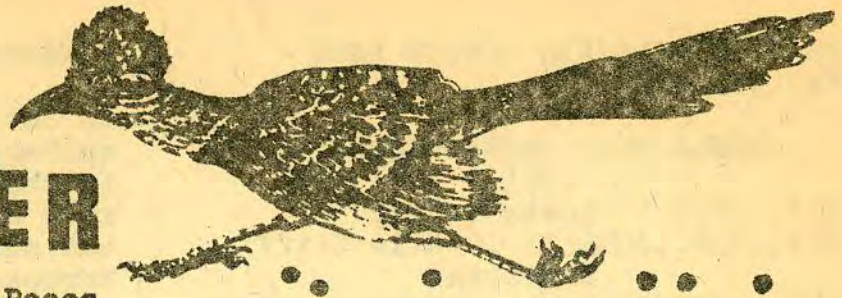


the ROADRUNNER



Newsletter of El Paso/Trans-Pecos
Audubon Society - P.O. Box 9655
El Paso, Texas 79986

Editors: Jane Fowler - Jo Nagel

Volume 14(10)

\$4.00 per year

December 1984

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, DEC. 7, 1984, 7:30 PM.
Garden Center, 3105 Grant St. in
Memorial Park. Our Dec. general
meeting will be a planning meet-
ing for our Christmas Bird Counts
slated for Dec. 15 (El Paso Count)
and Dec. 29 (Hueco Tanks Count).
We urge members and non-members
to attend and make plans to par-
ticipate in activities during
this holiday season that don't
include Xmas shopping, standing
in long lines or looking for a
parking space at the mall. De-
tails below.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS



SAT., DEC. 15, 1984 EL PASO COUNT
All birders are welcome to join
in this annual bird census.
Teams of birders will cover desig-
nated sections of the 15 mile di-
ameter circle or keep tabs on
birds visiting their feeders. A
fee of \$3.00 is required of par-
ticipants to help defray the cost
of printing the results. Contact
compiler Joyce Davis (581-9470 h,
544-6772 w) if you plan to parti-
cipate or come to the planning
meeting Fri., Dec. 7, 7:30 PM, at
the Garden Center. The feeder com-
piler is Elza Gilboe (772-1942).
She will also be the clearing
house for rare-bird reports.

If you see anything unusual, call
her, and she will try to get an
observer to confirm it. Follow-
ing the count, we will gather at
Sarah Jane Dodds, 4011 Santa Ana
(533-4150) between 5 & 6 PM.
After a pot-luck dinner, the spe-
cies count-down will take place.

**SAT., DEC. 29, 1984. HUECO TANKS
COUNT.** Birders who are experts,
novices or in categories in be-
tween should plan to participate
in this count. Some interesting
birds have been seen in this
area, and you'll enjoy the sce-
nic landscape. Come to the plan-
ning meeting, or if you are un-
able to attend and wish to take
part in the count, contact com-
piler Jane Fowler (772-0296).
Fee \$3.00. Bettie Roberts, 2817
Cabot (591-0421) is hostess for
the pot-luck dinner that evening.
We'll meet at 5:30 PM at her
home, eat dinner and tally the
birds seen during the day.

FIELD TRIP CALENDAR

HUECO TANKS

SUN., DEC. 2. This is a preview
of birds to be seen on the HTCC.
Meet at 7:30 AM in the parking
lot of Bella Napoli Restaurant
on the corner of Yarbrough and
Montana. Leaders: Peggy and Peter
Riede (821-0989).

EL PASO CHRISTMAS COUNT

SAT., DEC. 15, 1984

HUECO TANKS CHRISTMAS COUNT

SAT., DEC. 29, 1984

FEATHER LAKE/RIO BOSQUE PARK
SAT., JAN. 12

FIELD TRIP CORRECTIONS
1985

SAT., JUNE 1 Lower Valley
SAT., SUN., JUNE 15-16 Gila Cliff
Dwellings
SUN., JUNE 23 West Cottonwood Sprgs.

2 Western Grebes and 2 Pintails.

On Sat. Nov. 17, 5 dedicated observers set out from Feather Lake in the rain for Madden Lake. The rain stopped about 10 AM and we had some sunlight by 1 PM at Ft. Hancock. 55 species were seen including 1 White Pelican, 4 Western Grebes, 4 Cattle Egrets, GB Herons, Savannah Sparrows and 3 Common Loons swimming back and forth. At Ft. Hancock Reservoir (now drained) we had 9 Gulls of which at least one was a Herring Gull. At the rest stop in Tornillo, 4 Cedar Waxwings were spotted.

FERRUGINOUS HAWKS
AND
GREAT GRAY OWLS

The Colorado-based Raptor Education Foundation has come out with a bright and multi-hued idea. It's a coloring book featuring 8 1/2" x 11" drawings of 45 North American birds of prey. Eagles, Falcons, Hawks, and Owls of America: A Coloring Album also includes short narra-

tives describing each species and full-color drawings to show how the birds should be colored. Colorado artist Don Malick did the art work, Wisconsin-based biologist Fran Hamerstrom the text. You can order the book from the Raptor Education Foundation, 925 E. 17th Ave., Suite #300, Denver, CO 80218. Price: \$4.95, which includes postage and handling.

The deadline for the
January Roadrunner is
December 28.

2-The Roadrunner

WILDERNESS · AMISH FARMS · MOUNTAINS · INDIANS · COASTLINES

WILD AMERICA

can be your campus for graduate, undergraduate or high school degrees

**Special junior high school program available*

A University on Wheels
The Audubon Expedition Institute is small groups of inquiring college, high school, graduate students, and staff members who travel across the country as a learning community. As they camp out September-May and summers—hiking, canoeing, and skiing—the Expedition visits people and places to observe, discover, question, and develop a practical awareness of relationships within and between America's ecosystems, cultures, and history.

Our Classroom is Wild America You can't fully learn about the environment or careers by sitting in a classroom. That's why the Expedition uses a hands-on approach. We'll teach you practical skills in ecology, community development, conservation, human relationships, energy use, nutrition, as well as the academics of the natural and social sciences, music and art, education, and personal psychology. Seventy-five accredited courses are offered.

Who Should Apply High school, college, graduate students, or teachers who want to experience an environmental education alternative who want to lead an ecologically sound life who want to ask and find answers to important questions about the world they live in.

The Expedition Education Advantage incorporates all previous undergraduate course work offers accredited career internships, independent study and life experience awards financial aid, post-graduate grants, AA, BA, and MS degrees courses emanate from real-life encounters, community process and environmental issues.

Send for complete information packet and student newsletter

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Sharon · Connecticut 06069 · (203) 364-0522

Students are admitted regardless of their race, sex, religion or national origin

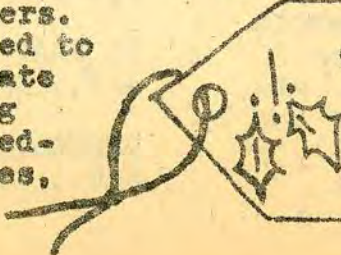
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TRADITIONAL MUSIC · BACKPACKING · OBSERVATORIES · WILD RIVERS

FIELD TRIP FOLLOW-UP

On Sun. Nov. 4, 10 people braved the 2nd day of hunting season at the Northeast Oxidation Ponds and Ashley's. 38 species were seen. Highlights there were 2 male Buffleheads, 2 Western Grebes, 2 Horned Grebes, Ring-billed Gulls, Ring-necked Ducks and Canvasbacks plus 3 Common Mergansers. Then 7 of the group proceeded to the Newman Electric Plant, ate lunch and toured the cooling ponds. Seen here were 4 Ringed-bill Gulls, 2 Pied-bill Grebes,

December 1984



El Paso - Las Cruces Rare Birds Committee

In a recent issue of The Roadrunner, John Sproul reported on the formation of a new bird records committee, the El Paso-Las Cruces Rare Birds Committee. I would like to elaborate on the purpose of the committee.

El Paso has a long history of active birders, dating back to the 1920s and even earlier. A few of these observers kept records of their activities and sightings over the years. One such account chronicles nearly 40 years of active observation! Unfortunately, much of this potentially valuable information is of little value, due to a total lack of documentation concerning unusual birds. Undetailed reports of rare birds simply cannot be accepted for the scientific record no matter who the observer is.

It is even more unfortunate that the trend continues today. Too many area birders report their sightings of rare birds to the observations editor without a shred of detail. At best, details of the sighting may be shared verbally over the phone, but again, no written record exists. Future researchers (or present-day ones from outside our area) may not know that Joe B. Birder from El Paso is a bird-identification wizard. Without preserved written details of J.B.'s sightings, these researchers have no recourse but to reject the sightings, thus eliminating potentially significant data from the historical record. By analogy, few of us would accept someone's claim to having broken a world record in track and field if we knew there were no witnesses to the event. Likewise, it is not enough to merely report a rare bird -- it must also be documented. (I can remember Roger Tory Peterson being called on to document a bird that he reported during a birding convention in North Dakota -- no one is, or should be, immune.)

This then is the purpose of the records committee, to solicit and review documentation of rare birds in the area (El Paso and Hudspeth counties in Texas, Doña Ana and portions of Otero and Sierra counties in NM), and to provide a

permanent repository for that documentation so it will remain accessible to future researchers. Toward this end we have compiled a list of birds considered unusual enough to warrant details (see reverse). Should you observe one of the species on this list, submit written details (and photos if you have them) to any committee member. The committee will only reject records when photographic or other indisputable evidence shows the record to be in error, or when no documentation is provided at all. Other records will be assigned a probability rating ("highly probable", "probable", "possible", or "questionable") that reflects the opinion of the committee.

Here are some hints for writing details on a rare bird:

- 1) Take notes immediately, while the details are still fresh in your memory. Preferably, these should be written before consulting a field guide. Descriptions that come straight from the book are often considered tainted.
- 2) Include such information as: time of day, location, light conditions, optical equipment used, number of observers present (and each one's experience, if any, with the species in question), duration of the sighting, distance of the bird from the observer(s), all pertinent details of plumage and morphology, any vocalizations noted, and behavior of the bird.
- 3) Finally, a discussion of why you eliminated other similar species from consideration would be most helpful.

Note-taking is an exercise that carries many rewards beyond satisfying the criteria of the committee. Perhaps the best of these is that it forces the observer to look more closely at the birds he/she sees. With closer scrutiny comes greater skill in identification and greater awareness of bird behavior, habitat associations, etc. With just a small investment of time, we can turn our birding trips into learning experiences that also benefit the science of ornithology. /Kevin J. Zimmer/

El Paso-Las Cruces Rare Birds Committee -- REVIEW LIST

GROUP 1. Documentation is essential before records for birds in this group can be considered valid.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| any loon | Western Sandpiper (winter) | Greater Pewee | Yellow-throated Warbler |
| Horned Grebe | White-rumped Sandpiper | any <u>Empidonax</u> flycatcher | Grace's Warbler |
| Western Grebe (light ph.) | Baird's Sandpiper (except fall) | to species | Palm Warbler |
| Brown Pelican | Pectoral Sandpiper | any <u>Myiarchus</u> flycatcher | Prothonotary Warbler |
| American Bittern | Dunlin | except Ash-throated | Worm-eating Warbler |
| Least Bittern | Stilt Sandpiper | Scissor-tailed Flycatcher | Ovenbird |
| Little Blue Heron | Short-billed Dowitcher | Purple Martin | Louisiana Waterthrush |
| Tricolored Heron | any gull except Ring-billed, Franklin's or Bonaparte's | Cave Swallow | Kentucky Warbler |
| Y.-crowned Night-Heron | any tern except Forster's or Black | Blue Jay | Hooded Warbler |
| any whistling-duck | Band-tailed Pigeon | Pinyon Jay | Red-faced Warbler |
| Gr. White-fronted Goose | Common Ground-Dove | Clark's Nutcracker | Painted Redstart |
| Ross' Goose | Black-billed Cuckoo | Plain Titmouse | Olive Warbler |
| Eurasian Wigeon | Groove-billed Ani | Bushtit | Hepatic Tanager |
| Greater Scaup | any owl except Com. Barn, Great Horned, Burrowing or Long-eared | Pygmy Nuthatch | Rose-breasted Grosbeak |
| Oldsquaw | Whip-poor-will | Winter Wren | Varied Bunting |
| Red-breasted Merganser | Blue-throated Hummingbird | Sedge Wren | Dickcissel |
| Masked Duck | Magnificent Hummingbird | Eastern Bluebird | Cassin's Sparrow (winter) |
| Bald Eagle | Lucifer Hummingbird | any <u>Catharus</u> thrush except Hermit | American Tree Sparrow |
| Northern Goshawk | Ruby-throated Hummingbird | Gray Catbird | Clay-colored Sparrow (except fall) |
| Common Black-Hawk | Costa's Hummingbird | Northern Shrike | Field Sparrow |
| Gray Hawk | Allen's Hummingbird | any vireo except Solitary or Warbling | Lark Sparrow (winter) |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | any wintering hummingbird | Tennessee Warbler | Baird's Sparrow |
| "Harian's" Hawk | Red-headed Woodpecker | Lucy's Warbler | Grasshopper Sparrow |
| Rough-legged Hawk | Acorn Woodpecker | Northern Parula | LeConte's Sparrow |
| Merlin | Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (S. v. varius) | Magnolia Warbler | Fox Sparrow |
| Peregrine Falcon | Downy Woodpecker | Cape May Warbler | Harris' Sparrow |
| Black-bellied Plover | Hairy Woodpecker | Black-thr. Blue Warbler | any longspur |
| Snowy Plover | | Hermit Warbler | Bobolink |
| Lesser Yellowlegs (winter) | | Black-thr. Green Warbler | Common Grackle |
| Whimbrel | | | Orchard Oriole |
| Ruddy Turnstone | | | "Baltimore" Oriole |
| Red Knot | | | any wintering oriole |
| Sanderling | | | Purple Finch |
| Semipalmated Sandpiper | | | Cassin's Finch |
| | | | Red Crossbill |
| | | | Evening Grosbeak |

Plus: any other species not on the current El Paso area checklist.

Handwritten notes and numbers on the right side of the page, including "749", "3745", "10000", "749", "150", "2000", and "2000".

GROUP 2. Documentation is desirable to support records for birds in this group.

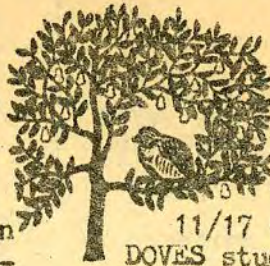
| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| cormorants to species | Common Nighthawk | Brown Creeper | Black-thr. Gray Warbler |
| Tundra Swan | Calliope Hummingbird | Golden-crowned Kinglet | Black-and-white Warbler |
| Wood Duck | Williamson's Sapsucker | Blue-gray Gnatcatcher | American Redstart |
| Hooded Merganser | "Yellow-shafted" Flicker | Black-tailed Gnatcatcher | Northern Waterthrush |
| Virginia Rail | Eastern Phoebe | Mountain Bluebird | Northern Cardinal |
| Upland Sandpiper (except fall) | Cassin's Kingbird | Townsend's Solitaire | Indigo Bunting |
| Marbled Godwit | Steller's Jay | Sage Thrasher | Painted Bunting |
| Red-necked Phalarope | American Crow | Brown Thrasher | Swamp Sparrow |
| | Red-breasted Nuthatch | Nashville Warbler | White-throated Sparrow |
| | White-breasted Nuthatch | "Myrtle" Warbler | "Slate-colored" Junco |
| | | | Eastern Meadowlark |
| | | | Bronzed Cowbird |

| EL PASO-LAS CRUCES RARE BIRDS COMMITTEE: | | | |
|--|--|--------------|--|
| Jeff Donaldson | 10604 Rayito Pl., El Paso, TX 79924 | 915/821-2242 | |
| Lorraine Hartshorne | 812 Jornada, Las Cruces, NM 88005 | 505/524-7029 | |
| Randy Hill | 1215 N. Third St., Las Cruces, NM 88005 | 505/524-3498 | |
| Bettie Roberts | 2817 Cabot, El Paso, TX 79935 | 915/591-0421 | |
| John Sproul | 601 W. Vandell #25, El Paso, TX 79902 | 915/545-5157 | |
| Scott Wilson | 2808 Taylor, El Paso, TX 79930 | 915/566-3843 | |
| Barry Zimmer | 200 Wallington #93, El Paso, TX 79902 | 915/545-5184 | |
| Kevin Zimmer | Biology Dept., Box 3AF, NMSU, Las Cruces, NM 88003 | 505/522-6093 | |



OBSERVATIONS - October 24 to November 22

Very exciting birding continued during this period with the appearance of a number of accidental and casual species in the area.



11/3 (BJ,RW); 5 Bonaparte's Gulls at NEOP 10/28 (BJ,RW) and 1 at Madden Lake 11/3 (BJ,RW). Two Herring Gulls were observed at FHR 11/3 (BJ,RW) and 1 there 11/17 (BJ,mob). Two COMMON GROUND DOVES studied at Owen's 11/2 (JF,BR, et al.) are of special interest. An imm. male Anna's Hummingbird was at an e. El Paso feeder 10/28 (DT). On 11/22, several hummingbirds were reported as having been present at Mt. Park feeders for awhile - both adult and imm. male Anna's, a male Broad-tailed, and an adult and an imm. male Rufous (JB). A "Yellow-shafted" Flicker was at Owen's 11/2 (JF).

LOONS - FALCONS

Most notable are the loons being seen in the area this year. Following the 1 reported last month (2nd loon sighting since 1971), another COMMON LOON was observed and photographed at Northeast Oxidation Ponds (NEOP) 10/28 (BJ,RW), 1 studied at Fort Hancock Reservoir (FHR) 11/3 (BJ,RW), and 2 at Madden Lake 11/17 (BJ,mob). A Horned Grebe was at NEOP 10/28 (BJ,RW), and 2 there 11/4 (JF,BJ,mob). Two W. Grebes were at NEOP 10/28 (BJ,RW), 1 at Madden Lake and 2 at FHR 11/3 (BJ,RW), 3 at NEOP and 2 at Newman Power Station 11/4 (BJ,JF,mob), and 4 at Madden Lake 11/17 & 11/18 (BJ,RW,mob). An Am. White Pelican was also present at Madden Lake 11/17 & 11/18 (BJ,RW,mob). A possible Am. Bittern was at Feather Lake 11/10 (JF). Snow Geese were appearing in the area with 1 reported from n.e. El Paso 10/29 (LB,KB), 15 seen flying over Fred Wilson Rd. in a southward direction that same day (BJ), approximately 25 were flying overhead at Owen's Farm 11/2 (BR,JF,et al.), 1 at Madden Lake and 3 in a field nearby 11/3 (BJ,RW), and 2 were at Feather Lake 11/17 (JG). A female Wood Duck was observed at the Ashley Ponds 10/28 (BJ,RW) and a male was at Randel's Pool that same day (JoD). Two male Buffleheads were at a pond back of Owen's 11/2 (JF,BR), 1 at FHR 11/3 (BJ,RW), and 2 at NEOP 11/4 (BJ,JF,mob). A male Hooded Merganser was at the Gary Lane pond in the upper valley 11/11 (BJ,RW), and Common Mergansers (2 males, 1 female) at NEOP 11/4 (JF,BJ,mob). Several N. Harriers and a Cooper's Hawk were also noted there that day (JF,BJ,mob). A Harris' Hawk was at McNary 11/3 (BJ,RW), and a dark phased Red-tailed Hawk in the upper valley 11/2 (JF,BR). A Golden Eagle was observed perched on a utility pole in n.e. El Paso 11/6 (KB).

QUAIL - WOODPECKERS

On 10/28, Lesser Yellowlegs and a Pecora Sandpiper were present at the Ashley Ponds (BJ,RW). An adult Franklin's Gull in winter plumage was at FHR

FLYCATCHERS - VIREOS

On 10/28, a Black Phoebe was at NEOP (BJ,RW). A male Vermilion Flycatcher was noted at a pond back of Owen's 11/2 (JF,BR) and 2 there 11/11 (JoD). On 10/30, 2 Scrub Jays were reported as present for awhile on Mesa Verde in n.e. El Paso (fide JB). Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen and heard at Memorial Park 11/11 (AB) and 11/18 (AB,HB) and 1 seen in the El Paso Country Club area 11/18 (JoD). A very exciting first record for our area is an AMERICAN DIPPER observed at Apache Springs in the Franklins 11/8 (JG). It was seen and photographed there by others 11/14 and reported to still be present 11/16 (fide JS). Several W. Bluebirds at NEOP 10/28 (BJ,RW) were the first to be reported. On 11/2, a Sage Thrasher was noted at Owen's (JF,BR). Cedar Waxwings were seen in good numbers in the Sun Valley area of n.e. El Paso 11/16 & 11/17 (KB). Two Phainopeplas were at Mesa Verde as of 10/30 (fide JB) and a male and female at Huesco Tanks 11/11 (AG,MG).

WARBLERS - WEAVER FINCHES

A Yellow-rumped Warbler ("Myrtle" race) was reported 11/22 as present for awhile in Mt. Park (JB). A male Red Crossbill was observed at Memorial Park 11/11 (AB) and 4 there 11/18 (AB,HB). Several Pine Siskins at Madden Lake 11/3 (BJ,RW) were the first

reported this fall.

CONTRIBUTORS: Lois & Ken Beno, Anne & Hampton Bowman, Janet Brockmoller, Joyce Davis, Jane Fowler, Al & Madeline Gavit, Joe Guinn, Bob Johnson, John Sproul, Dennis Taylor, Ray Waite.
/Bettie Roberts, Observations Editor/
(591-0421)

CONSERVATION CAPSULES

NONGAME STAMP: The Texas Nongame Stamp and Decal are now available! You can get them for \$5 each at any Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. (TPWD) office or from El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon. Come to our next meeting and buy a pair of Whooping Cranes! Or send your order to: Nongame Stamp, P.O. Box 9655, El Paso, TX 79986. Make checks payable to "El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society", and please specify whether you want the stamp, the decal or both. Whatever your choice, you'll be directly supporting TPWD's programs for research, habitat acquisition, management and public education involving nongame wildlife.

NONGAME ART PRINT: The Jan 31 deadline for ordering the first Nongame Stamp art print is fast approaching. There are still no local art dealers/frame shops handling print orders, though several have expressed interest. Are you considering purchase of one of the signed, limited-edition prints of Ken Carlson's Whooping Crane portrait? You can give the Texas nongame program a real boost by simply calling or visiting local art dealers/frame shops and asking if you can get the print through them. They won't carry it unless they know the public is interested, so let's make our interests known. Don't know whom to contact? John Sproul (545-5157) will gladly provide you a list.

FRANKLIN MTS. STATE PARK: Conservationists are hopeful that 1985 will be the year the TPWD finally gets authority to spend funds for operation and maintenance of Franklin Mts. State Park. The current prohibition against such expenditures was the subject of a hearing before the Natural Resources Committee of the Texas Senate in El Paso Nov 15 (RR, Nov). The Wilderness Park

Coalition, to which EP/TPAS belongs, presented in detail its arguments for removing the prohibition. TPWD representatives pointed out that land acquisition for the park is nearly complete. And State Sen. Tati Santiesteban announced he would reintroduce next year the bill he authored in 1983 to remove the funding prohibition. The key, of course, will be the House of Representatives, where Santiesteban's 1983 bill died in committee. Franklins supporters will need to make their views known to their state representatives when the legislature convenes in January, if not sooner.

WEST TEXAS PEREGRINES: 1984 was another down year for Peregrine Falcons in the Big Bend area: only 1 eyrie fledged young, comparable to last year's disappointing results (RR, May). Is pesticide contamination a factor? The Natl. Park Service (NPS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) plan to analyze eggshell fragments and prey remains from several eyries in an attempt to find out.

MONTEZUMA QUAIL: Next time you visit Dog Canyon in Guadalupe Mts. Natl. Park, keep an eye open for Montezuma Quail. The NPS hopes to reestablish these birds in the park, where they were once a breeding species. To this end, some 50 Montezuma Quail will soon be released in suitable habitat in Dog Canyon. The birds are being transplanted from Arizona through an arrangement with the Arizona Game and Fish Dept. If you do see Montezuma Quail in the park, please report your sightings to the Natl. Park Service.

PIPING PLOVER: On Nov 8, the USFWS proposed listing various populations of the Piping Plover as either endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Continued destruction and disturbance of breeding habitat prompted this action. Endangered status is proposed for the breeding population in the Great Lakes region, while the breeding populations of the northern Great Plains and the Atlantic Coast are proposed for threatened status, as is the

wintering population. Piping Plovers winter along the southern Atlantic Coast and the Gulf Coast, including coastal Texas.

DU MIGRATES SOUTH: Ducks Unlimited, the private conservation organization dedicated to conserving wetland habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife is rapidly increasing its habitat protection and enhancement efforts in the continental U.S. Since its inception in 1937, DU's focus has been on the rich waterfowl production areas of Canada's Prairie Provinces. In 1974, it broadened its scope to include wintering areas in Mexico, and last year it decided for the first time to undertake projects in important waterfowl nesting areas in the U.S. -- in North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and Alaska. Now, the group has announced a program to fund waterfowl conservation projects in all 50 states. Beginning this year, it will make 7.5% of the funds it raises available to state wetland projects the following year. Called MARSH, an acronym for Matching Aid to Restore States Habitat, the program is expected to channel some \$3 million to state wildlife agencies for such projects in 1985.

NEW PESTICIDE REGS PROPOSED: On Oct 23, the Texas Dept. of Agriculture proposed new pesticide-application standards intended to protect farmers, farm workers and rural residents from unnecessary risk of pesticide poisoning. The standards address:

- re-entry intervals, the time from pesticide application until it is safe to return to a treated field;
- warning methods, which involve the posting of flags around treated fields;
- prior notification to area residents before serial applications of pesticides; and
- situations where pesticide applications are prohibited.

Some agricultural-chemical and farming interests oppose the proposed standards. Farm-worker and environmental groups support them and hope to see them strengthened in certain areas. Texas has no similar standards at present. If

you think they're a good idea, let Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower (Tex. Dept. Agr., P.O. Box 12847, Austin, TX 78711) know you support his agency's initiative in this area.

/John Sproul/

HEADED FOR LA?

If you'll be in Los Angeles between Nov 6, 1984 and Feb 4, 1985, pay a visit to the L.A. County Natural History Museum. You will feel right at home. On display in the ground-floor Changing Gallery is the exhibit "Cacti and Succulents of West Texas", a series of color photographs by El Paso's Clark Champie. Some of Clark's finest work is on display, with particular emphasis on portraits of cacti and succulents of the Franklin Mountains.



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RIPARIAN ECOSYSTEM CONFERENCE

riparian (adj.): of, pertaining to, or situated or dwelling on the bank of a river or other body of water.

Riparian ecosystems are extremely important to wildlife in the desert southwest, and they'll be the focus of a major conference at U. Arizona next April 16-18. It's billed as "Riparian Ecosystems and Their Management: Reconciling Conflicting Uses". For details, you should contact Dr. R. Roy Johnson, #125 Biological Sciences E., U. Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

THE ROADRUNNER is sent to all members of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society. Nonmembers can subscribe for \$4 per year. Make checks payable to "El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society" and mail to: RR Editor PO Box 9655, El Paso, TX 79986. Please send any changes or corrections in name, address, or telephone # to this address.

Warm greetings
and best wishes for a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a very happy

NEW YEAR



NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
Chapter

Membership Application

Yes, I'd like to join. Local Chapter:

El Paso/Trans-Pecos
W10 7XCH

Membership Category desired:

- Individual/\$30 (H) Senior Citizen
- Family/\$38 (J) Individual/\$21(N)
- Student/\$18 (K) Senior Citizen
- Family/\$23 (P)

This is a new renewal membership.

Name.....

Address.....

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Please make checks payable to National Audubon Society. Mail to Bob Johnson, 5109 Paris, El Paso, TX 79924.

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