

Ecological Studies

Comprehensive environmental work based on solid science and a love for wild places.

Scope of Services

Greetings,

Ecological Studies is a highly respected environmental consulting company whose mission is to be Ambassadors for Wildlife. We do this by consulting for wildlife conservation, restoration, research and education on natural resource projects. We provide a 10% discount to non-profits, government agencies, and projects that are designed specifically for the conservation or enhancement of native wildlife.

Ecological Studies specializes in aquatic systems, endangered species and special-status wildlife populations. We are particularly known for California red-legged frog ecology and management. However, we also specialize in birds, amphibians, reptiles and terrestrial wildlife ecology. In addition, we assemble teams to conduct surveys for fish, insects, mammals, bats, rare plants, and conduct wetland delineations, hydrologic evaluations and hydraulic design plans. We believe in providing the best team possible to our clients. Therefore, we can assemble a group of specialists tailored for your specific project needs. Ecological Studies has been collaborating with professional colleagues and companies who provide additional expertise for well over a decade.

Our professional experience includes large-scale and complex projects. We recognize that each project is only as credible as the data supporting it. Our dedication to solid science and a data rich approach prevents costly litigation and provides smart and successful planning.

We particularly enjoy working with wildlife management and habitat creations at a watershed scale, on public lands and on ranches. Our ideal clients are natural resource managers such as: water districts, private water companies, city planners, county planners, state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations and ranch managers.

Most likely, your project will need permitting. Having conducted wildlife conservation work for over 15 years, we are well-versed in all aspects of the permitting process, and will guide you through your permit needs. We can assist you with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers permits. Conservation planning is accomplished through professional relationships with people who get the job done. We have excellent communication skills and rapport with both our clients and agency personnel.

Some of the services that we provide include:

Dawn Reis Ecological Studies 38 Lower Cutter Drive, Watsonville CA 95076



Conservation

We provide species-specific surveys and Wildlife Management Plans that target conservation, species diversity, and habitat enhancement. Our services targeting conservation include:

- 1) Single-or Multiple-Species Focused Surveys. We can provide either in-house expertise or collaboration with other experts to conduct the following species surveys and or project recommendations to avoid harmful impacts to the following:
 - ✓ Amphibians
 - ✓ Reptiles
 - ✓ Birds
 - ✓ Mammals
 - ✓ Invertebrates
 - ✓ Rare plants
 - ✓ Fish
- 2) Wildlife Management Plans. Our expert staff provides tailored Wildlife Management Plans. A few selected management focuses include:
 - ✓ Evaluation of proposed land use activities and management recommendations
 - ✓ Wildlife enhancements and recommendations with specific tangible goals to improve habitat for target species
 - ✓ Recommendations to provide connectivity for target species along with goals for corridor structure/shelter type specific to the target species
 - ✓ Tailored invasive species (non-native species) removal recommendations to reduce competition and or predation on target species

Restoration

We provide quantifiable target goals for wildlife food and shelter needs as well as dispersal corridor habitats, which are then used by hydrologists, engineers and vegetation specialists to create plan sheets. These target goals are also used for both pre- and post-restoration monitoring, and for management planning. Wildlife Habitat Restoration Creation Projects include:

- ✓ Pond design recommendations to support specific wildlife species include setting target depths, water duration, water temperatures, substrate, and target goals for aquatic vegetation cover type
- ✓ Terrestrial habitat designs recommendations to support wildlife species or wildlife diversity that include developing "plant palettes" with specific mixture of plant type and amount of cover and/or structure height
- ✓ Tailored invasive species (non-native species) removal evaluations, and the staff to implement the removal project



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Research

We provide assistance with the field component of your research projects by providing both the training and field staff need to complete your project. Our assistance may include: training in natural history, training in species identification, permitting guidance, and selecting capture methods that do not interfere with endangered species. We also offer assistance selecting and implementing appropriate statistical design. Example wildlife research projects include:

- ✓ Field study designs for measuring wildlife populations or habitat during both pre- and post-project installations
- ✓ Wildlife usage of habitat areas
- ✓ Assistance with selecting appropriate capture methodologies
- ✓ Assistance with statistical design and implementation

Education

Familiarity with natural history, identification, habitats, competition and invasive species effects is critically important for staff and decision makers. With this in mind, we provide tailored workshops for natural resource planners and government agencies. Each workshop is designed to meet your needs and may include field components and focus on ecology, and identification of both endangered species and species of special concern. Wildlife natural history workshops and training include:

- ✓ Natural history of amphibians and reptiles specific to a project area
- ✓ How to conduct habitat evaluations
- ✓ Management recommendations for amphibians, reptiles or birds
- \checkmark Survey methodologies for amphibians, reptiles and birds
- ✓ Overview of permitting constraints associated with target species
- ✓ Hands on lab or field component when possible

We look forward to working with you. Please feel free to contact us with any questions that you may have at <u>dawn@ecologicalstudies.com</u> or call (831) 588-7550. We also invite you to learn more about our staff, who we are, and previous projects by visiting our website at <u>www.EcologicalStudies.com</u>

We look forward to talking with you!

Sincerely,

Dawn Reis dawn@EcologicalStudies.com (831) 588-7550