



The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



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CHAPTER NEWS

Randi Logsdon

It's summer already?? And a very hot one indeed. The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter is also stepping up the heat with this year's exciting events. Since March, the Chapter had a very successful Spring mixer and picked up trash for Creek Week. Professionals hiked up the steep Stebbins Cold Canyon and mixed it up at the UC Davis speed networking event. This month, members enjoyed watching the Sacramento Rivercats at this year's summer mixer.

The long-awaited burrowing owl workshop is happening in August. In September, the Board is planning two back-to-school fall mixers with students from Chico State and Sacramento City College/CSU Sacramento, the Natural Resources Symposium with a lunch mixer in November, and a holiday mixer with the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP). The Board is planning even farther ahead for a winter 2014 eagle workshop coordinated with the Western Section. Want details? Read ahead!

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: spring mixer, creek week, Stebbins Canyon, speed networking, burrowing owl workshop, fall mixers, holiday mixer, natural resources symposium, eagles, safety, brown bags, scholarships, western section conference, TWS national conference, sage grouse, vernal pools and climate change, nature bowl

President's Message

Carlos Alvarado

Three-digit temperatures, high pollen counts, long field days... yup the field season is upon us and with that comes hazardous conditions such as exposure to biting insects, toxic plants, poisonous or venomous animals and insects. For the most part, most of us have been exposed to different work hazards; let it be poison oak, ticks, naturally occurring asbestos, working in remote areas with no connectivity to emergency response personnel, etc. Hopefully, we all are current in CPR and/or wilderness first aid and have a health and safety plan to follow for the different projects that we all work in. If you don't, talk to your health and safety officer, supervisor or fellow coworkers so that you can get trained, acquainted with, and be up to date with your health and safety requirements. It is also a good idea to have a safety meeting every day at the beginning of the field day to discuss what needs to get done that day, what are the potential hazards involved with the activities and in what ways we can minimize, eliminate, or mitigate for those hazards. Sometimes, we all get caught up with our tasks and, without knowing, brush against poison oak, step on a wasp nest, or even slip and fall. Be safe out there--we all want to see you safely back from your work/field sites so you can share the adventures during our next meeting. Ok, this has been my public safety announcement.



Now that we got that PSA out of the way, your Chapter Board Members and Committees have been working hard to bring you upcoming brown bags, social networking events, the burrowing owl

workshop August 26-27, and the Natural Resources Symposium, so read on for the details.

Our next executive board meeting will be September 12, stay tuned for the location. Our board meetings are open to all members, so if you are thinking about becoming more active or would like to introduce new ideas, come on by. You can also follow us on our Facebook page or you can contact me or any of the other officers.

Scholarships

Randi Logsdon

The Chapter did not receive any scholarship applications for the June 1st deadline. We have a new year budget for travel and academic scholarships, so take the opportunity to get funding for your projects or to present at the next TWS western section or national meeting. The next deadline for academic scholarship applications is **December 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

The Board's last meeting was held at Hoppy Brewing Company on June 6th. First on the agenda was beer and hot wings, then to the business. The Board discussed using PayPal to accept credit cards, to make it easier for members to pay dues, as well as to pay for events and merchandise. The Professional Development Committee discussed plans for the second half of 2013, including two back-to-school mixers in September, a lunch mixer during the Natural Resources Symposium in November, and a holiday mixer with the AEP. The Board also discussed providing more brown bag lectures, having a good turnout of 25 people at the one in May.

Most of the discussion, however, was on the upcoming burrowing owl workshop scheduled for August. The Board plans to have fun merchandise for sale at the workshop: burrowing owl t-shirts and pint glasses.

Our UC Davis representative gave a report on events their Chapter had been enjoying, including a trip to Solano Land Trust parcels in the Suisun Marsh to do some small mammal trapping. The UC Davis Chapter also filled us in on their new board members, including a historian to keep track of archives. The Sacramento Shasta Chapter is considering adding a historian position as well. If any of you are interested in this, or a different position, come to our next Board meeting.

For a technology update, the Board discussed linking our event calendar to the TWS-western section website to get additional exposure. Our last course of business was a discussion on a possible eagle workshop in early 2014, with participation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Potential topics include the USFWS Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act permit and renewable energy.

Our Next Board Meeting

Our next Board meeting will be tentatively held at Chevys on the River, 1369 Garden Hwy., Sacramento, on **September 12, 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 a possible change in location.

Chapter Representative to the Western Section Report

Laura Patterson

The Western Section's Executive Board held an all-day meeting on Sunday April 28th at the East Bay Regional Park District's Shoreline Center in Oakland. This is a summary of highlights from that meeting and subsequent email votes and discussions. A subcommittee has been formed to start planning the 2014 meeting in Reno, and they're currently discussing pre-conference symposia ideas. A bid to host the 2017 TWS National conference in California was submitted. Western Section partnered with the San Francisco Bay Chapter to hold a remote camera workshop July 11-14, and is partnering with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on a 4-unit Vertebrate Field Biology course August 5-16. The Board voted to contribute \$1500

to TWS National's Leadership Institute and \$2500 to the Quiz Bowl and the TWS National Conference in Milwaukee. The student academic scholarship applications will be updated to reflect biannual deadlines for submission. An effort to re-establish the Section's journal is still underway with potentially a new name, Western Wildlife, and an online format. Armand Gonzales, Conservation Affairs Committee Chair, stepped down. His replacement is expected to be appointed soon. Lastly, you can now help support TWS National while shopping at Amazon. TWS National will earn a commission for everything purchased when Amazon is accessed through <http://wildlife.org/amazon>.

Professional Development Committee Report

Angela Calderaro

The Committee has been busy. We have successfully completed several events in the past couple of months and many more are still in the works! The committee is planning two Back-to-School Mixers to spark some interest with students in our area, (1) in Sacramento and (2) in the Chico area. Please check out our [Facebook page](#) for updates.

In addition to setting up the burrowing owl workshop this year, we have also developed several items for sale. Proceeds will help support the Chapter and upcoming events. Merchandise will be for sale at all upcoming events! Exciting news for those adverse to cash, the Chapter is teaming with PayPal to make purchasing of our cool new items even easier!

Membership


Melinda Dorin-Bradbury

We had 168 members going into July. We have had a lot of events in the past few months, which have helped keep interest in membership high. National TWS is launching a new portal for us to keep track of people who pay for chapter membership through the National Association. I will be using that as well as the Western Section database to keep our membership database current. If you think you are a member, but you are not getting email, please contact me at melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net, so I

can double check your contact information and make sure everything is right in our database.

Treasurer's Report

Sean Marquis

 As of June 5, 2013, the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter balance was \$25,597.11.

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| ING CD | \$ 10,016.53 |
| ING Savings | \$ 1,973.18 |
| Calfirst CD | \$ 6,035.00 (estimate) |
| B of A Checking | \$ 7,572.40 |
| Total | \$ 25,597.11 (estimate) |

Recent income and expenditures (December 20, 2012 - June 6, 2013) were:

Expenses:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| \$ 576.50 | Board meetings (December, January, March) |
| 500.00 | Nature Bowl contribution |
| 100.00 | Creek Week contribution |
| 275.00 | Western Section Conference contribution |
| 100.00 | Travel grant to Katherine Smith |
| 300.00 | Winter mixer contribution (from 2012) |
| 319.83 | Spring mixer |
| 300.00 | Webmaster fee for 2012 |
| 156.00 | Mailbox fee |
| 9.72 | Postage |
| Total | \$2,636.53 |

Income:

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| \$ 910.00 | Membership |
| 49.50 | Bank interest (estimate) |
| 180.00 | Spring mixer (estimate) |
| Total | \$ 1,139.50 (estimate) |

UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

2013 Burrowing Owl Workshop 8/26 and 8/27

Mark your calendars!! Registration is open! Early registration prices end **August 1st**. Call for abstracts extended to **August 1st**.



Date: Monday August 26th (Field Practicum) and Tuesday, August 27th (Symposium)

Location: Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, Bufferlands, at 8521 Laguna Station Rd in Elk Grove, California

The Chapter is organizing a burrowing workshop to inform interested scientists on the biology and current research on this California species of special concern. The Burrowing Owl Workshop has two components, a field practicum and a symposium. The Field Practicum class (8/26) is **FULL!** We are confirming payment and accepting names for the wait list. If you would like to be placed on the wait list, please contact us (sac.shasta@gmail.com). There is one spot reserved for a student that is still open. The Symposium (8/27) still has space! For the field practicum, a representative from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and Dr. Jeff Lincer with Researchers Implementing Conservation Action (RICA) will speak on topics such as basic life history and survey techniques. The field visit is planned on the Bufferlands, Elk Grove. The symposium will be a series of presentations from distinguished scientists and a panel discussion on mitigation.

For a link to the registration form and more information, please visit [the Chapter's website](#) and click upcoming events. Space is limited so please sign up soon! You can also take home fun burrowing owl and Sac-Shasta Chapter merchandise:



- Black t-shirt with the picture above on the back and the chapter logo on front left breast
- A 16 oz pint glass with the Chapter logo on one side and a head-cocked burrowing owl on the other side
- Round stickers of the Chapter logo

Any questions may be directed to the Professional Development Committee Chair, Angela Calderaro, at sac.shasta@gmail.com

2013 Natural Resources Symposium

The **Natural Resources Symposium** scheduled for **November 6th** at California State University, Sacramento, Orchard Suite, 2nd floor. 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. If you would like to present at the event please send us a short abstract (no more than 400 words in length) and bio. Please email to sac.shasta@gmail.com or Angela.Calderaro@wildlife.ca.gov.

2013 Nature Bowl

The Chapter is contributing \$500 to the 2014 Nature Bowl, CDFW's environmental science competition for students in the 3rd to 6th grades. Workshops for volunteer coaches are generally in January and student competitions go through May. For information about this year's Nature Bowl, visit <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/2/naturebowl/>. Stay tuned to that channel for updates for 2014, or read about it in our fall newsletter.

TWS-Western Section Announcements



The **Western Section Field Camp, August 4-16**, at Swanton-Pacific Ranch has a few spaces remaining. The two-week resident techniques course in Field Vertebrate Zoology is limited to 16 participants. Register by calling [Cal Poly Extended Education](http://www.calpoly.edu/extended-education) at [\(805\) 756-2053](tel:(805)756-2053). You must call to register!

The 2014 Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada January 28th - 31st, 2014

The Western Section is anticipating an excellent conference. A one-day, pre-conference symposium

on Greater Sage-grouse (**January 28th**) will address policy, biology, and threats to its existence. The general conference will include: a welcome reception; a keynote welcome from Kenneth Mayer, who had been the director of the Nevada Department of Wildlife and serves on regional and national committees that deal with sage grouse conservation; concurrent sessions; a plenary; awards banquet; poster session; and student workshops and student-professional lunch. A new addition is breakfast roundtables, small-group discussions on topics or for working group meetings. Please contact President-Elect and Program Chair Natasha Dvorak, ndvorak@esassoc.com, if you want to join the planning committee for the 2014 Annual Meeting in Reno. The planning committee is currently looking for session chairs, and also considering topics for the breakfast roundtable discussions.



TWS-West Newsletter

The Western Section's Spring Newsletter for 2013 is on the [TWS Western Section website](#).

TWS National Announcements



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
ANNUAL CONFERENCE - MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

The Wildlife Society 20th Annual Conference is taking place **October 5-10** at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Registration for the conference is now open through the secure [TWS member portal](#). If you are not a member of TWS, you can register securely [online](#). You can also register by filling out a paper form and faxing it to TWS at 301-530-2471 or mailing it to The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD, 20814. Register by **September 6** and save with the early registration discount. In addition, when you register by **July 31**, you will be eligible to win one of five Kindle Fire HD Tablets. Winners will be announced in the August edition of *The Wildlifer*. Remember to also select a workshop or field trip when registering for the Annual Conference. A list

of all-day and half-day workshops can be found on the [TWS annual conference website](#). The American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians is also participating in the conference, which is offering wildlife health related symposia and workshops, including a workshop on white-nose syndrome in bats and pollutants and wildlife management. The Opening Night Awards Dinner is an additional \$25; and the Closing Night Reception is an additional \$20, which will take place at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

New this year: TWS is sponsoring pre-conference community volunteer opportunities. This is a fantastic way for attendees to volunteer a few hours on **Saturday, October 5** and give back to the local Milwaukee community. For complete information on this program, [visit here](#).

PAST EVENTS

Spring Mixer

Angela Calderaro



Board members celebrating the success of the event. Left to Right: Carlos Alvarado, Sandi Jacks, Sean Marquis, Angela Calderaro, and Lily Douglas

Our spring mixer at the Fox & Goose in downtown Sacramento was a success! The event was held in the private Chartwell Room on Thursday, April 4th. The room was jam-packed with biologists and wildlifers

enjoying beer and appetizers. The Chapter extends many thanks to Westervelt for pitching in for a few more pitchers to make the night even merrier. It was great to see many new faces including 20 new members!



PDC Chair Angela poses with her bounty

Creek Week - April 13

Lily Douglas

This year, we participated in the Sacramento Creek Week Clean-up at a site along Steelhead Creek in Natomas. Employees from Westervelt Ecological Services joined us as we waded through the vegetation, gathering trash of all sizes, from gum wrappers to plastic crates to carpet scraps. Between our site and

the 65 others in Sacramento County, 2,500 volunteers removed almost 20 tons of garbage along 35 miles of waterways!

Student-Professional Hike - April 27

Lily Douglas

Although our students ended up with conflicting events to attend, seven intrepid professionals braved the Blue Ridge Loop Trail at Stebbins Cold Canyon Preserve. Among our rewards were wildflowers in bloom, including the lovely golden fairy lantern, and a close-up look at a gorgeous striped gopher snake, courtesy of Laura's quick reflexes. We ended the day in typical Sac-Shasta fashion with a pint at Berryessa Brewing Company. It was a great day in the outdoors with fellow wildlifers!



Brown-bag Seminar

Carlos Alvarado



On May 8th Cardno ENTRIX hosted our second Brown Bag of 2013 presented by Dr. Niall F. McCarten from the Institute for Ecohydrology Research. His talk was titled Ecohydrology of Hardpan Vernal Pools in

the Central Valley of California: Responses from Weather Variables and Potential Effects of Climate Change. Dr. McCarten shared with us innovative methods and technologies he uses to study vernal pool hydrology that include levelloggers, RTK-GPS,

and ground-penetrating radar. The talk was well attended and very informative. If you would like to get in touch with Dr. McCarten you can contact him at nmccarten@ecohydrology-research.org.

TWS Summer Mixer - River Cats Game

Members enjoyed a summer night mixer at Raley Field on July 11th, watching the Sacramento River Cats take on the Fresno Grizzlies. Members networked in TWS' block section while watching the River Cats put up a good fight (unfortunately not winning the game), and enjoyed Thirsty Thursday cheap beer.



JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

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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