



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 19, No. 2

November 1990

BARRENS WETLANDS TARGETED FOR RESERVOIR

One of our favorite wildlife/birding areas has landed in the crosshairs of the developers: The Barrens Wetlands. In this case the sponsor is the State of Utah, which would like to build a gigantic shallow diked-in impoundment (reservoir) to contain Bear River water. The purpose of this reservoir is to store water for export to the Wasatch Front or to irrigate present dryland acreage north of Tremonton, if and when the demand for it arises. At present there are no customers.

The map shows where the "reservoir" will be, essentially filling in the entire Barrens: 3,540 - 4,470 acres, depending on which design is chosen. It would flood an area famous for shorebird nesting, crane nesting and staging, and good waterfowl and wading bird habitat. It would also flood hundreds of acres of good farmland.

The amount of water stored would be 35,000 to 100,000 acre feet, depending on design. To give you an idea of how big this is, Hyrum Dam holds back 18,800 acre feet and floods 475 acres. Thus the Barrens would hold at least twice the water and could be almost ten times in surface area. Unlike Hyrum Reservoir, the impoundment itself would not have recreational value. It will be 10-20 feet deep (when full) and it is anticipated that the already low water quality of Bear River water will deteriorate rapidly due to evaporation and incorporation of the alkali on the present Barrens surface. It is unlikely fish could tolerate living in the reservoir.

The anticipated cost to the state, between \$27 and \$79 million (to be paid by taxpayers), does not include the yet uncalculated costs of treating the water to make it acceptable for human consumption and delivering it the 100 miles to Wasatch customers.

BAS intends to do everything in its power to prevent the building of this monstrous boondoggle. We will know on November 15 whether or not the state will attempt to fund the Barrens Dam this year. Of course, our lobby network will be working against the funding, but we anticipate that we will need much more than lobbying to kill the plan.

Please see BARRENS on page 3

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CALENDAR

Thursday, November 8. Audubon General Meeting. 7:30 p.m., Logan City Building, 255 North Main. Karen Matsumoto-Grah and Steve Archibald will show slides and give a presentation on the Bridgerland Audubon Junior Naturalists' Expedition to Yellowstone. A short briefing on the Audubon Education Program will be included.

Wayne Martinson, Audubon's Utah state legislative lobbyist, will attend. He will share his ideas on what he foresees for the 1990-91 legislative session. He wants to hear what issues you think are important. (You're his employers.)

Saturday, November 10. Deadline for submissions to *The Stilt*. This month Thanksgiving will interrupt the normal printing schedule. Please have all announcements, reports, etc., ready early so we can mail on schedule. Personal experiences, opinions, comments, ideas, jokes—anything you care to share with the membership is invited. Please have it in legible form, on time. Call Pat Gordon, 752-6561, to query. This newsletter is what you make it.

Wednesday, November 14. BAS Planning Meeting. Logan Library, 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday, November 25. 3 p.m. at A Book Store, 130 North 100 East. Celebrate Logan Canyon! An open house featuring photos, music and written/oral interpretations by local friends of Logan Canyon. Seating is limited, so come early.

Thursday-Saturday, November 29-December 1. Holly Faire. BAS will continue the tradition of operating a table in the children's room, selling bird feeders to build and ornaments to paint. If you are willing to work for a two-hour shift, contact Pat Gordon, 752-6561.

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, November 10. How to Keep From Getting Lost. Geography professor Ted Alsop will hold a workshop on mapping and orienteering on the USU Campus. Following an indoor introduction he will send us out to find buried treasure. A great outing for all ages. BRING A COMPASS. Ted will provide maps. Meet in Room 105 of the Natural Resources Building at 1:00 p.m. Finish by about 3 p.m.

Saturday, November 17. Attracting Birds to Feeders. Visit several homes to see how best to attract birds and to identify those birds coming to the feeders. Bring binoculars and dress warmly. Leave from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot at 8 a.m. and return by noon.

Saturday, December 8. Weeds in Winter. Using a key we will try to identify the common weeds by their seed heads. At the same time we will observe what birds and mammals might be feeding on them. Leave from the Fred Meyer parking lot at 1 p.m. and return by 4 p.m. Trip location will depend on snow conditions.

Saturday, December 15. Annual Christmas Bird Count. Call Keith Archibald (752-9225) if you wish to participate.



LECTURES

Throughout this fall and winter, a series of distinguished scholars will visit the College of Natural Resources, Utah State University, and address various aspects of how complex natural resource decisions are made. To illustrate this complicated process, each speaker will examine some aspect of the Pacific Northwest old-growth/northern spotted owl controversy. Lectures are Tuesday evenings and are free and open to the public. For further information contact Jim Long at 750-2574, or Tom Edwards, 750-2509.

Tuesday, November 13. Dr. J. W. Thomas speaks on "Biopolitics—the Role of Science in Natural Resource Policy."

Tuesday, November 27. Dr. John Beuter speaks on "The Evolution of Social and Economic Considerations in Natural Resource Management."

WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS

Project Learning Tree. An environmental education workshop focusing on forest environments will be held Friday and Saturday, November 15 and 17 at Edith Bowen School. Interdisciplinary curriculum. Cost is \$8. University credit available. Please call Karen Matsumoto-Grah for details.

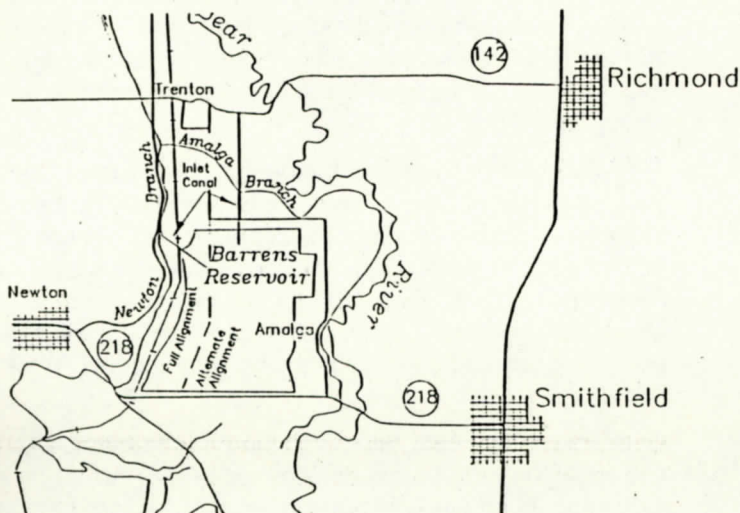
BARRENS

Continued from page 1.

How can you help? The conservation committee desperately needs your help to succeed. We will hold our first strategy meeting on November 20 at my house, 730 Hillcrest, at 7 pm. Our only hope is a massive education campaign on what a great place the Barrens is: media day, field trips, tours, letter writing, poster contests—the works. Please come and add your ideas. We simply cannot afford to lose the Barrens.

If you would like more information, call me at 753-7744.

— Alice Lindahl



ADVENTURES IN BIRDLAND

The Case of Lumpalong

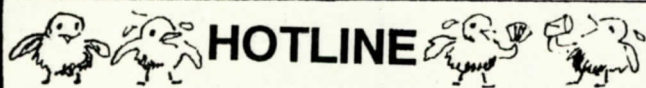
If you've been reading this column for any length of time, you know that in terms of bird doctoring I rank high among the phenomenally inept. Therefore karma decrees that I get sick birds. Like Lumpalong.

Lumpalong is a house finch with a growth on her head. It's half the size of her skull, completely covering her right eye. Of course, being a bird, she doesn't realize there's anything wrong. She flies to the feeder and eats seeds with the other finches just as if the queen herself had lumps. Actually, it's not that simple. She gets airborne all right, but when she turns downwind she loses sight of the bird feeder and forgets why she's flying, and so she lands. Turns back into the wind to land, and lo and behold, there's a bird feeder. ("My, wouldn't a sunflower seed go well, right about now. I think I'll take off. Flapflapflapflap. Hm. What am I doing up here, for hevvinsakes? Better land; I might fall.") It usually takes her several attempts and a momentary calm to get there.

But once in the feeder, she seems healthy enough, chowing down on seeds with the rest of the finches. Her lump is some advantage, in fact: she fails to see the grosbeaks if they land on her right, and so remains to eat when the other finches are driven away. (This is thoroughly mystifying and not a little deflating to the grosbeaks; I'm treating several grosbeaks with inferiority complexes, but that's another column.)

Drinking is a bit rougher. Getting to the water is the hard part. With only one eye, she has the depth perception of a croissant, and constantly over- or under-shoots the edge of the water pan. Overshooting isn't too bad; she lands in the water, of course, but she's become very clean. Undershooting is less convenient; she usually bounces off the side of the pan and topples down by the concrete side of the patio. More often than not she winds up with her good eye staring at a solid concrete wall and is convinced she's tumbled down a well. My, what dolorous peeps. But eventually she gets herself turned around and flounders away.

The biggest danger is cats. Our house is known far and wide as the Gordon Restaurant For Hungry Cats Who Can Avoid The Idiot Who Runs Around Throwing Dirt At Them And Yelling Obscenities. Lumpalong often feeds on seeds scattered on the ground beneath the feeder, perfect prey for the ninja-cat or the pillow-cat or some other visitor. And, eventually, that was her undoing: she was blind-sided by a cat. The ninja-cat wasn't the culprit, however, nor the dancing cat from across the street. No, as if to demonstrate the fundamental fairness of the cosmos, it was my own clumsy, fat, declawed cat. I was mowing the lawn at the time, and witnessed the whole affair. I even played my own minor part.



Notable sightings from the autumn of '90 include an early October male broadtail hummingbird from the feeder of Keith Dixon. Keith also noted unusually large numbers of white-crowned sparrows at his feeder.

Keith Archibald has twice sighted a common egret in the valley marshes this fall. Other birds on his autumn list include both Nashville and Townsend warblers, and a lesser golden plover from the Amalga Barrens. Archibald noted one trip to the Barrens where nary a bird could be seen. Strange? Approaching the blind he noted an immature peregrine falcon perched blithely atop the structure. Keith also reported an albino, or albinistic sandhill crane in the valley.

Jane Kidd, hawkwatcher extraordinaire, has yet to be contacted regarding her vigil atop the Wellsvilles, but rumor has it that 8 or 9 peregrines, a broadtail hawk, four or five Lewis' woodpeckers and one "kettle" of 80-90 Swainson's hawks are among her sightings.

Lumpalong was happily eating sunflower seeds with some friends. Daisy wheezed through the uncut grass. The other birds scattered. Lumpalong looked up, failed to see the cat, probably assumed her friends were startled by a tree, and went back to feeding. Daisy pounced, knocking Lumpalong flat with one declawed paw. I sprang into action. Seizing the closest thing to hand (my glove) to throw at her, I stepped into the hollow around a sprinkler, stumbled, and pitched the glove over the fence.

Thoroughly astounded, Daisy let go of the bird long enough to stare at me, her mouth agape. I rose to my knees and had a sneezing fit (hay fever). Daisy, never before confronted by somebody on his hands and knees sneezing at her, wisely retired. Poor Lumpalong lay in the grass, shaking, perhaps with laughter. As soon as I could see, I gathered her up and put her gently in the screen tray beneath the feeder, where she could lie in the sun. After a while she sat up, and eventually she flew off into the fence. Last time I saw her, she was resting in a sheltered hollow of a pile of chimney tiles, safe from both cats and The Idiot. I hope she survives. We've been through so much together.

— TJG

THE WHOOPING CRANES' LAST STAND

Nancy and Bob Ballou served as volunteers at the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico. Bob wrote this update on the whooping cranes plight.

By Bob Ballou

Last winter the cranes in the Rio Grande Valley and Mexico faced an uncertain future.

One possible future is that they will all gradually grow old and die without reproducing, thus ending the exciting and hopeful experiment started 15 years ago. The dream has been to create a new flock of whoopers by having greater sandhill cranes at Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Idaho serve as foster parents. Until a year ago, eggs from both the whoopers' ancestral breeding grounds in Woods Buffalo National Park in the Northwest Territories, and from the Fish and Wildlife Service Patuxent Research Center in Maryland, were brought to Grays Lake and placed in sandhill crane nests.

The sandhill crane foster parents did their part marvelously. The eggs hatched, the chicks were raised, and they followed their "parents" down the migration path to the cranes' regular wintering area centered at the Bosque Refuge. Expectations ran high as the population of whoopers topped 30 birds. Shortly, though, there was cause for worry. The whoopers were not pairing as they

matured when reaching four or five years old. They still aren't, and drought at Grays Lake plus mortality from power lines and other causes have whittled the Rio Grande population down to its present size—12 birds. Additionally, it seems that only the adult male whoopers are returning to Grays Lake Refuge for the breeding season. The adult females have chosen to spend their summers elsewhere, mostly in Wyoming.

Another possible future may be in store for this small flock. Almost a year ago the decision was made to discontinue providing whooping crane eggs for sandhill cranes to hatch and raise. Instead, an adult female whooper from Patuxent was released last spring at Grays Lake. She almost immediately paired and mated with one of her kind, but no eggs were produced. Then last fall she refused to migrate, evidently never having learned that behavior as a captive bird. Her mate was eventually forced by weather to fly south, and she disappeared.

At the Bosque this winter attempts have been made to capture one of the adult females wintering here, but so far with no luck. If successfully captured, she will be held in a large enclosure near Grays Lake until spring and then released. Since she has already migrated a number of times, that should be no problem; but will she pair, lay eggs, and successfully raise youngsters? We hope!

As a point of interest: Visitors to the Bosque frequently see six of the whooping cranes mixed in with the thousands of sandhills feeding in the cornfields or resting on the marshes.

— from *The Pileated Post*
Flathead Audubon Society
Bigfork, Montana

THE WELLSVILLE HAWK WATCH

An Oriental Perspective

Among the 25 or 30 hardy souls who climbed the Wellsvilles on September 29 to see hawks were two students recently arrived from Japan. In spite of struggles with our language, they graciously agreed to provide reports on their mountainous experience. I find their writing so charming that I want to share it with you as it was given to me, without correcting unimportant mistakes in grammar. The first writer is Ikuko Saito, or "Iko" as in "economics," which is her major; then we hear from Keisuke Nakazaki, or "Kay," a forestry student.

— Pat

I was so fascinated with the illustration of flying hawks on the notice of the trip to Wellsvilles right away when I saw it on the campus board. I got really excited when I just imagined some hawks soaring in the blue sky. I was very happy to join this trip.

We walked up the mountain for about three hours and a half, passing through the woods of aspen, fir, maple and other various small plants. Some of them were turned yellow and red brilliantly as if they let people and animals inform of the visit of fall and the time of preparation for the next cold season. Some of them had a lot of colorful berries, red, orange, white and purple, with their twigs bent for animals and birds to provide for the coming severe winter. They smelled and tasted of sunshine, wind. Every tree welcomed us with their leaves rustling softly.

Tickities, jungles [chickadees, juncoes] and other small birds also welcomed us and saw us off, twittering and humming tenderly, dancing among trees in the dazzling sunshine. Their chorus soothed my fatigue and made me feel comfortable and calm.

After a long but enjoyable walk with good companies, I arrived at the top of the mountain. The view from on the top was just spectacular. Blue sky without a cloud expanding far away, green farms, small-looking houses of various colors below my eyes, zigzag running long blue river, hazy mountains far ahead, blue large lakes. Everything before me was so wonderful that I forgot that I was really tired. It braced my energies. Nature is always tender as far as we obey its rules.

Suddenly a red-tailed hawk appeared high above my head. It was flying unhurriedly in the vast blue sky just like a victorious general. It looked solitary, but noble and beautiful. A little bit later, two hawks spiraled and soared into the sky. Thus, a lot of hawks appeared before me and showed their dignified and magnificent flights one after another and disappeared from my sight soon. I was very happy to watch such admirable birds.

I really appreciate those who planned this trip and taught me the wonder of wildlife and my good friends I have just known in this trip and especially wildlife in America and a lot of people who try to reserve such wonderful nature.

— Iko

A deep canyon was laying in wait for us to invite us into the abyss. A brave but a little shy bird was waiting for us above the ridges beyond the canyon.

I have never joined such a wonderful trip ever before, because I was born and have grown up at a big city, Tokyo. There are very few societies which hold such a trip or tour in my neighborhood. Therefore, I wondered whether I could join the trip without reservations.

When I went to Fred Meyer's parking lot with suspicion in

the morning, people coming there were all friendly and warmhearted. They welcomed me, who came from Far East, with open arms. Their smiles made me feel comfortable.

It was perfect beautiful weather on that day. We went into the canyon with a light step toward the summit. I followed close behind Dr. Allen W. Stokes on the way. I was able to touch his wide knowledge aboutt wildlife. Everything was so fresh for me that I could advance pleasurably in spite of the long and steep mountain path. Sometimes I could not help coming to a full stop in front of the brilliant red of berries. One of the most impressive things on the way was Dr. Stokes' explanation for the character of the leaf of a fir. I was fascinated by his words "friendly and flat" for the leaves. I thought that those words attested his profound knowledge of nature. Three hours and a half walk gave us a heavenly view and a cool breeze. The summit commanded a view of 360 degrees around us.

They were soaring gracefully and slowly above the scenery. They were the masters of the wind. They knew everything about the wind. They were flying in a circle slowly and slowly. Their figures were very beautiful and fresh for me, because I had never watched raptors at the outside of a cage at a zoo. I remembered the sorrowful eyes of hawks in the cage. I thought that their world was not the inside of a cage, but the skies.

I met a wonderful woman who has continued the observation of hawks every day as a volunteer. She was standing at the top and gazing at birds. Her eyes shone with kindness like the eyes of hawks shone with dignity.

At the same time that I wondered that such beautiful nature remained within several miles of a city, I thought that we had to preserve it forever.

I really enjoyed this trip. Everything was fresh and educational for me. Above all, it was very happy for me to be able to meet wonderful people. I really appreciate my friends who welcomed me to this trip.

— Kay

WHERE DO THE HAWKS GO?

The autumn of 1990 will be the most ambitious season of migration research to date for HawkWatch International, formerly "Western Foundation for Raptor Conservation," with projects in eight western states.

The centerpiece of the organization's research will continue to be the Goshute project in northeastern Nevada. This will be the 11th year of trapping and the eighth year of standardized counts in the Goshutes.

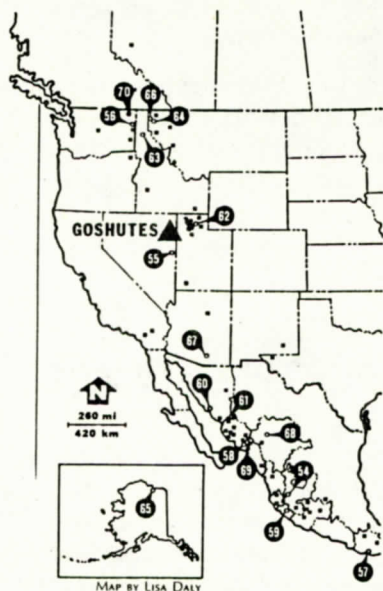
Last fall 14,512 migrant raptors were observed and 2,362 were captured and banded.

After five years of counts in the Manzano Mountains of central New Mexico, HWI will expand its research this year to include a banding program. They will also conduct standardized counts for the seventh year in the Wellsville Mountains in northern Utah.

Since studies in the Goshutes began in 1980 we have banded 10,736 raptors of 14 species, by far the largest raptor banding effort in western North America. Since our last summary of recoveries in the 1989 summer/fall newsletter we have received 14 additional recoveries and captured two previously banded birds, bringing our total reports to 70. Recent recoveries include nine from Mexico, single recoveries from the states of Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and two from Washington. Previously banded raptors that were subsequently captured at the Goshutes include a first year peregrine falcon banded in Alaska (see #65) and a 3-year-old sharp-shinned hawk originally banded in Montana (see #66).

Recent recoveries reinforce previous findings that many of the raptors passing through the Goshutes are wintering along the western coast of Mexico. Unfortunately, raptors are still regarded as vermin in Mexico and are frequently shot.

In response, HWI is seeking the funding to develop a full-time raptor education program in Mexico. We feel we can have a positive impact in Mexico as we try to improve environmental awareness and conservation education where they are certainly needed.



—from *Raptorwatch*,
newsletter for HawkWatch Int'l,
Summer/Fall 1990

THE TETON TREK

Hot Rocks in the Rain

My imagination turned the persistent beating of raindrops on my tent into the sound of a giant popcorn popper. The fresh smell in the air, however, was not that of melted butter. As I snuggled deeper into my goose down bag, my "hot rock" at my feet, I wondered if my first outing with the Bridgerland Audubon Society would be a wet one.

By Saturday morning the rain had stopped, and a sliver of sunshine gave us hope for a dry day. After a welcome breakfast of oatmeal and hot chocolate, the forty or so of us who had gathered to take in the grandeur of the Tetons headed in two different directions. (Some of us inadvertently headed in another direction—lost!)

Our group found its way to the Teton Science School, a non-profit school which offers weekend lectures, workshops, conferences, and classes for students of all ages. Along the way we were privileged to see a stately antelope buck trying to keep his harem "in line," starlings riding cowboy on buffalo wings, a lone coyote in search of lunch, and a single Mormon cricket taking shelter in an abandoned farmhouse.

Al Stokes' group spent some time with Mardy Murie, whose husband, Olaus Murie wrote *Animal Tracks*. The Muries have contributed much time, financial assistance and personal involvement to preserving and sharing the beauty of the Tetons. Mrs. Murie's warmth and charm was as natural as the beauty which surrounded us.

Later, several of us shared dinner around a crackling campfire, warming our hands as well as our dinner. Have you ever noticed how a hot dog cooked on a willow stick over an open fire tastes better than one cooked in a microwave?

As dusk approached, we piled back into cars and the van in search of bugling elk. The best mating call we heard came from Terry Barnes who tried to entice a bull elk with her elk call, a small piece of plastic which fit between her teeth. I'd never met this lady before, but knew that she was my kind of person! She knew her elk and wasn't embarrassed to belt out a great bugle call.

Sunday morning I tried ignoring a persistent sore throat because I wanted to hike with the others in Granite Canyon, but when I was able to hitch a ride home early, my self-mothering instincts took over, and I headed back to Logan. Al Stokes tells me I missed seeing a porcupine, pika, and moose tracks in fresh mud. I was sorry I missed everything except the mud!

The wildlife, the beauty of fresh fallen snow on the Tetons, and the passion of the multi-colored scenery helped give the weekend flavor, but what made me want to spend more time with the Bridgerland Audubon

Society was the "specialness" of the people I met. Not only are they interested in preserving and relishing the intricate beauty of our land, but they also seemed to care about the unique beauty found within each of us.

If you missed this annual trip, don't miss it next year! If you don't know how to make a "hot rock," maybe next year Al Stokes will give you a lesson. If you have never been on an Audubon outing or it's been a while since you took the time, **DO IT!** I'd like to meet you.

— Janell Larson

EXPEDITION: YELLOWSTONE!

Audubon Junior Naturalists Go Exploring

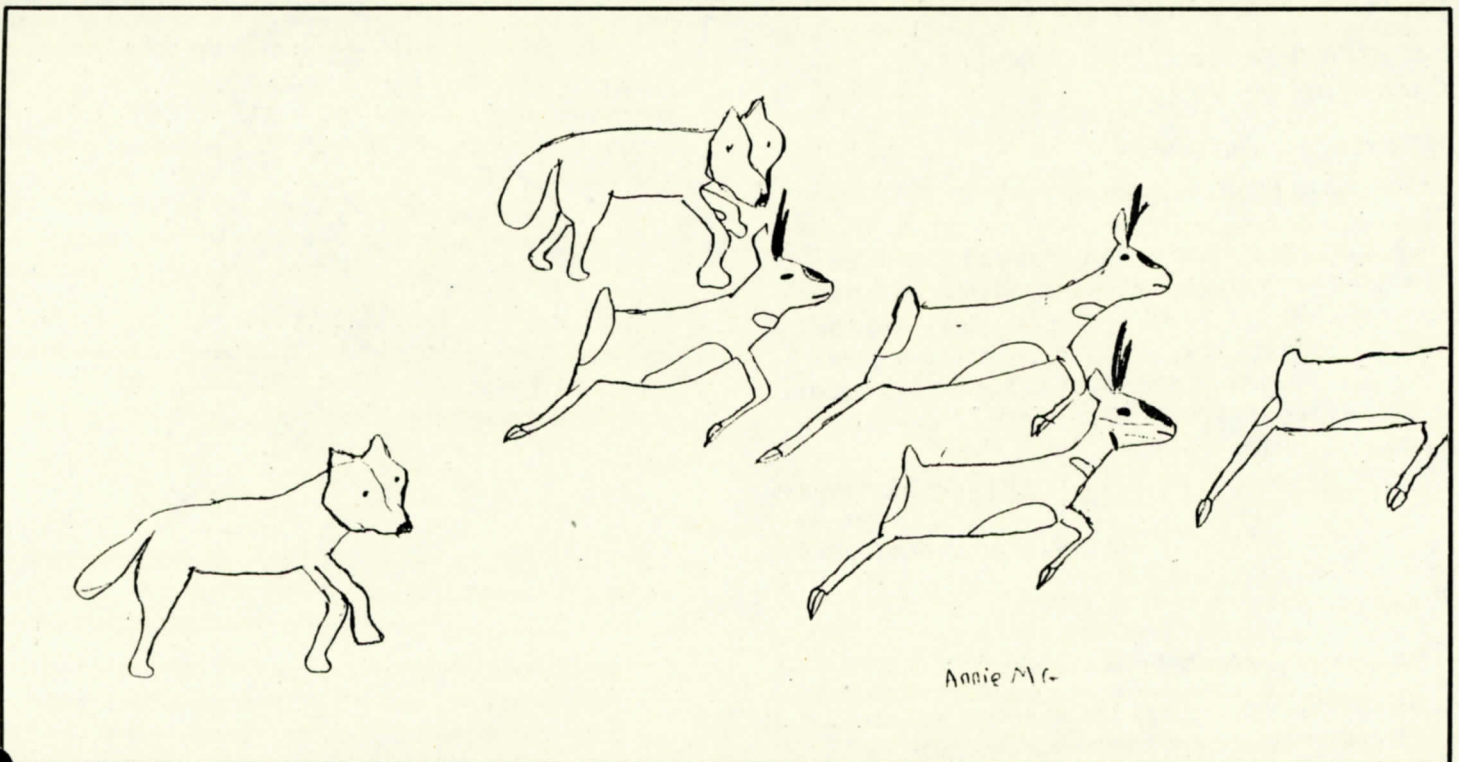
On the first frosty weekend of October, 39 members of the Bridgerland Audubon Junior Naturalist program caravanned to Lamar Buffalo Ranch in Lamar Valley, Yellowstone National Park (between Tower Junction and the Northeast Entrance) to participate in a four-day *Expedition: Yellowstone!* adventure.

The Junior Naturalists have been preparing for their trip

since May with assistance from their leaders, Steve Archibald and Karen Matsumoto-Grah. *Expedition: Yellowstone!* is a cooperative school outreach project of the National Park Service, World Wildlife Fund, National Park Foundation, and the Yellowstone Foundation. *Expedition: Yellowstone!*, a curriculum for Yellowstone National Park, is normally taught in a classroom setting. Appropriate activities were chosen from the curriculum guide, and used during field trips, club meetings, and activity sessions in preparation for the trip to Yellowstone Park.

In addition to the curriculum guide, Junior Naturalists read along in a storybook, *Expedition Yellowstone: A Mountain Adventure* by Sandra Chisholm Robinson. The storybook is a fictional account of the natural and human history of Yellowstone as seen by the central character, mountain man Joshua Grimes, and his acquaintances and descendants. Learning activities were correlated with chapters in the book, and were appropriate for use in Cache Valley as well as the Yellowstone environment.

The expedition was assigned two park rangers who conducted activities, supervised the expedition, and provided special assistance to the leaders. Small, unheated sleeping cabins served as our accommodations at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch, along with a main classroom, kitchen, and dining building that had running water, heat, and showers.



drawing by Annie Matsumoto-Grah
age 9

Learning activities at the park ranged from the geologic make-up of mudpots to the feeding habits of grizzly bears! Emphasis was placed on exploring Yellowstone Park on foot; outings included a visit to Mammoth Hot Springs, as well as a five-mile hike to Hell Roaring Creek, crossing two suspension bridges, and sighting bison, pronghorn antelope, elk, and moose. Wildlife viewing was fabulous, with children observing coyotes chasing a herd of pronghorn, and coyotes feeding on a bison carcass! We saw lots of bear scat(!) and came back with great stories about bears, bison, and Yellowstone Park.

The Junior Naturalists will give a presentation on their trip, as well as highlight other Bridgerland Audubon Society education activities and outreach projects at the November 8 general meeting. Everyone is welcome!

For more information regarding *Expedition Yellowstone!* write:

Expedition: Yellowstone!
Division of Interpretation
National Park Service
P. O. Box 168
Yellowstone National Park
Wyoming 82190

— Karen Matsumoto-Grah
Education Chair

BOOK REVIEW

Expedition Yellowstone: A Mountain Adventure

by Sandra Chisholm Robinson
illustrations by Ellen Ditzler Meloy

I think the book was well written. You can almost see the rugged old man Joshua Grimes as he lies in a snow-filled forest with this old rickety rifle aimed at a large bull elk. Or a bison standing at the edge of a bubbling hot spring with a huge wad of dark green algae in his mouth. All around I liked this book. I recommend it to anyone, especially if you like wildlife.

— Marshall Thompson
12 years old
Mount Logan Middle School

A note from the Junior Naturalist Leader:

Expedition Yellowstone: A Mountain Adventure was used together with the *Expedition: Yellowstone!* curriculum in preparation for our Yellowstone field trip. Each chapter of the storybook is based on one of the major themes of the workbook, and selected chapters

were used to reinforce concepts learned during activities and out in the field. The book also provides excellent stand-alone reading for kids!

A copy of this book, along with the above book review was donated to the Logan Library by the Audubon Junior Naturalist program.

DIAPER SERVICE OPEN FOR BUSINESS

For several months Cache Valley's diaper set has had to choose between loads of laundry at home or the dreaded disposables—expensive, guilt-producing, unfashionable. Now, thanks to three local residents with entrepreneurial tendencies, there's a third choice: take-out diapers.

Soft Bottoms diaper service offers bi-weekly or weekly pickup, biodegradable plastic bags made with corn-starch, and cleaning service that satisfies the standards of the National Association of Diaper Services. It costs \$7.75 for a standard order of 80 diapers. Those who are willing to drop off and pick up their orders get a discount. Call 752-7155 for more information. Let's get these babies on the right track!



PLANNING MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

On October 18, 1990, Val Grant, John Mull, Sue Robertson, Bob Atwood, Bruce Pendery, and Al Stokes attended the planning meeting.

Audubon Adopts a Highway. BAS has agreed to hold litter-gathering parties along a two-mile stretch of Highway 142, which leads from Richmond to Trenton. There's a good possibility of interesting birding along the way. Our first outing will be on November 3 at 10. Those who want to participate may call Val Grant at 753-5370, or Sue Robertson, 752-4598.

Denzil Stewart Nature Park in Progress. The City is shopping for a footbridge and working on a fence to enclose the four acres of riverside property. Eagle Scouts are working on signs to discourage hunting and pets. Encourage your city council members to support this development.

Bear River Water Development Crisis. See page one for discussion on this issue.

Birding at the Sewage Lagoons. Logan City has installed new equipment at the lagoons, and is concerned about damage. Access to the ponds has been restricted. Mayor Fjeldsted and Rod Blossom have been talking with some of our lead birders, and agreed to allow access to BAS members. Those who want to visit the lagoons occasionally may contact Rod Blossom at the City office. Call 750-9800. Bob Atwood, Keith Archibald, Keith Dixon, Al Stokes, Ron and Larry Ryel, and Kim Sullivan were issued keys.

Holly Faire. Bridgerland Audubon will have a booth at Holly Faire again this year.

Water Conservancy District Protest. The pro-district faction has filed. A water district will be formed on December 18, if opponents do not meet the requirements before then. See article on this page.

Logan Canyon Concerns. Bruce Pendery and Steve Flint are working to prepare a mailing regarding the highway plans. Watch for it. Be prepared to express your concerns for the canyon's future.

Next Planning Meeting. November's meeting will be Wednesday, November 14, at 7 p.m. in Logan Library. All members are invited to attend.

STORAGE SPACE NEEDED

Do you have space to store the things we are accumulating for next summer's yard sale? If so, please give me a call. Alice Lindahl, 753-7744.

THE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT: THE MOMENT OF TRUTH

Promoters of the Water Conservancy District filed their petition on October 10. We have until November 16 to file a successful protest petition. If you have not yet signed a petition, are new to our area and would like to sign, or know other property owners who will sign, PLEASE contact me before November 10 and I will make sure you get a petition form.

If we, the opponents of the district, do not succeed in presenting the confirmed signatures of 20% of the property owners in the proposed WCD boundaries by November 16, then the district will be formed on December 18. Your new taxes will commence immediately thereafter.

Even though the proponents only needed 5% of property owners to form a district, they failed to get adequate signatures in Logan and Clarkston although they have been trying for almost two years. Three cheers for intelligence and resistance! Nevertheless, these two towns can be annexed at any time if a district is formed. So if you live in one of these two enlightened areas and own property, we still want your signature.

The rules that apply to formation do not apply to protest. We must get 20% of the owners in EVERY TOWN and unincorporated area or our WHOLE PETITION FAILS. Lack of a single signature in a single small town could destroy our protest effort.

If the WCD is formed, the Avon or Barrens dam sites are far more vulnerable to development (see article on page one). Some would argue that they are doomed, so we have much more to lose than our pride if we fail.

— Alice Lindahl
753-7744

SAFE HAVEN FOR CRANES

Although we failed to stop the crane hunt this year, we have made a good foundation on which to build next year. We plan to assess crop damage in a scientific and systematic way, something that has not yet been done by the Division of Wildlife Resources.

BAS will be selling T-shirts to continue the effort. They are available at Accents (57 South Main) in short- (\$10.00) and long-sleeved (\$15.00). They make great Christmas gifts. Jade and Peach.

You can order shirts from me by mail if you don't live in Cache Valley. Alice Lindahl, 730 Hillcrest, Logan, UT 84321 (801) 753-7744.

CACHE CALENDARS FOR THE CAUSE

Have you seen the beautiful calendars produced by members Scott Smith and Jane O'Keefe, photographer and artist, respectively? They're just the right size, feature photos and drawings of local interest, and cost \$9.95. They're great gifts for all those friends and relatives with a soft spot for our favorite valley. But wait—there's more! Yes, even more. You can buy these timely items from Bridgerland Audubon, and benefit the treasury of BAS. Each calendar sold will mean \$2 (two) for some worthy project. Call Pat Gordon at 752-6561. The first 30 customers will qualify for a free bag of assorted leaves and crabapples, so don't put it off!



VOTE

On a Bus System in Logan

If you live in Logan, you will have a chance to vote for a bus system in the November 6 election. Unlike the system proposed two years ago, this bus system will be limited to Logan. It would be supported by a one quarter of one percent sales tax increase on sales within Logan only, not on sales anywhere else in the county. That's 25¢ on a \$100 purchase.

We all know a bus system is one of the first steps toward an energy-efficient future and is an essential step in relieving the congestion which plagues downtown Logan on occasion. However, a vocal minority is objecting to this proposal on "fairness" grounds—since people living outside of Logan City may pay the tax when shopping in Logan. Yet, these people will still receive benefits: reduced congestion and better air quality. The Bridgerland Audubon Conservation Committee endorses this bus system and urges Logan residents to vote for it.

— Steve Flint

UTAH AUDUBON CHAPTERS GET TOGETHER

September 22-23, 1990, Kelly Park, Springville, Utah

The Timpanogos Audubon Society hosted this fall gathering at Kelly Park, about three miles up Hobbie Creek Canyon from Springville. The Lions Club Pavilion provided ample space for our group with lots of tables and benches and an open fireplace at one end. Ample

places for pitching tents adjacent; also running water and toilets. Attending: Mike Adams, President TAS, Lois Clark, Lillian and Keith Hayes; Virginia and Tony Reiter, Ray Smith, Lester Short, June Ryberg, Penny - - - and Wayne Mortensen from Utah A.S.; John Bellmon, Pres. Wasatch A.S.; and Bruce Pendery, Alice Lindahl and Al Stokes from Bridgerland A.S. In addition Stan Rushmore and friend Julie from Sundance Institute. Bob Turner, Regional V.P. National Audubon Society.

After gathering for lunch we spent the afternoon on business. Stan Rushmore explained the threat to Provo Canyon if the highway is converted to four lanes. This would result in damage to the canyon and in addition promote much heavier truck traffic. He encouraged us to call Senator Garn's office to head this off.

Mike Adams reported on progress toward creation of a Utah Lake Wildlife Refuge, tied in with the Central Utah Project. Garn refuses to support this unless it would be a state wildlife refuge. Not a bad solution. Currently the refuge would include the southern part of marshes on Utah Lake but not the extensive Provo Bay marshes. It will take some strong lobbying for this to be included. While many people don't like the idea of CUP, Wayne Owens has written into the bill a large fund for mitigation of wildlife losses and ongoing management.

Chapter members reported on the use of Audubon Adventures, with Wasatch heading the list with over 60 classrooms enrolled. This is virtually every fifth-grade classroom in Davis, Weber and Box Elder counties. This has spread largely by word of mouth. Some classrooms are being funded by individuals and organizations. Mike Adams said he will push Audubon Adventures this coming year. Al Stokes said his chapter would seek sponsors to help pay for the cost of Audubon Adventures. Bob Turner reminded us that we pay National \$30 for each classroom, but it costs N.A.S. about \$100 per classroom, so chapters should seek this amount from sponsors.

We agreed on buying a solid notebook to serve for a Historical Record and Minutes of Utah Retreats, including photographs. Al Stokes will get.

The suggestion that the Utah Audubon chapters might host the next Regional Audubon Conference was met with enthusiasm. Each Council rep should present this to his/her chapter officers. If supported, we will make a formal proposal to Bob Turner. In the meantime, Timpanogos will look into the feasibility of holding the conference at Sundance.

Wayne Mortensen reported on what legislation might be considered at the 1991 State Legislature. There was nothing we needed to do right now, but Wayne will want an even stronger group of volunteers to speak or write to legislators on key issues.

Alice Lindahl, having been abroad for six weeks, could

not report on the crane hunt other than to say that she thought there had been only 10 cranes shot out of 45 permits sold for Cache Valley. She felt that the weekly counts had been most helpful in educating the Wildlife Board.

Attendance at this retreat was reduced because both Wasatch and Utah Audubon chapters had scheduled field trips for this weekend. We should avoid this by agreeing on dates at least six months in advance and making sure that field trip chairmen know them. The Timpanogos and Wasatch chapters will host the retreats in the second or third weekend in September; Utah and Bridgerland in the second or third weekend in April, subject to change depending on occurrence of Easter and other events that might conflict.

The business meeting adjourned by 5 p.m. followed by a sumptuous supper provided by Timpanogos: pizza, various salads, drinks, a wide choice of yummy cakes topped with ice cream. Those that stayed to camp out had a good walk up Hobbie Creek Canyon spotting several deer and a skunk.

Sunday morning Mark Adams showed up bright and early to prepare hot coffee for all. He then led us to Provo Bay south of the Provo Airport for a fascinating trip. In 1983 and '84 the bay flooded right up to the dike at the south end of Provo Airport. But now the lake has receded about 1/4 mile. The exposed flats are covered by dense vegetation including hardstem bulrush, Fremont's cottonwood and a very dense stand of two-foot-tall tamarisk. Problems there! Clearly this extensive wetlands is worth saving from the threat of a runway extension and a dike from the airport westward across Utah Lake.

A fine weekend was had by all.



TREE PEOPLE UNITE!

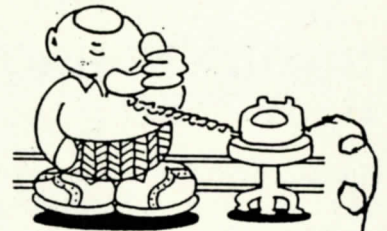
Nadine Now Organizing Activist Phone Tree

Now is the time for all good Audubon activists to join the Audubon phone tree. Your voice can be an important factor in determining how our legislators vote. We are organizing a phone tree again this year and need your help. It's easy, takes very little time, and it is activism where it counts, at the roots.

Last year was the first year Audubon hired a lobbyist to work on State Legislative issues. There were some good bills passed and some successes for wildlife and environmental health. Furthermore, there were 81 Audubon members who lived in 23 of 29 Senate Districts and 33 of 75 House Districts who volunteered as lobbying network participants and who contacted their legislators. Hopefully, this year, there will be at the minimum one activist for every legislator!

All you need to do is own a phone, be willing to call several other Audubon members to help activate the phone tree, and most importantly, call your legislator and voice your incredibly intelligent and thoughtful opinion about environmental bills during the legislative session this winter. Some topics that may come up are development of the Bear River, non-game wildlife and recycling. You'll be given information on each bill.

This is a great opportunity to do your part in creating a kinder, gentler world. Send in the accompanying form or call Nadene Steinhoff at 753-0497 to volunteer. Thanks!



YES, I want to be an AUDUBON ACTIVIST FOR THE UTAH LEGISLATURE by becoming informed on the issues and contacting my legislators.

Issues I'm interested in:

Nongame wildlife _____ Water Projects _____
Environmental Health _____ All _____
Other (please specify) _____

I am willing to call other Chapter members to tell them about pending actions. Yes _____ No _____

I would like to come to the capitol during the session.
Yes _____ No _____

I can help in other ways (such as research, writing, artwork, graphs, mailings, etc. Please specify _____)

Representative (if known) _____

Senator (if known) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Return coupon to or call: Wayne Martinson, 1181 First Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84103 355-8110

IMAGINE A WORLD . . .

On November 20, 1990, there will be a public statewide vision statement hearing. This hearing will be broadcast on Public Television and has the purpose of helping the Utah Legislature develop a legislative vision statement for Utah. All citizens are encouraged to participate on November 20 and help develop a vision for our future. For details on how to be involved, contact Wayne Martinson, our lobbyist, at 1181 First Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah 84103. Phone 355-8110.

ONEIDA NARROWS DAM REJECTED

The proposed dam on the Bear River through Oneida Narrows appears to have been defeated. The director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources rejected the application submitted by two private developers who intended to build a hydro power dam. The application was denied because "it will reduce the quantity of water under existing water rights, the Applicant has failed to provide evidence of sufficient financial resources with which to complete the work involved therein, and the project will conflict with the local public interest."

The residents of Franklin County, Idaho, came out in force in opposition to the proposed dam. It was heartening to see the community-wide involvement. However, this fight may be just a practice run for a future proposal by Utah Power and Light to build another dam in the same location. In the meantime, get up there and enjoy the lovely canyon. There was a sparse turnout for the Audubon trip on September 22 but the few who went enjoyed a golden autumn day. The bikers were especially fortunate that rain a few days before the trip laid the dust low.

Many thanks to Bruce Pendery who presented articulate and effective testimony at the public hearing as a representative of Audubon. Currie Lockett of Friends of the Bear River spent many months and much of his own money to fight the proposal. Now we have an expert in our midst; we may use his expertise to oppose the numerous plans to dam the lower Bear River closer to home.

— Jean Lown

ANCIENT FOREST MAPPING IN IDAHO AND WYOMING

Scott Posner, President of Bighorn Audubon in Sheridan, Wyoming, wrote this article in the October newsletter, Bighorn Audubon Notes. We need to be alert to similar opportunities in Utah.

Something that really impressed me from the ancient forest panel at the Rocky Mountain Regional Conference in Yellowstone was the work that Idaho Audubon chapters are doing. After learning that the Forest Service information base on old growth is incomplete and often outdated or inaccurate, the local chapters volunteered to adopt a forest and started mapping the old growth. Their accomplishments have made a big difference by identifying the highest quality old growth stands that are in need of protection.

I would like to see such a program started on the Bighorn National Forest. As a Forest Service Wildlife Biologist, I am able to commit the Buffalo Ranger District to working with Bighorn Audubon Society on old growth mapping and evaluation through the Challenge Cost Share program. This means that for every day a BAS member spends in the field mapping old growth, a Forest Service employee will spend a day. The same would hold true for refining maps, data entry, etc. This work will correct the inaccuracies in the data base, improve forest management and ensure that the true old growth stands will receive the attention and importance they deserve.

CLEANER CLEANSERS

While waiting in the airport for our flight home from Dallas recently, I picked up a copy of *USA Today* and noticed an article about earth-friendly cleaners. Years ago, we had a neighbor who was sick for a week after being overcome by fumes while cleaning her bathroom. That episode has always kept me very cautious about using more than one cleanser in the bathroom, but like most of us, I relate a strong, powerful smell to cleanliness, so I've never completely abandoned the strong bathroom cleaners. I guess years of commercials extolling the clean smell of pine, lysol, and chlorine in bathrooms and kitchens have brainwashed many of us.

However, after looking over the article, I decided to try cleaning with some of the suggested products. For the last month, I have cleaned the bathroom sinks and tubs with borax, using it on a sponge as I would a cleanser. It works just fine, though it is a bit gritty. I've cleaned the toilet bowls by sprinkling baking soda into the bowl and then spraying it with vinegar and scrubbing with a brush. I've used baking soda to clean my kitchen sink, and

sprinkled it on my rugs before I vacuum. Borax can also be used for both these purposes. So far I've had reasonably good results with all my cleaning experiments, and I haven't had to feel guilty about what I'm pouring down the drain!

If you are interested in trying out some of these earth-friendly cleaners, here are some of the non-toxic cleaning ideas for kitchens and bathrooms (from *USA Today*, August 21, 1990):

KITCHEN:

Floors - Fill a bucket with hot water and add 1/4 to 1/2 cup vinegar. Or use a mix of borax and hot water.

Counters, Cabinets - Mix 1/2 cup borax, 1 gallon water.

All-purpose cleaner - Mix vinegar and salt or dissolve 4 tablespoons of baking soda in a quart of warm water.

Sinks - Use baking soda or borax as a powdered cleanser.

BATHROOM:

Toilet Bowl Cleaner - Sprinkle baking soda, drizzle with vinegar, scour with brush.

Sinks, Tub, Toilet - Use borax like a cleanser.

— Marjorie Palmer

Mountain Chickadee

Wasatch Audubon Society Newsletter

October 1990

REDUCING YOUR CO₂ EMISSIONS

You could hold your breath for a very long time.

Or...

National Audubon's team of scientists has developed a "diet" for individuals who want to reduce their global warming calories—the carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases associated with our lifestyles. They have published CO₂ Diet for a Greenhouse Planet: A Citizen's Guide for Slowing Global Warming.

The United States emits more than 20 percent of the world's total emissions of the gases that contribute to global warming. That amounts to about 55,000 pounds of carbon dioxide for every man, woman, and child each year. More than half the predicted global warming can be attributed to carbon dioxide.

Carbon dioxide is emitted in the burning of coal, oil, and gas to produce electricity, as well as in the combustion of gasoline to run motor vehicles. If every one of us were to cut the greenhouse gas emissions for which we are responsible by 2 percent a year (just 1100 pounds), by the year 2000 we would achieve a 20 percent

reduction—a real contribution to solving the global warming problem.

A few tips from the scientists follow:

- Use compact fluorescent bulbs. These use only 20 to 40 percent of the electricity of incandescent bulbs. Replacing a 100-watt incandescent bulb used four hours a day with a 22-watt fluorescent can save 114 kilowatt-hours and 190 pounds of CO₂ a year.
- Wash clothes in cold water when possible. If you do four out of five washes in cold water, you can save up to 350 pounds of CO₂ if you use gas and 1,000 pounds of CO₂ if you use electricity.
- Avoid auto air conditioners. Remember that just having one results in CFC emissions equivalent to 4,800 pounds of carbon dioxide—whether or not you use it.
- Lower water heater temperature to 120 degrees. For gas water heaters, this can save up to 40 therms and 440 pounds of CO₂ a year. For electric heaters, this can save up to 400 kilowatt-hours and 600 pounds of CO₂ a year. If, however, you have a dishwasher that boosts water temperatures for rinsing, savings will be somewhat lower.
- Minimize driving. Combine trips, carpool, walk, bicycle or use mass transportation. If you have a 25-miles-per-gallon car and reduce your driving from 12,000 miles to 10,000 miles a year, your annual CO₂ emissions will drop by 1,800 pounds.

SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

I wish we would not waste so much. Instead we should recycle. It would help nature and things around us. The landfill is getting filled up. Herbivores and carnivores might not want to live here because the water is polluted and garbage is left by campers. Already animals are getting extinct. Turtles are eating plastic bags and the food chain is getting messed up. Even domestic animals are affected. Everywhere I see plastic bags, boxes, glass bottles, nets and other nasty things. I'm surprised how much garbage we have. We need your help to keep living things alive.

— Annie Grah
9 years old

Edith Bowen Lab School

"We have today to learn to get back into accord with the wisdom of nature and realize again our brotherhood with the water and the sea."

The Power of Myth
Joseph Campbell

Mervin & Mae Coover
435 Canyon Road
Providence, UT 84332

DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

Nonprofit Organization
BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 104
Logan, Utah

Bridgerland Audubon Society
P.O. Box 3501
Logan, Utah 84321

The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, October through May, in the Council Room of the new Logan City Building, 255 N. Main. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. The BAS Planning Committee meets the following Wednesday, October through May, in the Logan Library at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

President	Val Grant, 752-7572
Vice President	John Mull, 753-7079
Secretary	Susan Robertson, 752-4598
Treasurer	Dianne Browning, 752-5946
Conservation	Alice Lindahl, 753-7744
Education	Karen Matsumoto-Grah, 750-3468
Membership	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Newsletter	Pat Gordon, 752-6561
Circulation	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Publicity	Bruce Pendery, 750-0253
Hospitality	Mae & Merv Coover
Hotline	Kayo Robertson, 752-3944
Recycling	Marvin & Irma Moon, 753-4698
Trustees	
1987-90: John Barnes, 563-3910; Dianne Browning, 752-5946	
1988-91: Ron Ryel, 753-6077; John Sigler, 753-5879	
1989-92: Larry Ryel, 753-8479; Cynthia Kerbs, 752-3251;	
Bob Atwood, 752-9284, Office, 753-0012	

Membership in the Bridgerland Audubon Society includes a subscription to *The Stilt*, as well as the *Audubon* magazine. The editor of *The Stilt* invites submissions of any kind, due on the 15th of each month. Send to 718 N. 200 E., Logan, UT 84321.
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.

National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Application

Yes, I'd like to join.

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to the address below.

☐ My check for \$20 is enclosed.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please make all checks payable to the National Audubon Society.

Send this application and your check to:

National Audubon Society

Chapter Membership Data Center

P.O. Box 51001 • Boulder, Colorado 80322-1001

LOCAL CHAPTER



Bridgerland Audubon Society
P.O. Box 3501
Logan, Utah 84321

W-52

Local Chapter Code
7XCHA

Subscriptions to *The Stilt* are available to non-members for \$5.00 per year. Call Tom Gordon, 752-6561.