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Western Regional News

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Western Bird Banding Association (WBBA) is currently accepting abstracts for papers and posters to be presented at the 2008 annual meeting in Boise, Idaho, 5-7 Sep. Presentations should reflect original research or summarize existing information and should address the use of banding as a tool in avian research and monitoring. All presentations should identify study objectives, describe study methods and data analysis, discuss the significance of the research, and propose future research directions.

Oral presentations should be limited to 20 minutes, including 3-5 minutes for questions, answers, and discussion. Dialogue between presenters and audience is a hallmark of WBBA meetings. Power Point will be available for presentations. Other media needs should be communicated to the meeting coordinator at the email address below.

Posters should fit within a width of six feet. Text, graphics, and illustrations should be readable from a distance of at least four feet. Poster presenters are expected to be available for extensive discussion with meeting participants.

Please submit abstracts electronically by 15 Jul to Michael_J_Boyles@nps.gov in the following format:

List of authors (Last Name, First Name, and affiliation of lead author and First Name, Last Name, and affiliation of co-authors); complete mailing and e-mail address of the presenting author; presentation title (in-

cluding paper or poster in parentheses following the title); and a brief (300-word maximum) summary of the objectives, methods, results, and significance of the study.

For additional information about WBBA's 2008 meeting, please visit the WBBA website at <http://www.westernbirdbanding.org/>

Golden Gate Raptor Observatory - 2007 Report

The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory (GGRO) had another record banding year in 2007, banding 2,243 raptors of 13 species. Both the total and the number of species are new records for us. We set a record for GGRO Cooper's Hawk captures with 1,048, but the big news for us was the capture of a juvenile female Eurasian Kestrel (EUK) on 23 Oct by volunteer Mike Armer and intern Beth Sturgeon. This is the first California record for the species and only the third EUK ever banded in North America.

Other unusual species for us were a Northern Goshawk and a Rough-legged Hawk, both banded on the same day and only the fifth we have banded of each of these species in our 25 years of operation. Two Swainson's Hawks—the 7th and 8th we have banded—rounded out the run of unusual bandings for the GGRO in 2007.

Good weather, good flights, and skilled volunteer trapper/banders conspired to achieve these good results.

We also banded a partial albino Red-tailed Hawk; a bird that had the trappers guessing until they removed it from the trap and saw the tail color. I have attached a photo of one of our volunteers, Noreen Weeden, holding the Red-tail.

Buzz Hall

BHull@ParksConservancy.org

**Executive Director
of Klamath Bird Observatory Presented
With International Award
for Bird Conservation**



Klamath Bird Observatory's Executive Director John Alexander received a *Partners in Flight Leadership Award* at the International Partners in Flight Conference in McAllen, TX, on 16 Feb 2008. Partners in Flight awards recognize outstanding contributions to the field of bird conservation. Leadership awardees further the goal of protecting migratory and resident landbirds and their habitats through innovative leadership.

For over 15 years Alexander has dedicated himself to accomplishing bird conservation in the Klamath-Siskiyou Bioregion of northern California and southern Oregon, and beyond. Along with C. John Ralph of the United States Forest Service's Redwood Science Laboratory, Alexander founded the nonprofit Klamath Bird Observatory, an award-winning organization dedicated to bird conservation. Alexander and Ralph were also instrumental in the development of the Klamath Bird Monitoring Network, which is one of the most comprehensive regional bird monitoring and research programs in the world. They continue to collaborate to maintain this network, as well as the Landbird Monitoring Network of the Americas, which is a collaborative that fosters international bird monitoring partnerships. Presently John serves the president of the Western Bird Banding Association as its representative to the North America Banding Council.

Through his partnerships with local land managers and his involvement with the California and Oregon/Washington Partners in Flight chapters, Alexander has been a leader in carrying out an effective bird conservation implementation strategy. The strategy has resulted in integration of bird conservation objectives into state wildlife action plans and local and regional land management practices. Alexander also serves on several national-level conservation committees, promoting the role of science in national and international conservation and management programs. Further, Alexander founded an education and outreach program at Klamath Bird Observatory that serves as a national model. The program reaches thousands of school children, community members and land managers annually, building broad awareness of bird conservation and its basis in science, education and partnerships.

Partners in Flight was launched in 1990 in response to growing concerns about declines in the populations of many land bird species. Partners in Flight is a cooperative effort involving partnerships among federal, state and local government agencies, philanthropic foundations, professional organizations, conservation groups, industry, the academic community, and private individuals. To learn more about Partners in Flight, visit www.partnersinflight.org

Klamath Bird Observatory advances bird and habitat conservation through science, education, and partnerships. The observatory conducts scientific studies to monitor and inventory bird populations,