

Mission Statement

The California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators is dedicated to advancing wildlife rehabilitation and supporting wildlife in a changing world.

Fall 2018

CCWR SYMPOSIUM 2018 - UPDATE

OCT 26-29, 2018 EARTHRISE AT IONS ,101 SAN ANTONIO RD, PETALUMA, CA 94952

The 24th annual CCWR symposium is right around the corner and we have news. The Board of Directors has been hard at work finding relevant topics and qualified speakers. The schedule is fairly firm (barring unforeseen circumstances) and is available on page 2 and posted on the website at <https://ccwr.org/wp-content/uploads/Schedule.pdf>. A document with presentation abstracts and speaker biographies is also available.

So, now is the time to reserve your space. This year we are offering all-inclusive packages at the EarthRise Retreat Center. The package includes the room, three meals a day (including the banquet on Sunday evening), registration, and use of the site facilities. There are no additional costs (taxes, fees, etc.) unless you choose to attend a lab.

Lets face it, the past year has been difficult for everyone — with fires as well as man-made and natural disasters. A huge reason for having a symposium is for all of us to come together, talk to one another, get to know our community a little more, recharge from the busy season, and network. This is such and important factor in our work because much of the time we are in wildlife rehabilitation care seclusion.

The annual membership meeting will be held during the symposium on Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 9:30-10:00am in the West Room at EarthRise at IONS, 101 San Antonio Rd., Petaluma, CA.

We urge everybody to consider coming to the symposium. We have a lot of rooms we need to fill up ASAP, so please register! And there are four \$300 scholarships available to defray the costs. You just need to complete an on-line form to apply. Once the rooms are filled, we can then offer commuter options (one or two days) for those who choose to stay off-site.

Everything you need or want to know about the symposium is posted at <https://ccwr.org/symposium/>. Please visit and register. We are looking forward to meeting all of you next month! 🌱



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SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

As of September 9, 2018. Subject to change.

Friday, October 26			
9:15-5:00	CCWR Board Meeting (Oakview Room) Contact Rachel Avilla, rachel@ccwr.org , by October 12 if you would like to attend the meeting)		
4:00	Check In/Registration		
6:00-7:00	Dinner/Site Orientation (Dining Room)		
7:00	Explore retreat facilities, networking		
Saturday, October 27			
8:00-9:00	Breakfast (Dining Room)		
Location >>	West Room	Forest View Room	Skylight Room/Lab
9:30-10:00	Membership Meeting (Rachel Avilla, CCWR Board President)		
10:00-10:30	CDFW Updates (Dept of Fish and Wildlife, CA and US)		
10:40-11:10	Disaster Preparedness Roundtable Discussion (Lizzy Brewer-Chouinard, Brooke Durham, Ashton Kluttz)	Lab Lecture: Fluid Therapy for Mammalian Wildlife Patients (Dr. Dan Famini)	Workshop: Crafting Custom Hoods (Linnaea Furlong, Napa Wildlife Rescue)
11:20			
12:30-1:30	Lunch (Dining Room)		
Location >>	West Room	Forest View Room	Skylight Room/Lab
1:30-2:20	Reptile and Amphibian Husbandry (Sean Parnell, East Bay Vivarium)	Captive Care of Rodents (Jacqueline Lewis, WildCare)	
2:30-3:20	Western Pond Turtle Care and Conservation (Jarrod Willis, San Francisco Zoo)	Wolves and Coyotes (Skie Bender, Wolf Haven International)	Lab: Fluid Therapy for Mammalian Wildlife Patients (Dr. Dan Famini)
3:30-4:20	Wildfire Large Mammal Success Stories (Dr. Deana Clifford, CDFW)	Captive Care of Skunks (Jacqueline Lewis, WildCare)	
4:30-5:20	Southern California Bobcat Mange-Treatment (Dr. Deana Clifford, CDFW)	Biosecurity for Wildlife Rehabilitation Centers (Dr. Dan Famini)	
6:00-7:00	Dinner (Dining Room)		
Sunday, October 28			
8:00-9:00	Breakfast (Dining Room)		
Location >>	West Room	Forest View Room	Skylight Room/Lab
9:30-10:20	Go WILD! An Intro to the Project WILD Guides (Caitlin Reilly, Project WILD/Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies)	TBD	
10:30-11:20	People Problems: Compassionate Human Management (Linnaea Furlong, Napa Wildlife Rescue)	Band-Tailed: Rehabbing CA's Native Pigeon (Mariah Horan, WildCare)	Lab: Feather Imping (Dr. Shannon Riggs, Pacific Wildlife Care)
11:30-12:20	Self Nourishment for Rehabbers (Desiree McGunagle, Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue)	Lab Lecture: Avian Necropsy (Dr. Rebecca Duerr, International Bird Rescue)	
12:30-1:30	Lunch (Dining Room)		
1:30-2:20	Adult Songbird Care (Lucy Stevenot, WildCare)	Barn Owl Maintenance Box Program (BOMP) (Natalie Jones/ Doris Duncan, Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue)	
2:30-3:20	Creance: Ancient Falconry Skills for Modern Rehab (Claudia Duckworth/ Pam Hartmann, Pacific Wildlife Care)	An Intern's Perspective of Three Wildlife Centers (Jessica Kwan, WildCare)	Lab: Avian Necropsy (Dr. Rebecca Duerr, International Bird Rescue)
3:30-5:00	Baby Crow Care from Intake to Release (Melanie Piazza, WildCare)	Research and Rehabilitation (Jessica Kwan, Cal Squirrels: Jacobs Lab of Cognitive Biology)	
6:00-10:00	Dinner/Banquet/Silent Auction/Raffle (no additional cost)		
Monday, October 29			
8:00-9:00	Breakfast/Adjourn (Dining Room)		
9:15	PEEP (Offsite field trip to Sonoma County Wildlife)		

BOARD ACTIVITY

The Board of Directors has been actively soliciting presentations and laboratory sessions for the upcoming symposium. The schedule is firm (barring unforeseen circumstances) and is posted on the website.

The next board meeting will be held at the Symposium, on October 26. Any active member is welcome to attend the board meetings. Please notify CCWR Board

President Rachel Avilla at least two weeks prior to attending (rachel@ccwr.org). Members who wish to present a topic must understand that speaking time will be limited as the meeting agenda is typically full of items to be discussed. Also the board may call an executive session or vote during the meeting and all regular members will need to temporarily step out of the room.

Two board members will not be returning in 2019, so we are again looking for members to apply to the Board of Directors. Please visit <https://ccwr.org/members-only/bodapplication/> to apply (Note: you must be logged in to access this form).

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING:
Oct. 26, 2018 9:15AM-5PM Petaluma

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

by *Elissa Blair, Advocacy Committee Co-Chair*

It has been an extremely busy spring and summer and the advocacy committee is getting ready to reconvene at the end of September and hold their next meeting. All interested CCWR members are welcome. Please contact us at info@ccwr.org for instructions on joining the online meeting. There will also be an in-person advocacy meeting that will take place during the symposium that all interested CCWR members are welcome to attend. Learn how you can be involved in California's wildlife policies that affect us all. The time and place of the meeting will be posted at the registration desk at the symposium or you can ask anyone wearing a board member ribbon.

We have created flyers for anyone to use to promote AB1031, which enables donations to wildlife rehabilitation through annual tax forms (see link to 2018 status report below). There are two flyers; one is an explanation for wildlife rehabilitation organizations on the stipulations for applying for the funds and the second a flyer to circulate to the California community to encourage donating towards the fund in order to keep the option on the tax form each year. Watch ENews for the announcement of the links to the fliers on our website.

CCWR has signed on to a letter, along with Defenders of Wildlife and other organizations, in opposition of anti-Endangered Species Act policy riders for the 2019 fiscal year that would undermine the Federal Endangered Species Act and other safeguards for wildlife. More information regarding these policies are noted below.

Here are links from congress.gov for the new policies:

H.R.5895

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5895>

S. 3073

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3073/all-info>

H.R. 6147

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6147>

CA FGC MEETINGS

View the meetings of the California Fish & Game Commission scheduled for the remainder of 2018 at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2018/index.aspx#sep>

AB1031 STATUS

View the status report for 2018 voluntary contribution fund at <https://www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/vcfsr/reports/051.pdf>



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WILDLIFE
REHABILITATORS

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2018 CCWR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President:	Ruth McDunn
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Treasurer:	Veronica Bowers
Board Members at Large:	Elissa Blair, Jo Joseph, Ashton Kluttz, Tomo Wiggans, DVM

NICOLE'S CORNER

By Nicole Carion, Statewide Coordinator for Wildlife Rehabilitation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING APPROVAL BY CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (CDFW) FOR OFFERING TRAINING THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT

The California Code of Regulations T-14 Section 679 (f)(8) Wildlife Rehabilitation- states: “all wildlife rehabilitation facility personnel, professional and volunteer, shall satisfactorily complete one department-approved wildlife rehabilitation training session each year. Training may include sessions of wildlife identification, wildlife capture and restraint, wildlife laws and regulations, veterinary medical and other subjects approved by the department. The training shall be a minimum of two hours.”

A “Wildlife Rehabilitation Training Proposal” form was developed to aid in formatting what information to send to the department for offering training that counts towards annual Continuing Education. The form can be obtained by emailing Nicole Carion, the statewide rehabilitation coordinator. The form asks for the following basic information:

- Name of the organization
- Training subject
- Instructor's name
- Phone number
- Credentials
- Training date and location
- Training outline*

Using the form is not mandatory. If the same information is provided, training can be approved without filling out the form. The information can be sent in an email to the statewide coordinator, as well.

**The training outline should reflect a structured process and provide enough details to provide a basic insight to what will be taught.*

All training proposals should be submitted 60 days prior to training, but it is not mandatory. Approval turnaround time can be quick and sometimes approval has been given after a class was taught. After the class has been approved by the department one time, it does not need to be approved again unless there are major changes to the information presented.

Below are a list of example subjects considered appropriate for continuing education:

- Annual internal facility orientations and rehabilitation classes
- Attendance to annual symposia and conferences (example California Council of Wildlife Rehabilitators (CCWR), International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (IWRC), American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association (HSVMS), etc.)
- CDFW wildlife rehabilitation meetings
- Species-specific rehabilitation classes given by permitted wildlife rehabilitation facilities or individuals

- Natural history lectures about wildlife given by National Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, natural history museums, etc.
- Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) training
- Online classes about wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife disease, or a related subject
- Webinars about native wildlife

Here is a list of examples that would not be considered appropriate for continuing education credits:

- “Speaking with” a veterinarian about cases.
- Attending a class at the local nursery about native plants.
- Going to a theme park or attending a raptor show.
- Taking a trip to the zoo.

If you have any questions as to whether a class will count towards CDFW continuing education credits, contact Nicole Carion at Nicole.carion@wildlife.ca.gov

Permitted wildlife facilities or individuals may elect to have their volunteers complete more annual training than CDFW requires, but not less.

The continuing education requirement is meant to stimulate continual learning due to the ever-changing methods of rehabilitation and the understanding of wildlife in order to improve their care. Thank you for your compliance. 🔄



MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACQUIRES 98 ACRES OF NEW PARKLAND IN LIBERTY CANYON WILDLIFE CORRIDOR IN AGOURA HILLS

mrca.ca.gov, September 10, 2018

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) announced on August 27, 2018 that it had acquired 98 acres of prime open space in the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Corridor in Agoura Hills. The significant Santa Monica Mountains open space is south of the 101 Freeway and west of Liberty Canyon Road, adjacent to open space owned by the City of Agoura Hills and the MRCA. The core habitat and trail access was permanently protected by funds granted by Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The purchase permanently protects viewshed that will continue to be enjoyed by thousands of motorists on the 101 Freeway every day.

“This acquisition will create a block of 2,430 acres of contiguous public open space that is not bisected by a single paved road, including 537 acres of parkland currently owned and managed by the MRCA,” said Paul Edelman, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning of the MRCA. “The new 98 acres of open

space includes the junction of the greater Malibu Creek State Park core habitat and the Liberty Canyon intermountain range wildlife corridor.”

The MRCA purchased the property with a grant of Proposition One funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, mitigation funds, and Los Angeles County Proposition A funds granted by Third District Supervisor, Sheila Kuehl.

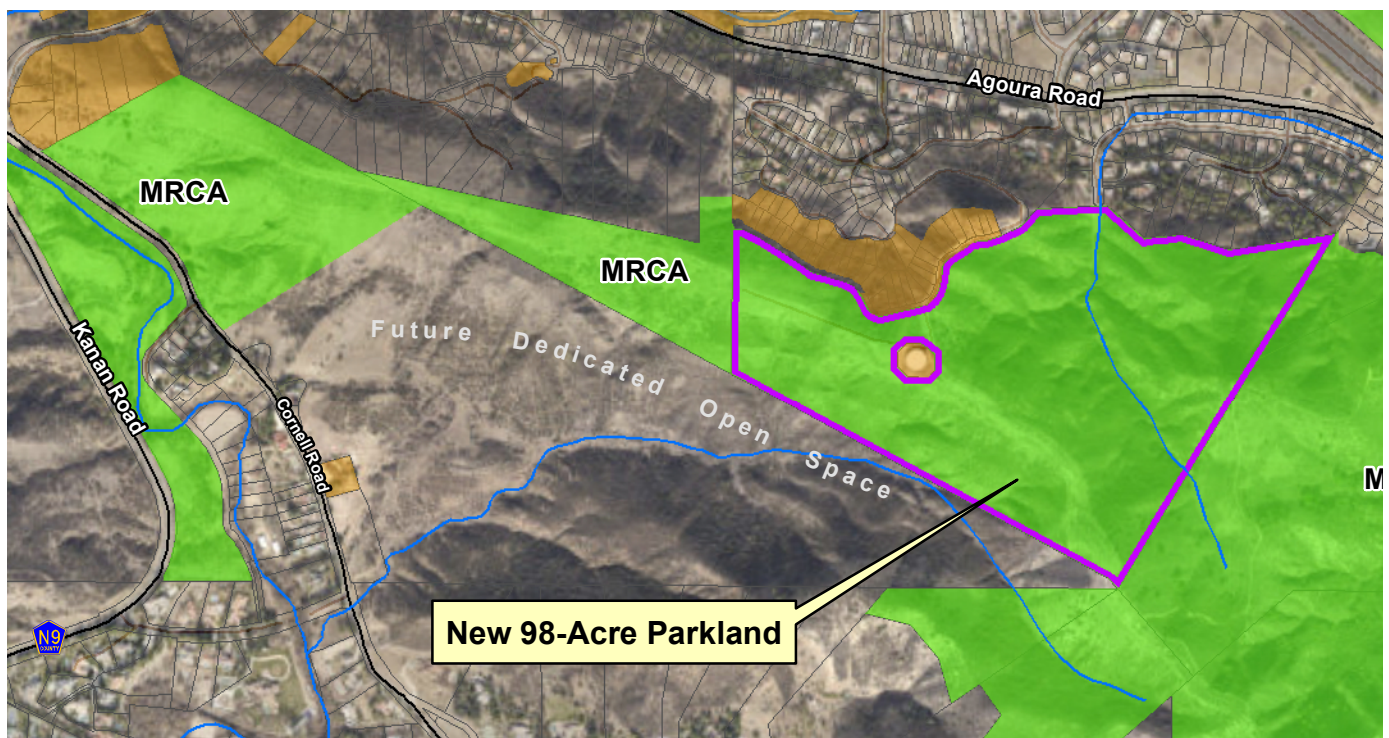
“I enthusiastically support this significant expansion of open space in the Santa Monica Mountains in order to make sure that this wild and beautiful habitat will be available in perpetuity for the people and animals of Los Angeles County to enjoy for generations to come,” said L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl.

The new parkland permanently protects core Santa Monica mountains habitat with prime coastal sage scrub and chaparral. The parkland provides critical linkages for wildlife and people and has good public hiking access from several locations. A United States

Geological Survey blue line stream courses through the heart of the property.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority is a local government public entity dedicated to the preservation and management of open space and parkland, watershed lands, trails, and wildlife habitat. The MRCA works in cooperation with other government partners to acquire parkland, participate in vital planning processes, provide natural resources and scientific expertise, and complete major park improvement projects. The MRCA manages and provides ranger services and fire protection for almost 75,000 acres of parkland that it owns, or owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and other agencies. MRCA provides comprehensive education, interpretation and leadership programs for youth. It is one of the lead agencies providing for the revitalization of the Los Angeles River.

Learn more about MRCA and the land it manages at: <https://mrca.ca.gov/> 



BEAVERS USED TO BE ALMOST EVERYWHERE IN CALIFORNIA

By Alison Hawkes on June 19, 2014 in the Bay Nature magazine

Joseph Grinnell was one of California's preeminent twentieth century zoologists, responsible for a good part of what we know today of the historic ranges of the state's native fauna. But even Grinnell had blinders — or maybe it was the limitations of an analog world. Grinnell, and his contemporary naturalist Donald Tappe, thought that beavers had a limited range in California, and never inhabited much of the state's coastal areas, including the San Francisco Bay Area or the Sierra Nevada mountains.

In the 60-plus years since the two naturalists drew up their beaver range maps, surprisingly little has changed in the state's official outlook. For the most part, *Castor*

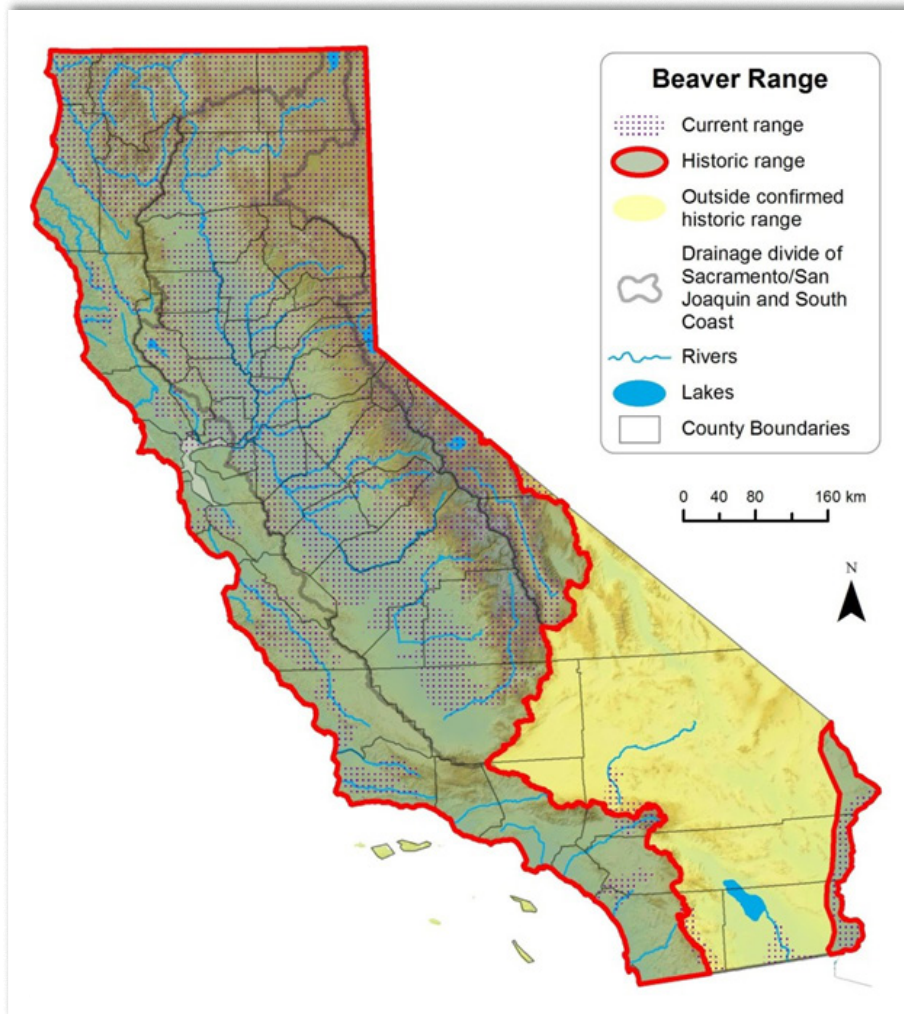
canadensis is considered a non-native pest, and subject to state-permitted removal from backyard streams, or anywhere else people find it inconvenient.

But in a new paper recently published in the scientific journal *California Fish and Game*, a group of hobbyist and professional ecologists rethink Grinnell and Tappe's assessment. They've compiled evidence from a wide range of digital and paper archives to show that beavers were once prevalent throughout most of California, including the entire San Francisco Bay Area.



Their findings suggest a different ecosystem prior the arrival of Western settlers, one in which beavers may have been critical to the creation and maintenance of an extensive network of wetlands throughout California that were teeming with life. After all, beavers are renowned “ecosystem engineers,” and wherever they appear so do many other species. “All of San Jose was a gigantic wetland with tens of thousands of elk and huge flocks of waterfowl that would have darkened the sky. That would have been true for the Marin coast as well,” said one of the paper's authors, Rick Lanman, a physician by trade who has more than a passing side-interest in the historical ecology of California (Lanman's son, Chris, a recent high school graduate, was the lead author). “We have the least understanding of any state on what used to live here.” Including beavers.

Just how California got its natural history wrong all these years has to do with our collective amnesia. Much of our knowledge of California's ecological past is being reconstructed today, as early records and specimens are being uncovered around the country and the world. When Grinnell published the definitive *Fur Bearing Mammals of California* in 1937, mammals such as beaver were long gone, the paper contends. “Everything had been wiped out 75 to 100 years before Grinnell started writing,” said Lanman. “He's a great guy, he made tremendous contributions, but he was



BEAVERS USED TO BE ALMOST EVERYWHERE IN CA, *CONTINUED*

limited. He didn't have digital records. You can search from your desktop online now."

Grinnell and Tappe reasoned that beaver were absent south of the Klamath River watershed because the climate is more arid, and coastal "stream beds are for the most part rocky and steep with but little beaver food growing along them" They also excluded the Sierra Nevada above 1,000 feet in the rivers draining into the Central Valley. But this made little sense to Lanman and his colleagues. Beavers have been found in riversheds as arid as the Mojave River, and recently they have been recolonizing many rivers and watersheds in the Bay Area. "I knew this assumption that beavers were never in the Bay Area was bogus just from life experience. There was a beaver right under I-680 when I would drive home. I knew they were there," said Heidi Perryman, one of the paper's authors.

Perryman founded the beaver advocacy group, Worth a Dam, to save from extermination a beaver family that had moved into a highly-visible pond outside a Starbucks coffee shop in downtown Martinez in 2007. City officials thought the beavers were a flood hazard and didn't belong there. It's a reaction that beavers get time and again, and is often legitimized with depredation permits. In 2013, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife issued 172 depredation permits, each one allowing the removal of multiple beavers on an individual site.

Perryman said that over the years she's heard the case against beavers, premised on the notion that they are not native. "People convince themselves that things weren't there, or aren't there anymore," she said. "This probably has a hint of meaning in beavers." If that notion could be disproved, maybe it would change the nature of the debate. In 2012, Perryman, Lanman and Brock Dolman from the Occidental Arts and Ecology Center's Water Institute wrote their first paper reviewing the evidence for beavers

in the Sierra Nevadas. "We had to step in and address this assumption that beavers are not native, therefore we can consider them to be a danger, a nuisance and then lethal management is justifiable," said Dolman. Occidental's Kate Lundquist was also an author on the paper and contributed to the research.

So, they got to work.

The group cast a wide net, searching for specimens in museums and archaeological sites, and examining historical fur-trapping records, historical newspaper accounts, geographic place names, and Native American tribal names for "beaver." They turned up a treasure-trove of evidence. Beaver bones are found in many places, including the Emeryville Shellmound, located on historic Temescal Creek, where a beaver tooth was catalogued at AD 300-500, as well as three other beaver bones. A rock painting from the Tule River Indian Reservation in the Sierra Nevada depicts what can only be deemed a beaver, dated at 500-700 years old.

A rock painting depicting beaver by the Chumash tribe, located at 1,600 feet elevation in the Sierras. Image courtesy of Heidi Perryman.

Then there are the place names: Beaver Creek, Beaver Ridge, Beaver Butte, Beaver Flat (Humboldt County), Beaver Point (Mendocino), Beaver Campground (Ventura), Beaver Hollow (San Diego).

Coastal Native American tribes had words for beaver. The Wappo in Sonoma called them "ma'-nah ow'-we," the Coast Miwok, "kah-ka'," and the Rumsen Coastanoan in Monterey called them "sur-ris," among others.

But it's the historical records the group dug up that tell the fuller story of what happened to California's beavers. In short, they were trapped out of existence. As the United States was just forming as a nation, the California coastline was an economic free-for-all with American, Spanish, English, and Russian ships sailing in to procure various kinds of mammal pelts from the Native American tribes. Sea otters and seals were the primary target, but beaver pelts were desirable too.

The authors date the start the California fur trade to 1785, just a decade after the Spanish discovery of the San Francisco Bay. Among the references to beavers were ship logs from commercial vessels listing beaver pelts on board. On the ship Albatross: 248 beaver pelts. On the Russian ship Kodiak's



BEAVERS USED TO BE ALMOST EVERYWHERE IN CA, *CONTINUED*

journey back from Bodega Bay in 1809 were otter and beaver skins.

Even further back in time, when the second Anza expedition was sent to found the Presidio in San Francisco, it stopped by the wetlands where the Mission Dolores would soon be established. On June 22, 1776, Father Francisco Palou described that the Native American men covered their shoulders “with sort of a little cape of beaver skins and pelican feathers.” French sea captain August Duhaut-Cilly wrote in 1827 of the Native Americans at Mission Sonoma that “the young men are letting fly their arrows at the beaver.”

The authors argue that the beaver were largely finished off by overland fur trappers. In 1821, the British-owned Hudson’s Bay Company set out from its bases in the Pacific Northwest to search as far south as the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys with orders to denude the lands of all fur-bearers so that the Americans would “have no inducement to proceed hither.” In an 1829 progress report on the company’s first fur brigade, Alexander McLeod reported that: “Beaver has become an article of traffic on the Coast as at the Mission of St. Joseph (in Fremont) alone upwards of 1,500 beaver skins were collected from the natives at a trifling value and sold to ships at \$3.” In one year, the Hudson’s Bay Company took 4,000 skins from the shores of the San Francisco Bay.

The authors noted that Native Americans would have been able to hunt beaver in mass numbers once maritime fur traders provided them with iron traps and guns, as traders did on the Eastern seaboard. By 1841, the numbers of fur-bearing animals had been so depleted along California’s coast that the Russian American Fur Company sold Fort Ross in Sonoma County just 30 years after its establishment.

Inland beaver populations took longer to exterminate, but they were largely trapped

out of existence except for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, where beaver were able to live largely undetected because of deeper waters. It may be that Grinnell and Trappe limited their analysis of the state’s beaver range to the remaining areas where beaver could still be found at the time of their writings.

“We felt the missing piece was that coastal beavers were never as numerous in numbers (as otters), and a group of native folks set on capturing them wouldn’t have taken long to eradicate them, especially in riparian systems where there is not a lot of room to move,” Dolman said.

It is perhaps because of their longtime absence that beavers are so overlooked as a solution to today’s conservation problems. Need help restoring a wetland, or recharging groundwater? You could bring in a beaver. Does your river dry out for half the year? A family of beavers might fix that. Are you trying to bring back salmon populations, or red-legged frogs? Beavers. “I’m not OCD on beaver here,” said Dolman. “But they are a tool in the toolbox. They have the capacity to provide a level of service to the ecosystem that is better and more durable and cheaper than we can do.”

In an interesting historical footnote mentioned in the paper, California brought back some beavers to stem erosion from 1923-1950, bumping the statewide population from a dwindling 1,300 in 1942 to 20,000 by 1950. The translocations happened in 58 counties — including Marin, Napa, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Mateo and Santa Cruz — and are thought to

be responsible for the beavers that live here today.

Beavers are responsible for creating biodiversity hotspots. As beavers bring up mud, they diversify the habitat for invertebrates on the pond floor, and set the stage for a thriving food web. As beavers bring up mud, they diversify the habitat for invertebrates on the pond floor, and set the stage for a thriving food web.

So, it’s not a crazy idea that beavers could be brought in again to help mitigate twenty-first century problems like climate change-induced droughts and water shortages. In southern Utah, the Grand Canyon Trust is reintroducing beaver to 87 creeks and waterways in the national forests. “I wish people had been talking about [this] when California declared drought this year,” said Perryman. “People need to be thinking about the animal that keeps water on the land as a resource.” In fact, there’s a growing interest among scientists to do just this. The Nature documentary film series recently produced an hour-long show, “Leave it to Beavers,” about how beavers can revive a landscape.

It may be that beavers’ day may come again to California. 🌿

