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October 9-12, 2006           Rohnert Park, California

Adina Merenlender, Douglas McCreary, Kathryn L. Purcell
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Abstract

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Proceedings of the sixth California oak symposium: today’s challenges, tomorrow’s
Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. 677 p.

The Sixth Oak Symposium provided a forum for current research and outstanding case studies
on oak woodland science and sustainability in California. This symposium was the latest in a
series of conferences on this subject held every 5 years since 1979. The proceedings from this
conference series represent the most comprehensive source of scientific and management
information on a wide range of subjects including oak ecology, hardwood rangeland
management, oak restoration and conservation, woodland land-use change and planning. The
conference was attended by academics, planners, conservation practitioners, foresters,
arborists, and people just interested in oaks and oak-woodland conservation. Together we
form a community of researchers and practitioners working toward maintaining and restoring
California’s oak woodlands. The findings reported here recognize: (1) the rich history and
current interest that Native American communities have for oaks, (2) the inherent complexity
of wildlife relationships with woodland resources, (3) the need for greater understanding of
belowground processes, and (4) that the land conservation tools and policies evolving rapidly
to protect and restore oak woodlands need to be evaluated. Although progress has been made,
continued emphasis on research and extension is required to further California oak
conservation.

Keywords: Adaptive management, conservation policy, hardwood rangelands,
regeneration, restoration, wildlife ecology.
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The conference proceedings organizers wish to honor Barrett (Barry) Garrison, a dear friend and fellow oak enthusiast who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on June 8, 2007, at the age of 48. As a native Californian and a lover of the outdoors, Barry's interest in oaks and commitment to their conservation was deep and long-standing. He worked tirelessly to promote sound oak woodland management and was particularly interested in ensuring that wildlife species associated with California's oak woodlands were protected and enhanced. Though Barry is no longer with us, his passion and commitment to oak woodland conservation will endure. Barry is survived by his wife Catherine Vouchilas and his children Nicole and Christopher.
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