

NEWS AND NOTES

61st ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Cooper Ornithological Society held its 61st annual meeting on 14-19 May 1991 at the University of Oklahoma, Norman. The meeting was held jointly with the Wilson Ornithological Society. Gary D. Schnell chaired the Committee on Local Arrangements, and Richard N. Conner chaired the Scientific Program Committee.

The following members are continuing or newly-elected officers: Martin L. Morton, President; Lloyd F. Kiff, President-elect; Terrell D. Rich, Secretary; Martin G. Raphael, Assistant Secretary; Donald R. Powers, Treasurer; James T. Jennings, Assistant Treasurer. Glenn E. Walsberg continues as the editor of *The Condor* and Joseph R. Jehl, Jr., as editor of *Studies in Avian Biology*.

The Board of Directors conferred honorary membership to Russell P. Balda, Lloyd F. Kiff and Jared Verner for exceptional dedication to ornithology and the COS.

Three new members of the board were elected for three-year terms (1991-1994) by the membership in balloting conducted prior to the meeting: Howard L. Cogswell, Michael L. Morrison, and Carol M. Vleck. They replace retiring members Richard L. Hutto, Lewis W. Oring, and Frank A. Pitelka.

There were 190 registrants at the meeting. In the general paper sessions, poster session, and symposia, 96 papers and posters were presented. The COS Paper Awards Committee judged all student papers and presented the following awards: A. Brazier Howell Award to John M. Bates (Louisiana State University) for the paper entitled "Evolutionary relationships in the tyrannid genus *Leptopogon*, with comments on the evolution of Andean birds"; Frances S. Roberts Award to Laura L. Erickson and Kim R. Eckert (Duluth, MN) for the paper "Daytime warbler migration in fall along Lake Superior's north shore"; first Board of Directors' Award to Michael T. Green (University of North Carolina) for the paper "Song variability in Baird's Sparrows"; and second Board of Directors' Award to Timothy C. Lamey (University of Oklahoma) for "Hatch asynchrony, egg-size differences, and obligate brood reduction in Crested Penguins." These students were also presented with books obtained by the local committee from the University of Texas Press and the University of Oklahoma Press.

A new award for graduate student research was created to honor L. Richard Mewaldt and James King. See details on this award in the August 1991 issue of *The Condor*.

The H. R. Painton Award is presented every two years for the best paper appearing in *The Condor* in the previous four years. The Painton Award Committee (J. Michael Scott, chair) and Board of Directors have awarded the 1991 Painton Award to Bradley C. Livezey for his paper "Evolutionary morphology of flightlessness in the Auckland Islands Teal," which appeared in volume 92, pages 639-673.

Student memberships were presented to 41 students for the next two years.

Resolutions concerning a variety of issues were passed jointly with the Wilson Ornithological Society; these resolutions appear below.

The 1992 annual meeting will be held at the University of Washington, Seattle, 22-27 June 1991. The 1993 meeting will be the Society's centennial meeting and will be held in Sacramento, California, 13-17 April 1993.

RESOLUTIONS

The COS Conservation and Resolutions Committee (William M. Block, Chair) and the WOS Resolutions Committee drafted the following resolutions that were jointly approved by the WOS Council and the COS Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD PROGRAM

Whereas populations of many species of neotropical migrant birds are declining, and

Whereas the population status of many other neotropical migrant birds is unknown, and

Whereas habitat loss and habitat fragmentation caused by humans in both temperate and tropical environments are major factors in these declines, and

Whereas neotropical migrant birds are reflections of the health and condition of both temperate and tropical forests, and

Whereas effects of environmental changes on the habitats and populations of migrant birds transcend jurisdictional boundaries, and

Whereas there is a pressing need for conservation action and further research on behalf of these birds,

Therefore be it resolved that the Cooper Ornithological Society and the Wilson Ornithological Society support the coordinated efforts of state and federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, academicians, and international cooperators in the *Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Program* to: (1) establish population and habitat monitoring procedures to determine long- and short-term trends, (2) promote conservation efforts for migrant birds across private, public, agency, state, and federal jurisdictional boundaries, (3) promote and coordinate research efforts to provide adequate information for the management of these species, and (4) develop new education, communication, and outreach programs to apprise the public of the status of neotropical migrant birds.

RESOLUTION FOR THE RESTORATION OF SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND

Whereas the natural environment of San Clemente Island has been degraded by introductions of feral herbivores and predators, and other anthropogenic factors, and

Whereas the habitat of the San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi*) and those of other native species have been severely degraded by feral pigs and goats, and

Whereas populations of many native vertebrates are vulnerable to predation by common ravens, rats, and feral cats, and

Whereas recovery of the shrike population in its natural environment as presently constituted appears unlikely,

Therefore be it resolved that the Cooper Ornithological Society and the Wilson Ornithological Society urge the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game to support fully the captive breeding and habitat restoration efforts recently undertaken by the Department of Defense, United States Navy; the Zoological Society of San Diego; the University of California, Berkeley; the University of California, Riverside; and the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, and

Therefore be it further resolved that the Cooper Ornithological Society and the Wilson Ornithological Society urge the the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game to initiate a program of habitat restoration with goals of providing suitable conditions for the conservation of all native flora and fauna of the island, and returning the San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike to its native environment as quickly as possible.

RESOLUTION TO COMMEND WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH'S SUPPORT OF LONG-TERM CALIFORNIA GULL RESEARCH

Whereas long-term studies are essential for understanding mechanisms that influence population dynamics of vertebrates, especially long-lived species such as the California Gull (*Larus californicus*), and

Whereas the 33-year old population study of California Gulls at Bamforth Lake, Wyoming, is the second longest active population study of birds in North America,

Therefore be it resolved that the Cooper Ornithological Society and the Wilson Ornithological Society commend past and continuing support provided by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in ensuring that this very important population study can and will continue.

ENDANGERED SPECIES LISTING FOR THE CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER

Whereas the California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica*) apparently has been eliminated from the California counties of Ventura and San Bernardino, and

Whereas the species' once extensive distribution in Los Angeles County has been reduced to a small portion of the Palos Verdes Peninsula, and

Whereas the California Gnatcatcher recently has been recognized as taxonomically distinct from the Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (*P. melanura*), and

Whereas the species is an obligate, permanent resident of coastal sage scrub, a unique and diverse vegetation type that many consider to be one of the most endangered habitats in the continental United States, and

Whereas intense housing development and expansion of transportation corridors in Orange, Riverside, and San Diego counties threaten to eliminate the few remaining large tracts of California Gnatcatcher habitat within the next 20 years, and

Whereas the impact of such habitat loss will compound the effects of extensive habitat fragmentation, and

Whereas estimates of the numbers of individuals of this species presently occurring in the United States range from 1,200 to 2,000 pairs, and

Whereas conservation and mitigation efforts required by existing regulatory mechanisms have, in general, failed to protect adequately viable populations of the species, and

Whereas without full protection under the Federal Endangered Species Act and prompt development of an effective regional recovery plan, there is overwhelming evidence that populations of this species will continue to decline, and that the species will be extirpated from all or most of its range in the United States,

Therefore be it resolved that the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Cooper Ornithological Society recommend that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service immediately undertake emergency listing of this species under the provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act, and that the Service establish a recovery plan to ensure the protection of this species and its habitat.

HIGH-SEAS DRIFTNET FISHERIES

Whereas the use of large-scale driftnets is an indiscriminate and destructive method of fishing that kills seabirds and other living marine resources in the world's oceans, and

Whereas there may be severe adverse impacts of high-seas driftnets on seabirds and other marine resources as preliminary estimates indicate that at least 875,000 seabirds die annually in North Pacific driftnets alone, and

Whereas jurisdiction over seabirds under the United States Migratory Bird Act extends only three miles from the coast of the United States, whereas the United States protects marine mammals from driftnets and other threats out to 200 miles,

Therefore be it resolved that the Wilson Ornithological Society and Cooper Ornithological Society support banning large-scale, high-seas driftnets in the world's oceans as stated in United Nations Resolution 44-225, United States Public Law 101-627, and the Wellington Convention, and

Therefore be it further resolved that the Wilson Ornithological Society and Cooper Ornithological Society urge the United States Congress to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to extend jurisdiction of the United States over migratory birds to 200 miles off of its coasts.

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

Whereas the Cooper Ornithological Society held its Sixty-first Annual Meeting and the Wilson Ornithological Society held its Seventy-second Annual Meeting jointly in Norman, Oklahoma, on the campus of the

University of Oklahoma at the invitation of the Department of Zoology, Oklahoma Biological Survey, and Oklahoma Museum of Natural History (all of the University of Oklahoma), the Cleveland County Audubon Society, and the Oklahoma Ornithological Society, and Recognizing that the Committee on Local Arrangements, under the outstanding direction of Gary D. Schnell, provided us with an exceptionally diverse assemblage of exhibits, special events, field trips, and evening social events, and

Recognizing that the Committee on the Scientific Program, under the equally capable direction of Richard N. Conner, arranged outstanding scientific lecture sessions, workshops, and poster sessions, and

Whereas all those who have attended this meeting have been enriched by it,

Therefore be it resolved that the Cooper Ornithological Society and the Wilson Ornithological Society commend the Committee on Local Arrangements and the Committee on the Scientific Program for their efforts towards this memorable meeting, and

Therefore be it further resolved that the Cooper Ornithological Society and the Wilson Ornithological Society also thank other supporters of this meeting, namely, the Office of Research Administration (University of Oklahoma), University of Oklahoma Foundation, Oklahoma City Zoo, University of Oklahoma Press, University of Texas Press, and an anonymous donor for their most generous support.

NOMINEES FOR 1992 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In 1992, the members of the Cooper Ornithological Society shall elect to the Board of Directors three people to replace retiring members Carl D. Marti, Mary E. Murphy and Martin G. Raphael.

A nominating committee, consisting of Stephen I. Rothstein (Chair), Martin L. Morton and Lewis W. Oring, nominates Deborah M. Finch, Walter D. Koenig, Barry R. Noon, Elizabeth Anne Schreiber and Diana F. Tomback for three-year terms to the Board. A ballot will be distributed to all members about 45 days prior to the 1992 meeting.

Deborah M. Finch is a Research Wildlife Biologist with the USDA Forest Service in Laramie, Wyoming, and is currently serving as the Neotropical Migrant Program Coordinator. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Wyoming in 1987 and has been a member of the Society since 1977. She has served the Society on the Membership Committee (and is its current Chair), the Student Awards Committee and the Scientific Program Committee. She has also served the AOU in several capacities. Her research interests include the responses of bird and mammal populations to human land use practices and the development of guidelines for maintaining viable wildlife populations in managed landscapes. She has published about 25 journal articles and technical reports.

Walter D. Koenig is an Associate Research Zoologist and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1978, and has been a member of the Society since 1973. He has served the Society as Chair of the Local Com-

mittee for the 1988 meeting and as president of its Northern Chapter. His research interests include behavioral and population ecology, vertebrate social behavior, mating systems and sexual selection. He has published about 55 journal articles and book chapters.

Barry R. Noon is a Project Leader and Research Ecologist with the Redwood Sciences Laboratory, USDA Forest Service in Arcata, California. He received his Ph.D. degree from the State University of New York-Albany in 1976, and has been a member of the Society since 1980. He served as Chair of the Local Committee for the 1986 meeting and regularly contributes papers to the annual meetings. His research interests include quantitative studies of life history and habitat selection, population modeling, and conservation planning for threatened and endangered species. He has published about 35 journal articles as well as technical reports and book chapters.

Elizabeth Ann Schreiber is a Research Associate at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History and is Curator of its new Hall of Birds. She is currently in the process of receiving her Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles, and has been a member of the Society since 1983. She served the Society as its Secretary from 1982-1985 and has been a member of the Finance and of the Honorary Member committees. She has also been active in the Pacific Seabird Group. Her research interests cover many aspects of seabird biology (especially species in the Pelecaniformes) including population regulation, foraging behavior and reproductive strategies. She has published about 30 journal articles and book chapters and about 10 popular articles.

Diana F. Tomback is an Associate Professor of Biology at the University of Colorado, Denver. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 1977 and has been a member of the Society since 1971. She has served the Society as Chair of the Resolutions and Conservation Committee and as a member of the Awards Committee and has also been active in serving the AOU. Her research interests include evolutionary and behavioral ecology and have concentrated on the foraging, seed caching and plant-animal mutualisms of corvids. She has published about 30 articles in journals as well as several technical reports and popular articles.

COS SEEKS NOMINEES FOR 1993 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Cooper Ornithological Society is seeking individuals interested in serving as members of its Board of Directors. If you have an interest in serving the Society and would accept nomination to the 1993 elective slate, please send a brief resume following the format in *The Condor* Vol. 92(4):1091 to: Dr. J. Michael Scott, Department of Fish and Wildlife, College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho 83843, (208)885-6336.

Five individuals will be selected, from those expressing interest, by the nominating committee. From these five selected, the membership will select three to serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors. Deadline for letters of interest is *15 March 1992*.

TIOF ENDOWMENT FUND PROPOSAL

The International Osprey Foundation (TIOF) is seeking applications for its third grant to support research activities of a graduate student primarily focusing on ospreys. Work with other raptor species may be considered, however. The award recipient will be expected to provide a report on his or her research and use of the funds within a year of receiving the grant.

Applicants should submit a proposal outlining their project and the intended use of the funds by December 31, 1991. The grant will be awarded on March 31, 1992. Please send a project description of no more than

two pages. Also provide an itemized estimate of expenses and the name, address and phone number of the graduate supervisor. Send applications to: TIOF, Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 250, Sanibel, Florida 33957-0250, USA.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Because of production difficulties at Allen Press, this issue and the preceding issue of *The Condor* were issued late. Allen Press assures me that they are well aware of the problem and have taken steps to correct it.

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