

MINUTES [Approved]
Sacramento Audubon Society
Board of Directors Meeting

Date / Time: March 28, 2023 @ 6:30 pm Location:
Virtual

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Minutes
 - A. Call to Order 6:34 pm
 - B. Roll Call
 1. Board Members Present: Paul Miller, Harriet Saeck, Mary Forrestal, Jane Van Kessel, Susan Goodrich, Bill Weaver, Bill Bianco, Eric Johnson, Taylor Florence
 2. Board Members Absent: Nancy Gronert, Anthony Asay
 - C. Approval of Minutes (February 2023) Approved by consensus.

- I. Guests / Public Comments: None

- II. Presentations: None

- III. Officer Reports
 - A. President: See *President's Report – March 28, 2023*, attached
 - B. Treasurer
 1. Financials
 - a. Sponsorships and grants approved at February Meeting have been issued.
 - b. Current Net Income of \$8,000.
 2. Nature in the Classroom: received and approved a request to provide the program for an entire school.
 - C. Other Officers: On March 17, 2023 via email the board approved a motion to donate \$2500 to Wide Open Walls Sacramento Mural Project. (Paul Miller 1st, Nancy Gronert 2nd) approved by majority.

- IV. New Business
 - A. White-faced Ibis Research Funding Request
 1. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Program is tracking White-faced Ibis migration in western North America. In 2022, thirty birds in California, Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada were tracked to their wintering grounds as distant as the Yucatan, Mexico. In 2023 deployments will be expanded to include Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. The request is for funds to purchase additional GPS transmitters for this project. Each transmitter costs \$1340.
 2. Motion to donate funds for purchase of one transmitter for this project (Paul 1st, Taylor 2nd) approved unanimously.
 - B. Nominating Committee / Board Election
 1. Paul will head the Nominating Committee
 2. One director position for the board will be vacant and need to be filled for next year.
 3. Slate of Officers (even if incomplete) should posted in May Observer. Deadline for the May Observer is April 15.
 4. Ballot and voting instructions should be in the June Observer. Deadline for the June Observer is May 15.
 5. Online ballot should be available and voting should take place beginning May 20 (the date the electronic issue of the June Observer is available) and close on June 15.
 6. The ballot should be available in the June Observer and online at www.sacramentoaudubon.org/board-elections.
 7. Last year an email was sent to members on May 22, 2022 via Constant Contact inviting

members to vote.

- C. ECOS Earth Day Celebration - Short Promo Talks: Outreach is planning to have a table at this event. Bill needs information on the additional activities ECOS is requesting.
- D. Impact 100 Greater Sacramento Grant Opportunity: At the current time the board is not interested in pursuing this program.
- E. Audubon Name
 - 1. On Monday, March 13, 2023 the Board of National Audubon voted to retain the name of Audubon after more than a year of research and discussion, stating, "The name has come to represent not one person, but a broader love of birds and nature." Three of the 26 members of the board of directors resigned in protest over the decision.
 - 2. As of March 20, 2023 of the 450+ local Audubon chapters, the following had announced their intention to remove Audubon from their names:
 - Seattle Audubon is now Birds Connect Seattle
 - Washington D.C.'s Audubon Naturalist Society is now Nature Forward
 - Chicago Audubon
 - Portland Audubon
 - New York City Audubon
 - Madison Audubon
 - 3. Motion to publish an article in the April Observer covering the issues around the Audubon name. (Paul 1st, Taylor 2nd) approved unanimously.

V. Old Business: None

VI. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

- A. Membership: See *Membership Committee Report – March 2023*, attached
- B. Education: See *Education Committee Report 3/26/23*, attached.
- C. Website: None
- D. Conservation: No updates at this time
- E. Field Trips: See *Field Activities Committee Report – March 2023*, attached
- F. Accessibility: None
- G. Bobelaine
 - 1. See *Bobelaine Committee Report 03/27/23*, attached
 - 2. William received 4 quotes for shed painting. Will forward to Committee to review, then to Board for consideration.
 - 3. Kiosk upgrade, Item 4 of *Bobelaine Committee Report*
 - a. Received two estimates from Rockart for new kiosk. \$6071 for a 72 X 48 Kiosk. \$9719 for 48 X 48 double sided kiosk. Bobelaine Committee recommends the double-sided at \$9719.
 - b. Motion to purchase the double-sided kiosk for \$9719 from Rockart (Taylor 1st, Paul 2nd) approved unanimously.
- H. Monthly Speaker: Susan Goodrich will be filling in as Zoom host of the April Monthly Speaker meeting as Anthony will be out of town.
- I. Other Committee Reports: None
- J. Board Member Reports: None

VII. Adjournment: 8:08 pm



SACRAMENTO
AUDUBON SOCIETY

Board Meeting
March 28, 2023

President's Report

Disassociating Our Work With John James Audubon

Recently National Audubon announced they intend to retain the name "Audubon". They were considered removing the name to make a statement regarding John Audubon's views on slavery, race, and indigenous people's rights. John Audubon was known to hold the belief in "white supremacy". One can argue that John was a product of his generation and time's, however like all of us he had the opportunity to speak out against injustice, and he did not. I believe this is our time to make a statement regarding his harmful views and life style. We have an opportunity, just as John did.

Sacramento Audubon Society is an independent non-profit and is wholly separate from National Audubon. Audubon California is considered a State office of National Audubon and is not a separate organization. They do not have the ability to consider a name change independent of National Audubon. To date, several local Audubon chapters have chosen to remove the name "Audubon", however replacement names have not been decided as of today.

Our relationship to National Audubon as an independent non-profit is governed by "National Audubon Society Chapter Policy - May 17, 2014" (see attached). From my reading of this document we have the ability to change our name and still be affiliated with National Audubon. This is critical as we receive yearly payments as a Audubon chapter, along with payments from the Bobelaine Sanctuary endowment that is managed by National Audubon.

The counter argument to keeping the name is based upon the collective power of both a well established and internationally recognized non-profit organization, along with 460 local chapters, all sharing the same name. Our collective work in bird conservation and public awareness cannot be overstated, and the power of name recognition fuels this work. Local chapters are a powerful and integral component. I agree with this argument and do not support replacing the name "Audubon" until or unless National Audubon revisits the issue and agrees to a new name, or a majority of local chapters agrees on a united new name.

However, I believe there is an opportunity now for our organization to make a public statement regarding a name change. We would join the list of several other chapters making this decision, thereby incrementally increasing the likelihood that National Audubon will revisit the issue. At our Board meeting I will make a motion to remove the name "Audubon" from our Society. The motion will read as follows, "I make a motion to remove the name "Audubon" from our Societies name, and start the process of renaming, with the hope that National Audubon will revisit the issue and provide guidance on a revised naming strategy. Should National Audubon refuse to revisit this issue, I recommend that we hold off on a new name until a majority of local chapters can agree on a united new name."

National Audubon Society Chapter Policy

The purpose of this Chapter Policy is to define the relationship between the National Audubon Society (NAS) and its affiliated Chapters, and provide a framework through which NAS and Chapters can carry out the [Audubon mission](#) to protect birds and habitat. By acting as one, the Audubon network of Chapters, Centers, national and state staff, volunteers, partners and other supporters can reach much larger conservation goals than could be achieved separately. Results can be realized at local, state, regional, flyway and hemispheric scales through the combined efforts of all parts of the Audubon network as unified by NAS' strategic plan. While the relationship between Chapters and NAS is principally voluntary, it is solidly and fundamentally based on a commonality of shared interests and a shared understanding of the strength that comes from broadly coordinating efforts on behalf of America's birds. Both the Chapter and NAS agree to abide by this Chapter Policy at the time the Chapter is chartered and again when annually re-certified (see Section 2.B).

Section 1: Goals

- A. **Chapter Role.** Chapters are a core strength of the Audubon network and play a critical role in their communities on behalf of birds, wildlife and people. Chapters offer Audubon members opportunities to participate in activities furthering the Audubon mission within their community. Each Chapter contributes to making "Audubon" a known and trusted name, and its activities serve the needs of birds, nature, and its members through conservation, advocacy, birding, education, public outreach, recreation, citizen science and stewardship as each sees fit. Each Chapter is an independent organization that functions in its own designated geographic area, defined by ZIP codes, with its own branding and identity but with fundamentally overlapping goals with other Chapters and with NAS.
- B. **One Audubon.** Chapters and NAS exist together as part of a hemispheric Audubon network, generally perceived by the public as a single entity. A strong tie between Chapters and NAS maximizes the Audubon network's effectiveness in protecting birds and habitat and realizes the collective power of "One Audubon."
- C. **Collaborating for conservation on a flyway scale.** The [NAS Strategic Plan](#) and NAS national programs, including Policy, Science, International Alliances, and Community Conservation and Education, clearly recognize the fundamental importance of Chapters in accomplishing the Audubon network's conservation and engagement goals. In addition to delivering local conservation actions, Chapters serve as key links along the flyways (see [information on Audubon's organization by flyways and flyway map](#)) and as community centers through which [cross-cutting conservation initiatives](#) can be implemented. NAS' flyway leadership, national conservation planners and mapping experts serve to connect the work of the Audubon network along and between each of the flyways of the Americas to achieve large-scale conservation objectives. When Audubon's efforts are coordinated into an effort of combined strength, the network can achieve a vision of "local action with hemispheric impact."

Section 2: Legal and Formal Relationship

A. Organizational Structure

1. **Independent Entities.** Chapters and NAS are independent entities. This policy neither creates a legal partnership or agency relationship between NAS and Chapters, nor authorizes NAS or Chapters to bind one another.
2. **Tax Exempt Status.** Because NAS and Chapters are separate entities, NAS' tax-exempt status does not extend to Chapters. NAS recommends that each Chapter incorporate as a not-for-profit organization and obtain exemption from federal tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Federal exemption provides benefits both to the Chapter itself and to its members and other individuals who make charitable contributions.

B. Chapter Chartering and Certification

1. **New Chapter Charter.** Individuals or groups interested in forming a Chapter will follow the "Guide to Starting a Chapter in Your Community" (Appendix B.1.) through Pending, Provisional and Permanent Chapter Status. NAS focuses on approving new Chapters in areas of primary conservation concern or engagement opportunity. When a new Chapter is formed, leaders meet a set of standards applicable to all new Chapters through creation of governance documents, leadership and membership recruitment, and program planning. When NAS originally certifies a Chapter of NAS, the Chapter receives a Chapter Charter, which is annually recertified.
2. **Chapter Territory.** A Chapter's territory is defined by contiguous ZIP codes; no two Chapters may share the same territory. "Chapter Territory Assignment and Changes" (Appendix B.2.) describes the policy and process for creating or changing a Chapter territory.
3. **Annual Recertification.** To maintain its status as a chartered Chapter, each Chapter must participate annually in a recertification process by completing an Annual Report and Chapter leader contact update. Through the Annual Report, Chapters agree to continue to abide by this Chapter Policy; summarize significant programs, activities and accomplishments of the preceding year; and share plans for the coming year. Annual Reports are submitted online. The NAS Board delegates to the State Boards the authority and responsibility to annually review all Chapters in their respective states and to make suggestions to improve Chapter effectiveness, build collaboration, support, celebrate and/or assist those Chapters. For states without a State Board, the Chapter Services Office conducts the annual review.
4. **Change of Chapter Status.** Circumstances may arise under which either a Chapter or NAS may choose to reconsider their relationship. These situations include but are not limited to: (i) a Chapter substantially or completely ceasing operations, (ii) a Chapter choosing to adopt policies or pursue activities that are in conflict with or do not fulfill this Chapter Policy, and (iii) a Chapter deciding to terminate its certification as a Chapter of NAS.

In situations (i) and (ii) above, it is the responsibility of the State Director or Chapter Services Office (in states without a State Office) to work with Chapter leaders to attempt to return the Chapter to full activity or to compliance with the Chapter Policy. The State Director or Chapter Services Office is encouraged to use whatever tools or resources are needed to restore the Chapter to full Chapter activity or to compliance; options might include formulation of a

remedial plan, or designation of "holding" status for Chapters needing additional time with temporary suspension of baseline funding and access to the mailing list of the NAS members in the Chapter's territory.

If the Chapter is not able or willing to return to full activity or to compliance, then the State Director, acting after consultation with the State Board, or the Chapter Services Office (for Chapters in states without a State Office), may recommend to the NAS Chief Operating Officer that Chapter de-certification is warranted and request revocation of a Chapter's charter. If that recommendation is approved, the Chapter Services Office will provide sixty (60) days written notice of de-certification to the Chapter President or a board officer if that position is vacant.

In situation (iii) above, any Chapter, by vote of its Board, may revoke its charter and cease to be a Chapter of NAS by providing sixty (60) days written notice of such decision to its State Director or the Chapter Services Office (for Chapters in states without a State Office).

In each situation noted above, once de-certification is effective, the decertified Chapter must remove any identification of an affiliation with NAS wherever they occur. Each NAS member of the former Chapter will remain a member of NAS for as long as their NAS membership is current. Such member may affiliate with another Chapter of their choice; affiliate with the Chapter assigned the member's ZIP code if and when that occurs; or remain unaffiliated.

- C. **National Board Members.** The NAS bylaws include a provision for nine regionally-nominated directors. Under rules adopted by the NAS Board, Chapters have a right to vote for one nominee from their region as well as the Pan-Flyway nominee for the NAS Board of Directors. Regional Election Procedures are in Appendix B. 3. Any Chapter or member of NAS may also submit the name of an individual as a candidate for an at large director position on the NAS Board of Directors to the Governance Committee for its consideration. All Audubon Directors (either regionally nominated or at large) have the same rights and responsibilities.
- D. **Definition of Membership.** The definition of an NAS member, a Chapter member, the relationship between Chapter members and NAS members, and practices relating to Chapter-only memberships are set forth in the Membership Policy. The current policy is attached in Appendix B.4. The minimum NAS membership dues shall be established by NAS. All NAS members who reside in a Chapter territory are assigned to their respective Chapter; a Chapter serves members throughout its territory. The list of NAS members is owned by NAS and may not be given, rented, leased, or exchanged without the consent of NAS.

Section 3: NAS Support to Chapters

- A. **Financial support.** In recognition of the importance of Chapters as strategic partners in achieving NAS goals and carrying out programs for the benefit of members, NAS provides Chapters with financial support.
- Annual Baseline Funding is designed to support general Chapter operations that provide information and opportunities for engagement to our shared membership, and is provided following completion of annual recertification as described above in Section 2.B.3.
 - Annual Collaborative Funding is allocated on a state by state basis and supports conservation projects (defined broadly to include education, citizen science, policy, habitat restoration) that

provide an opportunity to engage members and the public, to promote a shared mission, and to align national, state and Chapter priorities.

- Membership recruitment incentives are also available.
- Current and future NAS funding for programs and projects, training, resources and support will continue to be shared with Chapters as funding opportunities become available, with an emphasis on supporting Chapter priorities that overlap with NAS strategic goals.

- B. **Membership Recruitment.** Membership recruitment is shared by Chapters and NAS; NAS member renewal and record keeping services are provided by NAS.
- C. **State and NAS Program Staff and Support.** NAS Program, State Office, Center and Chapter Services Office staff works with Chapters in each state to share information and opportunities for partnership, to develop and conduct programs, and to raise and allocate funds in order to best achieve the Audubon mission.
- D. **Services and Resources.** NAS provides a range of services and resources to Chapters through national, flyway, state and local offices, including but not limited to:
1. The right to use NAS trademarks and logos to identify a certified Chapter's affiliation with NAS, subject to the logo use policy (see Appendix B.5.).
 2. Protection of the "Audubon" name and trademarks on behalf of the entire Audubon network.
 3. State Office staff (or Chapter Services Office staff for states without a State Office) as primary liaisons between NAS and Chapters.
 4. Timely online, written and in-person communications regarding current issues, programs and policies of importance to the Audubon network.
 5. Publications that establish a common "Audubon" identity and provide information of interest to members and the public.
 6. Early engagement in planning for new and ongoing conservation initiatives and community engagement strategies, along with opportunities for leadership, partnership or general participation in their implementation.
 7. Technical assistance on issues and programs that support Chapter efforts.
 8. Technological services including online access to Chapter membership records and annual reports, financial records, geographic information systems, Chapter territory management, regional director elections, educational materials, advocacy engagement and citizen science programs.
 9. Education, advocacy and citizen science program support in the form of resource materials, program development and management, as available.

10. Opportunities for NAS staff, Chapter leaders and volunteers to meet, learn and share with each other through national conventions, regional leadership trainings, state assemblies and academies, online venues and other forums as resources become available. NAS staff attends and supports Chapter Councils or similar regional Chapter associations as time, distance and resources permit.
 11. Training and development of leadership, planning, fundraising, and volunteer and membership recruitment skills.
 12. Development materials including publications, recruitment materials and information on funding resources.
- E. **Commitments.** In the spirit of partnership, proposed changes in the Chapter Policy and other policies or issues that directly affect the relationship between NAS and Chapters will be mutually shared and considered.
- F. **Decision Making.** NAS is committed to a policy of decentralized decision-making in which Chapter Boards are the primary decision makers in local communities; State Boards are the primary decision makers for state issues; and the NAS Board is the primary decision maker at the national level. It is in the best interest of the Audubon network to cooperate whenever possible. That said, Chapters may develop programs and pursue solutions to local conservation issues that they determine to be important without the approval or assistance of NAS. In a similar way, NAS may develop programs and pursue solutions to state, regional and national conservation issues without local Chapter approval or assistance. The essential links are a mutual philosophical commitment and respect that provide room for occasions when Chapters and NAS differ.

Section 4: Chapter Support for NAS

- A. **Chapter Activities.** Chapters and NAS commit to a common mission of protecting birds and habitat, enhancing each other's work through shared membership, two-way financial and programmatic support, and the cooperation of staff and volunteers, all within an environment of mutual trust and respect. Each Chapter pledges to:
- further the shared Audubon mission, actively engaging in fostering and advocating for the conservation of birds and other wildlife and the restoration and preservation of their habitats;
 - provide educational programs and activities that are science-based, foster an appreciation and understanding of the natural world, and promote a conservation ethic;
 - empower citizens with the knowledge and means to be effective environmental advocates for policies that protect birds and habitat at the local, state and/or federal level;
 - maintain active communications and outreach to all its members and to the broader community in furtherance of the above goals.
- B. **Chapter mission and strategic plan.** Chapters are welcome to adopt the NAS mission statement or are free to formulate their own. Each Chapter, in pursuit of its own goals, should develop its own strategic plan. Ideally, this plan will nest within the NAS Strategic Plan, but should not run counter to it in any material respect.

- C. **Membership recruitment and engagement.** Chapters play a key role in membership recruitment and retention by engaging people directly in Audubon activities and helping diversify the network. Chapters are provided a financial incentive for bringing new members to NAS. The Audubon network is strengthened by Chapters engaging these new people through their programs.
- D. **Communications with NAS.** Chapters are encouraged to engage in timely communications with NAS regarding current Chapter issues, leadership changes, programs, and policies through online, written and in-person communications.
- E. **Supporting NAS policy advocacy.** Chapters are encouraged to actively and regularly support Audubon policy goals through advocacy (i.e., responding to online alerts and requests for sign on letters) and direct lobbying of local, state, and national decision-makers, and to stay informed about national conservation issues through participation in calls and review of materials provided via email or other venues.
- F. **Fundraising relationship between Chapters, State Offices and NAS.** The financial strength of each member of the Audubon family, whether a Chapter, Center, State Office or NAS, ultimately benefits the others. Chapters raise funds for local, state, Center, and NAS programs and conservation efforts. In recognition of the importance of NAS as a strategic partner in achieving Chapter goals and carrying out programs for the benefit of members, Chapters are encouraged to provide direct financial support to NAS offices and programs, and to find opportunities to cooperate and collaborate with NAS in approaching shared donors wherever it can benefit programs and donors.
- G. **Regional directors.** An important responsibility of Chapters, and a benefit to them, is participation in the election of the nine regional directors who represent Chapter interests on the NAS Board of Directors. Selecting nominees, reviewing candidates and voting in elections as well as communicating regularly with elected regional directors should be a priority of Chapter leadership.
- H. **Participation in State Office committees and/or state Audubon Councils.** Chapters can support the work of their State Offices where applicable through participation in committees and volunteer work supporting the conservation efforts in the state and flyway. Where no State Office exists, the formation of a Chapter Council is encouraged to coordinate conservation efforts, promote idea sharing and facilitate communications with NAS.
- I. **Participation in regional and national assemblies.** The Audubon network goal of bird conservation at scale throughout each flyway is best realized through communication among Chapters, State Offices, Centers and NAS within each flyway and between flyways. Chapters are encouraged to take part in national and regional meetings which provide opportunities for leadership development, information sharing, networking and inspiration.
- J. **Chapters are a source of innovative programs** that can and have been replicated across the Audubon network. Successful program models should be shared through the State Offices, Chapter Services Office and elsewhere in the Audubon network, as deemed appropriate.

Section 5: Chapter Commitments to Membership and the Community

- A. **Member services.** Chapters succeed to the extent they engage their members (and potential members) through the services they provide. Because people come to Audubon for many reasons,

successful Chapters serve all their members with a diversity of programs and activities that address those interests, and by inspiring members to be active participants and willing donors. This involves creating and/or implementing locally-appropriate programs for advocacy, conservation, education, citizen science, public outreach, recreation, socialization and stewardship. The breadth and effectiveness of these programs will determine the respect and influence Chapters have within their communities.

- B. **Communications with members.** Communication with members is essential to a Chapter's health. Although not mandated by this Chapter Policy, providing new member welcome letters, periodic newsletters or e-newsletters, e-mail notices, invitations to special events and fundraising campaign letters, in addition to maintaining web and social media sites, are highly recommended.
- C. **Benefits provided.** Chapters are strongly encouraged to provide all members, regardless of source, with benefits such as bird walks, educational and/or conservation programs, volunteer activities, newsletters, and other opportunities to become involved in the Audubon network. The success of Chapter fundraising and its community stature are likely to be greatly influenced by the number of people to whom benefits are provided.
- D. **Independence to pursue local programs.** Chapters are encouraged to adapt NAS priority conservation initiatives to local conditions, to enhance opportunities for joint fund raising and to achieve results that contribute to large-scale goals. However, Chapters are free to pursue programs outside the NAS priority framework as each sees fit because community needs must always take precedence. Ambitious Chapters will support active programs in conservation, advocacy, citizen science, birding, education, recreation and stewardship.

APPENDIX

A. Definitions

- **Audubon mission:** As adopted by the National Audubon Society Board of Directors, “The mission of the National Audubon Society is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth’s biological diversity.”
- **Audubon network:** All parts of the Audubon network including National Audubon Society and Chapter members; Chapters, State Offices and Centers staff, volunteers and Boards of Directors; other National Audubon Society programs and staff, and the National Audubon Society Board of Directors.
- **Chapter:** An organization of Audubon members that is chartered and annually re-certified by the National Audubon Society to function in a designated geographic area.
- **Chapter leader:** A Chapter staff person, officer, board member, or committee chair.
- **Chapter Services Office:** National Audubon Society’s Chapter Services Office staff and programs, a part of the Community Conservation and Education Department.
- **Member:** An individual recognized by the National Audubon Society as a member.
- **NAS:** National Audubon Society, Inc.
- **NAS State Office:** National Audubon Society staff directed by State Executive Director and working with a board and other volunteers to manage a program with statewide conservation focus (i.e., Audubon New York, Audubon California, etc.).

B. Relevant NAS Policies

1. [Guide to Starting A Chapter in Your Community](#)
2. [Chapter Territory Assignments and Changes](#)
3. [Procedures for Election of Regional Directors to the National Audubon Board of Directors](#)
4. [Current Membership Policy](#)
5. [Logo Use Guidelines](#)

There are 654 dues-paying SAS members. 413 of these members are receiving e-newsletters. There were 6 new SAS members this month and 2 inactive members came back. 13 SAS members were made inactive this month because they hadn't paid their dues or did not wish to renew.

There are 2,604 NAS members that live in our chapter area. There were 15 new NAS members this month that live in our chapter area. These new NAS members have been sent information about SAS and how to join.

Education Committee Report 3/26/23

Last education committee meeting 3/12/23

1. Family Nature Walks.
Scheduled walks are 4/15, 5/20 & 6/17.

2. Beginning Birding.
Walks scheduled for 4/23, and 5/7 are at William Pond. Possibility a June walk which will be the last one until the fall.

3. Outreach.
Current schedule of events:
 1. Camp Pollock, Educational Speakers 5/11 & 6/8/23.
 2. Sierra College, Science Day; 4/1/23.
 3. ECOS Earth Day, 4/23/23.
 4. Bushy Lake Restoration Project 4/29/23.
 5. Sierra College Dinosaur Days 5/7/23.
 6. Walk on the Wildside 5/20/23.
 7. Harvest Day 8/5/23.

4. Presentations.
None presently on calendar.

6. Kids Bird Count 2024.
Nicole Barden volunteered to be the coordinator for the kids count. Committee discussed the date of the event and decided to move the count to coincide with the Backyard Bird Count. This would be 2/17 and 2/18 2024. Nicole will do registration. Early summer we should start contact with EY for coordinating on this event.
If we continue the past practice of giving gifts to the kids and providing snacks, it should be a minimum amount.

Other items:

1. Julia with ARNHA is trying to set up bird walks in the parkway. To get more interest, it was suggested they should be called nature walks with no binoculars and limit the number of participants to 10. Need to advise Julia to work with Effie Yeaw on recruiting ideas for kids, especially minorities.
2. Need to make corrections to Family Friendly Resources List.
Correct website for Backyard Bird Count.
Delete Friends of the River Bank.
Add: Nimbus Hatchery to the list. Their visitor center is now open.

Next Committee meeting 5/15/23, 10am. Mather Lake if weather is acceptable.

Field Activities Committee Report - March, 2023
Submitted by Susan G, FAC Chair

1. Recent Field Trips and other birding activities by month

January - 10 trips + EY, 5 cancelled due to weather = 6

February - 12 trips, 1 cancelled, +1BB +1EY = 11

March - 8 trips, 1 cancelled +1 BB +2 EY B&B +1 Buff. = 11

April - 13 scheduled +1 BB +1 EY +1 Buff +1 Pine Hill = 17

May - 7 scheduled so far +1BB +1 EY +1 Buff

2. "Breakfast & Birds" at Effie Yeaw - COMPLETED

March 18 - 5 leaders, 3 scope monitors

March 26 - 6 leaders, 4 scope monitors

3. Liason for BB trips with other community groups

a. ARNHA meeting: trips pending further plans/info

b. ASI Peak Adventures, CSUS - no response

4. Continuing to streamline field trip scheduling process

Bobelaine Committee Report 3/27/23

Last Bobelaine committee meeting was 3/15/23

1. Aerial Survey.
Nina Valder and David Haughton continued aerial flights 3/25/23 at the sanctuary. Windy conditions were encountered but two flights were made. Tree movement from wind might effect picture quality. After survey is complete final mastics and composure of single picture is to be preformed.
2. Feather River Restoration.
See Helen Swagerty email dated 3/23/23 to Samantha Arthur concerning restoration project.
3. Shed painting.
Received two estimates for shed painting. Meet with two Yuba City painting contractors week of 3/20/23 and waiting to get their estimates for painting. Once received and reviewed will present all estimates to board.
4. Kiosk upgrade.
See attached kiosk estimates and options received from "Rockart" for Board review and consideration.
5. Updating of Ecological Regulations.
Committee received notice from Kriste Crite that SAS would have to petition DFW in order to change the regulation for public use at Bobelaine. To petition for a change would likely take a lot of time. Question, what the benefits are in having sanctuary status as opposed to not having.
6. Other Items:
 - A. Monitoring camera at parking area. Need to research on available camera systems. Remain on committee agenda.

Next meeting April. Will survey committee members for setting date.

Attachment 1 – Feather River Restoration

From: **Helen Swagerty** <hswagerty@riverpartners.org>
Date: Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 4:49 PM
Subject: RE: Fw: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project
To: Arthur, Samantha <Samantha.Arthur@audubon.org>, SacAudubon President <sacaudubonpresident@gmail.com>
Cc: Torey Byington <tbyington@riverpartners.org>

Hi Samantha,
My apologies for not responding sooner. We have a few updates. About a month ago, we learned that our project was going to be turned over to the USFWS for management since we were responding to a joint NOFO between BOR and USFWS. Because our project deals with floodplain connection, USFWS decided they should manage it. Unfortunately, BOR and USFWS are still sorting out responsibilities, but we've learned our assigned grant manager. So, we're slowly moving forward, but it's still progress.

Thank you for reviewing your budget and relaying how it may or may not change. I haven't heard back from DJ (Yurok Tribe), but our original budget included 2 bridges. It will continue to have 2 bridges. I think when we move further into planning and designing, we can support Audubon in searching for funding programs for the other 2 bridges that you would like to have on site.

Helen

Helen Swagerty
Director of Grants

Sacramento Office
C: (530) 774-0220
www.riverpartners.org

<[image001.png](#)>

<[image002.png](#)>

<[image003.png](#)>

<[image004.png](#)>

<[image005.png](#)>

<[image007.png](#)>

From: Arthur, Samantha <Samantha.Arthur@audubon.org>
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2023 12:10 PM
To: Helen Swagerty <hswagerty@riverpartners.org>; SacAudubon President <sacaudubonpresident@gmail.com>
Cc: Torey Byington <tbyington@riverpartners.org>
Subject: RE: Fw: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project

Hi Helen,

Attachment 1 – Feather River Restoration

Paul from Sacramento Audubon and I met last week to review our budgets for the Feather River side channel project at Bobelaine Sanctuary. We determined that the budget figures for our organizations - \$115,000 for Audubon California over five years, which includes \$20,000 for a subcontract with Sacramento Audubon – can remain unchanged in the contract with River Partners and BOR.

But the critical question we have is whether the budget figures originally submitted for the new bridges to be constructed at Bobelaine once the new channel separates the parking area from the sanctuary are sufficient. Is your team with your consultants able to confirm the budget for the bridges are still adequate? We just wanted to raise this while you are in the contracting phase with BOR and there may be opportunities to make adjustments if needed. Attached is the information that Sacramento Audubon put together back in the proposal phase about the bridge placement options and load specifications needed.

Thanks in advance for your response on this.

Samantha Arthur

Working Lands Program Director
415-269-8031 (cell)

Audubon California

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 415
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Arthur, Samantha

Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 9:25 AM

To: Helen Swagerty <hswagerty@riverpartners.org>; SacAudubon President <sacaudubonpresident@gmail.com>; Gretchen Umlauf <gumlauf@flowwest.com>; Paul Frank <pfrank@flowwest.com>; William Bianco <biancowm@yahoo.com>; David J. Bandrowski <djbandrowski@yuroktribe.nsn.us>

Cc: Torey Byington <tbyington@riverpartners.org>

Subject: RE: Fw: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project

Thanks for this update, Helen, and thanks for being the lead partner on the contracting with BOR. This timeline is consistent with past awards we've received from BOR and other federal agencies, where we've seen it take six months to a year to get the first grant agreement in place.

Paul from Sac Audubon and I will meet in the meantime to revisit our budgets and scopes of work, in order to be ready whenever this moves forward.

Thanks again to River Partners for working so diligently with BOR, and sorry about the frustrations with the slowness.

Best,

Samantha Arthur

Working Lands Program Director
415-269-8031 (cell)

Audubon California

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 415
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Helen Swagerty <hswagerty@riverpartners.org>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 8:58 AM
To: Arthur, Samantha <Samantha.Arthur@audubon.org>; SacAudubon President <sacaudubonpresident@gmail.com>; Gretchen Umlauf <gumlauf@flowwest.com>; Paul Frank <pfrank@flowwest.com>; William Bianco <biancowm@yahoo.com>; David J. Bandrowski <djbandrowski@yuroktribe.nsn.us>
Cc: Torey Byington <tbyington@riverpartners.org>
Subject: RE: Fw: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project

Good morning,
I hope this message finds you all well, healthy and energized.

I wanted to give you all an update on the Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project. No planning has been done because there is no executed agreement between BOR and River Partners. Since our award, River Partners has been diligently calling every two weeks about our CVPIA award and have continued to work it up the chain to get an update on an executed contract. During this time, BOR has been working on a contract with USFWS to administer the grants. The BOR contracting office is working on the assignments to USFWS and is not completed as per the email we received on Friday, January 27 from Heather Casillas, CVPIA Program Manager. They just developed a continuing resolution and are hoping to get their federal funding loaded.

I know this is extremely disappointing as we have been all anxious on working on a project that we proposed in November 2021. We have expressed our frustration that since our award in September 2022 we are nowhere closer to getting an executed contract. We continue to ask and offer additional information (if needed) to see if we can move it through their system. However, we were assured that our proposal gives them 98% of what they need to develop the contract. Beyond that, I have requested a meeting to discuss how we can prepare for the contract phase. Unfortunately, we were not given available date and times to schedule. Heather did say that she should be in contact again within a couple of weeks.

In the meantime, I would like to ask that you please revisit your scope of work and budget. Because we developed the budget in November 2021, costs will have changed. Our proposal was ~\$9.8M. I'd like to continue to keep that scope and consider revising our budget to fit it. When we finally get to the contract negotiation phase, I'd like to be able to demonstrate our current approach and needs to complete the project as proposed. I'm out of the office this week on site visits, but if the team wants a check in call, I'm available the following week.

Thanks,
Helen

Helen Swagerty
Director of Grants

Sacramento Office

C: (530) 774-0220

www.riverpartners.org

[<image001.png>](#)

[<image002.png>](#)

[<image003.png>](#)

[<image004.png>](#)

[<image005.png>](#)

[<image010.png>](#)

From: Arthur, Samantha <Samantha.Arthur@audubon.org>

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2023 8:49 PM

To: SacAudubon President <sacaudubonpresident@gmail.com>; Gretchen Umlauf <gumlauf@flowwest.com>

Cc: Helen Swagerty <hs wagerty@riverpartners.org>; Paul Frank <pfrank@flowwest.com>; William Bianco <biancowm@yahoo.com>

Subject: RE: Fw: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project

Hi Paul,

Audubon California hasn't heard anything more from River Partners yet, so my understanding is that the grant agreement has not moved forward yet with River Partners and Bureau of Reclamation. But let's still connect directly to be ready when we hear about progress from River Partners. Sorry for not calling after we emailed last week. I got sidetracked with some pressing deadlines. Are you available to talk at any of the following times this week?

Thursday, 2/2 9 AM – 10 AM, 11 AM – 1 PM

Friday, 2/3 9 AM – 12 PM

Samantha Arthur

Working Lands Program Director

415-269-8031 (cell)

Audubon California

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 415

Sacramento, CA 95814

From: SacAudubon President <sacaudubonpresident@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2023 12:14 PM

To: Gretchen Umlauf <gumlauf@flowwest.com>

Cc: Arthur, Samantha <Samantha.Arthur@audubon.org>; hs wagerty@riverpartners.org; Paul Frank <pfrank@flowwest.com>; William Bianco <biancowm@yahoo.com>

Subject: Re: Fw: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project

Attachment 1 – Feather River Restoration

Hi Gretchen,

Any update on this? We are starting to feel left out of the initial planning process.

Thanks,

Paul

On Thu, Dec 1, 2022 at 10:34 AM Gretchen Umlauf <gumlauf@flowwest.com> wrote:
Hi Paul;

I wasn't sure why you were not included on this email chain. Maybe Helen Swagerty doesn't know you yet. etc. I will send her an email to let her know.

Thanks,
Gretchen
530-450-9747

From: Arthur, Samantha <Samantha.Arthur@audubon.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2022 2:34 PM
To: Helen Swagerty <hs wagerty@riverpartners.org>; Paul Frank <pfrank@flowwest.com>;
Gretchen Umlauf <gumlauf@flowwest.com>; David J. Bandrowski
<djbandrowski@yuroktribe.nsn.us>
Subject: RE: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project

Hi Helen,

Circling back on your message to see if there is any additional update from BOR on the start of the Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project. Also, would you mind sending the application materials and any internal budgets our organizations worked on? I want to be sure they match what I have in my files after some staff turnover on our end.

Thanks,

Samantha Arthur
Working Lands Program Director
415-269-8031 (cell)

Audubon California
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 415
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.ca.audubon.org

Attachment 1 – Feather River Restoration

From: Helen Swagerty <hswagerty@riverpartners.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:03 PM
To: Arthur, Samantha
<Samantha.Arthur@audubon.org>; pfrank@flowwest.com; gumlauf@flowwest.com; David J. Bandrowski <djbandrowski@yuroktribe.nsn.us>
Subject: Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project

Hi all,

I hope this message finds you all well. I reached out to Rod Wittler at BOR regarding our award for the Lower Feather River West Side Channel Project. He has 98% of the information he needs to initiate the grant agreement process, but I reiterated that if he requires additional information, he can contact me. He mentioned that there would be an opportunity to revisit our budget and revise it to reflect inflation and increases in materials. I wish I had better news on our progress, but he understands our eagerness to get an agreement in place to start work. I will check in with Rod again in 2-3 weeks.

Regards,

Helen

Helen Swagerty
Director of Grants

Sacramento Office

C: (530) 774-0220

www.riverpartners.org

Rockart Industries DBA Arizona Commercial Signs**Quote**

3006 N Maple
Mesa, AZ 85215-1127

Date	Quote #
3/11/2023	110295-1

(480) 854-3400

www.rockartsigns.com

Name / Address
TAYLOR FLORENCE SACRAMENTO AUDUBON SOCIETY 15 LAUREL AVE YUBA CITY, CA 95991 916-996-9281

Ship To
TAYLOR FLORENCE SACRAMENTO AUDUBON SOCIETY 15 LAUREL AVE YUBA CITY, CA 95991 916-996-9281

Rep	Project
Brian	

Item	Description	Qty	U/M	Price	Total
03-422-WOS	6x6 1-Panel Kiosk, Gable Roof, No Shingles (72x48 Sign Panel)	1		3,067.00	3,067.00T
03-608-7248	72 x 48 x 2.25 Double-sided, Fully-Enclosed Kiosk Sign Panel, w/ ROUTED Plastic Headers & Footers & Polycarbonate Cover on both sides Headers: To Be Determined Footers: To Be Determined	1		1,540.00	1,540.00T
03-473	KIOSK ROCK RANGER Option - A removable, lockable fee deposit box built into the right end post (for 6x6 post Kiosks w/ ROOF & 48h Sign Panels, Not Included) Incl. Fee Deposit Box w/ security features (Locks NOT included)	1		390.00	390.00T
03-317	2.75" Round Padlock w/ limited Shackle Exposure (for securing ROCK RANGER Fee Deposit box inside the Base), Steel, 4-Pin Cylinder, includes 2 keys.	1		32.00	32.00T
03-522	3-piece Aluminum Assembly Fixture - assists with installing 72x48 sign panels onto Roofed Kiosks (incl. hardware kit #03-918) (May be returned for credit after installation within the same year bought)	1		245.00	245.00T
00-0012 - COS...	Shipping Costs - Freight and Handling Charges			797.08	797.08T
	NOTE: ALL NON-AGENCIES OR CONTRACTORS MUST PAY IN FULL BEFORE PRODUCTION STARTS				
	Sales Tax			0.00%	0.00
Total					\$6,071.08

Rockart Industries DBA Arizona Commercial Signs**Quote**

3006 N Maple
Mesa, AZ 85215-1127

Date	Quote #
3/11/2023	110295-2

(480) 854-3400

www.rockartsigns.com

Name / Address
TAYLOR FLORENCE SACRAMENTO AUDUBON SOCIETY 15 LAUREL AVE YUBA CITY, CA 95991 916-996-9281

Ship To
TAYLOR FLORENCE SACRAMENTO AUDUBON SOCIETY 15 LAUREL AVE YUBA CITY, CA 95991 916-996-9281

Rep	Project
Brian	

Item	Description	Qty	U/M	Price	Total
03-441	6x6, 2-Panel Straight Kiosk, Gable Roof, Green Shingles (48x48 Panels)	1		5,525.00	5,525.00T
03-608	48 x 48 x 2.25 Double-sided, Fully-Enclosed Kiosk Sign Panel, w/ ROUTED Plastic Headers & Footers & Polycarbonate Cover on both sides Headers: To Be Determined Footers: To Be Determined	2		1,292.00	2,584.00T
03-473	KIOSK ROCK RANGER Option - A removable, lockable fee deposit box built into the right end post (for 6x6 post Kiosks w/ ROOF & 48h Sign Panels, Not Included) Incl. Fee Deposit Box w/ security features (Locks NOT included)	1		390.00	390.00T
03-317	2.75" Round Padlock w/ limited Shackle Exposure (for securing ROCK RANGER Fee Deposit box inside the Base), Steel, 4-Pin Cylinder, includes 2 keys.	1		32.00	32.00T
03-524	3-piece Aluminum Assembly Fixture - used temporarily during installation of kiosks that accept 48x48 sign panels (incl. hardware kit #03-918) Security deposit is refundable once returned to Rockart within the same year bought.	2		175.00	350.00T
00-0012 - COS...	Shipping Costs - Freight and Handling Charges			838.74	838.74T
	NOTE: ALL NON-AGENCIES OR CONTRACTORS MUST PAY IN FULL BEFORE PRODUCTION STARTS				
	Sales Tax			0.00%	0.00
Total					\$9,719.74

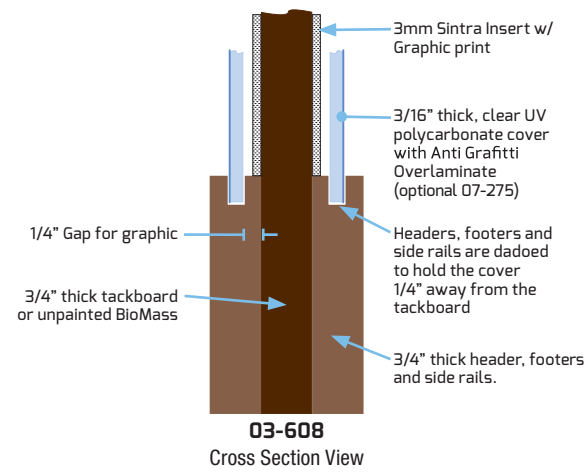
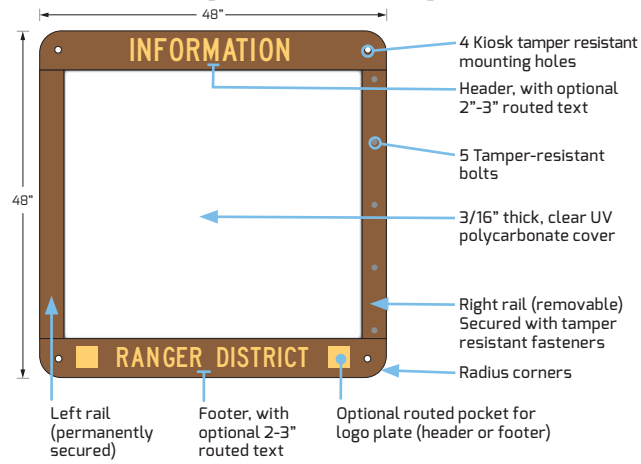
KIOSK SIGN PANELS (STANDARD 48 x 48)

Available in many configurations, from a very basic single-sided model, to a double-sided model with routed plastic headers, footers, tamper-resistant hardware & UV polycarbonate covers. Each of these sign panels will

accommodate signage up to 42"W x 40"H x .25" thick.

All **ROCKART** sign panels are able to withstand small-to-medium arms fire without sustaining significant damage.

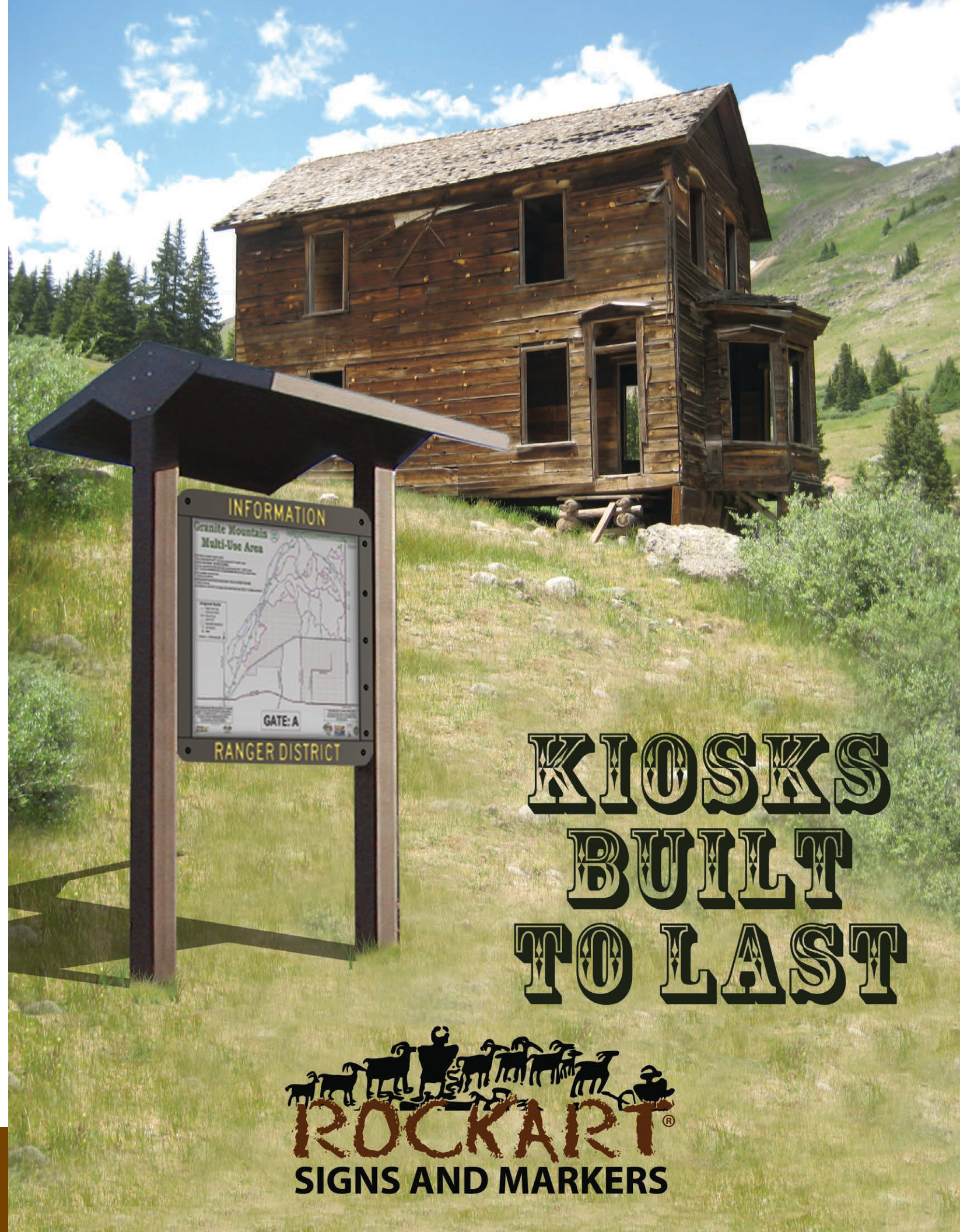
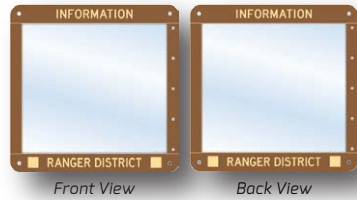
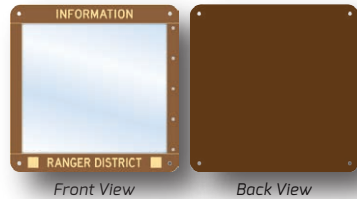
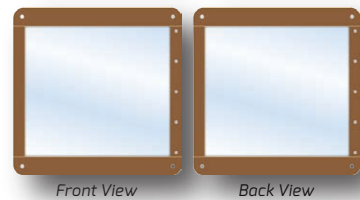
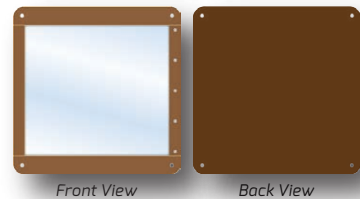
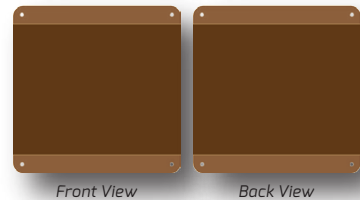
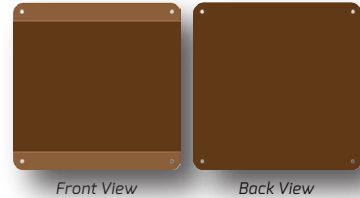
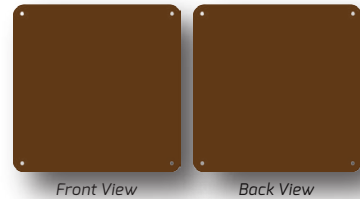
Rockart Message Center Kiosk Sign Panel Features



Call **877-718-7446** for Pricing & Available Options

Also Available

- 03-377** Replacement UV Polycarbonate
- 07-275** Graffiti Over Laminates
- 03-638** 3mm PVC Foam Tack Board Insert



KIOSKS BUILT TO LAST



ROCKART MESSAGE CENTER KIOSKS

- All square steel tube construction
- 6" x 6" uprights with slotted steel sign mounts
- Powder coated for durability and longevity
- Optional simulated green roof shingle
- Assembled with tamper-resistant fasteners
- Replacement parts are always in stock
- Accepts 48" x 48" sign panels (sold separately)
- Configurations available with / without a roof
- New Labor-Saving Installation Improvements
- Optional built-in fee box available
- Optional 36" x 48" and 72" x 48" panels available
- 1 Assembly Fixture Required per panel being installed

- All square steel tube construction
- 6" x 6" uprights with slotted steel sign mounts
- Powder coated for durability and longevity
- Easily assembled with tamper-resistant fasteners
- Optional 36" x 48" and 72" x 48" panels available
- Replacement parts are always in stock
- Accepts 48" x 48" sign panels (sold separately)
- Optional built-in fee box available (see separate sheet)
- 1 Assembly Fixture Required per panel being installed

Call 877-718-7446 for Pricing

6" x 6" x 3/16" THICK SQUARE TUBE SIGN PANELS ARE NOT INCLUDED (SEE BACK OF BROCHURE)

GABLE ROOF STRAIGHT

03-562 1-Panel (36" x 48") 56"W x 95"H x 62"D

03-420 1-Panel (48" x 48") 62"W x 95"H x 62"D

03-422 1-Panel (72" x 48") 92"W x 95"H x 62"D

03-441 2-Panel, Straight Kiosk 124"W x 95"H x 62"D

03-442 3-Panel, Straight Kiosk 178"W x 95"H x 62"D

03-444 4-Panel, Straight Kiosk 232"W x 95"H x 62"D

SHED ROOF ANGLED

03-450-L 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 113"W x 97"H x 58"D

03-450-R 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 113"W x 97"H x 58"D

03-460 3-Panel, Angled Kiosk 172"W x 97"H x 58"D

03-470 4-Panel, Angled Kiosk 226"W x 97"H x 58"D

03-740 4-Panel, 4-Sided Kiosk 83.5"W x 95"H x 83.5"D

SHED ROOF STRAIGHT

03-563 1-Panel (36" x 48") 56"W x 97"H x 42"D

03-440 1-Panel (48" x 48") 62"W x 97"H x 42"D

03-457 2-Panel, Straight Kiosk 117"W x 97"H x 42"D

03-459 3-Panel, Straight Kiosk 117"W x 97"H x 42"D

03-461 4-Panel, Straight Kiosk 226"W x 97"H x 42"D

03-524 Installation Assembly Fixture
Used during the Kiosk installation process to correctly space two Vertical Posts without risking damage to your sign. Purchase price (less shipping) is refundable if returned to Rockart in usable condition. You will need 1 of these for every panel installed, i.e. 4-Panel kiosk needs 4 of these.

ELEVATIONS

GABLE ROOF Single Panel Kiosk 03-420
Roof width: 33", Post height: 82", Total height: 95", Base width: 18", Post diameter: 30"

SHED ROOF Single Panel Kiosk 03-440
Roof width: 42", Post height: 82", Total height: 97", Base width: 18", Post diameter: 30"

6" x 6" x 3/16" THICK SQUARE TUBE SIGN PANELS ARE NOT INCLUDED (SEE BACK OF BROCHURE)

NO ROOF ANGLED

03-432-L 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 117"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-432-R 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 117"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-433 3-Panel, Angled Kiosk 172"W x 78"H x 26"D
(Also available with a raised center panel, **03-434**)

03-435 4-Panel, Angled Kiosk 226"W x 78"H x 26"D

NO ROOF STRAIGHT

03-431 1-Panel, Straight Kiosk 62"W x 78"H x 6"D

03-465 2-Panel, Straight Kiosk 117"W x 78"H x 6"D

03-466 3-Panel, Straight Kiosk 172"W x 78"H x 6"D
(Also available with a raised center panel, **03-467**)

03-468 4-Panel, Straight Kiosk 226"W x 78"H x 6"D

5" x 5" x 3/16" THICK SQUARE TUBE SIGN PANELS ARE NOT INCLUDED (SEE BACK OF BROCHURE)

NO ROOF ANGLED

03-492-L 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 108"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-492-R 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 108"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-493 3-Panel, Angled Kiosk 157"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-495 4-Panel, Angled Kiosk 211"W x 78"H x 26"D

NO ROOF STRAIGHT

03-491 1-Panel, Straight Kiosk 60"W x 78"H x 5"D

03-596 2-Panel, Straight Kiosk 114"W x 78"H x 5"D

03-597 3-Panel, Straight Kiosk 169"W x 78"H x 5"D

03-599 4-Panel, Straight Kiosk 223"W x 78"H x 5"D

4" x 4" 1/8" THICK SQUARE TUBE SIGN PANELS ARE NOT INCLUDED (SEE BACK OF BROCHURE)

NO ROOF ANGLED

03-502-L 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 105"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-502-R 2-Panel, Angled Kiosk (Left/Right) 105"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-503 3-Panel, Angled Kiosk 153"W x 78"H x 26"D

03-504 4-Panel, Angled Kiosk 206"W x 78"H x 26"D

NO ROOF STRAIGHT

03-501 1-Panel, Straight Kiosk 58"W x 78"H x 4"D

03-585 2-Panel, Straight Kiosk 111"W x 78"H x 4"D

03-586 3-Panel, Straight Kiosk 165"W x 78"H x 4"D

03-588 4-Panel, Straight Kiosk 218"W x 78"H x 4"D