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Closing Remarks - Twenty-Fifth Vertebrate Pest Conference

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Proc. 25th Vertebr. Pest Conf. (R. M. Timm, Ed.) Published at Univ. of Calif., Davis. 2012. p. 361.

As incoming chair of the Vertebrate Pest Council, I am pleased to give the closing remarks to this 50th Anniversary Conference.

We started with the Monday field trip, where Canada geese, voles, feral pigs and sea lion problems were discussed. For those out of the area a tour of an artichoke farm and the Monterey Harbor boat tour were especially unique. Two special symposia focused on Wildlife and Food Safety, and Urban Wildlife Problems. Both are areas of increasing concern nationally and internationally. Eight more sessions and the Plenary Session rounded out the formal papers. Having posters, commercial displays, coffee breaks and Vendors' Forum in the foyer maximized their exposure to the attendees.

I would like to thank the members of the Vertebrate Pest Council for their work, notably two members who could not attend, despite their significant work on the Conference: Bob Timm, outgoing Conference Chair, and Rex Baker, the Continuing Education Chair. Thank you to our sponsors, exhibitors, attendees, and to Amber Shrum who made the registration process go smoothly.

We had 248 registrants from 11 countries – again, thank you for making this Conference a success. If you are staying in Monterey after the Conference, enjoy the area. It is truly beautiful.

Ten years ago the Council took a gamble and held the Conference in new territory – Nevada. The year 2014 may well be another watershed moment. We may have the Conference out of California in the "extreme southwest". We will keep you updated; in the meantime, have a Hawaiian shirt ready. Have a safe trip home.

Thank you, and Aloha.