



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Subject: Predator Management Summary – San Dieguito Lagoon May 2012

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

To: Distribution

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services (WS) personnel continued predator management in May. Cage traps and snap traps were the primary methods used. Shooting was used to remove crows, ground squirrels, and one coyote observed on the nesting sites. No eggs treated with DRC-1339 were used in San Dieguito Lagoon in May. The most frequently captured predator species this month was ground squirrels and roof rats. Seven raccoons and four long-tailed weasels were also removed.

Wildlife
Services

South District Office

During the month of May there were several incidents of trespassing in San Dieguito Lagoon. Most of them involved unleashed dogs, joggers, people riding bicycles, and juveniles with spray paint. Wildlife Specialist Baima pointed out the signs that advised people the nesting areas and roads were closed to the public, and reminded people it was required to keep dogs on leashes at all times. People cooperated each time and there were no conflicts. On May 11th, Specialist Baima contacted Ranger Natalie Borchiot regarding people trespassing near the nesting sites. They both agreed the increase of people was due to the longer summer days and summer break from schools. She assured Specialist Baima there would be more patrols during the summer, particularly in the evening when it was common to see people.

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Evidence and observations of numerous coyotes using the lagoon were recorded in May. Primary areas include dirt roads from residential areas that parallel I-5 and the mud flats inside of NS 11 and NS 12. One coyote was shot on May 8th on the mud flats inside of NS 11 because LETE were observed feeding in that area the previous day.

Several raptor species continue to use the entire site; including a pair of northern harriers that are nesting on the east side of I-5, south of NS-13. There appears to be one American kestrel that frequently visits the NS-11 nesting site. The kestrel comes from palm trees located across the lagoon near the fair grounds. Monitoring of this bird will continue as well as the northern harriers southwest of NS-13.

Wildlife Specialist Baima suspects raccoons are being released on the west side of I-5 near the emergency call box because of the sudden increase of raccoons trapped in this specific area. A sudden increase of activity in one specific area is typical of animals being relocated by the public. This pattern has occurred on other nesting sites located in urban areas. He moved and set additional cage traps to remove the raccoons before they got to the nesting sites.

Recommendations:

At the present, the main concern is the established populations of roof rats that have spread along I-5. Additional snap traps will be placed in this area to capture rats concentrated in this area.

Post signs informing the general public that relocating wildlife is in violation of Fish and Game laws and regulations.

Presence of official personnel of some kind on the weekends and evenings would be a good deterrent to illegal or unwanted public intrusion of the site.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or information on these topics.

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SPECIES	NO.	SEX	AGE	DATE	SITE	METHOD	DISPOSITION	REMARKS
Weasel	1		adult	5/1/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	2		adult	5/1/12	NS-12	Snap Traps	kill	
Ground Squirrel	1		adult	5/2/12	NS-13	Cage Trap	kill	
Ground Squirrel	1		adult	5/2/12	NS-14	Cage Trap	kill	
Ground Squirrel	1		juv	5/3/12	NS-13	Cage Trap	kill	
Ground Squirrel	1		adult	5/3/12	NS-14	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/4/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/4/12	NS-12	Snap Traps	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/4/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	
Coyote	1		adult	5/8/12	NS-11	Spot Light	kill	
Raccoon	1		adult	5/8/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/8/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Weasel	1		adult	5/8/12	NS-14	Cage Trap	kill	
Weasel	1		adult	5/8/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/9/12	NS-12	Snap Traps	kill	
Raccoon	1		adult	5/9/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Ground Squirrel	2		adult	5/9/12	NS-13	Shot	kill	
Ground Squirrel	1		juv	5/10/12	NS-13	Shot	kill	
Roof Rats	2		adult	5/15/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/15/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	
Ground Squirrel	3		adult	5/16/12	NS-13	Shot	kill	
Roof Rats	1		juv	5/16/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	
Ground Squirrel	2		adult	5/17/12	NS-13	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		juv	5/17/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	
American crows	3		adult	5/18/12	NS-11	Shot	kill	American crows were in NS-11 eating something, Three were killed.
Ground Squirrel	2		adult	5/18/12	NS-13	Cage Trap	kill	
Ground Squirrel	1		juv	5/18/12	NS-14	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/18/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	2		juv	5/18/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	
Weasel	1		adult	5/23/12	NS-13	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/23/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/23/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		adult	5/24/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Raccoon	1		adult	5/24/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	2		adult	5/25/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	
Ground Squirrel	1		adult	5/30/12	NS-13	Cage Trap	kill	
Raccoon	2		adult	5/30/12	NS-12	Cage Traps	kill	Numerous tracks found at NS-11 and NS-12 of Raccoons.
Raccoon	1		adult	5/31/12	NS-11	Cage Trap	kill	
Raccoon	1		adult	5/31/12	NS-12	Cage Trap	kill	
Roof Rats	1		juv	5/31/12	NS-11	Snap Traps	kill	