



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



November 1, 2019

Mr. Matt Dias, Executive Officer
California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
1416 Ninth Street
PO Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE MEMBERSHIP ON THE
EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING COMMITTEE**

Dear Mr. Dias:

The purpose of this letter is to nominate a new California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) representative for the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC). Our previous, representative, Ms. Amanda Culpepper, has taken another assignment with CDFW. This letter requests that the Board appoint Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory) Elliot Chasin as the voting CDFW member of the EMC.

Mr. Chasin has been a staff member of CDFW's Timberland Conservation Program for over five years, representing CDFW at Board meetings, in statewide policy efforts, and scientific projects. Mr. Chasin brings almost a decade of experience at CDFW working in multi-agency group settings and is prepared to work with the EMC to implement science-based projects to benefit California's forests. Please see Mr. Chasin's attached resume for more details on his qualifications.

Thank you for your time and attention regarding this request. If you have questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please contact Isabel Baer at (916) 651-3110 or isabel.baer@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard Macedo, Branch Chief
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch

Attachment

Mr. Matt Dias, Executive Officer
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cc: J. Keith Gilles, Ph.D, Chair
California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
1416 Ninth Street
PO Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Susan Husari, Co-Chair of the Effectiveness Monitoring Committee
California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
1416 Ninth Street
PO Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

ec: California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
publiccomments@bof.ca.gov

Loretta Moreno, Co-Chair of the Effectiveness Monitoring Committee
Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)
Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Program
California Natural Resources Agency
loretta.moreno@resources.ca.gov

California Department of Fish and Wildlife:

Chad Dibble, Deputy Director
Ecosystem Conservation Division
chad.dibble@wildlife.ca.gov

Isabel Baer, Environmental Program Manager
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
isabel.baer@wildlife.ca.gov

ELLIOT CHASIN

Objective

To use my knowledge and passion for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation to facilitate landscape-level conservation planning and policy. My specific interest is conserving birds in a changing climate through connecting protected landscapes.

Professional Experience

Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) [5/14 - Present]

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Timberland Conservation Program (TCP)

Sacramento, CA

- Represent CDFW on the AB1492 Leadership Team, including working groups. This team is responsible for administering the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund and implementing policy across California's private timberlands. Members include: CDFW, CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), CA Geological Survey (CGS), and the CA State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB). CDFW member on the Data and Monitoring Working Group and Administrative Performance Measures Working Group.
- Lead of the Campbell Creek Planning Watershed Pilot Project Working Group, a multi-agency public/private project under the AB1492 Leadership Team.
- CDFW liaison to the CA Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Coordinate with Board staff, review and present plead language, propose regulatory reforms, participate in working groups, and attend workshops and tours.
- Statewide coordinator for the CDFW review of the CA Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's California Vegetation Treatment Plan Programmatic EIR (CaVTP).
- CDFW representative on the statewide Forest Management Task Force Regulations Working Group.
- Increasing responsibilities to instill concern for wildlife and natural communities into California's new year-round fire regime policies. Projects in response to these concerns include: CAL FIRE's 35 Priority Projects and review of utility companies wildfire mitigation plans.
- Coordinate CDFW participation in the multi-agency Emergency and Exemption Monitoring effort.
- Review and provide analysis on legislative bills that relate to CDFW's timber harvest review and fire responsibilities.
- Develop measures and coordinate with Regional staff to implement effective changes to workflow that yields a more consistent approach and outcome to timber harvest reviews.
- Assist Environmental Program Manager with TCP operations, budgeting, and dissemination of program policy to regional supervisors.
- Support Regional staff with ecological and technical assistance, training coordination, the implementation of new policy directions, and meeting facilitation and coordination.
- Participate in stakeholder groups and respond to stakeholder queries regarding CDFW's participations in timber harvest review.
- Acted as TCP/NPP Environmental Program Manager during two six-week stretches in a formal out-of-class assignment.
- Acted as Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor in the Region 2 Habitat Conservation Planning Program during a three-week stretch in a formal out-of-class assignment.

Environmental Scientist [2/11 - 4/14]

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Renewable Energy Program (REP)

Sacramento, CA

- From November 2013 through April 2014 was last remaining Scientist in the REP Headquarters (HQ), which had been downsized due to budget cutbacks. Maintained my responsibilities in all of the areas below and continued to regularly coordinate with Regional staff to ensure standards of practice statewide.
- CDFW REP lead in HQ for issues that pertained to avian/renewable energy interactions.
- CDFW REP lead for various stakeholder and working groups focused on avian/renewable energy interactions including having represented the REP in the CA/NV Golden Eagle Working Group.
- CDFW REP lead in the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) Natural Communities Conservation Plan / Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP) planning process. This included: writing and review of documents, leading and participating in weekly working groups with staff from multiple State and federal agencies, coordination with DFW headquarters and regional staff, and participation in stakeholder meetings. Additional GIS mapping and analysis. Plan participants: CDFW, CA Energy Commission (CEC), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), US Bureau of Land Management (BLM).
- REP HQ lead reviewer of Regional incidental take permits (ITPs) and Consistency Determinations (CDs) for renewable energy projects in California which required a California Endangered Species Act (CESA) permit. Collaborated with DFW Regional staff and DFW Office of General Council on individual permits.
- Project manager for Section 6 Planning Grant and State Wildlife Grant (SWG) tasks. Prepared scope of works, budgets, various contracting documents, and final project reports. Project manager for the golden eagle, California condor, and desert tortoise Section 6 tasks - these three tasks had a total budget of over \$490,000.
- Reviewed and provided analysis for legislative bills that relate to CDFW's renewable energy and climate change responsibilities.
- Commented on federal and state documents and guidelines, including CEQA comment letters.

Professional Experience CONT'D

Environmental Scientist [8/07 – 1/11]

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)

Carpinteria, CA

- Organized and managed biological fieldwork in the Santa Ana River floodplain. Managed set of survey reports, including data analysis, based on field efforts. Project: Santa Ana River Multi Species Habitat Management Plan (SARMSHMP). Client: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).
- Wrote and edited various environmental documents for all levels of government and business. Included numerous NEPA/CEQA document sections. Wrote multiple sections of NEPA documents including Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), Environmental Assessments (EA), and Biological Assessments (BA) for federal government clients.
- Utilized ArcGIS to create map deliverables supporting various NEPA documents.
- Field technician/biologist on projects for all levels of government and business. Surveys included: monitoring and surveying for federally-listed endangered species, general wildlife and botanical surveys, wetland delineations, and site visits and evaluations. Surveys occurred in multiple environments and habitat types including: deserts, alpine and subalpine habitats of the Sierra Nevada, California grasslands, floodplains, chaparral, beaches and dunes, and oak savanna.
- Was solo surveyor, leader, or member of a team that surveyed for: slender-horned spineflower, thread-leaved brodiaea, and western snowy plover.
- Environmental Monitor for the County of San Luis Obispo - representing multiple agencies - at the former Guadalupe Oil Field restoration project.
- Lead for three summer interns.

Education

Master of Environmental Science & Management, Conservation Planning Specialization [6/07]

Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

University of California, Santa Barbara

Relevant Coursework: Conservation Planning; Climate Change Biology; GIS; Landscape Ecology; Restoration; Environmental Writing; Biogeochemistry; Environmental Economics; Environmental Law; Earth Systems Science; Biogeography; Environmental Impact Assessment; Environmental Politics & Policy Making

Master's Group Project Thesis:

Biology and Management of Non-Native Plant Species in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Client: National Park Service [4/05 – 4/06]

- One of five graduate students responsible for development and completion of thesis group project.
- Created a Weed Risk Assessment for 19 species of interest designated by the National Park Service.
- Designed a hierarchical system to determine which species and/or populations of weeds should be recommended for different forms of management.
- Completed a detailed report and presented findings to industry professionals and scientists.
- Created the project poster and brief which was used for presentation to scientists, members of industry, and the general public.

Bachelor of Arts, Physical Anthropology [12/99]

University of California, Santa Barbara

Board/Volunteer Experience

Sacramento Audubon Society Board of Directors, Conservation Chair [7/17 - present]

- Participant in ECOS Habitat 2020 and website committee.

Santa Barbara Audubon Society Board of Directors, Program Chair [7/10 - 1/11]

- Voting member of the Board and responsible for arranging and presenting monthly programs.

Santa Barbara Audubon "Eyes in the Sky" Program, Volunteer [3/07 - 1/11]

- I handled and presented raptors to groups in the Santa Barbara area as part of an education program that teaches the community about raptors and the environment.

Computer Skills

- Windows, Mac OS, Android, iOS, ArcGIS, ArcGIS Online, Google Earth, GPS, Microsoft Office, and Adobe Premiere.