



CALIFORNIA WATCHABLE WILDLIFE

Sierra Nevada
Conservancy

Elk Grove Subaru

National Park Service

US Bureau of Reclamation

US Fish & Wildlife Service

US Bureau of Land
Management

USDA Forest Service

Visit Elk Grove

Visit Redding/Shasta
Cascade

East Bay Regional
Park District

Regional Parks
Foundation

California Department of
Fish and Wildlife

California Waterfowl
Association

California Roundtable on
Recreation, Parks &
Tourism

California Watchable Wildlife - Nominate a Viewing Site

Introduction

The California Watchable Wildlife Project solicits nominations on an ongoing basis for wildlife viewing sites to be included in our statewide network. Our goal is to address the growing interest in wildlife viewing and nature tourism by educating the public about where and how to view native wildlife and habitats in a respectful and sustainable way while building support for the long-term conservation and management of California's natural resources.

Viewing sites are evaluated by the Steering Committee for their wildlife viewing values, quality and diversity of habitats and visitor amenities to ensure that the state's wildlife values are protected from overuse and that each site offers the highest quality viewing experience to visitors.

All viewing sites must be nominated by the site manager or designated staff member. Often an interpretive specialist is the best person to complete the nomination form.

Once a site has been approved for inclusion in the California Watchable Wildlife Viewing Network, the selected sites will be promoted on the website (cawatchablewildlife.org), through the posting of directional road signs (premier and regional sites) by CalTrans, and included in all marketing efforts. The California Watchable Wildlife project is endorsed and overseen by the partnering agencies and NGOs listed to the left.

Instructions for the Site Manager/Interpretive Specialist

1. Please go to CAWatchableWildlife.org and use the "Login" button in left column to create a user name and password and request "site manager" status. Complete the contact information.
2. Contact Watchable Wildlife at outreach@cawatchablewildlife.org to complete the site manager process.
3. Once you are logged on, click on "Site Nomination and Edit Process" from the drop-down menu to begin your nomination.
4. Follow the instructions for each section of the 3 additional sections of the nomination form (Ratings, Species, Facilities) by using the links at bottom. We recommend you save your work frequently. There are PDF

files for each section that are helpful for gathering information, and you can “cut and paste” from other documents.

If yours is an existing (pending) site, it is critical that you carefully evaluate the accuracy of the existing write-up and add any additional information that will help the committee determine if the site merits retention in the California Watchable Wildlife viewing network.

5. Please fill out the online forms as completely as possible. If you do not know the answer, please try to contact someone who does know. Please share your observations about what makes the site special, especially in the Background and Experience sections. For example, you may note that this is also one of the most spectacular places to see seabirds against a crimson sunset, or that the area’s remote marshes offer a respite for migratory waterfowl and a dose of tranquility for visitors.

6. Indicate the most commonly viewed and “reliably rare” species by using the check list. While it is only necessary to select a species from the drop-down menu, we recommend that additionally you complete “Which seasons has it been viewed? Winter Spring Summer Fall Year-round” and “Viewing Reliability?” if possible.

The website is designed for all levels of wildlife viewers, many of whom will need help in finding these species during their visits. Note that the website is searchable by species, so please help potential visitors find you by having a comprehensive species list.

7. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact your agency’s liaison on the California Watchable Wildlife Committee listed at the end of this message or email us at outreach@cawatchablewildlife.org

Next Steps:

Once you complete the nomination/update form, please us at outreach@cawatchablewildlife.org. The Steering Committee will review the nomination, determine the rating (Premier, Regional or Seasonal) and advise if approved or if more information is needed. Once approved, the site will be added to the California Watchable Wildlife website.

THANK YOU!