



Peter H. Bloom, Ph.D. Zoologist & Vice President

Qualifications

Dr. Bloom has been a professional environmental consultant for more than 40 years, principally in California. He specializes in the environmental sciences, is an internationally recognized expert in raptor biology and conservation, and possesses extensive knowledge and experience with all terrestrial vertebrate groups (amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals) as well as the vascular plants. He directed the effort to capture all wild free-flying California Condors for transmitter placement or captive breeding; the endeavors of this then-controversial program ultimately culminated in the survival of this species, which had dwindled to only 22 individuals in 1980. He has radio-tracked Condors and conducted contaminant studies involving Condors and Golden Eagles. He and colleagues have captured nearly 950 Golden Eagles and more than 35,000 other raptors. Research and consultations for Tejon Ranch in southern California aided in the preservation of over 240,000 acres of Condor and Golden Eagle habitat. Dr. Bloom has published more than 40 peer-reviewed scientific papers and technical reports and taught California natural history at a local junior college for more than 12 years.

Professional Experience

As founder and current Vice President of Bloom Biological, Inc., Dr. Bloom has prepared numerous biological assessments and worked on an array of avian research projects in the western United States, Alaska, Peru, Ecuador, India, and Switzerland, spending over 1,000 hours conducting helicopter and fixed-wing nest survey work and aerial radio-tracking of eagles, California Condors, hawks, and herons. He is also repeatedly called as science advisor to the National Renewable Energy Lab in regards to renewable energy, as well as condor and eagle conservation. Other relevant experience includes:

- Surveys of nesting and wintering eagles and other birds of prey for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), BLM, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Defense, and numerous private land owners.
- A raptor status and management plan for Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach and Fallbrook Detachment.
- Focused surveys for California gnatcatcher, southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo, yellow-billed cuckoo, Swainson's hawks, golden eagles, arroyo toad, California red-legged frog, desert tortoise, Pacific pond turtle (including trapping and surveying habitat), coast horned lizard, flat-tailed horned lizard, Belding's orange-throated whiptail, coastal whiptail, southern rubber boa, coastal patch-nosed snake, California glossy snake, two-striped garter snake (including trapping and surveying habitat), red-diamond rattlesnake, southern flying squirrel, and Pacific pocket mouse.
- Transponder and radio-tagging of adult California red-legged frogs in Ventura County.
- Sensitive herpetological, mammal, and raptor surveys for the Transportation Corridor Agency in Orange County.
- Translocation of several hundred arroyo toads at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base.

As a research biologist at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, served on the Science Advisory Board of the S. Orange County Natural Communities Conservation Program. During his tenure there he:

- Organized and finished seven years of a MAPS passerine monitoring station.
- Provided herpetological input into the Orange County environmental GIS and Cleveland National Forest environmental inventory.
- Managed a long-term (30 yr.) raptor ecology study in California.

- Managed a successful Great Blue Heron mitigation project designed to increase numbers of nesting herons through placement of artificial nest platforms.
- Supervised and performed predator management activities for USFWS related to protection of California least terns, snowy plovers, and light-footed clapper rails in southwestern California from avian and other vertebrate predators (locations included Vandenberg Air Force Base, Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Batiquitos Lagoon, Port of Long Beach, Port of San Diego, and Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge).
- Supervised a two-year CalTrans radio-telemetry study of nesting peregrine falcons and their relationship to California least terns in southwestern California.
- Together with sub-permittees, he has banded close to 55,000 birds, mostly nestlings (1970 – 2020).

As a research biologist for the National Audubon Society, he was responsible for writing the grant proposal and ultimately the successful award of two grants totaling \$300,000 for six years of fulltime research on the ecology of southern California raptor populations. Responsibilities included project management, personnel selection, supervision of 12 volunteers, proposal and budget preparation, method design, data analysis, report writing, and publication of results.

Education

Ph.D., Natural Resources, College of Natural Resources, University of Idaho, Moscow
M.S., Biology, California State University, Long Beach
B.S., Zoology, California State University, Long Beach

Awards

Graduation with Honors – Best Thesis Award School of Natural Sciences 1979
The Wildlife Society Western Section: Professional of the Year, 2005
Association of Field Ornithologists: Bergstrom Award, 1981
The Nature Conservancy: \$27,000 for satellite transmitters, 2004 and 2006

Permits & Certifications

Federal endangered species recovery permit (TE-787376) for red-legged frog (including placement of transmitters and transponders), arroyo toad, California gnatcatcher (including banding), least Bell's vireo (including banding), southwestern willow flycatcher (including banding), California least tern, snowy plover, peregrine falcon (banding), bald eagle (banding), and Swainson's hawk (banding).

California scientific collecting permit and memorandum of understanding for all raptors, including state-threatened Swainson's hawk, reptiles, amphibians, small mammals, and many additional species of birds, including state-threatened western yellow-billed cuckoo, California least tern, snowy plover, peregrine falcon, and bald eagle.

Desert Tortoise Council-approved for conducting desert tortoise monitoring surveys.

Federal Master Banding Permit No. 20431, Federal Bird Marking and Salvage Permit, Predator Management Permit, Migratory Bird Relocation Permit (burrowing owl and other species)

Selected Publications

Bloom, P. H., McCrary, M. D., Scott, J. M., Papp, J. M., Sernka, K. J., Thomas, S. E., ... & Gibson, M. J. (2015). Northward Summer Migration of Red-tailed Hawks Fledged from Southern Latitudes. *Journal of Raptor Research*, 49(1), 1-17.

Bloom, P. H., Scott, J. M., Papp, J. M., Thomas, S. E., & Kidd, J. W. (2011). Vagrant western Red-shouldered Hawks: origins, natal dispersal patterns, and survival. *The Condor*, 113(3), 538-546.

Bennett, J. R., & Bloom, P. H. (2005). Home range and habitat use by Great Horned Owls (*Bubo virginianus*) in southern California. *Journal of Raptor Research*, 39(2), 119-126.

Wiemeyer, S. N., Scott, J. M., Anderson, M. P., Bloom, P. H., & Stafford, C. J. (1988). Environmental contaminants in California condors. *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, 238-247