

Notes from the Editor

With this issue comes the close of volume 99 of *California Fish and Game*, California's longest-running continuously published scientific journal. In 1914, when *California Fish and Game* first appeared, I doubt that the then editor considered the possibility that the journal would still be published 100 years later; I am pleased to see that it is, and I trust that Leadership appreciates the effort that has gone into producing it over the past century. Surely the initial editor, H. C. Bryant, did not envision a time in which the journal would be produced electronically and become available immediately to researchers throughout the world.

California Fish and Game was first published electronically as Volume 99 (3), earlier this year. With electronic publication, the journal also became one of "open access" and is available at no cost to interested researchers. There are many advantages to open access journals, among which are unrestricted access to research publications. Open access provides a worldwide audience larger than that of any subscription-based journal and, thus, increases the visibility and impact of published works. Open access also enhances indexing and retrieval power, and eliminates the need for permissions to reproduce and distribute content. I think it is safe to announce that *California Fish and Game* is fully committed to free, international access to all articles as soon as they are published.

With the close of volume 99, I want to thank Paul Hofmann, who has resigned after serving as an Associate Editor for nearly 20 years. I also want to acknowledge the willingness of several incoming Associate Editors that will be responsible for processing manuscripts in their respective areas of expertise, and who will be announced in the first issue of Volume 100. All Associate Editors serve in a volunteer capacity, and without their dedication and desire to help *California Fish and Game* be the successful journal that it is, publication could not continue.

I also want especially to acknowledge the contributions of Ms. Debra Hamilton, who handles all of the layout work for the journal (in addition to her regular responsibilities in the Audio Visual Unit), and those of Ms. Kirsten Macintyre, who has handled the mailing list, invoicing for page charges, complaints from subscribers, and the distribution of back issues, as well as supporting requests from the editor for better equipment, compatible software, and occasional travel expenditures. The amount of effort put forth by Debra and Kirsten in producing *California Fish and Game* is not readily apparent, and it is essential that their efforts be recognized.

During 2014, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife will publish the 100th volume of *California Fish and Game*. Several special issues are planned to commemorate this occasion, with the plan that each special issue will follow a particular theme. I look forward to the publication of volume 100, and to continuing the fine tradition that has been the flagship of this publication over the past 100 years.

Vernon C. Bleich
Editor-in-Chief