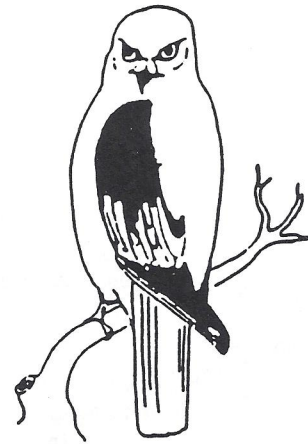


Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Volume 28, Number 1

September 1993



Coming Attractions

Potluck Dinner and General Meeting. September 9, 1993 - Thursday, 6:00 PM at Sugarloaf State Park. There will be a short business meeting after the potluck dinner. Bring your own service, drinks, and a main dish, salad, or dessert. Comfortable shoes, a warm coat, and a flashlight are recommended if you wish to do some birding. We will listen and look for owls and Common Poorwills after the meeting. Remember that there is an entrance fee at Sugarloaf. Carpooling is suggested.

Field Trip to Healdsburg for Vaux's Swift Fly-In. Friday, September 10. Meet in Healdsburg at 6:45 PM (evening) to hopefully see large numbers of migrating Vaux's Swifts fly in to roost in a large chimney. Directions: drive north on 101 to Healdsburg, take the Healdsburg Avenue exit and turn right on Healdsburg Avenue, turn right on Ballhache Road and drive 3.5 miles to Rio Lindo Academy (Ballhache Road becomes Rio Lindo Road), drive through gates to stop sign, turn left at sign, drive 1.5 blocks, turn right, drive toward tall building on left with large metal chimney, park here along road. Call Cindy Young (585-8826) for directions and carpooling info. Leader: Cindy Young or Alan Wight.

Field Trip to Point Reyes Area. Saturday, September 18. Meet at Petaluma 101/116 Park and Ride at 7:00 AM for carpooling and choice of destination. Leader is Ruth Rudesill.

Pelagic Trip from Fort Bragg. Sunday, September 26. Meet at Sportman's Dock in Noyo Harbor, Fort Bragg at 7:00 AM. Return about 1:30 PM. The boat is the TREK II and the leaders are Roger Marlowe and Greg Grantham. The cost is \$40. Send check to Mendocino Coast Audubon, 130 Dana Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. Direct questions to Dorothy Tobkin at (707) 964-6216 or Joe Reding at (707) 964-6333 (days) or (707) 964-7730 (evenings).

Membership Dues

Please remember to pay your membership dues for the 1993-94 year. Dues are \$15 per family or \$8 per individual per year. Student dues are \$3. Send your check to the RRROS treasurer, Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyvale, Healdsburg, CA 95448, or better, bring it to the potluck meeting or the first general meeting (on October 14) at Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University. Make checks payable to RRROS. If your address changes during the 1993-94 year, please let the editor know (Alan Wight at 763-8572).

Kite Tales Deadlines

Please observe the following deadlines when providing information for inclusion in the Kite Tales. The deadline for inclusion of observations (to Ruth Rudesill) is the 24th of the month. The deadline for inclusion of announcements (to Alan Wight) is the 27th of the month.

Field Trip Suggestions

Now is the time to make field trip suggestions. Please take a minute to write down a few field trip destinations that you would like to see provided in the coming year. Also, make a California bird wish list of five birds or so. Send this information to Cindy Young, RRROS field trip chairperson, at 7 Conifer Square, Rohnert Park, CA 94928. If you would like to volunteer to lead an RRROS field trip, please let Cindy know this as well. This input will help Cindy provide field trips that match your desires.

Report of Finances 1992-1993

Beginning bank balance as of 7/1/92		\$1174.18
Income		
From dues		\$960.50
From book sales (old stock)	\$141.00	
(new stock)	502.45	643.45
From field card sales		14.90
From Bird Watcher's Digest (for subscriptions)		14.98
Total		\$1633.83
Total funds for year		\$2808.01
Expenses		
Kite Tales		\$573.63
Return of 1/2 book sales to Mrs. Bolander (old stock)		70.50
Book production cost (new stock)		1194.99
Book mailings (postage)		3.00
Purchase of 100 field cards from SSU		15.00
To State of California, corporation fee		5.00
Contribution to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for Dr. DeSante		75.00
Total		\$1937.12
Ending bank balance as of 6/30/93		\$870.89

Jean C. Smith, Treasurer

From The President

The Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) was recommended for Federal Listing by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service on April 30, 1993. This subspecies occurs in riparian habitats of the southwest from southeastern California, east to western Texas and south to northern Baja California. Although the A.O.U. Checklist (1957 5th edition) does not recognize this subspecies, it is widely regarded as a valid subspecies. If listed, this species could play a significant role in protecting our remaining desert riparian habitats. There are several other species that are set to follow the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher in the listing process that may completely alter the uses of riparian water resources in the southwest in the years to come. For more information on this species see *Western Birds* 18:137-162. Stay tuned for more . . .

Field Trip Reports

Humboldt County, May 28-31, 1993.

A wet and wild weekend! Saturday was hot and humid with the rain starting in the late afternoon and ending (briefly) Monday morning. And most people stayed until Monday! Despite the rain, Patrick's Point is still beautiful and had a lot of birds (David had his breakfast sausage snatched by a bold Steller's Jay!). A total of 108 bird species were recorded.

Highlights included:

Watching 10,000+ Common Murres on offshore rocks with a half dozen Tufted Puffins. Also, Rhinoceros Auklets and Marbled Murrelets!

Eating at Samoa Cookhouse!

An Eastern Kingbird in Blue Lake!

A Blue-winged Teal at Arcata Marsh!

Participants were Doug Ellis, Jack and Betty Groce, David Hofmann, Susan Meere, John and Virginia McDonagh, Linda Petrulias, Ruth Rudesill, Alan Wight, and Cindy Young.

Lodi Area/Consumnes River Preserve, June 19, 1993.

Weather was hot (96°F) with a slight delta breeze. We arrived early at Consumnes River Preserve (on Twin Cities Road, off I-5) which is a riparian area. We saw at least 5 and heard several more Blue Grosbeaks, but missed Swainson's Hawk. The best birds of the day were a pair of Indigo Buntings on Woodbridge Road, San Joaquin County (first county record). A total of 52 bird species were recorded. Participants were Avis Andersen, David Hofmann, John and Virginia McDonagh, Linda Petrulias, and Ruth Rudesill.

Lava Beds/Klamath Basin, July 3-5, 1993.

We had a fabulous weekend blessed with great weather! The group camped at Lava Beds National Monument; birded the area including Lower Klamath NWR, Fort Klamath, and Crater Lake. Several of us also stopped at Fall River Mills and Burney Falls State Park on the way home. A total of 143 bird species were recorded. Highlights included: Franklin's Gull, White-faced Ibis, and Swainson's Hawk at Lower Klamath; five Prairie Falcons at Petroglyph Rock; Common Nighthawks (in courtship flights) and Pinyon Jays at Lava Beds; Gray Flycatchers on a nest at Mammoth Crater; Gray Jays, a Red-naped Sapsucker, and Doug called in a Northern Pygmy-Owl at Crater Lake NP. Bank Swallows at Fall River Mills and Black Swifts at Burney Falls SP. And we spent nearly an hour listening to a calling Yellow Rail at Fort Klamath, Oregon. Mammals seen during the trip were Mule Deer, Black-tailed Jackrabbit, Pronghorn Antelope, California Kangaroo Rat, Coyote, Yellow Pine Chipmunk, Chickaree, Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel, Belding Ground Squirrel, Montane Vole, Western Gray Squirrel, Yellow-bellied Marmot, and Nuttall's Cottontail. Participants were Doug Ellis, David Hofmann, Karen Murphy, Linda Petrulias, Ruth Rudesill, and Alan Wight.

RROS Observations, Summer 1993 (+)

Northern California

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Red-necked Grebe	1	3/19	Mackerricher SP	MEN	DT	
Brown Pelican	6	4/9	Mackerricher SP	MEN	DT	early date
Brown Pelican	19	4/14	Manchester SP	MEN	DT	early date
Brant	40	8/14	Limantour Estero	MRN	BDP	
Wood Duck	6-9	April	Pudding Creek	MEN	DT	
Hooded Merganser	2 females	3/20	Casper Pond	MEN	DT	
Peregrine Falcon	1	3/20	Mendocino Bay	MEN	DT	
Peregrine Falcon	1	4/1-4/2	Mackerricher SP	MEN	DT	
Common Moorhen	1	4/19	Pudding Creek	MEN	DT	
— Wild Turkey	32+	7/18	Pine Flat Road	SON	AA, CY	
— Lesser-Golden Plover	1	8/8	Doran Park	SON	DH	
— Lesser-Golden Plover	1	8/15	Salmon Creek Beach	SON	DE	
Snowy Plover	10	8/13	Doran Beach	SON	BDP	
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	8/14	Bolinas Sewer Ponds	MRN	JM, VM	
Red Knot	1	8/22	Bodega Harbor	SON	DH	
— Red Knot	4	8/29	Doran Park	SON	JA, DH, BDP, AW	
— Semipalmated Sandpiper	2	8/1	Doran Park	SON	DH, BDP, AW	
Baird's Sandpiper	1	7/24	Spaletta Ponds	MRN	AW	
Baird's Sandpiper	2	7/31	Abbott's Lagoon	MRN	DH, BDP	
Baird's Sandpiper	1	8/8	Doran Park	SON	DH	
Baird's Sandpiper	1	8/14	Bolinas Sewer Ponds	MRN	JM, VM	
Pectoral Sandpiper	3	8/14	Bolinas Sewer Ponds	MRN	JM, VM	
— Dunlin	1	8/8	Doran Park	SON	DH	early
Dunlin	1	8/22	Doran Park	SON	DH	still early
— Common Tern	2	8/20	Bodega Harbor	SON	BB	
— Arctic Tern	1 adult	8/13	Bodega Harbor	SON	BDP	
Marbled Murrelet	3	6/6	Sea Ranch	SON	BDP	breeding plumage
— Long-eared Owl	1	7/28	Petaluma	SON	BB (Bird Rescue Center info)	
— Rufous Hummingbird	1 male	8/22	Owl Canyon	SON	DH	unusual in fall
Red-breasted Sapsucker	3	6/6	Annapolis Road	SON	BDP	
Willow Flycatcher	1	8/29	near Hole-in-the-Head	SON	DH, BDP, AW	
— Eastern Kingbird	1	June	Hole-in-the-Head	SON	DH	
Purple Martin	3	6/6	near Gualala Bridge	SON	BDP	
— Red-eyed Vireo	1	8/21-22	Owl Canyon	SON	DE, LS	
— Nashville Warbler	3	6/20	Pine Flat Road	SON	CL, LL, SC	1 adult, 2 juveniles
Northern Parula	1 male	6/5	Bear Valley Road	MRN	RR	
— Hermit Warbler	several	6/6	Annapolis Road	SON	BDP	
— Hooded Warbler	1 female	8/22-29	Owl Canyon	SON	DH, many	
— Swamp Sparrow	1	8/29	Owl Canyon	SON	RR	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1 male	5/14	Sebastopol Com. Center	SON	CW	singing
Red Crossbill	2	8/14	Five Brooks Pond	MRN	JM, VM	
Lawrence's Goldfinch	3	6/20	Gosling Canyon	NAP	BDP	
Lawrence's Goldfinch	7	6/27	Knoxville/Berryessa Rd.	NAP	AW	

Outside Northern California

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	5	8/8	Finney Lake	IMP	BG, LP, RR	
Little Curlew	1	8/18	Santa Maria River	SB	JM, VM	3rd state record
Baird's Sandpiper	1	7/9	Glacier NP, Montana		DE	
Yellow-footed Gull	many	8/7	Salton Sea	IMP	BG, LP, RR	
Gull-billed Tern	several	8/8	north Salton Sea	IMP	BG, LP, RR	
Least Tern	several	8/14	Santa Maria River	SB	DH, RR	

Observers: Avis Andersen, Jack Arnold, Betty Burrige, Suzanne Cogan, Betty Groce, Doug Ellis, David Hofmann, Cindy and Leslie Lieurance, John and Virginia McDonagh, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Linda Petruvias, Ruth Rudesill, Lynn Stafford, Dorothy Tobkin, Alan Wight, Chris Wood, Cindy Young

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was organized in 1962 "to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their natural habitat." Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, September through May. Regular general meetings are held at 7:30 PM in Room 221 Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California.

1993-1994 Officers

President:	Jon Winter, 5331 El Mercado, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	526-7488
Vice-president:	Richard E. Merriss, 2046 Hearn Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95407	525-8629
Secretary:	Olive Corey, 422 Ridgeway, Santa Rosa, CA 95401	542-8429
Treasurer:	Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyvale, Healdsburg, CA 95448	433-2542

1993-1994 Chairpersons

Field Trips:	Cynthia Young, 7 Conifer Square, Rohnert Park, CA 94928	585-8826
Observations:	Ruth Rudesill, P.O. Box 371, Kenwood, CA 95452	833-6026
Social:	Barbara Gumtow, 7915 Bella Vista Dr., Sebastopol, CA 95472	823-7869
Christmas Count:	Doug Ellis, P.O. Box 155, Eldridge, CA 95452	539-3443
Kite Tales:	Alan Wight, 300 6th St. #2, Petaluma, CA 94952	763-8572

Alan N. Wight
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