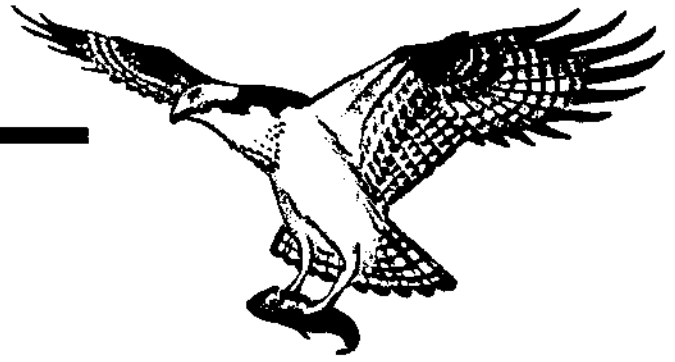


THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the Audubon Society

Pam Gortz, Editor
 4301 N. Ramsey Rd., #A2-14
 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
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June 1992

Volume 2, No. 5

CALENDAR CHECK! -

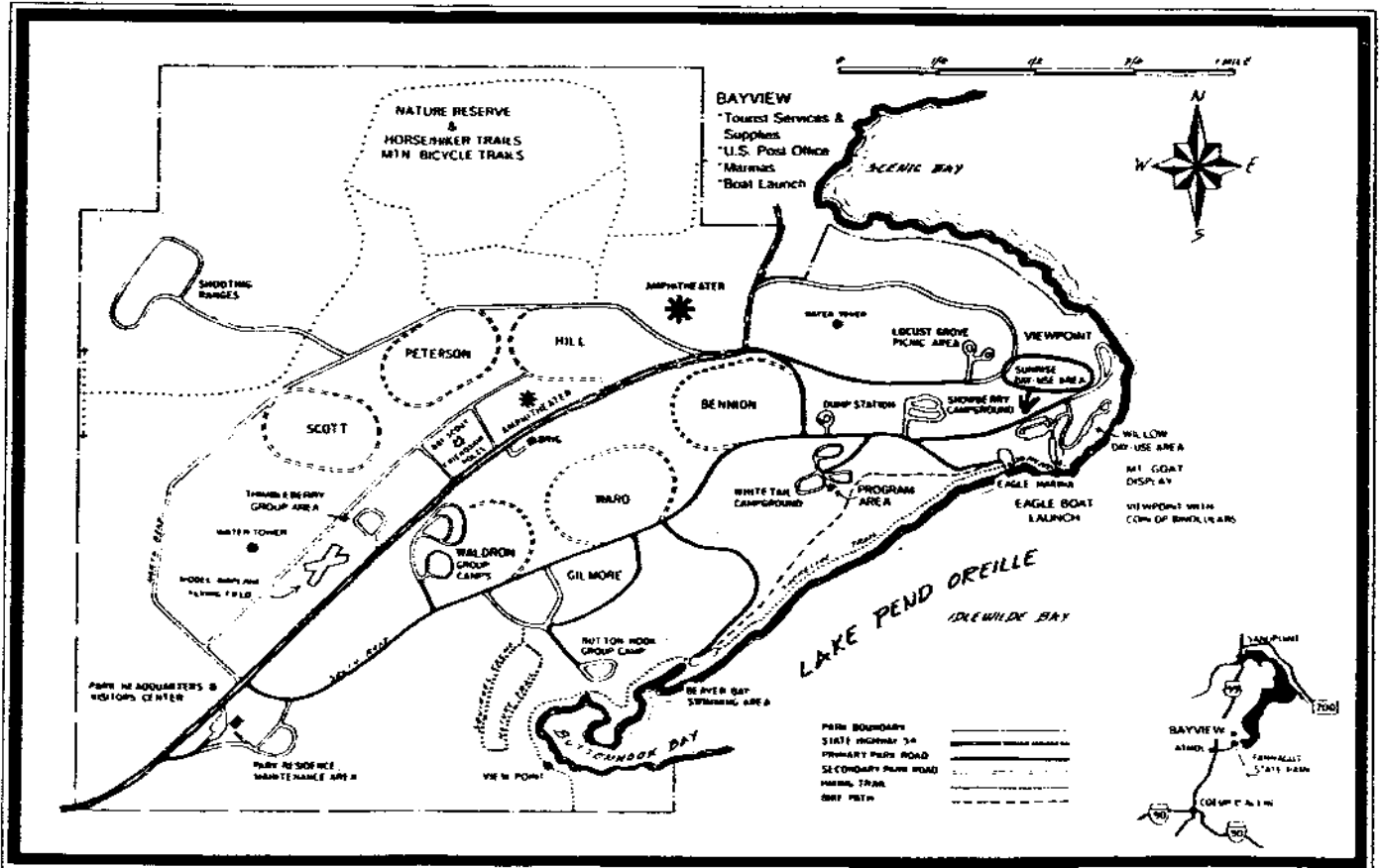
JUNE 15,
 1992
 5 PM

Coeur d'Alene Audubon Potluck at Farragut State Park - Sunrise Picnic Area. Bring a potluck dish, your own plates, utensils and beverage. Last year we had a great time and had wonderful food - come join us! Remember to stop at park headquarters and pay a \$2.00 parking fee. A map of Farragut is set out below.

AUG. 20,
 1992

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for submitting articles, etc., for the September newsletter.

NOTE: This will be the last newsletter for the summer - the next newsletter will come out just before the September meeting. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!



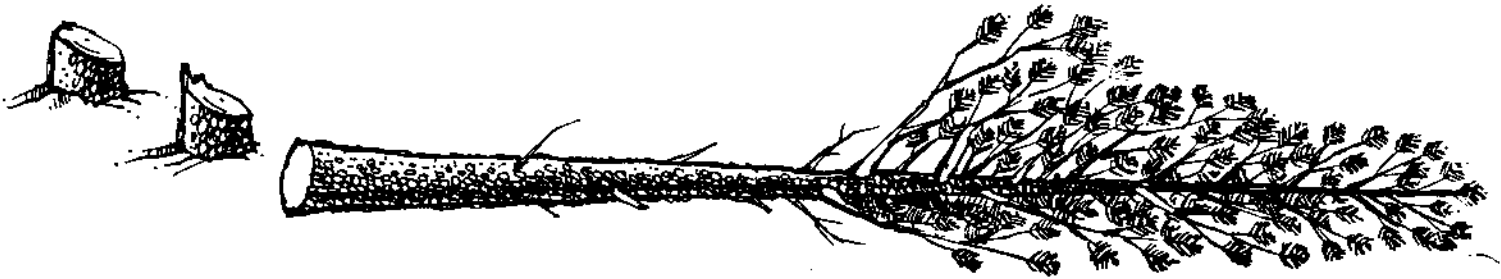
IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR FARRAGUT . . . YET!!

Several days ago Audubon members received a letter from President Susan Weller setting out information regarding a proposal to log one million board feet of timber from 250 acres within Farragut State Park. Although the field tour and open house have already been held on this proposal, it's still not too late to voice your opinion. Written comments will be accepted until June 19th by writing to:

David Ortman, Regional Supervisor
Department of Fish and Game
2320 Government Way
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Even if you attended either the field tour or the open house and verbally voiced your opinion, reiterating it in writing would reinforce the Audubon stand.

Let's pool our voices and relay Audubon's cause and purpose to ". . . help establish and protect wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, parks, wild and scenic rivers, and ecological reserves." Every verbal and written comment produces a ripple effect that will result in a wave to combat the destruction of this valuable habitat.



**"We preserve only what we love,
and we love only what we understand."**

IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE . . . The Starfish Parable

A mid-westerner was vacationing on the New England coast. One morning, very early, she was walking along the beach - the sun was still below the horizon, the rain had ended, the sea was calm, and a rainbow bridged the blue Atlantic with the green shoreline. While enjoying the beauty about her, she glanced down the beach and saw the lone figure of a young man silhouetted against the sea. He skipped and frolicked as if performing a ritual dance to celebrate the dawn. Fascinated, she moved closer. As she approached, she realized the young man was not dancing - he was, with graceful and joyous movements, picking up objects and tossing them into the sea. Soon she realized the objects were starfish.



"Why are you throwing starfish into the sea?"

"The tide is going out and if they are still here when the sun rises, they will die. And without breaking his rhythm he continued tossing them out to sea."

"That's ridiculous! There are thousands of miles of beach and millions of starfish. You can't really believe that what you are doing could possibly make a difference!"

He smiled, bent over and picked up another starfish, paused thoughtfully, and remarked as he tossed it into the waves, **"It makes a difference to this one."**

[Author Unknown, but appreciated]

FIELD TRIP REPORT – McArthur Lake Wildlife Management Area [May 23, 1992] –

The field trip day and place were changed to meet schedules of those who registered and also because a Garganey, a rare teal from Asia, had been reported seen at McArthur Lake Wildlife Management Area. (For more details see the article on the Rare Bird Sighting.) Six of us piled into Chuck and Bee Finne's comfortable van and headed north to find this rare bird. Unfortunately the bird had either moved on or was just being uncooperative. We spent most of the birding day in two areas and we were rewarded for our trouble by seeing many other more common but still beautiful and interesting species. The most exciting bird of the day, at least to the leader, was 5 Wilson's Phalarope. I have only seen Phalarope during migration but the Bonner-Boundary Birders have them as uncommon during the summer on their checklist so they may nest locally. I would like records and information on this Phalarope to determine if they nest in North Idaho.



Species counted were: Red-necked Grebe 1 pair, including one sitting on a nest; Great Blue Heron 3; Canada Geese 25+, including 1 sitting on a nest and 1 pair escorting 7 young across the lake; Wood Duck 2 pair; Green-winged Teal 5; Mallard several, including 1 female with 8 young and another with 5; Cinnamon Teal 3 males and 2 female; American Wigeon 2 pair; Ring-necked Duck 5; Osprey 2; Killdeer 1; Ring-billed Gull 1 for sure and 5 other Gulls probably Ring-billed; Wilson's Phalarope 5; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 1; Tree

Swallow, many nesting in the numerous bird houses provided by the Fish and Game; Cliff Swallows gathering mud for their nest; Barn Swallows with nests; several American Crow and Common Raven; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1+; American Robin several; European Starling 1 feeding at least 2 young at a nest hole on top of dead tree stump; Yellow Warbler 1; Black-headed Grosbeak 2 singing; Song Sparrow several heard; Red-winged Blackbird several; Pine Siskin several heard. We probably could have added more song birds to our list but most of our efforts were put into searching the lake for the Garganey. Participants were: Chuck and Bee Finne, Ann Leslie, Mary Manning, Esther Stewart, and Shirley Sturts (leader).

[Shirley Sturts]

RARE BIRD SIGHTING –

A Garganey, a rare Asian Teal, was reported seen on May 18th by Pat Cole the manager of McArthur Wildlife Management Area. Garganey are rare to the Aleutians and an accidental vagrant in other parts of North America. This is a first sighting for North Idaho. I believe there has been only one other sighting in Idaho. This sighting was in the southern part of the state but I do not know the details as to the exact location and date. After being alerted to this sighting two well qualified birders from the Canyon Birding Club in Lewiston made a trip up to McArthur on Monday, May 18th. After a morning of searching Carole Vande Voorde and Winifred Hepburn saw the Garganey come out in the open and were able to confirm Pat's sighting. Hopefully some Bonner and Boundary birders will have sighted the bird as well. The Cd'A Audubon Society changed their field trip location and went searching for the Garganey on Saturday, May 23rd, but were not fortunate enough to find it.



Pat, Carole and Winnie will be submitting rare bird reports to be reviewed by the Records Committee of the Idaho Audubon Council headed by Dr. C. H. Trost, Dept. Biol. Sci. at Idaho State University in Pocatello. Records without documentation (photograph, specimen, etc.) will usually be considered hypothetical unless seen by two or more experienced observers. It is very important when a rare bird is sighted to take notes in the field including conditions (e.g. weather, prior weather, light, distance, optical aides, duration, etc.); description of bird (size, color, all field marks observed and those not observed); behavior of the bird (song or calls, other birds with this one, interactions, etc.); list of similar species and how you eliminate them; what your experience is with this or similar species. It is important to get other experienced birders to confirm the sighting and obtain a photograph if possible. Rare bird forms may be obtained from Shirley Sturts (664-5318, E. 4615 Fernan Lake Road, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 or from Dr. C.H. Trost, Dept. Biol. Sci., Box 8007, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID 83209.

[Shirley Sturts]

SPECIAL
THANKS
TO:

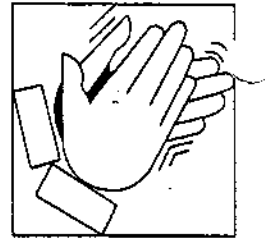


The Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society would like to thank ALPINE PRINTING for their donation to our newsletter. Please support ALPINE PRINTING, 205-F East Seltice Way, Post Falls, with your patronage.

YOUNGEST AUDUBON MEMBER WINS BLUE RIBBON ON BIRD SCIENCE PROJECT --

Noah Couser, our youngest member - age 7 - entered his science project in the 1992 Coeur d'Alene School Science Fair. He titled his project "What Birds Are The Most Common in North Idaho during the Winter Months." He then predicted which five birds that he thought would be most prevalent. Next to prove, or disprove, his prediction he searched out the facts . . . by numerous bird walks (including our Christmas Bird Count) - Interviews with more experienced birders and newspaper articles. He then summarized his findings - made a display which included his log book of activities for the project, graphs showing the results of his predictions, and sketches he drew of birds that are here in winter. His project was judged and was awarded a First Quality Blue Ribbon. Great Job, Noah!

[-Bee Finne]

**BIRD NOTES --**

****First Sightings --** (From a quick survey of birders I came up with these first sightings of the year. If you have any earlier sightings of these species or first sightings of others, please call Shirley Sturts 664-5318)

Osprey	-	3/8/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Killdeer	-	3/14/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Mourning Dove	-	3/22/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
Black-chinned Hummingbird	-	3/7/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
Rufous Hummingbird	-	4/26/92, Cd'A residential area, Mary Manning and Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Calliope Hummingbird	-	4/20/92, Squaw Bay area, Cd'A Lake, Barbara Dorrell
Red-naped Sapsucker	-	4/3/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
Western Wood Pewee	-	5/14/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Cordilleran (Western) Flycatcher	-	5/14/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Hammond's Flycatcher	-	4/26/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Tree Swallow	-	3/22/92, Squaw Bay area, Cd'A Lake, Barbara Dorrell
Violet-green Swallow	-	3/1/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
House Wren	-	3/23/92, Squaw Bay area, Cd'A Lake, Barbara Dorrell
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	4/7/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Western Bluebird and Mountain Bluebird	-	3/12/92, Kelso Lake Blue Bird Trail, Gertie Hanson (probably arrived earlier - this was the first check on the trail)
Swainson's Thrush	-	5/25/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson (this species and the Nighthawk always arrive late)
Gray Catbird	-	4/20/92, Squaw Bay, Cd'A Lake, Barbara Dorrell
Warbling Vireo	-	5/7/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
Solitary Vireo	-	4/26/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Nashville Warbler	-	4/28/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Yellow Warbler	-	4/15/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	4/19/92, Squaw Bay area, Cd'A Lake, Barbara Dorrell
Black-headed Grosbeak	-	5/7/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
Rufous-sided Towhee	-	3/11/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
Western Tanager	-	5/16/92, Blackwell Hill area, Gertie Hanson
Chipping Sparrow	-	4/20/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks



[See next page for other bird sightings]

BIRD NOTES [cont.] -

****Other Bird Sightings**

- Common Loon [1] - 5/2/92, Fernan Lake, Shirley Sturts
- Red-necked Grebe [1 pr.] - 5/1/92 (still around as of 5/23/92), Fernan Lake, possibly nesting - this is a first sighting of this species on Fernan Lake. I have nesting records for this species on Hauser Lake, Benawah Lake, McArthur Lake, and Cougar Bay on Cd'A Lake, but I have no sightings on Fernan, even during migration.)
- Northern Goshawk - 5/14/92, Spokane River area, Richard Beeks
5/21/92, Cougar Bay area, Richard Beeks
- Bobwhite - 5/30/92, 1 heard by Richard Beeks (not a native, probably a released bird)
- Least Sandpiper - 5/9/92, Denton Slough, Lake Pend Oreille, Gertrude Hanson (on a field trip with U of I sponsored class by Clark Fork Field Station)
- Lewis' Woodpecker [1 pr] - 5/9/92, courting near the Clark Fork Field Station, Gertrude Hanson (on a field trip with U of I sponsored class from the Clark Fork Field Station)
- Turkey Vultures [9] - 5/10/92 seen by Mike Dixon at Buttonhook Bay on Pend Oreille Lake
- Lark Sparrow - seen by Jane Badraun at her home
- Black-headed Grosbeak - seen by Jane Badraun at her home
- Cooper's Hawk - seen by Jane Badraun at her home
- Black-headed Grosbeak - 1 pr. seen by Roger Young at his feeder



RESPECTING NATURE -

I recently received my June-July issue of National Wildlife and was moved by an article written by National Wildlife Federation President Jay D. Hair. While in New Mexico, he witnessed an approach to land rehabilitation and farming that could make dramatic improvements causing minimum ecological impact. This technique called permaculture is a form of agriculture that embraces a philosophy of maintaining the natural landscape -- a practice whose roots come from the ancient ways and wisdom of Native Americans. Because human impact on natural habitats is the greatest culprit in today's dizzying rate of extinction, his article basically set out the need to respect nature, to make it a way of life. He wrote, "We need to step back from our hectic lives and see our impacts on the Earth. We can learn from the wisdom of a people who lived for centuries on this land without causing rampant pollution and destruction." He wrote the following with that message in mind:



"What Makes the Earth Rhyme?"

*From ancient place and distant time,
Teach me, Great Spirit, what brings the Earth to rhyme?
Is it the magic of morning snow?
Or secrets ground-locked, far below?
Is it known to playful ravens, soaring free?
Or plunged in the depths of a lightless sea?
Could it be truth hidden within my soul?
Space and love only a heart can know?
Teach me, Great Spirit, within my time,
What truly makes the Earth to rhyme?
At sunset's silence the voice came clear,
Listen quietly, so all may hear:
"Your question's answer is hard, my child,
For the Earth will rhyme if we treasure it . . . wild."*



[Pam Gontz]



NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YES, I'd like to join. Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send the Audubon magazine and my membership card to the address below. My check for \$20 payable to the National Audubon Society is enclosed.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Send this application and your check to
National Audubon Society
 Chapter Membership Data Center
 P.O. Box 51001
 Boulder, CO 80322-1001

Local Chapter
 Coeur d'Alene G06

Local Chapter Code
 7XCH8

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COEUR D'ALENE AUDUBON SOCIETY

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