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## ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS AMERICAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION JOINT MEETING

The Association of Field Ornithologists and the American Birding Association will hold a joint meeting at Connecticut College, New London, Connecticut on October 2–4, 1992. The program will include a symposium on conservation of neotropical migrants and workshops on field techniques. One and two-day field trips will follow the meeting. For information write Robert Askins, Box 5461, Department of Zoology, 270 Mohegan Avenue, Connecticut College, New London, CT 06320.

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## INTERNATIONAL CRANE SYMPOSIUM

The National Audubon Society is sponsoring an international symposium entitled "People, Water and Wildlife: Human Population Impacts on Cranes" on March 23–24 in Kearney, Nebraska. The symposium will highlight crane and water experts from the U.S. and Asia, including Dr. Jim Lewis, National Whooping Crane Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ken Strom, Manager of Audubon's Rowe Sanctuary, Dr. Jonathan Cole, researcher for the Institute for Ecosystem Studies, Bijay Malla from Nepal's King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, Dave Ferguson of the U.S.F.W.S. International Office, Gary Lingle of the Platte River Whooping Crane Critical Habitat Maintenance Trust, Jim Harris of the International Crane Foundation, Ross Lock of Nebraska Game and Fish Department, and crane experts from Russia, India and Pakistan. Audubon staff members will also discuss the issue of demographic pressures on wildlife and identify sustainable solutions. For additional information, contact Jim Connolly, National Audubon Society, 666 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C., 20003. Telephone: (202) 547-9009. Fax: (202) 547-9022.

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## THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA PROJECT

The Birds of North America Project invites inquiries from ornithologists interested in producing thorough accounts of the biology of avian species breeding in the USA and Canada. Modern authoritative accounts are needed for sound conservation planning and management of game and nongame species, as well as to catalyze further research. Each account, 30–40 double-spaced typewritten pages in length, will be available electronically and as an individuals printed fascicle fitted to an attractive loose-leaf binder, ensuring rapid, economical distribution and accessibility without the rigid sequence constraints and production delays of book publication. Contributors, amateur and professional alike, can expect a modest administrative subsidy, a discount on the series, and recognition as an authority on their species. If you would like to participate, call or write soon; species are being assigned quickly. Alan F. Poole, Managing Director, Birds of N. America/ANSP, 1900 Franklin Pkwy, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1195.

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## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BIRD PRESERVATION

Results released by the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) at the World Parks Congress in Venezuela show that over 20% of all bird species only occur in 2% of the world's land surface. This 20% includes over two-thirds of birds that are considered threatened. This figure was found by identifying 221 "hot-spots," where evolutionary and ecological factors have produced a high concentration of unique species. Further research shows that equally high percentages of unique species of other animals and plants occur in the same areas. This is the first time a comprehensive biodiversity analysis of this type has been done. A map of the "hot-spots" has been combined with a map of the world's protected areas, showing the huge inadequacy of parks systems in many parts of the globe. The 221 "hot-spots" should form a blue-print for protected area designation and other conservation efforts. For further information, contact Georgina Green, ICBP, 32 Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PJ, U.K. (Telephone: 0223 277218, Fax: 0223 277200).