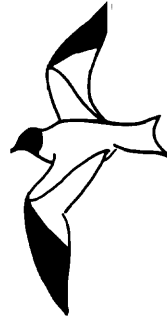


# WESTERN BIRDS



Quarterly Journal of California Field Ornithologists

*President:* Guy McCaskie

*Treasurer:* Clifford R. Lyons

*Membership Secretary:* Glenda Hightower

*Secretary, Records Committee:* Jon Winter

*Editor:* Alan M. Craig

*Editorial Board:* Alan Baldrige, William H. Behle, Andrew J. Berger, Laurence C. Binford, Jeanne Conry-Webb, David F. DeSante, Joseph Greenberg, Ned K. Johnson, Virginia P. Johnson, Brina Kessel, Charles S. Lawson, Clifford R. Lyons, Tim Manolis, Guy McCaskie, M. Timothy Myres, Harry B. Nehls, J. V. Remsen, Jr., Thomas L. Rodgers, Stephen M. Russell, Oliver K. Scott, P. David Skaar, Arnold Small, Richard W. Stallcup, David Stirling, G. Shumway Suffel, Charles Trost, Terence R. Wahl, Roland H. Wauer, Bruce Webb, Dale A. Zimmerman

Layout and cover design by Virginia P. Johnson

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### VOLUME 6, 1975

#### Volume 6, Number 1, 1975

Population Fluctuation in a Yellow-headed Blackbird <i>Marsh Roger J. Lederer, Walter S. Mazen, and Peter J. Metropulos</i>	1
Status of the Yellow-billed Loon ( <i>Gavia adamsii</i> ) in the Western United States and Mexico <i>J. V. Remsen, Jr. and Laurence C. Binford</i>	7
NOTES	
Boreal Owl Sighting in Yellowstone National Park <i>Craig R. Kuchel and Robert A. Garrott</i>	21
Effectiveness of Brown Creeper's Concealment Behavior <i>B. Riley McClelland</i>	24

The Status of the Gray Flycatcher in Washington State <i>Norman Lavers</i>	25
Second Record for the Phainopepla in Colorado <i>Joel D. Hubbard, Allen B. Crockett, and Paula L. Hansley</i>	28
The Sprague's Pipit Reaches California <i>Guy McCaskie</i>	29
Black-throated Blue Warbler in Utah <i>Richard D. Porter and Larry C. Pritchett</i>	31
BULLETIN BOARD	32

## Volume 6, Number 2, 1975

The Nesting Biology of the House Finch in Honolulu, Hawaii <i>Lawrence T. Hirai</i>	33
Shorebirds of the Sacramento Valley, California <i>Tim Manolis and Gerald V. Tangren</i>	45
Status of the Harlan's Hawk in Washington, and Notes on Its Identification in the Field <i>Norman Lavers</i>	55
NOTES	
A Further Record of the Western Whip-poor-will in California <i>Charles T. Collins</i>	63
LeConte's Sparrow in California and the Western United States <i>Guy McCaskie</i>	65
A Sight Record of the Painted Redstart Near Vancouver, British Columbia <i>Wayne C. Weber and Brian Kautesk</i>	67

## Volume 6, Number 3, 1975

Why Neglect the Difficult? <i>Allan R. Phillips</i>	69
The Occurrence and Status of the Horned Puffin in the Western United States <i>Wayne Hoffman, William P. Elliott and J. Michael Scott</i>	87
Patterns of Bird Species Diversity Revealed by Christmas Counts Versus Breeding Bird Surveys <i>Carl E. Bock and Larry W. Leptbien</i>	95
Avian Densities in a Mixed-coniferous Forest, Thomas Creek, White Mountains, Arizona <i>Kathleen E. Franzreb</i>	101
NOTES	
Fish Catching by a Black Phoebe <i>C. S. Lawson</i>	107
A Craveri's Murrelet from Oregon <i>Joseph R. Jehl, Jr.</i>	109
Sight Record of White-throated Swift on Vancouver Island <i>Martin K. McNicholl</i>	110
A Rufous-necked Sandpiper in Southern California <i>Guy McCaskie</i>	111
Ovenbird Records for Oregon <i>Carroll D. Littlefield and Eldon L. McLaury</i>	114

## Volume 6, Number 4, 1975

Seabirds in Washington's Offshore Zone <i>Terence R. Wabl</i>	117
1973 Report of the California Field Ornithologists Records Committee <i>Jon Winter and Guy McCaskie</i>	135
Arizona Bird Records, 1973, with Additional Notes <i>Steven M. Speich and Janet L. Witzeman</i>	145
Treasurer's Report <i>Phil Schaeffer</i>	156
NOTES	
Bird Records of Interest from Southwestern New Mexico <i>Dale A. Zimmerman and Marian A. Zimmerman</i>	157
Mountain Chickadee Survives for a Decade <i>Keith L. Dixon</i>	162
INDEX <i>Virginia P. Johnson and Mildred Comar</i>	163

Manuscripts should be sent to Alan M. Craig, Box 98 NimsheW Stage, Chico, CA 95926. For matters of style consult *Suggestions to Contributors to Western Birds* (6 pp. mimeo available at no cost from the Editor) and *CBE Style Manual*, 3rd ed., 1972 (available from American Institute of Biological Sciences, 3900 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016 for \$6.00).

Papers are desired that are based upon field studies of birds, that are both understandable and useful to amateurs, and that make a significant contribution to scientific literature. Appropriate topics include distribution, migration, status, behavior, ecology, population dynamics, habitat requirements, the effects of pollution, and techniques for identifying, censusing, sound recording and photographing birds in the field. Papers of general interest will be considered regardless of their geographic origin, but particularly desired are papers dealing with studies accomplished in or bearing on Rocky Mountain states and provinces westward, including Alaska and Hawaii; adjacent portions of the Pacific Ocean and Mexico; and western Texas.

Authors are provided 50 free reprints of each paper. Additional reprints can be ordered at author's expense from the Editor when proof is returned or earlier.

Good photographs of rare and unusual birds, unaccompanied by an article but with caption including species, date, locality and other pertinent information, should be submitted to Arnold Small, 608 N. Camden Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Send rare bird reports for California to Jon Winter, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Box 321, Bolinas, CA 94924; see Calif. Birds 2:109-110. For Arizona, send reports to Robert A. Witzeman, 4619 E. Arcadia Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85018. For Colorado, send reports to Jack Reddall, 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, CO 80110.

Membership dues and orders for back issues of *California Birds/Western Birds* should be sent to Phil Schaeffer, 376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon, California 94920. Make checks payable to California Field Ornithologists.

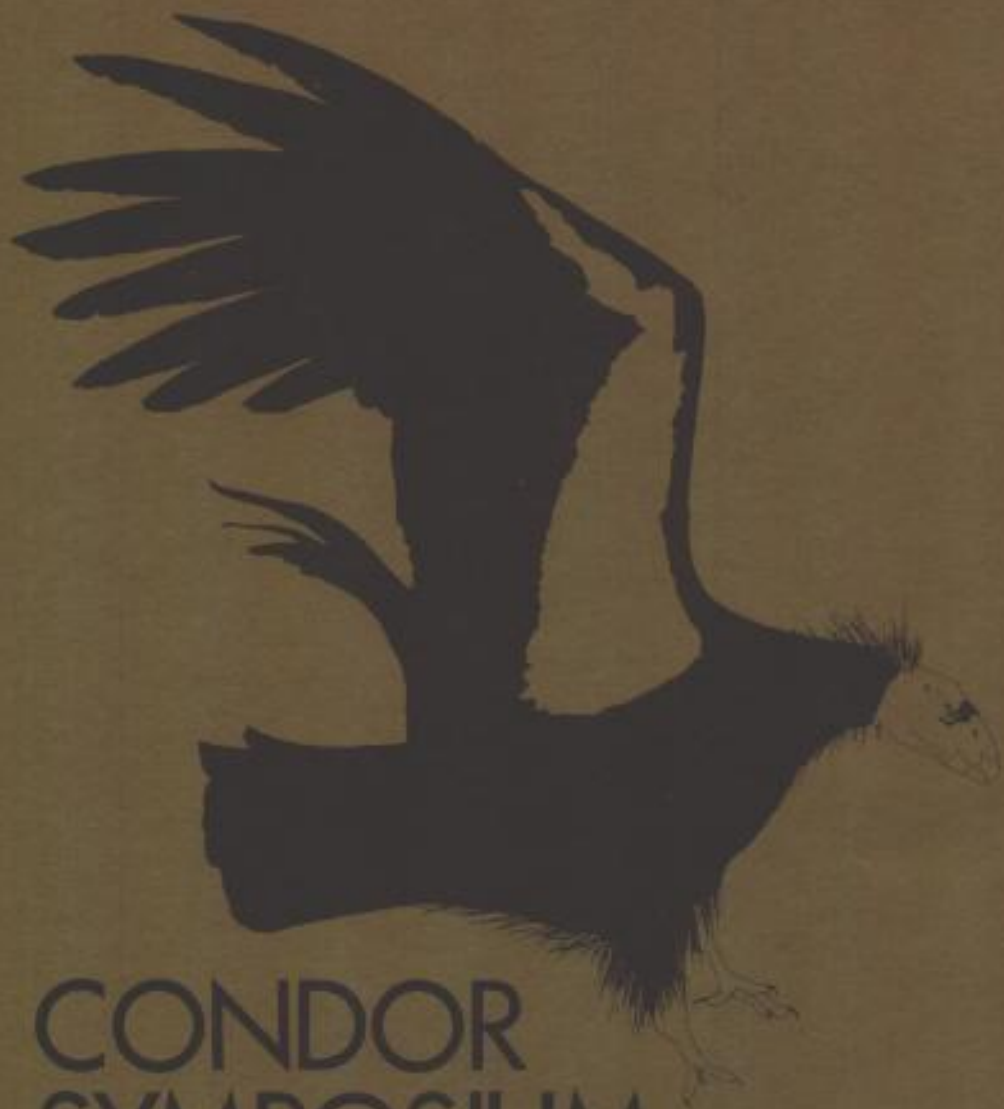
Membership dues, for individuals and institutions, including subscription to *Western Birds*: Patron, \$1000; Life \$150; Supporting, \$20 annually; Contributing, \$10 annually; Regular, \$5 annually. Dues and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Back issues are available at \$4 for Volume 1 (Numbers 2, 3 and 4; 1970), \$6 for Volume 2 (1971), and \$5 per volume for Volume 3 (1972) and subsequent volumes.

Changes of address should be sent to Carol Yutzy, Ramsey Canyon Preserve, Box 84, Hereford, Arizona 85615.

#### WESTERN BIRDS ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Full Page	4 x 6-3/4 inches	\$60 per issue	\$200 per year
Half Page	4 x 3-3/8 inches	\$40 per issue	\$130 per year
Quarter Page	4 x 1-11/16 inches	\$30 per issue	\$110 per year

Offset printing, one column per page, 4 inches wide. Glossy, black and white photos are acceptable; half tone screen size: 133 line. Photo-ready copy is requested. If this is not possible, extra charges for typesetting will be made as follows: \$15 full page, \$10 half page, \$5 quarter page. Send copy with remittance to Phil Schaeffer, 376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon, California 94920. Make checks payable to California Field Ornithologists. A 15% commission is allowed for agencies.



# CONDOR SYMPOSIUM

A SYMPOSIUM ON THE CALIFORNIA CONDOR SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

OCTOBER 23, 1976 10am - 4pm MARIN COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:**

U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
U.S. FOREST SERVICE  
CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF FISH AND GAME

**CONTACT:**

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
GEORGE WHITTELL EDUCATION CENTER  
376 GREENWOOD BEACH ROAD  
TIBURON, CALIFORNIA 94920  
(415) 388-2824

BY RESERVATION ONLY \$2.00 PER PERSON