



**GENE E.  
THORNE**

**& Associates, Inc.**

ENGINEERING ~ SURVEYING ~ PLANNING ~ TRAFFIC

21 July 2008

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, California 95667

**SUBJECT: Item 51, Board Agenda for 22 July 2008**

Members of the Board:

I was recently asked to consider being a member of the Plant and Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee (PAWIAC). After a little research into the purpose of PAWIAC, I feel that being a member of this will be an interesting opportunity

I have a BS Degree in Forestry from Humboldt State University and am a Certified Arborist and Professional Land Surveyor. I have lived and worked in El Dorado County nearly all my life

In addition to my twenty plus years as a Land Surveyor, my professional experience includes fire suppression, timber harvesting, and forest management. As a Certified Arborist, I am specializing in oaks trees and oak woodlands

I thank you for considering me to be a member of this Committee

Sincerely,

Philip R Mosbacher,  
Land Surveyor, CA PLS 7189, NV PLS 13163  
Certified Arborist, WE-7351A

j

# **GIBSON & SKORDAL, LLC**

## ***Wetland Consultants***

2277 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite 105  
Sacramento, California 95825  
Telephone (916) 569-1830  
Facsimile (916) 569-1835

*James C. Gibson  
Thomas M. Skordal  
Karen Shaffer  
Ginger E. Fodge  
Samuel R. Garcia*

## **RESUME OF JAMES C. GIBSON**

### **SUMMARY**

Mr. Gibson has in-depth experience in and knowledge of environmental planning and regulatory fields. His experience as a wetlands consultant and 18-years as an Environmental Resource Planner and Environmental Specialist with the Corps of Engineers have provided him with solid working knowledge of environmental resource laws and regulations including Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Endangered Species Act, and California Environmental Quality Act.

As a consultant, Mr. Gibson has served as project manager for a wide range of wetland related projects throughout the west. He has been responsible for conducting jurisdictional delineations and special status species surveys, providing project planning assistance, obtaining governmental approvals, preparation of mitigation and monitoring plans, supervision of mitigation construction, and mitigation monitoring. He has also provided expert and factual testimony for litigation.

During Mr. Gibson's 11 years as an Environmental Specialist for the Sacramento District Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Section, he was responsible for providing technical expertise in environmental matters, including delineation of wetlands subject to Corps regulatory jurisdiction; management and preparation of environmental impact statements and environmental assessments for complex and controversial permit actions; review of other agencies' environmental documents; coordination with resource agencies, applicants, and others with respect to regulatory actions, mitigation plans, permit conditions, and violations; and providing assistance to regulatory personnel and applicants on environmental matters. He was the Sacramento District Regulatory Wetlands Expert for Northern California, Nevada, and portions of Utah and Colorado. He also served 7 years as an Environmental Resource Planner for the Sacramento District Corps of Engineers, Environmental Resources Section. He was responsible for planning, coordinating, and preparing Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements for Corps' Civil Works projects.

Mr. Gibson has conducted formal technical training in the delineation of wetlands utilizing the Corps' Wetland Delineation Manual and "Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands".

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **Gibson & Skordal, LLC**

January 2002 to Present

2277 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite 105  
Sacramento, California 95825

Principal, Wetland Consultant.

### **Gibson & Skordal**

August 1992 to December 2001

2277 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite 395  
Sacramento, California 95825

Principal, Wetland Consultant.

### **Huffman & Associates, Inc.**

March 1990 to July 1992

4204 Power Inn Road  
Sacramento, California 95826

Vice President and Principal. Senior Wetland Regulatory Specialist and manager of Huffman and Associates, Inc., Sacramento, California office.

### **Private Consultant**

August 1988 to March 1990

8291 Caribbean Way  
Sacramento, California 95826

Wetland Regulatory Consultant. Wetland Regulatory Consulting.

### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

March 1977 to August 1988

Sacramento District  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Environmental Specialist. Responsible for environmental aspects of Corps of Engineers' Regulatory Program in California, Nevada, Utah, and Colorado.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

March 1970 to March 1977

Sacramento District  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Environmental Resource Planner (Lieutenant 1970-1972). Responsible for environmental aspects of Corps of Engineers' Civil Works projects primarily in California.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

December 1969 to March 1970

Ft. Belvoir, Virginia  
Second Lieutenant. Combat Engineer.

**EDUCATION**

B.S., 1969. Wildlife Science, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

U.S. Army Engineer Officer Training Course, 1970. Combat Engineer, Ft. Belvoir, Virginia

**SPECIAL COURSES**

Wetland Delineation Refresher, Wetland Training Institute, Ontario, California, 1994.

Wetlands Development and Restoration, Corps of Engineers' Training, Tiburon, California, 1988.

Wetland Methodologies, Corps of Engineers' Training, Olympia, Washington, 1987.

Wetlands Specialist, Corps of Engineers' Training, Pocomoke City, Maryland, 1985.

Wetland Soils and Hydrology, Corps of Engineers' Training, Hickory Corner, Michigan, 1985.

Environmental Laws and Regulations, University of Alabama, Huntsville, Alabama, 1984.

Public Involvement, Corps of Engineers' Training, St. Louis, Missouri, 1983.

Effective Briefing Techniques, Department of Army, Sacramento, California, 1983

Wetland Science and Technology, Oregon State University, Otter Rock, Oregon, 1977.

Introduction to Water Resource Planning, Corps of Engineers, Sacramento, California, 1976.

Environmental Impact Reporting and Evaluation, California State University, Sacramento, California, 1974.

Environmental Law for the Layman, University of California Extension, Sacramento, California, 1972.

Aquatic Biology, University of California Extension, Weed, California, 1970.

## **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

Certified Professional Wetland Scientist  
Certified Wildlife Biologist

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Association of State Wetland Managers  
The Wildlife Society  
Society of Wetland Scientists  
Society for Ecological Restoration

## **APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS**

Sacramento District Chief of Regulatory Section, Letter of Commendation for support in executing a successful regulatory program in Sacramento District, 1987.

South Pacific Division Engineer, nominee for the Office of the Chief of Engineers Don Lawyer Outstanding Regulator Award for exceptional performance in regulatory functions, 1986.

South Pacific Division Engineer, Special Act Award for personal dedication and technical expertise associated with a highly complex permit action in the San Francisco Bay area, 1986.

Sacramento District Engineer, Special Act Award for being instrumental in obtaining favorable judgment by the Federal District Court in a regulatory case in Northern California, 1985.

Sacramento District Chief of Construction - Operations Division, Letter of Appreciation for outstanding contribution to the success of Sacramento District's regulatory program in Utah, 1982.

Sacramento District Engineer, Sustained Superior Performance Award for environmental planning efforts associated with civil works activities, 1976.

Sacramento District Engineer, Special Act Award for involvement in Sacramento River Wild and Scenic River Study and Report, 1975.

Sacramento District Chief of Environmental Planning Section, Letter of Appreciation for wildlife mitigation plan development, 1973.

Sacramento District Engineer, Letter of Commendation for contribution to civil works projects of the District, 1972.

## **LITIGATION INVOLVEMENT**

Prudential Development Co. v. Stanford Ranch Inc. et al., Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Placer.

Kramer Ranch v. Zentner & Zentner, et al., Superior Court of California in and for the County of Sacramento.

Citizens for Glenwood Canyon Scenic Corridor v. United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States District Court, District of Colorado.

City of Sparks v. L. David Kiley, Second Judicial District Court, State of Nevada, County of Washoe.

Concerned Citizens of Eagle County, Colorado v. Richard E. Woodrow, United States District Court, District of Colorado.

Great Salt Lake Minerals and Chemical Corporation v. Marsh, United States District Court, District of Utah, Central Division.

People v. Marsh, United States District Court, Northern District of California.

Robert W. Akers v. United States of America, United States District Court, Eastern District of California.

United States of America v. Robert W. Akers, United States District Court, Eastern District of California.

William S. Stryker, M.D. v. Musick, Peeler & Garrett, Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles Central District.



June 20, 2008

El Dorado County  
Attn: Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

Subject: LOI for PAWTAC

To Whom It May Concern:

Wildlands, Inc. is pleased to submit this Letter of Interest (LOI) to the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors respectfully requesting your consideration of Mahala Young as a committee member of the Plant And Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee (PAWTAC).

Wildlands, Inc., headquartered in Rocklin, CA with operations in Northern and Central California, the Pacific Northwest, Georgia and North Carolina, is a national leader and acclaimed pioneer in the mitigation and conservation banking community. In the past 13 years, Wildlands has protected and restored over 25,000 acres of natural resources in California alone, including; the first wetland mitigation bank in the western United States; the first fisheries mitigation bank for the protected Chinook salmon, steelhead and Delta smelt; and the first conservation bank for federally listed vernal pool species. Wildlands has extensive experience serving local and regional technical advisory committees including assigned positions in both the Placer County Conservation Plan Biological Working Group and the Lower Yolo Bypass Working Group. Wildlands has been actively involved with the South Sacramento County Habitat Conservation Plan Steering Committee, and Central Valley Salmonid Satellite Project Work Team: Juvenile Monitoring groups.

Mahala Young is a restoration planner for Wildlands' Northern California Planning Group. In this capacity, Ms. Young directs the development of restoration and conservation projects through the design and permitting stages, prepares site-specific restoration and management plans, and works closely with regulatory agencies and other interested parties to establish approved wetland mitigation or habitat preservation/conservation banks for regional mitigation needs. Prior to Wildlands, Ms. Young spent over five years as a restoration ecologist for local environmental firms preparing conservation, restoration, and management plans; assessing biological resource issues; conducting botanical surveys, jurisdictional wetland delineations, and plant community characterizations; and preparing biological resource sections for CEQA and



NEPA documents. She has an undergraduate degree in Botany from Oregon State University, and is also a local El Dorado County resident who runs a small native plant nursery specializing in oak woodland species.

We feel that Wildlands, Inc. can offer invaluable expertise and experience to the PAWTAC, and sincerely hope that the Board will consider our request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan Lopez  
Conservation Planner/Biologist  
California Wildlands, Inc.  
755 N. Peach Ave. Suite F16  
Clovis, CA 93611  
P: 559-297-3300  
F: 559-297-3301

Mahala Young  
Restoration Planner/Biologist Central  
Northern California Wildlands, Inc.  
3855 Atherton Road  
Rocklin, CA 95765  
P: 916-435-3555  
F: 916-435-3556