

OTHER NOTICES

Preliminary notice of the 6th International Workshop on the Ecology of Shorebirds

Under the auspices of the International Waterfowl Research Bureau

Notice is given of the above meeting, which will be held on 12 - 16 September 1983 at Cardiff in South Wales. Many people will recall the very successful past meetings which have been held at Durham, Liverpool and, most recently (1981), at Texel in the Netherlands. Few can doubt the value of bringing together widely dispersed wader researchers to exchange information and ideas, and to discuss mutual problems.

There will be one or two invited contributions to the Cardiff meeting but, as in the past, the bulk of the workshop will consist of material which wader workers themselves wish to present. It is hoped to publish the proceedings, but this should not discourage anyone who wishes to present preliminary findings, unsuitable for publication, from giving a talk, since these can be included in summary form. Anyone who wishes to present a paper should write to one of us at the addresses given below. We are particularly keen to encourage people who have worthwhile contributions to make, but who are not confident of their ability to talk publicly in English, to come forward, as it should be possible to arrange for someone to read their papers by proxy.

We hope by giving this notice fairly early to encourage workers from outside Europe, as well as inside, to attend. The Workshop will be primarily concerned with waders, but contributions on other groups of shorebirds will be included, where these provide useful parallels with waders. Particular emphasis will be placed this time on studies during the breeding season. The main themes of the Workshop will be as follows:

- 1) Dispersion and behaviour on the breeding grounds.
- 2) Population dynamics (including mortality and natality rates, long-term census data).
- 3) Dispersion and behaviour in winter (including food availability, foraging strategies, flocking and roosting behaviour).
- 4) Impact of habitat loss upon populations.
- 5) Migration (including fat reserves and body condition).

During the course of the meeting, field trips will be held to the Severn and Exe estuaries and to the Wildfowl Trust headquarters at Slimbridge.

For further details, please write to:-

P.N.Ferns, Zoology Department, University College, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 1XL, Wales.

J.D.Goss-Custard, Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Furzebrook Research Station, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5AS, England.

British Ecological Society Industrial Ecology Group Special Open Meeting "Ecological Implications of the Severn Barrage" 20-22 September 1982

The main objective of the meeting will be to highlight those areas of ecological research requiring further investigation if any reasonable predictions of the environmental consequences of a Severn Barrage are to be made. The schemes recommended by the Severn Barrage Committee will form the main basis for discussion. The meeting is open to all, regardless of whether they are members of the British Ecological Society.

Papers will include:

on 21 September

- "Concept and construction of a Severn Barrage" by Dr.T.L.Shaw (Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd., London);
"Tidal power in the context of Britain's energy policy" by Dr.D.Elliott (Alternative Technology Group, the Open University);
"The work of the Severn Barrage Committee in relation to ecological problems" by Professor R.W.Edwards (Department of Applied Biology, UWIST, Cardiff);
"The Delta scheme in the Netherlands" Dr.M.Smies (Shell International Research, Den Haag, Holland) & Dr.H.L.Huiskes (Delta Institute for Hydrobiological Research, Yerseke, Holland);
"The Annapolis Basin Tidal Power Plant in the Bay of Fundy" (Speaker to be announced);
"La Rance: faunal changes at a functioning tidal power plant" by Dr.C.J.Mettam (Department of Zoology, University College, Cardiff);
"Effects of intertidal reclamation at Teesmouth on invertebrates and shorebirds" by Dr.P.R.Evans (Department of Zoology, University of Durham);
"Hydrodynamics" by Dr.R.Proctor (Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, Bidston);
"Sediment dynamics" by Dr.R.Kirby & Dr.W.R.Parker (Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, Taunton);
"Predicted changes in water quality and ecosystem productivity" by Dr.P.J.Radford (IMER, Plymouth);
"Contribution of intertidal plants to the carbon balance of the Severn Estuary" by Dr.P.F.Randerson (Department of Applied Biology, UWIST, Cardiff);
"Intertidal fauna of soft sediments" (Speaker to be announced);

on 22 September

- "Relationships between tidal stress and benthic communities with some predicted changes due to a barrage" by Dr.R.M.Warwick (IMER, Plymouth);
"The effects of a barrage on rocky shore organisms" by J.H.Crothers (The Leonard Wills Field Centre, Taunton);
"Ecological implications for nearshore sublittoral areas of the Bristol Channel" by Dr.K.Hiscock & D.Rostron (Oil Pollution Research Unit, Orielton);
"Significance of the Severn Estuary for shorebirds" by Dr.P.N.Ferns (Department of Zoology, University College, Cardiff);
"Problems in predicting the effects of a tidal power barrage on wading birds" by Dr.J.D.Goss-Custard (ITE, Furzebrook);
"Implications of a barrage for fish and fisheries" by Dr.T.E.Langford (Marine Biology Laboratories, CERL, Fawley);
"Implications for land drainage and agriculture" by J.A.Tinkler (Wessex Water Authority);
"Key conservation issues" by Dr.R.Mitchell (Chief Scientist's Team, NCC, Huntingdon);

Closing remarks by Dr.A.J.Gray (ITE, Furzebrook)

For further details write to Dr.P.N.Ferns, Zoology Department, University College, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 1XL, Wales.