



CAPS NEWS

Remembering Five Departed Giants on Population and Environment

By Leon Kolankiewicz
CAPS Board Vice-President

These last few years have been rough in many ways. For me personally, in addition to the loss of loved ones (four members of my extended family died in 2020 alone) the loss of eminent heroes and colleagues on population and the environment has been another hard pill to swallow. Few people who achieve the fame or notoriety of earning, say, an obit in *The New York Times*, for their career achievements, have been outspoken on the issue of overpopulation.

Here we pay tribute to five giants whose life achievements in fields related to environmental conservation merited recognition by the nation's elite legacy news media, but who also distinguished themselves by showing the bravery, honesty, and smarts it takes to publicly recognize the threat posed by human overpopulation. We pay homage to Dave Foreman, Herman Daly, E.O. Wilson, Thomas Lovejoy, and Richard D. Lamm, all of whom I had the honor of having met or known.

Dave Foreman, 1946-2022

Legendary wilderness warrior, rewilding pioneer, and CAPS advisory board member Dave Foreman passed away from a long illness in September 2022 at the age of 75 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Dave lived a short distance from where I once did at the edge of town, on the slopes of the Sandia Mountains, whose crags thrust to nearly 10,700 feet in elevation above the spruce/fir/pine and pinyon/juniper eco-zones, the austere high desert, and the watery ribbon of the Rio Grande with its belt of thirsty cottonwoods known as the bosque. When Dave died, Mother Earth and her wild creatures lost a diehard defender and America a formidable fighter for



Dave Foreman, 10/18/1946 – 9/19/2022
Suzanne Vlamis/Associated Press

sensible population and immigration policies informed by environmental limits.

A proud native of New Mexico and a graduate of its flagship university UNM, during his lifetime Dave co-founded the organizations Earth First!, the Wildlands Project, and the Rewilding Institute. He also wrote countless articles and many books, and was a captivating speaker. Dave and fellow kindred spirits founded Earth First!

in 1980 on a wilderness sojourn in the Pinacate Desert of northern Mexico. They shared a belief in deep ecology, the philosophy that all evolved life forms have a right to exist and that wild nature — untrammelled wilderness — should be safeguarded regardless of its

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Going East: California's population declined the last three years

By Ken Pasternack, J.D.



California's population has declined slightly during the past 3 years (2020-22). We cannot know so soon whether this constitutes a long-term trend or just a short-term pause, but we can review the basics of California's population growth by considering what led to this.

One long-term trend took hold after the Baby Boom ended in the 1960s. Since 1972, for half a century now, Americans in California and across the country have had few enough children to reduce the population. The state's internal growth rate has gone negative,

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Californians for Population Stabilization is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, public interest organization that works to formulate and advance policies and programs designed to stabilize the population of California, the U.S. and the world at levels which will preserve the environment and a good quality of life.

President's Message



As I approach my 80th birthday the United States looks much different than it did in my youth. One benefit of growing older,

perhaps the most important benefit, is gaining a historical perspective.

In 1943 our population was about 137 million. It is now 2.5 times larger at about 335 million. I've seen open spaces covered by houses, shopping centers, and parking lots from Long Island New York, to southern Florida, to California. This loss of habitat has caused dramatic loss of wildlife. One example, according to estimates of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, is the disappearance of 3 billion birds, just since 1970.

During my life, our political landscape has changed, too. At the Congressional level, moderates have disappeared. When I was young we used to speak of conservative Democrats and middle of the road Republicans. Just as birds have been lost, so pretty much have such legislators. Now members of both parties are locked into partisan positions – Congressional voting strictly follows party lines. Are there no courageous, independent, thinkers left in Congress?

When I was young, I generally supported Democrats. But many years ago I shifted to Independent. Arguably, the most distressing aspect of the current Democratic party leadership is its abandonment of the rule of law, in particular as regards immigration issues.

Nature is a shared value across the political spectrum. Conservationists recognize the importance of maintaining a lawful society if a country is to protect its environment.

Carl Safina (founder of the Audubon Society's Living Oceans Program) had this to say at a UCLA symposium on preserving the Galapagos: "You need the rule of law. Punish people who break the law." Jennifer Ferenstein, a former President of the Sierra Club, was a co-founder of "Citizens Against Lawless Logging." In various countries, lawlessness is a major cause of environmental destruction – for example in the Brazilian Amazon.

The Biden Administration is currently in massive and active violation of U.S. immigration law. By actively supporting the annual importation of millions of persons who have no legal right to be in the USA, the Democratic Party is greatly accelerating U.S. population growth. This growth will lead to more crowding and more sprawl and a diminished quality of life for most Americans. And, perhaps as important, President Biden and his Congressional supporters are saying to the American people: "laws don't matter." In May, every Democratic House member voted against H.R. 2 "Secure the Border Act of 2023." An important item in the bill is national implementation of E-verify that would verify the legal eligibility of a given person to work in the United States. Establishment of so-called "sanctuary" cities and states is another flagrant violation of U.S. laws.

In the 1950s and 1960s civil rights leaders worked in various ways to end Jim Crow laws. I remember participating in 1959 in the second ever civil rights march in Washington D.C. Harry Belafonte was the celebrity leader of our march. My sister was a "Freedom Rider" who marched in 1965 from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama with Dr. M.L. King and others.

If the Democratic Party leadership does not like current immigration laws then it should work, as civil rights activists did, to change these laws. Blatant violation of law by the President and national and state officials sends the wrong message to every citizen and legal immigrant.

I have served on a regular jury and on a grand jury. When being "interviewed" for possible placement on the jury, the judge asked me: "In making your decision in this case, will you follow the relevant law even if you personally do not agree with it?" A "yes" answer is a cornerstone of our legal system -- a cornerstone that, as regards immigration laws, is violated daily by the Biden Administration and the leadership of the Democratic Party.

In conclusion, I ask a simple question posed to me by a friend: What can one do when those in power refuse to enforce the law and actively subvert it at every turn? 🐾

Ben Zuckerman

Ben Zuckerman
President, CAPS

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instrumental value to human beings.

Early in his career, Dave was attacked mostly from the right as an “eco-terrorist,” but later in life he was demonized by many (but not all) leftists and the legacy media as an anti-immigrant xenophobe, nativist, and racist — all false smears. Dave argued powerfully and steadfastly against “progressive cornucopians” (a term he coined) on the left who claimed that population growth was irrelevant to environmental sustainability, which in their view would be achieved only when greed, wealth, capitalism, overconsumption, evil technologies, war-mongering, racism, sexism, xenophobia (and later Islamophobia and transphobia) were eradicated.

Dave Foreman breathed his last breath less than two years after his beloved wife and soulmate Nancy Morton succumbed to ALS. Their love for each other and their transcendent love for Mother Earth were an inspiration for the ages.

Herman E. Daly, 1938 – 2022

Herman Daly, the “father of ecological economics,” died in Virginia in October 2022 at the age of 84.

Over a lengthy career which spanned more than half a century, Herman was the pioneering, indefatigable champion of the steady-state economy. This is one in which all physical human activity – economic “throughput” of resources and energy – is

considered a subset of the ecosphere, and thus constrained by it. Contrast this reality-based model of the human enterprise with the flight of fancy that is the mainstay of mainstream or “neoclassical” economics, which rejects any limits to population and economic growth, even on an obviously finite planet with depleting resources and a beleaguered environment.

A native of Texas, Herman obtained his B.S. at Rice University and his Ph.D. at Vanderbilt. He then taught economics at Louisiana State University, where he first began to explore environmental economics (as distinct from ecological economics), which at least acknowledges rather than ignores the

natural environment and resources. Later he moved to the World Bank and then the University of Maryland.

As a researcher at Yale early in his career, Herman received his first formal exposure to the population issue when he conducted demographic research on population and economic growth in northern Brazil, examining Malthusianism and Marxism there. It was in Brazil that Herman met his future wife Marcia — the “love of his life” for nearly 60 years.

About population and immigration, Herman wrote:

“We should be working toward a balance in which births plus in-migrants equals deaths plus out-migrants... And while each nation can debate whether it should accept many or few immigrants, and who should get priority, such a debate is rendered moot if immigration laws are not enforced. We should support voluntary family planning and enforcement of reasonable immigration laws, democratically enacted. A lot of the pro-natalist and open-borders rhetoric claims to be motivated by generosity, but it is “generosity” at the expense of the U.S. working class – a cheap labor policy.

Progressives have been slow to understand this. The environmental movement began with a focus on population but has frequently given in to political correctness.”

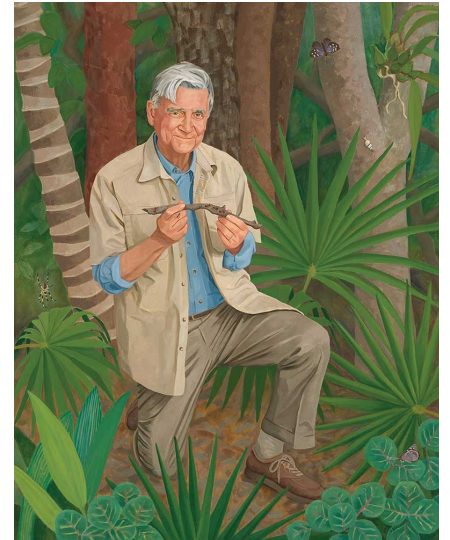
For population activists like me, there were

few allies of Herman’s stature as dependable as he was over the years. In 1998, for instance, he readily lent his name to the effort of Sierrans for U.S. Population Stabilization (SUSPS) to restore immigration to its proper place in the policy of the national Sierra Club toward population growth and the environment. Over the years, he never wavered in his advocacy of the view that population stabilization was crucial in any environmentally and economically sustainable future.

Edward O. Wilson, 1929 – 2021

Eminent entomologist, Pulitzer-Prize-winning author, “Heir to Darwin’s Legacy,” and passionate biodiversity

advocate E.O. Wilson passed in December 2021 at the age of 92. Ed was a native of Alabama from very humble origins; his parents divorced when he was 7, the same year he pierced and blinded his right eye with a fish hook. His alcoholic father later committed suicide.



Edward O. Wilson, 6/10/1929 – 12/26/2021
E.O. Wilson on *Lignumvitae* Key by Jennie Summerall / Oil on canvas, 2006.
©2006 Jennie Summerall

Despite these personal setbacks, from his youth, out exploring in the woods, and as a Boy Scout (he reached the highest rank of Eagle Scout), Wilson nourished a fascination for nature, and in particular, for insects. His parents allowed him to collect poisonous black widow spiders and keep them on the porch. Ed’s enduring fascination for these “little things that run the world” never left him, and led to degrees at the University of Alabama and later Harvard, where he was a professor and researcher from 1956 to 1996.

Ed authored many well-received books on science, nature, and society (two of which won Pulitzer Prizes), and in the meantime, he grew into a staunch defender of biodiversity, which he understood was under assault globally from the human population explosion. He wrote in *Scientific American* in 2002: “The pattern of human population growth in the 20th century was more bacterial than primate. When *Homo sapiens* passed the six-billion mark we had already exceeded by perhaps as much as 100 times the biomass of any large animal species that ever existed on the land. We and the rest of life cannot afford another 100 years like that.” He referred to humanity’s “reproductive folly.”

In 1998, Wilson was dragged into the bitter, internecine struggle within the Sierra Club over whether it should return to a national population policy that once again acknowledged that immigration should be curbed to stop



Herman Daly, 7/21/1938 – 10/28/2022
Photograph: Peter Victor, University of Maryland in 2010

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U.S. population growth. In January 1998, he penned a letter to the Club's executive director which read, in part:

"I have come to believe that population is so salient a factor in the future of the environment, and especially of biodiversity, that it should be faced squarely and openly whenever possible. And since the issue within the Sierra Club is to be decided democratically by ballot, with supporters and arguments on both sides, and since the initiative calls for 'reduction in net immigration' (no slamming of doors there), it is hard to see why the membership cannot be trusted to make a wise decision with the interests of the Sierra Club in mind."

At the risk of going out on a limb, Charles Darwin would have been very proud of what that boy from Alabama achieved in his life – dedicating it to the study and preservation of ALL life, not just the human variety.

Thomas Lovejoy, 1941 – 2021

Noted tropical and conservation biologist and National Geographic Explorer, Tom Lovejoy, "the godfather of biodiversity," left us on Christmas Day, 2021 in McLean, Virginia, at the age of 80. Born in New York City, he attended Yale University, where he earned his B.S. and Ph.D. in biology. He then embarked on a wide-ranging career that took him to ecological research in the Amazon rainforest, and policy stints at the World Wildlife Fund, Smithsonian Institution, World Bank, John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics, and the Environment, and George Mason University.



Thomas Lovejoy, 8/22/1941 – 12/25/2021
© Fundación BBVA 2023

Tom was influential in the origin of the new field of conservation biology, the study of the conservation of nature and of Earth's biodiversity with the aim of preserving species, their habitats, and ecosystems. He also had a pioneering role in so-called debt-for-nature swaps, in which environmental groups purchase precarious foreign debt on the secondary market at the market rate, which is considerably discounted. The debt is then converted at its face value into the local currency to

purchase biologically sensitive tracts of land in the debtor nation for purposes of environmental protection.

Like most conservation biologists, Tom understood and saw firsthand the adverse impacts of the human population irruption on habitats and wild species. He served on the boards of two population advocacy organizations: Population Action International and the advisory board of Carrying Capacity Network. "Stemming population growth is a cheap way to limit climate change," wrote Tom in *The Guardian*.

Richard D. Lamm, 1935 – 2021

Former 3-term Colorado governor and long-time CAPS advisory board member Dick

Lamm passed away unexpectedly of a pulmonary embolism in July 2021, just days before his 86th birthday. Ironically, I had been in touch with him just a couple of weeks earlier, trying to arrange an interview for him about population with a veteran investigative reporter. Another coincidence that I used to brag about was that Dick had graduated a couple of decades earlier from the very same high school as I did in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania suburbs.

Dick attended the University of Wisconsin (B.A. 1957), attained the rank of first lieutenant in the US

Army, and earned his J.D. in 1961 at UC Berkeley law school. In 1962 he moved to Denver, Colorado, where he worked as an accountant, set up a law practice, and married his sweetheart Dottie Vennard, a former airline flight attendant.

Dick was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives as a Democrat in 1964. In 1967, he drafted the nation's first liberalized abortion law. In the late sixties, he also became a leader in the newly emerging and energized American environmental and population movements. He was made president of the First National Conference on Population, for instance. In 1972, as a member of the State Assembly, Dick led the successful movement against Denver hosting

the 1976 Winter Olympics because of concerns about cost and induced growth and development.

This fame catapulted him to three terms as Colorado governor. Stepping back from politics, for many

years he was the Co-Director of the Institute for Public Policy Studies at the University of Denver. In 2004 he ran for the Sierra Club board of directors but was defeated, in a bitter campaign he called one of the dirtiest he had ever seen.

In concluding this all-too-brief tribute to five great men, it is fitting to quote one of Dick Lamm's many visionary observations over the years:

Public policy and most of our institutions, as presently structured, assume boundless resources and no ecological limits. As a nation, we confidently proclaim that there are no limits that cannot be overcome, and around the world, endless growth also seems an assumption beyond challenge. It will be hard to change our thinking, but we must because we are bumping up against the reality of ecological limits. Nature has a different set of rules, and the larger ecosystem is totally indifferent to human moral codes.

— Richard D. Lamm, "Confronting Finitude"
Life on the Brink: Environmentalists Confront Overpopulation
(University of Georgia Press, 2012)

Going East: California's Population... (continued from page 1)

as has the nation's. California has grown since the 1970s, but that growth was not strictly internal. It came from people moving into the state.

A more recent trend took hold in the 1990s. The westward expansion of the United States ended, as far as California is concerned. Over the course of American history until the 1990s, more people moved into California from other states than moved out of California to other states. In other words, domestic migration within the country increased the state's population. This ended in the 1990s. California's net domestic migration now runs negative. More people move away to other states than move in from other states.

Yet California's population grew from the 1990s to 2020. How? The state's population grew for the same reason as the nation's: immigration from other countries. What has changed recently is that fewer immigrants are coming to California. Although immigration into the country has climbed the past few

years, and immigration to other states has increased, fewer immigrants are choosing to live in California.

It seems that immigrants are influenced by the same concerns that send some Americans away from California to other states. One well-known factor is California's high housing costs.

Another factor is the availability of jobs. This might work differently for immigrants than for the native born because California already has a large immigrant population, constituting over a quarter of the state's population and almost a quarter of all immigrants in the country. In California there might be more competition for some jobs they are specially qualified for (such as work in ethnic restaurants, or jobs that require bilingual skills).

On the other hand, the fact that immigrant populations are growing in other states (even though they have not reached the size of California's) could make it easier for immigrants to live and work there now. Immigrants

tend to cluster in areas where friends or relatives have already moved from the same home town. Many readers will likely recognize this from their own family history in America.

The immigrant population might have reached "critical mass" in other regions just as it did decades ago in California. As immigration shifts from Europe to Asia and Latin America, more immigrants now enter through the west coast. Earlier generations of immigrants coming from Europe clustered on the east coast before gradually "going West." We might have entered an era when immigrants who used to cluster on the west coast are finally "going East."

In any event, the future population size of both California and the nation will depend on the future level of immigration. 🐘*

CAPS on Earth Day 2023: Sustainability Depends on Us

Each year millions of people around the globe demonstrate their support for protecting our environment on Earth Day.

The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970. Since then, the population of our planet went from 3.7 billion to 8 billion people. And here in the United States, we've seen the population swell from 203 million in 1970 to 335 million today.



CAPS Earth Day 2023 ad featured on Noozhawk.com

CAPS takes the occasion to remind Americans that while progress has been made on improving our environment, our planet has become more populated, more polluted, and less habitable for wildlife and humans.



CAPS Earth Day video on YouTube

This year, CAPS released a new Earth Day video and a popular web ad making the case to the American people that "Sustainability Depends on Us." The video drew an impressive 74,000+ views. It laid the groundwork for Americans to connect the dots between population growth and sustainability here on Earth by drawing attention to a World Wildlife Fund study which showed a 69 percent average decline in wildlife populations since 1970.

CAPS also ran a local digital ad in *Noozhawk*, a publication serving Santa Barbara county. The ad received more than 162,875 views online. Additionally, CAPS's press release was shared on PR newswire and received pickup from 378 publications.

Few organizations who tackle environmental issues effectively tie sustainability and population issues to the health of our environment like Californians for Population Stabilization. 🐘*

Worker Shortage? A Poor Excuse

By Karen Shragg



Do a Google search on worker shortages and one finds the myopic solution: an increase of immigration. Look at every city in the country and one can see the response to (consequence of) welcoming too many people into our country: endless skylines filled with new construction of highrises. The Twin Cities, where I live, construction of new apartments now means that the new residents will have to look out over a freeway while they read their morning paper, which is telling them that the panacea to our worker shortage is even more immigration.

Why is this a bad idea? Well, it wouldn't

be if we weren't already overshooting our resources. It wouldn't be if we weren't already taking in millions of immigrants each year. All of these new Americans will attempt to solve one problem while creating many, many more. When we have tunnel vision about not enough workers, when we don't see that these increases in population put pressure on our infrastructure and water supplies, on our budgets and open space, on our health care systems and homelessness problems, we are being penny-wise and pound-foolish. Numbers matter.

We can solve our employment issues by training and paying our own citizens, particularly those Black Americans who have been overlooked and undermined every time we have a new wave of immigrants ready to work for less. See Roy Beck's book, "Back of the Hiring Line" (2021) for this history we are still living. Numbers matter.

Since the first Earth Day in 1970, the U.S. population has increased from 205 million to 335 million. It will surge to 404 million by 2060, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, and now that our fertility rates are low, this increase will come from mass immigration. All of those migrants will come in and stress every system that is already in trouble.

Those of us who speak out to stop mass immigration are looking through the lens of ecological reality, for it is not xenophobic or racist to want to find a way to preserve what remains of our wildlife areas, our natural resources, and our quality of life in a world facing the dramatic consequences of 416 parts per million of carbon. The U.S. has one of the highest ecological footprints on the planet. Life on Earth becomes more precarious with each new American. It's time to invite ecology to the table of this debate, and it needs several chairs. 🐾*

California's Population Declines Again

As of January 1, 2023, the state's population was estimated at 38,940,231 people, according to figures released on May 1 by the California Department of Finance. For the third straight year, California's population declined, albeit slightly. The decline was -138,443 people in 2022, -117,552 in 2021, and -182,083 in 2020, for a total loss of -438,078 people in the first three years of this decade (nearly the population of Wyoming).

While these declines are very small in percentage terms, they represent a significant shift in the state's growth pattern. Prior to 2020, the state's population had risen steadily for over 120 years. Now the growth has turned negative. Whether this trend will continue remains to be seen, but for those who believe that nearly 40 million Californians put an unsustainable strain on California's natural environment and urban quality of life, it is welcome news that has been a very long time in coming.

The reasons for the decline are multilayered. Since 1990, many more people have left California for other states than have moved in from other states. Over 30 years, 4 million more

people left California than moved in from other states.

More than offsetting this overwhelmingly net domestic out-migration, California saw 5.1 million net immigrants move into the state from abroad during the same 30 years. Together with the natural increase (births minus deaths) of immigrants and that of native-born residents, California continued to add population at the rate of hundreds of



thousands per year from 1990 to 2020. That incoming tide began to ebb in 2020 when immigration slowed, births decreased, and deaths increased in part owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Although California's overall population has declined slightly, movement within the state has continued. In particular, many residents have moved away from the coast to the interior of the state where housing is more affordable. Forty-six of the state's fifty-eight counties

lost population in 2022, including every coastal county except San Benito. By contrast, of California's ten largest cities, only the Central Valley cities of Sacramento, Bakersfield, and Fresno gained people.

The consequences of California's tremendous growth for over 100 years are obvious to those who connect the dots. Hundreds of thousands of acres of prime farmland lost to development,

huge increases in traffic with accompanying air pollution including CO₂ emissions and excessive commute times owing to congestion, loss of habitat for California native species some of which are found nowhere else on Earth, people moving into remote areas and increasing the risk of sparking wildfires, campgrounds around the state with "Full" signs at their entrance gates year-round, housing prices through the roof, overcrowded schools, relentless attempts to keep infrastructure up with population growth, and the increased taxes that everyone must pay to accommodate the growth. That the state's population may have peaked is very good news indeed! 🐾*

Restoring Local Communities' Say Over Housing Growth in CA

After decades of unsustainable population growth, urban development has taken its toll on California. Water and other natural resources are scarce, infrastructure has failed to keep up with the housing boom and mass immigration has fueled demand for more housing.

To make matters worse, 2022 numbers released by the Newsom administration show that California added 123,350 housing units at a faster clip than any time since the Great Recession.

Despite this grim reality, over the years politicians in Sacramento have passed a series of laws, such as SB9 and



SB10 that permit up-zoning of single-family neighborhoods and deny local communities the ability to speak out about the location, size and character of this new housing.

Fortunately, Californians are beginning to speak up and demand more say over housing decisions at the local level. There is a statewide effort spearheaded by "Our Neighborhood Voices" to gather the signatures necessary to require a vote to restore land use powers to local communities.

CAPS plans to activate our grassroots supporters and social media audiences to support the ONV endeavor to collect 1,000,000+ signatures to put the initiative on the ballot in November, 2024. 🐾

CAPS Legislative Update



Last year CAPS leveraged our grassroots list of more than 50,000+ activists to advocate for critical legislation in both California and on the Federal level in Congress.

Now, as the immigration crisis on our southern border intensifies with the Trump-era Title 42 policy expiring, CAPS has taken the opportunity to activate our grassroots supporters to pursue enhanced border security and enforcement.

Title 42, implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowed the United States to restrict non-essential travel at the border. Ending Title 42 weakened

immigration control and sends a message that the United States is willing to compromise its border security and laws. This can incentivize further illegal immigration and human trafficking, placing an increased burden on border patrol agents and immigration courts.

In April of 2023, CAPS mobilized grassroots activists to message their representatives in support of HR 2640, The Border Security and Enforcement Act of 2023. This critical piece of legislation would enforce penalties for illegal entries and visa overstays, authorize E-Verify criteria on a permanent basis, and address

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs).

In May of 2023, the House of Representatives passed H.R.2, the Secure the Border Act of 2023, ahead of Title 42 expiring. The bill would restart construction on the border wall, impose stricter asylum seeker eligibility requirements, and require Customs and Border Protection to hire and train 22,000 Border Patrol agents.

CAPS continues to monitor and advocate for legislation in California and in Congress that addresses immigration, environmental, and sustainability-related issues. 🐾

Wildfire Season in California is Getting Longer

A recent analysis from the nonprofit research organization *Climate Central* found that wildfires are getting longer and more intense, especially in the West.

According to the study, "the analysis includes data from 476 weather stations to assess trends in 245 climate divisions spanning the contiguous U.S. during a 50-year period (1973-2022). Results show that wildfire seasons are lengthening and intensifying, particularly during spring and summer in the West. Parts of Southern California and the Southwest are seeing around two additional months of fire weather compared to the early 1970s."

While there are many factors at play, wildfire season is becoming increasingly longer due to a combination of natural and human-induced factors. Climate



change is playing a significant role in exacerbating the conditions that fuel wildfires. Rising temperatures, prolonged droughts, and changing precipitation patterns create a more conducive environment for wildfires to ignite and spread.

Additionally, surging population growth in California over the past several

decades, fueled largely by mass immigration, has created more demand for homes, schools, highways, and businesses. This has subsequently expanded the boundaries of residential areas into preserved forests and natural habitats, placing more Californians in the path of these devastating fires.

CAPS continues to raise the alarm bells that population and immigration policies must be part of the policy discussion around reducing the devastating impact of wildfires in California and across the West. 🐻



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If you haven't already, visit our donation page at capsweb.org/donate and simply check the box that reads "make this a monthly recurring donation" to give automatically each month.

The screenshot shows the CAPS donation interface. At the top is the CAPS logo and name. Below is a message: "Stand with CAPS and keep up the fight for immigration and population policies that save some America for tomorrow. CAPS will never publish or sell any personal information acquired during online transactions, or transactions by any other means." There are buttons for donation amounts: \$5, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, and 'Other'. A checkbox labeled "Make this a monthly recurring donation" is checked and circled in red. Below the checkbox is a "Continue" button. At the bottom, there is a "now" link and a "Login" link for users who have previously donated.