

of the existence of a sizeable population of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in the Big Cypress National Preserve. This 230,000 ha wilderness area in Collier, Dade, and Monroe counties was established in 1974 and is under the stewardship of the U.S. National Park Service. Most of the habitat of Big Cypress National Preserve is aquatic, with only 18% of it being pine forest. That pine forest we are told includes at least 18 and possibly as many as 40 active Red-cockaded Woodpecker colonies.

This report includes a very thorough history of the distribution of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in this part of southern Florida and is skillfully put into the perspective of natural and man-wrought changes in the area. The authors also provide an excellent review of our knowledge of the behavioral ecology of the species. Most of the report, however, consists of careful description of the colonies found. The narrative is well supplemented by photographs and maps of the sites and tables of cavity tree characteristics. This is an excellent study that includes thorough documentation such that we now have a solid base for monitoring the status of this population and for making meaningful comparisons with populations elsewhere in the species' range.—Jerome A. Jackson, Department of Biological Sciences, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762.

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## REPORT

**Summary of the 1983 fall meeting.**—The fall meeting of the FOS was held 14-16 October 1983 at the Sea Turtle Inn, Atlantic Beach, Florida. The effort of Robert Loftin and members of his committee from the Duval Audubon Society provided an informative and comfortable meeting.

The Board of Directors met and accepted the 1982 Financial Report, the recommendations of the finance committee to add \$1,000 to the principal of both the research fund and the special publication fund, and the authorization of page charges and advertisements for the *FFN*. Selection of new members of committees for nomination of officers, the archives, and membership was approved.

The first part of the technical session included papers on "Mortality of the Common Loon on its migration and wintering ranges" by Malcolm M. Simons, Jr. and "The Florida Natural Areas Inventory" by Todd Engstrom. A symposium on the Southeastern Kestrel *Falco sparverius paulus* followed with papers presented by researchers from the University of Florida, Gainesville: "Historical status of *paulus* in Florida" by Mark L. Hoffman; "Relative abundance and different habitat use of kestrels in north Florida" by Petra G. Bohall; and the "Foraging ecology of *paulus*" by Michael W. Collopy.

At the banquet President Kittleson announced Robert Loftin won the skin quiz assembled by Ted Allen of Jacksonville University and introduced Dr. Colin Pennycuik, Maytag Professor of Ornithology at the University of Miami, who spoke to us about "Soaring flight over land and sea" and showed slides from his world-wide research on birds.

The next annual meeting will be in St. Petersburg, April 1984, at the invitation of the St. Petersburg Audubon Society with Dave Goodwin as the local committee chairman.—Marsha S. Winegarner, Route 2, Box 180, Lake Placid, Florida 33852.

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