SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc. SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95128 478 CLIFTON AVENUE

The Avocet

VOLUME XVIII, Number 3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb 23 Cuperti City Council FOOTHILL REGIONAL PARK HEARING, Tues. 8 p.m. Cupertino City Hall (pg. 8)
- Mar 2 Audubon Wildlife Film. Tues. 4 p.m., Palo Alto High Aud., 50 Embarcadero. CENTRAL CALIFORNIA'S ye COASTAL PLAIN by Eben McMillan.
- Mar 3 LAFCO HEARING for Foothill Regional Park, 3 p.m. S.C. County Board of Supervisor's Office, Moorpark Ave, S.J. (See pg. 8)
- 3 Audubon Wildlife Film, Wed. 8 Mar p.m. Morris Daly Aud. S.J. State College, 4th & San Carlos, CEN-TRAL CALIFORNIA'S COASTAL PLAIN by Eben McMillan.
- Mar 6 DUMBARTON BRIDGE, Sat. 9 a.m. Meet on R. at east end of bridge. Knotts & Ruddy Turnstones. Leader: Richard Carlson 326-2929.
- Mar 9 BIRD DISCUSSION GROUP, Tues. 9:30 a.m. at home of Eve Case. 20537 Verde Vista, Saratoga. Subject: TERNS.
- Mar 10 SANTA TERESA PARK, Wed. 9:30 a.m. On Bernal Rd. to R. off Hwy 101 south of IBM plant (Park sign on R.) Meet at Picnic Parking Lot. Leader: Margaret Henderson 867-4304.

Mar 11 BOARD MEETING, Thurs. 7:30 at home of Bob Hasser, 14875 Cole San Jose (off Union between Blossom Hill & Camden). 371-0273 Members Welcome.

- Mar 12 NORTH COUNTY BIRD DISSCUSSION GF. Fri. 9 a.m. (Changed week) Trip to coastside; pelagic, shore & land birds. Meet 793 Garland, Palo Alto or (Pescadero flagpole 10 a.m.) 327-4138 or 327-4868.
- Mar 16 YSI HEARING before S.J. Parks & Recreation Comm. Tues. 4 p.m. Linenger Hall, Kelly Park. (see pg. 4) 258-7382 or eve 252-3545.
- Mar 17 GENERAL MEETING, Wed. 8 p.m. Homestead Hi, Homestead Rd. at Mary, Cupertino. MARSH, MEADOW & MOUNTAIN by Jim Hammond (pg 2).
- Mar 24 HIDDEN VILLA, Wed. 9 a.m. Meet at entrance to Frank Duveneck Ranch, Moody Rd. L.A. Hills. Leader: Kay McCann 327-4138.
- Mar 28 BYRNE PARK, Sun. 9 a.m. Meet at intersection of Taaffe & Altamont Rds, L.A. Hills. Birds of riparian forest & fields. Leader: Ruth Troetschler 948-1442.

Apr 17 or 24 Pancake Breakfast (pg 6)

March 1971

Non-Profit Org. U. S. POSTAGE PAID San Jose, Calif.

PERMIT No. 1290

TIME VALUE



GENERAL MEETING: MARSH, MEADOW & MOUNTAIN

The <u>Malheur Wildlife Refuge</u> in southeastern Oregon is the locale of this outstanding <u>color</u> <u>and sound film by Jim Hammond</u>.

Last year we had the privilege of previewing a portion of this film. Those of you who attended that program will remember the excellent photography. Now, we shall see the film in its entirety.

Mr. Hammond is a member of our society. He has combined his interest in birding and his cinematographic talents to produce this film with the cooperation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. --Ken Kidd

PRESIDENT JOE GREENBERG SPEAKS TO THE PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE OF S.C. COUNTY

I am particularly concerned about the fate of the Palo Alto Flood Basin, which is depcited in the plans as being filled with water. I presume that this indicates that this will be consigned to some scheme such as the threefingered lake or some other use as a sailing basin. It is to this abuse of the environment that we most strongly object.

You look to me as though you are in about my age group and have the same concerns. I would assume that much of what you are proposing in your plans has nothing to do with our generation. It has to do with our children and our grandchildren. Yesterday I spent the whole day on the beaches of California helping with the rescue of oiled birds. What I saw were not too many oiled birds, but I saw hundreds of young people walking the beaches, picking up birds, washing birds -caring about these wild creatures. From what I know, much of this was futile and I am personally very disturbed and pessimistic about the fate of these birds, however, I was most impressed and heartened by the turnout of young people to rescue these creatures.

Ladies and gentlemen, will you someday have to go to these children and say to them that we have taken the shore-line of the bay and have created golf courses, yacht basins, Disneylands, hotels.. in the course of which we have exterminated most of the wildlife in the area, and we did it, we wise ole folks did it, for your amusement.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED to monitor the city governments of Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, San Jose, Saratoga, Cupertino, L.A. Hills, Menio Park, Morgan Hill etc. Call Dr. Joe Greenberg (9-5) 326-8120.

BOARD NOTES

.Voted to send a letter to National & Sacramento offices of Audubon Society urging both to encourage and enjoin oil companies to set up an <u>Oil Spill</u> <u>Task Force</u>. Such a task force would do research on the treatment of oiled birds; be able to mobiLize well equiped and trained teams to clean up the environment after a spill.

.Endorsed the comprehensive proposal of the Youth Science Institute (YSI) for the <u>restoration</u> and conservation of Alum Rock Park (see page 4).

.Recognized that <u>Betsy Peterson</u> and <u>Eve Case</u> will join Ken Kidd <u>on</u> the <u>nominating committee</u>.

<u>.Received</u> with thanks <u>\$100</u> from the Marin Audubon Society <u>for</u> the San Francisco Bay <u>Wildlife</u> <u>Refuge</u>.

RARE BIRD ALERT

Are you interested in joining a group telephone alert for rare bird sightings in the area? Send your name, phone number, & address to Richard Carlson, 20-A Escondido Village, Stanford, Cal.

Carol Rulofson, Box 5464, Redwood City has recently returned from Central America. Members contemplating such a trip may want to hear details of birding opportunities.

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RPOPULATION IS BASIC

The month in which we record the Christmas Count is a good time to comment on the <u>first goal</u> of the National Audubon Society; <u>Stabilization of Human</u> <u>Population</u> (as basic to preservation of environmental quality). Why? Because when we count birds each year, we do not expect to find their numbers changing greatly. In fact in most natural systems populations tend to remain more or less stable. <u>Birds and animals have zero population growth</u>.

This tendency of the natural world to maintain stable populations stands in start contrast to the present human situation. <u>Human numbers are growing</u> expotentially; increasing at a faster and faster rate. If the trend continues, the present 4 billion people will increase to 8 billion in the next 35 years.

Does growth like this ever occur among animals? Yes, in simple ecosystems (those with few species) or in instances where natural controls are removed. Every one has heard of the Arctic Lemmings which increase to fantastic numbers, then rush wildly onward until they are drowned in the sea. What is not generally known is that most of the foxes and owls it fed on the Lemmings die of starvation shortly thereafter, there being no alternate food supply.

Likewise, population studies of insects provided with limited food (and without natural preditors) show that they multiply expotentially to the limit of the food supply; then crash to near or complete extinction as they die of starvation.

What about man? Won't something happen to stop our growth even if we do nothing? Yes indeed! Historically human numbers have been limited by hunger and disease. Our present dramatic increase occured only after modern medicine was exported around the world. Whereas formerly most children died of disease at an early age, now almost all live to become adults. Our <u>death rates have fallen</u>, <u>while</u> our <u>birth rates remained almost the same</u>. At the same time our increase in food has not kept pace with our growing numbers. <u>If we do nothing</u> to decrease birth rates, then <u>deaths must begin to</u> <u>rise again</u>--because the life support system of the world is limited.

Most scientists who have studied the situation believe that we have already grown beyond the point where we can sustain our present numbers--that we <u>e already living on the principle</u> rather than only harvesting the interest. (continued pg. 4)

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"We have only delayed the world food crisis for another 30 years. If the world population continues to increase at the same rate, we will destroy the species." --Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, on being informed he was the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for his work on the "Green Revolution."

POPULATION ORGANIZATIONS

- Population Reference Bureau 1755 Massachusetts Ave. N.W. Washington D.C. Member \$8. Student \$5. (Trends & effects of population.)
- Planned Parenthood of Santa Clara Co., 28 N. 16th, San Jose. Member \$10. (Dissemination of devices & education.)
- Zero Population Growth, Inc. Los Altos, 94022. Member \$10, Student \$4. (Activist & Lobbying.)
- Assoc. to Repeal Abortion Laws, Box 6083, San Francisco, 94101. (Seeks women who will participate in Class Action Law Suit. Cost to participant approx. \$5.)
- Planned Parenthood-World Population, 515 Madison Ave., New York 10022. Member \$10.

Growth for growth's sake is the philosophy of the cancer cell.

YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE TO MAKE ALUM ROCK PARK PROPOSAL

The Youth Science Institute (YSI), a non-profit educational organization which operates a program of natural science for S.C. County youth out of an Alum Rock Park headquarters, is proposing that the city of San Jose adopt a comprehensive plan to upgrade, restore and maintain Alum Rock Park as a special purpose park devoted primarily to nature. They would remove obsolete structures, restore the ecological balance, and construct trails. The park would be closed to motor vehicles; entrance to be accomplished on foot, bicycle, horseback, or via shuttlebus from a preipheral parking lot. The number of visitors would be limited to the number which would not degrade the habitat.

YSI believes that Alum Rock's canyon with its permanent stream should remain the home of the birds, mammals, reptiles, and invertebrates; that it should be <u>operated as an outdoor laboratory of</u> nature-oriented activities. <u>Audubon</u> <u>members who support this concept are heeded at the presentation to the Park and Recreation Commission, <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>March 16, 4:00 p.m., Linenger Hall in</u> <u>Kelly Park</u>. For more information call Betty Lu Burge, curator of YSI and chairman of the proposal committee. 258-7382 or evening 252-3545.</u>



A <u>TUFTED DUCK</u>, a European vagrant, was seen frequently during February swimming with Ring-necked Ducks in a small lake near Stanford University. The duck in appearance and behavior closely resembled the Ring-necks.



THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT is not ...a measure of the quality of life. --Ehrlich

OVERPOPULATION (Continued)

Of course starvation is not imminent in prosperous U.S. because here 6% of the world's people are using 60% of the world's resources. Here the present danger is environmental degradation as our fantastic energy and material "needs" threaten the resource bases of the entire world. In terms of the destructive potential of each of her citizens, the United States is the most over-populated country. Our "good life" is maintained only because we draw on international raw materials, and the quality of this good life will continue to deteriorate as we divide and subdivide our "share" among growing numbers.

What can you do? You've raised a family? You're a parent? a grandparent? It's too late? How many times have you asked, "When are you going to start a family?" or "have another?"? How many times have you exclaimed in delight over a "fine" family of 3 or 4 (or more)?

Educate yourself. Are you prepared to support all forms of birth control? --to encourage and demand public support and education for population control? Do you boycott industries that promote waste and unlimited growth, and tell them why? Are you ready to give time or money?--to favor tax breaks for singles and small families?--rewards for sterilization? Do you know the advantages of a small family?

Are you single or a young married? This means you and your family. Population control means no more than one or two children; and control now means no more than one! (see pg 8)

(References: Ehrlich, P., <u>The Popula-</u> <u>tion Bomb</u>, Ballantine 1971, 95¢; Hardin, G., <u>Population, Evolution, &</u> <u>Birth Control</u>, Freeman 1969, \$2.95; <u>Resources & Man</u>, Committee on Resources Nat'l Academy Sci., Freeman 1969, \$2.95.)

1970 SAN JOSE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

<u>EBES</u>	
Red-necked Grebe	- 1
Horned Grebe	35
Eared Grebe	45
Western Grebe	1
Pied-billed Grebe	34
PELICANS & CORMORANTS	
Double-crested Cormorant	
WADING BIRDS	
Great Blue Heron	16
	8
Common Egret	
Snowy Egret	46
Black-crowned Night Hero	n 45
DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS	
Whistling Swan	26
Canada Goose (I Lesser)	467
Mallard	58
Gadwall	52
Pintail	120
Green-winged Teal	800
American Widgeon	450
Shoveler	50
Redhead	2
Ring-necked	675
Canvasback	235
Lesser Scaup	660
Common Goldeneye	000
Bufflehead	107
dy Duck	403
Sommon Merganser	23
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY	
White-tailed Kite	57
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2
Cooper's Hawk	7
Red-tailed Hawk	77
Red-shouldered Hawk	1
Ferruginous Hawk	- 1
Golden Eagle	3
Bald Eagle	2
Marsh Hawk	17
Sparrow Hawk	96
CHICKEN-LIKE BIRDS	
California Quail	260
Ring-necked Pheasant	
	155
RAILS & COOTS	
Clapper Rail	3
Common Gallinule	10
American Coot	1288
SHOREBIRDS	
Killdeer	280
Black-beilied Plover	11
Common Snipe	30
Long-billed Curlew	191
Spotted Sandpiper	1
Willet	31
Greater Yellowlegs	5
st Sandpiper	565
Lin	45
_ong-billed Dowitcher	23
Western Sandpiper	120
Marbled Godwit	120
Mai Dieu Guuwit	

Avocet	1100
Stilt	12
Glaucous-winged Gull	200
Herring Gull	2500
California Gull	670
Ring-billed Gull	2400
Mew Gull	43
Bonaparte's Gull	650
Forster's Tern	9
PIGEONS & DOVES	326
Mourning Dove	
Band-tailed Pigeon NOCTURNAL BIRDS OF PRE	2
Screech Owl	1
Great-horned Owl	Y2 76 3
Burrowing Owl	6
Short-eared Owl	3
HUMMINGBIRDS & SWIFTS.	-
White-throated Swift	••••4
Anna's Hummingbird	24
KINGFISHERS	
Belted Kingfisher	5
WOODPECKERS	
Red-shafted Flicker	166
Lewis Woodpecker	1
Acorn Woodpecker	19
Yellow-bellied Sapsuck	er l
Hairy Woodpecker	2
Downy Woodpecker	8
Nuttall's Woodpecker	14
PERCHING BIRDS	
Black Phoebe	11
Say's Phoebe	4
Horned Lark	330
Scrub Jay	250
Stellar's Jay	
Stellar's Jay Common Raven	250 116 3
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow	250 116 3 66
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie	250 116 3 66 238
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse	250 116 3 66 238 134
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit	250 116 36 238 134 66
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc	250 116 3 66 238 134 66 h 38
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit	250 116 36 238 134 66 h 38 15
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren	250 116 238 134 h 38 52
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren	250 116 238 136 h 38 52 1
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren	250 116 238 136 h 38 52 1
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper	250 116 238 136 h 38 52 1
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren	250 116 2384 6384 63852 1366 h 1521251
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird	250 116 238 136 h 38 52 1
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher	250 116 238 136 h 152 12 51 89 7
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin	250 116 238 134 66 152 12 51 89 7 2484
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush	250 116 238 136 h 152 12 51 89 7
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush Golden-crowned Kinglet	250 116 668 1366 h 152 125 197 2485 4 1654
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush Golden-crowned Kinglet	250 116 66 2384 1366 1366 152 12 51 89 74 2485
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush Golden-crowned Kinglet Ruby-crowned Kinglet	250 116 66 2384 668 1366 852 12 51 8974 165 465 106
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush Golden-crowned Kinglet Ruby-crowned Kinglet Water Pipit Cedar Waxwing	250 116 2384 6385 13668 152 125 1974 106 145 343
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush Golden-crowned Kinglet Ruby-crowned Kinglet Water Pipit Cedar Waxwing Loggerhead Shrike	250 116 638 1368 1368 152 125 197 485 465 106 145
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush Golden-crowned Kinglet Ruby-crowned Kinglet Water Pipit Cedar Waxwing Loggerhead Shrike Starling	250 116 234 638 136 8 136 8 136 8 136 8 136 8 136 8 136 8 125 197 45 46 5 46 5 46 5 46 5 46 5 46 5 46 5
Stellar's Jay Common Raven Common Crow Yellow-billed Magpie Plain Titmouse Common Bushtit White-breasted Nuthatc Wrentit Bewick's Wren Long-billed Marsh Wren Rock Wren Brown Creeper Canyon Wren Mockingbird California Thrasher Robin Hermit Thrush Golden-crowned Kinglet Ruby-crowned Kinglet Water Pipit Cedar Waxwing Loggerhead Shrike	250 116 234 638 136 8 136 8 52 25 8 97 4 54 6 5 2 197 4 5 4 6 5 3 5 2 3 5 1 97 4 5 4 6 5 3 5 2 3 5 1 97 4 5 4 6 5 3 5 2 3 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 1 1 97 4 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 1 97 4 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 1 97 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 1 97 5 5 5 5 1 97 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

Audubon's Warbler	252
Townsend's Warbler	4
Myrtle Warbler	45
House Sparrow	520
Western Meadowlark	666
Red-winged Blackbird	472
Brewer's Blackbird	2175
Brown-headed Cowbird	19
Purple Finch	193
House Finch	1150
Pine Siskin	26
American Goldfinch	290
Lesser Goldfinch	468
Rufus-sided Towhee	48
Brown Towhee	369
Savannah Sparrow	18
Lark Sparrow	155
Rufus-crowned Sparrow	. 8
Slate-colored Junco	2
Oregon Junco	661
Oregon x Slate-colored	
White-crowned Sparrow	4324
Golden-crowned Sparrow	706
White-Throated Sparrow	050
Fox Sparrow	250
Lincoln's Sparrow	
Song Sparrow	50

...132 species were seen by 41 observers. Other birds seen during the Count Period were: White Pelican, Rough-legged Hawk and Turkey Vulture. ..While rainy weather kept the species count down, and no records were broken, it was a good count and an enjoyable count-down. As this is my last year as compiler, I would like to thank all the sector leaders and participants who do the real work on the count.

> --Russ Greenberg, Compiler

N.A. NEST RECORD CARD PROGRAM seeks birders who would like to participate in the collection of scientific data on wild bird breeding. Even one visit per nest is valuable, but repeated visits are desirable. Participants record the species, location, date, and behavior of the birds.

To take part call Ted Chandik, Palo Alto Baylands Interpretive Center, 329-2506.

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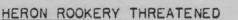
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

John R. Barter 645 S. 6th St. San Jose 95112

- M.&M. Gordon E. Bent 1425 Bouret Dr. San Jose 95118
- Miss Bonnie Bernhardt 425 Bernardo Ave. #206 Sunnyvale 94086
- Stephen Chin 1851 Willow St. San Jose 95125
- Norbert & Rozeann Dey 3056 McKinley Dr. Santa Clara 95051

<u>RESERVE Saturday mornings April 17 or</u> 24 <u>for a benefit Pancake Breakfast;</u> proceeds to go to the San Francisco Bay Wildlife Refuge. <u>Volunteers</u> to contribute manpower or supplies are <u>needed</u>. Call Nancy Holmes, 948-1854.

Box 4386, San Jose 95126, \$1.25 or more.



Commercial development threatens the 5 acre "Fairbank property", a Morro Bay Heron rookery. More than a hundred Great Blue Herons and Blackcrowned Night Herons have used the area for 18 years. Purchase of the site is a logical addition to the adjacent gulf course, campgrounds and museum of natural history. The State Department of Parks & Recreation needs to know that people support acquisition of the rookery. It is one of the few remaining places in that area where one may enjoy the bay shore. State officials of concern: William Penn Mott, Jr., Director of Dept. of Parks & Recreation; Governor Ronald Reagan; Assemblyman William Ketchum. All can be contacted in Sacramento, California 95814.

- Anna M. Ellerman 965 Oak Lane Meno Park 94025
- Paul Gilbert 12798 Canaria Way Los Altos Hills 94022
- Michael R. Levy 1170 Highland Ave. Santa Clara 95050
- M.&M. John McLatchie 550 Cresta Vista Ln. Portola Valley 94025
- Mrs. Harry Munson 12964 Nash Rd. Los Altos 94022

- Miss Mary Neeley 650 S. 8th St. #17 San Jose 95112
- Gladys M. Reese 1969 Barbara Dr. Palo Alto 94303
- David M. Rose 129 Emerson #1 Palo Alto 94301
- M.&M. William Rundstrom 15363 Bellecourt Saratoga 95070
- Leanne M. Russell 720 S. Saratoga #208 San Jose 95129
- James W. Willoughby 10740 Ridgeview Ave. San Jose 95127

PRELIMINARY REPORT OPERATION TRANSECT

Participants in Operation Transect 1970, a continuing study of bird migration patterns in California, report that there seems to be no great wave of migrants here, but instead, a steady trickle which may continue for weeks (mid-August to late October).

The bulk of the warblers migrate either above 6000 feet or along the coast, perhaps because these insectivorous species find slim pickings in August and September in the dry central lowlands. (Orange-crowned Warblers may even migrate up-mountain before traveling South.) Other migrants, Western Flycatchers, Swainsen's and Hermit Thrushes are restricted to the lowlands.

Most of the wood warblers, crowned sparrows and Oregon Juncos which migrate along the coast are immatures, while the age ratio of these species farther inland is 50-50. Question: What happened to the "extra" adults?

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S.F. BAY WILDLIFE REFUGE

At the kickoff meeting for supporters of the Wildlife Refuge, Nancy Holmes, SCVAS Education Chairman, and Arthur Ogilvie, S.C. County Planning Department explained the problems, progress and hopes for making the refuge a reality.

The enabling bill, HR III, has been introduced by local Congressmen, and will be heard between April 8 and 18 by the Merchant Marine Fishery Committee of the House; John Dingell, Chairman. This committee has about 50 members. nationwide, California members being McCloskey (a sponsor), Leggett and Mailliard from Northern California; Robert Hanna and Glenn Anderson from the south. Letters of support are needed, nationwide, at the time of the hearings. We must make our case heard with emphasis and clarity if we are to have any hope of a "Do Pass" recommendation. Money is needed to provide transportation for those who will testify at the hearings.

The proposed bill would appropriate money for study, acquisition and development, as an economy-minded Congress must be convinced of the worth of the refuge. Some <u>points to</u> <u>consider</u>:

I. President Nixon has indicated that we need new parks and open space near urban areas. 2. Development of this land, even if desirable, would be prohibitively expensive due to: its subsidance below sea level, creating drainage and flooding problems; instability of the soil over the bay mud, a source of earthquake danger. Rather than being a benefit, development would be a continuing expense to the taxpayer. 3. As open space, the area contributes to our mild climate, while filling or paving would tend to locally raise the temperature and decrease the rainfall. 4. The Cordgrass, base of the marsh foodchain, supplies food for esturine invertebrate species, which in turn are food for fingerling fish, shellfish, ducks and shorebirds. A number of endangered species (see Dec. Avocet) yould be exterminated if their habitat is destroyed, and other species, including the Canvasback Duck, the Whitetailed Kite, and the Harbor Seal would be threatened.

HOW ABOUT A ROBIN?

An estimated 450,000 Robins were roosting in Palo Seco Canyon, Oakland, in early January, and large numbers may still be present. The spectacle may best be seen from the head of Tres Cendas Trail in Redwood Regional Park at a point on Skyline Blvd. opposite Trotterdell Rd.--about midway between the Roberts Area and the prominent Skyline Gate entrance to Redwood Regional. Go there shortly after 5 p.m. On another evening, visit the Robin Roost--a posted hilltop in Joaquin Miller Park just west of the Ranger Station -- to overlook the canyon roost. Or, go for the dawn chorus and the dispersal of the birds. Check with Paul Covel 415-536-4120 to be sure the birds are still present.

-- The Gull

FIELD TRIP: Palo Alto Baylands

On <u>Wednesday</u>, Jan. 27, sixteen members enjoyed a warm, sunny morning at the Baylands. Because of a rising tide, hundreds of Marbled Godwits and Willets were resting west of the Duck Pond, and hundreds of Black-crowned Night Herons on the Cord Grass. The highlights of the trip were a halfdozen Clapper Rails and several Yellowthroats observed near the Interpretive Center observation platform. 43 varieties of birds were spotted.

--Dorothy Taylor & Martha Wilbur

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE REFUGE

To obtain copies:

of "San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge", write Regional Director, Dept. of Sport Fishery & Wildlife, Portland, Ore.

of H.R. 111, write your Congressman, House Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20515. - <u>Bay Region Congressmen</u> are: Don Edwards, Charles Gubser, Paul McCloskey, William Mailliard, Jeffery Cohelan, George Miller, Don Claussen and Burt Talcott.

A PLAN TO SAVE OUR FOOTHILLS

An association of area residents is proposing creation of a Regional Park District as the best means of acquiring land for open space. The elected board members of the district would have authority to levy a 107/\$100 of assessed valuation property tax (\$8/ year for a \$32,000 house). The tax money could be used to finance the district including the buying or leasing of land or easements, and would represent a "best buy" since foothill development would result in higher levies for the homeowner.*

A public opinion survey of Peninsula residents was the basis for determining the proposed boundries which include Menlo Park, Atherton, Woodside, Portola Valley, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mt. View, Cupertino, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, Los Gatos, Sunnyvale, and adjacent unincorporated areas. 74% of the citizens surveyed in these cities indicated willingness to vote for the taxes needed to finance the open space. Residents of other cities surveyed were less favorably inclined, and the backers feel that it is important to include only

HOW FAMILY SIZE EFFECTS U.S. POPULATION

those cities where a favorable vote is probable. Other areas could be annexed later if they so desire.

The Regional Park proposal has been endorsed by most of the City Councils of these cities (Cupertino's hearing is Feb. 23), but the idea must be supported by the Local Agency Forma-tion Commission (LAFCO.) of Santa Clara Co. before implementation can continue. The hearing before LAFCO is March 3, 3:0C p.m. in the Board of Supervisor's Office, San Jose. Supporters of the project are urged to attend.

Assuming LAFCO's approval, the next steps are: circulation of a petition to voters to secure 5000 signatures, adoption of the proposal by the Supervisors of both counties, division of the district into 5-7 wards, and, finally, approval by a majority of the voters in a district-wide election (hopefully by November).

People for a Midpeninsula Park and Open Space District, Box 1320, Palo Alto 94302, 325-4576

*See the Livingston & Blaney Report on development of Palo Alto foothill land.

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WHY THE ONE-CHILD FAMILY MUST BECOME DOMINANT IF POPULATION GROWTH IS TO BE HALTED SOON. (ZPG Nat'l Reporter) asing of In motor ing for ent)

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