

Making a feeder population study on the first two days of each winter month 1981-82 I applied this comparison to Black-capped Chickadees. This species flits so rapidly between feeders, pine boughs, and bird pool that it is impossible accurately to determine its numbers. I estimated perhaps eight seen at one time, a neighbor within 150 feet, ten at his feeder. On January 1 I set out a two-cell Potter trap, and banded 24 new birds, with 8 additional repeating from previous years. As I was still seeing unbanded birds I intended continuing this study a second day, but rain and the presence of a Sharp-shinned hawk prevented this. The editorial comment on my first article was that "careful consideration should be given to calculating or estimating the percentage of possible error and adjusting the conclusions accordingly."

Erma J. Fisk

Box 407, South Orleans, MA 02662.

To the Editor:

I see from the March 1980 issue of *American Birds* (AB 34: 200) that Cook's Petrels have been reported off California in the region of the Davidson Seamount. As you see from the attached notes, I saw some recently rather farther north, and closer to land, off Point Arenas, northern California, and the birds were also locally very common well offshore from Baja California.

Cookilaria Petrels off Baja and northern California

In the course of a cruise from Puntarenas, Costa Rica, to Victoria, British

Columbia, in April-May 1981 I found *Cookilaria* petrels at several points off the coast of Baja California and, in one case, off northern California as well. The birds were about the size of Townsend's Shearwaters (*Puffinus auricularis*), with which they were often associated, and with a rather similar flight, with less swooping/soaring than I'd have expected from a gadfly petrel. The birds had white foreheads and underparts, including the underwings; this seems to reduce the choice to Cook's (*Pterodroma cookii*) or Stejneger's (*P. longirostris*) petrels. The upperparts were a rather scruffy gray-brown, with a fairly well-marked darker, M-shaped band extending from wing-tip to wing-tip across the back. This suggests Cook's rather than Stejneger's, although Stejneger's could have been overlooked. Many of the birds appeared to be moulting their primaries. Observed at:

April 22: 20°51'N 109°11'W (c. 200 miles south of Cabo San Lucas): 1 bird.

April 23: 21°44'N 110°09'W to 22°22'N 110°56'W (c. 200 miles south of Cabo San Lucas): c. 300 birds.

April 24: 24°10'N 112°39'W (c. 75 miles west of Bahia Magdalena): c. 30 birds.

April 26: single birds at 26°07'N 115°06'W and 27°05'N 115°43'W, c. 200 miles west of Bahia Magdalena.

May 4: 38°02'N 125°12'W (c. 75 miles west of Point Arenas, northern California): 2 definite, 2 probables.

—R. G. B. Brown
Seabird Research Unit
Canadian Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1006
Dartmouth, N.S. B2Y 4A2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTHEASTERN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION RESEARCH GRANT

The E. Alexander Bergstrom Memorial Research Fund of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association, Inc., promotes research on birds. Small grants, usually not exceeding \$200, are available to cover expenses but not salaries or overhead charges to institutions. Further details and application forms may be obtained from Susan Roney Drennan, Chairman, NEBBA Research Committee, *American Birds*, 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022. The deadline for filing completed applications is March 1, 1982.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Team is trying to assemble information on all observations of Kirtland's Warblers made during migration, both spring and fall. Many of these may have been reported in *American Birds* or various local publications, but usually few details are given. Appropriate information would be date, location, habitat, sex of bird (or birds) observed, whether males were singing, behavior, general weather information, and comments on the abundance of other warbler species present. Send records to: Lawrence A. Ryel, In-charge, Surveys and Statistics, Wildlife Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Box 30028, Lansing, Michigan 48909.

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RESEARCH GRANTS

The Eastern Bird Banding Association and the Western Bird Banding Association are each offering a research grant of \$250 in aid of research using bird banding techniques or bird banding data. Applicants should submit a resume of his or her banding or ornithological background, the project plan, and a budget to the joint selection committee chairman: Robert C. Leberman, Powdermill Nature Reserve, Star Route South, Rector, PA 15677. No formal application forms are available, and the amount requested should not exceed \$250. The deadline for receipt of applications is March 15, 1982.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION COMMON TERN COLOR-MARKING BY THE C.W.S.

During 1981, Dr. Hans Blokpoel of the Canadian Wildlife Service, color-marked Common Terns at two large colonies in the Great Lakes area, with the objective of determining the year-round distribution of the birds, especially their migration routes and wintering areas in Latin America. Adult Common Terns were trapped on their nests at the Eastern Headland of the Toronto Outer Harbour (Lake Ontario) and at Tower Island (Niagara River). Orange plastic tags were attached to both wings of the trapped adult birds. In addition, young Common Terns were marked with pink plastic wing tags at those colonies. One standard metal leg band and one coloured plastic leg band (yellow with a black horizontal stripe) were put on each of the tagged birds.

If you see a Common Tern with a pink or orange wing tag please record the following details: place, date and color

of the tag. If possible, also record the combination of numbers and/or letters on the tag (the two tags on any bird have the same color and the same combination of letters and numbers) and note on which legs the plastic and metal leg bands are. Thank you very much for your assistance. All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to:

*Bird Banding Office
Canadian Wildlife Service
Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA
K1A 0E7*

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION POPULATION STATUS OF NORTH AMERICAN RAPTORS

The 1980 Blue-List of species that may have population problems, published by *American Birds*, listed no less than 17 species of hawks and owls. Although various kinds of surveys for one or more species are being made, it is felt that much more information is needed for us to properly evaluate the population status of these species. For that reason the Raptor Information Center is initiating a "Population Status of North American Raptors" project. We are seeking any field data on raptor counts or estimates observers may have, with specific information on how the data was obtained. The R.I.C. will compile all the returned data as an information data base and solicit experts to evaluate them on a species-by-species basis. Results will be published by R.I.C. For copies of the Summary Form, write R.I.C. Volunteers are needed to help compile and evaluate the data received.—William S. Clark, Director, Raptor Information Center, National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th St. N.W. Washington DC 20036.

INFORMATION WANTED

AN APPEAL FOR OBSERVATIONS OF PENGUINS IN PERU. The Humboldt or Peruvian Penguin, *Spheniscus humboldti*, appears to be in danger of extinction because of human predation and disturbance. In order to obtain some idea of the rate of decline, we appeal to scientists or tourists who have visited Peru to send us counts of this species. We are especially interested in counts from the Ballestas Islands near Paracas pay. These islands have frequently been visited by tourists. We would appreciate details such as numbers seen, time of day, weather, date, part of island observed, and thoroughness of observation. Every observation is of importance. Please send North and South American replies to Ms. Coppelia Hays, Dept. of Zoology, 223 Bartram Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611, U.S.A. Other replies to: Dr. David C. Duffy, Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa.

INTERNATIONAL OSPREY FOUNDATION FORMED

A new organization, *The International Osprey Foundation, Inc.*, has been formed to study the problems of restoring Osprey numbers to a stable population, make recommendations to enhance the continued survival of the Osprey, and initiate educational programs. The objectives of TIOF are 1. To promote the study and preservation of the Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*, and other raptors throughout the world 2. To establish and maintain lines of communication between those studying Os-

Field Seminars in Trogon Ecology, 1982

Alamos, Sonora, Mexico I	April 11—April 17
Alamos, Sonora, Mexico II	April 18—April 24
Durango Highway, Mexico	April 30—May 9
Huachuca Mountains, Arizona	May 21—May 25
Santa Rita Mountains, Arizona	May 28—June 1
Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona	June 4—June 8

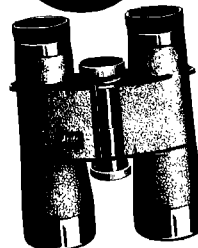
A directed field study for persons interested in the life history, ecology, and conservation of Trogons in Mexico and Arizona. Principal investigator Richard Cachor Taylor launched the Trogon Research Project in 1977 and is the author of *The Coppery-tailed Trogon: Arizona's "Bird of Paradise."*

For further information write or call: (602) 558-2352

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preys. 3. To create a working bibliography on Ospreys. 4. To develop a program of public education publicizing the ecology and status of Ospreys.

TIOF is based on Sanibel Island, Florida and monitors the thirty odd Osprey nests on the island. Recently, it has also taken over responsibility for an ongoing artificial nesting program which The Fund for Animals, Inc. established on the island in 1976.

Internationally, TIOF is in the process of creating a computerized list of Osprey researchers which will help to form better communication between those doing similar research. Membership in TIOF, a non-profit organization, is open to anyone with an interest in Ospreys. For further information, address Mark A. Westall, President, TIOF, 289 Southwinds, Sanibel, FL 33957.

TRUMPETER SWAN SOCIETY

The article "The 1980 census of Trumpeter Swans on Alaskan nesting habitats" by James G. King and Bruce Conant, in *AB* 35, 15/79 was presented at the Seventh Trumpeter Swan Society Conference Victoria, British Columbia, February 19-22, 1981. The Society's next conference is scheduled for September 9-12, 1982 and will be held at Michigan State University's Kellogg Bird Sanctuary in Augusta, Michigan.

Founded in 1968, The Trumpeter Swan Society is composed of private citizens, biologists, and natural resource managers from the United States, Canada, Japan, and England. Members share a common interest—to maintain existing wild Trumpeter Swan populations and to restore the bird to as much of its original range as possible. If you want to help assure that the Trumpeter Swan survives and flourishes in the face of further encroachment on wild places, you are invited to join The Trumpeter Swan Society. Write the Society at 3800 County Road 24, Maple Plain, Minnesota 55359.

INFORMATION WANTED

1. Eating habits of hawks on migration, especially Broad-winged and Swainson's hawks. Very little is known: any sightings of food gathering in these two species is significant. 2. Correla-

tion of ambient temperature with rising time of roosting Broad-winged, vultures, and Swainson's Hawks on migration. During the fall of 1981, this writer made notes of temperatures as well as time the foregoing species left the Bentzen State Park roost for Mexico. Information is wanted from persons or groups who have made any such studies. If you would like to help, please take a thermometer with you to the roost area near you in spring 1982 and note date, time, temperature and cloud cover when birds rise. Send all pertinent information to Mrs. Gladys Donohue, P.O. Drawer 400, Penitas, TX 78576. Information received will be used for publication and full credit will be given contributors.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT RENTAL

For those tour participants or others planning birding trips who do not own or wish to invest in expensive equipment for still or motion photography, The Olden Camera Company provides a rental service providing the cameras (Nikons, etc.), lenses (Novoflex, etc.), and other equipment favored by birders. The rental prices are various, depending on equipment and duration of rental and equipment can be delivered by mail. Information from Olden Camera, 1265 Broadway, New York NY 10001. Telephone: 212-725-1234.

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
(signed) Robert S. Arbib, Jr., Editor