



The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



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CHAPTER NEWS

Randi Logsdon

New blood for 2013!

The Chapter started 2013 by introducing its new board members, including two new recruits for Vice President and the Professional Development Chair. Board introductions for 2013 are in this newsletter and on our website. Officers were nominated at the December 20, 2012, Board meeting, and introductions were given to members at the January 30, 2013, Board meeting at the Western Section meeting in Sacramento.

The new Professional Development Committee (PDC) Chair is very enthusiastic and has already conducted meetings to plan this year's events. For 2013, the Board is considering another Natural Resources Symposium, a burrowing owl workshop, about four social mixers, volunteering for Creek Week, and continuation of the always successful brown-bag seminars. See this newsletter for already planned events.

The Chapter is also increasing involvement with the UC Davis student chapter, which includes members from local city colleges. Student-professional events are already being planned--read more about it in this newsletter!

Don't forget to check the website: <http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/index.php>, and like our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sacramento-Shasta-Chapter-of-The-Wildlife-Society/108639722498005> to stay current with the upcoming events. Please note the change of address for the website.

Key words in this issue: natural resources symposium, burrowing owl, spring mixer, brown-bag seminars,

student-professional hike, Stebbins Canyon, Creek Week, bats, nature bowl, wetlands, EBM project, holiday mixer, Leadership Institute, Live Learning Center, UCD Chapter, hunter safety, Sutter Buttes, wetland tours

President's Message

Carlos Alvarado

Chapter members, in the event that we have not met, let me introduce myself. My name is Carlos Alvarado and I am your new Sacramento-Shasta Chapter president. I first got involved with The Wildlife Society back in 2002 during my undergraduate studies at UC Davis (Go Ags!). Over a decade later, I can say that it is a great privilege to work for you and be part of your Chapter Board; I thank you all for this opportunity. I would also like to thank our past-president Canh Nguyen and all the previous and new Board Members for their hard work, guidance, and enthusiasm.



Many of us attended the annual meeting of the Western Section of TWS held here in Sacramento in February and there is a lot of momentum and enthusiasm within your Board. The Board and different committees are working hard planning many professional development and fun events for this year, which we are very excited about. These events include, but are not limited to: brown bag seminars, public outreach, workshops, social mixers, and of course the Natural Resources Symposium. Keep up to-date with the Chapter for all the event dates via The Magpie, the chapter's website, email, Facebook, or Twitter!

The pressure is on to regain our title as the Chapter of the Year, but in order to get there we need your

participation! If you would like to get involved in the Chapter activities, please join us during our events or Executive Board meetings, or contact me or one of your Chapter representatives if you have any questions or comments.

I look forward to meeting you or seeing you again at one of our many events!

Scholarships

Randi Logsdon

The Chapter awarded a \$100 scholarship to Katherine Smith, a UC Davis graduate student, for her fee to attend the Western Section Meeting in Sacramento. Congratulations Katy! We have a new year budget for travel and academic scholarships. The next deadline for academic scholarship applications is **June 1st**. Travel scholarships are due at least two months before the event. We also now have a scholarship available for TWS certification. Get your applications in if you are interested! See our website for details on how to apply.

Executive Board Happenings

Randi Logsdon

On December 20 the board discussed the budget through December 19. The Board also discussed a new ADA compliance requirement to have a sign language interpreter available at our public conferences. The Board made the decision to open up membership to nearby colleges that are also members of the UC Davis Chapter. Our PDC Chair announced that our December mixer and November brown bag were a success. Other business was to approve the scholarship request, and discuss a contribution to the Western Section meeting. The Board also discussed considering a higher outreach budget to donate to the Nature Bowl and Creek Week. The Board voted to donate \$100 to Creek Week.

New officers were nominated and introduced to our members attending the January 30 Board Meeting at the Western Section meeting. Members enjoyed pizza and refreshing beverages, updates from Board members, and an opportunity to provide comments, questions, and open discussion.

Our 2013 officers and committee chairs are:

- **President: Carlos Alvarado**, Project Scientist/Wildlife Biologist with Cardno ENTRIX; B.S. Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology, UC Davis
- **Vice President: Lily Douglas**, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; B.S. Biological Sciences, CSU Sacramento
- **Treasurer: Sean Marquis**, Biologist, CalTrans; B.S. Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology, UC Davis
- **Secretary: Sandi Jacks**, Staff Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife; B.S. Biology & German, CSU Fresno
- **Chapter Representative to the Western Section: Laura Patterson**, Staff Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife; M.S. Biological Conservation, CSU Sacramento; B.S. Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, UC Davis
- **Newsletter Editor: Randi Logsdon**, Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife; B.S. Biology, Humboldt State University; B.A. Communication Studies, CSU Sacramento
- **Membership Coordinator: Melinda Dorin-Bradbury**, self-employed biological consultant; B.S. Ecology Behavior and Evolution, UC San Diego
- **PDC Chair: Angela Calderaro**, Staff Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife; M.S. Biological Sciences, CSU Sacramento; B.S. Environmental Biology and Management, UC Davis
- **Technology Committee Chair: Kirsten Christopherson**, Senior Biologist, Air Force Environmental Center of Excellence; M.S. Biological Conservation, CSU Sacramento; B.S. Zoology, UC Davis
- **Scholarship Committee Chair: Tracy Walker**, Wildlife Biologist, Aecom.

More detailed biographies are on the Chapter website: http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/board_members.php.

The Board is still seeking a northern representative to help us increase Chapter activities in the northern part of our region. If interested, please contact Melinda Dorin-Bradbury at melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net.

Our Next Board Meeting

Our next Board meeting will be held at Dad's Kitchen, 2968 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento, on **March 28th, 2013, at 5:30 P.M.** Please feel free to attend or let us know if there is a topic you would like us to discuss. Check with our website or a board member for any possible change.

Chapter Representative to the Western Section Report

Laura Patterson

The Western Section held an Executive Board meeting on January 29th at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento as part of its Annual Conference. Much of what was discussed involved the nuts and bolts of the Section's operations, which isn't very exciting reading, so I'll spare you. What may be of some interest is that it looks like there's some movement to get the Transactions of the Western Section of the Wildlife Society Journal up and running again, but perhaps with a new name and in a new form (like online open access). We approved a budget for the Bat Ecology Workshop and to reimburse instructors' travel expenses to a Field Mentoring Camp offered through Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Extended Education program. We also approved travel grants for four students to attend the annual conference. The Section chose the Putah Creek Council as the recipient of its Carbon Karma Fund from the annual conference. The money will be used for their Adopt-A-Flat program, where elementary school students raise native plants in the classroom and then plant them along the creek to improve wildlife habitat. Don Yasuda has reached his term limit as representative to National, so the Section is looking for a new rep, and two Board members said (reluctantly) that they would run. I'm not sure if there's still time to throw your name in the hat, but if you're interested in this or anything else related to the Western Section, let me know, and I'll check into it.

Professional Development Committee Report

Angela Calderaro

The PDC planned a spring mixer for **Thursday, April 4** at the **Fox & Goose Pub in Sacramento (1001 R Street) from 5:30-7:30 PM**, and a joint summer mixer with AEP, date for the summer mixer and location still to be determined. The PDC also identified a contact to help with planning a mixer for the northern region of our Chapter. The fourth mixer will be our annual holiday mixer in December. Scheduled events include additional brown-bag seminars, Creek Week volunteer day on **April 13**, and a student-professional hike planned for **April 27 west of Winters in the Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve**.

The PDC is looking into ideas for a members-only event during the summer. The Committee is also planning the Chapter's 2013 workshops, such as a burrowing owl workshop (date and location to be determined), and the Natural Resources Symposium scheduled for **November 6 at CSU Sacramento**. The PDC will also propose to work with the Western Section on its remote camera workshop, dates and locations to be determined.

Membership

Melinda Dorin-Bradbury

Membership numbers for 2013 have started out strong, with 125 members in the Chapter. Most people continue to register through either National or when they register for the Western Section annual meeting. We usually gain membership throughout the year when people come to socials or brown bag lunches, or to get a discount on workshops and symposia. We also have a more general email list that we use to announce upcoming events. If you want to receive job notices, the Magpie newsletter, and other membership specific information, become a member of our Chapter. Membership is only \$10 for the year.

Treasurer's Report

Sean Marquis



As of December 19, 2012, the Sacramento-Shasta balance was \$28,164.13.

ING CD	\$ 10,020.87
ING Savings	\$ 1,944.29
Calfirst CD	\$ 6,010.04
B of A Checking	\$ 10,188.93
Total	\$ 28,164.13

Recent income and expenditures (October 24, 2012 - December 19, 2012) were:

Expenses:
\$ 209.46 Board meeting
19.61 office supplies
31.95 lunch for brown-bag speaker
Total \$ 261.02

Income:
\$ 15.61 banking interest
Total \$ 15.61



UC Davis Student Chapter Update

Karin Petrites

During the Fall Quarter and the current Winter Quarter, the Davis Student Chapter went on a birding field trip at the Davis Wetlands and held Interview and Resume Workshops for our members - and we owe a thank-you to all the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter members who sent us tips and advice for those!



Members went to Pinnacles National Park to observe rangers tracking condors using radio telemetry (below), learned from a fellow student about grants and doing our own research projects as undergraduates, and found California newts on a hiking trip to Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve (above). We helped run Putah Creek Council's table at Duck Days and enjoyed our annual field trip to Año Nuevo to see elephant seals.



The room only accommodates 55 people, so be sure to come early to enjoy beer and appetizers, compliments of the Chapter! This is a great opportunity to mix with fellow biologists, environmental scientists, and wildlifers and to enjoy more good times with the friends you already have. The event is free to members; non-members can purchase membership at the door for \$10, which will also get you into the event. Contact Sandi Jacks if you have questions or need further details, at Sandra.Jacks@wildlife.ca.gov or 916-358-2916.

Student-Professional Hike

April 27th at the UC Davis Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve

The Chapter would like to invite our local students on a hike alongside professional members. This should be a great opportunity for networking, learning, and fun! Specific details are forthcoming, but please save the date and plan on joining us. For more info, RSVP on the Facebook invite or contact Lily at ldouglas14@gmail.com.

Brown Bag Seminars for 2013 - Call for Abstracts

The Chapter is looking for interested speakers and abstracts for upcoming brown-bag seminars. Future brown-bag topics to be presented include vernal pool hydrology, wolverine, and the black-backed woodpecker. Please send your abstracts to Angela Calderaro, angela.calderaro@wildlife.ca.gov. Brown-bag seminars are generally from noon to one. Attendees bring their lunches to listen to local scientists or policy makers give short, informal presentations about their work. Check the website, http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/upcoming_events.php, our facebook page, or your

UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Spring Mixer!

Please join us for our spring mixer on **April 4th** at the **Fox and Goose Public House, 5:30 - 7:30 PM.** 1001

R Street, Sacramento, in the "Chartwell" Room.

email for the schedule of this year's brown bag seminar series.

Creek Week 2013

Creek Week volunteer clean-up day is **Saturday, April 13, 2013**. This year the Chapter is making a donation and is supporting Creek Week through in-kind goods and services and volunteers. The Chapter is organizing to get volunteers from our membership to commit to the event. If you are interested in volunteering, sign up at <http://www.creekweek.net/portal/index.html> and let them know you are a member of the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter. If you want to clean with other Chapter members at our specific clean-up site in Natomas, then contact Lily Douglas or Melinda Dorin-Bradbury for information.



Chapter members at our specific clean-up site in Natomas, then contact Lily Douglas or Melinda Dorin-Bradbury for information.

Nature Bowl 2013

The Chapter made a donation to the 2013 Nature Bowl. The Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) offered coaches' workshops in January and February, and the teams prepared for the semi-final competition. Semi-finals are from **March 13 through May 1**, and the final competition is on **May 18** at CSU Sacramento. Read about the Nature Bowl and all the details at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/2/naturebowl/>.

TWS-Western Section Announcements

Bat Ecology & Field Techniques Update

April 5-8, 2013 at Dye Creek Preserve

The Western Section only has a few spaces left in the Bat Ecology and Field Techniques workshop, and links to registration and a detailed description



can be found at: http://tws-west.org/upcoming_events.php.

Noninvasive Acoustic Monitoring of Bats Workshop

The 2013 Noninvasive Acoustic Monitoring of Bats workshop will be held **May 2-5, 2013** at **Dye Creek Preserve** (Tehama County) near Red Bluff, California, and taught by Dr. Joe Szewczak. Registration is now open, and a detailed schedule, workshop details, and registration form can be found at: http://tws-west.org/upcoming_events.php.

This workshop will introduce participants to noninvasive acoustic monitoring and species identification of bats. Beginning with the fundamentals of acoustics to interpret the biology and ecology of echolocation, participants will work to understand how bats use sound and how we can interlope into this realm to survey and monitor bats. From this foundation, participants will then learn the theory and practice of recording and analyzing ultrasonic bat vocalizations to interpret bat activity and species presence. Field outings will provide hands-on experience in deploying equipment and acquiring data to process. Tools and techniques for both short-term and long-term passive monitoring of bats and automated data processing will be demonstrated. Participants will recognize the acoustic characteristics of western North American bats essential for species discrimination. Full-spectrum acoustic techniques will be emphasized, as recommended by the new USFWS guidelines for Wind and Wildlife, when species ID is important. Meals are included. 20 participants maximum! Registration rates are \$555 non-members, \$520 Western Section members, and \$200 students/new professionals.

Participants will not handle bats during the Acoustic Monitoring of Bats workshop, although instructors may demonstrate mist-netting and handling for participants. Participants must bring their own laptop computers to the workshop for processing data. Bringing detectors is encouraged, but not mandatory, as instructors will demonstrate use of several types of detectors during the field practicum.

Contact Cynthia Perrine, csgperrine@yahoo.com, if you have questions about either workshop!

TWS National Announcements

TWS Leadership Institute

The Wildlife Society (TWS) is [currently accepting applications for its Leadership Institute](#). The Institute's goal is to facilitate development of new leaders within TWS and the wildlife profession. The Institute will recruit 10-15 promising early-career professionals for a series of intensive activities and mentoring relationships. The focus will be on exposing participants to the inner workings of TWS and increasing the number of active leaders in TWS and the wildlife profession. From **May to October**, participants will engage in a series of activities to develop and expand their leadership skills. Institute members will also attend the TWS Annual Conference in Milwaukee (**October 4-9, 2013**) and participate in various activities, including mentoring and leadership workshop sessions. The Institute is free, and participants will receive free registration and a travel grant for the conference. **Application deadline is April 1, 2013.** E-mail application materials (except the online application form and recommendation letters) in one PDF to: Laura Bies (laura@wildlife.org). Visit <http://www.wildlife.org/professional-development/leadership-institute/apply> for more information on how to apply.

Live Learning Center

TWS is excited to offer you complimentary access to education from the 19th Annual Conference in Portland through [The Wildlife Society Live Learning Center](#). To access your complimentary educational content, visit the Live Learning Center and log in with your existing account. Don't have an account? [Create one for free at http://tws.sclivelearningcenter.com/index.aspx.](#)

Milwaukee: Call for Papers and Posters

Contributed papers and posters are invited for the 20th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society. Proposals should focus on topics of wildlife science, management, conservation, education, or policy. Deadline is **April 12, 2013**. The annual conference is **October 5 - 9, 2013**, in **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**.

For information visit: <http://wildlife.org/documents/conferences/milwaukee/call-for-papers.pdf>.

PAST EVENTS

Brown-bag Seminars

Lily Douglas

At our first Brown Bag of 2013 on February 27th, Bill Orme from the State Water Resources Control Board gave us a very informative overview of the Draft Wetland Area Protection Policy. The draft was made available in January of this year. He walked us through the history and development of the Policy and pointed out items of interest to our group. The talk was well attended and sparked some great questions and spirited discussion. Thanks, Bill!



Finishing up our brown bags for 2012 on November 29th, Stacy Heminway from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife presented an overview of the Ecoregion Biodiversity Monitoring Project. The EBM project is an ongoing, long-term study providing baseline data and monitoring change in the occurrence, distribution, and phenology of wildlife and habitats in montane regions of northern California.



Holiday Party 2012

Randi Logsdon

The Association of Environmental Professionals, American Planning Association, and Sacramento-Shasta Chapter held a standing room only Holiday Party on December 6, 2012, at Gallery 21ten in Sacramento. Not only did we enjoy a spread of gourmet h'ordeuvres and good conversation with our friends, colleagues, and many wildlife and environmental professionals we hadn't yet met, we



enjoyed seeing the work of some of the Sacramento area's most talented artists. When we needed a break from chatting and snacking, we were invited to peruse the galleries and the artists' studios, meet some of the artists, and see art works in progress. Those with a few dollars on hand were able to take home artists' greeting cards or other remembrances. It was a fine venue for a mixer and a very good time for all.

Western Section Meeting Events

Hunter Safety - for Wildlife Biologists?!

Lily Douglas

Following the 2013 Western Section Annual Meeting, Carlos and I attended the associated Hunter Safety Training. In addition to the basics from CDFW's Certified Hunter Education class there were a number of additional talks and activities, giving us a full, fun experience!

After dinner and introductions, John Perrine opened up the workshop with a Friday night talk and discussion about the North American Model for Wildlife Conservation. Then some time for networking before bedtime in our bunks at the California Waterfowl Association's Denver-ton house.

Up early Saturday to start talking hunting! Our three certified instructors, Mark Heath, Charlie de la Rosa, and Mark Pabst filled up our heads with all we needed to know from ammunition to equipment to survival. We also had some great discussions about ethics and regulations. After lunch, George Oberstadt from CWA gave us some background on Suisun Marsh; did you know that the railroad through the marsh was put in for duck hunting?! We also had a chance to bring some of our ethics and regs questions to Lt. Kasper from CDFW.

Then on to the fun! After familiarizing ourselves with some training "pumpkin" guns, we had a chance to try out the real thing! We were able to shoot .20 and .12 gauge shotguns at clays and a few different .22 caliber rifles at stationary targets. But that wasn't enough for us; we took a turn with training compound bows as the sun set over the marsh.

After a delicious dinner of Catalina Island venison kabobs and organizer Cynthia Perrine's secret

spiced quinoa, we had a presentation by Hank Shaw, the local award-winning food blogger of Hunter, Angler, Gardner, Cook (check it out!). I have to admit that I went into the workshop simply wanting to learn more about hunting, but having no intention of ever actually doing it. After shooting guns for the first time, learning how important ethics are to so many hunters, and watching mouth-watering photos scroll by as Hank spoke, I had a bit of a revelation. I could do this.

And now I can if I want to, after passing the exam the following morning and receiving my certificate of completion. True, you don't have to take a full workshop like this to meet the requirements. But if you're a wildlife biologist with a limited background in hunting, this workshop might be worth checking out next time it's offered!



Ethical behavior is doing the right thing when no one else is watching - even when doing the wrong thing is legal. – Aldo Leopold

Sutter Buttes

Randi Logsdon

Western Section's Student Affairs

Committee Co-Chair and Sacramento City College Professor Dave Wyatt took a group of TWS members on a hike through the Sutter Buttes, the Sacramento Valley's own independent mountain range near Marysville. The Sutter Buttes are a



volcanic complex of eroded lava supporting oak woodlands, chaparral, grasslands, and wetlands, and a wide variety of wildlife. Mostly privately owned, hikes are only allowed with a private guide, and Dave was quite the guide for wildlifers.

Besides getting a good uphill workout and taking in tremendous views of the valley, we were treated to many stories about bat and ringtail research, and were given informative talks about everything from the Buttes' rich history to the plant and insect life to



the birds and wildlife. We examined ringtail and other small carnivore scat, saw the work of a spider that wrapped soil in silk to bag up the dirt and cart it out of its burrow, and enjoyed lunch on the top of one of the buttes before descending the steep hill down to the historic barn.

We also saw the introduced baron sheep, including the Judas sheep that always stands out and gives away the location of the herd. We even saw a group of feral pigs.

The sheep, cattle, and polar-bear sized watchdog saw us out of the Buttes and we were on our way back to Sacramento by early afternoon. It was a great day, beautiful weather, and a wonderful learning experience. Many thanks to Dave Wyatt for being such a good host and sharing his passion for the Sutter Buttes. And for the chocolate cake!

JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Biological Science Technician (Natural Resources). USDA Forest Service, multiple positions nationwide. <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/338763100>. Set up a profile at <http://www.usajobs.gov> to apply.

For the latest information on seasonal openings with CDFW, visit <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/vacancies/seasonal.asp>. Open Exam bulletin for **Environmental Scientist** (multiple State agencies) is at the following website:

<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://www.tws-west.org/jobs.php>. For local job announcements, check: <http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/jobs.php>.

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

NOTICE

Guided Wetland Tours of Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. at 3207 Rutherford Rd., Gridley (95948). On the Pacific Flyway at the base of the Sutter Buttes, Gray Lodge Wildlife Area 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 12 or more. For information or scheduling, contact the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Naturalist Office at (530) 846-7505 or ldieter@wildlife.ca.gov, and visit www.wildlife.ca.gov/lands/wa/region2/graylodge/index.html.

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. 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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Scholarship Chair – Tracy Walker (tracy.walker@aecom.com)

Representative for UC Davis Student Chapter – Karin Petrites (kdpetrites@ucdavis.edu)