

BURROWING OWL

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

FEBRUARY - MARCH 1992



UPCOMING CHAPTER ACTIVITIES -- MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WELCOME! The Central New Mexico Audubon Society meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Copper and Jefferson, N.E. Nonmembers are welcome at all meetings, field trips, and special events.

PROGRAMS

Thursday, February 20 - Environment Roundtable: Reports from other Albuquerque Conservation Groups, moderated by Verne Huser, our CNMAS Conservation Chairman. It promises to be a lively and provocative discussion!

Thursday, March 19 - Beautiful Face of New Mexico: A film presentation by Mr. Don MacCarter of NM Game and Fish, Santa Fe office.

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FIELD TRIPS



Saturday, Feb. 15 - Field Trip to Rinconada Canyon at the southern end of the new Petroglyphs National Monument. Among other things, we will look for Chihuahuan ravens, Rufous-crowned, Sage and Tree sparrows. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the intersection of Unser Blvd. and Ouray, which is most easily reached by exiting I-40 at Unser and then going north about 1.5 miles. Expect to be birding till about 1:00 p.m. For more information, call Hart Schwarz at 266-1810.



Saturday, March 7 - A trip south for shorebirds: first to Isleta Marsh, on to Grasslands, then picnic lunch at Willie Chavez State Park. Call Anne for meeting place and time, 266-8510.



Saturday, April 11 - A trek up to the HawkWatch site in the Sandia Mountains, for a vigorous hike, wonderful views, and hopefully lots of migrating raptors. Wear sturdy hiking shoes, ample sunscreen, layers of clothing for quick-changing weather. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet at Four Hills Shopping Center (Central & Tramway) at 7:30 a.m. Park along Central, east of Baskin-Robbins. RSVP to Anne at 266-8510.

PAYING A PAST DEBT WITH A FUTURE COMMITMENT

Contributed by Fred Leckman

The Civilian Conservation Corps - "Roosevelt's Tree Army" - left our state and particularly us, as Auduboners, with a great legacy. They restored the historic "Catwalk" in Glenwood, built Bandelier National Park and Elephant Butte Lake State Park, restored Chaco Canyon, and built Bosque del Apache Wildlife Refuge. Now we can do something for them and for our state, too, by supporting upcoming legislation to create a NEW MEXICO YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS.

A bill has been prepared for submission to the next session of the Legislature by the New Mexico Alumni of the Civilian Conservation Corps, with the following program objectives:

EMPLOYMENT - The Corps will offer year-round employment to young people ages 14 to 25 that are able and willing to work. A summer work program is designed for youth between ages 14-18. The employment related experiences and on-the-job training are designed to assist in future employment and better educational opportunities.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT - Discipline, cooperation, the value of hard work, and human relations are to be stressed and will provide the main benefits. Youth will learn from an experienced crew leader in a well-designed program that will promote self-confidence and motivate young adults to seek success in future careers.

CONSERVATION - The New Mexico Conservation Corps plans to improve, protect, and conserve the State's natural, cultural, historical, recreational, and wildlife resources.

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Urban beautification and work projects with nonprofit organizations is an objective, as is cooperation with small towns and villages in their efforts to improve their communities.

The legislative session starts Jan. 21 and lasts only 30 days.

Direct your letters to Gov. Bruce King, State Capitol, SF, NM, 87503, and to your State Senator and Representative. Speaker of the House Raymond Sanchez has agreed to sponsor the bill. Rep. Bob Hawk of Alb. has agreed to cosponsor and route the legislation; a letter to both is appropriate. Senator Manny Aragon, President of the Senate, has a copy of the proposal and has indicated his support.

The CCC provided great benefit, both to our nation and to its youthful participants. It's time to pass that benefit on.

EAGLES BEFORE BREAKFAST

By Beth Hurst

We were so intent on counting the eagles that we didn't count ourselves, but it was a good-sized group of us Eskimoes, with Jim Place as guide, who ventured out Saturday 1/18 at 5:30 a.m.

At 7:00 a.m. the first bald eagle, a mature adult, soared over the spillway of the lake. Four more adults followed, and 7 immatures. The last one gave us quite a show, as he flushed one mature and another youth from their tree perch, and all of them engaged in some dazzling aerial-batics. The last bird, another young one, was spotted on the ice on the lake. The other highlight (besides the cold) was a probable Peregrine spotted by Jim Place and his lucky passengers on their way home.

LUCKY US!



We have a new neighbor in our town -- one with every kind of bird-feeder imaginable, birdhouses galore, a good selection of bird books, bird baths with heating elements, and bins of birdseed! Geni and David Krolick have moved to Alb. to open up "Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop"! They are located in Louisiana Plaza, 7200 Montgomery, N.E. (883-0324). So look no further for birding supplies and wonderful gifts . . . plan your next field trip to the Krolicks'!

THURSDAY MORNING BIRDING GROUP

NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL A Report by Darwin Miller

The Council met January 11 at the Bosque del Apache.

It was proposed that some surplus from the conference fees in September be donated to the Randall Davey Audubon Center. The Council will again support the State Science Fair. A new schedule of awards will be proposed and judges will be selected. An Audubon general adult education program was suggested to better inform the public toward the necessity of action by the general public to counter adverse environmental activities and proposals. The public is well informed through all media (pro and con), but needs a deeper understanding of why each person must contribute toward a better managed environment.

Relative to the Big Bird Bash each May, Pacific Western (reported to be a subsidiary of Phelps Dodge), with an interest in "People for the West," has closed much of the birding area in the Lower Gila. More information will be forthcoming on this.

Planning the next Festival of the Cranes was discussed. Audubon needs more publicity and participation in this event.

Dave Henderson reported reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act, wetlands redefinition, the State Legislature's consideration of non-coal mining issues, the probable reintroduction of the Mexican wolf, the mapping of forest critical habitat, and a statewide forest meeting in May or June, probably in Albuquerque.

Also discussed was the need for an adjunct chapter representative. These meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. The next meeting will be April 4, 1:00 p.m., at NM Tech in Socorro.



For information on the Thursday morning birding group to nearby areas, please call Tamie Bulow, 298-9116.

AUDUBON AND TEEN PREGNANCY Contributed by Dr. John Tyson

What is the biggest population problem in our state? What is the one thing Audubon members could do in New Mexico to help diffuse the problems of overpopulation, poverty, welfare costs, school dropouts, and family heartbreak? One of the answers must be to help prevent teenage pregnancy.

New Mexico ranks #7 in the country in teen births -- 20% higher than the national average. In 1989, there were nearly 4300 births to teenagers, more than 11 every day. The costs are high personally: Educationally, 2/3 of teen mothers drop out of school and 50% will never receive a high school diploma. Healthwise, both teen mothers and infants born to teens are more likely to face serious health risks and complications. And the costs are high publicly: \$4.5 million is spent annually in NM for state and federal services to school-age parents, age 10-17; 42% of Aid to Families with Dependent Children in NM goes to clients who were or are teen parents.

The New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition is a membership organization that works to address issues related to adolescent sexuality, pregnancy prevention, pregnancy and parenting. Their efforts focus on both the state and local levels, where they provide updated information, networking, educational opportunities, grassroots lobbying, resource materials, and other data. They advocate efforts that better the lives of children, thus bettering the life of our planet. Audubon members can write for further free information from Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition, Box 35197, Alb, NM, 87176, and/or Coalition for Children, Box 26666, Alb., NM, 87125.

CONSERVATION NOTES

By Verne Huser

Logging: The Spotted Owl and jobs in the timber industry seem to get all mixed up with the poor economy, here in New Mexico and in the Pacific Northwest. No one really looks at the fact that we have been overcutting the National Forests for decades. It's got to stop somewhere, but even the Forest Service personnel who try to abide by the law and not overcut the forests are given desk jobs in Washington or turned out to pasture. Political pressure from the Bush administration is calling the shots, as the Reagan administration did for eight years. Forestry as a profession has become meaningless in terms of science.

Double Eagle Airport: Just as they did on Unser Boulevard, the City of Albuquerque is breaking the law as it plans massive expansions to the Double Eagle Airport just west of Petroglyphs National Monument. A federally funded planning process that has kept the public out of the early stages of involvement has already got the City letting bids on three different aspects of airport expansions -- before the plan has been completed and presented to the public and before there has been any public involvement, despite federal funds from the Federal Aviation Administration (which should trigger the National Environmental Policy Act). Why is the City so afraid of doing a meaningful environmental assessment?

Bosque Birds: Recent newspaper articles confirm what we have been afraid would happen to the Whoopers that winter at Bosque del Apache: disappearance. A few years ago, the Whoopers were pushing the 30-bird level, but dwindling numbers have forced the Fish and Wildlife Service to abandon the Surrogate Parent Program in Idaho; thus, the number of Whoopers has dwindled to fewer than a dozen this season and may simply disappear to nothing before

the end of the decade. The problem seems to be too few birds too widely scattered during the pre-mating season, when birds do their pair bonding.

Energy Policy: President Bush, supported by Senator Domenici, continues to push for a National Energy Policy almost totally dependent upon oil and gas, with no solar research, no energy conservation measures, and no energy efficiency standards. If you don't like that policy, let your Senators know. Senator Bingaman has opposed opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas development, but supports the Bush bill generally.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat., Feb. 22 - Hawkwatch Int'l. will be holding a training session for education staff. Call 255-7622 for reservations. This is your chance to work with educational birds!

Wed., Feb. 26 - Tom Smylie will be speaking on Peregrine Falcons in his upcoming presentation "Isle of the Falcons" at the HawkWatch meeting 7:30 pm at Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Thurs., March 26 - Mary Alice Root, life-long birder, is the speaker for the Friends of the Rio Grande Botanic Garden Meeting, 7:30 pm at the Albuquerque Museum auditorium.

Wed., April 1 - Deposit due for Women's Birding Retreat, La Jara Creek Ranch, May 22-24. \$88 includes all meals! Contact Lynn Behnfield at 823-2400.

Wed., April 15 - Applications are due for the NM Forestry Camp, held June 8-12 in Cuba, NM, for youths age 12-19 with an interest in the outdoors. To volunteer or attend, contact NM Forestry Camp, c/o Cuba SWCD, PO Box 250, Cuba, NM, 87012, (505)289-2950.

Christmas Bird Count

SANDIA MOUNTAINS CHRISTMAS COUNT 1991

by Kay Anderson

Sharp-shinned hawk	1
Cooper's hawk	1
Red-tailed hawk	7
American Kestrel	8
Merlin	1
Rock Dove	35
Mourning Dove	5
Greater Roadrunner	1
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	1
Downy Woodpecker	1
Hairy Woodpecker	2
N. (Yel.-sh.) Flicker	1
N. (Red-sh) Flicker	29
Horner Lark	110
Steller's Jay	64
Scrub Jay	96
Pinyon Jay	237
American Crow	85
Common Raven	25
Mountain Chickadee	49
Plain Titmouse	4
Bushtit	42
Red-breasted Nuthatch	19
White-breasted Nuthatch	4
Eastern Bluebird	7
Western Bluebird	263
Mountain Bluebird	92
Townsend's Solitaire	94
Hermit Thrush	1
American Robin	276
N. Mockingbird	1
Sage Thrasher	1
Eur. Starling	77
Rufous-sided Towhee	3
Canyon Towhee	2
White-crowned Sparrow	1
Dark-eyed(Slate) Junco	3
Dark-eyed(Oregon) Junco	85
Dark-eyed(Gray-headed Junco	71
Dark-eyed Junco (form??)	716
Western Meadowlark	6
Cassin's Finch	1
House Finch	120
Pine Siskin	151
American Goldfinch	13
Evening Grosbeak	8
House Sparrow	16

Total Individuals 2,830

Total Species 46

Total Participants 21

1991 BOSQUE DEL APACHE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

by Steve Cox

1. Pied-billed Grebe	13	59. N. (Red-sh.) Flicker	24
2. Eared Grebe	2	60. Black Phoebe	5
3. Double-crested Cormorant	57	61. Say's Phoebe	12
4. Neotropical Cormorant	17	62. Horned Lark	86
5. Great Blue Heron	20	63. American Crow	2,183
6. Snowy Egret	1	64. Chihuahuan Raven	2
7. Black-crowned Night-Heron	9	65. Common Raven	8
8. Snow Goose	19,993	raven sp.	3
Snow Goose (blue form)	550	66. Verdin	5
9. Ross' Goose	253	67. Rock Wren	4
10. Canada Goose	290	68. Bewick's Wren	15
11. Green-winged Teal	89	69. Sedge Wren	1
12. Mallard	594	70. Marsh Wren	33
13. Northern Pintail	405	71. Ruby-crowned Kinglet	8
14. Cinnamon Teal	7	72. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1
15. Northern Shoveler	282	73. Mountain Bluebird	11
16. Gadwall	129	74. Townsend's Solitaire	1
17. American Wigeon	2	75. American Robin	13
18. Redhead	1	76. Curve-billed Thrasher	1
19. Ring-necked Duck	3	77. Crissal Thrasher	2
20. Lesser Scaup	1	78. American Pipit	15
21. Bufflehead	14	79. Loggerhead Shrike	4
22. Hooded Merganser	5	80. European Starling	135
23. Common Merganser	155	81. Audubon's Warbler	1
24. Ruddy Duck	15	82. Pyrrhuloxia	4
25. Bald Eagle	25	83. Green-tailed Towhee	2
26. Northern Harrier	39	84. Rufous-sided Towhee	17
27. Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	85. Canyon Towhee	1
28. Cooper's Hawk	1	86. Cassin's Sparrow	1
29. Red-tailed Hawk	43	87. Chipping Sparrow	5
Harlan's	2	88. Brewer's Sparrow	130
30. Ferruginous Hawk	1	89. Vesper Sparrow	2
Buteo, sp.	1	90. Black-throated Sparrow	64
31. Golden Eagle	2	91. Sage Sparrow	54
32. American Kestrel	18	92. Savannah Sparrow	1
33. Merlin	1	93. Song Sparrow	62
34. Prairie Falcon	3	94. Lincoln's Sparrow	7
35. Ring-necked Pheasant	34	95. Swamp Sparrow	10
36. Wild Turkey	10	96. White-throated Sparrow	3
37. Gambel's Quail	52	97. White-crowned Sparrow	716
38. American Coot	199	98. Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco	109
39. Sandhill Crane	10,520	(Gray-headed) Junco	10
40. Whooping Crane	7	Dark-eyed Junco (form?)	183
41. Killdeer	5	99. Red-winged Blackblack	903
42. Greater Yellowlegs	9	100. Western Meadowlark	21
43. Lesser Yellowlegs	1	meadowlark sp.	45
44. Least Sandpiper	1	101. Yellw-headed Blackbird	33
45. Long-billed Dowitcher	12	102. Brewer's Blackbird	240
dowitcher sp.	37	103. Great-tailed Grackle	13
46. Common Snipe	1	104. Common Grackle	2
47. Ring-billed Gull	202	blackbird sp.	200
48. Herring Gull	1	105. House Finch	46
49. Rock Dove	31	106. Pine Siskin	33
50. Mourning Dove	181	107. Lesser Goldfinch	2
51. Inca Dove	3	108. American Goldfinch	214
52. Greater Roadrunner	5	109. House Sparrow	6
53. Barn Owl	2		
54. Western Screech Owl	1		
55. Great Horned Owl	3		
56. Belted Kingfisher	2		
57. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1		
58. Ladder-backed Woodpecker	6		
		TOTAL SPECIES	109
		TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	40,084

THANKS, COUNTERS!

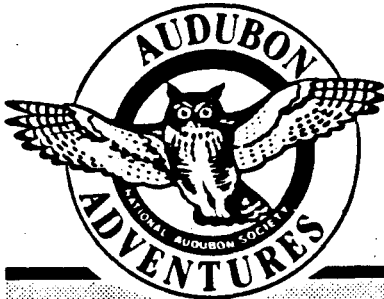
30TH ALBUQUERQUE CHRISTMAS COUNT RESULTS - 12/15/91

1. Pied-billed Grebe	7	49. Ladder-back. Woodpecker	3	95. White-crowned Sparrow	1,011
2. Double-crested Cormorant	2	50. Downy Woodpecker	13	96. Harris' Sparrow	2
3. Great Blue Heron	20	51. Hairy Woodpecker	1	97. Dark-eyed Junco (S-c)	9
4. *Greater White-fr. Goose	6	52. N. (Red-sh.) Flicker	157	Dark-eyed Junco (Oreg)	811
5. *Ross' Goose	2	53. Black Phoebe	2	Dark-eyed Junco (G-h)	67
6. Canada Goose	568	54. Say's Phoebe	4	Dark-eyed Junco (form?)	431
7. Wood Duck	165	55. Horned Lark	257	98. Red-winged Blackbird	1,200
8. Green-winged Teal	92	56. Blue Jay	1	99. Western Meadowlark	70
9. Mallard'	789	57. Scrub Jay	49	meadowlark, species	17
10. Northern Shoveler	1	58. Pinyon Jay	62	100. Brewer's Blackbird	2
11. Gadwall	56	59. American Crow	6,135	101. Great-tailed Grackle	247
12. American Wigeon	1	60. *Chihuahuan Raven	7	blackbird, species	507
13. Canvasback	1	61. Common Raven	7	102. Cassin's Finch	2
14. Redhead	1	raven, species	1	103. House Finch	1,160
15. Ring-necked Duck	40	62. Black-capped Chickadee	39	104. Pine Siskin	12
16. Bufflehead	1	63. Mountain Chickadee	12	105. Lesser Goldfinch	2
17. Common Merganser	64	chickadee, species	1	106. American Goldfinch	65
18. Bald Eagle	3 AD.	64. Plain Titmouse	3	107. Evening Grosbeak	1
19. Northern Harrier	16	65. Bushtit	84	108. House Sparrow	328
20. Sharp-shinned Hawk	7	66. Red-breasted Nuthatch	1		
21. Cooper's Hawk	13	67. White-breasted Nuthatch	31	TOTAL SPECIES:	(108)
22. Northern Goshawk	3	68. Brown Creeper	11	TOTAL INDIVIDUALS:	22,568
Accipiter, species	4	69. Rock Wren	18	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:	49
23. Red-tailed Hawk	31				
Harlan's Red-tail. Hawk	2	70. Canyon Wren	4		
24. Rough-legged Hawk	1	71. Bewick's	17	NOTATION ON TYPE:	
25. Golden Eagle	1 AD.	72. Marsh Wren	1	1. Birds in boldface type are	
26. American Kestrel	38	73. Ruby-crowned Kinglet	39	unusual, i.e. seen at intervals	
27. Merlin	1	74. Eastern Bluebird	2	of five years or more.	
28. Prairie Falcon	3	75. Western Bluebird	42	2. Starred (*) birds are new to	
falcon, species	2	76. Mountain Bluebird	294	the Albuquerque Xmas Count.	
29. Ring-necked Pheasant	11	77. Townsend's Solitaire	26		
30. Scaled Quail	108	78. Hermit Thrush	7	NOTE ON THE CHIHUAHUA RAVENS:	
31. Gambel's Quail	42	79. American Robin	2,633	Three of these ravens were	
32. Virginia Rail	2	80. Sage Thrasher	4	seen in their preferred grass-	
33. Sora	6	81. Curve-billed Thrasher	5	land habitat on the West Mesa.	
34. American Coot	3	82. Crissal Thrasher	3	The other four were roosting	
35. Sandhill Crane	224	83. American Pipit	5	with the 5000 Crows on UNM cam-	
36. Killdeer	2	84. Loggerhead Shrike	7	pus. Bill Willard documented	
37. Common Snipe	2	85. European Starling	2,904	them on video in Fairview Cem.	
38. Ring-billed Gull	3	86. Yellow-r. Warb. (Myrtle)	4		
39. Rock Dove	971	Yellow-r. Warb. (Audub.)	28	COMPILER FOR THIS COUNT & SUMMARY:	
40. Mourning Dove	48	Yellow-r. Warb. (form ?)	17	Hart R. Schwarz	
41. Greater Roadrunner	5	87. Green-tailed Towhee	1	317 Palomas Dr. NE #9	
42. Western Screech-Owl	3	88. Rufous-sided Towhee	35	Albuquerque, NM 87108	
43. Great Horned Owl	3	89. Canyon Towhee	32	Phone: (505) 266-1810	
44. Burrowing Owl	4	90. Chipping Sparrow	4		
45. Belted Kingfisher	11	91. Black-throated Sparrow	4		
46. Lewis' Woodpecker	2	92. Sage Sparrow	19		
47. *Yellow-bel. Sapsucker	1	93. Song Sparrow	193		
48. Red-naped Sapsucker	2	94. White-throated Sparrow	1		

You can help with this important project by sponsoring a classroom with a \$30.00 tax-deductible donation. By doing so, you will be helping environmental education grow in a successfully proven way!

To fully sponsor one class, or make a partial donation, complete the form below. Make your check payable to Central New Mexico Audubon Society and indicate that it is for Audubon Adventures. Mail your check and form to:

EDUCATION CHAIRPERSON
Marge Carrick
808 Dakota, SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108.



I would like to contribute to the Audubon Adventures Fund for the school year of 1992-93 (Orders are sent June 1 each year for the following school year).

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
(THANKS!)

Name _____

Address _____



SHRIKE LOOKOUT

Ross Teuber reports that there is a request from the birdwatching public to report any color-banded Loggerhead Shrikes. Adults and nestlings were banded in southwest Idaho, and information on wintering shrikes is anticipated. If you spot one, note the color of the bands (read from top down), which leg they are on, and when and where seen. Contact Chris Woods, Raptor Research Center, Boise State Univ., 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho, 83725, (802)385-3262.

FREE EDUCATOR WORKSHOP

Marie Jo Smerechniak, noted consultant with National Audubon Society, will be conducting a workshop at the Rio Grande Nature Center on Feb. 19, 2:30 - 4:30 pm. There is no charge; however, reservations are required (344-7240). She will be focusing on methods, strategies and simple tools for understanding the world around us. Topics will be based on information available through the Audubon Adventures publication, as utilized by a number of 4th and 5th grade classes in Albuquerque. Participants of the workshop will receive a one-year complimentary subscription to Audubon Adventures, a \$30 value. Marie Jo advises to wear soil-friendly clothing to get maximum enjoyment from the workshop.

UPDATE: LOS PADILLOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Last spring a snag developed for the Los Padillos Elementary School's hands-on environmental science facility: contamination from local septic systems. Not to be totally discouraged, our task has been altered in order to achieve our goal: install a new experimental wastewater treatment facility called "constructed wetlands." This will enable us to clean up surrounding groundwater and reestablish our previously condemned LPWS wetland/pond area. We need to raise money to finish the physical development, and we need to rally support from APS and local officials. Future plans are to create a river walk and park in conjunction with Albuquerque Open Space and the NM Game and Fish's Project Aquatic in order to extend the field studies of the outdoor classroom. For more information, contact Delores Varela-Phillips at 877-0108.





HAWKWATCH

INTERNATIONAL ~ INC

HAWKWATCH INTERNATIONAL'S FALL 1991 RAPTOR MIGRATION STUDIES IN THE MANZANO MOUNTAINS, NEW MEXICO

By Eric Meyer

Last fall several hundred birders hiked the Gavilan Trail ("gavilan" means hawk in Spanish) atop the Manzano Mountains. Each was rewarded by beautiful scenic vistas and unforgettable close-ups of migrant raptors. Between August 27 and November 5 HawkWatch International (HWI) biologists documented exceptional numbers of migrating hawks, eagles, and falcons -- 4,333 of 17 species (8.2 birds/hour)! In addition, 502 raptors were captured and banded, including a Cooper's hawk just banded as a nestling in July, 82 miles to the north in Los Alamos. HWI's autumn 1991 Manzano Project marked the 7th consecutive season of standardized counts and the second season of banding.

Many raptors travel great distances twice each year between their breeding and wintering seasons, consistently using the same mountaintop flyways year after year. This makes it relatively easy to sample their populations. Raptor migration counts provide a spectacular and visible indicator of ecosystem change over a vast portion of the Western Hemisphere. Over time, long-term population trends emerge.

Seasonal highs were recorded for the osprey (24), Cooper's hawk (1104), Swainson's hawk (58), peregrine falcon (21), and bald eagle (7). Record one-day flights were also noted for Cooper's hawks (197) and red-tailed hawks (83). And almost every day was punctuated by outstanding appearances by the resident red-tails and peregrine and prairie falcons.

The fall 1991 migration reached a peak on September 24 with 399 raptors passing (44.3 birds/hour!). The last 10 days of September were spectacular, with an average of 165 raptors per day. Although snow prevented observation the last days of October, 83 red-tails plowed through on November 2 (17.5 birds/hour) just before the next storm. In the 7 years we have been conducting counts in the Manzanos, the rate of passage of northern goshawks has declined greatly. Steadily dipping golden eagle numbers are also cause for concern. We will be watching these and all other species closely in the coming years.

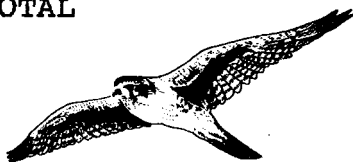
For more information about HawkWatch International's programs or directions to the hawk lookouts, please call 255-7622, or write HAWKWATCH INTERNATIONAL, P.O. Box 35706, Albuquerque, NM, 87176-5706.

PRESIDENT'S NOTE: As one of many conservation organizations that rely on data generated by HWI for setting priorities for raptors and the ecosystems that sustain them, we Auduboners need to support their efforts. Volunteering is one way; donations and memberships are another. With the crunch in the economy, much needed funding has been withdrawn, jeopardizing an already thinspread organization. Please look to see what you can do to support this very valuable and unique agency, located in our own backyard. They have been very generous to us, supplying us with knowledge, facts, education, programs, and field trips. A few dollars will help.

MANZANO MOUNTAIN COUNT RESULTS

Species	1991
Turkey Vulture	176
Osprey	24
Bald Eagle	7
Northern Harrier	66
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1081
Cooper's Hawk	1104
Northern Goshawk	10
Broad-winged Hawk	5
Swainson's Hawk	58
Red-tailed Hawk	577
Ferruginous Hawk	19
Zone-tailed Hawk	1
Golden Eagle	124
American Kestrel	728
Merlin	10
Peregrine Falcon	21
Prairie Falcon	14

TOTAL	4333



TRES PISTOLES CANYON

By Tamie Bulow

The Trust for Public Lands has negotiated a letter of intent with the owner of the property commonly called Three Gun Canyon. The area north of Carnuel and Monticello has had potential development efforts, much to the chagrin of those outdoor enthusiasts and biologists who treasure this parcel of native land. The area is familiar to us all -- to access the Tres Pistoles trailhead, to climb up to the Hawkwatch International site, to see poor-wills, lovely wildflowers, rare cacti, and terrific rock formations. We believe it is in the public interest to protect this resource in our own backyard for future generations to enjoy, study, and appreciate. Your impact can be felt by requesting Sen. Domenici to support this acquisition with federal funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Write him now before this appeal expires. Please let him know you care about our natural resources.

Members and Non-members are Invited to the

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

NATIONAL CONVENTION



American University

Washington, DC

June 13 - 19, 1992

Lively and Informative Discussions

Exciting Field Trips

Practical Workshops

Group Lobbying

Congressional Reception

If you are interested in attending or want more information, contact Audubon Convention Office, 4150 Darley Ave., #5, Boulder, CO, 80303, BEFORE APRIL 1.

CNMAS DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT

Tamie Bulow, 8126 Northridge NE, 87109; 298-9116

VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

Dr. John Tyson, 701 Solano SE, 87108; 255-1740 (24 hours)

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