

## Notes from the Editor

The fall issue of 2020 comes a bit later than normal—our staff were consumed with the 3 special issues that we put out this year (more info on that at the end). Although not intentional, the issue seems to have a theme: water—all of the articles and one of the book reviews are about aquatic animals and water in California. The issue begins with an article by Kim Walker and her colleagues from both CDFW and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography about updated life history information—age and growth—of Barred Sand Bass. Next, Bob Sullivan and John Hileman from CDFW’s Northern Region provide an interesting use of time series modeling and forecasting of the Trinity River in northwestern California; their results provide implications for fisheries management in this area. Following the two full research articles are two notes: one by Dave Germano, from CSU-Bakersfield, about the ecology of a Sierran foothill population of northwestern pond turtles and the other a new record of Green Sturgeon in the San Joaquin River from Shaun Root and his colleagues at the Bureau of Reclamation. Lastly, the issue finishes with two book reviews: one on mountain lions and the other covering how the development of the San Joaquin Valley influenced water law in California.

Our editorial team both grew and shrank this quarter. We have *four* new Associate Editors, while one is leaving us. Erica Meyers and John Kelly join us as much-needed fisheries editors. Erica has been with the Department since 2012, working for six years in the San Joaquin River Restoration Program prior to taking a position in Fisheries Branch as the Central Valley Chinook Salmon Coordinator. In 2003, she earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, studying Conservation Biology in the Wildlife Ecology department founded by Aldo Leopold. She began her career rearing whooping cranes for reintroduction at the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, Wisconsin, before moving to California to monitor salmonid populations in the Klamath Basin for CDFW. Erica received her Master of Environmental Science and Management degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 2009. Her graduate studies focused on stream ecology, river restoration, and water resources management. Erica is particularly interested in applied science, anadromous fishes, hydrology, aquatic habitats, and the pursuit of elegant solutions to complex problems. John Kelly completed his bachelor’s degree at the University of Miami, FL, in 1995 before beginning his career as a reef fish biologist with The Nature Conservancy. He earned his PhD in 2006 at the University of California, Davis, where he studied Green Sturgeon movement and orientation. His areas of expertise include fish ecophysiology and behavior, and he has particular interests in euryhaline and anadromous fishes, osmoregulation, swimming performance, metabolism, stress, and biotelemetry. Dr. Kelly conducted postdoctoral research at the USGS Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, prior to serving as a tenured Associate Professor and Marine Biology Program Coordinator at the University of New Haven, CT. After nine years, Dr. Kelly chose to leave academia to return to California and follow his passion for fish conservation and management. He joined CDFW in 2018 and now serves in Fisheries Branch as Sturgeon Coordinator.

We also gained two wildlife editors, Matt Meshriy and Megan (Mayo) Crane. Matt Meshriy is an Environmental Scientist in CDFW's Upland Game Program at the Wildlife Branch. Matt serves as a coordinator for policy and management with statewide responsibilities for upland game birds, small game, furbearing and nongame mammals. Matt holds a bachelor's degree in Ecology and Evolution and a master's degree in Animal Physiology and Behavior from San Francisco State University where his thesis work involved field investigations of the endangered giant kangaroo rat. Matt has banded spotted owls with the U.S. Forest Service and worked in California's Central Valley to lead USGS field investigations of giant garter snakes. Matt joined CDFW in his current role in 2012. Mayo Crane is a Florida native who came to California to study birds. She completed her PhD at UC Davis in Ecology, focusing on population genomics in avian systems. Currently, she is an Environmental Scientist with CDFW; she focuses on migratory upland game and runs the mourning dove banding program.

We also lost a great editor this quarter—Paul Reilly has been an AE for the Journal for many years and resigned in order to give others the chance to provide their expertise to the Journal. Paul, a Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor), began his career with CDFW as a Seasonal Aid in October 1975 in Menlo Park, fresh out of the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography, and then became a Biologist in 1976. He applied his knowledge of zooplankton by studying Dungeness crab larval dynamics, as well as Dungeness crab fish predators. In 1980 as an Associate Biologist in Santa Barbara, he led a 2-year field study of fishes and invertebrates in Little Cojo Bay, Santa Barbara County, and began the first of 20 years as a certified Department scuba diver. From 1982 to 1992 he focused on research and management for the San Francisco Bay Herring fishery, including the use of hydroacoustics for biomass estimates. In 1992, he became a Supervisor in Monterey and led a scuba and commercial passenger fishing vessel study of nearshore and shelf rocky reef fishes. In 1999 he was designated as the Department's expert on marine protected areas and for the next 7 years became immersed in the Marine Life Protection Act process, but also developed regulations for the restricted access spot prawn trap fishery and supervised his staff who were all working on projects other than marine protected areas. In 2006, Paul became the Supervisor of the Northern and Central California Finfish Research and Management Project, currently with a staff of eight. Focal species include California Halibut, Surfperches, Pacific Hagfish, White Seabass, and True Smelt. He and Travis Tanaka have aged more than 4,000 halibut otolith thin sections. Paul has continued a long-term database for beach fishing effort in Monterey County since 2007. He reviews many documents and has participated in the hiring of many Marine Region staff over the years.

We also had an excellent guest editor this issue that filled the gap we had for fish biologists before John and Erica joined our team. Claire Ingel is a Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) in the Native Fishes Conservation and Management program of Fisheries Branch. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences from UC-Davis and a Master of Science in Natural Resources from Cornell University. Claire has worked for CDFW for 7 years within fisheries and habitat conservation programs, and approximately two years in her current role as Statewide Coordinator for the Native Fishes Conservation and Management Program. Her experience includes aquatic and fisheries management, habitat conservation and cannabis program review and permitting, grants management and coordination, aquatic education, and drought response.

With a lot of help from our editorial staff—particularly my amazing layout editor, Lorna Bernard, the Journal published its three—first ever—special issues this year. The issues focused on the impacts of cannabis, wildfire, and recreation on fish and wildlife resources. Please check out these issues as well as our upcoming ones on the California Endangered Species Act and Human-Wildlife Interactions (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Publications/Journal/Special-Issues>).

Ange Darnell Baker, PhD  
Editor-in-Chief  
*California Fish and Wildlife Journal*