NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL MEETING
October 17 and 18, 2014
Hosted by Plumas Audubon Society.

Friday, October 17
Terry and Jerry Williams' Home
79985 Black Oak Road, Portola, CA

Amazing dinner for over 30 people! Thank you Terry and Jerry.
Amazing presentation by David Arsenault on chapters Grebe and Flammulated owl programs. Geolocators on a pair of owls found them wintering in Jalisco about 1 km apart before returning to the Sierra to breed again.

Saturday, October 18
Feather River Community College
570 Golden Eagle Ave, Quincy

Attending:

David Arnsenault, Plumas
Tony Hall, Plumas
Darla DeRuiter, Plumas
Jeff Rockholm, Plumas
Julie Newman, Plumas
Janet Swirhum, Plumas
Jerry Williams, Plumas
Terry Williams, Plumas
Cheryl Watson, Peregrine
Geoff Heinecken, Peregrine
Dave Jensen, Mendocino Coast
Johanna Jensen, Mendocino Coast
Larry Jordan, Wintu
Bill Oliver, Wintu
Katie Brice, Altacal
Derek Dunn, Altacal
Joseph O'Neill, Altacal
Matt Forester, Altacal
Lindsay MacGregor, Altacal
Jennifer Patten, Altacal
Cathy Carter, Altacal
Ken Sobon, Altacal
Dawn Garcia, Altacal
Dale Smith, San Joaquin
Andrea Jones, Audubon California
Mike Lynes, Audubon California
Garry George, Audubon California

CLIMATE CHANGE & BIRDS
Andrea Jones, Director of Bird Conservation
Audubon California

Andrea lead a dialogue on the N. California priority birds that are shown to be impacted by range changes due to climate change in the just released climate science by National Audubon, and the goals of the National Audubon Climate Initiative.

Chapter current efforts on climate:
Altacal is starting a program to convert back yards to native plants and capture water to reduce climate impacts.
Plumas ordered magazines from Audubon for college reading sessions
Ideas:
Ideas
25 page report on how Audubon created climate science can be shared with science classes. You can get this from ajones@audubon.org
Play 3 minute climate movie before meetings and before CBC dinner

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aN2-a82_3mg
Hummingbirds at Home APP

THE AUDUBON CALIFORNIA BUSINESS PLAN
Dave Jensen,VP
Mendocino Coast Audubon
Audubon California Board - NorCAL Council rep

Brother Dave led the congregation in a chorus of "This Audubon is Your Audubon" and the role of chapters in the Audubon California Business Plan 2015-2020. There are many goals in the business plan that track to the five conservation strategies of the National Audubon Strategic Plan, and the Goals of the Chapter Network Strategic Plan. All available from ggeorge@audubon.org

THE WATER BOND
Mike Lynes, Public Policy Director
Audubon California

Mike is the new Public Policy Director for Audubon California, formerly Conservation Director and Executive Director of Golden Gate Audubon in San Francisco.

Mike explained why Audubon California supports Prop 1 – the Water Bond and answered questions from the group. Audubon's position is available on the Chapter Resource site under http://ca.audubon.org/chapter-newsletter-and-web-resources along with a FAQ and drought materials for newsletters and websites.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Peregrine Audubon
Cheryl Watson

Board is in great shape. 12 members, 4 new, younger members.
Social media in good shape

Collaborating with Ukiah Valley Trail group on trails
Organizing field trips with CNPS.
Sunhouse Grace Hudson Museum – native plants for birds program
We aren't partnered with Audubon California on conservation.
Working with local winery – Parducci - on water usage.
Flight School education program is going forward. Maureen Taylor is taking over from Helen.
Chapter gives scholarship of $1,000.
Great attendance at meetings. Not sure why.
Secrets of the Oak Woodlands/Kate Marrianchild. Also gave a great presentation to Peregrine.
278 members, 85 local members

Mendocino Coast
Dave Jensen

Chapter has imposed term limits on the board and is attracting young folks by engaging them in conservation projects. Like our Save our Shorebirds.
Chapter has switched over to electronic newsletter.
Chapter received a bequest and has had to develop an investment strategy and decide on the future of these funds, and had to decide how to prioritize what they want to do.
Projects: Western Snowy plover kick started by Toyota Together Green grant and help from Andrea Jones. Now has grown into Share our Shorebirds and has received a State Parks Collaborative grants. Many of the chapter Board members started as volunteers in the Snowy plover program. Chapter is partnering with Audubon California on Black Oystercatcher nesting monitoring program. Chapter partnered with Audubon California on a restoration project at 10 Mile Beach for Snowy plovers.

Wintu Audubon
Larry Jordan

Chad Scott, new VP, attended the Audubon California Chapter Capacity building program and found it very effective.

Chapter has new website on the Wordpress platform. The new website has generated $500 in donations and more membership signups. Larry highly recommends this platform. Chapter got a grant to help with the cost of website and chapter hired a professional website designer and they are glad they did. Wordpress will host a site for free and David Arsenault recommended www.weebly.com.

Chapter has youth walk activity and provides binoculars through a grant from McConnell Foundation and used the Eagle Optics buy one get one free program for non-profits.

Altacal Audubon
Jennifer Patten and new Board members

Snow Goose Festival gets bigger every year. It is coming up in Jan 21-25, 2015.
Backyard Habitat program that includes water capture.
Chapter promotes rooftop solar

Joseph O'Neill – new VP. New, younger movement. Every weekend some birding events. Chapter will get new website. Chapter owns properties including 22 acre piece near Sacramento River. Chapter is trying to figure out access. Also has a small lot near Oroville. Oxydation pond is also a chapter favorite birding spot and chapter works closely with the treatment plant to keep birder access open to the facility.
Kate Brice, Treasurer. Got into birding from backyard bird count. New to birding and new as biology student is an intern for Grebe project. Kate showed some productivity numbers from Thermalito Afterbay. Massive rookey for White-faced Ibis. New outreach to Butte County Fair.
Outdoor Education For All (OEFA): Getting kids outside.
Derek Dunn, Education Chair: Taking grebe presentations to schools. Three pilot programs. Working closely with California State Parks on moonlight paddle.
Chapter has learned that it is better to add Altacal's perspective to existing programs rather than trying to do their own thing in a venue.
Chapter is monitoring drought in partnership grants with Audubon California.

San Joaquin Audubon Society
Dale Smith

(invited guest)

Membership is over 600 members. Chapter struggles with funding and budget. Chapter holds monthly programs and the same few people come to programs, same with field trips. Chapter helps with Central Valley Bird Festival, Lodi Crane Festival, Oak Grove Nature Center, Woodbridge Road Crane Preserve. Chapter staffs booths at events. Chapter just launched FACEBOOK page. Chapter conducts monitoring at Lodi Lake, Woodbridge Riparian Reserve. Chapter supported AB711 the Lead Ban, and I'm For the River – the San Joaquin River Restoration project.

Plumas Audubon
Jerry Williams

Chapter is still working on Grebes and Flammulated owls.
Intern program is going great.
Terry & Jerry do June Bird Days and Nights.
Chapter does 9 field trips.
Darrel Jury, former President of Plumas Audubon, has received 3 Together Green grants with Feather River Land Trust. So far the partnership has received $ 500,000 in grants for forest management and health. Working with Feather River Resource Conservation District and with the Maidu, local tribe on land trust properties. www.genessefireplan.org

Chapter has 77 local only members.

Presentation by Rob Wade on Learning Landscapes in Plumas County

Learning Landscapes: nurturing a child's relationship to land and learning

100 field trips down Feather River Canyon, Watershed education program: Plumas to the Pacific,

What is sustainability of an environmental education program?

Strategy by Feather River Land Trust: Conserve properties within a 5-10 minute walk from a school for outdoor education programs and to get teachers and students out on the land.

“What is the extinction of a condor to a child who has never seen a wren?” R.M. Pyle.

Ideas/Resources
Andrea passed on ideas for website resources
-eBird California logo for websites
-eBird widget for rare birds
-San Joaquin River online trail map for $500-$1000 for Audubon California to create with their GIS expert.

General News

Dawn reported that the Chico State University reserve has banned research and outreach programs including the Saw-whet Owl program as a result of the deck collapse at the last NorCAL Meeting. A non-profit will manage the reserve.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, October 10, 2015 in Redding, CA
Hosted by Wintu Audubon