



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER COUNCIL UPDATE

July/August 2015



Dear Southern California Chapter Leaders,

I thought I would try something a bit different...a bi-monthly regional update for the Southern California Chapter Council only. I am hoping this makes it easier for your flock to stay abreast of regional events and information that actually matters to your chapter. Please let me know if there is a different format you prefer or other topics you would like me to include in the future.

Travis Abeyta (Chapter Network Manager – Southern California)



Audubon CALIFORNIA

IMPORTANT UPDATES

NEED HELP WITH FUNDRAISING?



Looking for new fundraising ideas? Want help developing a fundraising strategy to support your chapter's dynamic, exciting programs? Come to the next workshop in the Audubon California Capacity Building series! On **November 7, 2015**, Paquita Bath of Aligning Visions will lead an interactive fundraising workshop in Southern California followed by six months of additional guidance and support. These sessions will be collaborative and personal. We encourage multiple leaders from each chapter to attend. The Chapter Network Team will be reaching out to potential participants to ask what fundraising topics the network is most interested in, and to discover what strategies can be shared for group learning. This is an opportunity to help shape the trainings to best fit the needs of your organization.

2016 COLLABORATIVE FUNDING GRANTS



Audubon CA welcomes proposals from chapters (single or in groups) for FY16 Collaborative Funding. Proposals should support conservation projects (defined broadly to include education, citizen science, policy, habitat restoration) and ideally will provide an opportunity to engage your members and the public, to promote our shared mission, and to align national, state and chapter priorities. For your request to be considered, we must receive documents by **October 31, 2015**. Applications and guidelines can be found [HERE](#) on Audubon Works or you may contact me for further information.

PROPOSITION 1 FUNDS FOR YOUR PROJECTS



Governor Brown signed a state budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year that includes the first year of funding from Proposition 1—the water bond that passed in November 2014. On 7/29, Audubon CA sent out an email to all chapter leaders concerning a considerable amount of grant opportunities that have recently been announced. Many agencies are now beginning to issue calls for proposals. Please let me know if you did not receive the email or would like more information. You can also find further information [HERE](#) on Audubon Works.



CALIFORNIA CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION



Global warming is expected to threaten 170 California birds with extinction by 2080, and expanding the state's climate change and carbon pollution policies is one of the most effective tools we have for protecting our birds. Through in-district meetings with legislators, calls to district offices, and Letters to the Editor or Op-Eds to local newspapers, many of you have already taken action on climate change legislation. We are supporting a broad swath of bills including SB 32 – Pollution Reduction, SB 350 – Petroleum Reduction/Renewables, SB 788 – No More Offshore Oil or Gas Extraction. You can send a letter to your Assembly Member [HERE](#), find more information on current policy efforts [HERE](#), or contact me for more information and materials.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT



Audubon California and California Chapters have been awarded two Climate Grants from NAS to conduct California's first ever series of regional Chapter Climate Change Summits. The primary objective of the Summits is to offer a personalized and regionalized training which provides each California chapter a clear understanding of the science and effects that climate change has on their local birds and habitats. Attendees will become focused chapter activists, enthusiasts, and communicators who are motivated and committed to develop and implement effective climate change programs and action campaigns in their communities. We will send out official invites for the Southern California Summit soon. Stay tuned!

CULTURE SHIFT & INCLUSION TRAINING



Are you looking to attract different audiences to your chapter events? Do you want to recruit younger board members? In 2013, Audubon CA conducted a survey of chapter's priorities and goals. 90% of chapter leaders stated that their most important goal was to diversify their boards and membership in age and ethnicity. Well you are in luck! Together with the Relational Center, we will offer training on culture shift and inclusion to local chapters. More details to come. Please let me know if your chapter is interested or if you have any questions.

SPEAKERS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS



As you all may or may not know, we have five Chapter Councils located in different regions of California. Each of these councils holds meetings at least once a year. We are always looking for experts in certain areas to speak at these council



Audubon CALIFORNIA

meetings. Please let me know if you are interested in possibly speaking at an upcoming Southern California Chapter Council meeting or any of the other councils. You can find more information on the councils [HERE](#).

HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR CHAPTER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY15?



You should have recently received an email from NAS to complete your Chapter's Annual Report for FY15. The online Chapter Annual Report Forms for FY15 are now available for Chapter use. Please remember that in order to be recertified as an Audubon Chapter, every Chapter is required to submit an Annual Report each year. The deadline for submittal is **November 30, 2015**. Chapters may request an extension from Chapter Services. It is also important to note that Baseline Funding will be directly deposited into your Chapter's checking account within 2 weeks following submission of all components of the Annual Report.

UPDATE YOUR CHAPTER LEADER LIST



It's that time of year where your chapter most likely has new board members and leaders. NAS Chapter Services maintains a comprehensive list of all Audubon Chapter leaders which is updated weekly. It is important to keep your Chapter Leader List updated in order to keep your board and membership updated with the most recent news and chapter training materials, including free training webinars for Chapter Leaders. As changes happen throughout the year, and/or as soon as possible after your Chapter has held an officer election and appointed committee chairs, you will need to complete a [Chapter Leader Report](#) form found on Audubon Works and email it to Chapter Services.

HAVE YOU JOINED AUDUBON WORKS YET?



[Audubon Works](#) is an online community built to facilitate collaboration across the entire California and national Audubon network. It is a place for you and all of Audubon's staff, chapter leaders, volunteers, and activists to come together to share ideas, experiences, best practices, and information. It includes discussion groups, a searchable resource library, an Audubon-wide event calendar, and a platform to create your own petitions. In addition, most NAS Chapter Resources have moved to Works. Join the conversation in the [State Chapter Group: California Chapters](#) - a separate group for California chapter leaders to share ideas and content. You can find instructions on logging into Audubon Works [HERE](#).



Audubon CALIFORNIA

ARE YOU THINKING OF IMPLEMENTING AN AUDUBON ADVENTURES PROGRAM?

Does your chapter want to learn more about [Audubon Adventures](#)? A 2015-2016 toolkit has been created to help you easily implement the Audubon Adventures program in your community. The toolkit can be found [HERE](#) on Audubon Works.

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A NEW AUDUBON CA WEBSITE?

Have you checked out our new Audubon CA website? Check it out [HERE](#).

Have you seen the Chapter Resources we have posted on our new website? You can find them [HERE](#).

UPCOMING DATES

SEPTEMBER 4

Deadline for NAS Climate Grants

NOVEMBER 1

Deadline to RSVP for Fundraising Workshop

OCTOBER 17

Southern CA Chapter Council Meeting @ Madrona Marsh

NOVEMBER 7

Southern CA Fundraising Workshop

OCTOBER 31

Deadline for 2016 Collaborative Funding Grants

NOVEMBER 30

Deadline to submit your Chapter's Annual Report for FY15

Please don't hesitate to call me at 818-648-4800 or email me at tabyeta@audubon.org with any questions you may have.