The meeting will be hosted by

Spokane House Hotel 4301 West Sunset Blvd. Spokane, WA 99224-2015	Spokane Falls Comm. College 5925 West Excell Ave. Spokane, WA 99208-3771	Turnbull Natl. Wildlife Refuge Cheny, WA

Spokane House is located on Hwy I-90 at the Garden Springs Exit (277) and sits on a hill overlooking downtown Spokane and the Finch Arboretum. The Arboretum has trails for early morning hikes, jogging, or birding. A block of rooms will be held for the WBBA meeting until August 27, 2001. Toll-free reservations: 1-800-550-1471. Tell them you are making reservations for WBBA. Price is $59.00 plus tax per night. The hotel has complimentary shuttle service to and from Spokane International Airport.

Western Station Reports

In response to several requests, WBBA inaugurates a new feature with this issue of *NABB*. Each quarter we will feature reports from a few banding operations in the west. To have your report included in the next issue, please contact the editor. — *K. Loughman*

HawkWatch International
Recap of Fall 2000 Migration Season
By Jeff Smith, and Howard Gross, HawkWatch International, 1800 South West Temple, #226, Salt Lake City, UT 84115; hwi@hawkwatch.org

During fall 2000, HawkWatch International (HWI) operated four long-term migratory raptor banding programs in the United States: Goshute Mountains (NV), Manzanos Mountains (NM), Bonney Butte (OR), and Florida Keys Raptor Migration Projects. In addition to using banding studies as a means for determining migrant movements and flyway dimensions (Smith and Hoffman 2000; Hoffman et al. in press), HWI also uses satellite telemetry (see *http://www.hawkwatch.org*) and stable-isotope analyses (Meehan et al. 2001) to determine more precisely the breeding, wintering, and migratory locations and natal latitudes of migrating raptors encountered at HWI migration-monitoring sites.

Bonney Butte, OR - HWI completed its sixth consecutive season of banding at this site on the southeast flanks of Mount Hood in 2000. The capture total of 311 newly banded birds, including 10 species, was a record high and included the first Broad-winged Hawk and Peregrine Falcons (2) ever captured at the site. This raised the total number of raptors banded since project inception to 1082. The three most frequently captured species—Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, and Red-tailed Hawk—were all captured in record or near-record high numbers this season. The capture totals for Northern Goshawk and Golden Eagle also tied or exceeded previous highs.

Goshute Mountains, NV - This project monitors one of the largest known concentrations of migratory raptors in western North America, and HWI's monitoring efforts at this site have extended for a longer consecutive period than at any other site in the West. The 2000 season marked HWI's 21st consecutive season of banding at this site in northeastern Nevada. The capture total of 2148 raptors of 10 species was 14% lower than average; however, totals for Northern Harrier, Broad-winged Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, and Prairie Falcon were significantly higher than average. The number of raptors banded since project inception now totals 43,983. The year 2000 captures included six recaptures of birds previously banded in the Goshutes and three recaptures of birds previously banded elsewhere. The three "foreign" recaptures included two Sharp-shinned Hawks originally banded by the Idaho Bird Observatory near Boise (the eleventh exchange of banded birds between the two projects), and one Northern Goshawk banded as a nestling in the Independence Mountains of Nevada (the fifth exchange between these two projects).

We were pleased to have the opportunity to collaborate with the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory (GGRO) in conducting a field test of

robotic lures (remotely controlled mechanical bodies wrapped in real skins recovered from road-killed birds). This was the first time that GGRO had tested their "robo-lures" at another site. The test was very successful, with 69 raptors caught on "robo-lures." Of particular interest is that the first two birds caught on a robo-lure in the Goshutes were Broad-winged Hawks, which we catch only rarely! We hope to continue collaborating with GGRO in their efforts to further perfect this exciting new technology, which offers the potential to reduce our reliance on live lures significantly.

Manzanos Mountains, NM - HWI conducted its 11th consecutive season of banding at this site in central New Mexico in 2000. The capture total of 963 raptors of 10 species was slightly below average, but results were mixed at the species level. Capture totals were lower than average for Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, American Kestrels, and Peregrine Falcons, but were higher than average for Northern Goshawks, Red-tailed Hawks, and Merlins. The total included three recaptures of birds banded previously in the Manzanos, which continues to emphasize a pattern of high flyway fidelity. The 2000 results raised the total number of raptors banded since project inception to 10,915. In addition, long-time HWI associate John DeLong initiated a very successful Flammulated Owl banding project at the site this season. Little is known about the migratory habits and population status of this species. In his first intensive season, John set the record for number of "flammies" banded at one site in a single season (94) and will expand his efforts in fall 2001.

Acknowledgments

HWI is grateful for the effort put in by dozens of field crew members and volunteers at the above-mentioned banding sites in fall 2000, as well as the financial, logistical, and in-kind support of numerous foundations, corporations, agencies, and individuals. Too numerous to mention here, all are acknowledged in our quarterly newsletter, *Raptor Watch,* and in individual project reports. We couldn't do it without you!

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For more information about HawkWatch International, please visit our website at: http://www.hawkwatch.org

Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory
2000 Summary

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Established in 1994, Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory (LSLBO) is Canada's northernmost bird observatory and a designated member of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network. Migration monitoring and MAPS remain core programs of LSLBO. Migration monitoring protocol includes the running of a dozen 12m, 30mm mesh, mist nets for seven hours each day starting a half hour before sunrise. Overall coverage improved substantially in 2000 largely due to increased volunteer help and more experienced staff present. The spring season had 57 days of coverage from 18 Apr -13 Jun inclusive. The fall season was considerably longer with 91 days of coverage between 7 Jul and 6 Oct inclusive. Despite the below-seasonal temperatures and frequent precipitation, a total of 2589 birds of 54 species and forms was banded for the busiest spring ever at LSLBO, with a capture rate of 96.6 birds per 100 net-hours. Much of this activity was attributed to a large passage of Chipping Sparrows and Yellow-rumped Warblers. Fall banding totals were the second highest recorded at LSLBO, with 2771 birds banded of 64 species and forms; but the capture rate was substantially lower at 46.1 birds per 100 net-hours. Calm, clear weather prevailed most of the fall, especially during

the normal peak period (late July - mid August). Low banding totals may indicate the station was overflown during this period.

Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) was again conducted in 2000. This was the 6th consecutive year of operation for two stations, Far Away (FAWA) and Roadside (ROAD), and a new site, Residence (RESI) was run for the first time. Capture totals at the older sites (45 at FAWA and 60 at ROAD) were similar to or lower than previous years, while the new site had the greatest number of captures at 105.

The top ten species banded at LSLBO in 2000 were: Yellow-rumped Warbler (1025), Chipping Sparrow (675), American Redstart (615), Yellow Warbler (365), Tennessee Warbler (305), Clay-colored Sparrow (180), Canada Warbler (178), Least Flycatcher (168), Black-capped Chickadee (152), and Alder Flycatcher (149).

The following volunteers are thanked for their valued assistance at the station: Debra Belmonte, Wayne Bowles, Hanneke Brooymans, Jonathan DeMoore, Rainer Ebel, Mark Gardiner, Stefan Jungkind, Janos Kovacs, Stephen Lane, Steve Lane, Jim Lange, Aaron Lehman, and Pat Mitchell.

For more information about Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory, please visit the website at: http://www.lslbo.org

Klamath Bird Observatory

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In our second full year of operations, the Klamath Bird Observatory has expanded on many aspects of its field work and education. We are looking forward to the coming field season when we will continue to work with many partners, especially the U.S. Forest Service's Redwood Sciences Laboratory and the Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory, participating in various bird monitoring projects in southern Oregon and northern California. We will continue our long-term effort to monitor bird populations during the breeding, dispersal, and migration seasons in the Upper Klamath Basin. We will be operating nine constant-effort mist netting stations, conducting extensive point count surveys, monitoring small owls using mist nets, running Rapid Ornithological Inventories, and monitoring Black Tern colonies. Our Upper Klamath Basin bird monitoring partners include the Lakeview Bureau of Land Management Klamath Falls Resource Area, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Klamath Basin Refuges, the Winema National Forest, Crater Lake National Park, the Bureau of Reclamation, and others.

We will also continue working with the Forest Service Region 5 Partners in Flight and the Klamath National Forest using point counts to track the effects of controlled burning on bird distribution in northern California. Additionally, we will continue working with Southern Oregon University and the Bureau of Land Management Medford District to monitor bird populations during breeding, dispersal and migration seasons at two Constant-Effort Mist Netting Stations in the Rogue River Valley of southern Oregon. We will also conduct Rapid Ornithological Inventories within the Cascade/ Siskiyou National Monument as a part of this project.

This year we will begin collecting baseline data in the Applegate Valley Adaptive Management Area of the Rogue National Forest. This five-year project is being designed to identify opportunities for incorporating Oregon/Washington Partners In Flight Bird Conservation Plan objectives into the watersheds ecosystems management plan. Our partners in this project include the Applegate River Watershed Council, the Dakubetede Environmental Education Program, and the World Wildlife Fund.

The Klamath Bird Observatory has entered a new partnership with the Ashland Public School District. Through this partnership we have set up our headquarters at the Willow Wind Community Learning Center. Here, we have offices and have started monitoring land birds in association with restoration efforts along Bear Creek, which runs through the property. As a part of this effort, we are developing a bird monitoring environmental education curriculum, drawing from curricula developed by the Point Reyes Bird Observatory. Through this curriculum we hope to involve all of the Ashland Public Schools in our monitoring efforts, helping the District take advantage of this opportunity to use their new outdoor classroom.

The Klamath Bird Observatory has two field station locations with accommodations for interns and visiting scientists. For more information about, and to become a member of, the Klamath Bird Observatory, please visit our website at: *http://www.KlamathBird.org*