

PROJECT REPORT

Project Title: Developing a Vertebrate Pest Control Digital Library

Research Agency: University of California Cooperative Extension

Principal Investigator: Terrell P.Salmon

Budget: \$39,814.00

Background:

Over the last 40 years a large quantity of slide images has been collected by a number of researchers and practitioners in the field of vertebrate pest control in California. The slides depict important California vertebrates, the damage they cause and appropriate control methods. These slides are part of the University of California wildlife damage program (T. Salmon) collection and are an irreplaceable resource. Unfortunately, they are not catalogued or indexed and, being in slide format, are not very accessible for outreach programs. VPCRAC has funded multiple education grants which draw upon digital technology. By taking existing slide images and converting them to digital format in the form of an online library database we will be creating a unique resource for vertebrate pest control outreach efforts.

Objectives:

1. Review slide images available (approximately 20000) and categorize by quality, relevance and content.
2. Scan the appropriate images in digital format.
3. Develop searchable database of all scanned images.
4. Maintain digital database of images, linked to VPCRAC.ORG.

Progress To Date:

Progress Report September 1st 2009 – December 31st 2009

A third party scanning services was identified to scan all the slide images. This service will be used for all future slides. Two test batches of 50 slides each were created. The slides are delivered in high quality (4000dpi) tiff and jpeg file formats.

After research it was decided that the Agriculture and Natural Resources/ University of California – ANR Repository would be used for storage of all the digital images. This is a comprehensive online library facility which will satisfy all the needs of this grant. The repository allows for the creation of a searchable online database. Metadata including image description, author, time, date can be included.

A 'beta' test online library has already been created in partnership with repository staff. The test batch of images has been inserted into this library. The process of selecting slide images for scanning continues. To date over 2000 images are being processed.

To Be Updated.