



The Avocet

The Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

May 1990

Many Migrant Species in Decline

The first cold nights of autumn cause the leaves to drop from the persimmon that sits outside my study window. The fruit, as they ripen, become attractive to many species of birds that winter in our mild climate. The local mockingbird attempts to stake out a territory and protect this resource for his winter use, but the flocks of fruit-eating birds easily overwhelm him by their numbers. On a one-to-one basis they are no match for the aggressive mocker, but in their numbers they prevail.

Reading John Terborgh's profoundly disturbing book "Where Have All the Birds Gone?" I have discovered that the eastern kingbird, the tyrant of the woodland edges where I grew up in New York, switches to fruit on its wintering grounds in Amazonia. Individually, the eastern kingbird is no match for its cousin the tropical kingbird, but in large flocks it has no difficulty in wresting control of the fruit trees preferred by both species. If you read Bent's "Life Histories of North American Birds" you will find 18 pages describing all that is known about this flycatcher in its North American summer home and on migration, but only eight lines about where it spends the other half of its life. Bent's failure to address half the biology of so many of our North American species was not Anglo-Saxon arrogance — the knowledge of the wintering biology of these species simply didn't exist. That lack is beginning to change and this is one of the many themes that Terborgh weaves together in his book. For me, the understanding of the biology of these birds that once just disappeared into the terra incognita of the tropics is like seeing in color instead of black and white.

Terborgh gives credit to the contribution of amateurs to the long-term monitoring of our wildlife populations. The Christmas Bird Count data, with all of its flaws, still represent a unique resource. This is also true of the Breeding Bird Survey data organized by the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Breeding Bird Census data that was originated by the National Audubon Society and then abandoned. What these amateur efforts tell us in combination with

You Can Help **Ancient Forest Protection Act Of 1990**

The Problem

America's last great stand of ancient forest — the great trees of the Pacific Coast states of California, Washington, and Oregon — are being cut down at a rate faster than the logging of the Amazon Rainforest in Brazil. Environmentalists believe that these remnant forests of trees, up to 8 feet thick and 250 feet high, and up to 1,000 or more years in age — are a national treasure in the same sense as the Grand Canyon, the Everglades, or Yellowstone — and they should be protected in the same way. The Earth's last living links with antiquity, these great forests are a heritage of all the world.

About 80 years ago, 30 million acres of this great forest still stood, undisturbed for millennia, in the states of Washington and Oregon. Heavy logging by private timber companies has liquidated nearly all of the ancient forests on private and state lands. The only intact stands that still remain are on federal lands, the lands of the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (Department of the Interior) in those states.

Continued on page 5

Continued on page 6

The Avocet 1

Chapter News

Farewell From Lynn...

Dear SCVAS Members and Friends,

As many of you may have heard by now, May 5 will be my last day with SCVAS. I am taking advantage of a wonderful opportunity offered by National Audubon to help lead the NAS Audubon Ecology Camp in Arizona this May, then on to the Camp in the West in Wyoming for the summer. With mixed emotions, I feel both excited about having a great summer outdoors in fabulous open spaces, and very sad to be leaving all of the friends I have made over the last eight and a half years. I look back with pride on the accomplishments of the chapter - tremendous programs and field trips, well developed fundraising events, an active conservation agenda, and lots of new ideas for the future - that have made us one of the foremost chapters in the region, if not the country.

I know that the chapter will continue to make great strides forward in protecting our environment, and I look forward to keeping in close contact and hearing all about new projects! The office will have my new permanent address this summer, please do stay in touch!! And please accept my thanks to all of you for making it possible for me to have had a part in these activities, through your support of the chapter, and your participation. I leave with many happy memories!

Sincerely, Lynn Tennefoss

...And Welcome To Cecily

A very warm welcome is extended to the new Managing Director, Cecily Harris. Cecily has most recently worked as Marketing Coordinator for the Nonprofit Development Center in San Jose. A

member of the Board of Directors of Wildlife Rescue Inc, Palo Alto, and past Chair of the Environmental Task Force for the Junior League of Palo Alto, she has broad contacts in the local community. Her love and caring for animals is evident - for the last four years, Cecily has been a member of the Friday Night Crew working with seals and sea lions at the California Marine Mammal Center at Fort Cronkhite, GGNRA. The SCVAS Hiring Committee is thrilled to have such a qualified and enthusiastic newcomer to SCVAS, and hopes all members will join the Board in welcoming Cecily to the organization.

Doug And Gail Cheeseman Honored As Audubon Activists

At the April 1990 Western Regional Audubon Conference, Doug and Gail Cheeseman were recognized along with 26 other Regional activists for their contributions to the chapter, and to conservation. The program described their contributions:

"In their years as Program Chairs for SCVAS, Doug and Gail have provided or coordinated over a hundred outstanding slide presentations, inspiring many, many members to care about the environment. Through their company, Cheeseman's Ecological Safaris, they espouse and practice sound eco-tourism, and only seem to become more inspired and caring over the years. As co-chair of the Environmental Action Committee, Gail has written many letters on a variety of topics, is working hard to involve high school students in conservation issues, and is co-coordinating a one day conference on Ancient Forests/Tropical Rainforests. Doug similarly works

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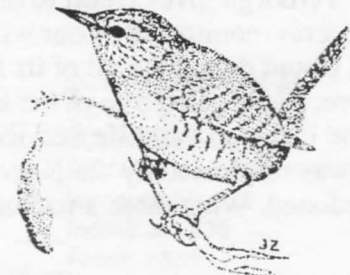
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General meetings are open to the public. Board of Directors meetings are open to all members. Call the office at (415) 329-1811 for times and directions.

The Avocet is published monthly (except for July and August) by the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 415 Cambridge Ave., Suite 21, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Deadline is the first Monday of each month. Send contributions to the editor, Jim Schwertman, 1168 Willow Glen Way, San Jose, CA 95125.

May 1990, Volume 39, Number 5

to inspire his students at De Anza College, where he teaches biology and ecology."



Original artwork by Floy Zittin

May 1990 Calendar

On all field trips CARPOOL and share expenses. Bring binoculars, field guides, warm clothing, lunch (optional on half-day trips) and liquids. If you can provide or need transportation, call Gail Cheeseman (408) 741-5330.

**** Denotes field trip**

Wed, May 2, 7:30 PM

Bay Area Bird Photographers

Baylands Interpretive Center @ the East end of Embarcadero, Palo Alto, Co-sponsored by the City of Palo Alto, Open Spaces & Sciences Division. Ken Gardiner will present a program of wildflowers images using the new Kodak Ektar 25 film.

Sat, May 5

Native Forests of the Americas Conference

Stanford University
(See article on page 6.)

****Sun, May 6, 8 am**

Mines Road and Del Puerto Canyon

Directions: Art Edwards (415) 447-3720
Directions: Meet at the Nob Hill Shopping Center in Livermore. Take S. Livermore Ave. to 8th St. in Livermore. 12 hour trip, but participants may turn back at San Antonio Jct. PLEASE CARPOOL. Maximum of 10 cars on caravan with FULL cars ONLY. Bring lunch (dinner), full tank of fuel. Limited facilities. Poss. species: Wood Duck, Golden Eagle, Turkey (wild), Lesser Nighthawk (late). Beginners welcome.

Tues, May 8, 9:30 AM

Bird Discussion Group

At home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga, (408) 867-4748. Topic: Gallinules and Moorhens. All members are invited. Call for details and directions.

****Wed, May 9, 9:30 am.**

South Co. Field Trip, Santa Teresa Park, San Jose

Leaders: Jeff Caldwell, 408-252-1177 & Alan Thomas, 408-265-9286.
Jeff is a botanist so will point out the interesting plants and Alan will spot birds. Take 101 south. Exit right on Bernal Rd. continuing past golf course and uphill. Go left at park sign to end at big parking lot by little fence.

****Sat, May 12**

Coyote Creek Riparian Station

Leader: Allen Royer (408) 288-7768
Bird banding including Hermit Thrush and

White Crown Sparrow subspecies. Limited to 10 participants. Call for reservations. Heavy rain cancels. Half day.

****Sat, May 12, 8 AM**

Chews Ridge

Leader: Robin Roberson, (408) 375-0794
Directions: Meet at the SW corner of Safeway parking area at mouth of Carmel Valley. Take Hwy 1 S. to Carmel, turn left at Rio Rd., and right into parking lot. Bring food, water and full tank of fuel. Carpooling advised. Optional owling Sat. night. Anticipated species: Mtn. Quail, Black-chinned Hummer, Solitary Vireo, Western Tanager. Possible Spotted Owl at night. Full day.

****Sun, May 13, 9 AM**

Beginners Trip to Charleston Slough

Leader: Rod Norden (408) 255-3033
Directions: Meet at the end of San Antonio Rd. in Mt. View at Terminal Way. Basics of birding with emphasis on shorebirds and waterfowl. Heavy rain cancels. Half Day.

Wed., May 16, 7:30 pm

General Membership Meeting

Please see article on this page.

****Sat, May 19, 10 AM**

Audubon Canyon Ranch

Leader: Mike Feighner (408) 354-0138
Directions: Meet at the ranch main parking area just inside the gate. Take 280 through SF. and across Golden Gate Bridge to Marin. Exit on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west to Olema, then Hwy1 south to Audubon Canyon Ranch on left. Bring lunch. Beginners welcome. Full day.

****Wed, May 23, 9 AM**

Stevens Creek County Park

Leader: Roxie Handler (408) 739-3872
Directions: Meet at lower picnic area before reservoir. Take Foothill Blvd W off I-280, follow to park turnoff on left. Nesting birds. Half day, lunch opt.

Wed., May 16, 7:30 pm

General Membership Meeting

Cosponsored with Palo Alto Open Spaces and Sciences Division, at Palo Alto Cultural Center, Embarcadero at Newell, 7:30 refreshments, 7:45 Bird Talk will be by Grant Hoyt on 3 or 4 local bird species that imitate, such as the California Thrasher and the Mockingbird. Grant will play tapes and show slides. 8 pm program features Don Roberson on "Birders Infiltrate the Research Game". This winter Don and Robin Roberson censused birds for four and a half months on a NOAA research vessel. As part of a six year government project to count dolphins and ascertain the effects of

****Sat, May 26, 8 AM**

Arastradero OSP

Leader: Shirley Gordon (408) 354-0138
Directions: Meet at the preserve parking area. Take Page Mill Road west off I-280 to Arastradero Road (1/2 mile), then another 1/2 mile to parking area on right. Bring water. 3-4 miles moderate hiking. Highlights: Breeding birds of dale and glen. Beginners welcome! Half day.

****Sun, May 27, 8 AM**

Rancho San Antonio

Leader: Phil Hand (415) 851-2623
Directions: Meet near restrooms. Take Foothill Blvd west of I-280 in Cupertino. Turn right on Cristo Del Rey Dr. Go past Gates of Heaven 1.5 miles to third parking area. Bring water. Half day.

****Mon, May 28, 8 AM**

Monte Bello OSP

Leader: Nick Yatsko (408) 247-5499
Directions: Meet at the Page Mill Rd. I-280 Park 'n' Ride lot at 8 am. Carpooling from here. Bring water and lunch. Long-pants advised (ticks). Beginners welcome. Moderate hiking of 4 miles. Highlights: Variety of grassland, marsh and woodland species. Half day.

****Sun, June 3, 8 AM**

Smith Creek

Leader: Alan Thomas (408) 265-9286
Directions: Meet at the Smith Creek Fire Station on Mt. Hamilton Rd 4.5 miles past Grant Ranch. Lunch opt., no facilities. Bring munchies and water. Beginners welcome. Moderate hiking 3-4 miles. Highlights: A good variety of woodland and riparian species.

****Sat, June 9, 8 AM**

Rancho Del Oso

Leader: Lion Baumgartner (408) 423-6381
Directions: Meet at the Nature Center 1/4 mile east of Hwy 1 at Waddell Creek, 2 miles S. of Año Nuevo State Reserve. Bring lunch and water. Easy walking of 3 miles. Full day.

tuna fishing. Each voyage carries 2 birders and 6 mammal viewers on 2 boats to way, way offshore in the Central Pacific. Sperm whales were most abundant with many Pilot whales and other dolphins. Boobies, frigatebirds, tropicbirds, and interesting port stops in Galapagos, Ecuador, and Costa Rica kept Don and Robin intrigued. Don's talk will intrigue us with all the highlights of their journey. Enjoy Don's excellent slides of birds and marine mammals in the tropical Pacific. (Don is also author of Monterey Birds and Rare Birds of the West Coast.)

Field Notes

By Bill Bousman

Waterfowl

An *American Bittern* at the Palo Alto Baylands 20 Mar (DC) was again the only report. A pair of *Wood Duck* were along San Francisquito Ck. 5-6 Mar where they have nested in the past (HK, LP). More expected were a pair on Coyote Ck. in Henry Coe SP 11 Mar (JY, AL).

Raptors

An *Osprey* over Stevens Ck. Res. 4 Mar (MFe et al.) is a rare migrant in the county. An imm. *Bald Eagle* at the Mountain View Forebay 31 Mar (NE) is very rare away from the Diablo Range reservoirs. Lingerings *Merlin* include the male richardoni again in Mountain View 10 Mar (MRO), another at Moffett Field 12 Mar (MRO), one on the Knapp property 25 Mar (PW fide MJM), and one at the Mountain View Forebay 1 Apr (MJM). A *Peregrine Falcon* was seen west of Newby Island 17 Mar and another on the Knapp property 25 Mar (both MJM). Three *Prairie Falcon* from the Diablo Range 11 Mar (JY, AL) are probably resident birds. A *Long-eared Owl* was heard at Monte Bello OSP 17 Mar (PLN) near where they nested in 1987.

Hummingbirds to Ravens

The first *Rufous Hummingbird* of the season was one banded at the Coyote Creek Riparian Station (CCRS) 16 Mar (fide WGB). A *Western Kingbird* banded at CCRS 24 Mar (fide WGB) is a week or so early. A pair of *Common Ravens* building a nest on a wind tunnel at Moffett Field

28 Mar (MRO) represents the first confirmation we have of nesting in the county. This secretive nester has probably always been resident in parts of the Diablo Range, however.

Wrens to Thrushes

Singing *Canyon Wrens* at Alum Rock Park 29 Mar (MRO) have not been reported there since the early 1980s. A *House Wren* at Almaden Quicksilver Park 24 Mar (MFe et al.) is one of our earlier returns. A

Golden-crowned Kinglet at Alum Rock Park 29 Mar (MRO) is the only record since December. A singing *Swainson's Thrush* in La Honda 1 Apr (CB) is 3-4 weeks early.

Others

Five *Phainopepla* near the Smiths Ck. ranger station 25 Feb (JY, AL) and two on 8 Mar (MFe) are in an area where surprising numbers were also found last spring. They did not remain to breed there last year, however. A silent *Solitary Vireo* at Alum Rock Park 29 Mar (MRO) is a week early. Migrant *Western Tanagers* normally arrive in the latter part of April so a male in Los Gatos 27 Mar and 2 Apr (MFe) is believed to have wintered locally. A *Rufous-crowned Sparrow* at a feeder at Chesbro Res. (JG fide MFe) is from an area where they are seldom reported. *Lawrence's Goldfinches* were in good numbers at Smiths Creek 25 Feb (JY, AL) with 30 or so noted. None were found at Henry Coe SP 11 Mar (JY, AL)

where they had been abundant during the winter. Three at Chesbro Res. 14 Mar (MFe et al.) is a good number for any location on the west side of the valley.

Observers: Clark Blake (CB), Bill Bousman (WGB), David Coe (DC), Neal Enault (NE), Mike Feighner (MFe), Herman Karl (HK), Amy Lauterbach (AL), Mike Mammoser (MJM), Paul Noble (PLN), LedaBeth Pickthorn (LP), Mike Rogers (MRO), Peg Woodin (PW), James Yurchenco (JY)

The breeding season is in full swing now. If you find any species nesting locally call Roy Cameron (408-867-6632) or myself so we can record your observation for the Santa Clara County Breeding Bird Atlas. For rarities in the county please drop a note or call: Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025, 415-322-5282.

"Field Trip Report" Candlestick Field Trip

Spring has finally arrived to the Bay Area. How can I tell? Well, the trees are blooming, birds are nesting, and—baseball is back!! I admit it. I'm a big baseball fan. Let me tell of an interesting experience I had during the National League Championship Series this past October. It was the first game of the series held at Candlestick. The Giants had gone ahead on Robby Thompson's line drive homer over the left field fence. The top of the ninth inning brought the Cubs down to their last three outs when I noticed a bird circling over the playing field. Quickly grabbing the binoculars from my friends neck, I focussed in on the bird. I knew at once I had a new bird for my ballpark list, but I was having a bit of trouble identifying it. It reminded me of a Storm-petrel but that couldn't be, not this far from the ocean. I soon pinned down

Continued on next page

**Raven Nest a
First for
Santa Clara County**

Continued from previous page

some field marks and identified the bird as a **Lesser Nighthawk!** Apparently this bird was migrating through and presumably was drawn to the Stick by the bright stadium lights. I watched this bird for the rest of the game (which the Giants won 4-3), as it swooped over the field catching insects on the wing. Not long afterwards, watching the game highlights on the local news, I saw the nighthawk swooping down on the ball just as Kevin Mitchell caught the last out of the game! I found out later that other birder baseball fans saw this bird, too, and called it everything from a petrel to some exotic gull. The rest of the League series and again during the World Series I looked for other birds in the night sky, but at least during the last two games of the World Series, all I saw in the sky were Oakland A's home runs.
—Paul L. Noble

Species Decline

Continued from page 1

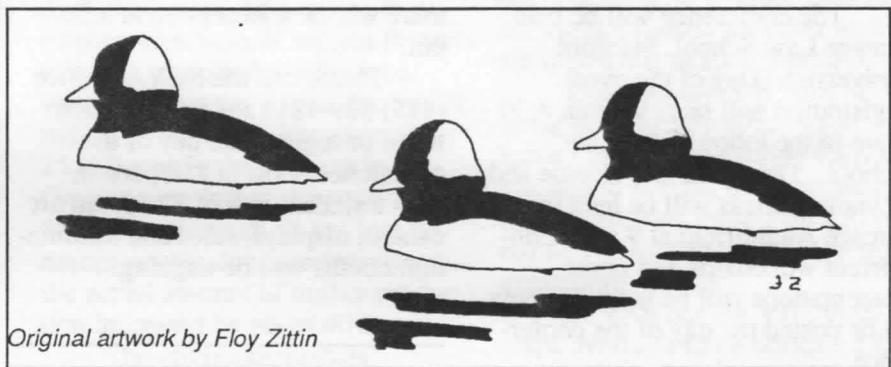
the data from a number of long-term banding operations is that many of our migrant species are in a decline. The first of many difficult issues that must be faced, however, is that knowing the effect is not enough — we must also know the cause and, through a number of examples, Professor Terborgh shows how difficult this is. There is far more evidence that the decline of songbirds in the east is related to forest fragmentation and winter bird-feeding than tropical deforestation. The double-whammy of too little continuous forest and too many predators and parasites such as crows, jays, and cowbirds who have survived the winters on the largess of our bird feeders and mechanical harvesters is more than these species can take. And, now it appears, that the coup de grace will be the destruction of their wintering homes.

Ultimately Terborgh's book follows the lines of Greek tragedy

with fate playing its role and disaster following upon disaster. There is no room here for the Christian tradition with its hope for redemption although Terborgh tries valiantly in his final chapter to suggest that through scientific research and sound economic analysis the things that he describes can be stopped or reversed. But his evidence of the scientific illiteracy and economic nonsense that substitute for government in our country is too damning. To believe that the countries to our south will achieve an enlightenment that eludes us is an act of faith beyond this sinner. Nonetheless, if you wish to keep your eyes open as we continue on this path of destruction that we have chosen, read this book.--Bill Bousman

Audubon Television

Good news! General Electric Company (GE) will become the exclusive underwriter of Audubon Television Specials. GE is making a three-year grant to Audubon to support the award-winning Audubon series. The new grant begins with the start of this summer's season of eight, hour-long Audubon Specials airing on PBS stations nationwide. The next Audubon Special is on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Narrated by actress Meryl Streep, is titled "Arctic Refuge: A Vanishing Wilderness", and will premiere at 10 pm, EST, on Sunday, May 27 on Turner Broadcasting System.



Original artwork by Floy Zittin

New Audubon Chapter Formed In Costa Rica

Costa Rica is a special country for Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society members who have enjoyed learning of its natural resources at members' meetings or on birding vacations. With over 850 species, Costa Rica is also a critically important country for resident and migratory birds.

Now Costa Rica is also the home of the newest National Audubon Society chapter: Association Tsuli Tsuli de Costa Rica. Fittingly, recognition for the new members was given in March at the first international NAS Board of Directors meeting in San Jose.

Tsuli Tsuli members have a goal of becoming the strongest and

largest grassroots conservation organization in the country. They also want to provide an opportunity for joint action with United States chapters on projects of mutual interest and concern.

If you are interested in learning more about Tsuli Tsuli and how you can support their efforts, or if you would like to help create a sister-chapter relationship, call the SCVAS office at (415) 329-1811 or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Trish Mulvey, 527 Rhodes Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94303. SCVAS members Trish and Jim Mulvey attended the NAS Board meeting, met the Tsuli Tsuli officers and were impressed and excited by the energy, enthusiasm and issue focus of the new organization.

Environmental Action News

Native Forests of the Americas Conference

The first annual Native Forests of the Americas conference, co-sponsored by Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, Stanford's Center for Conservation Biology and more than 40 other co-sponsoring organizations, will take place Saturday, May 5.

Planned to bring conservationists, biologists, political strategists and others together to explore current efforts to protect temperate and tropical forests of the Americas, the conference will link the plights of the hemisphere's diverse and diminishing forests.

The conference will be held Kresge Law School, Stanford University. Day of the event registration will be held from 8:30 - 9 am in the lobby of the Law School. The opening welcome and keynote address will be held in Kresge Auditorium at 9 am. Concurrent workshops and panel presentations will be held in rooms to be posted the day of the conference.

The conference will begin with an introduction by Byron Sher, Member, CA State Assembly and a keynote address by William Penn Mott, former Director of the National Park Service.

A partial list of workshops includes:

Native Forests of the Americas: An Overview

Natural History of Endangered Species

Applied Sustainable Forestry Management Practices

Tropical Forest of the US and Territories: Are we Setting a Good Example?

Legislative Opportunities for Native Forest Protection.

Reforming the Forest Service

Reproductive Biology of Tropical Plants

Eco-Tourism: Creative Traveling Alternatives

Forest Plants, Fruits and Fungi
Innovative Conservation Campaigns

Biodiversity: Landscape Linkages
Cocaine, Cattle, Clearcuts:

Threats to Tropical Rainforests
Deforestation and Climatic Change

Open Forum: How to get Young People Involved

Following a Closing Address, there will be a Reception at 5:30 pm.

Please call the SCVAS office (415) 329-1811 for a registration form, or register the day of the conference. Cost is \$10/person, with a student rate of \$7.50. An art exhibit, displays, sales and information booths will be ongoing.

1990 Wildlife Area Passes For Sale thru SCVAS

SCVAS again offers for sale, passes to the 9 Dept. of Fish and Game wildlife areas where fees are charged to day-users. Passes cost \$11, and fees are used to manage and preserve wildlife areas and to fund non-game wildlife programs. Areas counties include: Ash Creek in Lassen County, Elkhorn Slough in Monterey, Gray Lodge in Sutter, Grizzly Island in Solano, Imperial in Imperial, Lake Earl in Del Norte, Los Banos in Merced, San Jacinto in Riverside, and Upper Newport Bay in Orange.

Ten Minute Activist

YOU can make a difference

Clean Air Update

In a twist of real irony, the House Energy and Commerce voted out a clean air bill that in many respects is better than the version passed in early April by the Senate. The vote in the Senate was 89-11, with a number of western senators voting against it because it was too tough on industry and a few midwestern senators voting against it in protest because a financial aid package proposed by West Virginia Senator Robert Byrd was narrowly defeated on the floor.

The House bill, HR 3030, is expected to reach the House floor in early May, where a few strengthening amendments may be offered. We support efforts by Ron Wyden (D-OR) to improve air quality in and around national parks. Please ask your representative to support the Wyden amendment.

NAS' supports efforts by Bill Richardson (D-NM) to offer an amendment on accidental releases of toxic chemicals. This amendment would provide for a strong Chemical Safety Board to investigate accidents and make recommendations on how they can be avoided in the future, NAS also supports efforts to offer an amendment on alternative fuels. Please write or call your rep and ask him/her to support these amendments and reject any attempts to weaken the bill on the floor.

After the House acts, it's on to Conference Committee, where we expect to push for the best parts of both bills. In many cases, that means we'll be pushing for provisions contained in the House bill!

If you want to write on clean air, the address is Congressperson _____, US House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

- Audubon Hotline

Ancient Forests

Continued from page 1

The U.S. government, however, also has an active and heavy logging program, of selling off these last remnant forests to private timber companies. On the 27 million acres of National Forest land alone in Washington and Oregon, only 2 million acres of the true ancient forest still exist. Most of this is in stands which are already heavily fragmented by clearcuts and logging roads.

The Solution

The Ancient Forest Protection Act of 1990, HR 4492 would accomplish the following goals:

- declare that the ancient forests of the United States are a national and a world treasure, and have far more value standing up, than cut down;
- establish a National Ancient Forest Reserve System, which would give protection to essentially all remaining ancient forests on federal lands in Washington, Oregon and California — about 2 million acres in the two Northwest states;
- create a network of “associated forests” to connect the already-fragmented forests so that the rare and endangered species of wildlife, which can live only in those forests, can migrate and reproduce, thus assuring an Ancient Forest System in perpetuity;
- forbid all logging and building of new roads inside the System, except where necessary to suppress forest fires to protect human life and property;
- require Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, within 45 days of passage of the Act, to produce maps identifying areas of ancient and associated forest to be protected following definitions of the statute. Such interim protection will continue until Congress takes final action, identifying boundaries that it decides are appropriate;
- allow for designation of Ancient Forest System, by map reference,

after appropriate Congressional action, National Forest by National Forest and District by District of Bureau of Land Management; —call for empaneling of the nation’s ablest scientists, under the leadership of the Council of Environmental Quality, to make further recommendations about protection of ancient forests in perpetuity.

Economic Considerations

The State of Oregon economists estimate that if all significant stands of ancient forest in that state were given protection, about 5,000 timber industry jobs could be affected, over a period of time. Ninety-four percent of all the employment in Oregon is not timber related, and each year, Oregon’s booming economy adds 39,000 new non-timber jobs to its employment base. If ancient forests were not protected, timber jobs would decline anyway as the timber industry automates. For example, 25,000 jobs in the industry in Oregon were lost in the years 1981-88, due to automation, not loss of timber supply. In those same years, the actual amount of timber production increased by about 40%.

The environmentalists’ position is that all financial aid should be given to timber-dependent communities who diversify their economies, via such mechanisms already included in the Farm Bill of 1990. We support this and other economic aid legislation. The timber industry is going through an inevitable transition in any event; environmentalists believe that the best solution for the nation is to assist this transition, help timber communities to diversify — and still provide for the protection of ancient forest for future generations.

Please write your House member and ask him or her to Cosponsor HR 4492, The Ancient Forest Protection Act of 1990. Cosponsorship is one of the best ways to get visible and meaningful support for legislation. By adding

his or her name to a bill as a cosponsor, your House member makes a public commitment to support the legislation.
- Audubon Hotline

Saving California’s Wildlife

The Dept of Fish and Game California Endangered Species Campaign has released a unique video exploring the causes, extent and implications of the state’s endangered species problem. The subject matter is timely. As California enters a new decade, the destructive pressures on native species have never been stronger - especially pressures on habitat. The number of people living in California is nearing 30 million. Demands on wildlife habitat for other uses are increasing at an alarming pace.

This film looks at what is being done to stop species and habitat degradation inside California, and to reverse the processes that are pushing more than 250 of our native wildlife species toward extinction.

SCVAS has the VHS videotape available to be borrowed for free from the office by teachers, members and other interested individuals. Please call to be sure it is not checked out before you come to pick it up (415) 329-1811.

We're For The Birds!

Whales & Tales

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Songbirds Shorebirds

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and Kid's Stuff*



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Santa Clara Valley
Audubon Society
415 Cambridge Ave., #21
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Non-Profit Organization
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Non-Audubon Events

• Four spaces are open on a Kenya Safari for 6 people with Terry Stevenson as leader, Nov. 17 - Dec. 10, \$3650, plus airfare. (For a children's hospital benefit in Nov. 1988, Terry set the world Big Day record of 342 species in 24 hours.) Call Gail and Doug Cheeseman, 408-741-5330.

• Taste of the Greenbelt, benefit for Greenbelt Alliance, Sat., May 12 at the Pacheco Ranch Winery, \$20. For more info, call (415)543-4291.

• Explore Bay Area Ridge Trail, hike an easy 5 mile loop or harder 8 mile round trip to Coyote Peak, meet at 10 am, in second parking lot in picnic area in Santa Teresa County Park, off Bernal Rd, free, call The Trail Center for more info (415) 968-7065.

• Nature Sounds Society Sixth Annual Field Recording Workshop, June 15-17 at the SF State University Field Station at Yuba Pass. For beginners and experienced recordists; early registration advised. For info call Paul Matzner (415) 273-3884 or Adam Liberman, (415) 549-9364.

• Reunion for students of Alice Hoch's Birdwatching and

Walking Tour Classes, Sat., May 5, 10 am-1 pm, Central Park, Fremont. For info, call (415) 657-0475 or 791-5841. (Alice's birding classes begin May 3).

• Trust for Hidden Villa Spring Country Fair will be held Sunday, MAY 6 from 10 am to 5 pm. For info, (415) 948-4690.

• The Nature Conservancy announces "Wild California Excursions", a series of special trips to some of the premier preserves. For more info, call (415) 777-0487.

• Alum Rock Park Bird Walk, with Dave Johnston, Sat, May 12, 8:30 am to noon, \$7.50/adult and \$5/child. Call (408) 258-4322.

YSI's Sixth Annual Insect Fair will be held at Sanborn Discovery Center Sat, May 12, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. \$2/adult, \$1/child. Call (408) 867-6940. YSI offers White Water Rafting on the Klamath River, June 22-24, for info., call (408) 356-4945.

• San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory classes and tours: Sparrow Id, May 9; Taxidermic Techniques, July '90; Shorebird Id, Aug 15; Duck Id, Nov. '90, Spring in Arizona, May 12-20; Southeast Arizona, Aug 4-12.

• Volunteers are sought to work in national parks, forests and other public lands - as fire lookouts, wildlife observers, backcountry guides, trail workers and other similar jobs. Some supply housing, reimbursements, or credit. For a 96 page directory of 2,000 volunteer jobs in all states, send \$3 to the AHS/Helping Out, 1015 31st St, NW, Washington, DC, 20007.

• Betchart Expeditions is offering natural history expeditions to New Zealand, Argentina, the Amazon, and Costa Rica in the fall of 1990. Excellent in-country naturalists, in-depth experience. Call (408) 252-4910 for a brochure and information.

• Fremont Adult School is offering an all-day birding trip to watch and listen to local birds as they go about their territorial, courtship and nesting activities on Sat, May 19. Beginners and advanced birders. \$18. Pre-register by May 15 at (415) 791-5841.

Exercise Your Options!

Last day to register to vote in the June 5 primary election is May 7. To request a voter registration form, call the toll-free voter registration hotline, open 24 hours a day, every day: 800-345-VOTE.

DONATIONS - SCVAS welcomes gifts in general, or gifts in honor or memory of relatives and friends. All gifts and donations are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP - To join the National Audubon Society/SCVAS, send a check payable to NAS, to the SCVAS office, 415 Cambridge Ave., Ste. 21, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Membership includes "AUDUBON" magazine, and "The Avocet" newsletter. "Audubon Activist" quarterly subscription is separate at \$9/yr., with checks made payable NAS. To give extra support to our hardworking chapter, or if you would like an *Avocet* subscription alone, consider SCVAS Subscriber, Supporter, Donor or Patron categories. All receive *The Avocet*, with checks payable to SCVAS.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS - Send all changes of address promptly to the SCVAS office.

Name: _____

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City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

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- _____ SCVAS Subscriber-\$8
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- _____ SCVAS Patron-\$50 or more
- _____ Introductory - \$20
- _____ Individual - \$35
- _____ Family - \$38
- _____ Audubon Activist - \$9