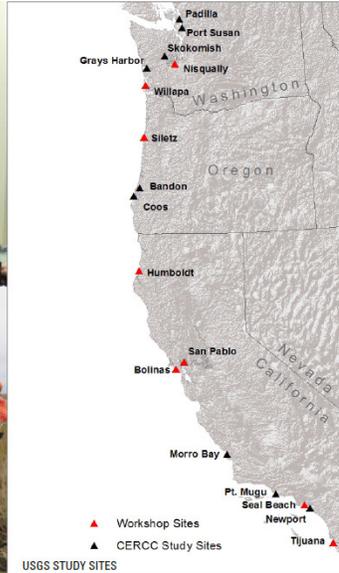




STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS



RTK GPS SURVEYS



USGS STUDY SITES

EVENTS

December 10, 2014 (Webinar)
Brian Halstead will discuss his California research at a **AFWA Amphibian and Reptile Subcommittee** webinar on conservation research efforts by the USGS National Amphibian Research and Monitoring Initiative (ARMI).
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/Event.aspx?ID=200>

December 15-19, 2014 (San Francisco)
Josh Ackerman will have mercury studies presented at the **2014 AGU Fall Meeting**.
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/Event.aspx?ID=199>

IN THE NEWS

Richardson Bay Research Project Seeks to Help Declining Duck
(Marin Independent Journal)
 Reporter Mark Prado interviewed **Susan De La Cruz** about a partnered project with the Richardson Bay Audubon Center. The team has set out herring eggs on kelp (HEOK) rafts as an experiment to boost the survival of surf scoter ducks.
http://www.marinij.com/News/ci_27039839/

Restoring the Salt Ponds
(Exploritorium Science in the City)
 The Exploritorium in San Francisco interviews **Laura Valoppi** on the history and science goals of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project.
<http://www.exploritorium.edu/tv/index.php?project=104&program=1529>

Does Biodiversity Protect Humans Against Infectious Disease?
(USGS GeoHealth Newsletter)
 Researcher Chelsea Wood explains a literature review coauthored with **Kevin Lafferty** on the impact of biodiversity loss on human infectious diseases.
<http://www.usgs.gov/envirohealth/headlines/2014-09-12-biodiversity.html>

Pacific Coast Sea-Level Rise Workshops

The USGS Western Ecological Research Center has been working with federal, Tribal, state, and local partners to establish a network of study sites in 17 estuaries along the Pacific Coast, examining climate change effects on tidal wetlands with high-quality local data, downscaled models, and projected storm effects. Led by **Karen Thorne**, the team also has been facilitating stakeholder workshops at eight Pacific Coast estuaries, sharing local baseline data, modeled results, coast-wide trends, and data gaps, and collaboratively identifying how local results might be incorporated into conservation, planning, and adaptation case studies. Supported by the California and North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, the events are tailored for managers, scientists, and other decision makers. Learn more about these events:
<http://climate.calcommons.org/article/SLR-workshops>
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5071>
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/cercc>
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/thorne>
<http://www.wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov/pdf/Taking-Action-progress-report-2014.pdf>

NEW JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Warren, JM, KA Cutting, **JY Takekawa**, **SE De La Cruz**, TD Williams, DN Koons. 2014. **Previous success and current body condition determine breeding propensity in Lesser Scaup: evidence for the individual heterogeneity hypothesis.** *The Auk* 131(3): 287-297. doi: 10.1642/AUK-13-236.1
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5117>
- Ostojca, SM, **ML Brooks**, T Dudley, SR Lee. 2014. **Short-term vegetation response following mechanical control of saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.) on the Virgin River, Nevada, USA.** *Invasive Plant Science and Management* 7: 310-319. doi: 10.1614/IPSM-D-13-00064.1
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5083>

This Biweekly Update is produced as a service to USGS/WERC staff, colleagues, partners and the interested public. To add your email address to the mailing list or to report errors/suggestions, please contact blandis@usgs.gov. Download this issue at www.werc.usgs.gov/outreach.aspx.

NEW JOURNAL ARTICLES (CONT'D)

O'Neil, ST, JM Warren, **JY Takekawa**, **SEW De La Cruz**, KA Cutting, MW Parker, **JL Yee**. 2014. **Behavioural cues surpass habitat factors in explaining prebreeding resource selection by a migratory diving duck.** *Animal Behaviour* 90: 21-29. doi: 10.1016/j.anbehav.2014.01.004 <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5113>

Fearon, ML, **PS Coates**. 2014. **Interspecific nest parasitism by Chukar on Greater Sage-Grouse.** *Western Birds* 45:224-227. <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5093>

Casazza, ML, **MA Ricca**, **CT Overton**, **JY Takekawa**, AM Merritt, **JT Ackerman**. 2014. **Dietary mercury exposure to endangered California Clapper Rails in San Francisco Bay.** *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 86: 254-260. doi: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2014.07.009 <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5090>

Cappelle, J, D Zhao, M Gilbert, MI Nelson, SH Newman, **JY Takekawa**, N Gaidet, DJ Prosser, Y Liu, P Li, Y Shu, X Xiao. 2014. **Risks of Avian Influenza transmission in areas of intensive free-ranging duck production with wild waterfowl.** *EcoHealth* 11(1): 109-119. doi: 10.1007/s10393-014-0914-2 <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5112>

Baltar, M, **JE Keeley**, FP Schoenberg. 2014. **County-level analysis of the impact of temperature and population increases on California wildfire data.** *Environmetrics* 25: 397-405. doi: 10.1002/env.2257 <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5066>

NEW BOOK CHAPTER

Lafferty, KD, CD Harvell. 2014. **The role of infectious disease in marine communities.** In: Bertness, MD, JF Bruno, BR Silliman, and JJ Stachowicz (eds.). *Marine Community Ecology and Conservation*. Sinauer Associates, Inc. <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5103>

NEW PROCEEDINGS

Miller, DAW, FJ Janzen, **GM Fellers**, **PM Kleeman**, and AM Bronikowski. 2014. **Biodemography of ectothermic tetrapods provides insights into the evolution and plasticity of mortality patterns.** National Research Council. *Sociality, Hierarchy, Health: Comparative Biodemography: Papers from a Workshop*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press, 2014. <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=5098>

IN THE NEWS (CONT'D)



Remote Rainforest Expedition in Choiseul (ESSI)

Researcher David Boseto reports on the October 2014 biological survey in the Choiseul Province of the Solomon Islands. **Jonathan Richmond** and **Adam Backlin** joined this SPREP-supported mission. <http://ecologicalsolutions-si.com/Choiseul-Expedition-2014.html>

Should U.S. Government Kill Thousands of Birds to Save Salmon? (*National Geographic News*)

Reporter Isabelle Groc quotes **Pete Coates** on the predator subsidy effects of tall anthropogenic structures in sagebrush ecosystems and food webs. <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/11/141118-shooting-cormorants-columbia-river-salmon-endangered-species-environment/>

OUTREACH NEWS

Badgers are the focus of a new outreach video from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), explaining research by **Cheryl Brehme** tracking wild badgers in Southern California through the help of trained dogs and citizen reports. <http://youtu.be/vyOhSt9HDrQ>



Providing Best Available Science for Planning for Renewable Energy and Conservation in California's Deserts
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
ENERGY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



Informing California Desert Energy Development

The California Energy Commission has a new brochure available explaining the portfolio of research projects funded to support planning and implementation of the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP).

Two research topics led by USGS Western Ecological Research Center scientists are listed: "Mohave Ground Squirrel Habitat Modeling to Guide Solar Development" with research by **Todd Esque** and **Rich Inman**; and "Golden Eagles, Their Prey, and Effects of Renewable Energy" with research by **Kathy Longshore** and colleagues at USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center.

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/2014publications/CEC-500-2014-091/CEC-500-2014-091-BR.pdf>