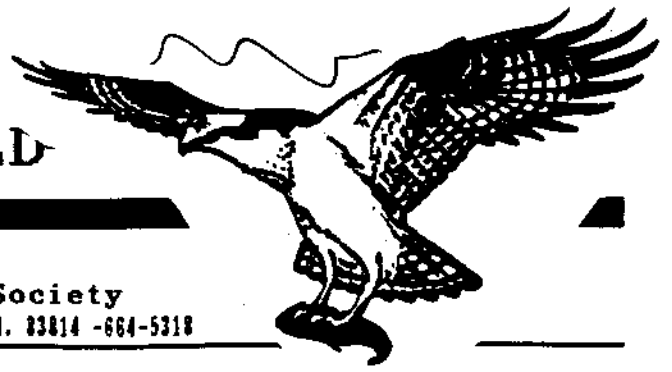


THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the Audubon Society
Editor: Shirley Sturts - 84615 Fernan Lake Rd - Coeur d'Alene, Id. 83814 - 664-5318

SEPTEMBER 1994

VOLUME 4 No. 1

PAGE 1

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This past May 28th and 29th I attended a joint meeting of the Idaho, Utah and Wyoming Audubon Councils in Bear Lake, Utah. The Idaho Chapters that were represented besides Coeur d'Alene included the Golden Eagle, Portneuf Valley, and Snake River. Also present was Regional Vice President Bob Turner and Regional Board Member Ruth Russell. Chuck Trost, who was President of the Idaho Audubon Council, led a field trip on Saturday for about 20 Auduboners to Mud Lake and the main marsh of the Bear Lake NWR. The field trip lasted over five hours and an enjoyable time was had by everyone. In the evening a conference call was made by Peter Berle, Audubon President and Liz Raisbeck, Audubon Vice Chairperson. The call concerned Audubon's FY 95 budget and several other issues. I would like to thank the board of Directors for sponsoring my trip down to Bear Lake. It was a valuable trip, especially meeting with Auduboners in southern Idaho as well as from Utah and Wyoming.

On the local level, elections were held at our May meeting for all of the officers. Our new conservation chair is Wallace Keck, who replaces Ellen Scriven. (see a message from Wallace on page 2 of this newsletter) On behalf of the club members I would like to thank Ellen Scriven for doing an excellent job these past couple of years in keeping us informed on both national and local environmental issues. All other officers and chairs were reelected for another year.

Mike Mibelick

Bird Quotes Quiz

(Bird watching inside Literature)

Check your bird/literary IQ. There are many memorable quotes, poetry, and quips about birds. How many can you recognize? Who said.....
(see answers on page 5 - send quotes to the editor for future newsletters)

"Wise as an Owl"

"Quoth the raven, 'Nevermore.'"

"Crazy as a loon"

"A Bird in the hand is worth two in the bush"

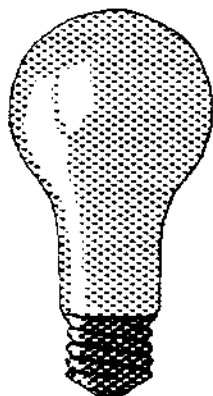


**** TAKE ACTION ****

Conservation News From Wallace Keck

An Introduction

It was 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 26. I opened the newspaper and noticed the Coeur d'Alene Chapter of Audubon was meeting at 7 p.m.. I had just enough time to get to the Iron Horse and join.



Upon arrival I realized it was election night and I was the only one in the room who hadn't been voted into office...yet. The rest they say is history.

Hello my name is Wallace Keck, your conservation chairmen. This past spring I traded in my career with Arkansas State

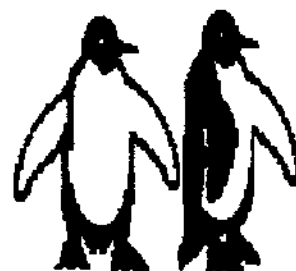
Parks for a ranger position at Farragut State Park here in Idaho. My desire is to be near some of the last roadless country in the lower 48. I jointed the CDA Chapter because, like you, I share a passion for birds, birding, native flora and wild landscapes. I can think of no better way to serve the community and this organization than by jumping right into service. In the coming issues, I will explore many of the conservation challenges that effect the quality of life in Kootenai County, and suggest ways that Audubon can make a difference. I look forward to your feedback, especially it you would like to have a particular issue explored.

I can be reached most days at Farragut State Park: 683-2425, and at home: 664-4029. My home address is 3907 Spiers Ave. #3, CDA

=====

Welcome Wallace both to the Chapter and the Board!

WHAT BIRD IS THIS?



1. The correct name for the large dark black and blue bird with a long crest is (1) Blue Jay (2) Steller's Jay (3) Scrub Jay.

2. A small, turquoise-blue finch suggesting a Bluebird, but with 2 white wing bars is the _____.

3. This bird rummages noisily among the dead leaves, has a fiery red eye and gives a call note that sounds something like a cat.

4. The wings of what species of duck whistle noisily in flight?

5. You see a large black bird flying. It has long wings and tail and sours on V-shaped wings, it seldom flaps. You are probably looking at a (1) Raven (2) Turkey Vulture (3) Grackle?

6. A Hummingbird feeder in Maine would likely attract a Calliope or Ruby-throated hummingbird ? or both?

7. This bird is small and looks like a flying cigar; wings flicker, flight is erratic, often high in the air. You are looking at a (1) Swallow (2) Swift (3) Hummingbird (4) Snipe?

8. Long, curved, pointed wings; very erratic flight, usually high in the air describes a _____.

9. A bird that dives for fish from a streamside perch or midair is the _____.

10. Which bird climbs down trunks o trees head first? (1)White-breasted nuthatch (2)Brown Creeper

(See answers on page 5)



CALENDAR CHECK

(Registering for a field trip is not required but if you register the leader will call you if the time or meeting place is changed.)

SEPT. 11 SUNDAY AQUATIC PLANT WORKSHOP

Time: Noon - 5 p.m.

Place: Liberty Park Pavilion

Sponsored by the State of Washington Water Research Center and Washington State Lake Protection Association

For Information: Call Brenda Sims at 509 456-3600 or William Funk at 509 335-5531

SEPT. 18 SUNDAY FIELD TRIP TO FARRAGUT STATE PARK

Time: 8:00 AM

Meet: Park Visitors Center

Leader: Wallace Keck 664-4029

Car Pool: Meet Shirley Sturts 664-5318 north east side of Hastings/Wards parking lot on Appleway at 7:20 (There is a \$2.00 fee per car at the Park)

Activity: We will walk along trails through different types of habitat looking for late migrating flycatchers, warblers, vireos and sparrows as well as resident birds. Walking on trails along the lake we will look for various ducks and grebes. In the fields we will look for the arrival of winter visitors such as Rough-legged Hawks and migrating American Pipits and White-crowned Sparrows.

SEPT. 20 TUESDAY BOARD MEETING AND REGULAR MEETING

Time: 6:15 Board

7:00 Regular

Place: Iron Horse

Program: Chip Corsi from the Idaho Fish and Game will have a slide presentation concerning the effects to wildlife from

the large scale growth and development in the country.

OCT. 2 SUNDAY FIELD TRIP ON RATHDRUM PRAIRIE

Time: 8:00

Meet: North East corner of Hastings/Wards Parking lot.

Leader: Shirley Sturts 664-5318

We have been invited to visit two homes and see how they have set up a backyard wildlife habitat.

We will visit the home of Lee Strelz north of Hayden Lake and Jane Badraun on Boekel Road. At Jane's we hope to see bluebirds flocking for their migration south and if our luck holds out her resident Cooper's Hawk and Great Horned Owl. On the way we will look for the first arrival of a Rough-legged Hawk and other fall migrants.

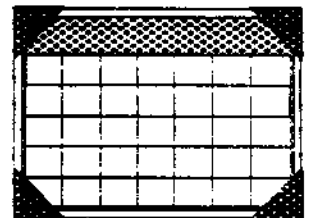
NOV. 11-15 NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY '94 BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

Location: Ford Myers, Florida

Activities:

Speakers, Field

Trips, Exhibits, Workshops, Activist Training



COMING IN NOVEMBER

NOV. 16-17 MOBILE LEARNING LAB

Location: Everglades National Park, Florida

Activities: Special two-day expertly guided group tour in to the heart of the Everglades.

NOV. 18-20 POPULATION CONFERENCE

Location: Miami, Florida

Activities: Follow-up on the U.N. International Conference on Population and Development. Reports from Cairo and discussion of U.S. national policies.

Birding Behavior: What is Ethical?

Directions: This questionnaire will work only if you answer truthfully, what is deep in your heart, on how you would act in each situation, not on how the birding gods would act.



1. A colony of house finches has taken over every potted plant on your front porch. You are now unable to use your front door as the birds have become hostile and territorial. The neighbor's children have been frightened and mail delivery has stopped. Do you 1) move the plants to the side of the house where the nests are subject to predation. 2) destroy the nests and subsequent nesting attempts. 3) put up warning signs, hope the birds leave by late August and pick up your mail at the post office before 5 P.M.

2. You've driven three hours in record heat for a "hotline" bird in someone's backyard. When you arrive there's a small five person deck party going on in direct view of the bird feeders. Do you 1) explain your situation and hope the people understand and move inside for a half hour. 2) ask for information about the target bird and arrange a time to come back. 3) buy a six-pack and join the party in hopes the bird won't care.

3. While flying an ultralight through the Rio Grande Valley in Texas, an Elegant Trogon hits the sail of your plane and drops stunned next to you. Do you 1) immediately try to land and put the stunned bird somewhere to recuperate. 2) count the bird and then shoo it off the glider. 3) capture the bird, find a phone and call other birders to document your find. 4) use a tape to lure the bird off the glider.

4. While spending a day with the family on a Lake Michigan beach, an obviously ill-mannered Brown Pelican keeps pooping on your picnic cooler. Do you 1) shoot the bird. 2) move the picnic cooler every five minutes as it is obviously upsetting the bird's digestion. 3) act like nothing is wrong as you retrieve cold drinks from under the Pelican's copious droppings. 4) use the opportunity to bore your relatives with the range and distribution data of the Brown Pelican.

5. You've just cashed in your life insurance to take an organized once-in-a-lifetime trip to Cuba to hunt down the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. As you alone are strolling down a densely wooded trail, you spy a pair of these legendary birds copulating by a nest. Knowing that these birds are shy and not very successful breeders, do you 1) yell "You Who" to the group to come see the birds. 2) avert your eyes, quietly leave and tell no one in order to give the birds a chance at survival. 3) put up

(Bird Ethics Continued)

signs directing ornithologists and ethically correct birders only to the nesting site. 4) use a tape to call in other birders.

6. Your favorite birding prank is to 1) claim birds that you've only heard. 2) put tape recorders at opposite ends of a field and watch birders run back and forth with their scopes. 3) become sanctimonious because birding is very, very serious and no place for levity or the questioning of one's bird expertise. 4) amuse fellow birders by creating bird silhouettes with your hands on slow days.

7. Are you more likely to break a known law or violate the birding code of ethics: 1) if you're with circus performers 2) if you're the only English-speaking, pickle-eating Gringo around 3) if you are alone, naked in a hot tub 4) if it's an organized tour with a renowned tour leader 5) if the severity of the punishment if caught is really bad 6) if it's a bird you need to document to really be able to count it for your life list 7) if you've impoverished yourself and broken up your marriage for this bird 8) if you don't recognize parody or satire

-the

Irreverent Birder

Answers to quiz page 1:

P.Kelway (1936, Poe (1845), O'Henry (1910, Don Quixote (1605)

Answers to What Bird..page 2:

(1)Steller's Jay (2) Lazuli Bunting
 (3) Rufous-sided Towhee (4) Goldeneye
 (5) Turkey Vulture (6) Ruby-throated
 (7) Swift (8) Common Nighthawk
 (9) Belted Kingfisher (10) W.-breasted Nuthatch.

AUDUBON FORUM



DOWNLOADING

Y o u r newsletter editor, that's me, has joined Audubon's new CompuServe Forum which will make newsletter production easier and more informative. I can now download press releases, stories from other chapter newsletters, clip art, Audubon issue updates, the Audubon Actionline and other information into my computer to include in our chapter newsletter. I will be bringing some brochures and examples of what the Audubon Forum has to offer our Chapter to the September meeting. If you have any questions or would like to see a demonstration of the Audubon Forum give us a call at 664-5318. The article "Bird Ethics" in this issue was downloaded from the Audubon forum.

BIRD REHABILITATION



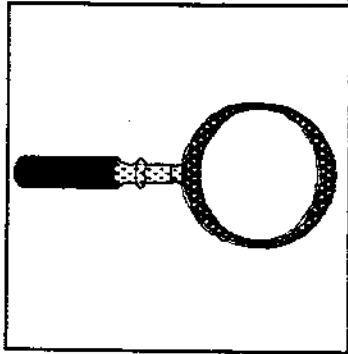
WHO DO I CALL?

When you find an injured or sick bird what can you do? Who do you call? A young Osprey starved to death this summer while many people watched. Calls for help were made but no one did anything.

Susan Weller is organizing a workshop for people who would like to be a rehabilitator for injured birds. If you would be interested in attending such a workshop give Susan a call at 1 (208) 682-3413.

OBSERVATION POST

Observers: Frank Andrews (FA), Jane Badraun (JB), Karna Boarders (KB), Pat Cole (PC), Barbara Durrell (BD), Gertie Hanson (GH), Dick Hoskins (DS), Don Johnson (DJ), Ron Jurcevic (RJ), Wallace F. Keck (WFK), Wayne Melquist (WM), Mary Manning (MM), John W. Nigh (JWN), Zoltan Porga (ZP), Herb and Jan Severson (HJS), Esther Stewart (ES), Lee Strelz (LS), Shirley Sturts (SHS), Carole Vande Vorde (CV), Judy Waring (JW), Phil Waring (PW), Roger Young (RY)



1. Western Grebe 1+ Denton Slough, Pend Oreille Lake 7/29/94 (WFK)
2. Double-Crested Cormorant 1 McArthur Lake WMA 7/21/94 (PC)
3. Canada Goose 2 pr. had 7 goslings each Squaw Bay, Cda Lake (BD)
4. Rudy Duck 1+ Thompson Lake 6/30/94 (JWN) ("Rudy Duck are seen here during migration but do not stay to nest."). 1 male at McArthur Lake WMA on 6/3/94 and 11 on 7/7/94 (PC) ("Rudy Duck are seen here about 4 times a year")
5. Turkey Vulture 1 Farragut State Park 6/12/94 (WFK). 1 Potlatch area 6/4/94 (ZP)
6. Osprey 110 nestlings were banded in the Cda Basin (a record number) by (DJ and WM)
7. Bald Eagle 1 nest fledged 2 young Cda WMA (DJ)
8. Northern Harrier 1 north of Hayden Lake (city) 7/10/94 (SHS,ES)
9. Sharp-Shinned Hawk 1 Avery Breeding Bird Survey (SHS, CV)
10. Cooper's Hawk 1 Boekel Road on Rathdrum Prairie (JB) (thought to have a nest nearby as it was chasing a Great Horned Owl)
11. Northern Goshawk 1 Farragut State Park 7/27/94 (WFK)
12. Red-tailed Hawk 1 active nest at Squaw Bay, Cda Lake (BD). 1 nest with 2 young Boekel Road on Rathdrum Prairie (JB).
13. Golden Eagle 1 Wolf Lodge Creek 8/9/94 (JW,PW,DM)
14. American Kestrel 1 north of Hayden Lake (city) (SHS,ES). 1 Farragut State Park (WFK). also observations made by (R. on Rathdrum Prairie and (ZP) in the Potlatch area.
15. Wild Turkey 2 hens with 18 young and 2 hens with 8, 4 toms north end of Fernan Lake (FA). 1 tom, 4 hens 1/w 8 young Boekel Road Rathdrum Prairie (JB)
16. California Quail a small flock feeding around his home on Fernan Hill all summer (RY)
17. Virginia Rail 1 Thompson Lake 6/27/94 (JWN. 2 McArthur Lake WMA (PC) ("Common breeder at McArthur Lake").
18. Greater Yellowlegs 1 Thompson Lake 7/11/94 (JWN) ("We observe the G.Yellowlegs on the average of once a year mid to late summer")
19. Great-Horned Owl several observations in the CDA area FA,JB,GH,SHS. 3 fledged young near his house in the Potlatch area (ZP)
20. Short-eared Owl 1-3 seen all summer in the Squaw Bay, CDA Lake area (BD)
21. Common Nighthawk 1st one seen 6/5/94 near her house on Blackwell Hill (GH). (They are always late arrivals).
22. Vaux's Swift 2 on the Mivoden Breeding Bird Survey (SHS,GH) and 4 on the Avery Breeding Bird Survey (SHS,CV).
23. Broad-Tailed Hummingbird 1 male Spokane River - Blackwell Island area 7/15/94 stayed for about a week (JHS)
24. Pileated Woodpecker 1 pair at nest hole Squaw Bay, Cda Lake (BD)
25. Willow Flycatcher 1 Fernan Creek all summer (SHS)
26. Cordilleran Flycatcher 1 nest w/2-3 young Green Bay, Pend Oreille Lake (WFK)
27. House Wren 2 active nest boxes Mica Flats (SHS). 2 active nests Boekel Road, Rathdrum Prairie (JB) 1 active nest Potlatch area (ZP)
28. Western Bluebird 14 young were banded from 3 nests on Mica Flats (SHS). 2 pr nested twice in 2 nest boxes on Boekel Road, Rathdrum Prairie (JB). 1 pr nested twice in a box near Potlatch (5 young fledged from 1st brood) (ZP).
29. Mountain Bluebird 2 Mivoden Breeding Bird Survey (SHS, GH)
30. Gray Catbird 3+ all summer of Fernan Creek (SHS). 1 Farragut State Park 6/4/94 WFK).
31. Nashville Warbler 1 Boekel Road, Rathdrum Prairie 7/21/94 (JB). 2 on the Avery Breeding Bird Survey (SHS, CV).
32. Yellow Warbler 1 nesting pair Blackwell Hill (GH) Observations also made by (SHS, JWN,MM,WFK,ZP,CV)
33. Yellow-Rumped Warbler 1 nesting pair Blackwell Hill (GH) other observations made by SHS,WFK,ZP
34. Pine Grosbeak 1 pr coming to two feeders mid July - present Hayden Lake area (city) (LS, KB). Unusual for this low of elevation during the summer. 1 pr on Freeze Out Saddle east of Clarkia (elev. above 5000) 6/30 (SHS,CV)

Research Ranch

National Audubon Society
Box 44, Elgin, Arizona 85611

TRRS Essential to Many Native Species

Sixty miles southeast of Tucson, and encircled by the scenic Huachucas, Mustangs, and Santa Rita mountain ranges, as well as the Canelo Hills, **The Research Ranch Sanctuary (TRRS)** provides the only long-term ungrazed short grass prairie between west Texas and southern California. It provides important habitat for several wildlife species, such as Cassin's Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, and Botteri's Sparrow that depend for survival on a natural, ungrazed grassland community.

TRRS Launches Apacheria Program

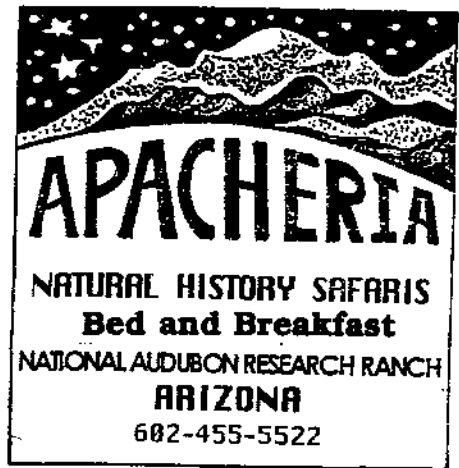
Southeastern Arizona's semi-desert grassland is threatened by ever-increasing human activities that place excessive pressures on its water resources and wildlife communities. TRRS's Apacheria Program aims to incorporate our 25-years of research into helping safeguard the bioregion's future landscape. Two examples of TRRS participation in regional planning include:

Elgin-Sonoita -- A committee of local citizens is making good headway toward an area-wide plan to protect the area's character, water resources, and sustainable environment. TRRS is helping to establish measurable, achievable goals and policies, that will integrate into county code.

Sierra Vista-San Pedro River -- A committee of citizens is working to assure that growth in the Sierra Vista sub basin watershed will not jeopardize the San Pedro River, which is one of the few remaining rivers in the arid southwest. TRRS is assisting the group in establishing firm goals to guarantee perpetual, realistic water flow to the river.

TRRS Granted Three New Positions

TRRS has been granted three full-time positions by the **Border Volunteer Corps (BVC)**. The year-long positions will include two **Ranch Land Rangers**, who will upgrade fences, trails, signs, buildings, and water holes, and much more. The third position will be a **Native Plant Ranger**, who will establish native plant demonstration gardens to promote and preserve native plants of the semi-desert grasslands and better link our buildings with the environment. If you would like to become involved in planting the native gardens or working with the land rangers, please call 602-455-5522.



TRRS to Upgrade Six Watering Holes

Many of southeastern Arizona's seeps, springs and streams have gone dry over the past 50 to 150 years. To compensate for this loss and to provide a safer, more constant year-round supply of water to a wider diversity of wildlife, TRRS will build six watering holes. The new ground-level watering holes will allow a deer to stand on grade and drink over the vertical side, while allowing a quail to safely enter or exit the gently sloped side. The design will minimize evaporation and provide overhanging branches for bird perches. Nearby storage tanks will be equipped with a floating cover to reduce evaporation losses and prevent wildlife drownings. The watering hole project complements our successful Antelope days by making both water and habitat accessible to native wildlife. We expect the six watering hole conversions to cost \$800 each.

Nifty Birds Seen At TRRS

Cooper's Hawk -- An immature Cooper's Hawk was seen on 19 July on the Apacheria Trail at TRRS.

Rufous Hummingbird -- The first adult male of the season was seen at the dorm on 05 July. An immature male was seen 17 July.

Phainopepla -- An adult female was sited at TRRS on 05 July and an adult male was seen on 17 July.

Cassin's Sparrows were first noted singing at TRRS in late June, just after the first rains.

TRRS Guest House Available To Friends

Talk about a quiet, isolated, beautiful place; a place to relax with nature, a place within easy driving distance to lots of other great places! It's the TRRS guest house. Call 455-5522 to arrange an overnight, a weekend, or a week. Proceeds underwrite our effort to provide habitat for our native wildlife, as well as our efforts to help protect the bioregion.

**COEUR D'ALENE
AUDUBON SOCIETY**

OFFICERS

President: Mike Mihelich 664-4741
Vice-President: Phil Waring 765-5378
Treasurer: Ron Rich 772-4512
Board Members: Judy Waring 765-5378
Scott Reed 664-2161
Susan Weller 682-3413

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Conservation: Wallace P Keck 664-4029
683-2425
Education: Bee Pinne 667-0425
Membership: Judy Waring 765-5378
Newsletter: Shirley Starts 664-5318
Fieldtrip: Shirley Starts 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 TSCB8
New Membership \$20, Regular Membership \$30.

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 84615 Fernan Lake Road - Coeur d'Alene, Id 83814.

National Audubon Society
Coeur d'Alene Chapter
P.O. Box 361
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-0361

