



EDITOR'S PAGE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Leverich,

I'm dropping you this note in response to an article I read of yours in the January-February Bird Observer, on sibling species. In footnote no. 5 you mentioned that possibly Western Sandpipers might linger on the Newburyport flats longer than Semis. I have spent a good deal of time observing the feeding habits of the shorebirds in Newburyport, particularly the Semis and Westerns, in conjunction with work I was doing here at the Observatory. For some reason, most of the time the shorebirds pull out of the harbor well before the mud is covered - possibly having 15 minutes of feeding time left. It's as if they anticipate the tide shortly covering the mud. I haven't observed Westerns remaining behind when the Semis leave.

Sincerely,
Paul K. Donahue
Manomet Bird Observatory

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING WILDERNESS STUDY

We have received notice that a Public Hearing will be held at the Y.M.C.A., Newburyport, Massachusetts, on April 25, 1974, beginning at 9:30 a.m., concerning a study of the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge's suitability for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Individuals or organizations may express their oral or written views by appearing at this hearing, or they may submit written comments for inclusion in the official record of the hearing to the Regional Director, Sport, Fisheries & Wildlife Bureau, J.W. McCormack Post Office & Court House, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, by May 25, 1974.

JOHNNY HORIZON CLEANUP DAY

Sunday, April 29, 1974, is "cleanup" day at Plum Island. This is a national program sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Interior to promote environmental awareness and action. Why not spend a few hours to help and keep Plum Island a place of beauty? Please contact Mr. Herman D'Entremont (969-8146) for further information or meet at Refuge Parking Lot #1 at 9:00 A.M.

BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB

The Spring Lecture Meeting of the Brookline Bird Club will be held at the Cahnes Theater of the Boston Museum of Science on Friday, April 26, 1974, at 7:30 P.M. The program will be "A Symphony of Life" by Jack Swedberg, Senior Wildlife Photographer for the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game. This film will highlight the flora and fauna of Massachusetts, with an interesting segment on Bald and Golden Eagles at Quabbin Reservoir.