licensing offices.

Guided wetland tours of Gray Lodge Wildlife Area (WA), 12:30 to 2 p.m. are held on weekends at 3207 Rutherford Rd., Gridley. On the Pacific Flyway at the base of the Sutter Buttes, Gray Lodge WA is one of the premier birding spots in northern California. This public land provides appealing habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wildlife. Migrating ducks arrive through fall and winter populations grow to hundreds of thousands. Local experts lead a 0.3-mile stroll on a paved trail to an elevated viewing deck and discuss wildlife adaptations, natural history, conservation efforts, and how to identify wildlife. Tours are included in the \$4 entrance fee and self-guided visitors are also welcome. Tours are cancelled in heavy rain. Please make reservations for groups of twelve or more. Contact the Gray Lodge WA Naturalist Office for information or scheduling at (530) 846-7505 or ldieter@dfg.ca.gov, and visit www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/wa/region2/graylodge/index.html.

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. An updated certification directory is available by contacting Shannon@wildlife.org.

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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