

David N. Lee, M.S.

Biologist & Environmental Inspector

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Professional Summary

David N. Lee has over eight years experience as an environmental inspector and field biologist. David studied ecotourism in Costa Rica as a graduate student at Montana State University, where he earned an M.S. degree. He earned his undergraduate degree, also in Biology, at U.C. Santa Cruz, where he studied Conservation Biology and conducted field research on macaws in the Peruvian Amazon and gray whales off the California Coast.

Since then, David has worked as an environmental inspector and biological monitor on numerous linear construction projects and has also performed numerous biological surveys for wildlife, rare plants and weeds. All of the projects involved close communication and teamwork with contractors and government agency representatives. David also serves on the Board of Directors of Rancho La Viña Corporation, a family-owned ranch in Santa Barbara County, Ca with walnut orchards, vineyards, cattle pasture and wildlands.

Education

- M.S. Biological Sciences, Montana State University, 1991.
- B.S. Biology, University of California at Santa Cruz, 1988.
- Languages: Conversational Spanish

Additional training

Desert Tortoise Annual Surveying, Monitoring and Handling Techniques Workshop, Ridgecrest, California (2001). Sponsored by the Desert Tortoise Council, this workshop provides information on handling, monitoring, and surveying for desert tortoises, authorized egg handling and burrow construction demonstrations and an overview of the desert tortoise and threats to its survival.

Memberships

- The Wildlife Society
- The Desert Tortoise Council
- The Society for Ecological Restoration

Firms

- AMEC Earth & Environmental
- BioResource Consultants
- Garcia & Associates (GANDA)
- Gulf Interstate
- Insignia Environmental
- Land Services, Inc.
- Sage Institute, Inc.
- Storrer Environmental Services
- TRC Solutions
- Urban Planning Concepts

Selected Projects – Biological Monitoring & Environmental Inspection

Sullivan Canyon Pipeline Protection, Santa Monica Mountains, CA (2009). Client: Southern California Gas Company. Contractor: Submar, Inc. Biological monitoring of access road improvements and natural gas pipeline repair along a 4.5 mile canyon in riparian and chaparral habitat (Lines 3003 and 407). Activities monitored included tree removal, trimming, and chipping, access road clearing and grading, and installation of cement mats to protect the pipeline. Pre-construction surveys for special status species: coast patch-nosed snake, Cooper's hawk, San Diego desert wood rat and Humboldt lily. Environmental training provided to construction crews.

State Route 62 Highway Construction, Twentynine Palms, CA (2009). Client: Autobahn Construction. Desert tortoise biologist and monitor on a 3,000-foot road widening Caltrans project along CA State Route 62. Conducted pre-construction surveys for desert tortoise (DT), provided DT environmental awareness training for construction staff and Caltrans personnel and monitored road construction activities to ensure compliance with DT protection measures. Wrote daily monitoring and survey reports for submission to Caltrans. Coordinated with Caltrans biologists and engineers in the field.

Contra Costa – Las Positas Transmission Line. Antioch, CA (2009). Biological Inspector on a 30-mile, 230 kV electric transmission line reconductoring project. Client: Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E). Monitored construction activities near active raptor nests, rare plant populations and other sensitive biological resources. Surveyed project right-of-way for burrowing owl, Swainson's hawk and other nesting raptors. Conducted field surveys for round-leaved filaree (*California macrophyllum*), a state listed species. Assisted with San Joaquin kit fox surveys and flagged burrows potentially occupied by California tiger salamander.

Imperial Valley Loop Pipeline, El Centro, CA (2009). Environmental Inspector (EI) on a 22-mile, 24-inch natural gas pipeline (Line 6914 Loop) along Caltrans' right-of-way, Old Highway 111. Client: Southern California Gas Company (Sempra Energy). Contractor: ARB. Performed field inspections to ensure compliance with all local, state and federal environmental rules and regulations including the Clean Water Act and California Department of Fish and Game requirements. Conducted burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) surveys and monitored construction near active owl burrows. All aspects of pipeline construction activities were inspected, including trenching, dewatering, welding, backfill and cleanup.

Transwestern Phoenix Expansion Natural Gas Pipeline, Prescott, AZ (2008). Biological Inspector on a 114 mile, 36" and 42" natural gas pipeline. Contractor: Gregory & Cook. Surveyed and relocated Sonoran desert tortoise, active bird nests, snakes and other wildlife on the pipeline right-of-way. Located and monitored raptor and raven nests adjacent to the right-of-way.

Inspected open trench for trapped wildlife and ensured escape ramps installed as required. Coordinated with contractor foremen, environmental inspection team, and FERC compliance monitors. Monitored open trench crossing of Verde River, a Wild and Scenic River with three federally listed fish species.

Southeast Supply Header (SESH) Natural Gas Pipeline, Spread 2, Hattiesburg, MS (2007-2008). Environmental inspector (EI) for an 83-mile, 36-inch natural gas pipeline construction project by Spectra Energy and CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission. The project involved over 500 workers, crossing 219 streams and 67 wetlands in wet, winter conditions. Duties included locating and flagging stream buffer zones and wetland boundaries, inspecting and providing guidance on the installation and maintenance of erosion control devices (ECDs) and stream restoration, and monitoring the activities of the Clearing, Grading, Ditching, Tie-In and Cleanup/Restoration crews.

Blazer Tap Powerline Project, Tularosa, NM (2007). Third Party Environmental Inspector for a 25-mile, 115-kV transmission line Tri-State construction project. Duties include construction monitoring for stormwater pollution prevention best management practices (BMPs), noxious weed abatement, and vegetation removal methods. The project involved close coordination with construction contractors and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) representatives. Wrote daily and weekly reports for BLM.

REX – Entrega Natural Gas Pipeline, Rawlins, WY (2006). Rockies Express Pipeline – Entrega (REX) project from Wamsutter to Arlington, Wyoming for Kinder Morgan. Responsible for ensuring the project was in compliance with all federal and state environmental laws and regulations. Field monitoring of construction activities in wetlands, across active water bodies and through sensitive wildlife habitat. Daily coordination with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and construction contractor representatives. Responsible for water quality monitoring on the North Platte River and correct use of BMPs to prevent stormwater pollution.

Otay-Metro Powerloop, San Diego, CA. (2006). Stormwater pollution prevention inspector for the upgrade and new installation of a high-voltage powerline. Conducted official stormwater inspections for proper best management practice (BMP) installation and maintenance. Prepared inspection reports and logsheets as required by the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Managed the SWPPP to ensure it was updated and current.

Providence Landing Housing Development, Vandenberg Village, CA (2005). Rare species surveys and construction monitoring on a 100 acre, 200 home housing development in coastal dune and chaparral habitats for Capital Pacific Homes. Worked with and led field crews in habitat surveys for silvery legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra pulchra*), a California Species of Special Concern. Conducted nesting bird surveys.

Water Pipeline, Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA (2005). Approximately two miles of new water pipeline installed along the Gaviota Coast for the U.S. Air Force. Monitored construction activities in and around a population of Gaviota tar plant (*Hemizonia increscens* ssp. *villosa*) and black-flowered figwort (*Scrophularia atrata*). Responsible for locating and ensuring protection of plant populations. Conducted education sessions on sensitive species for jobsite contractors and their employees. Wrote detailed field notes and monitoring reports.

Kern River Natural Gas Pipeline, Barstow, CA (2002 – 2003). Kern River Gas Transmission Project, Spread 10, for the Williams Company. Monitored construction equipment and activities to ensure no accidental tortoise takes and compliance with project Biological Opinion. Over 80 miles of high pressure natural gas pipeline through desert tortoise habitat and BLM land. Conducted

pre-construction surveys for desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) and nesting raptors.

Level (3) Fiber Optic Cable Installation, Gaviota, CA (2001). Monitored fiber optic cable installation activities along railroad and highway right-of-ways to ensure compliance with all Santa Barbara County environmental regulations. Surveyed construction sites for monarch butterfly nesting trees, raptor nests, wetlands, vernal pools, steelhead trout streams and other sensitive species habitat. Worked with trenching and directional drill (bore) crews, California Public Utilities Commission inspectors and third-party monitors. Wrote daily monitoring reports.

Biological Surveying Experience

Burrowing Owl and Rare Plant Surveys, Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Project, Southern California Edison, Riverside County, CA (2007). Conducted protocol-level burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) and rare plant surveys along 19 miles of existing transmission line in support of an SCE project to construct a new 115 kV line in a 200-foot wide corridor. Observed and identified all avian species during the survey. Identified or collected for identification all rare, or potentially rare plants along the project corridor.

Biological Surveys, Ellsworth Air Force Base, Rapid City, SD (2007). Conducted comprehensive plant and wildlife surveys in disturbed, short grass prairie and riparian habitats, covering over 5,000 acres of Air Force property in South Dakota. Completed thorough inventory of all plant and animal species observed, with special attention to threatened, endangered and sensitive species.

Avian Surveys, Rim Rock 1 & 2 Wind Farms, Cut Bank, MT (2007). Conducted avian surveys for waterfowl, raptors and associated species in support of a proposed wind farm project. Collected data on the presence and habitat of numerous birds on the wind farm property, vegetation communities and general wildlife habitat.

Montana Alberta Tie Ltd., 230-kV AC Power Transmission Line, Lethbridge, Alberta to Great Falls, MT (2006-2007). Project involved evaluating potential impacts associated with proposed 230-kV transmission line project between Lethbridge, Alberta, and Great Falls, Montana. Conducted field investigations and permitting associated with noxious weeds, wetlands, wildlife, waterfowl, raptors and special status species. Effort involved close coordination with Montana and Alberta consultants and regulatory agencies.

Avian Surveys, North Ranch, PG&E Property, San Luis Obispo, CA (2006). Conducted visual and acoustic field surveys for two state sensitive species - grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) and horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris*). Wrote field reports and compiled survey data for client.

U.S. Borax Mine expansion. Boron, CA (2005-2006). Two, 1/4 mile sections of Mohave Desert designated for mine ponds, tailings and other expansion activities. Conducted pre-mining surveys for endangered desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) and rare plants. Received Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) certificate of training.

Private Cluster Development - Biological Report, San Luis Obispo, CA (2005). Conducted field surveys of plants, birds, reptiles, amphibians and other biological resources on 85 acres in the Edna Valley of San Luis Obispo County. Contributing writer of Biological Report submitted to the client.

Natural Gas Pipeline Maintenance, Taft, CA (2004). Right-of-way clearing project, Southern California Gas Company. Grading and maintenance of about 20 miles of access routes along existing gas pipelines in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Conducted pre-construction surveys for federal and state listed wildlife and plant species including San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*), San Joaquin antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*), giant kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys ingens*), Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratooides exilis*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) and blunt-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelia sila*). Monitored heavy equipment during right-of-way grading and maintenance activities. Conducted education sessions on sensitive species for jobsite contractors and their employees. Wrote detailed field notes and project reports.

Hazardous Tree Removal Project, Crestline, CA (2004). Removal of up to 90,000 dead and dying trees killed by pine bark beetle on residential property and San Bernardino National Forest for Southern California Edison. Surveyed areas around power poles to identify habitat for sensitive species including southern rubber boa (*Charina bottae umbratica*), California spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*) and foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*). Completed detailed data forms for all sensitive resources.

Environmental Impact Statement Update, Rocky Mountain Front, MT (2003). Badger-Two Medicine area, U.S. Forest Service, Lewis & Clark National Forest. Northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) surveys along proposed access routes to natural gas wells. Used GPS, map and compass to navigate and locate survey stations. Operated survey equipment (call tape player and amplifier). Conducted rare plant and weed surveys, including field identification and specimen preservation.

Ecological Restoration

Union Pacific Railroad, Ventura River, CA (2005).

Worked with and directed field crews in harvesting, preparing and planting arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepus*) and mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*) cuttings to re-vegetate and stabilize an eroded bank along the Ventura River. Also performed survival and growth evaluations after the cuttings were planted.

Monte Sereno Housing Development, Arroyo Grande, CA (2005). Oversaw restoration of three wetland and riparian areas, including landscaping, irrigation and planting with native species. Directed and coordinated heavy equipment in stream channel re-alignment under permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Advised client in selection and placement of erosion control fabric, silt fence and straw wattles to stabilize recently graded slopes and protect stream channels.

Centex Housing Development, Nipomo, CA (2005).

Irrigated and installed gel-packs to support a mitigated population of dune mint (*Monardella frutescens*). Percent cover transects to determine survivorship and identify competing plant species such as veldt grass (*Ehrharta spp.*) These native plants were removed from a nearby housing development area and replanted in protected Central Coast dune habitat.

Salt River Wetland Restoration, Alpine, WY (2006). Utilized bioengineering techniques along a former river channel to improve habitat for cutthroat trout. Planted coyote willow (*Salix sp.*) along the overgrazed channel banks to create a stabilizing root mat to help constrict the newly-activated channel.

Publications

- United States Air Force, 2007. *Comprehensive Biological Surveys Report*, Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota.
- United States Air Force. 2002. *Environmental Assessment for the West Coast Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) Beddown*. Department of the Air Force, Langley Air Force Base, VA.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1998. *Back Where They Belong*, (Desert bighorn sheep recovery), National Parks, Sept./Oct., pp. 26-29.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1996. *Effective Hydroseeding*, Erosion Control, July/Aug., pp. 22-30.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1995. *Caribou and You*, American Forests, May/June, pp. 45-48.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1995. *Highway Landscaping for the Future*, Erosion Control, March/April, pp. 62-66.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1994. *Breaking the Sound Barrier*, National Parks, July/Aug., pp. 25-29.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1994. *Lake Tahoe River Restored*, Land and Water, July/Aug., pp. 32-35.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1994. *Searching for Harlequins*, Bird Watcher's Digest, May, pp. 72-77.
- Lee, D., and D. Snepenger. 1992. *An Ecotourism Assessment of Tortuguero, Costa Rica*, Annals of Tourism Research, 19:366-369.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1991. *Warbling Voyagers of the West*, Montana Outdoors, pp. 15-18.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1988. *Nesting Behavior of Macaws (Ara spp.) in Manu National Park, Peru*, Senior Thesis, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA.
- Lee, D.N.B. 1985. *Feeding Habits of Black Bears (Ursus americanus) in Sandy Cove*, Report to National Park Service, Glacier Bay National Park, AK.
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