

but molt after escape might make wild status determination difficult. A check with the Milwaukee County Zoo showed that this species had not been exhibited there in recent years. Pet stores were not checked as it seems unlikely that Ground Doves would be available for sale. The many records well north of the breeding range and the absence of anything to suggest recent captivity make it likely that this was a wild bird and a new record for Wisconsin.

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WALLACE N. MACBRIAR, JR., *Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 West Wells Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233*. Accepted 20 May 74.

Mortality of Magellanic Penguins in Argentina.—In the austral winter of 1972, I noted that many Black-browed Albatrosses (*Diomedea melanophris*) and other seabirds near the mouth of the Rio de la Plata, Argentina, were oiled. For the most part oiling seemed superficial and was confined to small patches on the underparts, although on some birds the extent of oiling was sufficient to impair thermoregulation. Farther south, on the Valdes Peninsula, Chubut Province, large numbers of moderately to heavily oiled Magellanic Penguins (*Spheniscus magellanicus*) were found dead on the beaches of Golfo San José (Jehl et al. 1973, Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club 93(2): 56) and at Punta Norte. These casual observations suggested that oiling might be a significant cause of seabird mortality in Argentina. Additional data gathered in 1973 support that view.

During field studies near Rio Grande, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina in late October and early November 1973, I found the remains of many species including Black-necked Swan (*Cygnus melanocoryphus*), Flightless Steamer-Duck (*Tachyeres pteneres*), cormorants (*Phalacrocorax albiventer*, *P. atriceps*, *P. olivaceus*, and *P. magellanicus*), Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*), Black-browed Albatross, and Southern Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialisoides*) on local beaches. But by far the commonest remains were of Magellanic Penguins. Pelts of 16 of 17 corpses that were examined closely were heavily coated with oil and several birds were completely covered; the remaining bird had been shot. Rio Grande is approximately 160 km south of the nearest penguin colony. Oil was found on some of the other species, particularly cormorants, but its severity and incidence was much less than in the penguins. In brief visits to Punta Delgada in the Strait of Magellan on 21 October and 14 November I found five fresh penguin carcasses, all with moderate to heavy oiling.

Oiling was also noted at Punta Tombo, Argentina, in late November 1973. The Magellanic Penguin colony there, perhaps the largest in Argentina, has been esti-

mated at up to 600,000 pairs (Boswall and Prytherch 1972, Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club 92(5): 118). On 21 November I saw three or four oiled birds among several thousand standing near the beach and noted the bodies of several hundred adults strewn along the north shore of the peninsula. Most seemed to have been dead for several months or more and had mummified under the drying Patagonian winds. The number of bodies did not seem high in view of the enormous size of the colony and the extreme durability of penguin carcasses. As at Golfo San José in 1972, there was no reason to suspect that the mortality was due to any single event (Jehl et al., op. cit.).

On 22 November I examined approximately 150 Magellanic Penguin carcasses. Of 108 that were in good enough condition that a definite judgment could be made, 101 contained at least some small patches of oil and most of the birds were moderately to heavily oiled. I made no precise estimate of the degree of oiling but I estimate that it was sufficient to cause death in over 90% of the birds.

The incidence of oiling among live penguins at Punta Tombo was low. None of 390 birds in the colony area had any trace of oil, and only one of 562 birds on the beach was oiled. In view of the high percentage of oiling on the corpses, it would seem that birds die quickly after becoming contaminated. Additional unquantified observations of several thousand penguins revealed oiled birds only outside the colonies, usually standing quietly near shore; at no time did I see any bird with even minor traces of oil within the colony. This suggests that even if penguins are able to survive oiling, they may be too weak to compete successfully in the rough squabbles associated with establishing and defending a territory in a crowded colony and thus are prevented from breeding for an entire season. In summary, available data suggest that oiling is an important contributor to penguin mortality (and perhaps impaired reproductive success) at Punta Tombo and elsewhere along the coast of Argentina.

After the nesting season, Magellanic Penguins migrate northward over the continental shelf of Argentina into lanes of heavy commercial shipping. Presumably, most birds become oiled in the heavily trafficked waters near the mouth of the Rio de la Plata. Yet, even where boat traffic is light in remote regions of southern Argentina and Tierra del Fuego, oiling seems to be involved in the majority of penguin deaths.

Populations of other species of penguins have also been affected by oiling. Holmes (1973, Natl. Geogr. 143(3): 384) reported that tens of thousands of Jackass Penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*) perished as a result of oil pollution since 1967, after the closing of the Suez Canal and the rerouting of tankers around South Africa. And in the Antarctic, Peterson (1973, Audubon 75(2): 108) remarked "it is not uncommon to see an Adélie [*Pygoscelis adeliae*] with a smear marring its white breast." The effects of oiling on seabirds are of more than local significance and require additional study. Punta Tombo would be an excellent region to gather detailed information on the incidence of oiling in Magellanic Penguins and on the comparative reproductive success of oiled vs. unoiled birds.

At Punta Tombo I also noted an apparent case of natural mortality among Magellanic Penguins. Shortly after dawn on 22 November a pod of seven killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) cruised 100 m off the beach shortly after penguins had begun to go to sea. The whales disappeared but reappeared a few minutes later approximately 1000 m from shore. For the next 20 min they raced back and forth through a flock of several thousand frantic penguins, often jumping clear of the water as if in pursuit. Their behavior was typical of a feeding pod. The penguins clearly

regarded the whales as serious enemies and took evasive action. Those near the whales swam quickly away at right angles to the whales' path and seemed to take pains to remain inconspicuous. However, when they reached a distance of 200 to 300 m from the whales, their behavior changed abruptly and they began porpoising. Those shoreward of the whales raced all the way to the beach and came ashore in great haste; those to the seaward raced away until lost from sight.

Conway (1971, *Anim. Kingdom* 74(4): 2) saw South American sea lions (*Otaria byronia*) capture Magellanic Penguins at Punta Tombo, as did Prytherch (Boswall 1972, *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club* 92(5): 129). Boswall (op. cit.) also reviewed evidence that pinniped predation on several species of penguins is greater than is currently realized. Because of the distance, I was unable to see whether the killer whales actually caught and ate any penguins, but it would indeed be surprising if these predators did not occasionally feed on such an abundant and available food supply.

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A record of allopreening in the Barred Owl.—During the summer of 1972 I witnessed and photographed an incident between two Barred Owls (*Strix varia*) that appears to represent the first reported allopreening between Strigiformes in the wild. In his comprehensive review of allopreening in birds Harrison (1965, *Behaviour* 24: 161) reported one interspecific case between captive owls (*Strix aluco* and *Athene noctua*). Later (1969, *Avicult. Mag.* 75: 97) he described allopreening between sibling Barn Owls (*Tyto alba*) in the London Zoo. Indeed most reports of allopreening have been of captive individuals, and these may or may not correctly indicate the potential occurrence of the behavior in wild populations of the respective species. As behavior in natural situations provides more reliable information on its role in a species' social life, the context in which the Barred Owl behavior occurred is described here in detail.

The sequence occurred at the National Audubon Society's Corkscrew Swamp Wildlife Sanctuary in southwestern Florida. At approximately 1500 on the sunny afternoon of 19 July 1972, two apparently adult Barred Owls were perched midway up two large cypress trees, separated by a water lettuce pond about 60 feet wide. Owl A initiated a period of vocal duetting by uttering the rhythmic eight-hoot call typical of this species. Owl B responded immediately with a rapid series of hoots ending in a downward slur, described by Bent (1938, *U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull.* 170: 193) as "ho-ho-ho-to-hoo-ah, ending in a loud, harsh note" (referred to hereafter as the series-hoot). After a short pause owl A eight-hooted again and this gave rise to the rapid, simultaneous exchange of hoots and sharp cries that is particularly common in the southern race of the Barred Owl. This exchange slowed and finally ceased after about 1 min. For 4 to 5 subsequent min owl B series-hooted at regular intervals of about 20 sec. It then flew across the clearing, landed 3 feet from owl A, and immediately moved to within 1 foot. The mutual preening then commenced; for about 4 min each bird alternated picking with its bill about the head region of the other. Most preening was directed at the edges of the facial discs and the feathers surrounding the bill. Each bird appeared to stretch its neck in efforts to offer parts of its head to the other for preening.