

KITE TALES

NOVEMBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 11 - No. 3 SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

1976

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

November 11, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.: RROS meeting

Gull identification workshop - Those of us who are confused by immature plumages and gulls that look alike should come prepared to take notes and ask questions. Workshop leaders will be Jon Winter and Rich Stallcup.

November 14, Sunday, 8:30 a.m.: Field Trip to Tubbs Island

Gail Scott and Ralph Frazier, RROS members and Tubbs Island Preserve caretakers will lead our field trip. Check October's KITE TALES for a list of birds often seen on Tubbs Island. If it's raining we will drive down the road to the salt ponds and the area near Skaggs Island, which are also very productive. We will meet at the Preserve gate, on the Bay side of Highway 37 just east of Tolay Creek, 4201 Sears Point Road. For carpooling meet at the Safeway parking lot on Rohnert Park Expressway at 8:00 a.m. Be sure to bring fresh water - there is none on the Island.

November 24, Wednesday: Deadline for December KITE TALES contributions.

Please send in your monthly sightings so that we can make it a regular feature.

BODEGA OFFSHORE FIELD TRIP REPORT

The following 31 species were seen by field trip participants:

Common Loon	Pelagic Cormorant	Glaucous-winged Gull
Horned Grebe	Great Blue Heron	Western Gull
Northern Fulmar	Black-cr. Night Heron	California Gull
Pink-footed Shearwater	American Wigeon	Ring-billed Gull
New Zealand Shearwater	Surf Scoter	Bonaparte's Gull
Sooty Shearwater	American Loon	Sabine's Gull
Black Storm Petrel	Black Turnstone	Common Murre
White Pelican	Marbled Godwit	Cassin's Auklet
Brown Pelican	Red Phalarope	Rhinoceros Auklet
Double-crested Cormorant	Pomarine Jaeger	Tufted Puffin
Brandt's Cormorant		

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE BREEDING BIRD SURVEY

This survey was coordinated in Northern California by RRDS member Baron McLean for three years, and was turned over to Ms. Lynn Thomas of Chico two years ago.

METHOD: There are 150 routes in California. All routes have 50 stops, 1/2 mile apart. Participants spend 3 minutes at each stop to record all birds seen or heard. Two minutes is allowed to travel the next 1/2 mile by car to reach the next stop. All are road surveys starting from 1/2 hour before sunrise. For each degree of latitude and longitude there are 4 routes. Thus the whole state is covered in a random survey. Many special nesting sites could be missed, but a nationwide survey under these rules is a very important gathering of facts.

PARTICIPANTS: The following nine RRDS members were involved in the 1975 Survey: Gordon Bolander - Point Reyes/Longvale; Bud Graupp - Mark West; Jack Guggolz - Calpella; Deyea Harper - Bodega Bay; Joel Hornstein - Sattley (NE Cal.); Peter Leveque - McCloud; the Parmeters - Fish Rock; Lynn Stafford - Redding/Greenfield; and Wayne Tillay (with Glenn Clifton) - Glen Ellen.

RESULTS: In 1975, 121,931 individuals representing 244 species were identified on the 150 routes in California.

MOST COMMON		MOST ABUNDANT	
<u>Species</u>	<u>No. of routes where species was found</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Individuals</u>
Mourning Dove	140	Cliff Swallow	14,728
Brewer's Blackbird	126	Redwinged Blackbird	11,109
House Finch	123	Brewer's Blackbird	9,701
Starling	119	House Finch	5,821
W. Meadowlark	109	Starling	5,377
California Quail	103	Mourning Dove	5,168
Common Flicker	103	House Sparrow	5,712
Cliff Swallow	103	Western Meadowlark	4,492
Redwinged Blackbird	103	Scrub Jay	1,831
Br.-headed Cowbird	102	American Robin	1,796

LEAST ABUNDANT

<u>Species</u>	<u>No. of routes where species was found</u>
California Condor	1
Peregrine Falcon	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Ringed Turtle Dove	1
Crissal Thrasher	1
Black & White Warbler	1
Turkey	2
Spotted Owl	2
Bell's Vireo	2
Lucy's Warbler	2
Pine Grosbeak	2
Short-eared Owl	3
Williamson's Sapsucker	3

OBSERVATIONS: In general, the Coastal routes had the greatest number of species (Average 62). The Foothill routes were slightly lower, but were higher in total number of individuals (Average 909). The lowest number of species came from the Great Valley and Great Basin (Average about 30). The Great Valley routes, interestingly enough, had the highest number of individuals (Average 1324) due to colonial nesters.

CALIFORNIA CONDOR SHOT; LESS THAN 50 OF THEM ARE LEFT
(Excerpt from AUDUBON LEADER)

There are probably less than 50 California condors left in the world and one of them was shot last month. The bird, which is still alive, was hit by a hollow-nosed bullet which shattered its wing, and it was not until some two weeks later that a party of hunters in Kern County found it on a mountainside and promptly reported it to authorities. National Audubon Condor Naturalist John C. Borneman and others took it to the Los Angeles Zoo health center. The bird was badly emaciated and infection had set in; so far it has responded to treatment and is regaining its weight, but doctors doubt that they will be able to save the wing.

MONTHLY SIGHTINGS

September 19, 1976 - Point Reyes - Gordon Bolander, Jack Arnold and Mike Parmeter
 (1) Pectoral Sandpiper 2 birds
 (2) Tennessee Warbler 3 birds

(3)	Blackburnian Warbler	1 bird
(4)	Blackpoll Warbler	2 birds
(5)	Palm Warbler	1 bird
(6)	American Redstart	1 bird
(7)	Lark Bunting	1 bird
(8)	Orchard Oriole	1 bird

September 25, 1976 - Point Reyes - Mike Parmeter

(1)	Pectoral Sandpiper	3 birds
(2)	Parula Warbler	1 bird
(3)	Magnolia Warbler	1 bird
(4)	Chestnut-sided Warbler	1 bird
(5)	Cape May Warbler (spring plumage)	1 bird
(6)	Blackpoll Warbler	5 birds
(7)	American Redstart	4 birds
(8)	Chestnut-collared Longspur	1 bird

September 26, 1976 - New Hogan Dam Reservoir - East of Stockton -
Mike and John Parmeter

(1)	Blue-footed Booby	1 bird
-----	-------------------	--------

October 9, 1976 - Point Reyes - Mike Parmeter

(1)	Ovenbird	1 bird
(2)	Palm Warbler	1 bird

Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Organized in 1962, the purpose of the club is to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitats.

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, Oct. through May, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 221 of Darwin Hall, California State College, Sonoma, Rohnert Park.

Membership dues are \$6.00 for a family, \$4.50 for an individual, and \$2.00 for a student. This includes the subscriptions to the KITE TALES. Dues may be mailed to Adeene Nelligan, at the address below, or presented to her at the meetings.

We welcome guests at our meetings and on our field trips.

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	Carmen Patterson, 5577 Inverness, Santa Rosa (544-7031)
VICE-PRES	Herb Klassen, 19715 5th St. E, Sonoma (938-8297)
SECRETARY	Clarence Tucker, 1309 Denlyn St., Novato (415/892-3195)
TREASURER	Adeene Nelligan, 5424 Alta Monte Drive, Santa Rosa (542-8389)
K.T. Editor	Melanie Perry, 5665 Gravenstein Hwy. No., Forestville
K.T. Staff	Lynn and Elizabeth Stafford, P.O. Box 361, Kenwood (833-6491)

PARKING PERMIT

COURTESY OF

CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGE, SONOMA

For use in NON-RESERVED SECTION only

on Thursday, November 11, 1976

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ROOM 221 - DARWIN

(Display clearly in driver's compartment of car.)