
ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS ANNUAL MEETING

The 1988 Annual Meeting of Western Field Ornithologists, publishers of *WESTERN BIRDS*, will be held on Thursday through Sunday October 6-9, 1988, in Monterey, California. A Breeding Bird Workshop will be held on Friday, October 7, and a Papers Session will be held on Saturday, October 8. Field trips will include Elkhorn Slough, Moon Glow Dairy, and Salinas sewer ponds for shorebirds; Carmel River for vagrants; and several pelagic trips during the peak of the seabird migration! A pre-registration discount will be given to participants who register by mail before September 1.

For information and registration forms, please write Debra Love Shearwater, P.O. Box 1445, Soquel, CA 95073. Telephone: (408) 688-1990.

WEST MOVES EAST FOR JOINT MEETING

The Pacific Seabird Group will hold its 15th Annual Meeting on October 13-16, 1988, in Washington, DC. The meeting will be held jointly with the Colonial Waterbird Society. Scientific Program information can be obtained from co-chairs Michael Fry, Avian Science, University of Calif., Davis, CA 95616, or Herbert W. Kale, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751. The Committee on Arrangements is chaired by R. Michael Erwin, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD 20708.

ICBP/IUCN PARROT SPECIALIST MEETING

The Second International Meeting of the Parrot Specialist Group of the ICBP/IUCN will be held in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil, October 13-19, 1988. The meeting coordinator is Pedro Schere Neto. For more information, contact him at: Divisao de Museu de Historia Natural, Secretaria Municipal de Meio Ambiente, Rua Benedito Conceicao 407, 82500 Curitiba, Parana, Brazil.

JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

The Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm in Dayton, Ohio, will host a meeting of the Inland Bird Banding Association and the Ohio Bird Banding Association on November 4-6, 1988. Contact Diane Ullery at the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, 1000 Aullwood Road, Dayton, OH 45414 (513/890-7360) for registration materials (available after Sept. 1).

CALL FOR PAPERS

A Symposium is planned for February 9-11, 1989, titled "Kirtland's Warbler at the Crossroads—Extinction or Survival" to be held in Lansing, Michigan. Topics for the symposium are open, but may include such things as winter and summer habitat requirements, population dynamics, economics of Kirtland's Warbler management techniques, and benefits to other species by Kirtland's Warbler management practices.

Persons interested in presenting a paper should respond by September 1, 1988. Please submit your response to: Kenneth R. Ennis, USDA-Forest Service, Huron-Manistee National Forests, 421 S. Mitchell St., Cadillac, MI 49601 (616/779-8715).

Notification of acceptance will be made by September 15, 1988. Requests for final abstracts will be made after final acceptance of papers.

COOPER SOCIETY MEETING

The 59th Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society will be held at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho, May 22-26, 1989. The local chairman is J. Michael Scott, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843. The schedule of events includes rafting and tours to local scenic locales in addition to the scientific program. Those interested in conducting workshops or symposia, contact: Edward O. Garton, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Univ. of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843.

TWO GROUPS TO MEET

The American Ornithologists' Union and the Cooper Ornithological Society will hold a joint meeting in Los Angeles, California, in June 1990.

XX ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The XX Ornithological Congress will meet in Christchurch, New Zealand, December 2-9, 1990. To obtain the First Circular and a pre-Congress questionnaire, contact Dr. Ben D. Bell, Secretary-General, XX International Ornithological Congress, Department of Zoology, Victoria University, Private Bag, Wellington, New Zealand.

SOUTHEAST RAPTOR MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP

The National Wildlife Federation and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University will host the Southeast Raptor Management Symposium and Workshop September 14-16 in Blacksburg, Virginia, at the Donaldson Brown Center for Continuing Education. Participating states include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Symposium workshops will encourage participants to discuss regional issues related to raptors and to develop management recommendations.

The symposium is the fourth in a series of five regional symposia sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation's Institute for Wildlife Research. The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University is hosting this symposium. Proceedings of the symposium will be published as part of the Federation's Scientific and Technical Series.

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WETLANDS INSTITUTE ANNUAL WINGS 'N WATER FESTIVAL

The Wetlands Institute's sixth annual Wings 'n Water Festival will be held September 17-18, according to Roger Wood, Ph.D., chairman of the board of one of New Jersey's coastline conservation organizations.

"The two-day festival offers 30 events at locations in Stone Harbor, Avalon, and Cape May Court House, N.J.," said Wood. "The admission ticket includes transportation and access to all the weekend events."

Some of the family activities are world-class wildlife art and photography exhibits, decorative bird and decoy wood carving, oyster shucking, marine biology exhibits, fiddler crab races, seafood, music, guided walking tours along the dunes, sunset harbor cruises, and a wildlife craft show.

The Wings 'n Water Festival is The Wetlands Institute's only large-scale fundraiser. The proceeds help support education and research on the coastal environment.

The Institute, which manages 34 acres overlooking the salt marsh, is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the area's coastline environment. Founded in 1969, The Institute has assisted research projects on the salt marsh's ability to absorb and breakdown pollutants, endangered or threatened birds along the New Jersey coast, and classifying local fishes.



Get a bird's-eye view of the New Jersey coastal environment at the Wings 'n Water Festival sponsored by The Wetlands Institute.

Admission for the two-day event is \$6 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens, \$2 for children ages 6-12 years and free for children under 6 years. To obtain a brochure on the festival, write Wings 'n Water Festival, The Wetlands Institute, Stone Harbor Boulevard, Stone Harbor, N.J. 08247 or call (609) 368-1211.

COLOMBIA ESTABLISHES NEW NATIONAL PARKS

Colombia has increased its land area under park status by 10% by setting aside 1.67 million acres for three new national parks. The habitats the parks protect are varied and include 575,000 hectares of Amazonian jungle (Cahui-nari); 51,900 hectares of Andean forest and headwaters (Tatama); and 54,000 hectares of tropical forest, coastal wetlands, shoreline, and coral reefs on the Pacific coast (Utria).

URGENT ALERT

During May, 1988, the Venezuelan Environmental Ministry began studying the applications for the installation of three industrial shrimp farms in the coastal lagoons of Piritu and Unare in eastern Venezuela. One of these companies, without final Ministerial approval, has already started the construction of various shrimp tanks of one hectare each, but, worse yet, they have completely closed and blocked the fresh water streams feeding the lagoons, cut down mangroves, and have even laid out plans to build within the Piritu Lagoon itself. If drastic and immediate measures are not taken to stop this destruction, both lagoons will be destroyed within a period of approximately five years.

From an economic point of view, these lagoons are vital to the livelihood of approximately 7,000 local fishermen as one of the marshes feeding the lagoons is the most important area for the reproduction of both fish and native shrimps. Further, this region is an extremely important feeding area on the

Venezuelan coast for migratory birds such as ducks, sandpipers, plovers, phalarope, whimbrels, willets, as well as Venezuelan wading birds, including both the Scarlet Ibis and the southern Caribbean population of the Greater Flamingo.

Venezuelan conservationists are not objecting to the project *per se*, but we do oppose the installation of these tanks in an estuary when there are other areas in the vicinity that could be used for the same purpose without causing irreparable damage to both the lagoons and the estuary, although the construction costs would be greater.

We request that international conservationists write to the following individuals as soon as possible denouncing and protesting this project. We would greatly appreciate receiving a copy of your correspondence to enable us to keep track of the actions taken.

Señor Ministro
Ing. Guillermo Colmenares Finol
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los
Recursos Naturales
Renovables
Piso 25, Torre Sur
Centro Simón Bolívar
Caracas, Venezuela

Diputado
Adán Añez Baptista
Presidente, Comisión Permanente del
Ambiente y
Ordenamiento Territorial
Cámara de Diputados
Piso 3, Palacio de Justicia
Esquina Pajaritos
Caracas, Venezuela

Sr. Miguel H. Otero
Director Ejecutivo
C. A. Editora El Nacional
Apartado No. 209
Caracas 1010-A, Venezuela

Sr. Gilberto Carreño
El Universal
Edificio "El Universal"
Avenida Urdaneta
Caracas 1010, Venezuela

Sr. Oswaldo Acosta Sanabria
El Diario de Caracas
Apartado No. 76478
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