

## NOTES

Between Laguna Ojo de Liebre and San Jose del Cabo there are many large and undisturbed lagoons that should provide ideal habitat for the Least Tern. It is probable that the birds nest all the way to the tip of the peninsula, since they were breeding at San Jose del Cabo 50 years ago (Lamb 1927). South of the 28th parallel, the coast is very difficult to explore, requiring approach either by sea, by 4-wheel drive vehicle if overland, or preferably by both routes. We were not equipped for such exploration, but urge that it be undertaken in the near future.

Time is short. The opening of the new road heralds many changes for Baja California. Before extensive development gets underway, essential habitats for endangered species should be documented. Protection of endangered species becomes an international problem when the birds do not recognize national boundaries. A joint Mexican-United States program is needed.

### LITERATURE CITED

- American Ornithologists Union. 1957. Check-list of North American birds, 5th ed. Am. Ornithol. Union, Baltimore, Md.
- Bancroft, G. 1927. Breeding birds of Scammons Lagoon, Lower California. *Condor* 29:29-57.
- Bradley, R. 1973. Population census of the Belding's Savannah Sparrow. *West. Bird Bander* 48:40-43.
- Lamb, C. A. 1927. Notes on some birds of the southern extremity of Lower California. *Condor* 29:155-177.
- Massey, B. W. 1974. Breeding biology of the California Least Tern. *Proc. Linn. Soc. N. Y.* 72:1-24.

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## BULLETIN BOARD

### COLONIAL WATERBIRD GROUP

The Colonial Waterbird Group (CWG) was officially formed at the North American Wading Bird Conference at Charleston, South Carolina, on 16 October 1977. The CWG developed from two other newly organized groups, the Colonial Wading Bird Group and the steering committee for a proposed seabird group for central and eastern North America. The organization has the following immediate goals: (1) encourage and coordinate standardized surveys of colonial waterbirds; (2) publish a newsletter; (3) assist efforts by conservationists to protect and manage colonial waterbirds and wetland and coastal ecosystems; (4) act as a clearinghouse of information for ongoing research and research opportunities.

Chairperson of the steering committee is John C. Ogden, Secretary-treasurer is Joanna Burger, and Editor of the newsletter is Mitchell Byrd. Dues are currently \$5.00 per year.

Regional reporters are contacting persons working on colonial water birds and interested in doing so. To avoid duplication or competition with the Pacific Seabird Group, in the regions bordering the Pacific Coast, the CWG will be limited to colonial wading birds such as herons, ibises and storks. Westerners interested in wading birds are encouraged to write one of the following regional reporters:

The reporter for Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada is Helen M. Pratt, 337 Jean Street, Mill Valley, CA 94941.

## BULLETIN BOARD

The reporter for Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma is Kirke A. King, Fish and Wildlife Service, Gulf Coast Field Station, P. O. Box 2506, Victoria, TX 77901.

The reporter for Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado is Ronald A. Ryder, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CA 80523.

### MARTIN BIBLIOGRAPHY

A comprehensive bibliography of the North and South American martins (*Progne* spp.) is currently in preparation. It will include all papers dealing solely or partly with martins, except local annotated checklists. Authors wishing to have material included should send an abstract or reprint to Charles R. Brown, Box 1309, Austin College, Sherman, TX 75090.

### HELP WANTED

The Bureau of Land Management, as part of its Desert Land Plan, will conduct studies on the movements of migratory and resident birds in the California deserts in 1978. The extent of these studies will depend, in part, upon manpower availability. Persons interested in participation in fieldwork associated with these studies should contact me as soon as possible. *Joseph R. Jehl, Jr., Hubbs/Sea World Research Institute, 1700 South Shores Road, San Diego, CA 92109. (714/223-2693).*

### SHOREBIRD COLOR-MARKING IN ALASKA

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has begun color-marking and banding shorebirds along the Alaska Peninsula. Dunlins, Short-billed and Long-billed dowitchers, Ruddy Turnstones, Sanderlings, Rock and Western sandpipers and Bar-tailed Godwits are being color-banded with a split red-blue band (and with USFWS metal leg band). Each bird is also being color-marked yellow with picric acid. Reports of sightings of such birds should be sent to: Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Laurel, MD 20811. A copy of the report should also be sent to Robert Gill, Jr., USFWS, 800 A Street, Suite 110, Anchorage, AK 99501. Reports should include details of species (with age if possible), place date, color marks, and notes on association with other shorebirds. Please record which leg the bands are on, the color scheme, e.g. red over blue or blue over red, and whether the bands are above or below the "knee."

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Reviews of two fine regional publications received recently are planned for future issues of *Western Birds*:

ALBERTA BIRDS 1961-1970, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO MIGRATION. Thomas S. Sadler and M. Timothy Myres. 1976. iv + 314 p. Prov. Mus. Alberta Nat. Hist. Occas. Pap. No. 1. Available from The Bookshop, Provincial Museum of Alberta, 12845 - 102 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5N 0M6. \$3.25. Make checks payable to The Bookshop, Provincial Museum.

BIRDS OF THE YOSEMITE SIERRA: A DISTRIBUTIONAL SURVEY. David Gaines. 1977. Illustrated by Cameron Barrows. xxviii + 153 p. California Syllabus, Oakland. Available from Cal-Syl Press, 1494 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94602. \$5.75 postpaid (California residents add 30 ¢ tax).

## WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS WINTER PELAGIC TRIPS

### MONTEREY BAY—SATURDAY, 14 JANUARY 1978

Leave 8 AM, return 3 PM. Three boats. \$15.00 per person for WFO members and their families; \$22.50 per person for non-members.\* Reservations will be accepted POSTMARKED 14 DECEMBER 1977, OR LATER, in order of postmark (see below).

This is an excellent time of year to observe the Gray Whale migration and many species of pelagic birds. It is the best time to see Short-tailed Shearwater and Laysan Albatross, both of which were seen in January 1977 on Monterey Bay. Black-footed Albatross, Fulmar, Sooty and Pink-footed shearwaters, Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers, Black-legged Kittiwake, Common Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Ancient Murrelet and Rhinoceros Auklet can be expected, and Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel and Manx and Flesh-footed shearwaters have also been recorded at this time of year. It is a very exciting time to be on Monterey Bay, both because of the large numbers of birds and because of the mammals. Other species of whales, dolphins, Harbor Seals, sea lions, and Sea Otters are usually seen on this trip. Weather, of course, can be quite unpredictable in winter, although some of our calmest trips have been at this time of year.

Trip leaders: John Luther, Van Remsen, Rich Stallcup

### BODEGA BAY—SATURDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 1978

Leave 7 AM, return 3 PM. \$20.00 per person for WFO members and their families; \$27.50 per person for non-members.\* Reservations will be accepted POSTMARKED 4 JANUARY 1978, OR LATER, in order of postmark (see below).

Our destination will be the Cordell Banks, about 30 miles offshore. Last year's trip was a very exciting one with many birds to look at most of the time. One can expect rough seas in this area in winter and the trip may be cancelled if it is too rough; in that case your money would be refunded. We will be going out on the *Sea Angler*, a very comfortable boat which holds 50 people and has an indoor viewing area. The boat will depart from the Tides Wharf, Bodega Bay. Birds that have been seen at this season in this area are Black-footed and Laysan albatrosses, Northern Fulmar, Pink-footed, Sooty and Short-tailed shearwaters, Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel, Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers, Black-legged Kittiwake, Common Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Marbled and Ancient murrelets, and Rhinoceros Auklet.

Trip leader: Rich Stallcup

### RESERVATIONS

Reservations for either trip may be made by sending, on or after the postmark dates indicated above, a check or money order payable to Western Field Ornithologists, c/o Susanne Luther, 7481 Woodrow Drive, Oakland, CA 94611. The full name of all persons for whom you are making a reservation and a SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE must accompany your request. If you are becoming a new member, be sure to include your full name and address. Send reservations for each trip separately. For the Bodega Bay trip, be sure to date your check 1978. No verbal reservations will be accepted. Refunds CANNOT be made if notification of cancellation is not made at least 60 hours in advance of departure time.

\*Includes membership and a year's subscription to *Western Birds*.