

# The Avocet

Volume VIII Number 8

October, 1961

## Senate Passes Wilderness Bill. Let's Get It Through The House!

A great victory for conservation was scored in the first session of the 87th Congress when the Senate voted 78-8 to pass the wilderness bill. Although that battle was won, the war is not over: It remains for the House of Representatives to add its approval in the second session next year. This bill has been under consideration for five years. Yet it had never been tested in a floor vote prior to Senate passage. The lopsided margin by which it carried was surprising in view of the intense opposition by trade associations representing commercial users of public lands. Actually, the wilderness bill, if enacted, would not restrict existing lumbering, mining and grazing on public lands. But it would apply the force of statute law to protect and conserve some of the undeveloped areas so fast vanishing from the face of our land. This protection would shield 6 3/4 million acres of national forest land already reviewed and classified as wilderness-type areas by the Secretary of Agriculture. An additional 45 million acres, including primitive national forest areas, roadless national park areas and wildlife preserves and game areas, would be designated for inclusion in the wilderness system subject to administration review. Congress would hold veto power over presidential recommendations for inclusion of lands from the area subject to review within a 10-year period. The bill also would give the President and Congress keys for unlocking wilderness areas for certain uses, or abolishing them in the future. It would be an invaluable addition to basic U.S. conservation policy.

-- Palo Alto Times 9/25/61

President Kennedy has already endorsed the Wilderness Bill and has urged its enactment. Letters and telegrams to Chairman of the House Committee on Interior & Insular Affairs Wayne N. Aspinwall should urge that the bill be passed early next session. The address is: House Office Building, Washington 25, D.C.

-- J.T.

### Coming Events at a Glance

Wed. Oct. 4	4:30 p.m.	Cubberley Auditorium, Stanford
Sat. Oct. 7	9:00 a.m.	Alum Rock Park
Mon. Oct. 9	8:00 p.m.	Palo Alto Junior Museum
Wed. Oct. 11	9:00 a.m.	Alum Rock Park
Mon. Oct. 23	8:00 p.m.	San Jose State College
Wed. Oct. 25	9:00 a.m.	Palo Alto Yacht Harbor
Sat. Oct. 28	9:00 a.m.	Isemberg Ranch



October Calendar

Regular Meeting: Monday, October 9, at 8:00 p.m. at Palo Alto Junior Museum. Our program:

Miss Wilma Thompson of Campbell - a short talk about a trip to Wellfleet and Plum Island.

Mr. & Mrs. James Weaver of Mountain View - an illustrated talk entitled "A New England Summer".

Both Miss Thompson and the Weavers are members of our branch.

Field Trips:

Saturday, October 7, at 9:00 a.m. to Alum Rick Park. Meet at the Youth Institute (formerly Junior Museum). Bring lunch. Leaders: ~~Clyde and Agnes Prusman (EL 6-3844).~~

Wednesday Morning, October 11, to Alum Rock Park, in the foothills east of San Jose. Drive through San Jose on Santa Clara St. and Alum Rock Ave. into the Park. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Youth Institute (formerly Junior Museum). We shall be looking especially for winter visitants among our resident birds, and for late-blossoming wild flowers. Leaders: Clyde and Agnes Prusman.

Wednesday Morning, October 25, to Palo Alto Yacht Harbor, at east end of Embarcadero Road (east from Bayshore Highway). Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the duck pond in Birbee Park in that area. The wild ducks should be there in good numbers, and shore birds along the sloughs. Leader: Mrs. Janes R. Masson (DA 2-4860).

Saturday, October 28, at 9:00 a.m. to the Isenberg Ranch on Skyline Boulevard. Meet at the intersection of Page Mill Road and Skyline Blvd., and don't forget lunch. Leader: Carl Isenberg.

-- Les Sleeper (DA 3-0370)

-- Howard Wolcott (WH 8-6821)

Field Trip Co-Chairmen

Screen Tours:

Wednesday, October 4, at 4:30 p.m. the first season for the Audubon Screen Tours at Stanford University. Showings will be in Cubberley Auditorium, Education Building, Escondido Rd. and Lasuen St., Stanford University. The opening speaker is very appropriately our own one-time president Al Wool, with Ranch and Range. "Soaring, diving, nesting; eagles, hawks, vultures; great birds of the western ranges, excitingly filmed in color by rancher-naturalist Al Wool of La Honda, California. The rancher's dog and cattle, the wolf, 'possum, wildcat and songbirds all slake their thirst at the same water hole. A dramatic portrayal of the relationship of wildlife to western ranch; its tragedy and beauty." Prices are as follows: (These will not be repeated in future Avocets)

Season Ticket (5 films) \$3.00; Single Admission \$ .75 Students:

Season Ticket \$2.00; Single Admission \$ .50. Tickets are obtain-

able at Memorial Hall Box Office, DA 3-0665 Monday through Friday 11a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If ordering by mail enclose self-addressed stamped envelope.

Monday, October 23 at 8:00 p.m. Morris Dailey Auditorium, San Jose State College. Alfred M. Bailey will present Subantarctic Isle. Here is a rare opportunity for Audubon Screen Tour audiences to

accompany a famous naturalist on an expedition to one of the remotest islands in the world. Dr. Alfred M. Bailey of Denver, Colorado takes us to Campbell Island, 400 miles south of New Zealand, to discover its wealth of wildlife and to observe the fascinating field work of the meteorological station there. Explore this isolated subantarctic island - it is an adventure you will long remember! This is the 16th season for Audubon Screen Tours in San Jose. They are top-notch films, and receipts finance our Scholarship program to Audubon Camp and West Coast Nature School. Prices are as follows: (These will not be repeated in future Avocets.)

Season Ticket (5 films).....\$3.00

Family Season Ticket (10 admissions)\$5.00

Single Admission.....\$ .90

Students:

Season Ticket.....\$2.00

Single Admission.....\$ .50

Children under 12, accompanied by adult, 25¢

Tickets are obtainable from:

Mrs. Fanny Zwaal  
478 Clifton Avenue  
San Jose 28, California  
Phone: CY 2-2060

or at Box Office before the Program.

Save San Francisco Bay!

San Francisco Bay is threatened with piecemeal destruction by industrial development, by filling, by pollution, and by the destruction of tidal flats and the natural shoreline. In order to protect our Bay from such ruinous activity, the Save San Francisco Bay Association (Box 925, Berkeley 1) has been organized. The Committee includes such dedicated conservationists as Ansel Adams, David R. Erower of the Sierra Club, Harold Gilliam, Marin's Mrs. Norman B. Livermore, and others. Audubon members are urged to send their membership dollar to the new association to assure necessary immediate action and long-term planning for wildlife areas, parks, fishing, boating, and open beaches.

-- Redwood Log 9/61

Stanford Screen Tour Committee Named

President Charles Williams has appointed his Co-chairmen for the first series of Stanford Screen Tours this year: Dr. Sheldon C. Woodward and Dr. H. R. Kirkwood. Assisting them will be Mrs. Ransom K. Davis, Mr. John Brokenshire, Mrs. Bertrand Jacobsen, Miss Lynn Robbins, Mrs. Howard Wolcott, Miss Harriet Hundy, Mr. Al Wool, Miss Elizabeth Tucker. If the tours do well this year they would become a regular event at Stanford. Let's support them!

-- J.T.

Note to All Committee Chairmen:

As President Williams reminded the Board recently, we badly need "depth in administration". Chairmen should not have to work alone. He requests that you send him, please, as soon as possible, a list of 3 - 5 committee members who can help with your job now and who might grow into accepting full responsibility later.

-- J.T.

New Members

We extend a hearty welcome to the following new members:

Mrs. Norman Conradson	255 Edlee Street	Palo Alto
Mr. Andy Shulman	1940 Dry Creek Road	San Jose
Mrs. Marguerite B. Nash	1198 Richardson Ave.,	Los Altos
Mr. & Mrs. Louis M. Riley	1966 Louis Rd.,	Palo Alto
Mrs. William Wendt	101 Broadway	Los Gatos

-- Angelina Snow  
Membership Chairman

Field Trip Leadership Training Course

Dr. Tom Harvey's very successful series of lessons given last season will be offered again. The first organizational meeting will be held at Alum Rock Park at the Youth Institute (formerly Junior Museum) at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 14. Enrollment is limited to 25 and is open to Audubon members and any others who want to learn about natural history and how to communicate that knowledge on field trips. The charge is \$7.50 for the 5 sessions plus a \$2.50 fee should you want the one unit college credit available. Dates for the course are October 14 and 28, November 11 and 18, December 9. -- J.T.

We are proud to present the first column by our new observations editor, Bob Fuller, a Philco engineer, successor to Bob Wood. As you can see, he has done a magnificent job. -- J.T.

Notes From Afield

Return of Golden-Crowned and White-Crowned Sparrows.-

Golden-Crowned

- 9/16 One at Skyline Blvd. & Alpine Rd. ES.  
9/18 Three in own dooryard, Saratoga. (Two wearing bands not yet read.) ES.  
9/20 Several. Santa Clara. EC.  
9/20 Several. Palo Alto. JT  
9/26 Bird with unique 4-note call arrived for 5th year -JT)

White-Crowned

- 9/15 Several. 9/19 In numbers. Willow Glen, San Jose. D. McL.  
9/19 Several. East San Jose. E. McL.  
9/19 Two. Saratoga. ES.  
9/20 Several. Santa Clara. EC.  
9/20 Many. (Also Lark Sparrows and other species uncommon to her dooryard, indicating a general movement.) Los Altos. C McL.  
9/23 Several. (Unusually late.) East San Jose. RL.

Golden Plovers.- 9/10 West end of Dumbarton Bridge. III.

Pectoral Sandpipers.-

- 9/10 West end of Dumbarton Bridge. III.  
9/10 Two. West end of Dumbarton Bridge. EA.  
9/16 Thirty. Yolo Bypass area, Sacramento. OA.

Lesser Yellowlegs. 9/10 One among flock of Greater. Dumbarton. EA.

Pomarine Jaeger. 9/23 One. Bay Farm Island, Alameda. OA, GGFE.

Parasitic Jaeger. 9/17 One, observed for long period through 'scope, then seen in flight. Moss Landing. EA.

Elegant Terns.

- 9/17 Thirty. Moss Landing. EA. (Unsuccessful search for Royal Terns at Moss on 9/17.)  
9/13 Two. Off Black Point, Santa Cruz (16th St.) ES.

Turkey Vultures. 7/22 100 perched on canyon rim.

Prairie Falcon. 7/22 New Idria Mine. OA.

Costa's Hummingbirds. 7/22 Among wild tobacco where Hollister-Pinnacles Highway crosses the San Benito River. OA.

Eastern Kingbird. 9/25 One. Bay Farm Island, Alameda. GGFT.

Chestnut-Sided Warbler. (Very rare in California) 9/22 One caught in a mist net and banded along with 60 other migrants. ER.

Townsend's Warbler. 9/9 Still in full breeding plumage. Near summit of Los Gatos-Santa Cruz Highway (17). MS.

Western Tanagers.

Continually during the July fig-eating season. Sporadically thereafter; one on 9/18. ES.

Two successful broods from dooryard nest. Santa Cruz Mtns. MS.

Western Flycatchers, Western Wood Pewees still making daily visits to garden. 9/22 EC.

Screech Owls in residence. Saratoga. 9/17 IM.

September Observations at Santa Cruz. 9/13 Field Trip to Twin Lakes area (EC & CL leaders), plus 9/10, 9/11 by ES. Future reports will merely add to or subtract from the following list: Hared Grebe Pied-Billed Grebe Brown Pelican Brandt's Cormorant Gt Bl Heron S Egret Mallard & Hybrids Pintail Shoveler Dufflehead W-W Scoter Ruddy Duck Coot Killdeer Blk Turnstone Spotted Sandpiper Wandering Tattler (1) Willet Gtr Yellowlegs Sanderling N Phalarope Western Gull Forster's Tern Elegant Tern (2) Unidentified Alcids Calif Murre Marbled Murrelet Mourning Dove Anna's Hummingbird Belted Kingfisher Black Phoebe O-S Flycatcher Barn Swallow Scrub Jay C-B Chickadee W-B Nuthatch Pygmy Nuthatch Wren Tit Mockingbird Wilson's Warbler R-w Blackbird Brewer's Blackbird Western Tanager House Finch Lesser Goldfinch Pine Siskin Brown Towhee Song Sparrow (51 species) (Please give your additions to Bob Fuller for later publication.)

September Observations at Dumbarton.- 9/17 Field Trip led by O/ and other observations: W Pelican DC Cormorant G B Heron Egret S Egret Pintail M Widgeon Ruddy Duck Marsh Hawk Sparrow Hawk Clapper Rail Coot Semipalmated Plover Snowy Plover Killdeer Golden Plover Blk-Bellied Plover Ruddy Turnstone Lr Curlew Whimbrel Willet Gtr Yellowlegs Lsr Yellowlegs Knot Pectoral Sandpiper Least Sandpiper Dowitcher Western Sandpiper Marbled Godwit Avocet Stilt Wilson's Phalarope Northern Phalarope Calif Gull RB Gull Bonaparte's Gull Forster's Tern Mourning Dove Barn Swallow Cliff Swallow Brewer's Blackbird Savannah Sparrow Song Sparrow Lesser Goldfinch (44 species. Please send your additions to Bob Fuller for later publication.)

Oliver Allen Survey of Pinnacles Area, 9/24.- Below and to the west of Panoche Pass, many Lewis Woodpeckers. Panoche Valley and to eastward, Horned Larks everywhere. Panoche Valley, to eastward, to westward, and in Pinnacles area, Lark Sparrows in abundance. Many Blue Birds in this high area. Panoche Valley, 1 Rough-Legged Hawk. Road from the New Idria Mine up over the top of the mountain and down to the Pinnacles Natl Monument is difficult enough to cause many drivers to turn back. Suggest look for Costa's and Blk-Chinned Hummingbirds in wild tobacco (still blooming) where Hollister-Pinnacles road crosses San Benito River. Most active oasis found near "headwaters" of the road south-eastward of the

Pinnacles. (Telecon, CA, 9/24)

Please mail or telephone your relevant information to Bob Fuller,  
835 Webster Street, Palo Alto. DA 5-9575

Any errors in the foregoing should be ascribed to the compiler and not to the indicated contributors. In those instances where reports were obtained indirectly it is trusted that the indicated observers will not be displeased to have contributed.

Key to observers:

CL	Mrs. Catherine Lintott	ES	Miss Emily Smith
C McB	Mrs. John McBride	GGFT	Golden Gate Field Trip
D McL	Mr. Donald McLean	JT	Mrs. Joyce Todd
EA	Mr. Earl Albertson	MH	Miss Marie Mans
EC	Dr. Evelyn Case	MS	Mrs. Mary Ellen Shore
E McR	Mrs. Eva McRae	OA	Mr. Oliver I. Allen
ER	Mrs. Elaine Reinelt	RM	Dr. Richard Newaldt

(Palo Alto Harbor Master Mark Nesbit 'phoned at 7:00 a.m. 9/27 to report he had just seen several Great Blue Herons and a Common Egret perched high on top of power poles at the edge of the still unspoiled marsh owned by the City of Palo Alto. The walk-way out there under the P.G.&E. power line is a good place for solitary birding - if you watch your step! --J.T.)

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society  
branch of  
National Audubon Society

1961 - 1962

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Vice-President: Dr. Evelyn H. Case  
2506 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara (CH 3-2467)

Treasurer: Mrs. Charles J. Zwaal  
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