HORTHWEST ARKANSAS AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

"The sunshine speaks, and its voice is a bird---"

CHAPTER MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS

July 6, Sunday, 2:00 p.m. Board meeting at Ellen Neaville's home, 829 S. 11th, Rogers. All meetings are open to any member who wishes to attend.

July 7, Monday, 7:30 p.m. Regular meeting at the Benton County Public Service Building in Bentonville, on Highway 102 West. The building is on the north side of the highway, about 1 mile west of the junction of 102 and U. S. Highway 71. Vivian and Joe Stockton will present a program on rehabilitating injured birds of prey. See article on page 3 for details.

July 19, Saturday, 6:00 p.m. Evening picnic and birding walks at Lake Fayetteville. Meet at the Environmental Study Center, 511 Lakeview Drive in Springdale. Bring food, drink and binoculars. There will be short, easy walks around the lake area as well as longer ones. Members of all ages and physical disabilities will find some areas accessible.

August 4, Monday, 7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting at the Lake Fayetteville Environmental Study Center, (address above). Program will be a slide or movie presentation on the first Arkansas Audubon Ecology Camp which will have been held June 14-20 at Camp Ozark near Mt. Ida. NWAAS members on the camp staff are Hal Brown (Director), Susan Heinrichs, Jan Lanter, Mark Mayse, Jeff Moran, Ellen Neaville, and Chuck Preston. Former member Fred Burnside is also on the staff. Linda Kauble, member from Springdale, is a camper for the week.

August 22 or 23 (weather permitting) Star Watch. See next newsletter for details. September (date to be announced) Geology Field Trip.

FAYETTEVILLE WASTEWATER TREATMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN - D.P. -

The purpose of the Citizen's Advisory Committee is to examine options open to the City in addressing wastewater management problems currently existing or likely to exist by Year 2005, and to advise the City Council and its consultants. The solution will be the most cost-effective system for Fayetteville, which is also environmentally sound, economically and technologically feasible, and socially and institutionally acceptable. The CAC consists of private citizens, public officials, and representatives of economic interests and public interest/conservation-oriented groups. A 201 Facilities Plan and Environmental Impact Statement will result from the planning process.

In May, a Coordination and Orientation Meeting and Training Sessions were held to familiarize the CAC with laws pertaining to wastewater treatment and the steps involved in the 201 and EIS processes. In June, the CAC made a field trip to the Treatment Flant during which the operation was explained and questions were answered. Workshops and Public meetings are scheduled for 26 June, 2 and 7 July, 22 Sept. and 24 Oct. The last workshop will involve the Final Public Hearing and review of the Draft EIS. Other meetings will concern decision points along the planning process. Meetings will be held in the Board Room of City Hall, at 7:00 p.m. Because Fayetteville's sewage effluent is discharged to the White River upstream of Beaver Lake, which serves as the drinking water supply for most of the area's population, this process should be a concern of this Chapter's membership. ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE URGED TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS. Feel free to call Don Petty, NWAAS Representative on the CAC, if you have questions, comments, or suggestions. or wish to discuss the process and problems (521-5825)

ISSUES FOR CONCERN

ALASKA: UNFINISHED BUSINESS, by Frank Reuter

The Alaska Lands issue has not been settled, but there is some hope that 1980 can bring a successful conclusion to a long conservation effort. Although the House passed the strong Udall/Anderson bill by an overwhelming margin back in May of 1979, unless the Senate acts before this session of Congress is completed in 1980, a House passed bill will be negated for a second time, and the nation will again have nothing upon which to base land use planning in Alaska. Alaska's Senators have managed to schedule the floor fight on the bill for after July 4th, leaving little time to work out any compromise bill in case a weak bill passes the Senate, and offering them the opportunity to filibuster the bill to death in a joint House-Senate Committee if they not get their wishes.

The only defense against this strategy is for the environmental community to make the same outcry it did to the House. If a strong bill passes the Senate, the delaying tactics will fail. The National Audubon Society and the Alaska Coalition support the strong Tsongas-Roth substitute and are urging Senators to vote for that bill as opposed to the Committee Bill, which is significantly weaker.

The Committee bill utilizes designations such as National Conservation Areas, National Recreation Areas, and Special Management Areas of National Forests. ostensible reason for establishing such units is not to promote recreation or conservation, but to establish areas where mining and access would be allowed. Senators Church, Ford, Metzenbaum, and Tsongas commented on this pattern in their additional views to the bill: "Establishing BLM and Forest Service areas on wildlife-rich National interest lands is not appropriate. Because, under previous acts of Congress, the State of Alaska and Native corporations have already selected the best lands for commodity development, Congress does not need to carve BLM or Forest Service areas out of proposed wildlife refuges in order to meet economic needs of Alaska or the country at large. Fragmenting the proposed and existing refuges and monuments among various agencies will only increase the cost of management and decrease the level of wildlife protection and research."

In contrast, the Tsongas-Roth substitute recommends that conservation acreages be incorporated into the National Park, Wildlife Refuge, and Wild and Scenic River Systems.....Such action will protect large segments of our last great wilderness.

OTHER ISSUES:

NOTE: Recent news indicates that Senate debate on the Alaska Lands legislation will begin on July 21. The Senate will be in session only from July 21 to Aug. 6, when it will recess for the Democratic National Convention.

- Fewer than a dozen pairs of desert-nesting bald eagles remain in central Arizona, along the banks of the Salt and Verde rivers, near Phoenix. Their continued existence is threatened by the promoters of Orme Dam, which would destroy the nesting area.
- 2. House-Senate conferees are working on a bill which includes a provision allowing the President -- on recommendation of the Energy Mobilization Board and with the concurrence of the Congress -- to set aside almost any federal law "which presents a substantial impediment to the completion of a project." When completed, the bill must go back to the full House and Senate for approval.
- 3. A proposal for expansion of the Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area in Idaho, has been sent to Congress by Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus. Involved is shrub-grasslands which provide food for the eagles, falcons, and hawks who nest along The Snake River Canyon. Opposition to the proposal comes from determined ranchers who hope that someday an irrigation project will open the area to farming, which would alter the area now providing food for the birds.

WE HOPE YOU ARE CONCERNED. CALL OR WRITE US IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFOR-MATION ON THE ISSUES MENTIONED, OR THE CHILKAT RIVER EAGLE CONGREGATION, THE COASTAL PROTECTION BILLS, OR ECOLOGY WORKSHOP TOURS TO ARIZONA OR THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

CHAPTER NEWS

From Ellen Neaville:

Officers and committee chairpersons need official stationery for correspondence. For example, Edwardses, membership committee, send about 20 letters to new and lapsing members each month. We need your artistic help in designing a letterhead. Please send me your ideas or designs—I'll take them to the Board for a joint decision on the choices. (829 South 11th St., Rogers, AR 72756)

If you have been absent from recent meetings and field trips, your Board of Directors needs to learn why--in order to plan future meetings and trips you will want and will be able to attend. Please call the officers who live nearest you, and talk it over; or write your comments on a post card and mail it to me.

Joe Cook, NWAAS Director, is at home at 1 Finger Drive in Bella Vista following surgery in Tulsa. We wish Joe a speedy recovery and many, many bluebirds.

STOCKTONS TO SPEAK ON INJURED BIRD CARE

Joe and Vivian Stockton, NWAAS members from Siloam Springs, will present the program for the regular meeting on July 7th, at 7:30 p.m. (see calendar).

Vivian and Joe will talk about raptor rehabilitation. The Stocktons are licensed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to care for injured birds of prey. Only three such rehabilitators are licensed in Arkansas. The care ranges from rearing of young birds (which can involve around-the-clock feeding) to nursing injured birds until they can be released. Many of the birds the Stocktons care for have been shot, including bald eagles.

In addition to the Stockton's presentation, you will hear about the Eagle Awareness Program, initiated by Jane Gulley and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1979. The program is designed to educate the public about birds of prey, particularly golden and bald eagles.

Because Beaver Lake provides winter habitat for eagles, NWAAS could furnish a valuable service in promoting this public awareness program.

Please try to attend this important meeting.



BIRDS FOR SPECIAL CONCERN

Pied-billed Grebe Double-crested Cormorant Anhinga Great Blue Heron Little Blue Heron Great Egret Snowy Egret Louisiana Heron Least Bittern Black-crowned Night Heron Yellow-crowned Night Heron Glossy Ibis Ruddy Duck Hooded Merganser Cooper's Hawk Sharp-shinned Hawk Red-shouldered Hawk Bald Eagle American Coot

Purple Gallinule King Rail Least Tern Barn Owl Red-cockaded Woodpecker Willow Flycatcher Western Kingbird Brown Creeper Short-billed Marsh Wren Bewick's Wren Yellow Warbler Swainson's Warbler Bachman's Warbler Blue-winged Warbler Great-tailed Grackle Bachman's Sparrow Rufous-crowned Sparrow Grasshopper Sparrow

The American Heritage Program wants information concerning breeding locations, date sighted, nests, eggs, and fledged young, for the birds listed above. Contact The Nature Conservancy, 514 Continental Bldg., Little Rock, 72201, phone (501) 376-3247 for a reporting form.

A documentary film entitled "The Secrets of Limestone Groundwaters" describes how springs and wells get polluted in limestone areas such as the Ozarks. Live action shots, animation, and picturesque scenery of Arkansas and Missouri enliven the film. It may be borrowed from the Arkansas Water Resources Center, Ozark Hall, Room 223, U. of A. Fayetteville, AR, 72201. Phone 575-443.

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC. P.O. Box 564, Fayetteville, AR 72701

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