

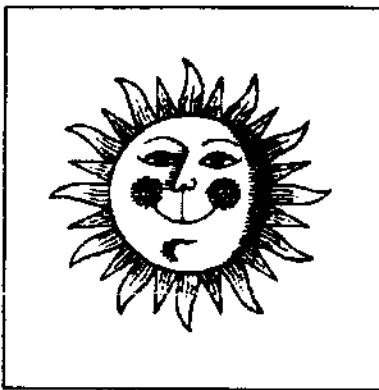
# THE FISH HAWK HERALD

Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the Audubon Society  
Editor: Shirley Sturts - E4615 Fernan Lake Rd - Coeur d'Alene, Id. 83814 -664-5318

MAY 1994

Vol. 3 No. 11

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This is the last newsletter until September and I would like to welcome all the new members of National Audubon and the Coeur d'Alene chapter. Over the past couple of months our membership list has increased by approximately 40 members, bringing the total number of members of the chapter close to 280. National Audubon appreciates the support of all the new members, which helps not only the national organization but also the local chapter.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mike Mihelich



## CALENDAR CHECK

**MAY 17 TUESDAY**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
Time: 7 PM  
Place: Iron Horse  
Program: Dan Audet of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will talk to us about issues of concern to the public.

**BOARD MEETING**  
Time: 6:15 before the regular meeting at 7:00

**MAY 14 SATURDAY**  
**MIGRATORY BIRD DAY**  
**FIELD TRIP: BIRDING BY EAR**  
Time: 7:30 A.M.  
Place: I-90 and Rose Lake Jct. in the Country Chef Parking Lot  
Leader: Susan Weller 1 208 682-3413 call Shirley 664-5318 if you are interested in a car pool.  
We will drive to Wallace and then turn on a dirt road going toward Moon Pass. This will be a great opportunity to learn to know the birds by their song.

Calendar Check Continued...**MAY 14 SATURDAY  
OPEN HOUSE FOR MIGRATORY  
BIRD DAY****Time: 8:30-12:00 A.M.****Place: Thompson Lake**

**Details:** International Migratory Bird Day will be celebrated with an invitation to visit the Wildlife Viewing Blind with binoculars and spotting scopes to help you view the marsh and wildlife. Also visitors may register for door(less) prizes at the Viewing Blind. At noon, names will be drawn (from those registered) for bird feeders, bird houses, and bird ID book. You need not be present at noon to win a door prize.

The viewing Blind is located by driving south on Highway 97 from Wolf Lodge Bay area to Thompson Lake Road (about 35 miles). Thompson Lake Rd is the road to your left as you approach the marsh area on your left and Lake Coeur d'Alene on your right. Turn left on Thompson Lake Road (a gravel road) and drive 1.7 miles. There is a small parking area on the left side near the gravel pit and the pathway to the blind is on the right. The path is paved to be accessible to all persons. Bring yourself or the whole family for an enjoyable view of Thompson lake and the birds that call it home.

For more information call Watchable Wildlife at 765-7409 or 667-8475

**JUNE 4-5 SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
FIELD TRIP: ST. MARIES AND  
THOMPSON LAKE AREA**

**Time and Place:** Organized by the Canyon Birders of Lewiston/Clarkston call Winnie Hepburn 1 (208) 843-5347 for a time and place to meet them for one or both days. There are plans for camping, motel and housing in a local birders home for those staying overnight. Call Shirley Sturts 664-5318 for a possible car pool.

**GALAPAGOS ISLANDS!  
ECUADORIAN AMAZON**

Dec.18, 1994 - Jan.3,1995

A group of Western nature enthusiasts is being organized by Dr. Jack Kirkley, ornithologist of Western Montana College, to visit Galapagos Islands and key natural areas for viewing Ecuador's jungle wildlife. For more information write him at: Western Montana College  
710 S. Atlantic St.,  
Dillon, MT 59725  
or call (406) 683-7321

**Southwest Wings  
Birding Festival**AUGUST 19-20-21, 1994  
SIERRA VISTA, AZ.

\*BIRDING AND NATURE TOURS  
\*NATURE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES  
\*PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
SOUTHWEST WINGS BIRDING FESTIVAL  
P.O. BOX 3432  
SIERRA VISTA, AZ 85635  
(602) 458-2555

SIERRA VISTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/TOURIST &amp; VISITORS CENTER

**TUBBS HILL WALK AND  
BREAKFAST**

April 30, 1994

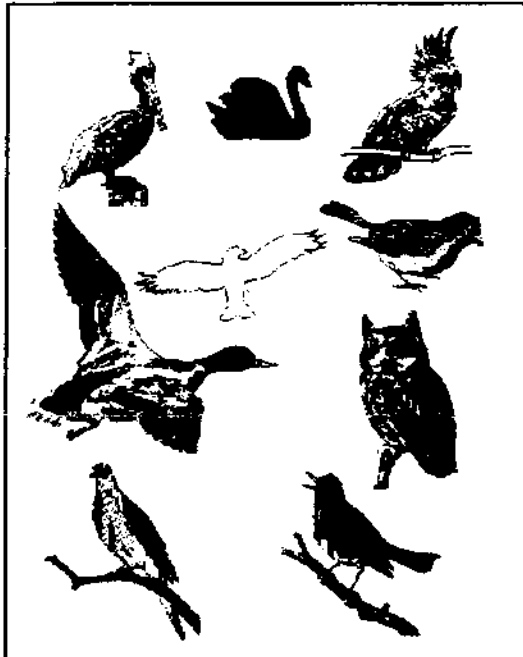
Participants: Shirley Sturts (leader) LaRene Adkinson, Mary Manning, Chris Woerz, Stephen Woerz

Birds counted

Canada Goose 3, Mallard 1, Osprey 1, N.Flicker 1, Swallows many, Crow 2, Raven 1, Chickadee sp.1, R.B. Nuthatch 6+, Pygmy Nuthatch 2, Solitary Vireo 1, Robin 1+, Yellow Warbler 2+, R.S. Towhee 1, D.E. Junco 8+, R. Crossbill 8+, E.Grosbeak 1+

## BIRD ON A BAG SCORES BIG

Beth Paragamian



Shoppers in grocery stores will not only bag some groceries, but also a bird. Elementary students from 16 schools participated in the 'Bird On a Bag' project for the Watchable Wildlife program. The students designed and colored pictures of various birds on the sides of brown bags. They signed their name and the school name near the drawing of the bird. The bags were then collected and given to the grocery stores that furnished them. During International Migratory Bird Week, May 9-14, 1994, nearly four thousand decorated bags will be used to hold groceries, but more importantly, to highlight the needs of birds.

The following grocery stores and schools were partners in this project. Post Falls Tidyman's, Coeur d'Alene Tidyman's, CDA Rosauers, CDA Super One, Ron's Harvest Foods of Hayden, and Sandpoint Safeway supplied the bags. The artwork was from the Post Falls

Ponderosa Elementary, Prairie View Elementary, and Seltice Elementary. The Coeur d'Alene Schools were Lake City Jr. Academy, Coeur d'Alene Christian School, Bryan, Dalton, Sorenson, Borah, Fernan, and Ramsey Elementary Schools. Hayden Meadows, Garwood, and Harrison Elementary Schools also participated with bird drawings. In the Sandpoint area, the bags were decorated by Washington Elementary, Sagle Elementary and Naples Elementary Schools. Thanks to all who helped with this project.

The artwork on the bags helps to bring attention to the needs of all birds, but especially the migratory birds who nest in our areas and winter in Mexico or other southern locals. Each spring brings the brightly colored travelers and their cheery songs, but lately the spring has been noticeably quieter. According to the Breeding Bird Survey, many species of migratory birds declined during the past decade.

WHY? The destruction of natural habitat areas in the north and south and along the route is a main reason. Other reasons are buildings, wires, pollution, and cats. Bird populations can be helped and many groups are doing just that. For more information on how you may help, please contact Partners in Flight, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 1120 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036.

## SAVING MIGRATORY BIRDS

A Project for the Backyard Conservationist (Part 2)

by: *Jamie K. Doyle, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center  
and  
Craig Tufts, National Wildlife Federation*

Reproduced  
by Permission  
from Partners  
in Flight 2:3  
Fall 1992:  
National Fish and  
Wildlife  
Foundation

### DANGERS IN THE GARDEN

Having invited migratory birds into your yard, you have a responsibility to protect them from hazards associated with the human community.

#### Cats

**The Problem:** Dr. Stanley Temple and Mr. John Coleman of the University of Wisconsin estimate that rural cats in Wisconsin kill 20 - 150 million songbirds (35% of a rural cat's diet) annually. Many people believe that a collar bell will alert birds to danger, but research shows that cats either sit and wait for their prey or stalk very slowly. By the time a bell rings, it is too late. Research has also shown that declawing a cat does not prevent it from killing wildlife.

**The Solution:** Cats should either be confined indoors or be restricted to a fenced area.

#### Predators

**The Problem:** Bird feeders, unsecured garbage cans, open landfills and deliberate handouts all act to artificially increase the numbers of predators that feed on migratory birds in a given area. Mammalian threats to migrants include raccoons, skunks, squirrels, and feral cats. Birds that eat the eggs and young of migrant songbirds include jays, crows, and grackles. Cowbirds lay their eggs in the nests of many songbirds. Because cowbirds hatch earlier and grow faster than the young of migrants, they receive a

disproportional amount of the food. As a result, the true offspring starve or are crowded out of the nest, to perish on the forest floor.

**The Solution:** Refrain from placing food scraps out for wildlife. See that your local landfill covers debris on a daily basis and ask local farmers to refrain from feeding their livestock in low, open trays.

#### Reflective Windows

**The Problem:** Dr. Daniel Klem of Southern Illinois University estimates that 95 - 950 million birds are killed annually when they strike reflective windows. Project Feeder Watch, run by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, has data suggesting that 100 million birds die each year due to window strikes (this sample is heavily biased toward "feeder species" and may underestimate deaths of other birds).

**The Solution:** Break up the reflective qualities of glass by rubbing soap over the outside surface to create a dull appearance, installing screens, one-way tinting, hanging streamers, or other objects on the window. Or, mount plastic garden protection netting on a frame installed approximately one foot from the

glass surface. Birds that hit the screening will bounce off unharmed. Several commercial establishments sell falcon silhouettes, claiming that the image warns birds away from the windows. Research has shown that these silhouettes are ineffective unless a number of them are used together. This works not because the birds are scared of the falcon image, but because the pattern of images breaks up the reflection on the glass.

#### Pesticides

**The Problem:** Countless birds die each year from direct (eating pesticide granule or being sprayed) or indirect (eating a poisoned prey item) contact with landscape and agricultural chemicals.

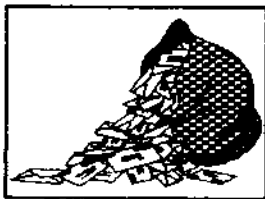
**The Solution:** Reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers and pesticides by cultivating native plants and reducing lawn area. Control insects with pest specific traps, interplanting plants that repel insect pests, and increasing natural insect predators, such as lacewings, ladybird beetles, toads, and those birds that the garden was intended to attract in the first place. Use leaf and compost mulches to add nutrients to the soil. Refer to books on natural organic gardening and let your yard "go wild."

**\*\*\*TAKE ACTION\*\*\***

Conservation News From Ellen Scriven

Wildlife Refuge System Management and Policy Act

Some of us are all too familiar with the shortcomings of management (or lack thereof) on our National Wildlife Refuges. Some of the activities that we see on refuges are intensive grazing, military bombing, mining and jet skiing, all destructive to wildlife habitat and populations, some of the endangered or threatened.



LETTERS NEEDED

Actually, the National Wildlife Refuge System is the only major public land agency that does not have an operating charter or comprehensive planning requirements. Senator Bob Graham (D-FL) has introduced a bill to reform the administration of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Besides providing the above it would also establish standards and a formal process for determining what uses should be allowed on refuges. Our Idaho Senators need to hear from us on this important bill. Please write to them urging their support for S823, The National Wildlife System Management and Policy Act, and ask them to support provisions that (1) make the conservation of native species diversity a purpose of the refuge system and (2) require other federal agencies to ensure that their actions don't harm the refuges.

**President Clinton's Budget Package**

We conservationists can be pleased with the Clinton administration's fiscal 1995 budget package as presented to Congress (where it is subject to debate and alteration or rejection). It includes increases in funding for endangered species protection, international population assistance, energy conservation, the

Environmental protection Agency, as well as for Interior Department programs in ecosystem management and sustainable development. The Administration has proposed a 33% increase for the Endangered Species Program, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; a 6% increase in funding for the newly established National Biological Survey to survey the nation's plants and animals, providing crucial information for managing wildlife and habitats on an ecosystem basis; a nearly five-fold increase in funding for the Wetlands Reserve Program, a program which pays farmers to restore farmed or prior converted wetlands; a 15% increase for research into solar and other renewable energies and a 43% increase for energy conservation efforts. The budget proposed for the Interior Department includes funding for four ecosystem restoration projects. One of these projects is to carry out President Clinton's ancient forest plan in the Pacific Northwest. It is encouraging to note the new emphasis on the federal government in these proposed increases is on protecting entire ecosystem and developing sustainable use of resources.

Where the budget falls short is in the administration's proposal for Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriations which are dedicated to the acquisition of environmentally significant areas. In proposing the same funding as 1994 Clinton, is abandoning a campaign promise to boost funding for land acquisition. As Ronald Tipton, Audubon's vice-president for Government Affairs states "As development pressures increase, it becomes even more critical that we increase President Clinton's budget package and urging them to support it. Specifically, ask them to:

\*\*Approve the full funding levels in the president's budget request for the EPA, endangered species, the National Biological Survey, the Wetlands Reserve Program, energy conservation and ecosystem restoration.

(This article is continued on the next page)

**\*\*\*Take Action\*\*\*  
(Continued)**

**\*\*Raise funding above the president's levels for management of the National Wildlife Refuge System and for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Both involve the protection of critical habitat for wildlife and endangered species.**

**\*\*Meet or exceed the president's requests for international family planning and sustainable development assistance. Ask that population assistance and other development programs not be pitted against each other.**

**Addresses of Senators  
and Representatives**

Senator Dirk Kempthorne or/and Senator Larry  
Craig

U.S. Senate

Washington D.C. 20510

Congressman Larry LaRocco

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington D.C. 20515

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**Things to Ponder**

Ellen Scriven

**\*\*One quarter of the world's population lives in the "North", developed, industrial countries of the northern hemisphere. Yet the "North" used 90% of the earth's physical resources, consumes 70% of the world's grain, controls 92% of global industry, uses 94% of the total world's health care spending and 89% of the world's educational budget. In the "South", countries near or below the equator, countries designated as "underdeveloped", three-quarters of the world's population struggle under the burdens of poverty, starvation and pollution (much of which is exported from the North).**

**\*\*U.S. Government Statistic: In 1991 the federal government requested 305 billion dollars for the military, 56 times more than the amount requested for pollution control, 12.5 times more than for education.**

**\*\*85% of U.S. topsoil loss is directly associated with the raising of livestock.**

**\*\*More than 50% of the U.S. water is used for some phase of livestock production.**

**\*\*The grazing of domestic livestock on western rangelands has probably had a greater adverse impact on wildlife populations than any other single factor." Steve Gallizioli, Research Chief, Arizona State Game and Fish Department**

**\*\*90% of the beef produced in Central America goes to the United States.**

**\*\*More than 50% of tropical rainforest deforestation is directly linked with livestock raising.**

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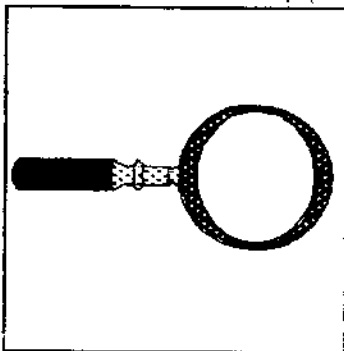
**COEUR D'ALENE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA FIELD TRIP**

Ellen Scriven, Gertie Hanson and Shirley Sturts were not discouraged by the rain that was falling Sunday morning April 24. They were rewarded with a let up in the rain and several first spring migrant sightings for the year.

Gertie our recorder came up with the following trip totals: C.Loon 1, R.N.Grebe 3, P.B.Grebe 1, G.B.Heron 7+, Canada Geese sev. and nests, Gadwall 10, G.W.Teal 1, B.W.Teal 1, Cinnamon Teal 8, Am. Wigeon 2, N.Shoveler 1, Wood Duck 20+, Ring-necked Duck 3, Bufflehead 8, C. Merganser 1, Turkey Vulture 1, Northern Harrier 2, Osprey 10+ sev. nests, Am. Kestrel 1, Sora Rail 1, Am. Coot 34+, Killdeer 2, B.Kingfisher 5, C.Flicker 2, Y.B.Sapsucker 1, Hairy Woodpecker 1, Y.G.Swallow 30+, Tree Swallow 30+, Cliff Swallow 16+, B.B.Magpie 2, C.Raven 6+, Am. Crow 1, B.C.Chickadee 1, R.B.Nuthatch 1, Marsh Wren 1, Am.Robin 3, Starling 2, Orange-C.Warbler 1, W.Meadowlark 1, Y.H.Blackbird sev., R.W. Blackbird sev., Brewer's Blackbird 15, House Finch 2, Rufus-sided Towhee 1, Dark-eyed Junco 2, Song Sparrow 6.

# OBSERVATION POST

Observers: Jim Acton (JA), Jane Badraun (JB), Dale Goble (DG), Warren Hall (WH) Gertie Hanson (GH), Wes Hanson (WH), Mary Manning (MM), Brian Miller (BM), Ron and Roberta Rich (RRR), Herb and Jan Severson (HJS), Lee Strelz (LS), Shirley Sturts (SHS), Susan Weller (SW), Judy Waring (JW) Phil Waring (PW), Roger Young (RY), Coeur d'Alene Audubon Field Trip (CAS)



1. Common Loon 6 Cougar Bay, CDA L.(GH) 4/9/94: 1 Fernan L. 4/10,4/24 (SHS).
2. Canada Goose 4 Adults with 15 goslings Cougar Bay, Cda L. 4/24/94 (PW).
3. Wood Duck 1 pr Beauty Bay, CDA L. (JHS): 20+ Cda WMA 4/24/94 (CAS).
4. Green-Winged Teal 1 Thompson Lake 4/24/94 (CAS).
5. Blue-Winged Teal 1 Thompson Lake 4/24/94 (CAS).
6. Cinnamon Teal 8+ Thompson Lake 4/24/94 (CAS).
7. Northern Shoveler 1 Beauty Bay, Cda L. 4/14/94 (HJS) and 4/24/94 Thompson Lake (CAS).
8. Gadwall 10 Thompson Lake 4/24/94 (CAS).
9. Eurasian Wigeon 2 Lane Marsh (S. of Rose Lake) 3/21/94 (DWS).
10. Turkey Vulture Cave Lake 4/24/94 (CAS).
11. Osprey 1st back at Cataldo 3/22/94 (SW).
12. Wild Turkey 12 Summit Drive, Hayden View 3/22/94 (RRR).
13. California Quail 6 Spyglass Drive, Hayden View 3/26/94 (RRR).
14. Sora 2 between Rose Lake and Rainy Hill (CAS).
15. Common Snipe 1 Cougar Bay, Cda L. (JW).
16. Great Horned Owl 1 Cataldo Area (SW).
17. Calliope Hummingbird 1st sightings 4/14/94 Emerald Estates area Hayden Lake (LS): 4/19/94 Blackwell Hill(WH).
18. Rufous Hummingbird 1st sightings 3/27/94 (1 heard) 4/19/94 (at feeder) SW: 4/18/94 Emerald Estates area Hayden Lake (LS): 4/2/94 Cda (city) home (MM).
19. Anna's Hummingbird 1 at a feeder in Liberty Lake week of 4/24 - 4/29 (came earlier (rare for this area (BM).
20. Pileated Woodpecker 1 coming to suet feeder all winter and is still coming as of 5/1/94 Emerald Estates area Hayden Lake (LS).
21. Tree Swallow 1st seen 4/3/94 Cda city home (MM).
22. Tree and Cliff Swallow several Cda River Wildlife Management area 4/24/94 (CAS).
23. Blue Jay 1 coming to feeder Moscow area (DG) (rare in N. Idaho).
24. Clark's Nutcracker 8 Fernan Hill home 4/29/94 (RY).
25. Northern Mockingbird 1 Liberty Lake area (WA) WH,JA,BM week of 4/24-29/94 (rare for this area).
26. American Water Pipit 24 Moscow Area 4/13 - still there 4/19 (DG).
27. Solitary vireo 1st 4/30/94 Tubbs Hill (CAS).
28. Orange-Crowned Warbler 1st 4/19/94 Blackwell Hill (GH): 4/20/94 Cataldo area (SW).
29. Yellow-Rumped Warbler 1st 4/16/94 Cataldo area (SW).
30. Yellow Warbler 1st 4/20/94 Cda city home (MM).
31. Yellow-headed Blackbird 1st Cda Wildlife Management area (CAS).
32. Brewer's Blackbird 1st Harrison Flats (CAS).
33. Pine Grosbeak 1 pair coming into feeder Emerald Estates area Hayden lake (LS).
34. Evening Grosbeak large numbers moved into our area in April. (JB) 1st had them at her feeder on Rathdrum Prairie 3/22/94 (2 M 1 F) by 4/9/94 she had 50. Everyone I've talked to has them at their feeders.

**COEUR D'ALENE  
AUDUBON SOCIETY**

OFFICERS

President: Mike Mihelich 664-4741  
 Vice-President: Phil Waring 765-5378  
 Treasurer: Ron Rich 772-4532  
 Board Members: Judy Waring 765-5378  
 Scott Reed 664-2161  
 Susan Weller 682-3413

COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Conservation: Ellen Scriven 682-3413  
 message phone  
 Education: Bee Finne 667-0425  
 Membership: Judy Waring 765-5378  
 Newsletter: Shirley Sturts 664-5318  
 Fieldtrip: Shirley Sturts 664-5318

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:** A membership in the National Audubon Society also entitles you to chapter membership in the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society and receipt of the bimonthly Audubon magazine and the chapter newsletter, The Fish Hawk Herald. First time members should make their checks payable to the National Audubon Society and send them to our membership chairman (see address below) if you send your membership check direct to the National Audubon Society data center, please mention you wish to be affiliated with the Coeur d'Alene Chapter and give them the chapter code 7SCH8  
 New Membership \$20, Regular Membership \$30.

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The Fish Hawk Herald is published monthly (except for June, July and Aug.) by the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Annual nonmember subscriptions to The Fish Hawk Herald are \$5.00 which should be sent to the membership chairman & Coeur d'Alene Audubon Chapter - P.O. Box 361 - Coeur d'Alene, Id 83814. The deadline for submission of materials to be included in the newsletter is the 25th of each month. Copy should be sent to the Editor at E4615 Fernan Lake Road - Coeur d'Alene, Id 83814.

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