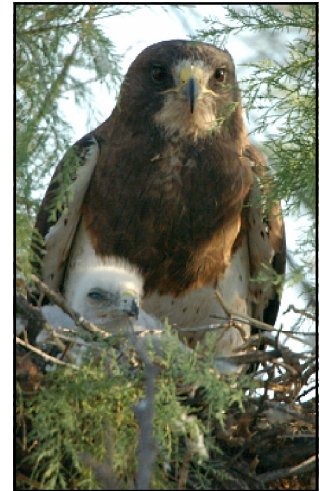


Fisherman's Lake Buffer Width, Natomas. Support the Planning Commission Save the Swainson's Hawk

The Sacramento City Council will consider expanding the eastside buffer for the North Natomas Fisherman Lake riparian area on **Tues., June 28 at 7 p.m. at 730 I St. Sacramento.** Please contact the council now and attend the hearing to advocate for a minimum of 800 feet to **separate new housing from a sensitive wildlife area.** This is an important habitat and wildlife issue in North Natomas. On February 24, 2005, the **City Planning Commission voted 7-2 to recommend the 800 foot buffer** be adopted.



Please contact the Mayor and City Council before the hearing to support 800 or more feet on the east side of the riparian zone. Here is the contact information. Phone #: 808-5407. Mailing Address: 730 I St., 300, Sacramento, Ca. 95814. Fax: 264-7680. Fax a copy to us at 447-8689; email to contact@swainsonshawk.org.

- * Mayor Heather Fargo, hfargo@cityofsacramento.org, 808-5300
- * Councilmember Ray Tretheway, rtretheway@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7001
- * Councilmember Sandy Sheedy, ssheedy@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7002
- * Councilmember Steve Cohn, scohn@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7003
- * Councilmember Robert King Fong, rkfong@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7004
- * Councilmember Lauren Hammond, lhammond@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7005
- * Councilmember Kevin McCarty, KMccarty@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7006
- * Councilmember Robbie Waters, rwaters@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7007
- * Councilmember Bonnie Pannell, bpannell@cityofsacramento.org, 808-7008

FACTS TO CONSIDER/INCLUDE IN YOUR LETTER OR PHONE CALL

1) Fisherman's Lake is a **natural slough with rare Central Valley riparian habitat** on its east and north side. Until 20 years ago it was surrounded by forest on both sides. It supports a variety of wildlife, including species listed under the state and federal endangered species acts. Swainson's Hawks nest here (4 nesting territories) and Giant Garter Snakes use the slough. Parts of the slough are **roosting habitat for herons and egrets and it is used by ducks, grebes and white pelicans.**

2) The Planning Commission spent several hours reviewing this issue on February 24 and voted 7-2 to support the 800 foot buffer. "We're not making places like this anymore," said Commissioner 'Red' Banes in making the motion. **"If we don't protect it now, it will be gone forever."**

3) The City of Sacramento has made various legal commitments to preserve and restore the habitat in this area and the Natomas Basin Conservancy has acquired and restored habitat on the west side of Fisherman's Lake.

4) The **Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan identifies 800 feet as the proper setback of urban development from preserved habitat lands.** The set-back is intended to reduce a range of effects on all species as well as protect nesting sites of Swainson's Hawk from disturbance. Fisherman's Lake riparian area is the eastern edge of a large habitat corridor, including NBC preserves, permanently protected airport buffer lands, and agricultural lands supporting wildlife.

5) The 800 foot buffer is a compromise. A more protective buffer than 800 feet would be achieved if the City did not permit development within the Swainson's Hawk zone, a one-mile corridor along the Sacramento River which is included in the Habitat Conservation Plan as a conservation measure for Swainson's Hawks.

Friends of the Swainson's Hawk Visit our web site at www.swainsonshawk.org