

# THE WANDERING TATTLER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY  
AREA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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# BOARD POSITION OPENINGS

*By Erika Walther*

WANTED: Dedicated, talented, creative, fun people who want to support and help shape the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Wildlife Society! We have 3 Board positions that we need to fill for 2016: President-elect, Treasurer, and Secretary.

## RESPONSIBILITIES:

The President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in the absence or upon the inability of the President to serve, and shall perform any duties assigned by the President. In the event the President-Elect cannot serve in the President's absence, the Executive Board shall appoint a President, pro tempore. (Note: President-elect has recently played a significant role in organizing regular outings for members)

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the funds of the Chapter. The Treasurer shall provide financial updates at Executive Board meetings, and shall submit a complete financial report once a year at the annual Chapter meeting during the Western Section conference. Duties also shall include the receipt and disbursement of dues, workshop and activity registrations, and other funds.

The Secretary shall be responsible for the files of the Chapter, and for recording and issuance of the minutes of Chapter meetings. Duties shall also include maintenance of membership rolls, and providing minutes and other correspondence to the Media Director for sharing with members.

In addition to meeting at the TWS-Western Section Annual Meeting, we meet 4-5 times per year for Board meetings, generally at a BART-friendly location in the East Bay with phone conferencing capability (i.e., you can call in). We eat scrumptious international take-out compliments of the Chapter, and have fun while attending to the Board's business and making plans to serve our members better. If you are interested in joining us, or would like to nominate someone for a position, please contact current Board President, Erika Walther, at [mockner21@gmail.com](mailto:mockner21@gmail.com). We will select someone by vote at our Chapter meeting at the TWS Western Section Annual Meeting in February.

# OFFICER DIRECTORY

## *Elected Board Members:*

President..... Erika Walther  
President elect..... Tammy Lim  
Past-President..... Mandi McElroy  
Chapter Representative..... Matthew Bettelheim

## *Appointed Board Members:*

Secretary..... Nicole Christie  
Treasurer..... Rachel Danielson  
Newsletter Editor..... Catherine Yasuda  
Media Director..... Wendy St. John  
Conservation Affairs..... Jeanne Chinn  
Historian..... Scott Lindemann

## *Committee Chairs:*

Professional Development... Janine Payne-Schneir  
Student Affairs..... Ivan Parr  
Public Outreach..... Kristin Tremain

# COVER PHOTOGRAPH

The cover photograph is of a tiger swallowtail butterfly feeding on California buckeye photographed by Scott Lindemann.



Didn't make it to the 2nd Annual Gourmet Greens and Beasts Feast? Highlights of the event can be found on page 11.

# INTERVIEW WITH PAST-PRESIDENT JOE DIDONATO

*By Scott Lindemann*

The morning of Sunday, June 14th brought the opportunity to interview Joe DiDonato, president of the SF Bay Area Chapter of the Wildlife Society from 1999 to 2000, at a quiet coffee shop near his house. Between sips of coffee, Joe reveals his views on wildlife biology and its importance to society, his advice to students and young professionals, and what aspects of his career he finds to be most rewarding.

A significant portion of the societal value of wildlife biology, he explains, lies in engaging the public in a way that gets them excited about nature, in addition to simply safeguarding natural resources on their behalf. He leans forward in his seat as he explains, “it’s not always a choice that people from multiple generations don’t get the opportunity to witness the outdoors, so we’ve got to give them that opportunity. As a field trip or a lecture, or a website, or whatever it might be, to get [them] at least thinking about it, or perhaps voting in the right direction [...] It’s an opportunity to recognize what’s around us is still very valuable and maybe, you know, one day when they see that housing development they say ‘I’m going to respond to that, I’d rather see those hills green.’” Joe sees biologists’ role as showing the public the intrinsic value of nature, especially in a society that sometimes sees natural landscapes as just empty space to be developed.

Although he considers his home to be the East Bay Regional Park District, an organization that he was professionally associated with for 20 years since being hired as their first wildlife biologist, Joe has also held a variety of seasonal and full time jobs. After graduating from Penn State with a B.S. in Wildlife Biology in 1984, Joe moved west at the behest of a friend and spent the next three years working for the Peregrine Fund. There he performed some of the most exciting fieldwork of his career, searching for peregrine hawk nests in the Rocky Mountains, moving between observation sites via helicopter. Joe also engages professionally through his company, Wildlife Consulting and Photography, which he has operated since 1990. Ultimately, however, it was his time at the East Bay Regional Parks District that he found to be most rewarding, both personally and professionally.



“To work with wildlife and to see the excitement that other people get when seeing it for the first time, or getting new people involved—students, people who are starting out their career, kids that I take along—I really get satisfaction from seeing people get excited about wildlife and, whatever their aspect of involvement is—whether it’s a one day field trip with me, or whether it’s a story they want to tell me, or whether it’s that they’re building their career and they’re really proud of themselves—I really, really like being involved with other people who are excited about it.” While he admits that some of the lure of the career is being isolated within nature on a regular basis, it is clear that the most meaningful aspects of his life come from this service to others—getting people excited about what he personally loves so deeply.

Many of the aspects that he valued at his job with the East Bay Regional Park District are mirrored in his involvement with the Wildlife Society. At the urging of his friends and mentors he was persuaded to join the Wildlife Society in the 90’s, then quickly went on to become the president of the SF Bay Area Chapter. Looking back, he regards it as his “greatest membership of anything [...] I really enjoyed it, really love the people, and made some great friends, and, of course, used it to benefit my career as well as



other folks careers.” This satisfaction he gets from supporting the development of other professionals, as well as from personal friendships, was a common theme throughout the conversation.

After hearing of his professional success, I asked Joe if he had any advice for students and young professionals. Without hesitation he answered, “experience, experience, experience. Whatever experience you can get—through volunteer, part time jobs, or you know, hanging out with the right people, going on chapters visits, field trips—whatever experience you get to add a feather in your cap is going to help you over, and over, and over again [...] Not only do those opportunities give you the experience, but they also introduce you to people that might lead to more opportunities.” Experience not only provides the credentials and connections to apply for and win jobs, he explains, but also helps people figure out which fields they are most excited about—which jobs they should pursue. He continues that, while networking is important in every field, it is especially important among wildlife biologists; he has employed or referred many of the students

and volunteers that have gone out with him. “You also meet people who can say “Hey, I know this person [...] they helped me out on this, I’m gonna recommend them to this colleague of mine who’s looking for somebody.” And I guarantee I do that a lot. [...] That kind of rubbing shoulders that you get through volunteering, or part-time, or meetings, or field trips—you get those opportunities and I think that’s really important in this field. I’m sure it’s important in every field, but I feel it’s very important in this field.”

Joe has been a lynchpin of the wildlife biology community in the Bay Area and has really helped develop both the field and the Wildlife Society. It was a great to have a chance to sit down with him and hear his thoughts on wildlife biology and what motivates him to spend so much of his time giving back to the community.

Don’t forget to like Joe’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WildlifeConsultingAndPhotography>



# 2015 WILDLIFE TAXA-DERBY RESULTS

By Matthew Bettelheim

A big "Thank You" to all of our members for throwing their binoculars into the fray last month to participate in The Wildlife Society's 2015 Wildlife Taxa-Derby! Four chapters stepped up to the challenge, deploying no fewer than 9 and as many as 15 teams apiece to swarm the state in search of unique vertebrate species in a 24-hour window. But there can be only one winner, and the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter dominated the count with 257 wildlife species across their 9 teams, which adds up to 13.51% of California's total vertebrate wildlife taxa! The North Coast and Central Coast chapters came in second and third place, respectively, leaving the event's challenger - the San Francisco Bay Area chapter - in the dust. And kudos to the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter for their high student participation with 14 young wildlifery in play during the derby.

To make sure participants didn't sit on the coast counting birds all day, bragging rights were assigned to individual teams that kept the count interesting. Of note within the bragging rights earned were the Notsoflatlanders [Sacramento-Shasta] who logged 40 non-bird species and Trochet [Sacramento-Shasta] who not only logged 18 mammal species, but also 36 nocturnal species. Hewitt [North Coast] played his cards well by logging 148 species without moving an inch, while McCormick Biological [Central

Coast] went the distance logging 139 species across 450 miles. Trochet also proved himself a night owl, with 36 nocturnal species spotted.

And unscripted bragging rights are also in order for the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter whose team members discovered a new nesting colony of the state-Endangered tricolored blackbirds - a real win for us all.

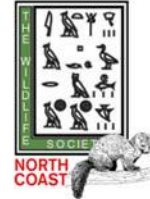
A lot of work went on behind the scenes to make this year's

Taxa-Derby a success. Please make sure to thank your Western Section representatives, chapter board members, and those that stepped in to coordinate the event and tally the scores after all the fun and games were done.

If you had fun, if you'd like to participate next year, or if you have feedback to make next year's event more successful, please let your Western Section representatives know.



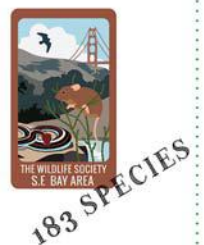
## THE CHAPTERS



## Number of Teams Deployed



## Greatest Number of Species





THE  
**WILDLIFE  
SOCIETY**

2015  
**WILDLIFE  
TAXA-  
DERBY**

Greatest Number of  
Non-Bird Species



Notsoflatlanders [SS]



Trochet [SS]



McCormick Biological [CC]



Trochet [SS]



Notsoflatlanders [SS]/  
City of Davis [SS]



McCormick Biological [CC]

Greatest Number  
of Mammal Species

Greatest Number of Species  
& Fewest Miles Traveled



Hewitt [NC]



Conard [SS]



Hewitt/Fowler [NC]



McCormick Biological [CC]



Moby Dicksissel [SFBA]



Notsoflatlanders [SS]

Greatest Number of Species  
& Greatest Miles Traveled

Greatest Number of  
Nocturnal Species

36

Trochet [SS]

9

City of Davis [SS]

7

Moby Dicksissel [SFBA]



Wright Jones [SS]



McCormick Biological [CC]



Notsoflatlanders [SS]

Greatest Change  
in Elevation

Greatest Number of Species  
(% of CA Total - 1,902)

8.89  
%

Trochet [SS]

7.78  
%

Hewitt [NC]

7.52  
%

Notsoflatlanders [SS]



Sacramento - Shasta  
Chapter



North Coast  
Chapter



Central Coast  
Chapter

Greatest Student  
Participation

# WENDY DEXTER MEMORIAL DONATION UPDATE

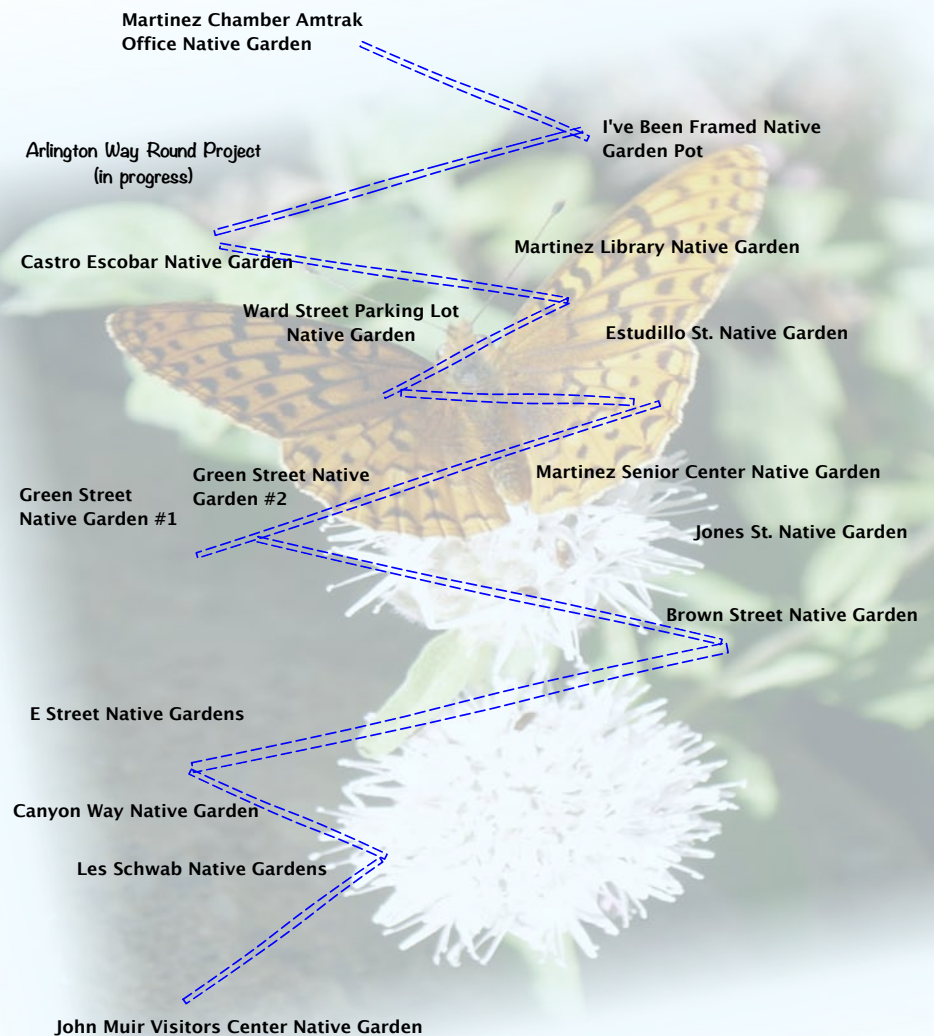
*By Erika Walther*

Thank you to the generous members of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Wildlife Society who donated to Friends of Alhambra Creek in memory of Wendy Dexter. We raised \$1,075 in Wendy's honor, including our Chapter's \$200 "challenge grant" to encourage members to donate.

Friends of Alhambra Creek was a favorite local organization of Wendy's. Alhambra Creek starts in Briones Regional Park and ends at Martinez Shoreline Regional Park where it enters the Carquinez Straits. On the way it passes through foothills, rural areas, John Muir Historic Site, two schools and downtown Martinez. This urban gem is probably most well-known for its beavers (don't miss the Beaver Festival in Martinez next summer!), but also provides habitat for river otters, muskrats and green herons.

Friends of Alhambra Creek will use the proceeds from our fundraiser to further the goals of a special project: the Alhambra Native Plant Trail Team, which started in 2010 with support from Friends of Alhambra Creek, New Leaf Leadership Academy, John Muir Historic Site National Park, California Native Plant Society - East Bay, the City of Martinez and others. The aim of the Alhambra Native Plant Trail Team is to connect small native habitat gardens throughout Martinez, to help educate residents about native flora, and create a wildlife corridor for local birds, bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects.

Long live urban creeks and the people who care for them! And thank you again for your generous donations.



The Creek Botanical Trail Project~Alhambra Native Plant Trail  
2010 ~ 2015

# WESTERN POND TURTLE WORKSHOP: ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION

*By Matthew Bettelheim*

On October 24th, 2015, the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter hosted The Western Pond Turtle Workshop: Ecology and Conservation at Sonoma State University. The event – first organized by the chapter 10 years ago – was revived and hosted by it's original organizers, chapter members Matthew Bettelheim and Dave Cook with the purpose of providing an update on the proposed federal listing of the turtle announced this year and the 2012 publication of the Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology's Western Pond Turtle: Biology, Sampling Techniques, Inventory and Monitoring, Conservation and Management (the "Handbook") in Northwest Fauna (<http://thesnvb.org/northwest-fauna/>). The workshop included 15 talks by 15 presenters on topics ranging from the species' history and natural history, conservation and management, survey techniques, threats to the species, and advances in natural history.

The presentations included Bruce Bury (U.S. Geological Survey) and David Germano (California State University, Bakersfield), who provided an overview of the natural history of the species based on their 50 years studying the species; chapter member Matthew Bettelheim (AECOM), who offered a look back in time at the historical terrapin harvest that took place in the late 1800s and early 1900s for western pond turtles; Laura Patterson (CDFW), who



gave an overview of turtle conservation issues, efforts, and needs – especially under the threat of current drought conditions; and Arnold Roessler (USFWS), who reviewed the federal listing process the turtle will undergo as a candidate for federal listing.

Also present were the Oakland and San Francisco Zoos, represented by Jessie Bushell (S.F.) and Margaret Rousser (Oakland), who have begun collaborating with researchers at Sonoma State University to better understand specific reproductive physiology questions about the species and, in the process, refine a head-start program whose first graduates were introduced this year into Mountain Lake in San Francisco's Presidio as part of a restoration effort.

Katherine Haman (WDFW) took time to fly down from Washington to give attendees a first look at Ulcerative Shell Disease (USD), a disease that has only recently been described but appears to have been present in head-started turtles since 2003. Although treatment is possible, a sampling protocol to identify USD in the field is still under development and should be available in the near future. Erik Meyer (NPS) canvassed several studies looking at the ecotoxicology of western pond turtles through point and non-point pollution, while Gwen Bury (Oregon State University) challenged researchers to rethink the concept that the apparent absence of hatchlings suggests a lack of recruitment, suggesting instead that we've been looking in all the wrong places.





Representing the recent spate of research at Sonoma State University under professor Nick Geist (SSU), chapter members Nicole Christie (GANDA) and Wendy St. John (SSU) presented their recent findings on natural incubation temperature and sex determination and nesting behavior data, respectively.

Representing long-term studies along the Trinity River, Don Ashton (U.S. Geological Survey) and Jamie Bettaso (U.S. Forest Service) gave talks on the effects of dams and the resulting altered thermal regime downstream to key life history attributes of western pond turtles and potential compensatory mechanisms the turtles exhibit in response to such changes.

The highlights of this year's workshop included a sneak peak at hatchling western pond turtles in the Geist Lab on their way to the Oakland and San Francisco Zoo's head-start programs, and two red-eared sliders procured from a local rescue organization and an

adult western pond turtle as demonstration turtles for the trapping/survey techniques 'wet lab' at the SSU campus pond.

To celebrate this decennial workshop, the San Francisco Bay Area chapter developed a limited edition t-shirt that all-but-sold-out (we have two left), and sold an educational "field guide to the western pond turtle" poster suitable for educators and public outreach. Bury, Germano, and Ashton also lugged a box of the Northwest Fauna handbook to the workshop that they signed and sold at the door.

All told, the event was a clear success, with over 100 attendees, 4 volunteers, 4 chapter-sponsored SSU students, and 4 student scholars selected and sponsored through the SFBA Chapter's scholarship application process. The event registration also brought in 31 \*new\* chapter members and, helped along by a surge of last-minute registrants, raised over \$6,000 in funds.





# LAKE MERRITT OUTREACH EVENT SUMMARY

*By Kristin Tremain*

The June Public Outreach Event at Lake Merritt was a big success! The Wildlife Society SF Bay Chapter and the nonprofit WildOakland co-hosted “Keying the Trees of Lake Merritt and Enjoying Birds Who Call Them Home” on Saturday, June 13th from noon to 2 pm.

Kristin Tremain, Tammy Lim, and Ivan Parr, along with Constance Taylor of WildOakland co-lead the successful event, with a turnout of around 25 biologists and wildlife enthusiasts. The outing occurred along Lake Merritt’s north shore and included an introduction to keying trees, followed by birding. It was a great opportunity for everyone to freshen up on their keying abilities and to remind oneself the intricacies of keying. A Californian’s Guide to the Trees Among Us by Matt Ritter, proved to be an essential reference book and key.

Several shorebird species were observed, a great reminder that a lovely few hours of birding can be had midday during a Lake Merritt stroll without leaving the city limits. The cormorant nesting colony was abounded with over a few dozen nests, at least one dozen of which had fledglings! Binocular basics were revisited, too. This mellow 2-hour event was a great way to kick off the summer.

Stay tuned for the next Public Outreach Event, TBD. For ideas or interest, please contact the Public Outreach Coordinator Kristin Tremain at [KristinTremain@gmail.com](mailto:KristinTremain@gmail.com).





# HABITAT UNDER CONSTRUCTION: ALVISO SALT PONDS

*By Erika Walther*

On Saturday, August 29, SF Bay Area Chapter members toured the Alviso Salt Ponds with Joseph Garcia of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The Alviso Salt Ponds are part of the Salt Ponds Restoration Project, the largest tidal wetland restoration project on the West Coast. When complete, the project will restore 15,100 acres of industrial salt ponds to a rich mosaic of tidal wetlands and other habitats. Restoration began in 2008, and this past July, biologists observed for the first time the endangered salt marsh harvest mouse, as well as a breeding pair Ridgway's rails, in these restored wetlands. This is a beautiful place to explore with miles of walkable/ bikable trails and a great variety of waterfowl to enjoy.



# TOP 10 THINGS TO DO ON OUR TOTALLY AWESOME CHAPTER WEBSITE:

*By Erika Walther*

- 1) Tackle insomnia – read our bylaws! – Under the “About Us” page. (We are currently in the process of updating our bylaws and look forward to sharing an updated draft with you soon.)
- 2) Purchase a SF Bay Area Chapter t-shirt or sticker – visit our Merchandise page
- 3) Explore resources for dealing with a wildlife nuisance via our Resources page
- 4) Look for a job or submit a job opening on our Local Jobs Board
- 5) Get to know your Board members – “About Us” page.
- 6) Subscribe to our blog and receive notification of new posts by email – visit the right-hand margin of our homepage
- 7) Hydrate! Purchase our beautiful water bottle with logo from Café Press – visit our Merchandise page
- 8) Visit our Upcoming Events page and make plans to join us on an outing
- 9) Update your membership: \$10 for one year, OR we now offer a 3 year membership for \$25 (such a deal!) – visit the “Join TWS” page
- 10) Visit our blog often for the latest and greatest news from your local Chapter

# 2ND ANNUAL GOURMET GREENS AND BEASTS FEAST

*By Matthew Bettelheim*

On September 13th, 2015, the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter partnered again with the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society to host our family-friendly 2nd Annual Gourmet Greens and Beasts Feast potluck picnic in Tilden Park. In the spirit of the feast, attendees were encouraged to bring a potluck “Wild Dish” made from either native (e.g. miner’s lettuce, venison...) or non-native (e.g. wild oats, Eastern bullfrog...) ingredients that were grown, hunted, gathered, and/or foraged respectfully, in moderation, and legally in accordance with all local, regional, State, and Federal laws.

Among the highlights of this year’s feast were pink-flowering currant berries (*Ribes speciosa*), *Rosa californica* rose hip dip (w/ crackers), blackberry fennel salad, organic purslane, mallard duck breast (legally caught by a peregrine falcon) on a bed of arugula and wild rice, wild boar pulled pork, smoked chucker, “tuna” (prickly pear cactus fruit), and organic lemonade spiked with backyard Meyer lemons.

Puzzlemaster Ivan Parr challenged attendees to a battle of wits with plant and wildlife themed Jeopardy and a scavenger hunt. Take the following Jeopardy question, for example, for 400 points:

*“In the 60’s, an algae bloom slaughter  
(Was the outbreak that would become fodder  
For Hitchcock’s the birds)  
Sent barfing, crazed herds  
Of a seabird named \_\_\_\_\_.”*

(If you don’t know, we’re not telling...)

And then there were the bonus touch-me smell-me boxes, where hidden inside was a field guide you had to identify to title by touch, or the California native plant (<sigh of relief>) identifiable only by smell.

The scavenger hunt, on the other hand, required strategic partnerships of botanists and wildlifers poring through field guides and then scrambling for clues scattered throughout the park in a quest to be the first to complete a puzzle.







And for the limber amongst the crowd, Sue Rosenthal devised a variation on twister using native plant leaves and mammal prints in place of the traditional colors.

The plant raffle - hosted by Theo Fitandis - was peppered with a mélange of California locals, among them the common wild grape (*Vitis californica*), thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*), and several buckwheats (*Eriogonum* spp.) as well as the more esoteric, like salvia "Betsy Clebtsch" (*Salvia clevelandii*).

And most importantly, the end of the potluck was marked by the crowning of the 2015 Feastmaster - our Chapter's own Doug Bell - in the trademark antlered-helmet we've lovingly dubbed the Hornucopia, an honor earned by the sheer dumb luck of holding the wrong raffle ticket.

A big thanks to everyone who attended this year's feast. Make sure to visit the greens-and-beasts-feast's website for a full list of menu items, the native plant auction plant list, and sumptuous photos of all the greens and beasts "Wild Dishes":

<https://gourmetgreensandbeastsfeast.wordpress.com/2015-feast-highlights/>





# ADVANCED CAMERA TRAPPING WORKSHOP:

## EVENT SUMMARY

*By Janine Payne*

The SF Bay Area Chapter of TWS coordinated the Advanced Camera Trapping Workshop held at Pepperwood Preserve in Santa Rosa, from September 25th - 27th. For the second year in a row the course was taught by Susan E. Townsend, PhD. with the assistance of Steven Hammerich. This year we were also fortunate to have Tanya Diamond and Ahiga R. Snyder from Pathways for Wildlife as our guest lecturers. We had an AMAZING group of students from the Klamath Basin to the Inland Empire of Southern California, and even a couple traveling from Hawaii and Alaska! There was an equally diverse cross section of professional backgrounds represented, which made for a dynamic group. The weather was perfection and the setting idyllic.

The purpose of the workshop was for biologists currently using camera trapping in their research to learn more about study design, data management, database construction, and effective presentation of results. Students participated in field components and in class exercises. They each had the opportunity to share their research and consult with instructors and colleagues and do some troubleshooting. In addition to learning about current landscape level camera trapping techniques and software, participants were treated to case studies from Mongolia as well as ongoing studies being carried out at Pepperwood Preserve. We also enjoyed a really fascinating presentation from Pathways for Wildlife on using camera technology to evaluate animal crossings, along with some wonderful images from their work on the Central Coast.

Based on the course evaluations and overall profit, I consider the workshop to be a complete win. We earned approximately \$2,800.00 for the Chapter. Most of the attendees (17 out of 20) traveled from outside of our chapter boundaries to take advantage of this workshop. The take-away lessons for me were that Western Section advertising is really



Left to right: Steven Hammerich, Susan Townsend, Ahiga Snyder, and Tanya Diamond.

important, and that this particular subject matter is not being taught elsewhere, at least on the “advanced”, software analysis level. We received wonderful feedback on the course evaluations and almost everyone indicated that they’d gotten their money’s worth, considering all that they had learned.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Townsend for her incredible dedication and hard work, and ongoing contribution to the Chapter!



# CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Additional upcoming events:*

## Wildlife Biologist Construction Awareness Training (WILDCat)

Announcing a NEW workshop being offered for the first time at the TWS-Western Section Annual Meeting in Pomona! This workshop is being organized by SF Bay Area Chapter Board members in concert with the Western Section. Register on the Annual Meeting website when you register for the conference - <http://twswest.org/pomona2016>.

February 23, 2016: Tuesday 1-5pm  
\$50 for TWS-Western Section members;  
\$90 for non-members

A half day afternoon workshop immediately before the 2016 Annual Meeting of The Western Section of The Wildlife Society

Wildlife biologists are often called on to provide technical expertise and implement protective measures on construction sites, but rarely receive practical training in environmental permits or safety training as they enter the workforce. This half-day workshop provides an introduction to construction monitoring for recent graduates, early career professionals, and regular construction monitors, and will be taught by experienced wildlife biologists, construction personnel, and health and safety officers. Learn about the environmental permits that require construction monitoring, what to expect on construction job sites, situational awareness and health and safety basics, common environmental protection issues and Best Management Practices, effective communication techniques with construction crews, and useful tools of the trade. Upon completion of the workshop, attendees will receive a certificate of completion and helmet sticker that shows prospective employers and construction personnel in the field that they have attended WildC.A.T. training.

## SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Are you a photographer or have something you want to share? Submit your photographs and stories to the editor at [catherineyasudadesigns@gmail.com](mailto:catherineyasudadesigns@gmail.com)



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

*By Nicole Christie*

We currently have 170 total members of the S.F. Bay Area Chapter. Since the last newsletter, most members have joined/renewed through the National website. The new members are a good mix of students and professionals. We would also like to make you aware that the board has voted to offer a three-year Chapter membership for the discounted rate of \$25. We hope that this will make it easier for members to not have to worry about a lapse in their membership each year. This option will be available at our wonderful new website.

A number of members have agreed to make their information available for a Chapter directory. Contact information, as well as professional expertise are included. The directory will be distributed quarterly through email, and only those that provide their information will receive a copy. Members can contact Nicole Christie ([twswest.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:twswest.secretary@gmail.com)) if you would like more information.