

NEWS AND NOTES

For advice about this section, please see Information for Contributors (*Condor* 82:116).

50TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE C.O.S.

The Cooper Ornithological Society held its 50th Annual Meeting 19-23 March 1980 at Corpus Christi, Texas, jointly with the Wilson Ornithological Society. Six resolutions that were passed by the two societies are given here. Other news from the meeting will be reported later.

Support for government management plans. Whereas in recognition of the need for the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, State Conservation Agencies and the Canadian Wildlife Service to prepare long-range recovery and management plans for endangered and threatened wildlife and for other species of ecological or economic importance, and,

Whereas, in recognition of the importance of acquiring the best biological input for the initial plans and for subsequent scientific reviews,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Wilson and Cooper Ornithological Societies jointly commend the responsible agencies for their initiative in consulting both government and outside specialists on these species, and

Furthermore, encourage these agencies to extend this policy to all such related plans during both their inception and subsequent reviews.

Support for Year of the Coast—1980. Whereas, in recognition of the need to preserve and protect the environmental, economic and aesthetic values of our nation's coastal areas, the President of the United States has declared 1980 to be the Year of the Coast, and,

Whereas, there is a national effort underway to create a coordinated public information campaign about the values of and threats to coastal zones and resources, It is hereby resolved by the Cooper and Wilson Ornithological Societies, jointly to support the Year of the Coast campaign during 1980 and encourage our members to participate in local information and education programs.

Support for Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and RAMSAR Convention. Whereas, the Cooper and Wilson Ornithological Societies at their third joint meeting held at Corpus Christi, Texas, 19-23 March 1980, visited nearby Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, and,

Whereas, the members of these societies were treated to excellent views of Whooping Cranes, and endangered species wintering at Aransas NWR, as well as thousands of other waterbirds, and,

Whereas, many of these birds, including the Whooping Cranes, cross international boundaries and therefore require international recognition and protection, and

Whereas, the international and national significance of Aransas NWR can more fully be recognized by the United States accession to the RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands of International Importance,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Cooper and Wilson Ornithological Societies express their appreciation to the State of Texas on its role in protecting its migratory wildlife and these Societies further recommend that the State of Texas urge the United States Government to accede to the RAMSAR Convention and to list Aransas National Wildlife Refuge as the

first United States wetland to be recognized as of international importance under that convention.

Support for an Alaskan Lands bill. Whereas, the State of Alaska contains unique and fragile ecosystems which are as yet largely unaltered by mankind and which are of scientific, educational, economic, and recreational value to the United States, and,

Whereas, the United States Senate has postponed its debate on the Alaska Lands bill (S. 9) and Tsongas Amendment 626 until after 5 July with the possible result that no bill will be passed this session to protect these national lands in Alaska, and

Whereas, in consequence, Secretary of the Interior, Cecil D. Andrus on 12 February 1980, withdrew 40 million acres of this land under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act to be managed as wildlife refuges by the Fish and Wildlife Service or as natural resource areas by the Bureau of Land Management, and,

Whereas twelve million more acres may be subsequently withdrawn if Congress does not itself protect these national lands,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Wilson and Cooper Ornithological Societies jointly commend and support Secretary Andrus on his actions, and,

Furthermore, encourage the Senate to support speedily the passage of the Tsongas substitute bill, Amendment 626, which most nearly matches that passed by the House of Representatives (H. R. 39) which appropriately protects the Alaskan lands.

Support for nongame bills H. R. 3292 and S. 2181.

Whereas, nongame fish and wildlife populations have many values important to society, including ecological, aesthetic, social, economic, educational, scientific, recreational and others, and,

Whereas, these resources and their associated values can be maintained and perpetuated only through well designed research and management programs, and,

Whereas, current research and management programs for nongame fish and wildlife are severely constrained by voids in the fundamental information and by inadequate levels of funding to strengthen essential programs, and,

Whereas, bills (H. R. 3292 and S. 2181) seeking to establish a joint federal-state Fish & Wildlife conservation act, and strengthen nongame fish and wildlife programs, have passed the House and will shortly be presented to the full Senate,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Cooper and Wilson Ornithological Societies jointly hereby urge the Senate to pass S. 2181 and furthermore urge the Conference Committee to resolve the differences between the two bills to the greatest benefit of nongame wildlife and return a bill to Congress, to adopt such a revised bill immediately and to insure implementation of the federal-state nongame Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act, and further resolve to urge the President to sign it into law.

Be it further resolved, that we encourage the U. S. Congress in its next session to take action to fund such a Conservation Act on a sound, sustained basis by assigning to it revenues from a tax on appropriately related items.

Thanks to Corpus Christi State University and the Coastal Bend Audubon Society. Whereas, the Wilson and Cooper Ornithological Societies held their third joint meeting on 19-23 March 1980, at Corpus Christi, Texas, at the invitation of Corpus Christi State University and the Coastal Bend Audubon So-

ciety and were treated to convenient and comfortable housing and meeting rooms, and,

Whereas, important and interesting scientific papers on a variety of subjects were presented to satisfy the full spectrum of participants and precise timing enabled concurrent sessions to operate successfully, and,

Whereas, there was in addition a full range of accessory activities including conveniently placed poster papers, entertaining and instructive movies and prospects of a delicious and entertaining banquet, and,

Whereas, the field trips before and after the meeting were well organized so as to enable us to enjoy the richness of bird life in this region,

It is therefore resolved that we, the members of the Wilson and Cooper Ornithological Societies jointly express our grateful appreciation to our hosts, Corpus Christi State University and the Coastal Bend Audubon Society, and especially to Brian Chapman, Jerome Jackson, and field trip organizer, Ray Little, and the members of their committees, whose planning, organization, hospitality and perseverance have made this meeting an especially enjoyable experience.

HAWK MOUNTAIN RESEARCH AWARD

The Board of Directors of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association gave its third annual award for raptor research to Jane E. Anderson (Arizona Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, University of Arizona, Tucson) for her study "Influence of range conditions on hunting areas of Red-tailed Hawks and kestrels."

To apply for the \$500.00 annual award, students should submit a description of their research program, a curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation by October 31, 1980 to: Mr. Alexander C. Nagy, Curator, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Route 2, Kempton, Pennsylvania 19529. The final decision by the Board of Directors will be made in February 1981.

Only students enrolled in a degree-granting institution are eligible. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to apply. Projects will be picked completely on the basis of their potential contribution to improve understanding of raptor biology and their ultimate relevance to conservation of North American hawk populations.

COLONIAL WATERBIRD GROUP

The fourth annual meeting of the Colonial Waterbird Group will be held 9-12 October 1980 in Ottawa, Canada. It will be co-sponsored by the C. W. G. and the Canadian Wildlife Service. A symposium on the effects of humans on colonial birds is planned and a Proceedings will be published. Anyone wishing to contribute to the symposium should send an abstract to J. Burger by 1 August 1980. For information on contributing papers, please contact J. Burger, Department of Biology, Livingston College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903. Abstracts must be received by 1 September 1980. For information on registration, please contact R. Michael Erwin, Migratory Bird and Habitat Research Laboratories, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland 20811.

BIRD CENSUS SYMPOSIUM

The Symposium on "Estimating Populations of Terrestrial Birds" will be held October 26-31, 1980 at the

Asilomar conference grounds, near Monterey, California. The invited papers, given by authors from many countries, will cover chiefly the problems, methods, and analyses of bird censusing. Field trips will be held during and after the Symposium to explore methods of censusing and habitats of coastal and interior California. For further information, write: Dr. C. John Ralph and Dr. J. Michael Scott, Bird Census Symposium, P.O. Box 43, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii 96718.

SYMPOSIUM ON HUDSON AND JAMES BAYS

A Symposium on scientific studies of Hudson Bay and James Bay will be held April 28-30, 1981 sponsored by the Department of Land Resource Science, University of Guelph. The objectives of the Symposium are to assess the current state of knowledge, report on research in the area, relate features and processes of this area to other similar arctic and sub-arctic zones, and to foster interdisciplinary interaction and determine needs for further research. For information write to Professor I. P. Martini, Department of Land Resource Science, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1, Canada.

ERRATUM

Carl D. Marti describes an error in his paper "Feeding ecology of four sympatric owls" (*Condor* 76:45-61, 1974):

"Due to an error in the computer program, chi-square tests of prey similarity (pp. 48-50) were performed on estimated weights of prey species groups instead of on numbers of prey species individuals. The chi-square values and significance levels given, however, are correct for prey weights.

"I reanalyzed the data using chi-square tests on prey species numbers and found significant ($P < 0.005$) differences for all four owl species among years and habitats and among the four owls. This means that all chi-square tests described in the paper show significant differences at $P < 0.005$.

"I had concluded, on the basis of the original chi-square analysis as published, that Long-eared and Burrowing Owls were inflexible in prey choice. The re-evaluation of these data indicates that, even though these species took less varied prey than Great Horned and Barn Owls, they did exhibit significance flexibility in prey selection among years and habitats. Other conclusions in the paper remain unchanged."

NEW ASSISTANT TREASURER FOR C.O.S.

Dennis M. Power, President of the C.O.S., has appointed James R. Northern as Assistant Treasurer, succeeding James G. Miller, who has resigned. Formerly at the Los Angeles County Museum, Northern is now a member of the Department of Biology at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is chiefly responsible for the safekeeping and sale of the Society's publications. Orders for back issues of *The Condor* and copies of *Pacific Coast Avifauna* or *Studies in Avian Biology* should be sent to Northern. For his address as well as information about whom to write concerning subscriptions and membership, please consult the inside front cover.