

## SCB Meeting Minutes 4 December 2006

- **Announcements**
  1. **Cold Canyon-** The Stebbins Cold Canyon hiking trip was very successful thanks to the amazing natural history knowledge of Phil Ward. About ten people participated in the trip and everyone found it fun and educational. If you participated, then see Pete about signing a card.
  2. **Future SCB Natural History Trips-** The SCB officers would like to continue doing chapter group trips like the one to Cold Canyon. Possible trips for January and February are a joint Monterey Bay Aquarium/monarch overwintering site trip and a trip to see water fowl. It would be nice to get in contact with someone at the aquarium for a behind the scenes tour. If you have any connections please contact one of the officers. Also, if you have ideas of other places to go or of experts that might be willing to lead trips let us know.
  3. **Biodiversity Blues Benefit Concert (Contact Person: Michael Branstetter [mbranstetter@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mbranstetter@ucdavis.edu))-** SCB Davis Chapter would like to put on a benefit concert in Davis with proceeds going to a group excelling in conservation work. This concert may also double as an SCB party. To make this happen, we would like to organize a committee that would identify a worthy organization to support and help in concert set up. We have identified a potential venue and have started to find bands that are willing to play. The concert will be either late Winter or early Spring. If you would like to be a part of this committee or if you just have some good ideas, please contact Michael.
  4. **Bay Area Conservation Biology Symposium-** SCB Davis Chapter will be hosting the 2008 symposium and it is not too early to start thinking planning. As the time draws closer, more information will be provided, but if you are interested in participating in the planning process please email the officers. More info can be found in previous minutes, which are posted on the website.
  5. **Oak Restoration (Contact Person: Jim Thorne [jhthorne@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jhthorne@ucdavis.edu))-** For the last four years the Chapter has supported oak restoration projects around CA. This year, Jim is trying to set up a voluntary contribution account that would allow people in Davis to mitigate their carbon impact. Money donated to the account would go towards growing oaks on campus. Jim has been in contact with the grounds crew and has already identified sites where these trees can be grown. Jim will also be organizing oak plantings throughout the year, the first being early next quarter and he needs volunteers for planting the oaks and collecting acorns. It was mentioned that it would be nice to get WIDSI involved in this project. Classes could be responsible for growing oak trees. If you would like to help plant oaks, collect acorns, or know of schools that may want to participate please contact Jim.
- **Talk: The Grinnell Resurvey Project by Dr. James Patton from the MVZ at Berkeley.**

Summary: Dr. Patton talked about what the project is, where it came from, mammal distributional changes at Yosemite, possible causes, and what we can do now. The project's aims are to identify changes in CA terrestrial vertebrate biodiversity and understand why these changes are occurring. This is being done by resurveying the sites that Joseph Grinnell (the first director of the MVZ) surveyed almost 100 years ago. Currently, the project has completed a resurvey of the Yosemite transect and is just starting to analyze the data. Preliminary results show that many species have changed distributions. Some have moved to higher elevations, some have contracted their range, and some have even gone down in elevation. Possible causes being investigated are fire history and climate change. Much modeling is being done using the original survey data plus climate data to predict modern distributions. Modern data is also being used to predict past distributions. These models and tests will allow for the prediction of future trends. The program is always looking for collaborators and volunteers, so if you would like to help out in the project please contact Dr. Patton. For more information either visit the MVZ website (<http://myz.berkeley.edu/Grinnell/index.html>) or email Michael or Pete, we have Dr. Patton's Power Point and went to the presentation.

The talk was excellent and we had a great turn out. The SCB Davis Chapter is very thankful to Dr. Patton for taking the time to come over here from Berkeley. Please come to our next meeting, scheduled for early January.