

The Avocet

The Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

January 1991

Losing the Wildlife War

Fish and Wildlife Service Fails to List Endangered Species

By Marion Dresner

A new report by the U.S. Department of the Interior states that our nation's endangered species program is failing to prevent the extinction of species and the loss of biological diversity. At least 34 North American species are known to have become extinct during the 1980s, ranging from wildflowers to the Montana woodland caribou. The Interior department's special investigation lays the blame on mismanagement by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and says that the present endangered species program just isn't working.

Species extinction is one of the most serious environmental issues confronting us in the '90s. The vast variety of species are the genetic endowment of the planet. It is now estimated that species are being irrevocably lost at the dizzying rate of one per hour. Preventing extinction of species is not just a matter of aesthetic or ethical interest but of vital social and economic interest. The sustainability of our food crops depend upon periodic crossbreeding with related wild plants. More than one quarter of our medicines are derived from compounds discovered in nature.

The centerpiece of the endangered species protection program is the En-

dangered Species Protection Act, passed in 1973. The USFWS is supposed to protect at-risk species by listing them as either endangered or threatened and by giving their habitat special protection. Under the ecosystem preservation provision of the law, the government can be required to purchase and preserve this critical habitat in refuges.

The new Interior department report documented what environmental-

"The USFWS has failed to list hundreds of species despite substantial scientific evidence that they are threatened and warrant listing."

ists have been saying all along: The USFWS has failed to list hundreds of species despite substantial scientific evidence that they are threatened and warrant listing. Unless listed, a species cannot receive the special protection provided by the law. Presently, 550 species are listed as endangered, but an additional 600 to 3000 probably should be. The Service has a backlog of species which it claims it cannot list due to a lack of personnel and funds. However, many species cannot wait. At least 34 have become extinct (see list on page 6) and many have suffered

a serious decline while waiting for the Service to decide their fate.

The USFWS acknowledges that it is hampered by bureaucracy and a lack of resources. While an estimated \$4.6 billion is needed for the Service to rescue the hundreds of endangered species, it was allotted only \$33 million for this purpose in 1990. The Inspector General found that, even when a species has been listed by the USFWS, plans to save the animals or plants are often inadequate.

Spotted Owl case in point

The recent controversy over the Spotted Owl is a case in point. The Endangered Species Act is under attack by the timber industry over the fate of the Spotted Owl. The bird was declared endangered in a bold move by the Service in June. Scientists have found that a comprehensive plan to

Continued on page 6

CORRECTION

January 10 General Membership meeting will be held in Saratoga at the Saratoga Library, at southwest intersection of Saratoga Ave. and Fruitvale Ave. (not in Palo Alto as reported in the December Avocet).

Chapter News

New Books For Sale in the SCVAS Office

Best Birding In Napa And Solano Counties published by Napa Solano Audubon Society in 1990. This booklet has site descriptions and associated species for 21 sites in Napa and Solano County's. \$5. (\$1.25 for shipping and handling).

Hawks in Flight by Peter Dunne shows how to recognize hawks by their general body shape, the way they move and the places they are likely to be seen. It covers the 23 most common diurnal raptors of North America, including buteos, accipiters, falcons, kites, eagles, vultures, the osprey and harrier. \$9.95 (\$1.60 for shipping and handling).

The Bird Feeder Book by Donald and Lillian Stokes. This book will teach you how to attract birds, how to identify your feeder birds and an understanding of bird behavior at the feeder. \$9.95 (\$1.50 for shipping and handling).

The Complete Birder: A Guide to Better Birding by Jack Connor. This book shows you step-by-step what to do

Volunteers, Thanks!

To: Edward Rooks for expertly creating mats for the "Original Art from Birding at the Bottom of the Bay" show, exhibited at the Lucy Stern Baylands Interpretive Center during the month of December. Also, to Ted Chandik and the staff of the Center for help to arrange the show; and to Pete LaTourrette and the Bay Area Bird Photographers for allowing us to borrow their exhibit space and frames.

We're Sorry!

Our sincere apologies to those who received the November *Avocet* late or not at all. We are working to speed up the process so that it the gets to the mailing house and to *you* faster. Please continue to call us if you haven't received your issue by the second week of the month. We are aware that many of the 940XX zipcodes receive theirs late because of post office delays.

to improve your birding skills. It covers everything from choosing binoculars to birding by ear. It tells you how to adjust your approach to the seasons and to master groups of birds by their habits. \$8.95 (\$1.50 for shipping and handling).

The Complete Birdhouse Book by Donald and Lillian Stokes. This book tells you all you need to know to attract nesting birds to your yard and enjoy them once they are there. \$9.95 (\$1.60 for shipping and handling).

The Hummingbird Book: The Complete Guide to Attracting, Identifying, and Enjoying Hummingbirds by Donald and Lillian Stokes. This comprehensive book contains information about the different Hummingbird species; their range maps and color photographs, and much general information regarding feeders, hummingbird gardening, guidelines for photographing, and complete information on hummingbird behavior. \$9.95 (\$1.60 for shipping and handling).

Where The Birds Are: A Guide to All 50 States and Canada by John Oliver Jones. This book is a tremendous resource with bird charts, lists of hotlines, Audubon Chapters and Sanctuaries, Preserves, National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks. Everything is listed by state. \$15.95 (\$2.40) for shipping and handling).

Newsletter Editor Wanted

Would you like to be the editor of the *Avocet*? This is a volunteer job and requires about 10 to 15 hours a month to complete. The finished camera-ready product needs to be ready for the printer by the 15th of the month.

Needed is someone who can edit and produce a newsletter, preferably on a Macintosh using PageMaker. Some training is available. Please contact the SCVAS office if you are interested (415-329-1811).

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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, Marilyn Kjellen-Rogers, c/o SCVAS at the above address.

January 1991, Volume 40, Number 1



January 1991 Calendar

On all field trips carpool and share expenses. Bring binoculars, field guides, warmclothing, lunch (optional on half-day trips) and liquids. If you can provide or need transportation, call Gail Cheeseman (408) 741-5330. Trips highlighting chapters from our new site guide, "Birding at the Bottom of the Bay," are identified as BABOB Trips.

**Denotes Field Trip

Wednesday, Jan. 2, 7:30-9:30 PM. Bay Area Bird Photographers. Cosponsored by the Recreation/Open Spaces and Sciences Division of Palo Alto, at Lucy Evans Baylands Interpretive Center on East Embarcadero Rd. in Palo Alto. Pete LaTourrette will show slides of Hawaiian forest birds, primarily from the Big Island. Emphasis on the endemic subfamily Drepanidinae, a group which embodies the most remarkable examples of adaptive radiation in the avian world. Unfortunately, most species of "Dreps" are now extinct and several of the survivors are either endangered or threatened.

**Sunday, January 6, 8:30 AM.

Post-CBC Rarities Chase. Leader: Don Starks (408) 226-4134. Directions: Meeting place and itinerary to be determined after Christmas Bird Counts. Bring lunch, full tank of gas. Heavy rain cancels. Call leader for information after January 2.

Tuesday, January 8, 9:30 AM.

Bird Discussion Group at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga. (408) 867-4748. Topic: Storks.

**Thurs., Jan. 10, 9:00 AM.Half day South County Field Trip to Alum Rock Park. Leader: Ernie Abeles (408) 274-2023. Directions: Take Alum Rock Ave. off I-680 or 101 east to end of road at the Youth Science Institute parking lot. Wear warm clothes. Rain cancels. BABOB Trip. Thursday, January 10, 7:30 PM

Refreshments, Program at 7:45. Special January 1991 General Meeting at Saratoga Library, at southwest intersection of Saratoga Ave. and Fruitvale Ave. in Saratoga. A brief update on the Santa Clara Breeding Bird Atlas with Bill Bousman, Coordinator. (An in-depth presentation will be given in May at the P.A. Cultural Center.) Mike Rigney, who heads the Coyote Creek Riparian Station, will then present a slide show explaining all the facets of this outstanding avian research group. Enjoy a very informative evening on the current work toward understanding our local birds.

**Sat., Jan. 12, 9:00 AM. Full day.

Merced Refuge/Santa Fe Grade. Leader: Don Schmoldt (415) 215-1910. Directions: Meet at the NW corner of Jct. of Rte. 59 and Sandy Mush Rd. Take Hwy. 152 east past Los Banos 20 miles to 59. N. to meeting place about 7 mi.. Allow 2.5 hours, more if tule fog is forecast. Informal carpooling at Park 'n' Ride lot at Hwy. 280 and Page Mill Rd. (leave by 6:30 AM) and Park 'n' Ride lot in Gilroy at Leavesly and Monterey Rd. (leave by 7:00 AM).

**Sun., Jan. 13, 9:00 AM. Half day. Beginner Trip to Charleston Slough. Leader: Mike Mammoser (408) 248-2288. Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to San Antonio Rd. exit. Drive east to parking lot. Highlights: shorebirds and waterfowl. Bring drinks. BABOB Trip

Wednesday, January 16, 8:00 PM.

General Membership Meeting at Palo Alto Cultural Center. Norbu Tenzing presents the incredible experiences of the April, 1988 expedition to Mt. Everest. (See box below.)

**Sun., Jan. 20, 8:30 AM. Half day. Western San Francisco Rarities Search. Leader: Alan Hopkins (415) 664-0983. Trip will explore Chain of Lakes in Golden Gate Park, Cliff House, and Lake Merced. Directions: Meet in Golden Gate Park in parking lot at Middle Lake. Highlights: Christmas Count rarities.

**Wed., Jan. 23, 9:00 AM. Half day. North County Field Trip to Foster City. Leader: Rose Green (415) 493-8378. Directions: Take Hwy. 101 north to Hillsdale Blvd. east. Follow Hillsdale about 1 mile to Shell Blvd. Turn right and park on right at Community Center Park. Rain cancels. Lunch optional.

**Sun., Jan. 27, 9:00 AM Half day. Palo Alto Baylands. Leaders: Audrey Stoye (408) 249-2108 and Betty Wyatt (408) 255-6091. Directions: Take Embarcadero Rd. east exit off Hwy. 101. Drive to end of road to Lucy Evans Baylands Interpretive Center parking lot. Highlights: wintering birds. BABOB Trip.

**Saturday, February 2,

Mt. Madonna Owling Trip. Leader: John Mariani (408) 997-6171. Trip limited to 10 people. Call leader for details and directions. Dress for cold. Rain cancels. BABOB Trip.

**Sat., Feb. 2, 9:00 AM. Full day.

Fall River Mills. Leader: Bob and Carol Yutzy (916) 246-2515. Directions: Meet at the Sears store in Redding. Take the I-5 Hilltop exit north to mall. Latecomers meet at Chevron station in Fall River Mills. Redding is 6 hrs. north of Bay Area. Suggest participants stay in Redding of Fall River Mills/MacArthur Burney. Rain or snow cancels. Highlights: Bald and Golden Eagles, Longspurs, Northern Shrike, Harris' Sparrow, Bohemian Waxwing, Hooded Merganser and raptors.

Non-Audubon Events

Winter classes and tours at San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

Classes: Gull Identification, Jan 16 - Feb 20. \$35/\$50, Owl Biology Feb. 27- Mar. 13. \$35/\$50, Taxidermy, Apr. 4 - Apr. 20 \$90/\$105. Tours: Thrasher Crasher, Mar. 15-18 \$50/\$65, East Texas and the Valley, Apr. 16-25 \$400/\$415.

Monterey Bay Pelagic Trips

Led by Doug & Gail Cheeseman, Rod Norden, and Allen Royer on Jan 12, 19 & 26, \$40, 8AM-3PM, call Gail Cheeseman for more information at (408) 741-5330.

Costa Rican Wildlife Tour

This tour, for 10 people, March 30-April 14, needs more people to sign

Continued on Page 5

Wednesday, January 16, 8:00 PM. General Membership Meeting

Co-sponsored by the Palo Alto Open Spaces and Sciences Division at Palo Alto Cultural Center. Norbu Tenzing presents the incredible experiences of the April 1988 expedition to Mt. Everest. The trip commemorated the first ascent of Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary and Norbu's father, Tenzing Norgay, 35 years ago. Norbu will show the best of over 40,000 photos taken by members of the expedition. The photos emphasize the beauty, harshness and way of life in the Himalayas. The members traveled through China and Tibet and climbed the Kanshung Face, considered the most dangerous route on Mt. Everest. Norbu has lectured worldwide to promote awareness of the Himilayas and has appeared on several TV programs. He now lives in San Francisco and is a travel specialist for Mountain Travel.

Field Notes

By Bill Bousman

Loons to Herons

The first loons of the season have shown up with a Red-throated Loon on Shoreline Lake 19 Nov (PJM) and single Common Loons on the Los Gatos Creek ponds 18 Nov (MFe) and Shoreline Lake 19 Nov (PJM). A Brown Pelican near the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) 7 Nov (MMR), and two there 22 Nov (PJM) are rare lingerers at this season. The hybrid Snowy Egret X Little Blue Heron continues to be found at Charleston Slough with observations 11 Nov (JY, AL) and 19 Nov (WGB). This is the fifth winter that this hybrid has been found locally. A Cattle Egret at the Shoreline Golf Course 19 Nov (PJM) is a good find. Although a regular nester in the Alviso heronry now, this species movement is erratic locally and is still very rare in the county.

Ducks

The male Blue-winged Teal in the Palo Alto Flood Control Basin (FCB) has remained in November at least through the 25th (AME, MMR). A male Eurasian Wigeon was seen in Charleston Slough 10 Nov-2 Dec (MJM, PJM, AL, JY, WGB). A single Redhead at the Sunnyvale WPCP 22 Nov (PJM) was the only report this month. A male Barrow's Goldeneye was seen on Shoreline Lake 17-19 Nov (MJM, PJM). We have started to see more of this bird locally in the last few winters to our continuing delight. Red-breasted Mergansers are rare locally except on a few of the Alviso ponds, so small flocks in the vicinity of Crittenden Marsh 3 and 22 Nov (PJM) are of interest.

Raptors

An *Osprey* at Vasona Res. 5 Oct (JDuB) was at the tail end of their fall migration. An adult *Bald Eagle* at Calaveras Res. 18 Nov (AME) was from an area where a few birds winter. West side *Golden Eagle* reports include single birds in the Stanford foothills 22 and 25 Oct (JMi). Local *Merlin* records include

single birds in Mountain View on 13 Oct and 15 Nov (MMR), at Whisman Slough 3 Nov (PJM), Sunnyvale WPCP 22 Nov (PJM), and Menlo Park 2 Dec

Mountain Bluebird in 'Panoche' Alto

(WGB). The Mountain View bird was a male *richardsoni* and is undoubtedly the same bird that was found in that area last winter. *Peregrine Falcon* have been well-reported this month as well with two birds at Shoreline 3 Nov (PJM) including both an adult and an immature, an immature at the Mountain View Forebay 10 Nov (PJM), an adult at Moffett Field 13 Nov (MMR), and an immature at the Palo Alto FCB 17 Nov (MJM).

Rails to Owls

The high tides of 3 Dec brought out at least one Black Rail at the Palo Alto Baylands (AW). A few Lesser Yellowlegs have still been found locally with one to two birds at the Palo Alto FCB 1-10 Nov (MMR, AME, PJM). A Spotted Sandpiper was also there on 10 Nov (PJM). A Red Knot along Guadalupe Slough 29 Nov (MFe) is past our fall migration dates and may represent a part of the wintering population which rarely occur south of the Dumbarton Narrows. A Short-eared Owl along Guadalupe Slough 3 Nov (PJM) is a good find. They have become quite rare in this part of the bay in recent years.

Nuthatches to Solitaires

We are seeing a strong fall movement of *Red-breasted Nuthatches* away from their breeding areas 1 Oct-24 Nov (PJM, DE, AL, JY) with "over a dozen ... this past week," 12-17 Nov in Los Altos (PLN). This is the best fall showing we have had since the winter of 1986-87. As with most of our winter irruptives, we don't know the source of

these birds—they are too widespread to be just from the Santa Cruz Mountains. In some winters, American Dipper move into riparian areas where they do not breed. One to two birds at Alum Rock Park 8 Nov (EA) and 18 Nov (AME) are from such a typical location. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher on Coyote Creek at Burnett 17 Nov (JAC) is probably wintering locally. A male Mountain Bluebird was found 22 Nov just south of the Palo Alto Airport (PJM) and was also seen 30 Nov (KM) for our first local record since 1983. After four years of drought this area is looking a bit like the Panoche Valley. The second Townsend's Solitaire of the season was found in the Kennedy OSP in the Sierra Azul 18 Nov (EC).

Phainopepla to Whitethroated Sparrow

A Phainopepla west of Calaveras Res. 18 Nov (AME) is always a good find on this side of the Diablo Range, but a male in Cupertino 24 Nov (JF fide JAC) is beyond their typical range. A Palm Warbler banded at the Coyote Creek Riparian Station (CCRS) 7 Nov (fide MRi) is a rare find. These birds arrive in late fall and sometimes stay until the Christmas counts, but we don't find them in the local area later in the winter. Sharp-tailed Sparrows were found at the Palo Alto Baylands 1-3 Dec (WGB, AW) with at least two individuals present. A Swamp Sparrow was found at the Sunnyvale WPCP 22 Nov (PJM). To round out our rare sparrows, individual White-throated Sparrows



Dipper, Kelly Kolbo

were banded at CCRS 15 and 21 Nov, a bird has been at a feeder in San Jose 17-24 Nov (DE), and one was in Menlo Park 22 Nov-1 Dec (WGB).

Observers: Ernie Abeles (EA), Bill Bousman (WGB), Jack Cole (JAC), Emelie Curtis (EC), Jean DuBois (JDuB), Dick Elliott (DE), Al Eisner (AME), Mike Feighner (MFe), Amy Lauterbach (AL), Mike Mammoser (MJM), Kevin Monahan (KM), Peter Metropulos (PJM), Judy Milgram (JMi), Paul Noble (PLN), Mike Rogers (MMR), Alan Walther (AW), and James Yurchenco (JY).

For rarities in the county, please drop me a note, or phone: Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025 (415) 322-5282.

Non-Audubon Events

Continued from Page 3

up. Audubon members may go at \$1905 (a savings of \$110 off the land costs). Proceeds of \$200 per person have been designated to return to Costa Rica to "Friends of Lomas Barbudal," which funds the national park, "Lomas Barbudal Biological Preserve" in Costa Rica. The expedition is being paid \$1705 to handle all the arrangements with Rafael Campos leading and Grant Hoyt, President of SCVAS, and Karen Hoyt escorting. Here is a chance to contribute directly to tropical forest preservation while having the enjoyment of a natural history adventure. For itinerary, call Cecily at the SCVAS office (415) 329-1811 or Gail Cheeseman at (408) 741-5330.

Two Winter Birding Classes

Taught by Maryann Danielson (415) 369-6809. Birding Basics — for beginning and intermediate birders. The winter quarter of this lecture/field trip series will emphasize the identification and life styles of our wandering wintering bird populations. Begins January 9 for seven classes at San Carlos Senior Center. \$18.

Field Trip Report

Sacramento Valley Wildlife Refuges Trip

About 15 people joined me on the day after Thanksgiving, November 23, 1990, to share in that incredible spectacle of tens of thousands of geese and ducks wintering in the Sacramento wildlife refuges.

Starting out at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), we worked our way to Gray Lodge State Wildlife Refuge to observe the evening "fly-out." At the Sacramento NWR, we saw over 70 species of birds. Highlights included two female Hooded Mergansers at the entrance pond, two Golden Eagles, and an adult Least Bittern, which gave us a wonderful show. (We later found out from the U.S.F.W.S. area biologist that small populations of Least Bitterns occur in all of the wildlife refuges and should be looked for on all trips to the area!) We got really close looks at Clark's Grebe, and had a lot of opportunities to see the difference between the Ross' Goose and the Lesser Snow Goose. Two Common Ravens that I saw near the Sacramento NWR earlier in the day are unusual for the valley.

We drove from Sacramento NWR to Gray Lodge SWR via Road 60, where we found four Burrowing Owls (a small colony that I found some years back) and 300 White-faced Ibis along the Colusa-Grimes Highway in eastern Colusa County! We also found two Rough-legged Hawks, Lincoln's Sparrow, and a tree with several Blackcrowned Night Herons, and a Barn Owl walking down a nearly horizontal

Following the Birds Through the Winter Season—for intermediate and more advanced birders. Flocking, foraging strategies and a host of other adaptations utilized by wintering birds. Identification of birds in winter plumage a major objective. Begins January 7 for seven classes at Little House in Menlo Park. \$18.



Golden Eagle, Ed Rooks

limb along one of the back roads to Gray Lodge!

At Gray Lodge, we got a brief glimpse of an adult *Blue Goose* and saw two male *Eurasian Wigeon*. About 40,000 *Snow/Ross' Geese* took off just before sunset, which was incredibly beautiful, and the evening flyout of ducks just after sunset was as also fabulous.

On November 24, we spent about four hours walking around Colusa National Wildlife Refuge. We were rewarded with about 60 species of birds! Highlights included four Cattle Egrets, one White-faced Ibis, one Blue Goose (fly-over), one Eurasian Wigeon, one Osprey, one Rough-legged Hawks, and one Golden eagle. In Colusa (town) several of us found a male Yellow-shafted Flicker.

At the wildlife Refuge, I got a brief glimpse of several "peeps" flying by which looked like Sanderlings!? That would be the first winter record for the valley. Unfortunately, I did not get a good enough look. Such mysteries as the peeps (and the Least Bittem) always add to the adventure of birding.

The weather was great and the company wonderful, making for a really great trip. I look forward to next year.

—Don Schmoldt

Environmental Action News

New Innovative, Educational Endangered Species Program Available in January 1991

The California Endangered Species Education Program is an outgrowth of SB 885, introduced in the State Senate by Senator Gary K. Hart of Santa Barbara. National Audubon has joined the California Department of Fish and Game and the California Department of Education as co-sponsors of the program. It is designed to help students learn about endangered wildlife and develop ways they can help save the endangered species in their own communities. Not only will the students be studying about wildlife, they will be encouraged to take an active role in the protection of their endangered species.

All K-8 schools in the state are encouraged to participate, and the plans developed to save habitat can be submitted to a statewide competition. An implementation manual for teachers to launch this program in California schools will be sent to schools in January, 1991.

Implementation Workshop Offered

An Endangered Species Program Implementation Workshop will be offered by SCVAS and the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge at the Environmental Education Center on Saturday, February 2 from 9:00-3:00 pm. For workshop reservations, call

Fran or Jackie at (408) 262-5513.

For questions about the manual and Endangered Species Program, call Betsy Olsen, the coordinator for the California Endangered Species Education Program at (916) 323-2602.

Animals and Fish Listed as Extinct Since 1980

Animals

Insular Long-tongued Bat
Woodland Caribou
Penasco Least Chipmunk
Guam Rufous-fronted Fantail
Independence Valley Tui Chub
Carolina Elktoe Mussel
Goff's Southeastern Pocket Gopher
Longstreet Spring Snail
Relict Leopard Frog
Anastasia Island Cotton Mouse
Texas Henslow's Sparrow
Phantom Shiner
Sherman's Southeastern Pocket Gopher
Rio Grande Bluntnose Shiner
Fish Springs Pond Snail

Plants

Clarkia Mosquins Cyanaea linearifolia Delissea rivularis Lycopodium haleakalea Phyllosyegia hillebrandii Rollandia purpureellifolia Wild Spiderflower Palo de jazmin Styrax Portorocensis Wilkstromemia hanalei Greensward Cyanea Pycnocarpa Erigeron perglaber Myrsine mezii Phyllostegia knudsenii Spaeralcea procera Stenogyne viridis Tetramolopium consanguineum

Protecting Endangered Species

Continued from Page 1

save the owl would require significant preservation of its old growth habitat. Consequently, a 50% reduction in timber harvesting and layoff of thousands of loggers is anticipated. President Bush, Secretary of the Interior Lujan, and Oregon Senators Packwood and Hatfield threaten to weaken the law by making the exemption process easier. Conservationists, on the other hand, are hopeful that while the owl and significant areas of old growth habitat are being protected, the transition to a second growth timber economy will be accelerated. Additional threats to the law include a move to de-list the Grizzly Bear.

Citizen Action can Help

There is hope. The Endangered Species Protection Act allows citizens to petition the government to list atrisk species, and lawsuits can force the hand of Fish and Wildlife. The petition

process was used to get the Spotted Owl listed and the suit provision can be used to force the hand of the USFWS. The Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund has just won a suit which will force USFWS to list a group of over 100 Hawaiian plant species. The group listing process promises to take less time and money.

With a new Congress coming in January, and pressure building to weaken the Endangered Species Act, letters to congressional representatives are needed now to reiterate our support of the law and for an increase in funding for its administration. Voice your opposition to attempts to weaken the Act!

Marion Dresner's article first appeared in the S.F./East Bay Sierra Club chapter newsletter, The Yodeler.

Announcing Audubon Ecology Camps and Workshops for 1991

The Audubon camps have been in existence for over 50 years. Each camp is set in a natural setting. Workshops are taught by distinguished naturalists and attended by students who share an interest in nature. Field studies range from geology and marine life, to birds, mammals, plants, insects, weather, astronomy, population and renewable energy.

Audubon Camp in Maine

Field Ecology: July 8-14, July 29-August 4, August 6-12 or July 16-

Field Ornithology: June 14-20 or June 22-28.

Marine Biology: June 30-July 6.

Ecology Workshops in Connecticut

Field Ecology: June 30-July 6. Introductory Field Ecology for Educators: July 7-13, July 14-20, July 21-27, July 28-August 3, August 4-10, or August 11-17.

Field Ecology Workshops

Florida Everglades: February 9-16. Hawaii: March 6-16.

Big Bend National Park, Texas: April 6-13.

California Wetlands: April 21-28.

Nature Photography Workshops

Yellowstone-Grand Tetons (Audubon Camp of the West): June 14-23 South Florida: February 17-23.

Audubon Ecology Workshops

Southeastern Arizona: May 4-11. Olympic Peninsula: August 18-25. Southwest Canyonlands: October 5-12

Winter ecology and nature photography workshops in Yellowstone:

January 5-13, 1991 or January 4-12,

Youth camp in Maine:

August 15-25.

International Audubon Ecology Workshops:

Costa Rica: January 19-28, Venezuela: March 31-April 9, and Trinidad: June 27-July 8.

For more information, call the SCVAS office and ask for a brochure, or contact the National Audubon Society directly at 613 Riversville Rd., Greenwich, CT 06831 (203) 869-2017.

New Wildlife Viewing Guide

Birders and other wildlife enthusiasts now have a beautiful new brochure to help them find the best sites around the shoreline—The San Francisco Bay Area Wetlands Wildlife Viewing Guide.

Published by the S.F. Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the East Bay Regional Park District, PG&E, and S.F. Bay Estuary Project, the brochure is beautifully illustrated with color photographs. It lists 54 locations around the bay where shorebirds and other wildlife can be viewed and has separate sections describing each of the various bayshore habitats and their plants and animals.

To obtain a guide, send \$1 to Public Affairs Dept., East Bay Regional Park District, 11500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, CA 94619.

Greenbelt Alliance Film

Join the Golden Gate Audubon Chapter on Thurs., Jan. 10 at 7:30 PM to view "Treasures of the Greenbelt, produced by the Greenbelt Alliance. The film will be shown at the Josephine Franklin Randall Museum in San Francisco. This film will introduce you to some of the treasures of the greenbelt in the nine Bay Area counties: the Mission Blue Butterfly, the crashing Tule Elk of Point Reyes, and the cowboy working cattle. Call Joelle Buffa at (415) 658-8449 for more information.

Santa Clara Valley **Corporations Give** Support to Audubon **Adventures Program**

Many Thanks to:

IBM, sponsor of 19 Audubon Adventures classrooms in the Alum Rock School District

Lucky Stores, sponsor of 5 classrooms in the San Jose Unified School District

Sandoz Crop Protection, sponsor of 6 classrooms in Santa Clara County

Intel, sponsor of 14 classrooms in the Santa Clara Unified School Dis-

We are still able to submit requests for 4th-6th grade classrooms for Audubon Adventures. Please call SCVAS office for more details.

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society **Balance Sheet** May 31, 1990

Assets

Cash	\$21,359
Investments	317,546
Accounts Receivable	3,306
Total	\$242.211

Liabilities and Fund Balance

Accounts Payable Grants Payable	\$6,509 5,000
Fund Balance	330,702
Total	\$342,21

Activity Statement

For the Period June 1, 1989 - May 31, 1990

Revenues

Memberships	\$23,920
Interest and Dividends	32,458
Merchandise Sales	5,592
Special Events	4,915
Contributions	3,042
Environmental Federation of Calif.	689
Other	3,382
Total	\$73,998

Disbursements	
Salaries, Taxes and Benefits	\$32,815
Program Services	30,024
Printing and Publications	15,987
Telephone	4,040
Occupancy	3,360
Supplies and Equipment	2,356
Postage	1,423
Equipment Rental	1,100
Insurance	917
Travel	474
Conferences	422
Total	\$75,741

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Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society 415 Cambridge Ave., #21 Palo Alto, CA 94306 Dr. Irene Hazel Tilden 125 Cedar La San Jose, CA 95127

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid San Jose, CA Permit No. 5869

Audubon's Top 10 Tips For Saving The Planet

Recycle. • Locate your nearest recycling center and recycle aluminum, paper, glass, plastic, and whatever else is accepted. If you don't have a recycling center, ask your state and county officials to set one up. • Purchase products made from recycled paper. • Give away what you no longer need. Re-use plastic and paper cups and other good when possible. Minimize throwaways.

Learn About Household Poisons.

Avoid purchasing pesticides, solvents, and household cleaners containing toxic chemicals. When you must use them, buy only what you need and use them up. Urge your local government to set up drop-off points for household hazardous wastes.

Stop Junk Mail. • Write to companies now sending you junk mail and ask them to remove your name from their lists. • You can request that your name not be sold to most large mailing list companies by writing to: Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Assn., 6 E. 43rd St., N.Y., NY 10017.

Use Less Water. • Install aerators on your faucets, and use a low-flow showerhead. • Fill a bottle with water and put it in your toilet tank to use less water when flushing. • Better yet, get a new, low-flush toilet.

Watch What You Eat. • Buy organic products. Pesticides contaminate groundwater and harm wildlife. • Reduce your consumption of meat and dairy products, and add more fruits and vegetables, nuts and grains.

Improve Your Travel Habits. • Use pubic transportation, walk or bike as much as feasible. • Organize carpools for traveling to work, shopping, and transporting the kids.

Smarten Up On Packaging. • Avoid buying products that are excessively packaged. • If the products you buy are regularly packaged in nonrecyclable materials, write to the manufacturer and ask for recyclable packaging. • Protest unnecessary packaging of produce to store managers. • Return your grocery bags to the supermarket, re-use them, or use a cloth bag. You can purchase an Audubon string bag for \$5.

Help Wildlife. Snip rings on 6-pack holders. They end up in dumps and waterways where birds and other wildlife get caught in them and strangle. • Plant berry and fruit producing shrubs and bushes to feed wildlife. • Don't buy products made from wild animals that are endangered or threatened in their country of origin. When in doubt, don't

buy them at all. • Wild animals don't make good pets. If you want to buy an exotic pet, buy captive-bred.

Research Energy Efficiency Before You Buy. Fuel economy and energy efficiency vary among cars and appliances. Research and consider these factors as carefully as you consider price.

• Write for a copy of the Audubon Activist Carbon Dioxide Diet Poster (see address below) for more specific tips on how to cut down your energy calories.

• Consumer Reports, 256 Washington St., Mount Vernon, NY 10553, and the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, 1001 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036, are also good sources of information.

Write! Telephone! Join! Contribute! • Keep passing the word. Communication keeps ideas alive. • Express your views to your friends; tell them what you are doing. • Write to your local newspaper and your elected officials. Keep environmental issues in the forefront. • Become part of the Audubon Activist Network. Join more than 12,000 citizen-activists who are doing something about big environmental problems. • Support the conservation organization(s) of your choice. Add your name to the worldwide effort to restore the health of our planet.

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. SCVAS Subscriber-\$8 Name: SCVAS Supporter-\$20 SCVAS Donor-\$35 Address: SCVAS Patron-\$50 or more Introductory - \$20 City: Individual - \$35 Family - \$38 Audubon Activist - \$9