

EDITOR'S PAGE



Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts has been declared a non-profit tax exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service. Any gifts to Bird Observer will be greatly appreciated and will be tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

FINAL NOTICE

It's time to resubscribe. With this copy of Bird Observer your 1976 subscription ends. In order to continue, we again need your support as a subscriber, a contributor and an observer. It is very important that you resubscribe promptly since we must have 300 subscribers for our first issue of the new year or lose our second class mailing permit.

Renewals are \$6.50 per calendar year, January to December.

EVERGLADE KITE IN TROUBLE

Severe loss of living space for the Everglade Kite in Florida has resulted in proposed critical habitat determinations by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The proposal includes about 1000 square miles of marshland in southeastern Florida for the Kite. Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, a Federal agency may not authorize, fund, or carry out any action that would result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitats.

In recent years, however, the widespread development of the Everglades region for agricultural uses, flood control, grazing, and residential and recreational projects has drastically altered and reduced the original habitat. The flow of water from Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades has been reduced by drought and diversion to agricultural areas. Add to this the threat of hurricanes, fire, shooting, increased pollution from pesticides used in the area, and the potential fate of the 100 or so remaining birds is all too apparent.



Barred Owl photographed at M.I.T.

by Calvin Campbell.

Photograph courtesy of
Massachusetts Institute of Technology.