

Florida's breeding bird atlas project is still in the planning stage with Dr. Herbert Kale, II, as state organizer. Its goal is to define the breeding ranges of bird species in Florida. Randomly selected locations throughout the state will be surveyed. This will potentially involve a large number of people over several years. M. Udvardy organized the North American Ornithological Atlas Committee at the Asilomar Conference to encourage atlas projects in as many states and provinces of Canada, Mexico, and USA as possible. Laughlin et al. (1982, *Amer. Birds* 36: 6-19) provide an overview of bird atlas projects in the United States.

Of the five avian censusing projects discussed that involve amateur participation, the CBC, BBC, and WBPS could benefit the most from technical improvement. Coupled with vegetation data, the BBC and WBPS can be excellent sources of data on bird-habitat relations and interspecific interactions. Improvements in the quality of these data can be made by more rigorous adherence to standards already established by the International Bird Censusing Committee. With immense human population growth projected for Florida over the next 20 years, solid baseline data on bird populations in many habitats is invaluable for detecting any deleterious impact of this growth.

"Estimating numbers of terrestrial birds" is a watershed volume encompassing many refinements of censusing techniques and statistical treatment of data. Although many amateurs may find it too technical, consulting the Proceedings for up-to-date work on censusing problems and revised methods is profitable for anyone interested in scientific bird censusing. Expansion of improved bird censusing efforts such as the BBC and WBPS is needed in Florida. I hope that interested birders around the state will consult this tremendous source of material and get on with the business of counting birds.

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EDITORIAL

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