



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 24, No. 8

April 1996

Finding A Future For An Endangered Bird

The Operation at Eglin Air Force Base in the Florida Panhandle is reminiscent of the opening scene from the late 1970s Vietnam War movie *Apocalypse Now*. A helicopter comes out of the distant blue horizon, flying low over a verdant expanse of forest. The "wop-wop-wop" of the engine pulses in the air. The chopper fires spherical objects, like ping-pong balls, at the ground, and flames burst against the trees. "It's like starting a zillion lightning-strike fires all over the place," says Carl Petrick, the man who has called this air strike. "You can burn well over a 1,000 acres an hour."

Petrick plans these flights of flame not to destroy the forest but to restore it. He is a civilian biologist in charge of Eglin's wildlife management and he knows that fire will make the area suitable habitat for red-cockaded woodpeckers, an endangered species and the center of often-controversial management programs.

The birds live in southern pine forests and require woods relatively clear of undergrowth. In earlier times, fires started by lightning burned much of the southern pine forest every few years, incinerating the understory and the hardwood saplings that would otherwise have crowded out pines. Fire-resistant longleaf pines were scorched at their bases, but otherwise unharmed.

This system worked fine until twentieth-century fire-fighting policies cooled off the woods, allowing hardwoods to grow up and replace vast areas of pine forest. "It's been the Smokey Bear complex," says Ralph Costa, red-cockaded woodpecker recovery coordinator

for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). "Taking recurring natural fire out of the system has completely changed the table scraps of longleaf ecosystem we have left, in that they have serious hardwood-midstory problems." The main red-cockaded problem is that the birds abandon forests choked with non-pine growth.

Learning the importance of fire to the survival of the endangered bird has been long in coming. Indeed, the means to red-cockaded survival are only now becoming clear. But the leaps in scientific understanding have initiated some remarkable successes in managing the woodpeckers. They also have provided conservationists with data needed to add suppleness to the Endangered Species Act and to assure private landowners that doing right by the endangered woodpeckers will not impinge on economic interests. As a result, experts say, a bird whose future until recently looked grim could be poised for a comeback.

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Calendar

Thursday, April 11. Homegrown Talent: Photography from Audubon Members, 7:30 P.M. Bridgerland Audubon Society often brings in outside expertise and talent for our monthly membership meetings. This time, our members are the talent! Bring a few of your best slides of your favorite subjects or places, and share them with other Audubon members. Audubon will provide the projector and a slide tray. If you are not an Audubon member, come for the show, and bring your slides as well! If your favorite photos are in print form instead of slide form, contact Robert Schmidt at 755-9262 to get them converted. Refreshments will be provided. The meeting will begin at 7:30 P.M. in the Logan City Building, 225 North Main. For more information, contact Robert Schmidt, 755-9262 (evenings).

Wednesday, April 17. BAS Planning Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Chair and board members join to discuss program budgets and fundraising. As a member, your input is always welcome. Robert Schmidt will host this month's meeting at 1665 East 1350 North in Logan.

Field Trips

BAS field trips are open to everyone. Good companionship and there's always someone along who knows interesting tidbits about our natural environment. With the coming of spring, there is an abundance of activity. Unless stated otherwise, reservations are not needed, trips are open to all ages, and carpooling is available. If there is a trip you would like to lead or one you'd like to see offered, please call Bryan Dixon at 752-6830.

Friday Night and Saturday, April 12-13. Grouse Courtship Camping Trip. Visit the Curlew National Grassland in southern Idaho to observe Sage and Sharp-tailed Grouse strutting their stuff. We'll camp Friday night at the Curlew Campground north of Snowville at the south end of Stone Reservoir and get together at 7 P.M. around the campfire to listen to Ken Timothy, Forest Service biologist, discuss the grouse mating rituals.

Saturday, we'll get up before dawn to watch the birds on their leks, and then return to camp for breakfast. Afterwards, we'll visit other places at the Grasslands to look for other birds and creatures. We may even get to hear a loon! Return Saturday afternoon. Carpools encouraged; advanced reservations required but not limited; call Bryan Dixon at 752-6830.

Saturday, April 27. Amalga Barrens Revisited. The Barrens are a changing habitat. Join us as we return to the Barrens to see who's left and who's come in. Late April can be an excellent shorebird time. In the past

we've seen owl nests along the nearby roads, and there may be some good tracks from natural predators hunting in the area like coyotes and fox. Leave from Fred Meyers parking lot at 8:00 A.M. Return by lunch. Some of us may want to take the "long way home" to see some other habitats. Trip leader, Reinhard Jockel. For more information call Bryan, 752-6830.

Saturday-Sunday, May 4-5. Antelope Island Overnight. Our annual trip to see the wonders of an island in the Great Salt Lake. Leave early Saturday morning (carpooling available) and return Sunday night. We'll stop along the causeway to look for unusual shorebirds (like black-bellied plover, snowy plover, etc.) and camp on the island in a special campground all to ourselves. You can go off hiking on your own or join a naturalist for guided walks. We'll see interesting birds, wildflowers, mountain goats, buffalo, and who knows what else? Advance reservations required but not limited. Contact Ted Evans, 753-2259.

Friday Evening, May 11. Edible and Medicinal Plants. Here's your chance to explore the variety of plants growing here in Cache Valley that have been found to have direct value as food or medicine for people. We'll search out some edible plants and cook them up for a fashionably late dinner. Trip limited to 10 people, and registration is required two weeks in advance. Materials fee, \$5. For more information call Kayo Robertson, 563-8272.

Saturday, May 11 and Sunday, May 12. Annual Bear River Canoe Trips. Two one-day trips along our nearby Bear River to explore the wildlife and riparian habitats. We're sure to see some good warblers and the occasional beaver and muskrat. One year we even had an elk swim the river just in front of us! Ponder the disappearing Great Blue Heron rookery and maybe see some owls on the nest. Reservations required; rental canoes at USU Outdoor Recreation and Trailhead Sports. Call Alice Lindahl, 753-7744, to register.

Saturday, May 18. Annual Bridathon. How many different species can you see in one day? This is a fundraiser for Audubon environmental education and habitat improvement projects. We ask donors to pledge some amount for each species seen. Last year one group saw 112 species in one day; another group saw 98 species by noon; and we raised over \$6,000 last year that went towards Bear River cleanup and the Audubon Wetlands project at the south end of the Great Salt Lake. (We also had a lot of fun, but that's beside the point—or is it?) for more information, or if you know of a donor who might like to be contacted, call Bryan at 752-6830.

Mid-May Mid-Week Heron Rookery Canoe Trip. A leisurely two hour canoe trip to float under the magnificent Great Blue Heron Rookery. By then, the

chicks will have hatched, and if we're quiet, we'll minimize disturbance and see some wonderful nesting behavior.

Summer Trips

Bridgerland Audubon usually suspends its monthly meetings and the newsletter June–August, but that's only because we're all busy playing. Here's some "playing" you might want to join:

Saturday, June 15. Coldwater Lake Hike. A short hike to a small pond perched on the east side of the Wellsville Mountain Wilderness Area. Fabulous time for wildflowers, warblers, and butterflies. Great for families and children. The adventurous can continue on the trail to reach Stewart's Pass on the crest of the Wellsvilles for a spectacular view of the Great Basin.

Main trip leaves 8:00 A.M. from the U.S. Forest Service office, 1500 East Hwy 89, and back by early afternoon. For more information, call Jack Greene, 563-6816, or Louise Murch, 755-3620.

Saturday, June 29. High Creek Waterfalls. A 3-4 mile round trip hike up the bottom of High Creek Canyon to find some beautiful waterfalls, cool and refreshing on a hot summer day. Leaders will help you identify forest plants and animals. The adventurous can continue on to the Beaver Ponds, two miles further up the canyon. This is the northern end of the Naomi Peak Wilderness Area, a jewel in the Bear River Range. Main trip leaves 8:00 A.M. from the U.S. Forest Service office, 1500 East Hwy 89, and back by early afternoon. For more information, call Jack Greene, 563-6816, or Louise Murch, 755-3620.

Saturday, August 3. Tony Grove Wildflowers Hike. A family hike in the Tony Grove area to study wildflowers and mountain birds. This spot was chosen by the American Birding Association for one of their annual convention field trips, so it's got to be rich! The basins around Tony Grove harbor quiet groves of trees, limestone sinkholes, and rich meadows. The adventurous can continue on to the Naomi Peak summit, and if the thunderstorms are quiet, enjoy a panoramic view of northern Utah, stretching from Cache Valley to the Unita Mountains. Main trip leaves 8:00 A.M. from the U.S. Forest Service office, 1500 East Hwy 89, and back by early afternoon. For more information, call Jack Greene, 563-6816, or Louise Murch, 755-3620.

USU Outdoor Program

Friday, April 12. "The Unknown History of Glen Canyon," 7:00 P.M. Conducted by Barry Scholl, author and associate editor of *Salt Lake City* magazine, Francois Camoin, author and photographer, and fiddler/composer William Barclay, the presentations will combine discussion, slides, video, and music to examine the human and natural history of Glen Canyon

on the Colorado River prior to its inundation by the dam that created Lake Powell. Limited seating. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the ORC or the night of the show for \$4.00.

Tuesday, April 16. "Wilderness at the Edge," 7:30 P.M. Presented by USU students Darek Staab, Jon Jensen, and Eric Newell. Fresh off a lobbying trip to Washington, D.C., the discussion will use slides and hand-outs to bring interested persons up to date on the current status of BLM wilderness designation in southern Utah. Of course, stories of trials and tribulations in the halls of Congress too! Free!

USU Canoe and Kayak Club

River Safety and Rescue Courses (2)

For paddlers and rafters

Video: Thursday, May 9, 7:30 P.M. NFS room 102 — for all boaters; no charge.

Weekend Course

May 11-12, two full days of activities; Saturday will be dry land training, Sunday will be spent practicing skills on the Weber River. \$45 for members, \$50 for non-members; \$10 deposit required.

River Safety and Rescue Refresher

For boaters who have taken a comprehensive course Saturday, May 18 on Oneida Narrows of the Bear River. Contact: Glen Gantz, 258-2748; ggantz@cache.net. Fee: \$15 for equipment that will be distributed among participants after the workshop.

Paddlefest and Dead Fish Polo

Annual flat water paddling festival at First Dam; date to be announced.

Paddling Trips

Contact Jean Lown, 752-6830.

Budget and Planning Meeting in April

The April 17 planning meeting will focus on program budgets and fundraising. We have a new opportunity to introduce children to environmental programs through the use of the Logan Canyon Nature Center (formerly the American Legion Lodge) near the mouth of Logan Canyon. We will also review our progress over the past year and set goals for the coming year. Open to all members, of course! Meet at the home of Robert Schmidt, 1665 East 1350 North, in Logan at 7:00 P.M. Refreshments provided.

Bird Seed

Don't forget those birds just because the snow has gone! Bird seed is still available at \$16 for 50 pounds—a great deal! You can buy it at Sunrise Cyclery. Many thanks to Jeff Keller for providing this service!

Annual Banquet a Success

Approximately 160 people enjoyed the Audubon Banquet held on February 17, 1996 at the Bullen Center. A special presentation was made to Al Stokes who was in attendance with his family. Bill Oblock of the Grapevine catered the buffet dinner which included a delectable birthday cake for Audubon. The education award was given to Sandra Schimelpennig and the Al Stokes Conservation Award to Margaret Pettis and Dick Carter. The guest speaker was Steve Hoffman, President of HawkWatch International, who spoke on "The River of Raptors: Mexico and Utah." His talk included beautiful slides of birds in these two areas.

HawkWatch International Needs Your Support

HawkWatch International, headed by banquet speaker, Steve Hoffman, asks for your financial support for the important research and educational work done by the organization for raptor conservation. Become a member or participate in the Adopt-A-Hawk program. Membership rates are \$25 (individual), \$35 (family), \$50 (supporting) and \$100 (Falcon Club). Membership includes one-year subscription to quarterly newsletter *RaptorWatch*, special member rates to events and birding equipment. For more information or to send memberships and donations, contact: HawkWatch International, Inc., P.O. Box 660, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-060, (801) 524-8511, (800) 726-4295.

Willard Eagle Trip

The Bridgerland Audubon Society took its annual trip to the ridge above Willard Canyon on Saturday, March 9. The great attraction of this area is the large numbers of eagles, particularly bald eagles, that can be easily seen. The birds feed in the Bear River marshes by the Great Salt Lake and can be seen soaring as they return to roost in the forest on the south slope of the canyon. This year was unique as the bald eagles appeared to have remained in the area all winter, as drivers along I-15 can testify seeing them in the trees along Willard Bay in the morning.

Besides the eagles, the hike itself is a lot of fun and usually marks the first hike of the season. It starts out at the gravel pit by Willard, climbs up a steep, rocky chute about 1000 feet, and then continues up another 1000 feet over a couple of sagebrush slopes to the overlook above the canyon. Last summer a brush fire pretty much removed all the bushes, trees, and sage from the slopes, and the next couple of years will be interesting to see how the slopes regrow and with what. This year not much grass or many wildflowers were seen, and there was snow near the top.

About 30 people met at Fred Meyers in Logan and drove to the gravel pit. Reinhard Jockel and Jim Sinclair

were the leaders. Some of the birders decided to hike around the numerous trails below the slopes, some scrambled up the chute, watched birds and had lunch at the top there, and the rest continued on to the overlook above the canyon. Everybody got a good look at the birds. Besides the bald eagles, golden eagles, red-tailed and other hawks, a peregrine falcon, grouse, ravens, and songbirds were seen. One of the best sights was above the chute where about 15 eagles were soaring at once, and these were joined by a flight of F-15 fighter jets above them. Bryan Dixon set up a spotting scope above the canyon and found a good number of bald eagles roosting in the trees. The group stayed for an hour or so and made their way down – til next year.

— J. Sinclair

Elections Scheduled for May

With folks moving on to new places, we will be having some openings for officers and trustees. The Board will nominate new people for these positions and publish the names in *The Stilt*, and ask for a vote from the membership at the May monthly meeting. Technically, all officer positions are up for re-election, but we will be looking to fill the positions of Vice President, Secretary, Field Trip Chair, plus four Trustees. The "Chair" positions listed on the back of *The Stilt* are the folks who make sure we have a newsletter, or that our habitat restoration programs have volunteers, or that our refreshments are served each month. Trustees serve for three year terms and are the guides for the organization, setting direction, controlling expenditures and introducing new people into the organization. BAS has a growing budget of over \$10,000 per year, and our habitat restoration and environmental education projects are growing as never before. If this sounds interesting, we can make a place for you. Contact Robert Schmidt, 755-9262, Bryan Dixon, 752-6839, or any of the current officers before April 17 if you would like to be nominated for one of our leadership positions.

New Members

Marc D Henkels
Dirk Henningsen
William Masslich
Shane R. Nebeker
Gisela Sassen
Stephen A Bialkowski
Gordon Bosworth
Gus & Cindy Koerner
Renee H Nolan
Gordon O Toone
John & Ann Mull

Renewing Members

Mrs Linda A Chisholm
John Ellsworth
Glen Gantz
James A & Sharon Smock Hoffman
Colleen Atwood Riley
Mark Ritchie
Louise Thomas
Dr. Janet Lee Young
Lin Alder
Clifton and Diane Alston
Eric R Cannon
Rebecca S Echols
John Fritschle
Don McIvor
Robert H Peterson
Jack Schmidt
Rene Walker
Dan Judd

Lobbying Report-'96 Season

Wildlife

Cougars became our main wildlife focus for this session. We mildly supported Representative Stylker's HB 70 since it was anti-poaching legislation of help to DWR for combating the poaching of trophy animals. There are news reports of egregious examples of poaching for profit almost every season. What we spoke against was the lowering of the fine for cougar poaching that was instigated by those who really want an open season on cougars. However, DWR feels that the legislation will still give them the clout they need for meaningful law enforcement. We definitely did not like Representative Hatch's SB 49 which permits the shooting of "aggressive" cougars within urban, suburban, and agricultural areas. This is not a reasonable piece of legislation from a law enforcement point of view or for wildlife management. DWR already had the procedures necessary for cougar management. The new law will put the Department in an even more difficult cougar dilemma.

Unfortunately, predator control is on the list of study items for this year's legislative interim committee meetings. The matter will no doubt be assigned to the Energy/Natural Resources/Agriculture Committee which is dominated by legislators who have no sympathy for predators. I would like to find some experts to testify when this matter comes up. The committee has heard enough from me.

Anti-condor sentiment prevailed in the EN/NR/AG Committee but faded away in the House. Representative Hatch's HJR 16 complained about the introduction of condors across the border in Arizona since that would no doubt mean condors flying over Utah, a wonderful idea for most of us. Representative Goodfellow, a committee member was excited by the

prospect of seeing condors in our skies and the bill was fortuitously lost in the scramble at the end of the session. We can only hope that this was a policy decision and not just happenstance.

This year the Department of Wildlife Resources did better than in the recent past. We contributed to this small success with our objections to the use of habitat stamp funds for fish hatchery repair while at the same time expressing support for Representative Adair's Fish Hatchery legislation, HB 77. It became clear to the appropriations people that both consumptive and non-consumptive groups felt that raising fish was not habitat improvement and that to spend habitat monies for hatcheries would create more resentment against DWR. Fortunately monies for hatcheries were found elsewhere. At the last meeting Representative Olsen gave a nice little farewell speech to the natural resources staff and the appropriations committee thanking them for their good work and commenting that the outdoors is the reason people live in Utah but receives the smallest share of the state budget. Audubon is traditionally in favor of these sentiments.

Wilderness/Open Space

The legislature enthusiastically passed several joint resolutions that Audubon interpreted as anti-environmental rhetoric. I will only mention two. One expressed enthusiasm for the Andalex Coal Mine on the Kapaiowitz Plateau; another sent a message to Congress in support of the Trappers Loop land trade. A small contingent of House Democrats faithfully opposed these and other unfortunate posturings. There are more than a few Republicans who should be voting against them as well. I do not think they realize how many of their constituents are angered by these symbolic statements. Tell them.

Senator Blackham's SB 48 was a difficult bill for us. It began the session as a minor step toward saving open space. It appeared to have an agricultural bias, but we felt we would want to support it. Unfortunately it was dramatically changed in the last week-and-a-half of the session. A whole new subcommittee and mission were added. We hoped it could be amended in at least two places to prevent the danger of exchanging open public land for private land preserves. This did not happen and the bill did pass so we need to watch the results very carefully. I hope you have been following the discussions in the news of late.

Roads

Roads are a difficult matter for Audubon. You would think they would be a somewhat neutral topic, but again this year we opposed the appropriation for R.S. 2477 defense, a study for an Andalex enabling road, and a study for a roadway to Antelope Island through our new Gillmor Wetland Preserve. Environmentalists must watch the unfolding of these last two projects carefully. The Southern Transportation Corridor (the coal road) is the more likely to be built and possibly the more

horrendous from an environmental perspective. Still another roadway, The Western Transportation Corridor (formerly the Davis Transportation Corridor), is well on its way so Wasatch Audubon must watch its proposed routing very carefully in order to protect wetlands. The Great Salt Lake South Shore Coalition, led by Wayne Martinson, is following this issue closely.

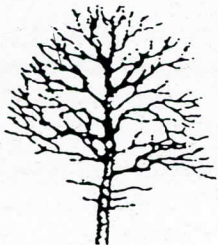
Environmental Quality

Representative Dillree sponsored a bill (HB 255) to allow the Division of Environmental Quality to place a lien against the property of companies that pollute but refuse to clean up after themselves. Industry supported the bill, the result of hard work by Representative Dillree, but it failed anyway. Senator Holmgren amended last year's industrial environmental self-audit bill and in doing so responded to most of the concerns of the environmental community. We should commend these legislators. Good things do happen, or almost happen, with very little public notice. No doubt Representative Dillree's bill will be introduced again next year.

Our main grass roots lobbying effort succeeded. Representative Protzman told me his HB 249: Recycling Zones was funded with three times the amount of money he asked for. (He cannot account for this.) It sailed through both houses. The conservation community made many phone calls, but it is important to note that Representative Protzman is a most skillful legislator. Minority legislators can be effective if they pick their issues wisely. We should take this lesson to heart.

Water

Senator Holmgren's SB 264 Bonding Law Amendments was about water policy even though the title did not bring this purpose immediately to mind. The intent of the legislation was to make it easier for water districts to bond unencumbered by citizen input, in the guise of efficiency of course. Current law gives unhappy taxpayer the opportunity to call a special election to approve these bonds. Water people argue that other entities do not need to do this so therefor water boards operate under an unfair burden. We argued that the boards of water districts are not elected officials And thus have an unfair immunity from citizen disapproval. (Taxation without representation) Fortunately, this argument appealed to a broad spectrum of the house members and they amended the bill by essentially putting back the recourse to a special election in one place in the bill. Even so this bill can still be considered a loss for us but not as damaging as it might have been and to be honest, we do have a hidden agenda here. Water policy is a contentious issue and the general consensus in environmental circles is that the state should slow down and think more about the consequences of water policy for both humans and wildlife SB 264 was designed to facilitate the last stage of the CUP as it was conceived a long time ago. Perhaps at this point in history the state should look at some new ideas.



3rd Annual
Trees and Trails Day
at Denzil Stewart Nature Park


Saturday April 20th
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Weeding

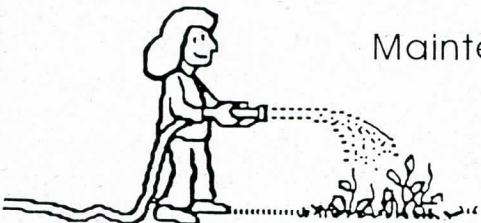
Trail building

Maintenance





Bring gardening tools and gloves

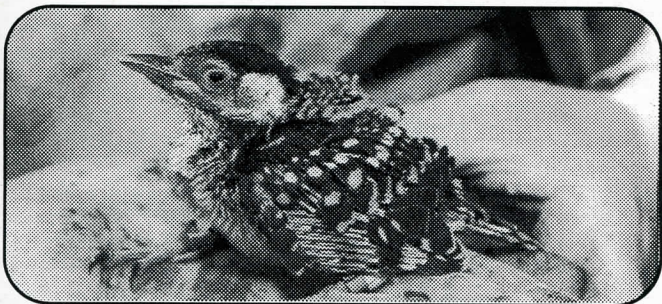


Come help us help the park!

For more information contact Sandra at 787-9524

Finding A Future For An Endangered Bird

Continued from page 1



Named for a tiny red streak on the side of the male bird's head, the cardinal-sized, black-and-white red-cockaded woodpecker probably evolved in southern old-growth longleaf pine forests. But the entire piney universe to which red-cockaded woodpeckers are finely calibrated—a belt of tall, widely spaced evergreens that covered 90 million acres of coastal plain from Chesapeake Bay to East Texas—has for the most part vanished. The cause is not just fire control but also heavy logging around the turn of the century. As the old-growth forest fell, so did red-cockaded woodpeckers, declining from an estimated 1.6 million family groups at the time Columbus sailed to about 4,500 groups (or roughly 12,000 individual birds) now. FWS listed the red-cockaded woodpecker as endangered in 1970.

The South still has millions of pines, but few pinelands suitable for red-cockaded. Pines planted to produce pulpwood and paper have replaced primeval longleaf, and in these commercial forests, trees are cut decades before they can become useful to the woodpeckers. The birds prefer pecking cavities into the living pines of only two species, and the trees must be at least 80 years old, an age at which they become internally weakened by a fungus called red heart. On average, the birds spend six years making a cavity in a longleaf pine, two years in a loblolly.

Red-cockaded live in family groups made up of parents, some adult male off-spring, and during breeding season, the newly fledged young of both sexes. Young males from former years help feed nestlings, defend territory and do other woodpecker work, such as cavity excavation. Young female red-cockaded usually leave their parents' territory, sometimes joining other groups that have lost a breeding female.

According to Jeffrey Walters, a red-cockaded woodpecker researcher at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, sticking close to home gives a young male a better chance of becoming a breeder himself. Each woodpecker family occupies several cavity trees

within the group's territory, and a successful helper can inherit these cavity trees when his father dies. Or he may be able to take over another cluster when a neighboring, unrelated breeding male dies.

Because of the clear importance of old pines to red-cockaded survival, early efforts to rescue the birds focused almost entirely on setting aside large stands of pines, called recruitment stands. But red-cockaded seemed disinclined to pioneer these stands, and the species declined steadily throughout the South during the 1960s, '70s and '80s. The birds' reluctance "didn't make sense to anyone at the time," says Walters. But research soon revealed the source of the recalcitrance. In 1988, scientists drilled artificial nest cavities in trees that grew within 20 test patches of forest unoccupied by woodpeckers. By the next breeding season, red-cockaded had moved into 18 of the test areas. In contrast, no birds moved into the control plots, which lacked artificial cavities. "The key is really the cavities," says Walters.

Suddenly, conservationists had a potent tool for helping the species, and this tool soon was put to use when, in September 1989, Hurricane Hugo's 115-mph winds flattened vast tracts of the Francis Marion National Forest in South Carolina. The forest was home to the nation's second-largest red-cockaded woodpecker population. "We lost 87 percent of the red-cockaded woodpeckers," says Craig Watson, a biologist at Francis Marion. After the storm, biologists found almost 700 of the area's 1,900 woodpeckers still alive, but only 200 undamaged cavity trees remained. Watson had a housing crisis on his hands.

Within a month, Forest Service crews were drilling cavities for the refugee birds. As of 1995, 1,400 of the cavities dotted the forest, and Francis Marion's 371 red-cockaded groups still ranked among the species' largest populations (Apalachicola National Forest in Florida has the largest, with 650 groups). "It's one of the big success stories for endangered species," says Watson.

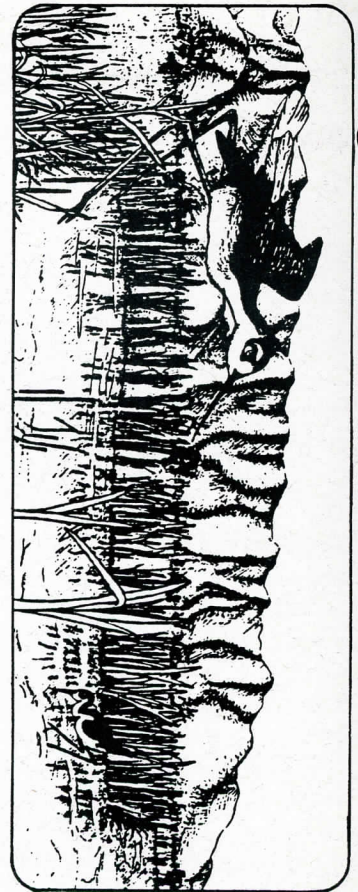
Presently, red-cockaded woodpeckers are increasing in a number of southern pine forests, and artificial cavities have played a part in each case. But where there is a way to save woodpeckers, there is not always a will. Attacks on the Endangered Species Act in Congress, and specifically on protection for red-cockaded, and lack of commitment to the bird's protection among land-management agencies may throw cold water on woodpecker recovery. "The biggest threat to this species today is more in a political nature than it is a biological nature," says North Carolina biologist J.H. Carter, III, whose research has revealed much of what is known about red-cockaded habitat needs. (He published his first report on the species 30 years ago, when he was 15.)

— Michael Lipske
National Wildlife

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THE STILT

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The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, October through May, in the Meeting Room of the new Logan City Building, 255 N. Main. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. The BAS Planning Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, September through May. Locations may change monthly. Check calendar page. Everyone is welcome to attend.

President	Robert Schmidt, 755-9262
Vice President	
Secretary	
Treasurer	Susan Drown, 752-3797
Conservation	Nick Strickland, 750-5035
Education	Jack Greene, 563-6816
Membership	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Newsletter	Lois Olson, 752-9085
Circulation	Susan Durham, 752-5637
Hospitality	Tim & Jackie Henney, 755-6888
Hotline	Nancy Williams, 753-6268

Trustees

1993-96	Rebecca Echols, 752-2367
	Richard Mueller, 752-5637
1994-97	Bryan Dixon, 752-6830; Glen Gantz, 258-2748;
	Ted Evans, 753-2259; Jan Anderson, 752-2946

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 280 N. 300 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, CO 80322-1001

LOCAL CHAPTER _____

Bridgerland Audubon Society
P.O. Box 3501
Logan, UT 84323-3501

W-52
Local Chapter Code
7XCHA

Subscriptions to *The Stilt* are available to non-members for \$5.00 per year. Call Susan Durham, 752-5637. Also, call Susan for new subscriptions or address changes.