

## **2012-2025 Bloom-Hays-Zemba Grant Awards**

### **2025**

- **Aiyana Reissman, University of San Diego (MS), \$5,000, *Exploring the Use of an Endangered Flagship Species as an Ecological Indicator and Icon in Southern California Wetlands.***
- **Mary Tucker, University of California, Riverside (PhD), \$5,000, *Following the Flowers: Migration and Movement Patterns in Costa's Hummingbird Through Advanced Tracking Technology.***
- **Jill Carpenter, University of California, Los Angeles (PhD), \$4,100, *Is Prey Availability a Factor in the Decline of a Bat Species in Southern California that is Synanthropic in the Rest of its Range?***
- **George Vetushko, University of California, Los Angeles (MS), \$2,175, *Nitrate Remediation Potential of Anaerobic Methane Oxidation in a Southern Californian Coastal Wetland.***
- **Vince Rivas, San Diego State University (MS), \$2,175, *Determining the Presence of a Potential Novel Pathogen in Coast Live Oak (Quercus agrifolia).***

### **Zemba Wetland Research Grant**

- **Nicole Vanelli, California State University, Long Beach (MS), \$3,600, *Testing Vegetation Effects on Sedimentation as a Measure of Resilience to Sea-Level Rise.***

### **2024**

- **Ella Eleopoulus, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (MS), \$2,500, *Prevalence of Anticoagulant Rodenticides in Raptors.***
- **Carolyn Coyle, Colorado State University (PhD), \$2,500, *Songbirds as Pollinators: Uncovering Plants of Importance for Southern California's Flower-Foraging Songbirds.***
- **Lindsay Peria, California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo (MS), \$1,250, *Avian biodiversity in a vineyard dominated landscape in California.***
- **Joseph Di Liberto, University of California, Los Angeles (PhD), \$1,250, *Investigating Adaptive and Fitness Consequences of Behavioral Phenotypes in Urbanizing Dark-eyed Juncos.***
- **Karagan Smith, University of California, San Diego (PhD), \$1,250, *Understanding Functional Traits Driving Drought and Herbivore Resistance in Southern California's Postfire Vegetation.***
- **Sam London, University of California, Riverside (PhD), \$1,250, *Investigating the Seed Predation and Dispersal Activities of the Giant Kangaroo Rat.***

### **Zemba Wetland Research Grant**

*None of the applications submitted in 2024 were related to coastal wetland habitats, shorebirds, or seabirds. Therefore, no Zemba Wetland Research Grants were awarded in 2024.*

## 2023

- **Tania Romero, California State University, Los Angeles (MS), \$2,500, *The Effects of Climate Variability on the Interannual Movement Strategies of a Spring Migrant Landbird in the Pacific Flyway.***
- **Sierra Winter, University of California, Riverside (PhD), \$2,000, *Are Allen's Hummingbirds in Trouble?***
- **Ynez Diaz, California State University, Long Beach (MS), \$2,000, *Mobbing Behaviors of Urban Birds Along a Socio Economic Gradient.***
- **Jennifer Schlauch, University of California, Irvine (PhD), \$1,500, *Solitary Bee Diversity and Microbiomes in California's Coastal Wetlands.***
- **Helen Payne, University of California, Santa Barbara (PhD), \$1,000, *Birds, Bees, and Baby Blue Eyes: Parallel Multitrophic Responses to Climate Change.***
- **Lydia Dean, University of California, Irvine (PhD), \$1,000, *Interspecific Variation in Plant Indirect Defense by Insectivorous Birds.***

### Zemba Wetland Research Grant

- **David Boehmer, California State University, Long Beach (MS), \$2500, *The Habitat Use and Reproductive Activity of the Belding's Savannah Sparrow.***

## 2022

- **Jessica Burton, California State University, Long Beach (MS), \$2500, *Optimizing Artificial Raft Placement for the Light-footed Ridgway's Rail (*Rallus obsoletus levipes*).***
- **Janelle Chojnacki, California Polytechnic State University, Humboldt (MS), \$2,500, *Common Raven Movement Around Western Snowy Plover Nesting Habitat.***
- **Riley Jones, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (PhD), \$2,500, *Clark's Nutcrackers as agents for Dispersal of Bristlecone Pine.***
- **Janine Fischer, University of California, Los Angeles (PhD), \$1,200, *Effects of Interspecific Competition on Habitat Use by Stephens' Kangaroo Rat.***
- **Jessica Mullins, University of California, San Diego (PhD), \$1,500, *Eleven Year Resurvey to Uncover the Life History Traits of Native Bees Resistant or Vulnerable to Habitat Fragmentation.***

## 2021

- **Joseph Curti, University of California, Los Angeles (PhD), \$2,500, *Assessing Barriers to California Quail Gene Flow in the Santa Monica Mountains.***
- **Caryn Iwanaga, University of California, Riverside (Undergraduate), \$1,200, *Campus Hill Restoration Research Project.***
- **Alexandria Koedel, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona (MS), \$1,300, *Genetic Polymorphism in Candidate Genes of Resident and Migratory Turkey Vultures.***

- **Stephanie Calloway, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (MS)**, \$2,500, *Saving a Rare Plant Species to Increase Seabird Nesting Habitat on Anacapa Island.*
- **Rachel Bockrath, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona (MS)**, \$1,000, *Avian Diversity and Foraging Behavior in a Heterogeneous Urban-Agroecosystem.*
- **Joanna Tang, University of California, Santa Barbara (PhD)**, \$1,000, *Ecotypic Variation in Vernal Pool Communities.*
- **Nina Vinuti, University of California, Davis (MS)**, \$500, *Can Injured Trees Keep Up with Climate Change? Assessing the Effects of Fire Injury on Conifer Fecundity in Sierra Nevada Forests.*

## 2020

- **Timothy Brown, University of California, Santa Cruz (PhD)**, \$2,500, *Climate Change and the Continent's Highest-elevation Birds: North America's Rosy-Finches on the Escalator to Extinction.*
- **Alexandra Gresham, California Polytechnical University, Pomona (MS)**, \$1,330, *Lead Toxicity and its effects in the California Turkey Vulture.*
- **Amanda Martinez, California State University, Long Beach (MS)**, \$1,170, *Prey Availability as a Correlate of Nesting Success for the California Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*).*
- **Janine Fischer, University of California, Los Angeles (PhD)**, \$2,000, *Effects of Competitor Familiarization on Pacific Pocket Mouse Reintroduction Success.*
- **Kaleigh Russell, University of California, Riverside (PhD)**, \$1,500, *Pollinator Diversity in the Southern California Desert.*
- **Racine Rangel, University of California, Irvine (PhD)**, \$1,500, *Do climate conditions affect host-parasite relationships in marine snails?*

## 2019

- **Amanda Martinez, California State University, Long Beach (MS)**, \$1,250, *Prey Availability and Habitat Characteristics as Correlates of Nesting Success for the California Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*)*
- **Timothy Brown, University of California, Santa Cruz (PhD)**, \$2,500, *Assessing Climate Vulnerability for the Continent's Highest Elevation Breeding Birds: North America's Rosy-Finches*
- **Stephanie Nehasil, University of California, San Diego (PhD)**, \$2,000, *Linking Climate and Prey Availability to Population Dynamics of Marine Predators*
- **Anthony Dant, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (MS)**, \$2,000, *The Effects of Urbanization on California Towhees in Southern California*
- **Kandi Erickson, California State University, Long Beach (Undergraduate)**, \$750, *The Effects of Predation and Competition on Nest Density of California Least Terns (*Sternula antillarum browni*)*

- **Elizabeth Bullard, University of California, San Diego (PhD)**, \$750, *Response and Functional Impacts of Shell Calcification Traits of Three Ecologically Important Bivalve Species Along a pH and Temperature Gradient*
- **William Ota, University of California, Riverside (PhD)**, \$750, *The Effect of Two Effluent Outflows on the Santa Ana River*

## 2018

- **Chris Vennum, Colorado State University, Fort Collins (PhD)**, *Territory Persistence and Reproductive Performance of Swainson's Hawks (*Buteo swainsoni*) Across Habitat Interfaces* (\$2,500)
- **Amy Miles, University of California, Davis (Undergrad)**, *Assessing Reproductive Condition of Ashy Storm Petrels on Southeast Farallon Island* (\$1,500)
- **Dillon Travis, University of California, San Diego (PhD)**, *Honey Bee Pollination May Increase Geitonogamy and Inbreeding Depression in Native Plants While Competing with Native Pollinators for Floral Resources* (\$500)
- **Carmel Tabush, Cal Poly Pomona (Masters)**, *Seasonal Bee Diversity and Abundance within the California Sage Scrub of the San Jose Hills and Chino Hills* (\$500)

## 2017

- **Neil Gilbert, University of Alabama, (Masters)**, *Habitat Relationships of Grassland Birds in the Black Belt Region of Alabama and Mississippi* (\$600)
- **An Bui, University of California, Santa Barbara (PhD)** *Parasite Avoidance Behavior in Seabirds: Seasonal Endoparasite Load in Western Gulls* (\$1,700)
- **David Zonana, University of Colorado, Boulder (PhD)**, *Influences of Adaptation and Social Networks on Hybridization in the Quail of Southern California* (\$1,700)
- **Alyssa Frederick Braciszewski, University of California, Irvine (PhD)**, *Abalone Disease Resistance* (\$500)
- **Ana Guerra, University of California, Santa Barbara (PhD)**, *An Overlooked Key Player? Nitrogen Deposition by the Channel Islands Western Gull* (\$500)

## 2016

- **Shannon Lynch, University of California, Santa Cruz (PhD)**, *Risk, Spread, and Control of Fusarium Dieback – Shot Hole Borers Throughout Native Plant Communities in Southern California* (\$2,225)
- **Richard Hedley, University of California, Los Angeles (PhD)**, *Tracking Migration of Cassin's Vireo: Identifying Wintering Grounds and Assessing the Impact of Brood Parasitism on Migratory Movements* (\$680)

- **Sara Matthews, California State University, Humboldt (Masters)**, *Utilizing Unmanned Aircraft Systems to Understand the Changing Phenology of Eared Grebes at Mono Lake* (\$800)
- **Devyn Orr, University of California, Santa Barbara (PhD)**, *Impact of Large Mammals and Climate on Bird Abundance and Diversity in Southern California* (\$800)
- **Joseph Gamez, California State University, Fullerton (Undergraduate)**, *An Investigation of the Population Spread and Potential Host Species of the Pin-Tailed Whydah, an Exotic Obligate Brood Parasite in Southern California* (\$500)

## 2015

- **Michelle Barton, California State University, Long Beach**, *Nest Site Selection of the Light-footed Ridgway Rail (*Rallus obsoletus levipes*) in Two California Salt Marshes* (\$900)
- **Alexandria Pivovarovff, University of California, Riverside**, *Linking Climate Change, Vegetation Mortality, and Fire to Resiliency of Chaparral and Coastal Sage Scrub in the Santa Monica Mountains* (\$1,745)
- **Kevin Neal, University of California, Los Angeles**, *Landscape Genomics of the Western Spadefoot Toad, *Spea hammondi*, in Southern California* (\$1,000)
- **Rachel Chock, University of California, Los Angeles**, *Little Pocket Mice: Habitat Use and Competition in a Coastal Sage Scrub Community* (\$1,000)
- **Amanda Agosta, Mt. San Antonio Community College (Undergrad)**, *Mt. Wildlife Sanctuary Baseline Bird Data (A pair of 8X42 binoculars)*

Sea and Sage also provided funding for the following non-student projects (from the general fund) as recommended by the Science Committee:

- **John Stanek, Southern Sierra Research Station**, *Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo Dispersal and Migration* (\$1,962)
- **Jennifer Gee, James San Jacinto Mountains Reserve**, *Causes of Reproductive Barrier Breakdown in California, Gambel's and Mountain Quail* (\$1,560)

## 2014

- **Justin Valliere, University of California, Riverside**, *Nitrogen Deposition and Post-fire Recovery of Coastal Sage Scrub Habitat* (\$2,000)
- **Colleen Nell, University of California, Irvine**, *The Role of Insectivorous Birds in Coastal Sage Scrub Ecosystem* (\$1,000)
- **Rachel Chock, University of California, Los Angeles**, *Little Pocket Mice: Habitat Use and Competition on a Coastal Sage Scrub Community* (\$1,000)
- **James Hung, University of California, San Diego**, *Linking Pollinator Diversity to Reproduction of Coastal Sage Scrub Plants* (\$500)

- **Hannah Sadowski, San Diego State University, *There and Back Again: A Temporal Analysis of Restored Riparian Woodlands* (\$500)**

Sea and Sage also provided funding for the following non-student projects (from the general fund) as recommended by the Science Committee:

- **Jennifer Gee, James Reserve, *Causes and Consequences of Secondary Contact in California, Gambel's, and Mountain Quail***
- **William Clark, RapTours, *Further Field Work on Krider's Hawk***

## 2013

- **Megan Fitzgerald, California State University Long Beach, *The Relationship Between Biodiversity and Ecosystem Function in a Coastal Wetland*.**
- **Sokanary Sun, California State University Long Beach, *Determining Ecosystem Functions of Brackish vs. Salt Marsh*.**

## 2012

- **Tania Asef, California State University Long Beach, *Impacts of Genetically Diverse Tamarisk Invading San Dieguito Lagoon and Tiajuana Estuary***
- **Anastasia Shippey, California State University Long Beach, *Effect of Climate Change on a Restored Southern California Salt Marsh*.**
- **Alyssa Stephenson, California State University, Fullerton, *Seasonal Progression of Prey of Nesting Elegant Terns in Southern California Based on GPS Tracking*.**