

Ventana Wilderness Society
Post Office Box 894
Carmel Valley CA 93924

**The Carmel River Riparian Corridor
Avian Habitat Monitoring Program**

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AVIAN MONITORING SERVICES

EXHIBIT A: SCOPE OF SERVICES

This proposal encompasses the four tasks outlined below. Exhibits B and C (attached) detail a fee and work schedule for these tasks.

Task 1: Transect monitoring: SPRING 2003

A biologist from the Big Sur Ornithology Lab will collect and analyze Species Diversity Index (SDI) data along 18 transects at 9 sites in the Carmel River riparian corridor and 2 transects at one site in the Carmel River Lagoon wetlands. The task will require up to 10 field days. For standardization, SDI sampling protocol will follow methodology used in prior (1993-2002) avian monitoring for the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

Task 2: Transect monitoring: FALL 2003

A biologist from the Big Sur Ornithology Lab will collect and analyze Species Diversity Index (SDI) data along 18 transects at 9 sites in the Carmel River riparian corridor and 2 transects at one site in the Carmel River Lagoon wetlands. The task will require up to 10 field days. For standardization, SDI sampling protocol will follow methodology used in prior (1993-2002) avian monitoring for the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

Task 3: 2003 ANNUAL REPORT

A biologist from the Big Sur Ornithology Lab will prepare an annual monitoring report for the 2003 field season using data collected during spring 2003 and fall 2003. The report shall use a format similar to that used in prior 1993-2002 annual reports. The report will present and summarize findings from each sampling period at each site. Data shall be analyzed using Shannon-Weaver SDI methodology; trends in SDI values will be identified and evaluated. The report will also include a detailed description of each transect site, with each site keyed to aerial habitat photos.

Task 4: Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS): SPRING AND SUMMER 2003

An experienced team of biologists from the Big Sur Ornithology Lab will assess demographics of avian communities at 4 key sites in the Carmel River riparian corridor. The 4 sites will correspond to 4 of the 9 transect sites monitored during spring and fall (see Tasks 1 & 2 above). Sampling protocol will consist of mist-netting and banding as well as area searches on all four sites. Operating MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) stations in conjunction with conducting area searches provides: (a) annual indices of adult population size and post-fledgling productivity; and (b) annual estimates of adult survival rate, adult population size, proportion of residents in the adult population, and recruitment into the adult population (Desante et al. 2000), in addition to determining bird/habitat relationships over time. A report

will be submitted that includes data analysis using Shannon-Weaver SDI methodology; trends in SDI values will be identified and evaluated; and comparisons with data collected from 2000 and 2002 will be made when appropriate.

Site Selection:

Mist-net locations and area search plots will remain standardized following the study design in 2000 and 2002.

EXHIBIT B: FEE SCHEDULE

Task 1-3: Will be performed at an hourly rate of \$85 plus additional mileage. No additional fees for accommodation or other per diem expenses will be billed. Approximations for each task are: Task 1- \$2,000; Task 2 - \$2,000; Task 3 - \$2,000. The total amount will not exceed \$2,000 per task.

Task 4: Will be charged at an hourly rate of \$25, plus mileage. We will spend approximately 30 days conducting field work at three sites and 7 days preparing the final report. The total amount will not exceed \$7,500, including the annual report, work conducted at 3 sites, all personnel, mileage, and costs incurred for specialized equipment. Additional data will be collected from a fourth site, the Carmel River Lagoon, and incorporated into the report. We will fund the operation of the Carmel River Lagoon site from other sources.

EXHIBIT C: WORK SCHEDULE

Task 1: The completion goal for SPRING 2003 monitoring is June 2003. This is in accord with monitoring dates in previous years. Monitoring will not begin prior to 10 May, to ensure the arrival of most breeding birds that are migratory.

Task 2: The completion goal for FALL 2003 monitoring is August 2003. This is in accord with monitoring dates in previous years, which spanned 7 August – 30 August.

Task 3: The completion goal for the 2003 annual report is December 2003.

Task 4: The completion goal for the 2003 MAPS monitoring and the Final Report of MAPS results is December 2003. Monitoring will span 1 May – 8 August to standardize with national protocols.