

Rodd Kelsey, Ph.D.

555 Capital Avenue, Suite 1290, Sacramento, CA 95814 | rkelsey@tnc.org | 916-662-4085

Professional Experience

- Associate Director, Water Program – The Nature Conservancy, California** Sept. 2019 – present
- Program and strategic lead for TNC California’s wildlife-friendly agriculture strategy for the water program, focused advancing water and land management solutions to make California’s agricultural landscapes more biodiverse, climate resilient, carbon neutral, and sustainable.
- Lead Scientist – The Nature Conservancy, California** Mar. 2013 – Sept. 2019
- Provided scientific leadership for agricultural sustainability and forest conservation issues statewide
- Director of Conservation – Audubon California** Apr. 2012 – Mar. 2013
- Strategic and operational leader for working lands, coastal, and marine conservation programs
- Director, Migratory Bird Conservation Program – Audubon California** Dec. 2008 – Apr. 2012
- Project Director for program focused on working with farmers to implement alternative agricultural land management practices to enhance habitat value for migratory waterbirds on the Pacific Flyway
- Ecologist – Audubon California** Oct. 2006 – Dec. 2008
- Developed and managed research programs for natural habitat restoration on farms and ranches
- Researcher – Information Center for the Environment** Mar. 2005 – Dec. 2006
- Responsible for development a Geographic Information System database used to evaluate vegetation change across approximately 30,000 km² in the Sierra Nevada of California over a 150-year time span in response to climate change
- Wildlife Biologist/Project Manager – LSA Associates Inc.** Apr. 2002 – Sept. 2003
- Led wildlife surveys and environmental assessments for development projects
- Natural Resources Specialist – U.S. Naval Station, Seal Beach** Apr. 1992 – Mar. 1997
- Managed natural resources and endangered species protection on 14,000 acres of federal land, including oversight of agricultural leases on 12,000 acres of row-crop agriculture and grazing land

Education

- Ph.D., Animal Behavior and Ecology, University of California, Davis December 2008
- Ph.D. Student, Ecology, Princeton University 1998 – 1999
- M.S., Biology, California State University, Long Beach August 1998
- B.A., Environmental Conservation, University of Colorado August 1990

Publications

- Butterfield, H.S., R. Kelsey, and A. Hart (eds). 2021. Rewilding Agricultural Landscapes: A California Study in Rebalancing the Needs of People and Nature. Island Press, Washington, D.C.
- Bryant, B.P., R. Kelsey, A.L. Vogl, S.A. Wolny, MacEwan, D. P.C. Selmants, T. Biswas, H.S. Butterfield. 2020. Shaping Land Use Change and Ecosystem Restoration in a Water-Stressed Agricultural Landscape to Achieve Multiple Benefits. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems* 4:138

- Fisher, J.R.B., S.A. Wood, M.A. Bradford, T.R. Kelsey. 2020. Improving scientific impact: How to practice science that influences environmental policy and management. *Conservation Science and Practice*. 2020; 2:e0210
- Kelsey, R. 2020. Wildfires and forest resilience: the case for ecological forestry in the Sierra Nevada. *Fremontia* 47(2):8-17
- Jones, G.M., Kramer, H.A., Whitmore, S.A...Kelsey, R. and Peery, Z. 2020. Habitat selection by spotted owls after a megafire reflects their adaptation to historical frequent-fire regimes. *Landscape Ecology* 35:1199–1213
- Jones, G. M., Gutiérrez, R. J., Block, W. M..., Kelsey, R..., et al. 2020. Spotted owls and forest fire: Comment. *Ecosphere* 11(12):e03312.
- Kross S.M., B.L., Martinico, R.P. Bourbour, J.M. Townsend, C. McColl, T.R. Kelsey 2020. Effects of Field and Landscape Scale Habitat on Insect and Bird Damage to Sunflowers. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems* 4:40
- Karasov-Olson, A., Bird, A.K., Collins, A.C...Kelsey, T.R., and Schwartz, M.W. 2020. Bridging the knowledge-implementation gap between agency and academia: A case study of a graduate research experience. *Conservation Science and Practice* 2:e286
- Kelsey R, Hart A, Butterfield H, Vink D. 2018. Groundwater sustainability in the San Joaquin Valley: Multiple benefits if agricultural lands are retired and restored strategically. *California Agriculture* 72(3):151-154.
- Sesser, K.A., M. Iglecia, M.E. Reiter, K.M. Strum, C.M. Hickey, R. Kelsey, D.A. Skalos. 2018. Waterbird response to variable-timing of drawdown in rice fields after winter-flooding. *PLoS ONE* 13(10): e0204800.
- Lortie, C. J., A. Filazzola, R. Kelsey, A. K. Hart, and H. S. Butterfield. 2018. Better late than never: a synthesis of strategic land retirement and restoration in California. *Ecosphere* 9(8):e02367.
- Elphick, C.S., R. Kelsey, C.M. Hickey, P. Buttner, K.M. Strum, M. Iglecia. 2018. Case Study: Wetland Bird Conservation in California Rice Fields. In: *Cranes and Agriculture: a global guide for sharing the landscape*. (J.E. Austin, K.L. Morrison & J.T. Harris, eds). International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, Wisconsin, USA.
- Deverel, S., P. Jacobs, C. Lucero, S. Dore, and T.R. Kelsey. 2017. Implications for greenhouse gas emission reductions and economics of a changing agricultural mosaic in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science* 15(3).
- Shackelford, G.E. R. Kelsey, R.J. Robertson, D. Williams, L.V. Dicks. 2017. Sustainable Agriculture in California and Mediterranean Climates: Evidence for the effects of selected interventions. Synopses of Conservation Evidence Series. University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.
- Heath, S.K., C.U. Soykan, K.L. Velas, R. Kelsey, S.M. Kross. 2017. A bustle in the hedgerow: Woody field margins boost on farm avian diversity and abundance in an intensive agricultural landscape. *Biological Conservation* 212:153-161.
- Underwood, E.C., R.A. Hutchinson, J.A. Viers, R. Kelsey, T. Distler, J.T. Marty. 2017. Quantifying Trade-Offs Among Ecosystem Services, Biodiversity, and Agricultural Returns in an Agriculturally Dominated Landscape Under Future Land-Management Scenarios. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science* 15(1)-July 2017
- Dybala, K.E., N. Clipperton, T. Gardali, G.H. Golet, R.Kelsey, S. Lorenzato, et al. 2017. A General Framework for Setting Quantitative Population Objectives for Wildlife Conservation. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science*, 15(1)-March 2017
- Dybala, K.E., N. Clipperton, T. Gardali, G.H. Golet, R.Kelsey, S. Lorenzato, et al. 2017. Population and Habitat Objectives for Avian Conservation in California's Central Valley Riparian Ecosystems. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science*, 15(1)-March 2017
- Kross, S.M., T.R. Kelsey, C.J. McColl, and J.M. Townsend. 2016. Field-scale habitat complexity enhances avian conservation and avian-mediated pest-control services in an intensive agricultural crop. *Agriculture, Environment and Ecosystems* 225:140-149
- Ta, J., T.R. Kelsey, J.K. Howard, J.R. Lund, S. Sandoval-Solis, J.H. Viers. 2016. Simulation Modeling to Secure Environmental Flows in a Diversion Modified Flow Regime. *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management* 142(11)

More upon request