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CLOSING REMARKS - SIXTEENTH VERTEBRATE PEST CONFERENCE

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As Chairperson-elect of the Council, I wish to express my appreciation to all who participated in this 16th Conference. I trust you have enjoyed this conference, as I have, as well as your visit to the Santa Clara Valley.

Much information has been presented here, not only in the more than 70 formal presentations, but also in evening sessions, meetings, and informal sharing and interaction. We hope we have provided adequate opportunities for informal networking, as this can be equally valuable as the scheduled papers and presentations.

For this conference, 318 participants have come from 30 states and 14 countries; besides the United States, participants hail from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Israel, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, and New Zealand.

I thank all the speakers for their time and effort in preparing their presentations, which were of excellent quality. I thank our session chairpersons for keeping the sessions running smoothly and on time, and our assistants with the slide projectors and room lights. I express special thanks to our program chairpersons, Robert Schmidt and Rex Baker, for creating this year's diverse mix of topics and speakers. Lew Davis handled the arrangements with the Westin Hotel. Sydni Gillette, Dorothy Beadle, and the staff of the North Region Office, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University

of California, ably handled registration. Paul Gorenzel again arranged an informative and enjoyable field trip. Charles Crabb and Terry Mansfield promoted and organized the student poster session while Greg Giusti and Dale Kaukeinen coordinated our new commercial display. Jerry Clark arranged for continuing education credits. Terry Salmon served as Business Manager for the Council, handling our financial obligations. Finally, I thank Conference Chair Wendy Halverson for her leadership of the Council during the past two years.

You will receive the published Proceedings from this conference in about six months. Speakers--if you have not yet turned your manuscript in, please do so without delay, because time and our editors wait for no person! Charles Crabb and Rex Marsh will immediately begin preparing these papers for publication in a timely manner.

The Council solicits your comments, both positive and negative, about this Conference, so that we can assure that future conferences will be even better and will continue to provide useful information to our audience.

I invite you to join us in March 1996 for the 17th Vertebrate Pest Conference, to be held at the Sonoma County Red Lion Hotel in Rohnert Park, California, near Santa Rosa, approximately 50 miles north of San Francisco.

Thank you for attending. Have a safe and pleasant journey home.