



Founded in 1925

Western Bird Banding Association 2009 Annual Meeting

August 28th-30th
Sobrato Center for Nonprofits
Milpitas, California

Hosted by the San Francisco
Bay Bird Observatory

Preliminary Program

*Final program will be available on the web
one month prior to the meeting.*

Thursday, August 27th

5:00-10:00 pm Registration and Social at the
Sobrato Center

7:00 pm Dinner at Suraj Indian Restaurant at the
Inn (not included in registration fee)

Friday, August 28th

7:00-7:45 am Complimentary breakfast with hotel
stay

Registration

10:00 am-2:00 pm Registration at Sobrato Center

Banding Demonstrations and Workshops

6:00-11:00 am Hummingbird Banding Workshop at
Hidden Villa in Los Altos

12:30-4:00 pm Workshops at the Sobrato Center

Field Trips

8:00 am-12:00 pm Don Edwards San Francisco Bay
National Wildlife Refuge

2:00-5:00 pm Birding the Palo Alto Baylands

Activities

12:00-4:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting at
Sobrato Center with lunch

5:00-9:00 pm BBQ and Social at the Palo Alto
Baylands Interpretive Nature Center

Saturday, August 29th

7:00-7:45 am Complimentary breakfast with hotel
stay

Registration

8:00 am-12:00 pm Registration at Sobrato Center

Continued. . .

Banding Demonstrations and Workshops

6:00-8:00 am Passerine Banding Demonstration at
Coyote Creek Field Station

Activities

(All activities at the Sobrato Center)

8:30-9:30 am Peter Pyle, "Adventures in Molt!"

9:30 am-12:00 pm Scientific Session

12:00-1:30 pm Lunch

1:30-4:00 pm Scientific Session

4:00-5:00 pm Business Meeting and Report from
BBL: Meet the new Chief of the Bird Banding Lab,
Bruce Peterjohn

6:00-7:00 pm Poster Session and Social

7:00-10:00 pm Dinner, Silent and Live Auction, and
Keynote Speaker: Dr. John Y. Takekawa,
"Adventures in Capturing and Tracking Waterbirds
across the Globe: Advancing our Understanding of
Migration through Satellite Telemetry"

Sunday, August 30th

7:00-7:45 pm Complimentary breakfast with hotel
stay

Banding Demonstrations and Workshops

6:00-10:30 am Passerine Banding Workshop and
Demonstration at Coyote Creek Field Station

Field Trips

7:45- 4:00 pm Field trip with Alvaro Jaramillo along
San Mateo Coast

9:30 am-2:30 pm San Francisco Bay Waterbirds at
South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Sites

If you have a workshop or demonstration that you
would like to lead at the meeting contact C.J. Ralph
(cjralph@humboldt1.com).

Questions?

Contact Lindy Nice

408-946-6548; lnice@sfbbo.org



Song Sparrow by Will Signal.

The Western Bird Banding Association will hold 2009 Annual Meeting over the weekend of August 28-30 at the Sobrato Center for Nonprofits in Milpitas, California located in South San Francisco Bay.

San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

One of the most important migratory stopover areas on the Pacific Flyway, the South San Francisco Bay is home to a variety of habitats which makes it one of the best areas to bird in California. The diversity within this region ranges from tidal marshes, salt ponds, mud flats and shoreline, grasslands, and finally riparian corridors; consequently the area is a wildlife haven for a variety of birds including passerines and waterbirds.

The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory's (SFBBO) research is as diverse as the habitats within the South Bay. From our long-term riparian bird monitoring station, the Coyote Creek Field Station, to our waterbird research that contributes to the largest restoration project on the west coast, the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, SFBBO uses banding as avian conservation research tool for a variety of passerines and waterbirds species.

The South Bay has a Mediterranean-type climate. During late summer the temperature is usually between 65 and 75 degrees and precipitation is rare. Afternoon high temperatures are tempered by the sea breeze off the bay.

Sobrato Center for Nonprofits

In order to make this a green conference, we selected a conveniently located conference site. The Sobrato

Center for Nonprofits is located a short walking distance to the hotel and within five miles of several field trips. There is free on-site parking and an on-site café, the Gourmet Express Deli, open from 8 am – 3 pm. The Center is also within walking distance to many other restaurants and is close to several shopping areas including McCarthy Ranch and the Great Mall. It is conveniently located one-block off the Int. 880 and Hwy. 237 interchange in Milpitas, close to downtown San Jose and provides quick access to the Peninsula and the East Bay corridors as well as being near public transportation sites.

Accommodations

The Best Western Brookside Inn is located next door to the Sobrato Center for Nonprofits. **Reserve by July 1st** and mention the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory reservation number **(HR0000)** to get an excellent rate of \$69.00 per night plus tax. The hotel can accommodate up to four people per room which makes this rate unbeatable. Amenities at Best Western Brookside Inn include an outdoor swimming pool, sauna, steam room, and laundry facilities. Wireless Internet access in public areas is complimentary, as is guest parking. The hotel offers a complimentary full breakfast from 7:00am-10:30am. Best Western Brookside Inn is located 400 Valley Way, Milpitas, CA 95035; Phone: 408-263-5566.

Participants are responsible for making their own room reservations.

Transportation to the Meeting

The San Francisco Bay Area is serviced by three major airports (San Jose International, San Francisco International, and Oakland International Airports). We recommend flying into San Jose International Airport, located only 7 miles from the Sobrato Center for Nonprofits and the Best Western Brookside. Many carriers service San Jose. Additionally, Oakland Airport is 29 miles and San Francisco Airport is 35 miles from the conference location. There are many airport shuttle services available. From San Jose Airport expect a cost of \$25/person plus \$9 for each additional person for one-way transportation. Shuttle transportation from

Oakland and San Francisco Airports will be more expensive. ***Please coordinate with other conference attendees for sharing a car or group rates.***

Participants are responsible for making their own shuttle reservations. The following companies offer reasonably priced shuttle services:

<http://rideflyreservations.com/>

<http://www.supershuttle.com/>

Other Transportation

We anticipate that you will not need to rent a car during this conference; all travel such as field trips, workshops, will be provided by Bird Observatory staff and volunteers, and carpooling will be a possibility.

Call for Papers and Posters

Abstracts are now being accepted for the oral and poster presentation sessions on Saturday. Presentations can reflect original research, summarize existing information, or address the use of banding as a tool in avian research and monitoring. It is best if abstracts identify study objectives, describe study methods and data analysis, discuss the significance of the research, and propose future research directions. Oral presentations will be limited to 20 minutes, including 3-5 minutes for questions.

Abstracts should include:

1. List of authors (last name, first name, and affiliation of lead author and first name, last name, and affiliation of co-authors)
2. Mailing address and email of presenting author
3. Title
4. Brief (300 or fewer words) summary of project

Please submit paper or poster abstracts electronically by 15 July to C. J. Ralph (cjralph@humboldt1.com).

Exciting Silent and Live Auction

Do you have something to contribute to a silent or live auction, preferably relating to birds? If so, please contact the Lindy Nice (lnice@sfbbo.org) or bring it to the meeting. Various items are great, including fun nature and bird-related items, such as pictures, books, traps, feeders, t-shirts, equipment, etc. Come and share your extras, and find some treasures!!

Keynote Speaker, Workshops, and Field Trip Details

Keynote Speaker: Dr. John Y. Takekawa

Keynote Address: "Adventures in Capturing and Tracking Waterbirds across the Globe: Advancing our Understanding of Migration through Satellite Telemetry"

Dr. John Y. Takekawa is a waterbird specialist with the U. S. Geological Survey who established the San Francisco Bay Estuary Field Station, located on San Pablo Bay, in 1995. His research focuses on the global wintering and migratory ecology of waterbirds through radio telemetry and satellite telemetry, and ecological processes of wetlands in San Francisco Bay. His studies have focused on projects in California wetlands, Pacific Rim countries including Russia, Japan, and Mexico, and recently in Africa and Asia. Recently, he has been helping to develop Movebank, a repository for satellite telemetry data on migratory birds.



Rufous Hummingbird by Tom Grey.

Workshop: Hummingbird Banding

This exciting workshop will highlight established Hummingbird Monitoring Network (HMN) protocols, including: 1) hummingbird capture using Hall traps, 2) hummingbird-specific banding and band-making tools, and 3) updated hummingbird ageing and sexing keys. The recently established HMN is a network of banding stations using standardized protocols to determine long-term monitoring sites, estimate hummingbird population sizes and detect trends, and use information gathered to preserve and protect hummingbird's populations. Rita Colwell is a NABC hummingbird trainer and has been banding hummingbirds for 20 years. Currently, Rita runs a HMN site in Scotts Valley, CA, which is in its third year of monitoring.

Workshops: Friday Session at the Sobrato Center

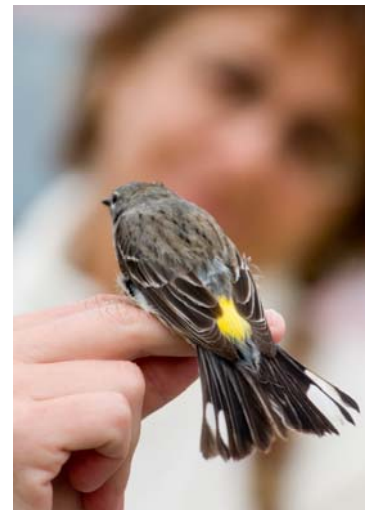
Will include a wide variety of interesting topics, including: important advances in raptor capture techniques, new banding equipment, simplified banding data entry, how to analyze your banding data, sampling for bird flu, using specimens to teach molt limits, and others. Workshops will be presented in a buffet style, of 45 mins to 2 hours. Contact C.J. Ralph if you are interested in leading, or have an idea for, a workshop at cjralph@humboldt1.com.

Workshop: Passerine Banding

Observe passerine bird banding and extraction techniques at SFBBO's Coyote Creek Field Station and participate in two mini-workshops: (1) Photo-taking techniques for open wings and tails, and (2) Molt patterns and ageing techniques utilizing live birds, photos, and open wing specimens.

Fieldtrip: Don Edwards S. F. Bay National Wildlife Refuge

A special tour where participants will get a rare opportunity to explore and bird the salt ponds of the Refuge. The group will travel by van to closed areas of the Refuge, where they will see and learn about the restoration of 15,100 acres of South San Francisco Bay salt ponds into tidal marsh habitats. We will be visiting during high tide to see what shorebirds and other migrants we can find. Some seasonal visitors include Forster's Terns, phalaropes, and sandpipers. In addition to seasonal visitors, the Refuge provides critical habitat to resident species like the endangered California Clapper Rail and the threatened Western Snowy Plover. The Refuge is 5 miles from the Inn.



Audubon Warbler by Rod Golden.

Fieldtrip: Birding the Palo Alto Baylands

Bounded by Mountain View and Palo Alto, the 1,940-acre Baylands Preserve is the largest tract of undisturbed marshland remaining in the San Francisco Bay. Fifteen miles of multi-use trails provide access to a unique mixture of tidal and fresh water habitats. The preserve has a substantial resident population of birds as well as being a major migratory stopover on the Pacific Flyway. Common species include American Avocets, Black-necked Stilts, Black Skimmers, Willets, sandpipers, herons and egrets, endangered California Clapper Rails, and nearly 100 other bird species. If you attend this field trip there will be no return trips to the Inn until after the barbeque, unless you coordinate your own transportation. The Baylands is located 20-30 minutes from the Inn.



Snowy Plover by Caitlin Robinson.

Field Trip: S. F. Bay Waterbirds at South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Sites

Come and learn about the largest restoration on the west coast, the South Bay Salt Restoration Project, and the waterbirds species affected by this unprecedented restoration effort. Lead by Jill Bluso Demers, Acting Executive Director / Science Programs Director at San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory and member of the South Bay Salt Restoration Project Science Team, you will not only get a chance to see the waterbirds that call South Bay home, but also learn about the scientific research contributing to the restoration. During this waterbird excursion we will visit salt ponds, recently restored sites, and tidal marshes during high tide. Most locations we will visit are less than 15 minutes from the Sobrato Center. Bring \$5 - 8 dollars for lunch in the historic town of Alviso, at the world-famous taco-truck. Vegetarian options may be limited.

Field Trip: Al Jaramillo along the San Mateo Coast

Birding the San Mateo coast at this time of year is exciting as August is a good time for finding unusual species. You'll bird the coast, Princeton Harbor, and woodland sites from Montara to Half Moon Bay looking for gulls, cormorants, alcids, shorebirds, hawks, sparrows, warblers and more. Al is a biologist at the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, and also travels widely as a birding guide for Field Guides Inc. His *Birds of Chile* is now the standard field guide for Chile. His works include *New World Blackbirds: The Icterids*, the Icterid chapter to *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior*, as well as both popular and scientific articles. There will be a maximum number of participants; spots are available on a first come first serve basis. The drive from the Inn to the coast is about an hour. Bring \$10-15 for lunch.



Al Jaramillo holds a bird for viewing by Caitlin Robinson.

Transportation for all field trips will be provided by San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory staff and volunteers, or carpooling.

REGISTRATION FORM

Western Bird Banding Association Annual Meeting Milpitas, CA August 28th - 30th

Name _____
Organization _____
Address _____
City, State, and Zip Code _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

Registration Fee

Includes Saturday scientific sessions and lunch, as well as all field trips/workshops.

___\$70 Postmarked on or before August 1st

___\$80 Postmarked after August 1st

___\$50 Student Registration Fee

Social Events

Friday BBQ:

___\$20

___ Please indicate vegetarian preference

Saturday Dinner (please indicate meal of choice):

___\$25 Vegetarian Pasta

___\$26 Rotisserie Chicken

___\$28 Roasted Sliced Tri Tip

\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

AUCTION!

If you have something to contribute to a silent or live auction, preferably relating to birds or at least natural history, please contact the organizers or bring it to the meeting.

Make checks payable to San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory and mail it with this form to:

ATTN: WBBA

San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

524 Valley Way

Milpitas, CA 95035

Refund and Cancellation Policy

Registrants unable to attend will receive a full refund, provided the cancellation request is received no later than August 18th.

Cancellations received after August 18th will not receive a full refund for the Friday BBQ or Saturday Dinner; additionally, we will be unable to refund \$20 of your registration fee. Please allow 2-3 weeks for refunds to be processed.

Field Trips and Banding Workshops

Please indicate which field trips you wish to join. Under-requested field trips are subject to cancellation. Some field trips have a maximum number of participants and are filled on a first come first serve basis. All of the field trips will depart by carpool from the Best Western Brookside Inn.

Will you need transportation for the field trips?

___ Yes ___ No, I will have a car

Friday

___ Hummingbird Banding Workshop

___ Workshops at the Sobrato Center

___ Don Edwards S. F. Bay National Wildlife Refuge

___ Birding Palo Alto Baylands

Saturday

___ Passerine Banding Demonstrations at Coyote Creek Field Station

Sunday

___ Passerine Banding Demonstrations at Coyote Creek Field Station

___ San Mateo Coast with Alvaro Jaramillo

___ San Francisco Bay Waterbirds at South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Site