



The Sequoia



BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 19, No. 9

May 1970

Sequoia Audubon Society is a branch of National Audubon Society. Its purpose is to enjoy and safeguard the wildlife of the Bay Area. All interested persons are welcomed at field trips, bird walks and monthly general meetings. President, Dr. Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Dr., Hillsborough 347-0912 | Editor, Mr. J. L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo, 344-5497.

MEETINGS

- May 7
Thursday
8:00 PM
BOARD MEETING at the home of President Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Drive, Hillsborough. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.
- May 16⁵
Thursday
8:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING at the Beresford Park Recreation Center, 28th and the Alameda, in San Mateo. "Engineers, Environment, and Involvement" is the title of the program to be presented by Mr. Eugene Huggins, Chief, Public Affairs Office of the Arm Corps of Engineers. Illustrated by color slides covering the good and bad aspects of the Corps' projects in this district, Mr. Huggins will discuss the role the Corps has played and the role the Corps should be playing in supporting environmental quality as regional and national objectives.

FIELD TRIPS

Chairman: Jean Jones 344-9339)

- May 9
Saturday
6:00 AM
MYSTER TRIP
LEADERS: Jean Jones (344-9339) and Jack Morrill (344-5497)
MEETING PLACE: Meet at 6:00 AM sharp at the parking lot at California and Broadway, in Burlingame (So. Pacific lot). Wear walking shoes, and clothing for both cool and warm weather. Bring a lunch, and whatever you may want in the way of snacks for a long day. We will visit a park requiring a small entry fee. We expect to be back between 6:00 and 7:00 PM, possibly a little later. There are still a few vacancies so call Jean Jones if you want to come.
- May 16
Saturday
McCOY RANCH (Livermore Valley)
LEADERS: Pete and Betsy Peterson (326-9090)
MEETING PLACE: Meet by the flagpole on Livermore Avenue, in Livermore. Allow an hour's driving time from the Peninsula. bring a lunch. We will join the Santa Clara Audubon Society for this trip, to an area where Phainopeplas, Lewis' Woodpeckers and Yellow-billed Magpies are seen.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

- SANTA CRUZ - March 22 (Ralph Hunter, Leader)
On a warm, sunny day, the party saw loons, grebes, and Marbled Murrelets at Natural Bridges State Beach. A Green Heron was also seen by some. Pigeon Guillemots were seen swimming near their nesting holes in the cliffs along West Cliff Drive, along with Wandering Tattlers and other shore birds. Lunch was enjoyed at Cowell Redwood Park, a fine example of riparian woodland. The singing of warblers and vireos enlivened the afternoon, and the day ended with the observation of a Winter Wren, the 70th species for the day.
- TILDEN PARK, BERKELEY - April 11 (Florence Richardson, Leader).
Half a dozen pairs of newly-arrived Bullock's Orioles were building nests around the Farmyard and Laurel Canyon, a bushtit's hanging nest was noted in a eucalyptus tree, and a Steller's Jay was assembling a mass of twigs, hardly a nest as yet. Joining the Ohlone Audubon group, led by Vi Homem of Golden Gate Audubon, after lunch, Jewel Lake was circled. Some winter visitors had departed, and summer nesting birds were beginning to arrive. Hummers were scarce, but Anna's, Allen's and Rufous Hummers were seen. The day's total of 45 species included a female Hooded Merganser, Kingfisher, House and Bewick's Wrens, Thrasher, Myrtle Warbler, and Grosbeaks.

SANTA CRUZ BIRD CLUB OFFSHORE TRIP

The Santa Cruz Bird Club has again extended us an invitation to join them on their annual boat trip to see Black-footed Albatrosses and other pelagic birds. The trip will be on Monday, June 8, leaving the Stagnaro Wharf at Santa Cruz at 7:30 AM. The cost is \$2.00. Send check for a reservation to:

Leavitt McQuesten
120 Otis Street
Santa Cruz, Calif. 95060

Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

CONSERVATION NOTES

SST

One of the greatest threats to the quality of life for man and wildlife is the Supersonic Transport. According to the Audubon Leader, April 10 issue, "the Administration goes doggedly on pushing the next 'miracle,' the SST. The House Transportation Subcommittee (which includes Reps. Minshall of Ohio, McFall of California and Boland and Conte of Massachusetts) will take up the bill late in April, with the full Transportation Dept. appropriations due for consideration late in May."

CLEAN WATER ENFORCEMENT -- OR NOT?

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (WQCB) during March and April issued "hook-up" bans to several Bay Area cities, including San Francisco, Redwood City, San Carlos, Belmont, Milpitas, San Jose-Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Palo Alto, Livermore and Pleasanton. The ban is against connecting any more sewers from new buildings to dump wastes into the inadequate treatment plants discharging into San Francisco Bay. WQCB authority to issue bans or \$6,000 a day fines to polluters was established in the California Porter-Cologne Act of 1969.

Seven of the South Bay Sewage agencies have formed a committee to fight the bans and Mayor Alioto has threatened to sue WQCB, testing the Porter-Cologne Act in the courts.

Assemblyman Carl Britschgi, Redwood City, one of the authors of the Porter-Cologne Act, now says he may introduce a resolution in Sacramento to rescind the ban until the legislature can complete studies of water pollution laws.

CCDC - Coast Conservation & Development Commission

Assemblyman George Milias, at a recent public meeting sponsored by the Sierra Club, discussed his bill, AB-640, co-sponsored by Assemblyman Ryan, to establish a commission to study the state's coastal areas and submit to the legislature comprehensive plans for their conservation and development. Mr. Milias said he hopes for massive public support similar to that which brought BCDC into existence.

AB-640 is opposed by Los Angeles and Orange counties. And closer to home, Robert Stallings, former San Mateo County Manager, now a lobbyist in Sacramento, reportedly is organizing opposition of coastal landowners and developers.

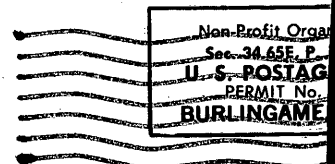
PESCADERO DAM

The County Board of Supervisors will hold a second public hearing in May on the proposed Pescadero Creek dam. Watch local newspapers or call the Board of Supervisors in Redwood City to get the date and location (not yet announced at this writing). Try to attend. Public interest will influence the final decision.

VOTE FOR CONSERVATION ON JUNE 2

Use your June 2 ballot to promote conservation -- there is a candidate for each office whose record proves his interest in improving environmental quality. Do not rely on words alone, look at the record.

Marian Lockwood, Conservation Chairman



Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Montgomery
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