

# Proceedings of the California Burrowing Owl Symposium

November 2003

EDITORS

JOHN H. BARCLAY<sup>1</sup>, KEVIN W. HUNTING<sup>2</sup>, JEFFREY L. LINCER<sup>3</sup>,  
JANET LINTHICUM<sup>4</sup>, AND THOMAS A. ROBERTS<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Albion Environmental, Inc., 1414 Soquel Avenue, No. 205, Santa Cruz, CA 95062*

<sup>2</sup>*Habitat Conservation Branch, California Department of Fish and Game,  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1260, Sacramento, CA 95814*

<sup>3</sup>*Wildlife Research Institute, P.O. Box 2209, Ramona, CA 92065*

<sup>4</sup>*University of California Santa Cruz, Predatory Bird Research Group,  
Long Marine Lab, Santa Cruz, CA 95060*

<sup>5</sup>*Environmental Science Associates, 225 Bush Street, Suite 1700,  
San Francisco, CA 94104*

Publication of the Proceedings was made possible by contributions from:

Albion Environmental, Inc.  
Burrowing Owl Preservation Society  
California Burrowing Owl Consortium  
California Department of Fish and Game  
California Department of Water Resources  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for Natural Lands Management  
Environmental Science Associates  
LSA Associates  
Mosaic Associates  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
The Western Section of The Wildlife Society

The California Burrowing Owl Symposium was sponsored by:

Albion Environmental, Inc.  
Environmental Science Associates  
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society  
Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group  
The Western Section of The Wildlife Society  
Wildlife Research Institute, Inc.

## Bird Populations Monographs No. 1

*Published by  
The Institute for Bird Populations  
and  
Albion Environmental, Inc.*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	v
REGIONAL STATUS	
THE DISTRIBUTION AND RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF BURROWING OWLS IN CALIFORNIA DURING 1991-1993: EVIDENCE FOR A DECLINING POPULATION AND THOUGHTS ON ITS CONSERVATION <i>David F. DeSante, Eric D. Ruhlen and Rusty Scalf</i> .....	1
STATUS OF BURROWING OWLS IN NORTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA <i>Rebecca L. Cull and Frank Hall</i> .....	42
NESTING BURROWING OWLS IN SOLANO AND YOLO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA, 2000-2005 <i>Jonathan H. Widdicombe</i> .....	52
BURROWING OWL STATUS IN THE GREATER SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA <i>Susan E. Townsend and Colleen Lenihan</i> .....	60
HABITAT LOSS AND POPULATION STATUS ESTIMATE FOR BURROWING OWLS IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY <i>Thomas A. Roberts and Christine O. Gaber</i> .....	70
STATUS OF BURROWING OWLS IN SOUTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA <i>Jeff W. Kidd, Peter H. Bloom, Cameron W. Barrows, and Charles T. Collins</i> .....	76
THE STATUS OF THE BURROWING OWL IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA <i>Jeffrey L. Lincer and Peter H. Bloom</i> .....	90
DENSITY AND ABUNDANCE OF BURROWING OWLS IN THE AGRICULTURAL MATRIX OF THE IMPERIAL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA <i>David F. DeSante, Eric D. Ruhlen, and Daniel K. Rosenberg</i> .....	103
RESEARCH	
STATUS ASSESSMENT AND CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE WESTERN BURROWING OWL IN THE UNITED STATES - CALIFORNIA SUMMARY <i>David S. Klute, Loren W. Ayers, Michael T. Green, William H. Howe, Stephanie L. Jones, Jill A. Shaffer, Steven R. Sheffield, and Tara S. Zimmerman</i> .....	109
BURROWING OWL NESTING SUCCESS AT URBAN AND PARKLAND SITES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA <i>Lynne A. Trulio and Debra A. Chromczak</i> .....	115
A SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA BURROWING OWL BANDING RECORDS <i>Lindsay M. Harman and John H. Barclay</i> .....	123
MANAGEMENT	
MANAGEMENT OF BURROWING OWL HABITAT ON MITIGATION LANDS <i>Edward J. Stanton and Sherry Teresa</i> .....	132
BURROWING OWL PROTECTION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL: THE CITY OF DAVIS DISKING ORDINANCE <i>John T. McNerney and Mitch Sears</i> .....	137
PASSIVE RELOCATION OF BURROWING OWLS ON A 57-HECTARE SITE IN EASTERN ALAMEDA COUNTY <i>Judy A. Bendix</i> .....	141
BURROWING OWL MANAGEMENT AT MINETA SAN JOSE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT <i>John H. Barclay</i> .....	146
BURROWING OWL MANAGEMENT AT COLONEL ALLENSWORTH STATE HISTORIC PARK <i>Jeannine Koshear, Cyndy Shafer, Elizabeth F. Van Mantgem and Rodney V. Olsen</i> .....	155
POLICY	
DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSERVATION STRATEGY FOR BURROWING OWLS IN CALIFORNIA <i>Esther E. Burkett and Brenda S. Johnson</i> .....	165
PETITION TO LIST THE WESTERN BURROWING OWL IN CALIFORNIA <i>Jeff Miller</i> .....	169
REFERENCE	
BURROWING OWL DATA IN THE CALIFORNIA NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE <i>Darlene McGriff</i> .....	178
A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON THE BURROWING OWL IN CALIFORNIA <i>Jeffrey L. Lincer and Richard J. Clark</i> .....	185