Presenters for March 4, 2008
Workshop

California Guidelines for Reducing Bird and Bat Impacts from Wind Development

Dick Anderson is a recognized authority on wind-energy/wildlife interactions in California, and one of the authors of California Guidelines for Reducing Bird and Bat Impacts from Wind Development. Mr. Anderson was lead researcher on Wind Energy/Bird research in Tehachapi and San Gorgonio Wind Resource Areas, and initiated the original research conducted at the Altamont Pass Wind Resource Area. Mr. Anderson has chaired the California Interagency Wildlife Task Group and is past President of the Western Section of The Wildlife Society. He served as Chair of the National Wind Coordinating Committee's Avian Subcommittee (now Wildlife Workgroup) for six years, and is a co-author of Studying Wind Energy/Bird Interactions: A Guidance Document. He is currently conducting research on Swainson's hawks for the University of California, Davis Wildlife Health Center. Mr. Anderson received his B.S. in Biological Sciences at the University of California at Davis in 1976.

Scott Flint is the Program Manager for the California Department of Fish and Game’s Environmental Review Unit in the Habitat Conservation Branch. The Environmental Review Unit develops policy and procedures, coordinates policy implementation, and oversees the Department’s regulatory and permitting programs state-wide. Scott served as the Department’s policy expert, and as one of the primary authors for the California Guidelines for Reducing Bird and Bat Impacts from Wind Development. Scott has 22+ years experience the environmental and regulatory fields in California, including 16 years with the Department working in various program areas including lands management, multi-species habitat conservation planning, reserve design and habitat restoration, wetlands and riparian habitat mapping, environmental contaminants and ecological risk assessment. He received his BSc. in Biological Conservation from Sacramento State University in 1986.

Bronwyn Hogan is an Environmental Scientist for the California Department of Fish and Game, Water Branch, and is currently contributing to and co-editor of the California Bat Conservation Strategy. Ms. Hogan served as a member of the Science Advisory Committee for the California Guidelines for Reducing Bird and Bat Impacts from Wind Development. She has participated in bat surveys and conducted bat research in California, Minnesota, Finland, and the Azores. Ms. Hogan has designed research projects and conducted studies that involved acoustic surveys, mist-netting, and radio-telemetry to assess bat foraging activities and roosting habitat. She received her BS in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology at UC Davis in 1989, and her M.S. from California State University Sacramento in 2000.
Sara Parsons, PPM’s in-house biologist, works with Andy Linehan on the siting and permitting of wind projects at PPM Energy. Sara is the lead Permitting Manager for environmental permitting efforts of commercial wind projects the western US, including the Dillon Wind Project, Riverside County, California; Leaning Juniper I and II and Pebble Springs, Gilliam County, Oregon; and Big Horn I and II, Klickitat County, WA. Sara is a member of the National Wind Coordinating Collaborative Steering Committee and a core member of the NWCC Wildlife Workgroup. Sara is active in the review of state siting guidelines, and assisted Andy in the review and development of the California Guidelines for Reducing Bird and Bat Impacts from Wind Development. Prior to joining PPM in 2005, Sara worked as a biologist and project manager for 6 years at Ecology and Environment, Inc., an environmental consulting firm. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science from Wesleyan University. Sara lives in Portland, Oregon.

Robert Thresher is the Director of the National Wind Technology Center, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), and has more than 30 years of research, development, engineering, and management experience in wind technology. Dr. Thresher served as a member of the Science Advisory Committee for the California Guidelines for Reducing Bird and Bat Impacts from Wind Development. As a professor at Oregon State University, he worked with the Department of Energy DOE to develop early wind technologies, was part of the early wind exploration and development of the wind program at NREL, and finally appointed the founding director of the National Wind Technology Center in 1994. The American Wind Energy Association gave him the Lifetime Achievement Award and recognized him as the Person of the Year in 1997. Dr. Thresher received his Ph.D. at Colorado State University in 1970, and his B.S. from Michigan Technological University in 1962.