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## OUR ANNUAL CONSERVATION DINNER IS THURSDAY MARCH 16, 2017

Our annual Conservation Dinner will be March 16, 2017 at Hillcrest Congregational Church 2000 West Rd, La Habra Heights, CA 90631 Join us as we honor Bob Henderson for his many years of dedication to Whittier and its environmental causes. Purchase online with Paypal or mail payment to our address (**see cut off mail-in form at end of newsletter**). Catered by Whittier favorite Lascari's. Proceeds are used to place Audubon Adventures into classrooms and fund other educational outreach opportunities. Check out our display at the dinner to see what our kids are learning. *Jennifer Schmahl*

### Call to Action: Audubon California determined to defend the Endangered Species Act

With federal legislators now openly discussing how they intend to dismantle the Endangered Species Act – easily the most important and effective environmental law ever passed – I want to make it clear that Audubon California will never, ever stop defending this law and the birds and other wildlife it protects.

Emboldened by anti-regulatory rhetoric coming out of Washington these days, some lawmakers want to make the Endangered Species Act friendlier to the industries that have always opposed it. But Audubon California stands with the 90% of Americans who like the law just the way it is. Signed in 1973 by a Republican president, the Endangered Species Act has been critical in bringing about the return of many birds, including the Bald Eagle and Brown Pelican – both of which would be gone today if it weren't for this law.

This issue is particularly important here in California, which has more wildlife protected under the Endangered Species Act than any other state. This is largely due to our diverse ecology – coastlines, forests, oceans, deserts, wetlands – as well as the many challenges they face. As Californians we appreciate that natural and human diversity is what makes this place so special, and we are eager protect the natural treasures so important to California's identity.

Here are just a few examples of how Audubon California has used the Endangered Species Act as a vital tool in our defense of birds:

- Petitioned to list the Western Snowy Plover and Marbled Murrelet.
- Rallied members in support listing of the Brown Pelican, Northern Spotted Owl, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and many others.
- Sponsored laws helping the endangered California Condor continue its remarkable recovery.
- Fought off attempts to delist the Coastal California Gnatcatcher and open vital coastal habitat to widespread development.

We intend to fight this attack on the Endangered Species Act by pulling together our growing network of Californians. We'll pack meetings, flood mailboxes, jam phone lines, and defeat bad legislation – whatever it takes.

There are 14 California birds on the Endangered Species List, and the threat of listing is compelling the protection of many, many more. We can't let this invaluable tool for protecting our birds slip away. Extinction is forever, and we have a debt to the future.

We will need your help. Please continue to speak loudly on behalf of birds – in your community, in California, and at the national level.



## Audubon

We are a chapter of National Audubon

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### KIDS SPACE

**Audubon Adventures in action**  
Member Cathy Fricker is also a school teacher who has been using Audubon Adventures with her afterschool group. She will have some samples of her kids' work at the Conservation Dinner. Check it out!

### General Meeting for March (Conservation Dinner)

#### Bird pictures from member Linda Leroy.

In addition to accolades to our Honoree, Bob Henderson, from area dignitaries we will have a continuous slide show of Linda's excellent bird photos.

#### ELECTIONS:

March is the month we begin considering nominating members to fill board positions.

Elected officers are President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. We also have various appointed offices that need to be filled.

"Three members of the Society shall be selected to act as a nominating committee. One member shall be selected by the President and

designated as chairman. A second member shall be selected by the Executive Board and the third member shall be elected by the general membership.” per bylaws

At the dinner the members at large will select their member of the nominating committee. Let one of the Board members know if you would like to serve in some capacity.

**Rain cancelled last month’s field trip.**

We also changed the location of the Sycamore Canyon Walk as the gate was locked. Instead we birded the San Gabriel River Spreading Grounds. So

come on out even in inclement weather, we can always find a place to bird.

**Field Trip Schedule:**

8:00am Sycamore Canyon Beginning Bird Walks, meet at the Sycamore Canyon Trailhead. Every second Saturday of the month (except July and August, rain or recent rain cancels). The trail is located adjacent to Rose Hills Cemetery gate 17, but note that the trail is not in the cemetery! The entrance to Sycamore Canyon is a driveway just southwest of the entrance to the cemetery. **Jay Oberholtzer leads.** **Rain cancels but we often go instead to another location chosen by the leader.**

**Saturday March 18 Joshua Tree**

**Jay Oberholtzer leads. Check our website for more details. Or Jay will provide details at the Conservation Dinner.**



*Victorian Fair Education Outreach*

We have been invited to return to the Homestead Museum’s spring event Saturday April 29, 2017. At last year’s Fair we helped kids learn about being a Citizen Scientist and offered a chance to make a simple bird feeder. The Fair itself is a fun collection of displays, crafts, music, food and booths to purchase Victorian themed clothing, toys and decorative items.



**WAAS Honors Councilman Bob Henderson with Conservation Award**

March 16, 2017 is our next annual Conservation Dinner, at which we will present the WAAS Conservation Award to Whittier City Councilman Bob Henderson. Please help us honor his work. Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased through Paypal on our website (whittieraudubon.org) or by mailing a check to our address

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Tickets X \$35.00 each Total: \_\_\_\_\_ (check or money order)

For: \_\_\_\_\_ Your tickets will be at Will Call

**Mailing address:**

Whittier Area Audubon  
PO Box 548  
Whittier, CA 90608-0548