

# Daniel Edelstein

## Biologist & Environmental Scientist

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www.warblerwatch.com (my Web site)  
http://warblerwatch.blogspot.com (my blog devoted to songbird/wood-warbler topics)

### □ EDUCATION

- M.S.: Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, (Dean's List)
- B.S.: Journalism (Dean's List), Marquette University

### □ PERMITS

- US Fish and Wildlife Service fairy shrimp collecting permit Federal Endangered Species (10(a)1(A)) Permit (through 2010) for listed vernal pool branchiopods (e.g., fairy shrimp and tadpole shrimp in California)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Permit for CA Clapper Rail (10(a)1(A)) and California Department of Fish and Game permit (Memorandum of Understanding)
- Scientific Collecting Permit Application, #006365, California Dept. of Fish & Game
- Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plant Voucher Collecting Permit, #08076
- US Fish and Wildlife Service southwestern willow flycatcher collecting permit (10(a)1a), pending (expected by 2009)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service, California tiger salamander collecting permit (10(a)1(A); approximately 50% complete with requirements)
- Certified Associate Wildlife Biologist (pending) The Wildlife Society (National Professional Organization)

### □ ADDITIONAL TRAINING RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

- CA Clapper Rail (CLRA) survey assistant (received US Fish and Wildlife Service collecting permit 10(a)1(A) based on my survey work with PRBO Conservation Science's 2008-09 point counts throughout North Bay locales, in addition to other 2006-7 CLRA surveys), 2008-current
- Fairy Shrimp certification class (Instructor: Mary Belk, permitted fairy shrimp authority); successfully passed test in 2005 and earned US Fish and Wildlife Service fairy shrimp collecting permit 10(a)1(A) that is applicable through 2010.
- Certificate of Achievement, Wetland Delineation Training Course, Romberg Tiburon Center, San Francisco State University, 2001.
- Various University of California-Extension classes related to "Wetlands Regulations Update-Compliance & Mitigation," "Environmental Compliance," including California Env. Quality Act (CEQA) training, "National Env. Policy Act (NEPA)" training, "Endangered Species Act" updates, "Northern California Special-Status Reptiles & Amphibians," "Endangered Species Act Compliance and the California Red-Legged Frog," and "Endangered Species Act Compliance and the California Tiger Salamander."
- "Stream Restoration Techniques" (full semester course) completed in 2005, Santa Rosa Junior College; class included hands-on case study project/report submission for prospective "watershed restoration project" by Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game.
- Biology and Management of the California Tiger Salamander, conducted by Alameda County Conservation Partnership, August, 2006.
- Biology and Management of the California Red-Legged Frog, conducted by Alameda County Conservation Partnership, June, 2006.
- College of Marin classes: *Ornithology* (followup to initial 1985 semester class, 2004; *Mammalogy*, 2003; *Field Ecology*, 1989 and 2002; *GIS Methods*, 2001).
- Bird Bander training, Institute For Bird Populations, 1998 Certificate of Achievement.

### □ PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Wildlife Society
- Member, Association of Environmental Professionals
- Member, Society of Wetland Scientists
- Member, Western Field Ornithologists
- Member, Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Member, American Birding Association
- Member, Marin Audubon Society (on both its Board of Directors and its Conservation Committee)
- Member, Golden Gate Audubon Society

## □ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Mr. Edelstein possesses diverse skills as an experienced biologist in the environmental field for more than 20 years. He has conducted wildlife and botanical field studies (with an emphasis in mammal, herpetofauna, and avifauna surveys for both special-status and common bird species) and developed technical sections for environmental assessments, biological assessments, initial studies, environmental impact reports, environmental impact studies, restoration plans, and wetland delineation reports. In addition, he has prepared biological resource assessment, impact analysis, alternative solutions, and mitigation strategies, in addition to working with agencies to procure permits on behalf of clients. Conducting long-term monitoring surveys for special-status species (e.g., raptors within a proposed wind turbine network) and coordination of compliance standards related to construction within sensitive habitats are two other well-developed skills.

His specialties include wildlife ecology, raptor surveys, California clapper rail surveys {for which he possesses a US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) 10(a)1(A) permit}, fairy shrimp (he possesses a 10(a)1(A) permit}, avian studies/surveys, and wetlands and botanical services requiring compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA), federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and various California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) codes. While following both state and federal protocol guidelines, he has conducted general and focused surveys for a wide variety of both common and special-status wildlife species, in addition to performing botanical field studies/surveys and wetland delineations. Mr. Edelstein has knowledge of the state and federal endangered species acts, as well as state and federal regulations and permits involving biological resources. His training includes wetland delineation certification and permitting. He is familiar with electronic inventories of flora and fauna (CNDDDB and others), GPS operation, GIS and mapping techniques, as well as other aspects of report production and presentation. He has attended strategic planning meetings with clients and developed budgets/scopes, in addition to writing proposals in response to Requests For Proposals.

Mr. Edelstein's biological surveys for special-status wildlife species have been conducted for fairy shrimp throughout California. Another of his specialized talents relates to bird surveys, including many for special-status raptors (e.g., burrowing owl, Swainson's hawk, northern harrier), rails (e.g., California clapper rail, black rail) and songbirds { (e.g., southwest willow flycatcher, yellow warbler, Allen's hummingbird, Loggerhead shrike, least Bell's vireo, oak titmouse (subspecies), coastal California gnatcatcher, yellow-breasted chat, saltmarsh common yellowthroat, hermit warbler, tricolored blackbird, lark sparrow, song sparrow (three subspecies), and Lawrence's goldfinch}. His surveys for other special-status wildlife have included California red-legged frog, western spadefoot (toad), California tiger salamander, desert tortoise, and Alameda whipsnake. In summary, Mr. Edelstein's biological expertise includes identification and life history knowledge of taxon such as birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, forbs, and trees in diverse habitats including wetlands, coastal areas, grasslands, deserts, and forests.

For bird-related projects, Mr. Edelstein has proven ability (based on more than 30 years of identifying birds nationwide in diverse habitats) to identify more than 400

species of birds by sight or sound. He regularly conducts breeding bird censuses and has performed point counts using GPS to document breeding bird abundance and patterns. He has also conducted numerous mammal and herpetofauna studies that have required trapping and monitoring the behavior of common and special-status mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. He teaches environmental and ornithology classes at community colleges (e.g., Merritt College, Oakland, CA where he is an on-call/adjunct faculty member) and in adult education settings, and remains an invited speaker to nationwide conferences, ornithological societies, science museums, and environmental meetings.

## □ PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

### Biological

- Field Surveys for presence and/or absence of listed and special-status species (flora and fauna).
- Biological surveys (flora, fauna, and wetland/riparian resources) for public, private and commercial development projects (e.g. planned developments; wind turbine and electrical distribution, transmission, and poles; communications towers; bridge and culvert replacements; and riparian encroachment).

Bird surveys have been conducted for the following special-status species: songbirds such as southwest willow flycatcher, yellow warbler, Allen's hummingbird, loggerhead shrike, least Bell's vireo, oak titmouse (subspecies), coastal California gnatcatcher, yellow-breasted chat, saltmarsh common yellowthroat (*sinuosa* subspecies), hermit warbler, tricolored blackbird, lark sparrow, song sparrow (three subspecies), and Lawrence's goldfinch, in addition to other special-status bird species, including, burrowing owl, golden eagle, northern goshawk, California clapper rail, black rail, and white-tailed kite.

Special-status focused wildlife surveys have included northern spotted owl, California red-legged frog, western spadefoot (toad), California tiger salamander, desert tortoise, and Alameda whipsnake.

- Plant survey experience: wetland delineations throughout California; mitigation design, installation, and monitoring; vegetation mapping and analysis for riparian restoration projects; habitat characterizations; short- and long-term biological monitoring; wetland value and function (California Rapid Assessment Method); resource mapping and analysis; stream surveys for macroinvertebrates; fish sampling.
- Author of 1) Biological Assessment (BA) reports and 2) biological resource chapters for EIRs that address compliance measures for Federal and/or State agencies under National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 and Section 10, (e.g., biological monitoring for construction projects such as riparian restoration, bridge installation and natural gas pipeline replacement in order to avoid impacts to listed and special-status flora and fauna species; surveys conducted to minimize impacts to wetland and/or riparian habitats, and ensure compliance through proper use of Best Management Practices (BMPs)).
- Assessment of project impacts towards selected resource(s) and the design of on- and off-site mitigation or preservation plans pursuant to legal requirements or client request. Monitor and evaluate mitigation.

### Wetlands

- Conduct formal U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and California Coastal Commission (CCC) wetland delineations.
- Evaluate and calculate direct and indirect impacts to wetlands and other *Waters of U.S.* and/or *State* for projects including, but not limited to, natural gas pipeline installations, transportation corridor improvements, landfill conversions, disposal sites in violation, and residential/commercial developments.
- Develop appropriate restoration design, acceptable mitigation methods, and applications with the ability to follow strict protocols and maintain effective working relationships between the client and all regulatory agencies.

## **Revegetation Plans & Utility/Right-of-Way Forestry**

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- Research and develop re-vegetation plans for sites impacted by grading and construction design elements, including coordination of plant purchase and execution of planting on the site (with subsequent irrigation/monitoring plan included as part of mandated "success criteria").
- Heritage Tree and tree resource mitigation/permit compliance for applicable projects where regulations and ordinances exist (e.g., heritage oak preservation to comply with county-by-county standards in California).
- Coordinate State agencies, private vendors and all landowners for Right of Way vegetation management operations.
- Land identification and biological resource inventories for all project site selections.
- Supervision of vegetation management for utility and fuel load reduction operations on public and private lands.
- Coordination with local utility companies, local governments, and private landowners for utility Right-of-Way vegetation management operations.

## **Permitting**

- USACE Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Individual and Nationwide Permits (NWPs) for projects (e.g., restoration and mitigation activities, navigable channels communications towers, earthen levee repair, and residential and commercial developments) impacting *Waters of the U.S.*
- Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) Section 10 permitting for activities occurring in, over, or under navigable *Waters of the U.S.*
- California Regional Board (multiple Regional Boards) CWA Section 401 Certifications and Reports of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for projects (e.g., stormwater outfall, natural gas pipeline repairs/installation, bridge installation, earthen levee repair) impacting *Waters of the U.S. and/or State.*
- CDFG Lake and Streambed Alteration Notification Packages (Fish and Game Code Sec. 1600) for projects (e.g., stormwater outfalls, earthen levee repairs, riparian encroachments) impacting riparian habitat.
- CCC Coastal Development Permit for projects (e.g. private planned development projects, remediation, natural gas pipeline installation and earthen levee repair) located within the Coastal Zone.
- 2081 California Endangered Species Act (CESA) permitting (e.g. 2081 (b) and (c) Incidental Take Permit Process) (private and commercial planned development projects).
- Biological Assessment Reports for all Federal and/or State agencies under NEPA/ESA Section 7 and 10, USFWS Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) permitting (private and commercial planned development and remediation projects).
- Consult and supervise as a project manager in the development (or continuation) of multimodal plans and projects which involve all relevant local, State, and Federal permitting guidelines.
- Conceptual and detailed design/planning of native restoration programs within compliance of USACE, CDFG, and USFWS permitting requirements.

## **Environmental Planning**

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- CEQA Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) and determination if project meets criteria of Categorical Exemption.
- Biological Resources sections for biological sections of CEQA Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) and Mitigated Negative Declarations (MNDs), in addition to Biological Assessment (BA) report preparation.
- Preparation, review and process of all relevant environmental protocols and documents as mandated by all Federal, State, and local regulations, and guidelines.
- Wild and/Urban Interface assessments containing appropriate management applications, local, State, and Federal agency coordination, and proactive planning performed for public agencies and private clients.
- Detailed construction level planning and design.
- Mitigation design.

## **Other Skills**

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- GPS: Trimble Pathfinder ProXR field unit and TerraSync software, Garmin handheld GPS units, Kestrel “weather-related” field handheld instrument.
- Computer: MS Excel; MS Word; Google Earth (aerial photo figure development); Working Knowledge of ESRI GIS programs.
- Soil: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National System of Soil Classification, and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Unified Soil Classification System.
- CNDDDB and other wildlife/plant searches as part of methods to develop compliance reports that complement field surveys.

## □WORK HISTORY

- Biologist, Independent Consulting Biologist (2009-present)
- Biologist, SCS Engineers & Environmental Consultants (Santa Rosa, CA) (staff position eliminated due to low work volume) (2006-2008)
- Biologist, Mactec Engineering (Petaluma, CA) (staff position, but biology department eliminated due to low work volume) (October, 2004-February, 2006)
- Biologist, Impact Sciences, Inc. (Oakland, CA) (staff position, but biology field work eliminated from Oakland, CA office) (2003-August, 2004)
- Consulting Biologist (for environmental consulting firms)/Naturalist/Writer; clients included Greenhorne & Omara (Greenbelt, MD), ESA (Oakland, CA), Ibis Environmental (San Rafael, CA), Wood Biological Consulting (Walnut Creek, CA) (subcontractor), (1988-2003 and 2004-2005)
- Biologist/Naturalist (staff), Courage Center Environmental Center (Maple Lake, MN) (1988-89)
- Biologist/Naturalist (staff), Hayward Shoreline Nature Center (Hayward, CA) (1986-87)
- Biologist/Naturalist (staff), Schmeeckle Reserve, Univ. of Wisconsin (Stevens Point, WI) (1983-85)
- Biologist/Naturalist (staff), White Pines Environmental Center (Dixon, IL) (1982)
- Biologist/Naturalist, Riveredge Nature Center (Newburg, WI ) (1981)