

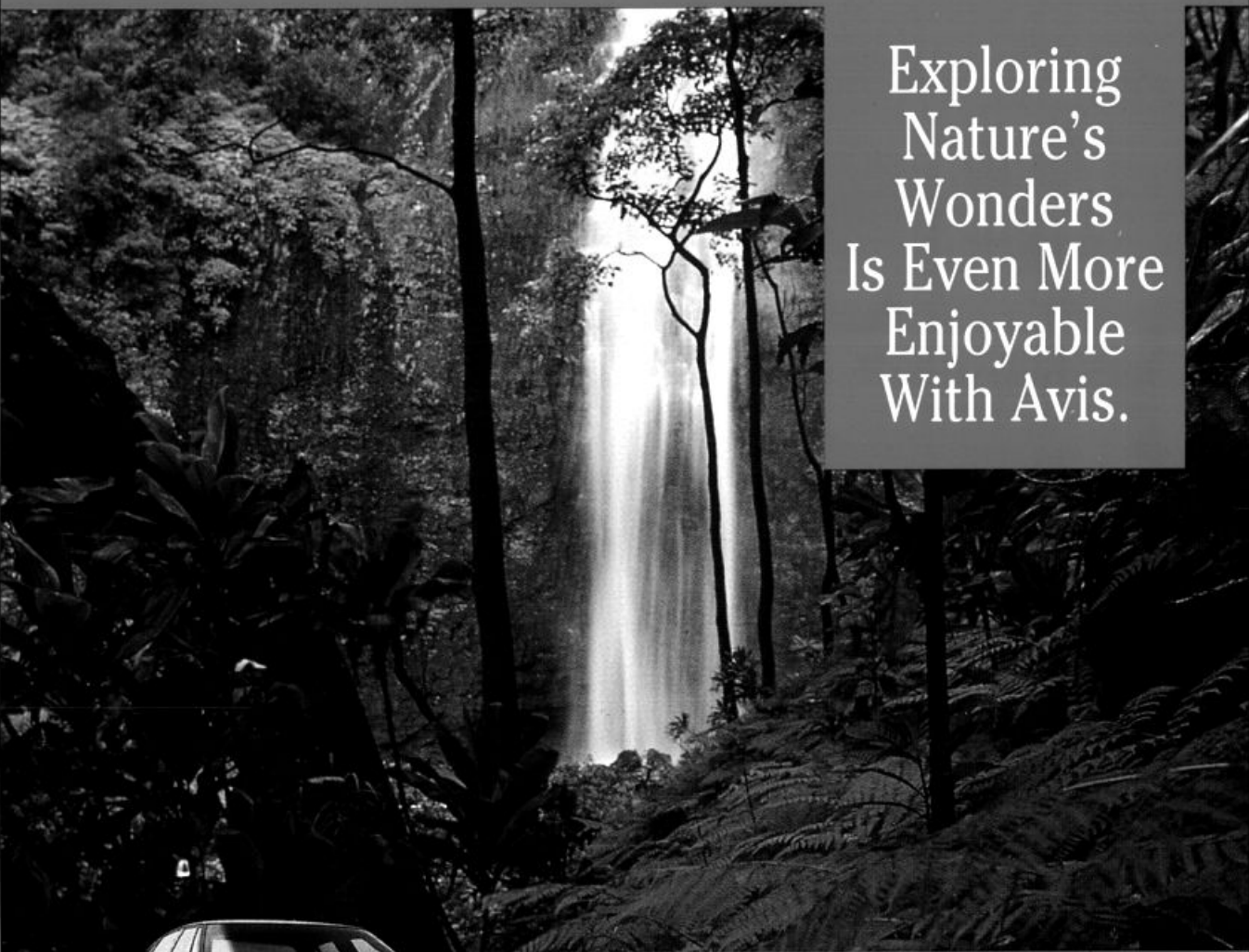
National Audubon Society

Winter 1995 Vol. 49 No. 5

Field Notes



National  Audubon Society



Exploring
Nature's
Wonders
Is Even More
Enjoyable
With Avis.



Especially For Members Of The National Audubon Society

As an Audubon member, you're entitled to a wide range of valuable services and savings, including:

- Discounts on business and leisure rentals, which give you some of the most competitive rates in the industry.
- Avis Express® and Roving Rapid Return® to get you in and out of the airport faster.
- The Avis Satellite Guidance system to help you pinpoint where you're going and how to get there.
- Frequent flyer miles just for renting from us.

Call Avis toll free at **1-800-831-8000** for more information and reservations. And be sure to use your National Audubon Society/ Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number: **A699800**.



National Audubon Society



**Officers**

Donal C. O'Brien, Jr
Chairman of the Board

John Flicker
President

Bayard D. Rea
Scott W. Reed
Vice-Chairmen

James A. Cunningham
Eric Draper
Glenn Olson
Victoria Shaw
Management Team

Willem Brans
Elizabeth Raisbeck
Michael W. Robbins
Senior Vice-Presidents

Katherine R.R. Carpenter
Susan Roney Drennan
M. Brock Evans
Carole J. McNamara
Phillip P. Schaeffer
Talbert Spence
Celia Tennenbaum
Vice-Presidents

Robert F. Schumann
Secretary

Bayard D. Rea
Treasurer

Roger Tory Peterson
Special Consultant

Peter A. A. Berle
Russell W. Peterson
Elvis J. Stahr
Presidents Emeriti

Patricia M. Douglas
John Carroll Whitaker
Assistant Secretaries

Board of Directors

Oaks Ames	Lowell Johnston
John B. Beinecke	James Earl Jones
John C. Bierwirth	Thomas W. Keesee Jr.
Howard P. Brokaw	Arsenio Milian
Jacqueline A. Browne	J.P. Myers
Harriet S. Bullitt	Donal C. O'Brien Jr.
Douglas M. Costle	Benjamin Olewine IV
Leslie Dach	Bayard D. Rea
Reginald E. David	Scott W. Reed
Lynn Dolnick	William D. Ross
Cindy Adams Dunn	Ruth O. Russell
George Ellman	Leah G. Schad
Helen Engle	Robert F. Schumann
W. Hardy Eshbaugh	Robert H. Socolow
Ted Lee Eubanks	Alan N. Weeden
Edward H. Harte	John Carroll Whitaker
Patricia Heidenreich	Joyce A. Wolf
Marian S. Heiskell	

From the Editor

Anyone who has had the great fortune to spend time in the beautiful, complex ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest knows the meaning of the word holy. To stand among the giant trees and simply listen to a calling Varied Thrush, the dripping water of a gentle rain, or the muffled wing beat of a passing owl is sheer privilege. To examine with glee the magnificent web of a spider, to feast eyes on the restful greens of the fern and firs, to witness a parade of Townsend's or Hermit warblers in spring are extraordinary experiences. If you are mighty lucky, you might hear the odd call of a Marbled Murrelet in the night as it forays out to feed its young. Or you can simply relish the trees themselves; they have a presence that can awe even the most jaded voyager.

That is why birders across America should speak out against the renewed pillaging that is taking place in those forests right now, courtesy of the "salvage rider" passed by Congress as part of a budget "rescission" bill, and signed by President Clinton last spring. It must be stopped.

Chainsaws have already claimed the great trees of Sugarloaf Mountain in southern Oregon, where protesters, including many Audubon members, staged a rally in a last-ditch effort recently to stop the destruction. Dozens of other tracts up and down the northwest coast, in the Siskiyou, Siuslaw, Umpqua, and Olympic national forests, are now slated to go.

Included among these are more than 4300 acres of ancient forests in 60 locations inhabited by the *threatened* Marbled Murrelet, forests where the United States Fish and Wildlife Service previously determined that logging would jeopardize the continued survival of the species. Some 60 percent of these "jeopardy" locations are on the central Oregon coast, and one is at the headwaters of Tenmile Creek—less than seven miles from Audubon's Tenmile Creek Sanctuary, and a known murrelet nest site.

Remember that the first Marbled Murrelet nest in the United States was discovered fewer than 25 years ago. This diminutive seabird constructs a nest made of moss and balanced on the top limbs of some of the oldest and

tallest trees in the ancient forest. Little is yet known of this species, but it is clearly the most representative avian member of a highly evolved and exceedingly rare ecosystem. Of course, logging the ancient forests would also have devastating consequences for the *threatened* Northern Spotted Owl and a host of other avian and non-avian species, not to mention for the ecosystem itself, of which less than one percent remains in this country.

This new assault on the forests is reprehensible. But so, too, is the insidious manner by which it has been foisted on the American public. The original rider appended to budget legislation dealt only with "salvage logging"—the removal of dead or dying trees. But language added to the bill at the last minute allows the clear-cutting of forests as well.

Moreover, the bill overrides *all* environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, and National Forest Management Act. Environmentalists have termed this legislation "logging without laws." It authorizes the Forest Service to give the timber industry unchecked access to the ancient forests, even at the expense of endangered species. The bill renders President Clinton's "Option 9" ancient forest plan—a product of painstaking compromise—effectively meaningless. And it could even backfire on small landowners, who will have little chance of getting federal permits for logging on private holdings while the public forests are being liquidated.

To his credit, the President has joined the chorus of critics calling for an end to "logging without laws," and he has fought in court alongside conservationists to overturn the legislation. But so far the courts have ruled in favor of the timber industry.

Now, Representative Elizabeth Furse (D-OR) has courageously introduced a bill to repeal the logging rider. Her bill, HR 2475, had 76 House co-sponsors at press time. *National Audubon Society Field Notes* readers should immediately call or write their own representatives and ask them to support Representative Furse's bill, and to help put a stop to the lawless logging of our great cathedral forests. Many of you have visited the Northwest forests to view the unique avian life that dwells there. Let's help those species, as well as the trees, survive.

Stay tuned!!!



Since Captain James Cook's epic voyage of 1773-75, only a handful of scientists and explorers have ever circumnavigated Antarctica. National Audubon is pleased to announce an historic two-month-long Antarctic Circumnavigation aboard the *Kapitan Khlebnikov* — the first ever voyage for adventurous travelers ENTIRELY AROUND THE CONTINENT.



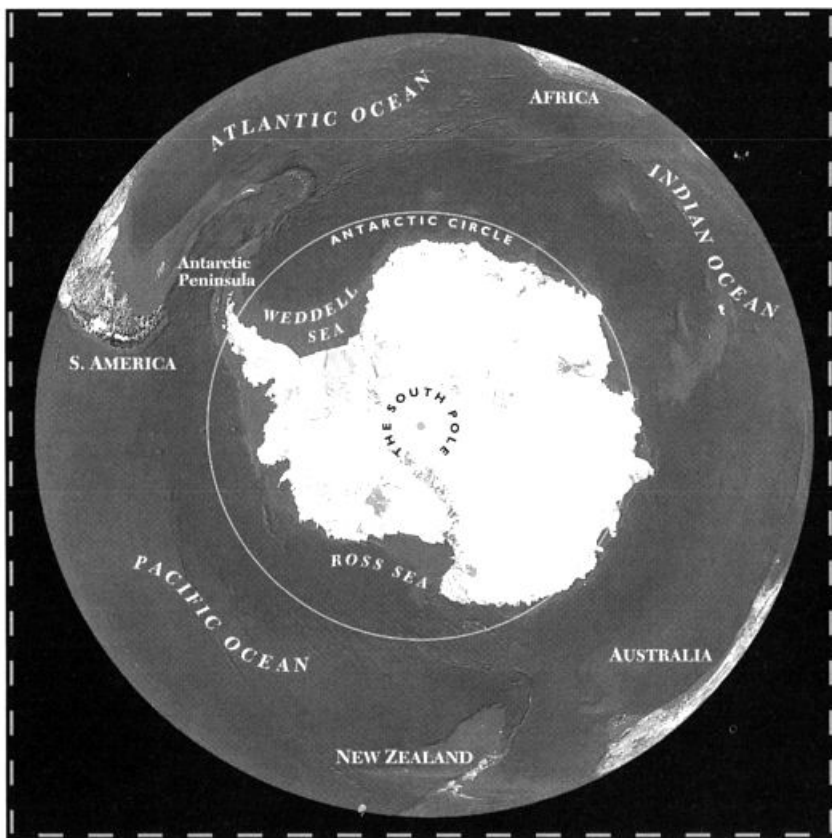
A FIRST FOR EXPEDITION TRAVEL
**CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF
 ANTARCTICA**
 NOVEMBER 1996-JANUARY 1997

The heroic explorers once searched for *Terra Australis Incognita*, the unknown southern land. After his epic 70,000-mile, three-year circumnavigation, James Cook pronounced that if a southern continent existed at all, it must lie so far south as to be wholly inaccessible on account of ice.

We invite you to join us on a historic voyage completely around Antarctica — a first for Antarctic tourism and one of perhaps 10 circumnavigations in the 220 years since Cook's voyage. Until now, no passenger-carrying vessel has had the power or range to circumnavigate this last great continent.

On November 24, 1996 we sail south from Stanley in the Falkland Islands on the first leg of a remarkable 12,000-mile journey — a voyage that includes numerous emperor penguin rookeries located all around the continent, timed early enough to witness thousands of their young on the ice.

We stand among the emperors, thrill at the spectacle of 90-pound penguins tobogganing over the ice, land by helicopter atop mile-long icebergs and spend absorbing hours on deck as the ship breaks through the pack. We encounter the seldom-seen Ross seal and experience enormous



rookeries of Adelle penguins at the height of the breeding season.

Our journey includes all the great historic sites of polar exploration and never before visited sectors of Antarctica. Along the way we call at research stations of diverse nations, many for the first time ever. We navigate among hundreds of icebergs and along forbidding coasts, where killer whales and diverse seals patrol. Expertly-piloted helicopters land us on immense tabular icebergs and atop the extraordinary floating ice shelves, the biggest anywhere. Sailing east around the continent, our journey concludes

on January 27, 1997 back in South America.

With 22,000 hp and a 45-millimeter-thick hull, few vessels match the power of the world-class *Kapitan Khlebnikov*, an icebreaker that since 1991 has taken travelers to new lands both north and south: deep into the Weddell Sea, along the extraordinary coasts of East Antarctica and to remote Siberian archipelagos. An essential feature of icebreaker expeditions, the ship's versatile helicopters take us to otherwise inaccessible rookeries and landing sites blocked by ice. Our voyage will be led by a staff of experienced naturalists, lecturers and special guest speakers.

To hold a cabin on this historic Antarctic

Circumnavigation (for which we expect interest to be high), contact **Beth Ryan** at **212-979-3066**. A more detailed brochure is available on request.

**National Audubon Society
 Nature Odysseys**
 700 Broadway
 New York, NY 10003 USA
 Tel: 212-979-3066
 Fax: 212-353-0190

Nature Odysseys and its related logo and design are trademarks of National Audubon Society, Inc. All rights reserved.

THE ULTIMATE ICEBREAKER VOYAGE

National Audubon Society Field Notes

published by the
National Audubon Society

Volume 49, No. 5

SUSAN RONEY DRENNAN
Editor-in-Chief
Vice President for Ornithology

VICTORIA IRWIN
Managing Editor

KENN KAUFMAN
Associate Editor

GEOFFREY S. LE BARON
Christmas Bird Count Editor

JEAN DOBBINS
Administrative Assistant



JONATHAN B. FOSTER
Art Director

HEIDI DEVOS
Production Manager



J. KEVIN SMITH
Associate Publisher

JOHN B. GOURLAY
Advertising Director

SUZANNE SILFEN SCHEIN
Optics Advertising Manager

National Audubon Society Field Notes is published five times a year. Editorial and business offices are located at 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003 (212) 979-3000. Subscription, all in U.S. \$: One year, \$25.00. Canada and foreign: \$37.00. Libraries and Institutions: \$35.00. Single copies: Spring Issue (Autumn Migration), Summer Issue (Winter Season), Fall Issue (Spring Migration), Winter Issue (Nesting Season) all \$5.00 each. Christmas Bird Count issue \$15.00. Second class postage paid at New York, NY and additional Post Offices. Copyright 1995 by The National Audubon Society. Postmaster: Send address changes to **National Audubon Society Field Notes**, PO Box 490, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. ISSN 0004-7686.

Contents

Summer season: June 1, 1995–July 31, 1995

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 89I | From the Editor | 932 | Middlewestern Prairie Region
Kenneth J. Brock |
| 894 | World Briefs | 937 | Central Southern Region
Robert D. Purrington |
| 896 | Changing Seasons
Jeff Price | 941 | Prairie Provinces Region
Rudolf F. Koes and Peter Taylor |
| 900 | How to Read the Regional Reports | 943 | Northern Great Plains Region
Gordon Berkey |
| 90I | The Regional Reports Summer Season
The summer season is June 1, 1995–July 31, 1995. | 945 | Southern Great Plains Region
Joseph A. Grzybowski |
| 90I | Atlantic Provinces Region
Bruce Mactavish | 948 | Texas Region
Greg W. Lasley, Chuck Sexton, Mark Lockwood, and Willie Sekula |
| 903 | Quebec Region
Yves Aubry and Pierre Bannon | 952 | Idaho-Western Montana Region
Dan Swingen |
| 906 | New England Region
Wayne R. Petersen | 954 | Mountain West Region
Hugh E. Kingery |
| 9II | Hudson-Delaware Region
Robert O. Paxton, William J. Boyle, Jr., and David A. Cutler | 958 | Southwest Region
Arizona: Gary H. Rosenberg and Chris D. Benesh
New Mexico: Sartor O. Williams III |
| 9I5 | Middle Atlantic Coast Region
Marshall J. Iliff | 961 | |
| 9I8 | Southern Atlantic Coast Region
Ricky Davis | 963 | Alaska Region
T. G. Tobish, Jr. |
| 92I | Florida Region
Richard T. Paul and Ann F. Schnapf | 966 | British Columbia/Yukon Region
Jack Bowling |
| 924 | Ontario Region
Ron Ridout | 971 | Oregon/Washington Region
Bill Tweit and Jim Johnson |
| 926 | Appalachian Region
George A. Hall | 975 | Middle Pacific Coast Region
David G. Yee, Stephen F. Bailey, and Daniel S. Singer |
| 929 | Western Great Lakes Region
Darryl D. Tessen | 979 | Southern Pacific Coast Region
Guy McCaskie |
| | | 984 | Hawaiian Islands Region
Robert L. Pyle |
| | | 985 | West Indies Region
Robert L. Norton |

ON THE COVER: Great Gray Owl
in Wyoming. Photography by A&E
Morris/VIREO

How to Read the Regional Reports

Birds have no respect for range maps. Bird distribution in North America is constantly changing, as birds expand their ranges into new areas, disappear from former strongholds, or alter their patterns of migration.

Our knowledge of bird distribution is also changing constantly, as discoveries continue to come in. Keeping up with all these developments is a challenge for ornithologists, conservationists, and birders.

The Regional Reports, published four times a year, contain a wealth of information about our dynamic birdlife. To those seeing the reports for the first time, they might appear difficult or technical, but they are not; anyone with any birding experience will find the reports easy to understand. We invite you to read the report from your area of the continent; we predict that the information there will alternately surprise you and confirm your ideas about birdlife in your region. To help you get started, here are answers to some questions that may occur to first-time readers.

What kind of information is included, and do the Regional Editors report everything that's reported to them?

Regional Editors do not report every sighting of every bird. Such a list would be huge, unwieldy, and not very useful. Instead, they solicit reports from as many observers as possible, screen the records for accuracy, choose those that are most significant, look for trends and patterns of occurrence, connect scattered bits of information, and ultimately come up with a concise, readable summary of the real bird news—the important avian events and trends of the season throughout their region.

Why are there abbreviations in the text?

We abbreviate some frequently used words and phrases to save space. Most are easy to understand and remember. (See the following list of abbreviations.) In addition, some Regional Editors use shortened versions of the names of birding hot spots; they list these local abbreviations in a separate paragraph, just after the introductory comments and just before their main species accounts.

What do the initials in parentheses mean?

Most records published in each report will be followed by initials, to indicate the source, the person(s) who found or reported the bird(s) mentioned. The initials may be followed by *et al.* (short for *et alia*, meaning “and others”), or preceded by *fide* (literally, “by the faith of”—meaning that this is a second-hand report, and the person cited is the one who passed it to the Regional Editor).

There are good reasons for giving credit to the observers involved. Readers may be reassured about the accuracy of surprising sightings if they know who the observers were; researchers who want to know more about a certain record may be able to contact the observers directly.

Who sends in their sightings?

All observers are invited to send in notes to their Regional Editors: details on rare sightings, species that were scarcer or more numerous than usual during the season, unusual concentrations on migration, and so on. Reading the reports for your region for a few seasons is the best way to find out what kinds of information are desired. Although the Regional Editors cannot cite every record that they receive, every contributor helps them to produce a more thorough and accurate summary.

Why are some bird names in heavier type?

We use boldface type to draw attention to outstanding records of rare birds. General categories of birds that the Regional Editors would place in boldface would include: any species that has been recorded fewer than 10 times previously in a given state or province; any new breeding record for a state or province; or any bird totally outside established patterns of seasonal occurrence. (For the most part, records are not boldfaced unless they are backed up with solid details or photographs.) Birders who like to know about rare birds (and most of us do) can get a complete rundown of the season's outstanding rarities by scanning all the Regional Reports for those boldfaced birds.

What are the sections marked “S.A.”?

“S.A.” stands for “Special Attention” (and, by coincidence, is pronounced “essay”). The purpose of the essays is to draw attention to noteworthy phenomena or trends.

Likely topics include new population trends or new patterns of bird distribution, unusual invasions or migration events, field research projects that have yielded new data, specific conservation problems that have an impact on birdlife, or detailed discussion of some outstanding (or perplexing) rare bird record. Experienced readers make it a point to flip through all the reports and read all the S.A.s, even in regions where they do not read the rest of the text.

Standard Abbreviations used in the Regional Reports

Abbreviations used in place names:

In most regions, place names given in italic type are counties. Other abbreviations:

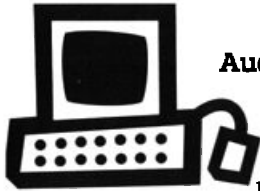
Cr.	Creek
Ft.	Fort
Hwy	Highway
I.	Island or Isle
Is.	Islands or Isles
Jct.	Junction
km	kilometer(s)
L.	Lake
mi	mile(s)
Mt.	Mountain or Mount
Mts.	Mountains
N.F.	National Forest
N.M.	National Monument
N.P.	National Park
N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
P.P.	Provincial Park
Pen.	Peninsula
Pt.	Point (not Port)
R.	River
Ref.	Refuge
Res.	Reservoir (not Reservation)
S.P.	State Park
W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area

Abbreviations used in the names of birds:

Am.	American
Com.	Common
E.	Eastern
Eur.	European or Eurasian
Mt.	Mountain
N.	Northern
S.	Southern
W.	Western

Other abbreviations and symbols referring to birds:

ad.	adult
imm.	immature
juv.	juvenile or juvenile species
sp.	species
v.t.	videotaped
†	means that written details were submitted for a sighting
*	means that a specimen was collected
♂	male
♀	female
CBC	Christmas Bird Count



Audubon's Internet Access

• You can register to be placed on our free Internet E-Mail discussion list to automatically get news about key issues as well as other important Audubon programs and special events! You can subscribe to this list by sending an e-mail message to majordomo@igc.apc.org with the message "subscribe Audubon-1" No subject is needed.

• Our "Audubon Infobot," an automated e-mail-on-demand system, is available 24 hours a day. To learn about this system and what is available there, simply send an e-mail message to infobot@audubon.org with a subject line of "infobot" and you will get a detailed return message.

• **The Audubon Home Page** on the Internet's World Wide Web is the complete online directory of the National Audubon Society's programs and its legislative agenda! You can find us at <http://www.audubon.org/audubon/>

The Audubon Forum on CompuServe

Join our online group of chapter leaders and activists in wide ranging discussions and action programs about Audubon issues. To receive your free CompuServe software simply mail a request to Audubon Forum, NAS, NY or forum@audubon.org. (Please specify Mac or Windows version)


If you are already a current CompuServe subscriber, you can have your CompuServe ID activated for access to the Audubon forum by sending a request on CIS to 71362,30.

come talk with us

We want to hear from you and we're trying to make it easy. Here's how!

Our Home Page

The mission of the National Audubon Society is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.



Welcome

to your online guide to the National Audubon Society. Some featured areas of the site are listed below- or go to the contents page for a complete guide.

- Your local chapter
- News from the National Audubon Society
- A walk in the Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary
- About the National Audubon Society



For questions about our communication tools contact

Audubon's Management Information Systems Department 212-979-3193
mis@audubon.org



The Audubon Action Line 800-659-2622

This recorded message, available 24 hours a day, is our weekly update on key national environmental issues.

Fax-on-demand

212-420-4768 Use your fax machine to get the information that you want when you want it. Calling in to our fax-on-demand system will give you a directory of information available by return fax, including our most current legislative updates.



The Audubon Activist

If you would really like to play a more integrated role in our advocacy work on behalf of birds, other wildlife and their habitats, consider joining our ACTIVIST network. Your involvement at this level will make you a part of our network of dedicated Audubon citizen-activists. You'll get Activist tools and information via e-mail, voice-mail, or regular mail depending on your preference **or by participating in our national FaxAlert Network!** By joining us you are making an important commitment to write letters or make telephone calls on behalf of the environment. With the current climate in Washington nothing less than the future of a healthy planet is at stake!

To join our activist network send your name, address, phone, fax, and e-mail address to Activist, NAS, NY. activist@audubon.org

National Audubon Society

700 Broadway
212-979-3000



New York, NY 10003
Fax 212-353-0347



Audubon
Sunflower
Haven

DUNCRAFT

Exclusive Makers of National Audubon Society Feeders

The pleasures and rewards of feeding wild birds . . . has been Duncraft's message for over 40 years. Audubon Feeders by Duncraft are available in retail stores – and through the Duncraft Catalog, America's largest bird-feeding resource by mail, featuring quality seeds, feeders, housing, baths and accessories. Call us at 800-593-5656 for a catalog.

DUNCRAFT Dept. KZ29 Concord NH 03303-9020

