



The Pileated Post

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 2 ***** MARCH, 1980

The Flathead Chapter of the Audubon Society meets on the second Monday of each month in the Bigfork Grade School Audio-Visual Room. The business meeting is at 7:30 and the program is at 8:00.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 14 (Mon.) Meeting. Program by Jerry DeSanto on " Alpine Wildflowers of Glacier National Park."
- May 2 - 5. Audubon Regional Conference at Logan, Utah. Field trips will include Bear River N.W.R. and Gray's Lake N.W.R. (Whooping Crane transplant area) and others. For further information call Wanda Jamieson (837-5303) or Marcy Bishop (883-4146). At least one car will be going.
- May 3 (Sat.) Field Trip to Smith Lake, Betty Rose leader (755-0852). Mountain bluebirds, waterfowl, songbirds, hawks. Meet at 8AM at Buttrey's Parking Lot, Kalispell.
- May 10 (Sat.) Field Trip to Potholes, Mae Sudan leader. (837-6626). Waterfowl, shorebirds, long-billed marsh wren, hawks. Meet 8AM at New Covenant Christian School on Somers cut-off road.
- May 12 (Mon.) Meeting. Program to be announced. Will include a report on the Regional Meeting in Utah.
- May 17 (Sat.) Field Trip to Swan River N.W.R., Elly Jones leader. (886-2244). Waterfowl, songbirds, shorebirds, Bald Eagle. Meet 8 AM at Swan Lake Community Hall.
- May 24 (Sat.) Field Trip to Holland Lake, Elly Jones leader. (886-2244). Bird census for U.S. Forest Service. Meet 8 AM at Swan Lake Community Hall.
- May 31 (Sat.) State Audubon Council Meeting in Butte. Host club will be the Pintlar Chapter. Anyone wishing to go contact Wanda Jamieson (837-5303).
- June 7 (Sat.) Field Trip to Egan Slough, Jean Robocker leader. (755-2751). Warblers, heron, waterfowl. Meet at Jean's home at 8 AM. 1655 Montford Road, Kalispell.

- Continued on next page



Current Events Cont.

June 14 (Sat.) Field Trip to Glacier Park, Dorthea Darwall Leader. (837-4284). Harlequin duck, dipper, pileated woodpecker, songbirds. Meet at 8 AM at Lake Hills IGA parking lot, Bigfork or at 8:45 AM at the A & W in Columbia Falls. Those who wish can hike or ski on Logan Pass.

June 21 (Sat.) Field Trip to Kootenai Falls. Arranged by Dave Hudak (837-5138) and led by Steve Loken, Libby. Harlequin duck, dipper, Rocky Mountain sheep. Meet 7:30 AM Lake Hills IGA in Bigfork and at 8:00 AM at Buttrey's parking lot in Kalispell.

~~June~~ ^{July} June 12 (Sat.) Field Trip to Jewel Basin, Newton Reed leader. (837-4494). Alpine flowers and songbirds, hawks, eagles and mountain goats. Meet at 8 AM at Echo Lake Store.

July 19-20 State Audubon Weekend Workshop at National Bison Range. This will be a weekend campout with an area set aside at the Bison Range for our camp. Motel and RV hook-ups will also be available at nearby Allentown. Please make your own reservations for these. Program will be by the Bison Range staff and will consist of one day on the Bison Range and one at Ninepipe N.W.R. and other wetlands.

WOS/COS MEETING. Your editor just returned from the joint meeting of the Cooper and Wilson Ornithological Societies in Corpus Christi, Texas. There were three days of excellent scientific papers on bird research, plus outstanding field trips to view Attwater's Prairie Chicken on its booming grounds and Whooping Cranes at close range as well as many other species that live or winter on the barrier islands and marshes of the Texas coast. Species total was 102, 12 of which were new to your editor.

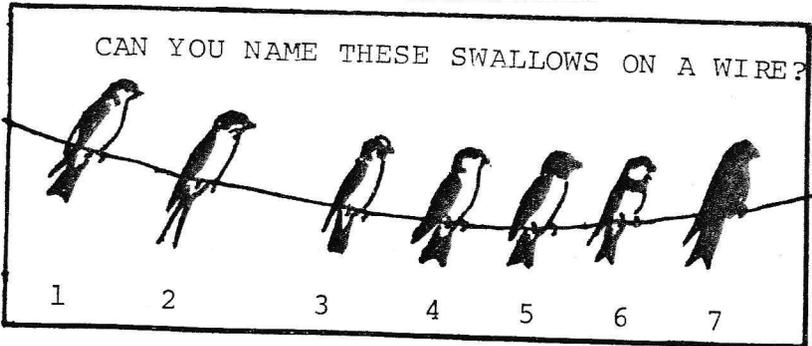
HOW DO I WRITE MY CONGRESSMAN?

From time to time we will publish information on conservation issues and ask that you write your congressmen or certain concerned agencies. Where possible we will include a tear out for you to just sign and send. However where it is important to write to several individuals or agencies this is impractical. We will include information on whom to write and their addresses. When writing your congressmen address as follows:

The Honorable _____, House of Representatives, Wash.D.C. 20515.
 or:
 The Honorable _____, U.S. Senate, Wash.D.C. 20510..

COLOR-PATTERN NAMES QUIZ

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Buff-breasted _____ | 15. Bay-breasted _____ |
| 2. Chestnut-collared _____ | 16. Blue-winged _____ |
| 3. Golden-crowned _____ | 17. Brown-headed _____ |
| 4. Gray-cheeked _____ | 18. Chestnut-sided _____ |
| 5. Green-winged _____ | 19. Ivory-billed _____ |
| 6. Green-tailed _____ | 20. Rose-breasted _____ |
| 7. Olive-sided _____ | 21. Ruby-throated _____ |
| 8. Orange-crowned _____ | 22. Yellow-rumped _____ |
| 9. Ruby-crowned _____ | 23. Ash-throated _____ |
| 10. Rufous-crowned _____ | 24. Chestnut-backed _____ |
| 11. White-winged _____ | 25. Coppery-tailed _____ |
| 12. Yellow-billed _____ | 26. Glaucous-winged _____ |
| 13. Yellow-breasted _____ | 27. Dark-eyed _____ |
| 14. Yellow-headed _____ | 28. Pink-footed _____ |



29. Black-headed _____

30. Red-necked _____

Answers are elsewhere in this issue.

ATTEMPT TO LOWER STATUS OF WHOOPING CRANE

The New Mexico Resources Dept. has asked the federal government to reclassify the second flock of whooping cranes, in the southwest, from "endangered" to "experimental." They feel the endangered status is an obstacle to hunting at Bosque del Apache N.W.R. where the birds winter, and that their first duty is to the hunting community, and that these birds have been introduced and do not qualify for protection as endangered species. Audubon Society biologists are among the scientists who dispute this claim and believe that wildlife refuges should serve the broader purposes of the nation. Lynn Greenwalt, director of the USFWS has turned down the change of status but it is reported that New Mexico authorities are urging action in congress. Audubon members are urged to write their congressmen asking them to support Greenwalt's decision to keep these rare cranes on the endangered list. Please see addresses elsewhere in this issue and send a copy to Greenwalt, %U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wash.D.C. 20240.



- Answers to Color-pattern Names Quiz: 1.Sandpiper, Flycatcher; 2.Longspur; 3.Kinglet, Sparrow; 4.Thrush; 5.Teal; 6.towhee; 7.Flycatcher; 8.Warbler; 9.Kinglet; 10,Sparrow; 11. Scoter,Junco; 12.Cuckoo,Loon,Magpie; 13.Chat; 14.Blackbird;15.Warbler;16.Teal, Warbler; 17.Cowbird; 18.Warbler; 19.Woodpecker; 20.Grosbeak; 21. Hummingbird; 22.Warbler; 23.Flycatcher; 24.Chickadee; 25. Trogon; 26.Gull; 27.Junco; 28.Shearwater; 29.Grosbeak; 30. Grebe.
Answers to Swallow Quiz: 1. Violet-green, 2. Barn, 3.Cliff,4.Tree, 5. Rough-winged, 6.Bank, 7. Purple Martin.

THE MARCH MEETING IN BRIEF. Gordon Ash of Condon attended to ask support for the newly created "Friends of the Bob Marshall" whose objective is to stop the "Bombing of the Bob" which involves the use of explosives for mineral exploration. If anyone speaks for the club at other meetings. a copy of their statement should now be given to the president so that we have a written record of the stand taken. This will prevent problems if we are quoted. The club will fund transportation to the Regional Conference in Logan, Utah, up to \$ 200. Jack White reported on the Sagebrush Rebellion and Lynn Kelly urged attendance at the meetings on the proposed Lake County Land Use Plan. The planned program by Doug Chadwick was cancelled since Doug has another assignment in Alaska for National Geographic. The program given was an excellent waterfowl identification film with photo quizzes that drilled in the information.

THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION



The sagebrush rebellion is essentially a reaction from those accustomed to uncontrolled use of high plains resources to the Bureau of Land Management's increased emphasis on conservation measures. These interests feel they would have less opposition from the states to their continued freedom of action. Some conservationists also feel that the real goal is to transfer these lands to private or corporate ownership, and that the states would be spurred in this direction by the added costs of administering these lands. For example only three states (Montana is not one of them) have receipts from timber sales and leases on these lands which exceed the investment, for managing recreation, wildlife conservation watershed protection and wilderness preservation.

Senate Bill 1680 and House Bill 5436 would transfer the National Forests and the BLM lands in 13 western states to state ownership and SB 1403 is a bill to cripple The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act.

Please contact your Senators and Representatives and ask them to oppose these bills and any others that would jepordize out Western Public Lands. Adresses are elsewhere in this issue.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Property damage on private land is a major reason for limited sportsmen access and landowner/sportsmen problems. A program has been recommended to reimburse landowners for damage caused by sportsmen (hunters, fishermen and trappers). Funding would be from a \$ 2.00 fee added to sportsmen's licenses. Property owners could apply for reimbursement for damage believed to be caused by sportsmen. The Fish and Game Commission would like to hear from you before deciding whether to proceed with a request for legislation to implement the program. This would come before the 1981 legislature.

A tear off is supplied below for your comment.

Landowner/Sportsman advisory council program to reimburse landowners for property damage by sportsmen.

___ I favor this program
___ I do not favor this program
Remarks _____
Signed _____

Send to:
Montana Dept of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Conservation education division
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59601



CALIFORNIA FROM THE EYES OF MAE SUDAN

On January 12th as we headed off for California, my happiest thoughts were of seeing lots and lots of new birds, second of course, to seeing son Stan! Thank goodness he and Chellie also have this habit and had already figured out their best spots to take us. Husband John is a good sport about it all, enjoys the different scenery and has even become adept at identifying some of our local birds.

By the time we had gone over Lolo Pass in a snowstorm and were getting near Lewiston, the sun had come out. Birds of all kinds were out eating along the highway where the numerous grain trucks had spilled out feed. We saw flocks of California quail, with their cute bobbing little topknots running everywhere and also several chukar to add to my life list.

We followed the path of the storm on out to the coast. Reaching Lincoln City, Oregon meant seeing the ocean for the first time for me. Farther down the highway, we stopped at a turnout to go out on the beach and do a bit of beachcombing. All I netted materialwise was a few broken shells. However as we were looking, a black oystercatcher came flying in and lit not far from us, proceeding to eat his dinner, running back and forth as the water lapped at his feet.

In the Siltcoos Recreation area of the Suislaw National Forest we stopped for a rest and discovered a nature walk. We started out on it but at the end of the first boardwalk the trail disappeared under water. We did see a flock of common bushtit that stayed in a tree while I managed to identify them.

By Friday night despite all the freeways and the big cities, even arriving in Los Angeles at the five o'clock rush hour, we got to Stan's apartment and were ready for the birds the following morning. Scrub jays, mockingbirds and house finches were to be seen outside the building in the palm trees.

Our first trip was to Malibu Lagoon. Due to two weeks of rain prior to our arrival and the subsequent high tides, much of the lagoon area was covered with water so that many of the birds commonly seen, were not there. I couldn't complain tho at seeing a pelagic cormorant, snowy egret, black and says phoebes, red shouldered hawk and an Anna's hummingbird that sat atop a bush singing for us. In the afternoon we drove to the South Coast Botanic Garden at Palos Verdes Peninsula which was first a diatomite mine, then a trash dump for Los Angeles and later to be designated as a landfill before becoming the Botanic Garden. Besides birds, it was a marvel to walk thru it and see every kind of tree, many flowers and bushes. There I saw a blue gray gnatcatcher and brown towhees.

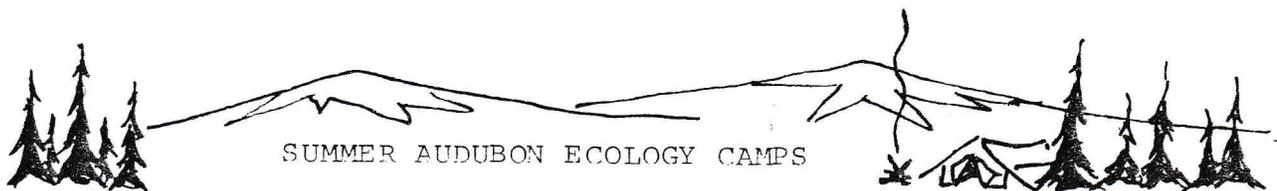
Sunday morning we headed for Whittier Narrows, a state wildlife preserve and recreation area, under the Army Corp of Engineers, designated as a flood control basin. While getting a key, the ranger told us there were cattle egrets in the area as well as a recently arrived wood ibis. The first bird we saw was a cardinal. Not native to California, I was told some one moving to the state had so missed the beauty of these birds that he had several pair brought to this area prior to the migratory bird law. Present counts have numbered up to forty of these cardinals in the adjacent areas. We found the flocks of egrets, common, snowy and cattle; along with many black crowned night herons and the lone wood ibis. As we walked around the water I also added to my list white tailed kites and common tern.

Monday we took a ship to Catalina Island, 26 miles across the water. Before sailing and at sea, we were to see least grebe, common murre, surf scoters, Bonapartes gulls, western gulls, red phalaropes and brown pelicans. Besides birds, we saw whale close by spouting water, porpoises, sea lions, a seal and a shark-- I only got to see its tail! On the island we toured the Wrigley Memorial Gardens which have every imaginable kind of cactus and succulents. Among them we saw an Allens hummingbird.

On our last day we went to Chantry Flats Ranger Station in the San Gabriel Mountains, located in the Angeles National Forest. In the picnic area we saw Hutton's vireos, a ladder backed woodpecker, plain titmouse and a flock of band tailed pigeons. An hours walk high up on a wooded, shrubbed trail failed to show us any other new birds but enlightened us to native California flora.

Heading toward home, at Riverside, CA. I found a pair of western bluebirds. Later in Arizona, we were to see cactus wrens, rock wrens, and verdins. Trying to find a road runner, we even stopped by a house where they are fed daily, but this time were nowhere to be seen. However we did get to see an ash throated flycatcher. Here in Quartzsite, Gambel's quail run around the trailer houses like banty chickens.

We saw many, many more birds but I have only mentioned ones new to me. Regardless of leaving the nice warm weather behind-- and it had been down to 28 below while we were gone--it sure was great to get home to Montana.



Have you made your summer plans yet? Audubon has a wide variety of summer ecology camps that offer pleasant experiences in learning. A few will be listed here. Your editor has more information on these if you are interested. These are open to anyone 18 or over.

Audubon Institute of Desert Ecology May 16-20 will study life forms in the Sonoran Desert

Audubon Ecology Camp in the West will have four sessions from June through August. It will be held at a ranch in the Wind River Mountains of Wyoming. Trained naturalists will conduct field trips and instruction.

Grassland Institute, June 8-14 sponsored by the Denver Audubon Society will give participants awareness of the short-grass prairie ecosystem.

Ecology & Ornithology - Field Tour - Colima, Mexico November 23 to December 2, will explore many habitats near Guadalajara, Mexico.

There are other camps in Wisconsin, Connecticut and Maine.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- Menno E. Troyer, 895 Egan Slough Road, Kalispell, Montana
- C. Brewer, P.O.Box 469, Lakeside, Montana
- Jan L. Wassink, 270 Farview Drive, Kalispell, Montana
- James S. Cummins Jr., North Fork Road, Polebridge, Montana
- Dorothy Filson, Box 605, Polson, Montana
- Douglas Harris, Box 1433, Columbia Falls, Montana
- Linda & John Norton, Star Route, Kila, Montana
- Mrs. William A. Quirt, 151 Two Mile Drive, Kalispell, Montana
- G. W. Seng, 940 Huckleberry Lane, Northbrook, IL, 60062
- Cheryl Siderius, 1475 Steel Bridge Road, Kalispell, Montana
- Ruth N. Steel, East Lakeshore, Bigfork, Montana

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Individual \$20 Family \$25

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

new membership renewal

Make check payable to: National
Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue,
New York, New York 10022

COLOR CODED ADDRESS LABELS

A blue mark on your address label indicates you are receiving a complimentary copy of the Pileated Post. Would you please consider becoming a member of Flathead Audubon Society.

A red mark on your address label indicates your membership is about to expire or has expired. Would you please renew?

A membership in Flathead Audubon Society is also a membership in National Audubon Society. You will receive the chapter newsletter and Audubon magazine.

Special membership rates are available for senior citizens.

1980 FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

President: Wanda Jamieson, 165 River Bend, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-5303
 Vice President: Dave Hudak, Route 1, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-5138
 Secretary: Barbara Baxter, 255 Oldenburg Road, Somers, MT 59932.....857-3738
 Treasurer: Guidotta Bourne, Box 415A, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-4745
 Past President: Rick Trembath, East Lakeshore, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6298
 Director: Jack Whitney, P.O. Box 236, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-4459
 Director: Elmer Sprunger, P.O. Box 145, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6613
 Director: Rob Seli, P.O. Box 151, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6916
 Membership: Mae Sudan, 295 River Bend, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6626
 Editor: Marcy Bishop, Shoreline Route, Polson, MT 59860.....883-4146
 Conservation: Jack White, 1235 Swan River Road, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6157
 Program: Rick Trembath, East Lakeshore, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6298
 Education: Nancy Trembath, East Lakeshore, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6298
 Field Trip: Elly Jones, Swan Lake Route, Bigfork, MT 59911.....886-2244
 Publicity: Lynn Kelly, P.O. Box 2289, Polson, MT 59860.....883-5797
 Librarian: Helen Dresen, P.O. Box 90, Lakeside, MT 59922.....884-3559
 Hospitality: Cheri Seli, P.O. Box 151, Bigfork, MT 59911.....837-6916



FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY
BIGFORK, MONTANA 59911

P. O. Box 715

Non-Profit
Organization
Postage Paid
Permit No. 3
Bigfork, Montana
59911