

Change in Editorship

With this issue, Dr. Ange Baker, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) with the Department of Fish and Wildlife's Habitat Conservation Planning Branch Cannabis Environmental Compliance Program assumes the duties of editor-in-chief of California Fish and Game.

Under her guidance, the journal will continue its policy of presenting to the public the results of scientific investigations as they relate to management programs and the conservation of California fish and wildlife resources. Dr. Baker will strive to maintain and enhance the excellent reputation the journal has earned over the past 104 years.

To Armand Gonzalez, editor-in-chief over the past three years, we wish to express our appreciation for a job well done.

Charlton H. Bonham, *Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife*

Notes from the Editor

I am privileged and excited to begin as editor-in-chief of the *California Fish and Game* journal, as I take over from Armand Gonzales, who held the position for nearly three years until his recent retirement from the Department. The journal, which is California's longest-running, continuously published scientific journal, has an excellent reputation, which I plan to continue. Although I am relatively new to the Department, my experience with California's fish and wildlife resources goes back many years. I received my Master's degree from the Wildlife Department of Humboldt State University, and, after finishing my PhD, I returned to teach there for several semesters. I hope to one day see some of my former students publishing their work in this journal!

The journal is under the banner of the Department's Science Institute, whose mission is to "...ensure quality, visibility, and integrity of the science that is conducted and used within the California Department of Fish and Wildlife." Given this mission, the journal may experience some exciting changes in the coming months as we strive to increase its visibility and readership. The relatively new leader of the Science Institute, Dr. Christina Sloop, and I will be collaborating on ways to further better the journal and increase its reputation among wildlife scientists in our state.

This fall issue, the final of the 104th volume, while coming late due to the change in editorship, includes several excellent articles. The first article is a scientific note on a unique ecological event for one of California's most charismatic predators, the great horned owl. The authors describe an incidence of ground-nesting behavior, a rare occurrence for the species. The second article in this issue is also a note that sheds light on the life history of neonate leopard sharks in San Francisco Bay, specifically their diet. This information offers important insight into the estuarine ecology of the San Francisco Bay with implications for conservation. The final article is a full research article that provides insight into a

temperature-sensitive mammal that faces extreme challenges as our climate changes. The authors discovered that aboveground air and surface temperatures, and not within-talus temperatures, are likely what limits pika persistence in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

With this issue, there is one change to the editorial board. James Harrington, who has served as Associate Editor for numerous years is retiring. James started working for CDFG in November 1987 as a water quality biologist. He retired at the end of 2018 as a Senior Environmental Scientist, but he still considers himself a Water Quality Biologist since that is what he did for 30 years. First, he monitored rice pesticides in the Sacramento River and our Department's rotenone treatments throughout the State. Then in 1991, he went to the Water Pollution Control Laboratory (WPCL) as the State-wide Water Quality Biologist helping the regions with complicated monitoring projects and in spill response covered under Fish and Game Code 5650. He testified as expert witness and worked with Regional Water Quality Control Boards on several cases. While monitoring the discharge of one of our hatcheries, he established a protocol for biological monitoring using benthic macroinvertebrates or bioassessment. Over the years, he was able to hustle up dozens of contracts to hire additional staff and apply our protocols in streams and rivers throughout the State. He stayed in the same position until the end and now leave the Aquatic Bioassessment Laboratory, which is part of OSPR, in the hands of many devoted scientists he considers friends. However, he will stay involved as a volunteer on a few projects and continue teaching his bioassessment workshops since there are not enough of the Department's staff that understand what bugs tell you about healthy streams.

I am excited to be a part of this journal for the next few years. Please send all future manuscript submissions to me at angela.baker@wildlife.ca.gov.

Ange Darnell Baker, PhD
Editor-in-Chief
California Fish and Game