

CANYON TASK FORCE TO MEET ON APRIL 8

A Canyon Task Force is being organized. We will need massive amounts of time, energy and money to save our canyon. Meet us at The Bluebird Restaurant on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. Please be ready to work, and with some idea of which committee you would like to help with. Specific information and details will be provided to each coordinator.

Hands Across the Canyon

Community Publicity
Phone Tree Coordinator
Refreshments Coordinator
Trash Coordinator
Parking Coordinator
Safety Coordinator
Media Support Services
Coordination With Other Local
and State Environmental Groups

Appeal in Washington

3-5 Page Position Paper and Summary of Flaws

1 Page Summary

- Impact on Fisheries
- Impact on Wildlife Habitat

Business People for the Canyon

Supporters Needed to Organize Appeal

SUMMARY OF PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Current road width through all sections is 26 feet.

Clear zone requirements through Sections 1B, 2 and 3 are 18-22 feet each side of road.

Section 1A Begins at Right Hand Fork (4 miles)

Width: 26 feet

Curve cuts: 2 possible

Section 1B Begins just past Logan cave (4 miles)

Width: 34 feet

Curve cuts: 6

Intersections: 2

Section 2 Begins just past Ricks Springs (13 miles)

Width: 6.5 miles at 40 feet

6.5 miles at 47 feet

Curve cuts or realignments: 6

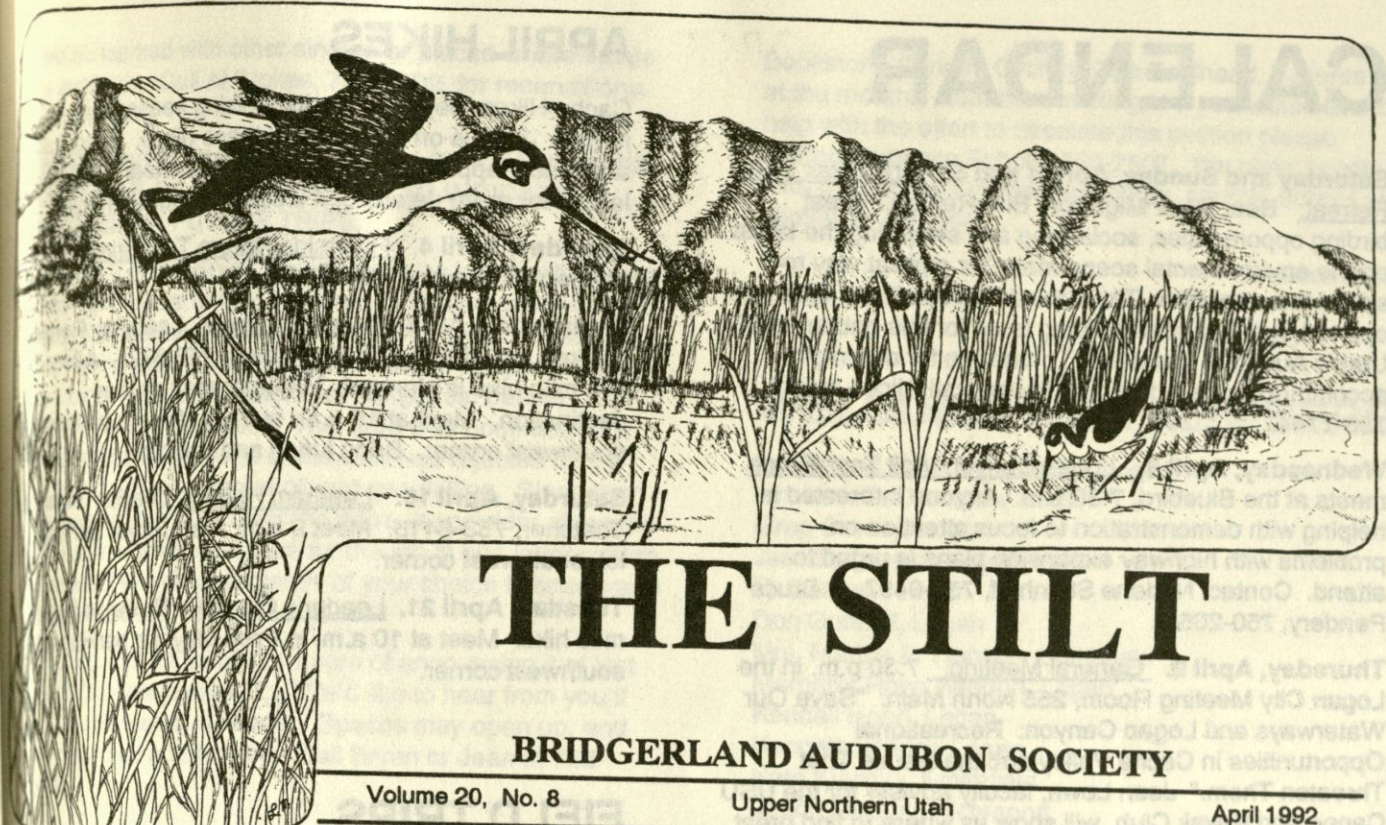
Intersections: 7

Sections 3A and 3B Summit to Garden City (6 miles)

Width: 47 feet

Curve cuts or realignments: 20

Intersections: 2 or 3



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 20, No. 8

Upper Northern Utah

April 1992

PETITIONERS WANT BOTTLE BILL ON BALLOT

"Get Off Your Can for Utah" is a very energetic group whose purpose is to get a deposit law for beverage containers on the 1992 November ballot. To this end they are coordinating a petition initiative that involves over 200 people statewide. The effort is spearheaded by Lyman Lewis and Ray Wilmot of Park City. Al Stokes is our Cache County coordinator.

The law being proposed will require a deposit on specified beverage containers (5 cents or 10 cents depending on size). It will provide for a refund of the deposit and a handling fee (two cents) for dealers. It authorizes redemption centers. It also specifies labeling of the containers, provides penalties for noncompliance, and sets an effective date (June 1, 1993).

This is the bottle bill that Senator Steiner sponsored in the 1991 Utah Legislature. The bill died in committee. It also failed to gain the support of two important groups in Cache Valley—the League of Women Voters and the Cache Recycling Coalition. One point of contention put forward by some members of these groups is that the bill does not specifically require recycling on the collected containers which could then conceivably end up in the landfill.

Of the nine states that have deposit legislation, none have mandatory recycling provisions. Yet, according to the Environmental Defense Fund, these bills are completely effective at eliminating container litter and are effective at encouraging recycling."

"A state can require separate collection and processing of recyclables; it would be difficult to require that these items actually be recycled, and no state has tried. Mandatory recycling laws only create a strong incentive to recycle by creating a readily available, high-quality, source-separated supply." (Coming Full Circle Successful Recycling Today, Environmental Defense Fund, 1988)

States should provide opportunity and eliminate barriers for recycling. But it may not be wise for a state to impose one specific solution to this very complex problem.

This particular deposit bill could be stronger. The most important problem is that it does not stipulate how to handle unclaimed deposits. In other states unclaimed deposits are used to fund a variety of recycling/environmental projects.

Please see BOTTLE on page 3.

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CALENDAR

Saturday and Sunday, April 4 and 5. Great Salt Lake Retreat. Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. Great birding opportunities, socializing and swapping the latest on the environmental scene make for a great way to spend the weekend. The Canada Goose Duck Club has opened their beautiful building to us for this gathering of Utah's Audubon chapters. To arrange for overnight accommodations in the bunkhouse, call Alice Lindahl 753-7744.

Wednesday, April 8. Logan Canyon Vigil Task Force meets at the Bluebird, 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in helping with demonstration to focus attention on problems with highway expansion plans is urged to attend. Contact Nadene Steinhoff, 753-0497, or Bruce Penderly, 750-2053.

Thursday, April 9. General Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Logan City Meeting Room, 255 North Main. "Save Our Waterways and Logan Canyon: Recreational Opportunities in Cache Valley and the Issues That Threaten Them." Jean Lown, faculty adviser for the USU Canoe and Kayak Club, will show us where to find great paddling in the valley. Jean will also discuss some of the current water use issues which affect our beautiful lakes and rivers. Nadene Steinhoff, BAS' Logan Canyon Coordinator, will show us the treasures in our own backyard and how they are threatened by highway plans. Strategies to protect this unique area will be discussed.

Wednesday, April 15. Deadline for Stilt submissions. We try to get The Stilt mailed by the first of each month. To make this possible, please deliver your materials for publication on time. This is not an arbitrary date. Type-written or legibly written material is appreciated. Send or bring your reports, stories, poems, or pictures to Pat Gordon, Editor, 718 North 200 East, Logan.

Wednesday, April 22. Canoeing Video. 6:30 p.m. at HPER. Video is titled, "River Rescue." Sponsored by the USU Canoe and Kayak Club. The club sponsors paddling trips, pool sessions, videos and other paddling activities. Membership is open to non-students and non-university people, also. Call Jean Lown, 752-6830.

Wednesday and Thursday, April 22 and 23. USU Environmental Fair. BAS will have tables gathering signatures for Bottle Bill Referendum and distributing information on Logan Canyon Highway.

Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25. Cache Valley Mall EcoFair.

APRIL HIKES

Cache Hikers begin an exciting hiking season this month. Join us on any or all of these hikes. Bring lunch, appropriate clothing and footwear. Call the leader for more details or if weather is questionable.

Saturday, April 4. Riverside Nature Trail/Crimson
Leader: Bill Lewis, 753-8724.

Wednesday, April 18. Wind Caves. Leaders: Peter Walker, 245-6064; and Marj Lewis, 753-8724. A four-five-mile hike is planned. Weather may change destination. Meet at 10 a.m. at Fred Meyer's parking lot, southwest corner. Bring lunch and liquids.

Saturday, April 18. Leatham Hollow. Leader: Ken Thatcher, 753-8415. Meet 9 a.m. Fred Meyer parking lot, southwest corner.

Tuesday, April 21. Leader's Choice. Three- to five-mile hike. Meet at 10 a.m. in Fred Meyer's parking lot, southwest corner.

FIELD TRIPS

Note Changed Dates!

Friday and Saturday, April 17 and 18. Grouse Courtship Camping Trip. One week later than previously announced. Annual trip to observe sharp-tailed and sage grouse at Curlew National Grassland Camp at Curlew Campground and along the shore of Stone Reservoir just north of Snowville, a two-hour drive west of Logan. Get up early Saturday morning to observe the grouse. After a leisurely breakfast we will visit several places to observe nesting waterfowl and raptors. Return home early Saturday afternoon. We stay at a developed campground and have an illustrated talk about grouse Friday evening. This trip by reservation only—limited to 30 persons. Call Al Stokes at 752-2702 for reservations and further information.

Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24. Second Canyon Camping Trip on Antelope Island. Camp overnight on Antelope Island State Park during the spring migration. Observe bison and many migrating water and land birds. Last year's campers witnessed a spectacular Painted Lady butterfly migration. Call Al Stokes at 752-2702 for further details on schedule and camping arrangements. Advance reservations required.

Saturday OR Sunday, May 9 OR 10. Canoe down Bear River. Sign up for one day or the other. An easy 15-mile paddle past a heron rookery. Usually about 10 species are seen on this trip. Leave at 8 a.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot. Canoeists will be expected to provide their own canoes.

will be teamed with other singles or placed where space is available. Call Al Stokes, 752-2702, for reservations. Bring lunch.

WHITE RIVER CANOE TRIP FULL, BUT CALL TO BE LISTED AS AN ALTERNATE OR TO INDICATE INTEREST IN FUTURE TRIPS.

On May 2 and 3 Bryan Dixon and Jean Lown will lead an overnight canoe excursion down a 38-mile green corridor through a desert wilderness south of Vernal. Mostly flat, with a few easy, Class I-II rapids, this is the perfect place to look for migrating waterfowl, songbirds, beaver, bighorn sheep and deer. This area was nominated for Wilderness Study Area status, but was rejected by the BLM in 1979 because of oil and gas drilling. Since then we have fought to protect the narrower corridor along the river some other way. Fee for the trip is one letter written afterward to a representative of your choice to encourage river protection.

This trip was full within 24 hours of announcing it at last month's general meeting. We'd like to hear from you if you're interested, however. Spaces may open up, and we may lead another trip. Call Bryan or Jean at 752-6830.

BOTTLES continued from page 1.

Nevertheless, the bill as written will accomplish many very important objectives. It will create a collection system. The provisions for independent redemption centers may stimulate full-fledged recycling centers that collect a variety of recyclables. This type of legislation creates opportunity for recycling, involves the consumer, and harnesses the creative energy of the marketplace by having the manufacturers deal with the problem they have created. When manufacturers become responsible for the disposal costs of the containers they produce, they will develop efficient solutions. Solutions will hopefully involve more than just recycling and may include increased use of refillable containers, source reduction of excessive packaging and individual containers, and heightened public awareness of this issue.

Deposit legislation is only one part of the comprehensive and creative planning that is needed to deal with solid waste issues in Utah, but it is a big step in the right direction. It will be a very public and very visible effort that will invite a high degree of public participation.

Bridgerland Audubon Society is supporting this effort. We will have tables at the USU Environmental Fair (April 22 and 23) and the Cache Valley Mall EcoFair April 24 and 25, to gather signatures. You can sign a petition at these locations: The Straw Ibis, The Italian Place, A

Bookstore, Sunrise Cyclery, The Trailhead, Accents and at the monthly Audubon meetings. If you would like to help with the effort to circulate this petition please contact Rebecca Echols, 753-7507. We need people to take the petitions to their neighbors, church, school and community groups.

— Rebecca Echols

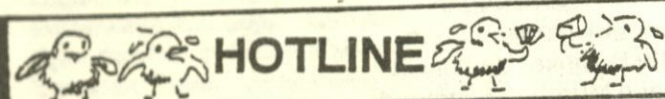
WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Danny and Norma Blubaugh, Logan
Mr. Jack E. Chatelain, Logan
Greg Crosby, Logan
Jess E. Faupell, Logan
N. Gardner, Logan
Don Gunnell, Logan
Mrs. Martha R. Hansen, Smithfield
Margaret Rose Hennon, Logan
Kendall Hood, Logan
Kenneth Jenner, Logan
Kate Kuvinka, Smithfield
Joann Murphy, Richmond
C. B. Peterson, Logan
Breon and Sonya Rose Robertson, Logan
Jack Schmidt and Barbara Rushmore, Logan
Dolan B. Condie, Preston
Ms. Kathy D. Hammond, Logan
Pat Howard, Logan
Northern Title Company, Logan
Gary Pedersen, Smithfield
Michael A. and Leann Troyer, Logan
Ms. Marie Viebell, Logan
Daniel J. Zamecnik, Logan

THANKS, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Clifton and Diane Alston, Logan
Joyce Anderson, Logan
Nathan Helm Burger, Logan
W. Bryan Dixon and Jean M. Lown, Logan
Gary Drew, Logan
Ron Drickey, Logan
Shanda Fallau, Logan
Environmental Solutions, Mendon
Mrs. Bernard Hayes, Logan
James A. Hoffman and Sharon Smock Hoffman, Hanalei, Hawaii
Larry J. Jacobsen, Logan
Lyman Jensen, Logan
Mrs. Robert Johnston, Logan
Jane Kidd, Logan

Karen E. Krogh, Frostburg, Md.
David F. Lancy, Logan
William and Marjorie Lewis, Logan
Tracy McBride, Wellsville
Craig McGregor, Thatcher, Idaho
William M. Moore, Smithfield
Jane O'Keefe, Mendon
Lois Olsen, Logan
Stan Olmstead, Logan
Karen Peterson, Wellsville
Mr. Robert H. Schmidt, Logan
Penny S. and Parnell Stone, Logan
Mr. Michael J. Stones, Logan
Louise Thomas, Logan
Gene Truhn, Logan
Homer and Elizabeth Walker, Logan
Diana F. Wittkopf, Smithfield
Terry Griswold, Wellsville
Lois Olson, Logan
Wendy Greene, Smithfield
William D. Larsen, Jr., Logan



First let me say I'm practically never first. Usually I'm last, especially when it comes to hearing gossip or seeing birds for the annual First Sightings list in *The Stilt*.

But hey—this time I think I did it! While we were out taking inventory of the Canada goose population February 22, my sharp-eyed spouse spotted a line of large, white-winged creatures flying low, north of Benson Marina. We watched as they came closer and closer, finally landing on the water—the first 12 tundra swans of the spring. Reinhard P. Jockel saw 19 of them February 29 at The Barrens, and rumor has it Larry and Ron Ryel found about 40 there March 3.

Other spring arrivals reported to the Hotline include:

- Canada geese by the hundreds, maybe thousands, are pairing up in the Bear River marshes. Bryan and I saw them about February 20, but Reinhard noticed them in early February. Anybody see them before that?
- Sandhill cranes by the boat landing, Valley View Highway, seen by Reinhard on February 23. He also saw ring-billed gulls by the fish hatchery on Valley View and a flock of pintails at the Barrens.
- Cinnamon teal on the Barrens road, and pied-billed grebes on the Bear River (February 29, by Reinhard).
- Meadowlarks, loudly declaring their territory out by the Benson pig farm February 22 (spotted by Bryan and me). Huge flocks of male blackbirds were seen by us the same day, and Reinhard on February 23. He says the females arrive somewhat later.
- Cassin's finches, lots of wildflowers, and mourning cloak butterflies were seen just north of Second Dam on March 1 by Reinhard.

- Common mergansers—about 60 of them—on Hyatt Dam (March 6, by Keith Archibald).
- Avocets spotted on the ponds at the Barrens March 14, by Walt and Rosalie Mueggler.

Keith Archibald says he and Ron Ryel had a most interesting winter watching mountain birds. He figures the reason there were almost no pine siskins reported the Christmas bird count is because they were all in the mountains—every time Keith went skiing he saw 4 flocks of about 200 siskins. He also saw regular flocks of crossbills, pine grosbeaks and occasional evening grosbeaks.



Keep an eye out for short-eared owls, which should return to the valley in April, Keith says. They are daytime hunters, often perching atop fence posts along country roads in late afternoon to wait for dinner to come by.

Happy birding—this is the glory season! Call me (563-6268) or Kit Flannery (563-5984) when you see a wonderful something.

— Nancy Williams

HYDE PARK HOTLINE

A singularly uneventful winter for watching yardbirds. The first and only pair of Cassin's finches didn't appear until February 15, and stayed for that day only.

Since I do Cornell University counts, I can report that redwing blackbirds were not as numerous this winter as in previous years. I saw 16 which brought in 65 of them.

The most numerous birds here were house sparrows. Their peak on January 2 on a foggy day—82 of them. From my tallest elm on March 7, a screech owl perched on a partner.

March 10, a Townsend's solitaire soliloquized from Nuthouse.

January 11, Larry and I spotted several snipe and deer in Hyde Park's warm springs.

February 9, we saw six swans flying.

February 22, our regular count of remaining nests at Mendon rookery noted no great blue heron's but the confused Canada Goose, as last year, sat on its west-most nest.

February 29, we drove to Bear River Refuge, which is finally greening up nicely, and counted 405 snow geese, 46 snow buntings, 245 tundra swans and a Say's phoebe noshing gnats.

March 3, Ron and Larry Ryel found the swans at Benson.

March 6, I saw great-horned owls at their nest.

March 9, the first sandhill cranes were heard overhead.

March 11, Larry and Ron encountered wallflower grouse.

March 14, Larry Ryel, Reinhard Jockel, Peter Paton and myself traveled to Bear River Refuge and saw 15 sub-adult and three adult bald eagles in large trees and floating on water, east of Dry Lake in Sardine Canyon. At the refuge, we saw a pair of cliff swallows, two dozen avocets, six Baird's sandpipers and two dozen pelicans.

— Kit Flannery

COSTA RICAN BIRD LIST

January 1992 Tour



A Clutch of Binocular Nit Twits

NOTE: After traipsing around Costa Rica with local birders Pat Bahler, Mary and Norb DeByle, Jim and Debbie Gessaman and Ruth Helm, Melva Wiebe was inspired to compile the following birder's-eye view of her companions.

Habits: Travel in a group of 12 to 14 individuals; found in odd places at irregular times. Individuals disperse at night, often reassembling in the predawn hours. A definite pecking order exists within the clutch.

Sub-species:

1. Black-mandibled leader bird

Definitely at top of pecking order. Sharp-eyed. Acute peripheral vision. Is said to have post-ocular sighting ability.

2. Blue-billed leader bird

A pair, next to black-mandibled in the pecking order. Male has brightly mottled chest markings, often bearing striking resemblances to other birds. Probably an example of mimicry, perhaps a camouflage technique. Female has brightly variegated plumage, predominately blue-green.

3. Social on-looker

Another mating pair. Gregarious. Defer only to leader birds in the pecking order. Distinguished only by indistinguishable markings. Female, however, is readily recognized by her call, which closely resembles that of the laughing jacana.

(At this point the pecking order is difficult to discern. Individuals often move from one position to another)

4. Rufous-rumped whist and scarlet-rumped wonder bird

These two subspecies are easily confused, but the scarlet-rumped is much more shy. Also, their calls are very different: the wonder bird calls plaintively, "What is it?" while the whist cries aggressively, "That's it! That's it!"

5. Green-capped photo-graffica

Often seen around the periphery of the clutch. Can be recognized by telescopic eye rings. Usually found peering at flowers or butterflies or peeking into bushes

6. Uncommon barbit

Unlike the photo-graffica, the barbit hovers in the center of the clutch, calling at frequent intervals, "I see it! I see it!"

7. Snowy-crowned roadrunner

Easily recognized by its behavior. Seldom sits still and never stays in one place for long. Often seen in the company of a mud slosher

8. Black-footed mud slosher

Distinctive markings are purple legs with black feet that look somewhat like rubber boots.

9. Golden-caped euphoria

Habitat restricted to rain forest where its bright yellow plumage and maroon crest contrast sharply with the green foliage.

10. Unruffled el coche chauffeur

Disappears from the clutch from time to time. Has the peculiar habit of moving backwards occasionally, while emitting a characteristic "B-e-e-beep!"

11. Common sharp-beaked busybody

A curious bird, a bit of a smart aleck. Its position in the pecking order is obvious—dead bottom.

— Melva Wiebe

BARRENS REPORT

Mid-March 1992

March 3 — A meadowlark was singing as Ron and I pulled scope and packs from the car. We flushed a killdeer as we walked the "high" road to the ponds. The ponds were all water covered. The major attraction was 44 tundra swans. Two-thirds were west of the main dike and on the north edge of the marsh. The remainder were east of the dike on the shoreline of the farthest pond.

Canada geese were scattered about, mostly in pairs or small groups. Across the main pond about 220 ducks fed and rested. Most were pintails, green-winged teals, mallards and wigeons (widgeons). A few cinnamon teals were scattered among the others. To the north of this assemblage we saw a small group of Barrow's golden-eyes and common goldeneyes. A lone short-eared owl hunted slowly to the north.

— Larry Ryel

FEEDERWATCH REPORTS ON STUDY OF DEATHS AT FEEDERS

During the winter of 1989-90, 8,000 FeederWatch participants collected continent-wide data on bird deaths at feeders. The study does not imply that feeders are particularly dangerous. On the contrary, mortality at feeders may be lower than "in the wild."



Predation at feeders and window strikes accounted for 36 percent and 51 percent, respectively, of the 2,605 bird deaths reported. Disease accounted for 11 percent of mortality. Accidents other than window strikes accounted for 2 percent.

Birds that died of disease almost always showed symptoms of salmonella poisoning (206 of 211 cases). Caused by a widespread bacterium, salmonellosis is spread through fecal contamination of feed offered on tray feeders or on the ground.

In five cases, bird deaths were probably caused by pox, a viral infection characterized by lesions or proliferative growths on the mouth and upper respiratory tract. It is transmitted by direct contact between birds, contact with contaminated objects such as perches, feeders, and by insects. The virus can't penetrate unbroken skin, but small cuts or abrasions are sufficient for entry—thus the need for feeder designs that are hard on beaks and feet.

Accidents other than window strikes caused 36 bird deaths during the study year. Birds collided with fences or wires, or became tangled in netting, satellite dish string. Several were trapped inside bird feeders whose tops had been removed by squirrels. The most bizarre accident was reported by a woman in New Jersey: a squirrel chewed through the cord holding up her feeder and it crashed down, killing a mourning dove feeding below.

In the wild, typical annual mortality rate for small birds is at least 35 percent, a figure based on many history studies. At least a 9 percent mortality rate can be expected at feeders during the study period, from December to March. The study recorded only one-third that number. It appears unlikely that feeders draw birds into an environment more dangerous than the one they face in the wild.

Salmonella Warning Signs

Birds with salmonella poisoning appear very lethargic, sitting quietly for one to three days in a sheltered spot. Feathers fluffed out, often with head under wing. As the disease progresses, motor difficulties develop: a wobbly head, staggering walk, shivering, convulsions, inability to swallow. The bird dies within a few hours after the symptoms show strongly.

If you suspect salmonella in the birds at your feeder, take immediate action. Empty your feeders and disinfect them. Clean up all hulls and uneaten seed that might be contaminated with bird droppings.

If only a few birds seem to be affected, you can immediately set up feeders again, but watch for further trouble. Try moving food to new spots that draw birds away from areas that might be contaminated.

Once symptoms appear, the bird cannot be helped. Pets and humans can be infected. Wash thoroughly after cleaning feeders, or if you handle a sick bird.

— from FeederWatch Spring

BIRDWATCHER'S DIGEST OFFER

Editor's Note: Two issues of this compact magazine have found their way to our house. They are packed with juicy information. Questions I've had about crane life styles and marsh wren behavior have been cleared up painlessly—with pictures and simple prose! Anyone who wants to inspect these samples can view them at my house, 718 North 200 East. I'm sure anyone with a smidgen of interest in birds can enjoy this publication. And now they've made a special offer to new subscribers.

The form below enables Bridgerland Audubon to benefit when you purchase a new subscription to *Bird Watcher's Digest*. The terms are as follows: for every new one-year regular or gift subscription at \$15.95, we'll receive \$8.00; for a new two-year subscription (\$27.95) we get \$14.00; a new three-year subscription (\$39.95) nets us \$20.00. Simply fill out this form, and send it with your payment (and the name of our group—see the line provided) to *Bird Watcher's Digest*. What better way to give a nice gift (to yourself or someone you know) and help us finance our future projects!

Bird Club Subscription Program		 	
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CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____		EXPIRATION DATE _____	
SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) _____		BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY	
NAME OF MY BIRD CLUB _____			

HAPPY HOUSE WREN REQUIREMENTS

A recent article in the *Journal of Field Ornithology* reported that house wrens preferred nest boxes that had a horizontal slit rather than a round hole. It is the male that initiates nest-building and fills the box with sticks. The slit makes for easier placing of twigs within the box. Depth of box was not important. So for those who wish to attract house wrens, try making a slot 2 5/8-inch wide by 5/8-inch height. Then drill an entrance hole 1 1/8-inch diameter midway in the slot. Inside dimensions of the box should be 3 5/8- x 4 1/8-inch. Depth is not critical but should be a minimum of 5 5/8-inches.

— AWS 7

EXPLORING BEAVER COUNTRY

A group of about 50 people, including me and about 15 other kids, went on a beaver hike on Saturday, February 22, near Benson Ward. The hike was designed so people, no matter what they already knew, could learn a little more about the beavers of Cache Valley. My mother and I hadn't even known Cache Valley had beavers.

We drove from the Fred Meyer parking lot to an area near Bear River. We then had a "discovery time" where we took 10 minutes to look around without telling anyone else about what we found or saw. We then explored and talked some more and learned a lot. I saw a beaver floating down the river and saw a lot of new tracks. After that we roasted marshmallows, and the kids climbed on a club-house, which some people thought was made by kids and some thought was made by beavers.

It was lots of fun to see all the animal life and doings that we saw on the hike, and I hope that the Audubon Society will continue walks like this and keep them open to the public. It's nice only to have your feet and mind to guide you instead of signs, brochures, and fences. It's a great thing to do with a Saturday afternoon.

— Mary Seidel
Sixth grade

JUNIOR NATURALIST UPDATE

This Wednesday the Bridgerland Audubon Junior Naturalists will celebrate our second birthday. The Junior Naturalists are open to any children aged nine to late teens.

This winter's adventures included cross-country ski journeys, tracking expeditions, marshland birdwatching and writing seminars. We have a strong outdoor science program, writing program and a whole lot of fun. It is easy to see in these young faces the Aldo Leopolds, Rachel Carsons and John Muirs of tomorrow.

We have an ambitious summer program planned for this year. Trips will include backpacks in the local mountains, canoe trips beneath the solstice moon, many day hikes and a four-day journey to Yellowstone. A new addition to our program will be an adventure/leadership team for our teenage members.

For more information contact Steve Archibald (753-8488) or Kayo Robertson (752-3944).

AUDUBON GREAT SALT LAKE RETREAT

Date: April 4 - 5, 1992
10 am Saturday - 1 pm Sunday

Place: Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

Meeting site and Overnight Accommodations: Canada Goose Duck Club

Guests: Congressman Jim Hansen, Bear River MBR Staff, Audubon regional V.P. Bob Turner

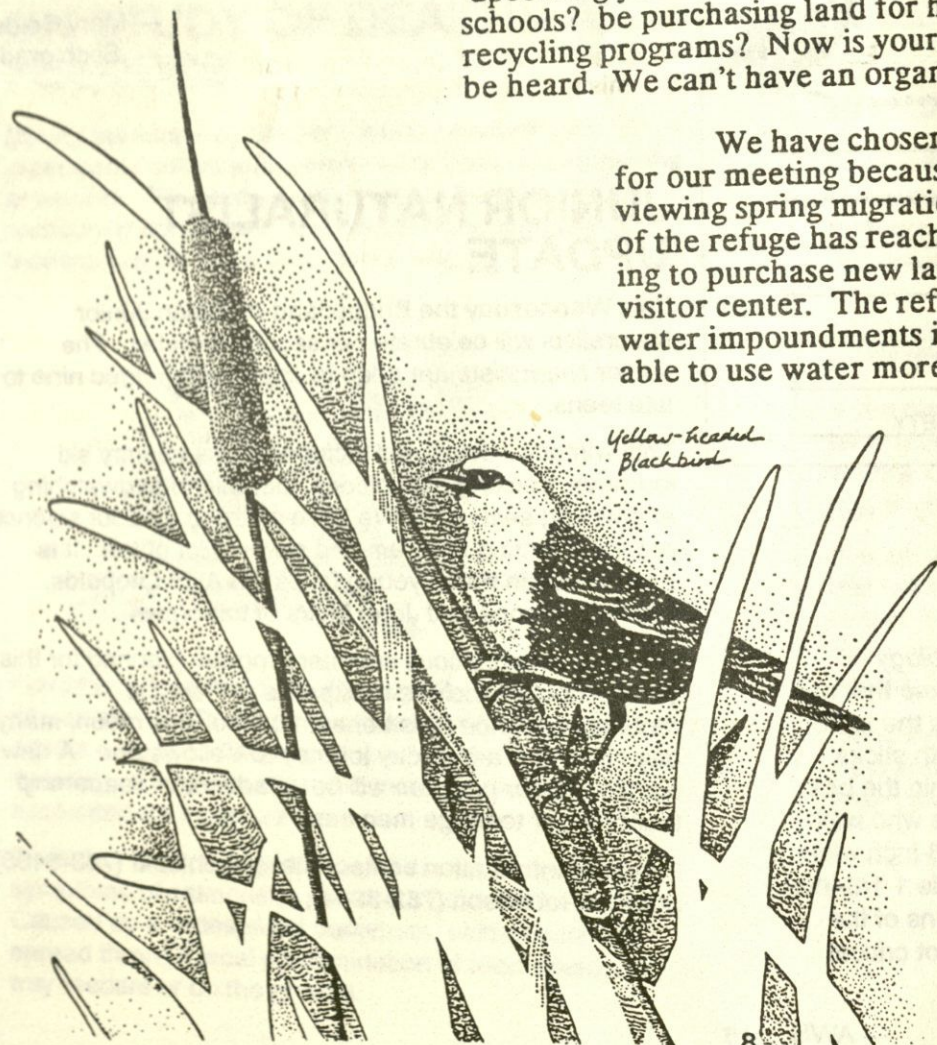
Hosts: Bridgerland Audubon Society,
contact Alice Lindahl (801) 753-7744 for reservations and information.

Thanks to: Allen Esplin and Wiley Campbell, Canada Goose Duck Club and Max Jamison,
Bear River Duck Club.

Bridgerland Audubon will host the spring retreat for all Audubon members in Utah. It is a great opportunity to meet new birders, learn about the rehabilitation of the wetlands around the Great Salt Lake, and give Audubon your ideas about what your organization should be doing in the upcoming year. Do you think Audubon should be more active in schools? be purchasing land for habitat protection? be organizing recycling programs? Now is your chance to get on the agenda and be heard. We can't have an organization without your input.

We have chosen the Bear River Refuge as a site for our meeting because it is such a wonderful spot for viewing spring migration of birds, and the rehabilitation of the refuge has reached a critical point. It is preparing to purchase new lands for expansion and build a visitor center. The refuge will also divide up its unit water impoundments into smaller ponds in order to be able to use water more efficiently. In the next several years we will be lobbying Congress to spend federal dollars on the refuge.

Please come and bring a friend. The environment needs all of us. You can attend just one activity or all of them. If you would like to stay overnight in the bunkhouse at the Canada Goose Duck Club, please call Alice (number above) to reserve a bunk.



PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

Summary, February 19, 1992

Merv Coover brought up and the Board discussed an "activists' scorecard" to credit BAS members who write letters and engage in other conservation-oriented activities. We also discussed employing a telephone billing system called the Affinity Fund that would provide some funding for BAS.

Rebecca Echols described efforts to place a bottle bill on the ballot in November and we discussed ways of obtaining petition signatures. Bruce Pendery and Nadene Steinhoff provided updates on their respective activities on the Logan Canyon highway issue. We discussed the annual banquet and upcoming elections to the Board.

Sue Robertson presented a treasurer's report showing that we need to consider fund raising efforts in the upcoming year.

— Tom Gordon
Secretary

Summary, March 18, 1992

Dawn Holzer, Larry Ryel, Allen Stokes, Rebecca Echols, Pat Gordon, Alice Lindahl, John Barnes, Nadene Steinhoff, and John Sigler attended.

Larry Ryel reported seeing 22 herons on nests at the Spring Creek rookery. He hopes to stop destruction of the rookery through negotiation. Also, about 40 people made field trip to Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, one of the largest groups ever.

Al Stokes reported on organization of Bottle Bill Referendum Petition. Sixty-five thousand signatures are needed statewide. He wants more groups involved locally.

Rebecca Echols said there are stores where petitions can be signed. BAS will have tables at EcoFair and the USU Environmental Fair, where we can collect signatures and also register people to vote.

John Barnes asked BAS to support a program to treat leafy spurge, an invasive weed, with insects. He said there's a good chance to contain it now before it spreads. A leaf-hopper type beetle would be released; major impact is from larvae feeding on roots. Cost would be \$300 to \$1000 per site; at least three sites are known. The one-time release would establish a population to control the leafy spurge indefinitely. Alice Lindahl recommended we consider contributing \$400.

John Sigler reported we can apply for money from the restaurant tax to cover capital costs on projects related to

tourism. Possible projects mentioned were signs in Stewart Nature Park, a parking facility at Spring Creek, and rookery protection. He also said the tourist council wants a list of birds easily seen in Cache Valley that are hard to see elsewhere. Larry Ryel said the problem with directing tourists to view birds is the lack of public land.

Nadene Steinhoff reported on her work to distribute information about the Logan Canyon highway plan. She said all the people she meets with are very uneasy about it. Groups are responding energetically to the slide show presentation. There was extensive discussion about the focus of her work, with some expressing reservations about the total approach. Consensus was to support the strategy, with minor modifications.

— Pat Gordon
Undersecretary

RECYCLING WITH IRMA

Those of you who didn't come to the February 25 meeting of the Cache Recycling Coalition missed a chance to meet Dorothy Bloom, manager-owner of Bloom Recycling, 2126 Wall, Ogden, Utah. She is special: young, pretty, tough, shrewd, capable. In a business that has unpredictable marketing, she is optimistic, flexible, and seems to enjoy laughing at her experiences.

One of the things Dorothy alerted us about is that Nucor, nearby in Box Elder County, is a good market for steel cans. Labels can stay on and the cans do not have to be flattened. Cans should be rinsed out. (There's a job opportunity here.)

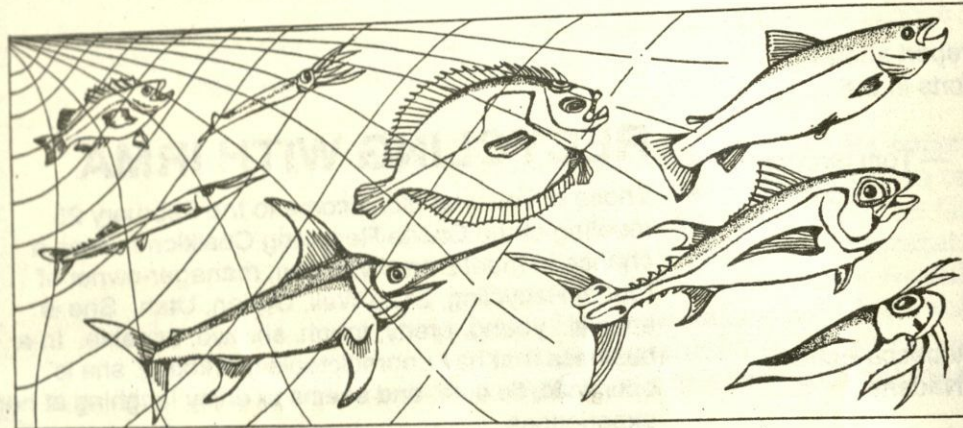
In the past three years the market for scrap steel cans increased threefold. Now there are 58 U.S. markets and five Canadian markets. In 1991, per short ton, the price was \$30-\$90, and the demand is steady and improving. SCRI, Steel Can Recycling Institute, has contacted hotels, schools, jails, as sources of #10 food cans. In February of this year SCRI mailed out 60,000 educational packages to fifth through eighth graders in schools. A national goal has been set to have a 66 percent recovery rate for steel cans by 1995.

It goes on happening—2.7 billion aerosol cans are manufactured annually. Aerosol cans, automotive product containers, paint containers, that are collected at hazardous household waste drives can be processed for steel recycling. That's good news, because landfills are getting increasingly scarce. In the past decade, 14,000 landfills have closed and fewer than 1,000 new ones have opened. The EPA predicts one third of the nation's remaining 6,000 landfills currently in use will close within five years. EPA also predicts all the landfills in 27 states will be closed soon after the turn of the century.

AIRLINE ATTENDANTS START RECYCLING PROGRAM

On my recent flight home from Costa Rica I was intrigued by the button that a flight attendant was wearing stating "Says You Can't Make a Difference to the World?" Later when he served me coffee I asked him how he was making a difference. He then told me how the American Airlines Flight Attendant Association had initiated recycling of plastic dishes and utensils served on AA flights. He said that AA had cooperated by providing the recycling receptacles at airports, mainly at airline spokes such as Dallas and Atlanta. In any event, the flight attendant association got to keep the profits which they donated to charities of their choosing. I later noticed that on clearing our trays the attendants stacked the plates and cups separately to facilitate recycling. I intend to look into what Delta Airlines is doing in this regard. Salt Lake Airport as a major spoke for Delta we are in a good position to exert some influence.

U.N. BANS DRIFTNETS, ENDS STRIP-MINING OF SEAS



Responding to the world outcry over the senseless slaughter of marine life on the high seas, the United Nations voted in December to ban driftnet fishing worldwide by the end of the year. However, scientists say it may take years for some species to recover from the damage caused by the "curtains of death."

The U.N. resolution was sponsored by the U.S. government, which had been under pressure from environmental activists to seek a complete ban on driftnets.

The action follows a resolution passed two years ago that banned driftnetting in the South Pacific. Driftnet fleets from Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan—now operate in the North Pacific, but the latest resolution bans the practice worldwide. Though these three nations have resisted the idea of a ban in the past, they have agreed to abide by the decision. However, conservationists will have to continue pressure in France, which has driftnet fleets in the Atlantic. The French government says it will not ban driftnetting until the end of 1993.

Despite this French resistance, the U.N. resolution "is a major victory for the oceans," says Albert Manville, senior biologist at Defenders of Wildlife. "It's going to allow the oceans to begin to recover."

The resolution mandates a 50 percent reduction in driftnet fishing by mid-year and a complete ban by December 31. Safina, director of Audubon's Marine Program, says it will initially be up to each country to police its own fishing fleets.

Manville believes the United States should be prepared to use trade leverage against countries that are not enforcing the ban. "We have some strong laws on the books now and we've got to push for enforcement," he says. He cites the 1973 Amendment, which allows the president to ban U.S. imports of wildlife products from certain countries.

Manville supports the use of U.S. military equipment to help monitor compliance with the ban. He says overflights and satellite tracking could help identify vessels still using the nets.

The floating driftnets, which reach up to 40 miles in length and 50 feet deep, first came into use about a decade ago. Since then, scientists have seen a steady decline in some marine species. Driftnets trap or kill virtually all fish, sea mammals, and seabirds that come in contact with them. All but the target species are usually tossed back into the sea to rot.

According to figures based on an observer program, the Japanese squid fleet—only one of five driftnet fisheries in the North Pacific—in 1990 captured 106 million neon flying squid, but also killed 39 million fish, more than 700,000 blue sharks, 270,000 seabirds, 26,000 marine mammals, and 406 sea turtles.

—Steve C...
from Audubon...

NATIONAL NEWS

STRONG WETLANDS BILL INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

On February 19, Rep. Don Edwards (D-CA) introduced H.R. 4255, titled the Wetlands Reform Act of 1992. Audubon played a key role in drafting this bill, which is designed to strengthen federal protections for wetlands while addressing complaints of regulatory uncertainty and delays which have been levelled against current wetlands regulations. H.R. 4255 would also delay the implementation of the Administration's politically motivated "delineation manual," which would remove a minimum of 50 percent of the nation's wetlands from federal protection, pending completion of a study by the National Academy of Sciences.

H.R. 4255 is the first wetlands bill to present a viable and comprehensive alternative to the environmentally disastrous policies proposed in the Bush administration's delineation manual and Rep. Hayes' anti-wetlands bill, H.R. 1330. Now is the time to write to your House member and urge him or her to support wetlands protection by cosponsoring H.R. 4255. For more information, contact Clark Williams, Audubon's wetlands lobbyist, (202) 547-9009.

WOLF SPECIALIST AT THE DOOR

Audubon's Rocky Mountain Regional Office has brought on a "part-time" Wolf Specialist to assist with the Yellowstone Wolf EIS. My name is Brian Peck and I'm a full-time park ranger/naturalist in Boulder, Colorado—hence my part-time status with Audubon.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service currently has plans to hold 25 regional and five national scoping meetings for the draft EIS. With limited staff and dollars we obviously cannot be everywhere at once. It is clear, therefore, that an on-going communication between our office and the chapters will be vital if the Audubon perspective is to play an important role. I am hopeful that I will be able to open and maintain an activist network through your chapter's newsletter.

The address for anyone interested in receiving Yellowstone Wolf EIS documents from the USF&WS: Yellowstone Wolf EIS, Box 8017, Helena, MT 59601.

This will be the primary address for both scoping documents and the draft EIS mailings over the next 15 months. The more activists we can get on the mailing list, the better. Thanks for your help.

— Brian Peck
Wolf Specialist
Rocky Mountain Regional Office



For further information on national campaigns, write to National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

To communicate with your representatives in Washington, write to:
President George Bush, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500
Senator Jake Garn or Orrin Hatch, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510
Representative James V. Hansen, Wayne Owens, or Bill Orton, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

POLITICS 1992

The president, 34 senators and the entire House are up for re-election in 1992. The outcomes of these races could well determine the course of environmental protection for the next decade.

Due to redistricting required by the 1990 census, representatives in almost every state will be running for re-election in redrawn districts. This could result in more than 100 new representatives in the 103rd Congress. The major political battleground for environmentalists is expected to be the West, with key congressional races in nearly every western state.

This could make a significant difference to environmental legislation. Ask about candidates' opinions on environmental issues. Let them know you're concerned about a sustainable way of life.

YOUR TREES ARE FOR SALE

Your Taxes Pay For This

Last year, over 1,000,000 acres of national forests were destroyed by the logging industry. If current trends continue, there will be no intact old-growth forests in this country left by 1995.

Your tax dollars help pay for this destruction. The timber industry receives subsidies from the U.S. government in the form of below-cost sales of trees in public forests, forests that you own as a citizen. In Alaska's Tongass National Forest, the U.S. Forest Service sold 500-year-old trees worth \$700 each on the open market for as little as \$1.48. Overall, it is estimated that two-thirds of all national forests lose money on their timber sales, providing an annual \$1 billion subsidy to the industry. It's also one reason virgin paper prices are artificially low compared to recycled paper.

Our national forests are home to some of our nation's most endangered wildlife and are a priceless resource. You can protect this resource by supporting the following legislation:

The Forest Biodiversity and Clearcutting Act (H.R. 1969)

The National Forest Timber Cost Recovery Act. (H.R. 842/S.1334)

For further information contact the Native Forest Council, P.O. Box 2171, Eugene, OR 97402 (503) 688-2600.

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