

Research Support for USFWS

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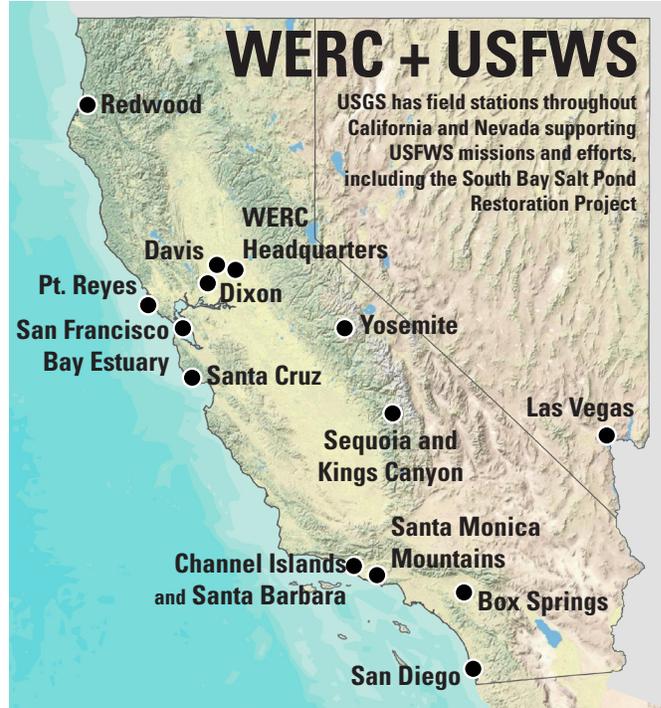
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The **Western Ecological Research Center (WERC)** is a USGS science center serving California, Nevada and the greater Pacific Southwest — the most ecologically diverse geographic region in the U.S. and a critical management area for the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**.

WERC has a strong and productive history of collaborating with USFWS, **providing research and monitoring on endangered species, National Wildlife Refuge lands and other USFWS priorities.** We match the expertise of WERC researchers with management questions of USFWS projects throughout California and Nevada, producing independent scientific data and analysis that help inform USFWS policy decisions.

These efforts are part of the USGS mission to provide sound science to federal, state and local agencies, on topics from climate change to land use impacts, from contaminants to invasives. We invite partnerships with refuge managers and regional offices to deliver science-based solutions for our changing world.



WERC Research Highlights

- Long-term monitoring to inform USFWS listing decisions and recovery plans for endangered/threatened species.
- Research and logistical support for the USFWS/DOI California Landscape Conservation Cooperative.
- Providing research administration, toxicity monitoring, benthos analysis and sea level rise forecasts informing adaptive management plans to restore over 10,000 acres of industrial wetlands managed by USFWS as part of the SF South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project.
- DNA microsatellite analysis, telemetry surveys and GIS modeling to assess/forecast wildlife population connectivity and habitat fragmentation in California and Nevada.
- Pre- and post-wildfire studies to track habitat type conversions and biodiversity changes.
- Development of a centralized, GIS-tagged “multi-taxa database” to standardize cross-agency ecological data.

WERC Threatened/Endangered Species Studies

- Giant garter snake (Dixon Field Station)
- Mojave desert tortoise (Las Vegas/Box Springs Stations)
- Amargosa niterwort (Las Vegas Field Station)
- Island night lizard (Point Reyes Field Station)
- California clapper rail (SF Bay Estuary Field Station)
- Mountain yellow-legged frog (San Diego Field Station)
- Southern California steelhead (San Diego Field Station)
- Stephens kangaroo rat (San Diego Field Station)
- Pacific pocket mouse (San Diego Field Station)
- Bell’s vireo (San Diego Field Station)
- Southwestern willow flycatcher (San Diego Field Station)
- San Diego fairy shrimp (San Diego Field Station)
- Fiji banded iguana (San Diego Field Station)
- Channel Islands plant species (Channel Islands Station)
- Tidewater goby (Santa Barbara Field Station)
- Snowy plover (Santa Barbara Field Station)
- Southern sea otter (Santa Cruz Field Station)
- And many other T/E and candidate species

Resources for USFWS Managers

WERC PUBLICATION BRIEFS

Academic findings published by WERC scientists delivered as concise, one-page briefings with management implications, written especially for resource managers. Full list online:

<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/PublicationBriefs.aspx>

WERC RESOURCE MANAGERS PORTAL

Search for USFWS topics in our Products Database, or learn more about WERC researchers and stations. Online at:

<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/OutreachForResourceManagers.aspx>

WERC EVENTS LISTING

Interact directly with WERC scientists at upcoming workshops and conferences. Browse the calendar online:

<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/Events.aspx>

To propose collaborations, projects and workshop invitations, or to inquire about specific research findings and products, please feel free to contact the lead scientist or field station directly.

National Wildlife Refuges with WERC Studies

- Alaska Maritime, AK (Davis Field Station)
- Antioch Dunes, CA (SF Bay Estuary Field Station)
- Ash Meadows, NV (Las Vegas Field Station)
- Desert Range, NV (Yosemite Field Station)
- Don Edwards SF Bay, CA (Davis, Dixon, SF Bay Stations)
- Klamath Basin, CA (Dixon Field Station)
- Kofa, AZ (Las Vegas Field Station)
- Malheur, OR (Dixon Field Station)
- Nisqually, WA (SF Bay Estuary Field Station)
- Palmyra Atoll, Pacific Ocean (San Diego Field Station)
- Red Rock Lakes, MT (SF Bay Estuary Field Station)
- Sacramento Complex, CA (Davis, Dixon Field Stations)
- San Diego Complex, CA (San Diego Field Station)
- San Luis and Kern, CA (Davis, Dixon Field Stations)
- San Pablo Bay, CA (SF Bay Estuary Field Station)
- Salton Sea, CA (Davis Field Station)
- Stone Lakes, CA (Dixon Field Station)
- Tijuana Slough, CA (San Diego Field Station)

WERC Lead Scientists

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South Bay Salt Ponds Restoration Project

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