

## Literature Review Assignment

A literature review addresses specific topics, issues, or points by providing information from numerous sources relevant to those topics. The literature review is a *synthesis* of information from various sources organized around specific themes. This is not an annotated bibliography. A literature review does not merely summarize key points in articles (as the annotated bibliography does), but, rather, weaves together information from those articles to address specific issues. For example, if you are researching “recreation and its impacts on shorebirds in the San Francisco Bay Area”, then you would find references that address this topic and bring the information together. See the example on pages 2-3 for a brief literature view on this topic. This example illustrates the form you should use, which includes an introductory statement, clear topic statements for each paragraph, information from numerous sources addressing the topic statement, in-text citations for all information used, and a full bibliography at the end.

For your literature review, you will summarize the literature you have collected on your research topic. Base this summary on a bibliography of at least seven (7) citations, five (5) of which must be peer-reviewed papers. Use the Council of Science Editors (formerly CBE) style of citation. See this website for information on citing journal articles and other sources: <http://library.osu.edu/help/research-strategies/cite-references/cse/cse-style-guide-articles/> .

Your paper should be in the range of 2-3 pages, or 800 words, using 1.5 spacing and a 12-point font. Be sure to paraphrase all information and cite the source of the information. Please do not use quotes.

At the end of your paper have a “References Cited” section, with full bibliographic information. All citations in this section must be cited in the text of the paper and all in-text citations must have a full citation.

Your literature review assignment will address the following points:

1. State clearly the research question you are researching and to which your literature review will relate.
2. Provide a review of findings from researchers on your topic. In other words, what have researchers found out about this topic?
3. Cite any controversies or conflicting findings that you find in the research.
4. Cite methods that researchers have used to investigate this topic.
5. State topics that researchers say need further research.
6. State how your research question will fill a research gap or add to the knowledge in the field.

**Submit your paper to canvas by Tuesday, September 16, at 4:30pm.**

## Recreation and its Impacts on Shorebirds in San Francisco Bay

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As human populations grow so do needs for recreational resources. The effect of recreation on shorebirds is a topic of active research but, little is known about how recreation, such as trail use, is affecting shorebirds foraging in the San Francisco Bay.

Recreation, including ecotourism in which people travel to view species (Burger et al. 1995) has the potential to negatively affect bird populations, especially in areas where birds congregate (Klein et al. 1995, Burger 2000, Bouton et al. 2005). Understanding impacts of human activity on shorebirds at migratory stopover sites where thousands of birds congregate is especially important because stopover sites are essential for successful migration and over-wintering (Bishop and Warnock 1998, Page et al. 1999). Migratory sites can be attractive to tourists and recreationists for wildlife viewing (Klein et al. 1995, Burger 2000), particularly when located near densely populated, urban areas where public access is popular. The effect of human presence on shorebirds at migratory stopover sites has been studied on the east coast of the United States (Burger 1981, Pfister et al. 1992, Burger et al. 1995, Klein et al. 1995, Burger and Gochfeld 1998), in British Columbia (Yasue 2005), and in England (Gill et al. 2001), but not along the Pacific Flyway in the San Francisco Bay.

San Francisco Bay is one of only a few sites in the world where more than 1 million migratory shorebirds stop or over-winter (Bishop and Warnock 1998, Page et al. 1999). This estuary provides seasonal habitat for more than 50% the Pacific Flyway population of numerous migratory shorebird species, including least (*Calidris minutilla*) and western sandpipers (*C. mauri*), short- (*Limnodromus griseus*) and long-billed dowitchers (*L. scolopaceus*), and marbled godwits (*Limosa fedoa*), as well as resident American avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*) and black-necked stilts (*Himantopus mexicanus*) (Page et al. 1999). In addition to being critical migratory habitat, the San Francisco estuary is home to over 7 million people who look to the Bay as a recreational resource, and it is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world (U.S. Department of Commerce 2005). Hundreds of miles of trails exist adjacent to the Bay and many more are planned, but few studies have specifically examined the effect of trail use on shorebirds (Burger 1981, Klein 1993, Gill et al. 2001) and none in the San Francisco Bay area.

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