

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF BIRD POPULATIONS

An Institute for the Study of Bird Populations is being formed, and interested persons are invited to join. The following are benefits for members:

1. Receiving a monthly newsletter popularizing the most current ornithological research.
2. Having a group of professional ornithologists and theoretical ecologists available to help guide bird watching and banding activities to make these more personally and scientifically rewarding.
3. Significantly increasing our ability to manage and sustain our birdlife, in the face of man-made environmental stresses.

In brief, membership provides some increased understanding, guidance, and hope about birds and bird watching. Dues are \$5.00 per year. Half of these dues go to support the newsletter, and half to research activities in the Institute. Institute research includes:

1. Analyzing currently available banding, nest-record, and distributional records.
2. Coordinating nationwide breeding studies, adult mortality, and bird watching studies with data collected on particular species by members.
3. Supporting specific scientists working on certain species, with the aim of predicting fluctuations in numbers of that species, and of understanding its average population size.

The level of research activity will depend on the number of dues paying members and on grants for specific projects from interested members, and from federal agencies.

Some current projects and investigators:

1. Population regulation in the Dickcissel: S. Fretwell
2. Cowbird parasitism, nest predation, and food in regulating breeding bird densities: J. Zimmerman
3. Bird Song: Its emotional function and relation to population control: R. Hirsch
4. Why some birds are prettier than others: S. Rohwer
5. Kinship patterns in birds and alarm notes: S. Den and C. Tuckfield
6. The regulation of breeding range in Kingbirds: J. Tatschl
7. Regulation of transequatorial migrants: D. Bowen

Current Staff

Stephen D. Fretwell (Ph.D. in Biomathematics and Theoretical Ecology).

John Zimmerman (Ph.D. in Avian Ecology).
Sievert Rohwer (Ph.D. in Systematics and Evolution).
Robert Hirsch (Graduate Student in behavioral ecology).
John Tatschl (Ph.D. in Biology).
Steve Den (High School Teacher).
Richard Tuckfield (Undergraduate in Theoretical Ecology).
Daniel Bowen (Graduate Student in behavioral ecology).

We do not presently understand what regulates bird numbers, we cannot predict fluctuations, and we cannot adequately assess the impact on the bird life of major environmental developments by man. We need this information badly, if we are to protect our bird-life. If you agree, please join the Institute - you know how rare people like you are, and we need all the help we can get.

How to join:

Send your check or money order for \$5.00 to:

Institute for the Study of Bird Populations
Dr. Stephen Fretwell
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

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EBBA NEWS PHOTO CONTEST

In our May 1972 issue, we published the winning photo by Mr. Gil Fernandez, on page 75. The remaining three photos can be found on the following pages.

The first photo (On page 261) was taken on June 28, 1971, by Ken M. Prytherch of 821 Colonial Road, Franklin Lakes, N.J. 07417, at Bonaventure Island off Perce, Quebec, Canada. He used GAF-64 Color Slide Film (of course, the half-tone is in black and white), and a Contaflex IV 115 mm lens (f5.6 @ 1/60).

The second photo (Page 261) was taken by Mrs. Valerie M. Freer, of R.F.D. 1, Box 21G, Ellenville, N.Y. 12428. It should be noted that the bird was not posed; it apparently was quite impressed with its reflection in the mirror. This photo is originally a Black and White photograph.

The third photo (we reported in an earlier edition of *Ebba News*) is taken by Dorothy Foy. It has come to our attention that this is not the case. It was taken (date unknown) by William Savell and the slide apparently accidentally found itself in Mrs. D. Foy's slide collection. William Savell hails from Linwood, New Jersey.