

STAFF SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 17, 2018

25. WATERFOWLER'S HALL OF FAME**Today's Item**Information Action

Recognize newly inducted members of the California Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

As a sponsor of the California Waterfowler's Hall of Fame, FGC annually recognizes inductees through the presentation of signed resolutions.

Background

The Waterfowler's Hall of Fame was established in 2006 to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to enhancing waterfowl and their habitats in California.

A small group of interested waterfowlers was instrumental in establishing the hall of fame so that major contributions and achievements of biologists, academics/professors, federal/state administrators, legislators, sportsmen, agriculturalists and other conservationists could be recognized. The selection committee includes representatives from the California Waterfowl Association, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants and Quail Forever, Gaines and Associates, University of California Davis, National Audubon Society, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Inductees or their representatives will be presented with certificates by the California Waterfowl Association. This year's inductees are Dr. Mickey E. Heitmeyer, Jeff Kerry, Peter Ottesen, Thomas Quinn, Mark Gregory Steidlmayer, and Peter Stent.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits**

1. [Resolution for Dr. Mickey E. Heitmeyer](#)
2. [Resolution for Jeff Kerry](#)
3. [Resolution for Peter Ottesen](#)
4. [Resolution for Thomas Quinn](#)
5. [Resolution for Mark Gregory Steidlmayer](#)
6. [Resolution for Peter Stent](#)

Motion/Direction

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission recognizes Dr. Mickey E. Heitmeyer, Jeff Kerry, Peter Ottesen, Thomas Quinn, Mark Gregory Steidlmayer and Peter Stent as members of the California Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
RESOLUTION HONORING

Dr. Mickey E. Heitmeyer

WHEREAS, the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame was established in 2006 to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to enhancing waterfowl and their habitats in California; and

WHEREAS, many wildlife professionals, have dedicated their life's work to management and research to conserve waterfowl and their habitats; and

WHEREAS, many sportsmen and other conservationists have served a critical role in conserving our waterfowl resource by preserving, restoring, and enhancing natural habitats, managing agricultural habitats with wildlife in mind, and implementing other land uses specifically designed to benefit the waterfowl resource; and

WHEREAS, some sportsmen and other conservationists have significantly benefited the waterfowl resource by advocating legislation and other policies that provide needed resources for nesting and wintering waterfowl populations;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission hereby recognizes the addition of Dr. Mickey E. Heitmeyer to the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission recognizes Dr. Heitmeyer's substantial contributions as a scientist and education leader in waterfowl ecology and management. He was one of the first waterfowl biologists to champion the importance of waterfowl body condition in winter for their subsequent reproductive success on northern breeding grounds. Dr. Heitmeyer pioneered the use of energetic-based management for determining the quantities and qualities of habitat needed in California to sustain wintering waterfowl numbers and distribution necessary for waterfowl hunting and conservation. He was also instrumental in establishing bridges between wetland managers and rice growers that led to unprecedented cooperation between the agriculture and conservation communities. Dr. Heitmeyer's charismatic personality and exceptional oratory skills propelled him to leadership roles at both California Waterfowl and Ducks Unlimited, where he inspired cooperation among state, federal and private entities to work toward common goals for waterfowl, wetlands and wildlife-friendly agriculture throughout California.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission further recognizes that Dr. Heitmeyer's passion and knowledge was critical in developing science-based management for conserving waterfowl and their habitats in California.

DATED: OCTOBER 17, 2018

Eric Sklar, President

Anthony C. Williams, Vice President

Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Member

Russell Burns, Member

Peter Silva, Member

Melissa Miller-Henson, Acting
Executive Director

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Jeff Kerry

WHEREAS, the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame was established in 2006 to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to enhancing waterfowl and their habitats in California; and

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission hereby recognizes the addition of Jeff Kerry to the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission recognizes Mr. Kerry as a lifelong hunter and conservationist who represents one of the strongest voices in wetland conservation. Mr. Kerry has served on the boards of the Grassland Resource Conservation District, the Grassland Water District and California Waterfowl. He is an expert on moist-soil management, and he has testified before Congress about the critical importance of Central Valley Project Improvement Act water for the long-term health of grasslands.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission further recognizes Mr. Kerry's understanding of the importance of the waterfowl hunter in providing funding for wetland restoration and protection. That knowledge has played a critical role in the state and federal wildlife agencies appropriating much-needed resources for the long-term protection of grasslands through acquisition of state and federal refuges and wildlife easements on private wetlands habitat.

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Peter Ottesen

WHEREAS, the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame was established in 2006 to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to enhancing waterfowl and their habitats in California; and

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission hereby recognizes the addition of Peter Ottesen to the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission recognizes Mr. Ottesen as an award-winning outdoor writer who, for more than four decades, has produced columns, news stories and photographs about the conservation of wetlands and waterfowl for major daily newspapers, magazines and television documentaries. Mr. Ottesen was a founder of the Outdoor Writers Association of California and was the recipient of the organization's 1995 coveted Writer of the Year award. He has written numerous published articles and is an accomplished author.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission further recognizes Mr. Ottesen's commitment to the state's natural resources as a partner owning more than 2,800 acres of Central Valley and Delta wetlands and uplands – all dedicated as habitat in perpetuity – to benefit more than 350 species of wildlife. He is a trustee for Reclamation District No. 2041, a Bronze Benefactor and former board member of California Waterfowl, a member of The Brotherhood of St. Hubertus, and a Benefactor and Grand Slam Life Sponsor of Ducks Unlimited.

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Thomas Quinn

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission hereby recognizes the addition of Thomas Quinn to the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission recognizes Mr. Quinn as a distinguished and respected wildlife artist, successful dog breeder and trainer, field trialer and author. With his great interest in dog training, he went on to write "The Working Retriever," which presented a unique philosophy on the care and handling of both hunting and field trial dogs. His watercolor paintings reveal a deep understanding of wild animals and their natural habitats.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission further recognizes Mr. Quinn's commitment to conservation as evidenced through his support of both California Waterfowl and Ducks Unlimited. His generous support to numerous conservation efforts reaches beyond California, extending as far as the Netherlands and Spain. Mr. Quinn's long career spans many generations and, through his art, hunters and conservationists will treasure his work for decades to come.

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Mark Gregory Steidlmayer

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission hereby recognizes the addition of the late Mark Gregory Steidlmayer to the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission recognizes Mr. Steidlmayer as a lifelong advocate not only for the water and property rights of private land owners, but also for the need to provide more public hunting opportunity. In addition to providing leadership to waterfowl clubs he belonged to, Mr. Steidlmayer also used his knowledge and talents to establish a number of progressively-managed wildlife properties.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission further recognizes Mr. Steidlmayer's commitment for assembling monetary resources for Colusa National Wildlife Refuge and negotiating for its expansion multiple times; Mr. Steidlmayer's persistence, knowledge and trust of the various private and public partners made this all possible.

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Peter Stent

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission hereby recognizes the addition of Peter Stent to the Waterfowler's Hall of Fame.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission recognizes Mr. Stent for demonstrating cutting-edge habitat restoration and wildlife management techniques at a number of showcase properties. Mr. Stent spearheaded creation of the Dennis G. Raveling Endowed Waterfowl Professorship at UC Davis, and then engaged Dr. John M. Eadie, the Raveling Chair, and his students to do extensive research on – among other topics – waterfowl foods in the face of limited water availability. He has also served on the board of directors of the National Audubon Society and California Waterfowl.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Fish and Game Commission further recognizes that Mr. Stent was the founder and publisher of the online newsletter MAD Duck, which focused on waterfowl conservation and held strong views supporting voluntary restraint and raising questions about the waterfowl hunting season continuing after breeding pairs were formed. Mr. Stent wants hunters, who are a small minority in the state, to do the right thing when hunting so they are seen as a positive force for conservation.

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