

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Recovery Report for Eskimo Curlew Announced

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Canadian Wildlife Service jointly have initiated an effort to recover the endangered Eskimo Curlew.

Ornithologists can contribute to this effort by carefully scrutinizing all whimbrel-like curlews observed during April 10 through May 20 in the interior of North America. The most likely locations to find the bird are the Texas coast (not just Galveston Island!), central Kansas, and south-central Nebraska. Watch for them also during mid-August to mid-September in the Atlantic provinces and in New England.

All confirmed or suspected sightings of Eskimo Curlew along with information on habitat occupied and associated shorebird species, should be reported immediately to Craig Faanes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 203 West Second Street, Grand Island, NE 68801 (phone: 308/381-5571 office, or 308/384-4612 home).

The data will be most useful in developing a successful recovery effort.

## Preserve Oil-stricken Birds in Prince William Sound

Birds and wildlife victims of Prince William Sound need your help! The lives of Exxon oil-soaked animals hang in the balance; your contribution gives them a chance. Prince William Sound Wildlife Rescue Fund is a local organization dedicated to helping save these animals.

Contributors of \$10 or more will receive a vial of Exxon-Valdez crude oil recovered by community effort as a reminder that they made a difference. All donations are greatly appreciated. To help this very worthy cause send check or money order to Prince William Sound Wildlife Rescue Fund, P.O. Box 2294, Cordova, AK 99574.

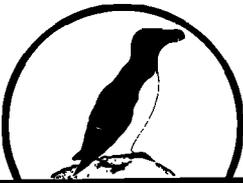
## Neotropical IV Ornithological Congress

Members of the Neotropical Ornithological Congress announce the

Fourth Neotropical Ornithological Congress to convene November 3—9, 1991, in Quito, Ecuador.

For purposes of planning the symposia and round tables, the Scientific Committee requests suggestions on specific topics and persons that may want to coordinate them. A call for papers for the meeting will be circulated by September 1990. Registration materials, proposed programs and information regarding tours before and after the Congress (to the Galapagos and Amazonia) will be sent upon request.

All interested parties (other than the co-sponsors, The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology and The International Council for Bird Preservation), and any recommendations for a country to hold the next Neotropical Ornithological Congress, should write to Nancy Hilgert De Benavides, Secretary, Organization Committee, IV Neotropical Ornithological Congress, Casilla 9068 S-7, Quito, Ecuador. FAX (5932) 569 650.



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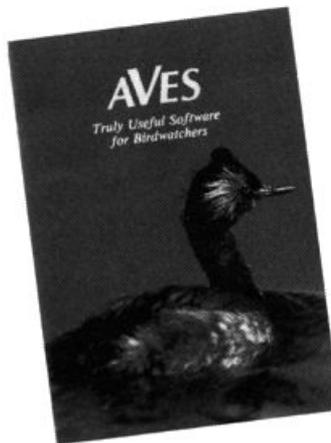
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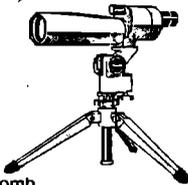
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## Forktail-Leica Conservation Award Winner Announced

On the afternoon of Saturday, December 16, 1989, leading Dutch ornithologist Dr. René Dekker, was announced as the winner of the Forktail-Leica Conservation Award. The announcement, as well as talks by eminent American ornithologist Ben King, author of *A Field Guide to the Birds of South East Asia*, and by Frank Rozendaal, on the Pittas of the Indo-Malay region, took place at the AGM of the Oriental Bird Club, at the Royal Zoological Society, Regents Park, London.

The award, which goes to the best conservation-based study of an Oriental bird species or habitat, is worth \$830 (£500) and is funded by Leica in the UK, distributors of Leica cameras and Trinovid binoculars.

In his award-winning project Dr. Dekker, of the Institute of Taxonomic Zoology, University of Amsterdam, will study the littleknown Nicobar Scrubfowl (*Megapodius nicobariensis*). The bird is a member of the ground-dwelling megapode family, known for its unusual methods of incubating eggs which include burying them in mounds of rotting vegetation to provide the necessary warmth.

The project will initiate a conservation scheme and train Indian biologists in the conservation, management and study methods appropriate to this bird which is endemic to Nicobar Island. The Indian government has, in order to facilitate this project, allowed unprecedented access to this restricted area.

Dr. Dekker is a professional biologist who has been involved in megapode conservation and research since 1984. He has spent eighteen months working on the Maleo in North Sulawesi and is currently co-authoring *The Handbook of Megapodes*. The award provides a substantial proportion of the cost of this two-month study.

For further information you can contact Nigel Lindsey, OBC Publicity Officer, Oriental Bird Club, c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, UK. Telephone 0742 434343 ext. 4905 office, or 0742 731810 home.

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