



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

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January 1999

Phenology of the Sewage Lagoons

November 4, 1995: BAS field trip to the Sewage Lagoons. Lacking a driver's license, my parents dropped me off—very early for a Saturday morning—at the Fred Meyer parking lot. A little nervous at first, I soon realized I'd found a "niche"—a place to be accepted, to belong—something my high school sophomore world didn't always offer. There I was a radical and heathenous environmentalist: "save the whales," "hug a tree," "hey sliverlips." I was teased, usually by friendly good-natured folk, but too often by rowdy boys and even an intimidating teacher, who, regarding Logan canyon, had to yell, "PAVE IT!" whenever he saw me (to which I mumbled back, "save it"). Usually it was harmless, rather humorous, and I tried to believe they were secretly complimenting me, but alas, enough is sometimes enough.

Bridgerland Audubon Society, however, gave me a resounding: "It's okay to have convictions; we share them!" And then they showed me why. I was assigned to ride in a nice white vehicle and was excited about it purely on the basis of its license plate: "BIRDER." Allen Stokes was my personal guide, and when I wasn't diving out of the moving car to retrieve aluminum cans, I learned quite a bit.

Al gave me the rundown on some of the key Audubon folk, introduced me to waterfowl and a Ferrugineous Hawk, taught me the difference between *seeing* and *observing*, told me about his growing-up years,

demonstrated Rachel Carson's "sense of wonder" as we looked at goose scat and gull wings, took me on a walk and made me eat rose hips ("excellent source of vitamin C") and explained the problem of invasive exotics, talked to me about my grandfather in a way that almost made me proud to be a Lundahl. That morning, my only one-on-one interaction with Al Stokes, significantly impacted my life. He listened to my stories about an earlier experience at Teton Science School, he was interested in my dreams of the future (my young idealism at its peak), and he believed in me and was excited for my future.

In December, Alice sent me a postcard Al had written shortly after our field trip. In it he offered his explanation about the dead gull found at the sewage lagoons, and most importantly to me, wished me luck

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January Calendar Meetings

Tuesday, January 5, 7:00-8:00 a.m. , First Forest Breakfast at JB's Restaurant. Join other citizens in a relaxed breakfast meeting with Brian Ferebee, USFS District Ranger for the Logan District, to discuss concerns and issues on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The agenda for this coming meeting has yet to be decided. (Contact audubon@digitalpla.net if you have topics you'd like discussed.) Anyone is welcome and any topic is fair game. Come early if you like; breakfast on your own.

Thursday, January 7, 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting, at the home of Bryan Dixon, 10 Heritage Cove, Logan. (NOTE change of date, time and place as our regular meeting is a special program.) All BAS members are invited to join us as we review projects, priorities and issues.

Thursday, January 14, 7:00 p.m. General Meeting: Amalga Barrens Dam – What's New? Plenty. At Sunrise Elementary, 255 South 455 East, Smithfield. **NOTE change in place** to accommodate the general public; see notice elsewhere in this issue for details. The public is encouraged to attend.

The Conservation Committee meets the third Thursday of every month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Logan City Library (currently in Meeting Room #3, but following remodeling in Meeting Room #1). Please come to a meeting if you want to find out more about the environmental impacts from wetlands development, livestock grazing, off-road vehicle use, timber harvesting . . . and our efforts to reduce these impacts. Call Bruce Pendery at 792-4150 if you have questions.

Field Trips

All BAS trips are open to the public. For more information, call the trip leader listed at the end of each description.

Saturday, January 23. Winter Birding Trip in Cache Valley The valley is alive in the winter, despite the cold and snow. Come learn and teach others how to identify hawks, winter ducks and those LBJs. Dress warmly and be prepared to take short walks through the woods and meadows. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the parking lot north of Straw Ibis, 150 North 50 East, Logan. Return by lunchtime. For more information, call 752-6830.

February, (see next issue for date). Wetlands in Winter. Come explore the frozen wetlands in and around the Cutler Marsh to search for rodents and the critters that feed on them. We'll also examine the plant life and see how it adapts for the winter. Led by experienced naturalists.

Cache Hikers Outing Schedule

The meeting place for all outings is the southwest corner of Fred Meyers' parking lot. Participants are responsible to come properly dressed and bring adequate amounts of their own food and water.

Saturday, January 16, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wood Camp Hollow. Moderate x-country ski. For information call Jim and Julie Barta, 750-5790.

Saturday, January 30. Franklin Basin, Blue Moon Full Moon X-Country Ski. Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Ranger Station on 4th North and 1500 East. Bring flashlight and a hot drink. For information call Jim Sinclair, 752-0061.

Saturday, February 13, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Dry Canyon. Moderate snow shoe. For information call Reinhard Jockel, 752-9065.

Saturday, February 20, 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Spawn Creek. Easy x-country ski. For information call Jim Sinclair, 752-0061.

Saturday, March 6, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Blind Hollow. Moderate snow shoe. For information call Barbara Kerkmann, 752-9065.

Bridgerland Audubon Phenology

Continued from page 1

in my future endeavors—especially with an upcoming application to Teton Science School's six-week High School Field Ecology summer program. That postcard of the Tetons, with Al's handwritten words on back, accompanied me to TSS the following summer. It was there that I learned of Al's passing, and it was in the Absarokas that I then contemplated his life, the difference one person really can make, my own mortality. Never have I experienced such peace with the universe as I did that Saturday night of Al's memorial service, absorbed in wildness I'd never before known, looking up at an incredible star-filled sky, reflecting with my TSS instructor/mentor/friend Kate about Al.

November 21, 1998: The BAS field trip to the Sewage Lagoons. I recruited a few friends—even one who "mocked" me as a sophomore. And he enjoyed the outing. And thanked me. And admitted he could actually see how people could get into bird watching (previously an activity for very old and eccentric "bird nerds"). Again, knowledgeable people were more than willing to reacquaint me with buffleheads, shovelers, gadwalls—and even introduce me to an Old Squaw. But mostly, I remembered a November day a few years earlier—with many of the same people and birds, and with the same sense of acceptance, belonging and

enthusiasm—stuff that's always nice, even to a college sophomore.

Indeed, it IS okay to have convictions. I'm not necessarily talking monkey wrenching envirofanaticism—but the kind of convictions the people of BAS share—the kind that firmly but intelligently take a stand for our wild places, for birds and their worlds—our world, too. Bridgerland Audubon Society helped me see that a few years ago, and now, a bit more involved and aware, I realize it's not just okay. It is a good thing. A respectable thing. And yes, these convictions are a necessary thing.

— Merrilyne Lundahl

Board Stuff (As opposed to bored stiff . . .)

BAS is governed by a Board of Trustees which meets once a month (see meetings listed in the Calendar). Good camaraderie as we fight the forces of evil and save the world. All BAS members are invited, of course.

Outings – Though we're into the cooler months, our outings continue to be popular. On a cold, blustery day, we had over 25 people come out for the November geology field trip, where we learned about ancient Lake Bonneville and why there's a high bench to the south of Logan Canyon but none to the north. Thanks to Jim Evans and Susanne Janecke for a fun and informative tour. Just recently, the Christmas Bird Count had a record number of human participants and we didn't do too badly on the bird thing, either—92 species! January and February will see more outings to some of our local wildlife habitats.

Ron Hellstern has announced his resignation as Outing Chair, so we'll need a new volunteer to help organize our monthly trips. Many thanks to Ron for his long service. He organized numerous trips for us, including some ambitious and very successful rafting trips to distant rivers, getting us out of the Cache Valley. Ron has agreed to stay active on the board to help guide our youth environmental education efforts.

Environmental Education – BAS continues to support the Stokes Nature Center, which just enjoyed an incredibly successful fund-raising evening (see article elsewhere in this issue). The SNC has several programs organized for kids and families this winter – check 'em out.

We're also considering expanding our adult environmental education program. Last year, Dick Hurren organized an adult birdwatching class, which we plan to repeat. We'd like to add a forest ecology class and perhaps a wetlands ecology class. These would be taught on a few evenings and weekends so those of us caught in the 9 to 5 schedule can have an opportunity to learn more about the natural world. If you'd like more information, drop us a line.

Conservation – Forests, wetlands and wildlife – there's no end to the challenges we face on the conservation front. Regarding our forests, BAS is supporting the Logan Canyon Coalition in their efforts to have the upper Logan Canyon designated as Wild and Scenic. The President recently signed the legislation commonly known as the Land Swap, wherein the State of Utah and the U.S. Government exchanged many thousands of acres throughout the state, including tens of thousands of acres in the upper reaches of Logan Canyon. We have been promised by the USFS that the land will continue to be managed as is the adjacent land, which is mostly primitive, with ORV travel prohibited except on designated routes. The State of Utah, however, is an unknown quantity. The lands, including Beaver Mountain, are under the control of the State Lands and Forestry Board, which in the past has demonstrated its insensitivity to environmental values in its single-minded effort to generate as many dollars as possible. We shouldn't start yelling "the sky is falling" or anything, but we do need to be alert.

Our December general meeting hosting the Logan District USFS to explain their proposal for timber cuts in the Bear Hodges Analysis area was well attended and generally a success. The opening explanations about "process" were a bit too long, but we did finally get down to the substance of the proposal. It appears there has been a lot of thinking about how to manage this forest for long term diversity and habitat viability, which is good. In essence, there are six large—300-600 acre—patches of lodgepole pine forest which are all the same age—120 acres—and uniform throughout, and therefore are in danger of cataclysmic fire or insect epidemic. They wish to clear-cut each of these patches in rotation, so as to create an overall lodgepole ecosystem composed of large patches uniform within but diverse between. The spruce-fir forests are also lacking in diversity so they propose to introduce small clearings and thin the very old patches to more closely resemble what they believe was the "original" forest pattern with more diversity in age and size of trees. The proposal seems reasonable, however, we're still concerned about controlling ORV use and limiting grazing impacts on the logged areas. We're not convinced that the situation is so critical yet that it can't wait for these other impacts to be addressed before proceeding with the timber cuts. Some have even suggested that this proposal needs an EIS. At this writing, a decision has not been made.

Brian Ferebee, the USFS District Ranger announced at the last Forest Breakfast that the Wasatch-Cache-National Forest will be undertaking a comprehensive update to their Forest Plan. This will determine the management of our forests for decades to come. Scoping requests are scheduled for this winter. If you'd like a summary of the December meeting, call me or send a request to audubon@digitalpla.net.

Also on the USFS's schedule for the coming year is the first in a series of reviews of grazing management plans. There are almost 20 allotments on our local forest, each governed by a management plan. The first to undergo review will be the North Rich Allotment, south of the Logan Canyon summit. This process will take up to two years and could set precedents for how other grazing allotments will be managed.

With respect to wetlands, there are several issues looming, and our Conservation Committee is trying to assess the state of all of Cache County's wetlands so as to be prepared. We want to become more aggressive in reviewing all of the small wetlands filling and dredging projects such as that proposed to fill 14 acres of wetlands for the Logan-Cache Airport runway extension. Cache Valley is blessed with extensive wetlands which provide habitat, water purification and storage, and many other benefits for Utah and beyond. We feel it's our duty to serve as the stewards of these wetlands, because you can bet that development interests won't.

Our January meeting will focus on the wetlands of the Amalga Barrens, the site of a proposed dam. There are several new analyses on topography, geology, soils, naturalness of the wetlands, etc., which need to be made public. The decision as to when and where to build a large dam will be based only partly on such scientific information – in the end, it will be largely a political decision. So, the better informed we are, the better we can resist unwise dams which unnecessarily destroy our valuable wetlands. Please come to the meeting on January 14. (Note the unusual location; see the Calendar.)

Also on the immediate horizon is the upcoming vote on whether to establish a Water Conservancy District. A WCD would be a separate, autonomous layer of government with its board appointed by the County Council, and with a mandate to research our water resources and develop projects to meet our supply "needs." A WCD has the power to impose taxes, condemn land, and "develop" projects.

While no one argues that we need to understand our surface and ground water resources, many of us have concerns about how to do it. The County Council has all the authority it needs to do these very functions, however, it lacks the political courage and management skills to do it. So rather than work through the Council, the proponents want to form a new layer of government which can raise its own funding (including bonding) and focus on water. The stated objectives for the WCD are noble, but we are concerned whether the composition of the governing board will truly represent the citizens of Cache Valley, or whether it will be so biased in favor of traditional water development interests that we don't really get impartial and thorough analyses and we end up with large project(s) undertaken which don't serve the public

interest. Pay close attention to the debates scheduled for January and make sure you understand this issue, and then vote.

At a recent Board of Trustees meeting, the Board made some small grants to help support Cornell Lab of Ornithology's efforts to train local observers, and to help Willow Creek Ecology continue to study the impacts of grazing on our public lands. We'll also be meeting with The Nature Conservancy in January to begin discussing critical habitat in Cache Valley which we feel is threatened and how to protect it.

Enjoy the winter everyone, spring isn't far off.

— Bryan Dixon

CBC Colder Than a Witch's Zit

It was, too. The temperature for the December 19 Christmas Bird Count never got above 10°F. A little frostbite won't stop us, though, as teams headed out early in the a.m. to look for owls. And that, perhaps, was the biggest success of the day, for we located all seven of the possible owl species on count day!

Once again, we had a record number of birders join us—69!—for this, our 23rd Annual CBC. For newcomers, the CBC is done each year all across the United States to count every bird within a 7.5 mile radius of the same spot each year. BAS has records going back to 1976 with as high as 97 species and 23,610 individuals counted in that one day.

The detailed numbers this year were:

	1997	1998
Total # Species Seen	91	92
Total # Individuals	14,810	15,844
# Observers	62	69

In table form, here are some notable numbers:

Record Highs

Species	1998 Record	Old Record	Old Record Year
Snow Goose	3	New!	
Common Goldeneye	367	273	1994
Barrow's Goldeneye	118	99	1994
Virginia Rail	16	10	1997
Common Barn Owl	7	6	1996
Longeared Owl	8	2	1992
			1996
Short-eared Owl	27	23	1991
Winter Wren	6	5	1994
Lark Sparrow	5	New!	
Dark-eyed Junco	984	869	1993

Another "record" was only four species with just one individual sighted. We're not sure what this means exactly, but we felt a bit strange last year when we only found one bird for 17 of the 92 species seen. Perhaps our observers are getting more diligent, or perhaps birds are getting more sociable(?)

There were some interesting misses, too. We didn't see Canyon Wrens, Marsh Wrens or Cassin Finches, all of which we usually find one way or another. And then there was the sole Sandhill Crane. For the weeks leading up to the count, there was one (or 2?) Sandhill Crane wandering around west of the landfill. But on count day could we find it? Noooooooo. Two of our searchers even went knocking on doors in the area to ask of its whereabouts. "Yes, it's been around for weeks." We looked high and low until it was too dark to look anymore, but no cane. We felt badly, for we wondered if it had been injured and we thought maybe it didn't survive the cold snap. But, then, the next day, one of the neighbors said they spotted it again. Too late, though.

Waterfowl numbers were variously up and down with no consistent trend that we could discern. The goldeneyes were at record highs, but we're unsure why.

We found 11 species of raptors, with numbers generally low, except for Northern Harriers and American Kestrels. Rough-legged and Red-tailed Hawks were particularly scarce, and we surmise that the mild winter just hasn't pushed the northern migrants back into our valley.

And then there was the Peregrine Falcon. Two of us were cruising the sewage lagoon (interesting things always happen at sewage lagoons, you know) when out the corner of the eye, a low fast moving bird pops into view. Jumping from the car to get a better look, it's noticed that the bird is moving like a bullet, but doesn't have dark auxiliaries. Then in the background, we see a Rudy Duck flying hell-bent-for-leather in the opposite direction over the ice looking for open water. Not fast enough, however, as the "PF Flyer" banks and comes in behind the duck, accelerating quickly. In a few seconds, the duck is on the ice weighted down by pounds of hungry falcon, flapping forlornly even as the predator starts to pick it apart. It takes several minutes before the duck is still. Just a few minutes later, the Peregrine is surprised as a Northern Harrier decides that a dead duck looks like easier dinner than live mice. Chasing the falcon from the kill, the harrier starts to munch. Once in flight, however, the falcon becomes embarrassed that it was forced to give up a meal—after all, who killed it? So, eaters change and once more the Rudy Duck is falcon food. Fortunately, we had already counted the duck.

Owls were the most interesting group of the count. We saw a record number of a record number of species in that family. Mountain owls (Northern Pygmy and

Saw-whet) were few as usual, mostly a consequence of how many people went looking for them. Lowland owls (Common Barn, Western Screech, Great Horned, Long- and Short-eared) were in unusually high numbers. But why? We couldn't discern a pattern for the Western Screech and Great Horned Owls, and we've only seen Long-eared Owls in four of the last 23 years. The latter may be around every year but only found by chance because they tend to roost in isolated groups in thick trees and may be particularly unresponsive to tapes. Common Barn and Short-eared Owls, however, do show a pattern, specifically, whenever we have high numbers of one, we usually have high numbers of the others. We can only speculate that the apparent increase in mouse populations is offering these winter owls a well-stocked pantry and, like a growing teenager, they're hanging around the kitchen.

Passerine species also had some interesting examples of population changes. We've found breeding winter wrens in Cache Valley this past year, and so, we think we're just seeing the result of more successful breeding. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were the second highest ever, perhaps due to the lack of killing cold so far this year. Then, we also saw Blue Jays. This species seems to show up as one or a few individuals every few years. This year, they seem to be hanging out around Mack Park in Smithfield. A first for our CBC were Lark Sparrows, five of them in one bunch. While a common bird in the summer, this was the first record for us in winter. Perhaps this was one family group lost in the mountains or dallying with the warm weather. We'll see if other count areas in Utah report them.

And then, ahhhh, there was the potluck. Dave and Susan Drown opened up their house again for tasty food fest and compilation gathering. It was a grand time for everybody, whether up in the mountains or out in the marsh. Special thanks to those who helped out on the count. Casey Anderson, Keith and Jenny Archibald, Bob Atwood, Dennis and Mary Austin, Jessie, John and Terry Barnes, Mike Becker, Eddy Berry, Jim Bilskie, Todd Black, Jim Cane, Heather Carlson, Allen and Gail Christensen, David and Kurt Kotter, Norb and Mary DeByle, Bryan Dixon, David and Susan Drown, John Ellerbeck, Barbara Farris, Jeffery Fielding, Kit Flannery, Jim Fry, Jim and Debbie Gessaman, Sue Germaine, Chris Ghicadus, Julie Gill, C Val Grant, Jack Greene, Jane Harper, Dick Hurren, Reinhard Jockel, Liz Josephson, Alex Kelley, Linda Kervin, Caitlin Laughlin, Jessica Liddel, Alice Lindahl, Jean Lown, Carmen Lynn, Bill, Jake and Zane Masslich, Michael and Brian Mickelsen, John and Ann Mull, Phillip Nel, Bruce Pendery, Don and Patty Rowan, Larry Ryel, Frank Smith, Alice Stokes, Nick Strickland, Kim Sullivan, Doug Tempel, Christine Terry, Paul Ustach, Ryan Weeks, Dan Zamecnik.

Everyone is invited to join us next year—whatever your birding skills. Data for the Logan Christmas Bird Counts back to 1976 are now available on a Microsoft Access database for those who would like a copy in electronic form. A paper copy of the totals is also available, send a SASE (with two stamps) to BAS, P.O. Box 3501, Logan, UT 84323-3501.

— Keith Archibald and Bryan Dixon



News From the Stokes Nature Center

Tails and Trails

The Stokes Nature Center will begin an ongoing story program with a variety of related activities. This program series will start at 1 p.m. on the fourth Saturday of each month. The program activities are designed for 6-8 year olds, but families are welcome. Programs will include an outdoor component and the canyon is often cooler than the valley.

Saturday, January 23. Footprints in the Snow. There is something magical about snow, the way it blankets fields and rests on tree branches, the way it softens a landscape and reveals evidence of wildlife. We'll follow any tracks we find and try to figure out just what that animal was up to.

Saturday, February 27. Bears: Polar Bears, Black Bears, and Grizzly Bears. Come find out about the different types of bears there are in the world and we'll explore making a bear's den and much, much more!

Saturday, March 27. Can You Find Me? A Book About Animal Camouflage. Animals are adapted to their environment in order to survive. Come explore the importance of camouflage as it relates to the survival of animals such as snowshoe rabbits that have a white winter coat to blend with their surroundings during the winter months and a tan coat to blend with summer vegetation.

Saturday, April 24. Animal Feet. Did you know birds have a wide variety of adaptations that make them better suited for their specific environment. We'll look at several types of beaks, feet, legs, coloration and wings, and even play a game to prove it.

Saturday, May 22. Signs Along the River. Spring is finally here! Lets explore the nature center trail and look for insects, snow run-off, new growth, and baby animals.

Cost: \$3 per child per program (non-members), \$2 per child per program (members).

Volunteer Teacher/Naturalist Program

If you enjoy the outdoors, sharing experiences with children, and can spare a few hours a week, then consider joining the Stokes Nature Center Volunteer Teacher/Naturalist Program.

This highly diverse group is responsible for teaching a wide variety of programs including: geology, tools of a naturalist, all about plants, wetlands, and several more. **NO** special background is required and you select the programs and age group that interests you. You will have the opportunity to develop new interests and gain a better understanding of the program topics during volunteer training sessions or specific program instruction.

Most of all you will contribute to a vital role of the nature center: to foster understanding and a sense of environmental stewardship in children of all ages. If you are interested in contributing your time and talent to this rewarding program, call Lois at 755-3239.

Before you can teach on any of the school programs you must first attend a training session on that particular program. We want you to feel successful and knowledgeable about what you are teaching.

Tuesday, January 19 at 10:30 a.m. or Friday, February 12 at 12:30 p.m. Volunteer Orientation Training Session. As a volunteer you are a key link in the instructional process at the Stokes Nature Center. During this training session we will cover several topics including: the mission and educational goals, how to be an effective instructor, small group questioning techniques, positive discipline, and more.

Wednesday, January 27 at 1 p.m. Geology School Program Training. The geology school program is one of the nature center's most popular and challenging programs to teach. This training will include instruction and background material specific to rocks and fossils.

Tuesday, February 9 at 10:30 a.m. Tools of a Naturalist Program Training. This program will explore what it was like for explorers like Lewis and Clark. Students will have an opportunity to discover what it was like to encounter something for the first time and read from the diaries of a famous naturalist. They'll build a naturalist and discover even they can be a naturalist.

Bird Seed

Bird seed is still available. Get it at Sunrise Cyclery, 138 North 100 East, Logan, where 50 pound bags sell for \$16. Too heavy to lift or don't have the means to pick it up? No problem. Call 563-6816 to make arrangements for free delivery!

Fundraiser/Auction a Wonderful Success

It was a night to remember! Friends of the Allen and Alice Stokes Nature Center packed Zanavoo Lodge and raised \$13,500 for Nature Center programs on a recent Saturday night with a fund-raiding dinner and auction.

We who had the pleasure of planning the event want to convey our deepest gratitude to those who donated items for auction, to those who snapped up the 200 tickets, and to those who shared in the fellowship and spirited bidding. At the same time, we apologize to the 50 or more friends who called for tickets after we sold out. We simply did not anticipate such an enormous outpouring of interest in our first fund-raising event. Believe us, there will be another dinner/auction next year, and there will be room for all!

With Bio-Resources President C. Val Grant at the gavel, bidders among the enthusiastic guests bought gifts, all donated, that included naturalist-led outings, framed paintings by Jerry Fuhrman, gift certificates to area businesses, a wine tasting evening for six, and even an environmentally friendly toilet! In all, 150 items were auctioned off.

Alice Stokes was among those publicly recognized during the evening program by Nature Center Director Jen Levy and Board Chairman Tim Henney, who served as master of ceremonies. With her late husband Allen, Alice provided the inspiration for the three-year-old facility. Guests greeted her with a spontaneous standing ovation. Others honored were Stokes Nature Center 1998 Volunteers of the Year, Richard Burns, Col. Rick Hoff, and Tom Stanek, and Sally and Jack Keller, the Nature Center's principal benefactors.

The volunteer, nonprofit Stokes Nature Center has quickly become a community treasure because of the talent, time, money, labor, and love given by area citizens and businesses. This dinner was our salute to them, and to those who were there. Our heartfelt thanks to all.

The SNC Auction Committee

Susan Clark
Barbara Graham
Jacquelynn Henney
Carolyn Chase
Gene Clements

Special January Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 7:00 p.m.

Sunrise Elementary School, 455 East 255 South, Smithfield

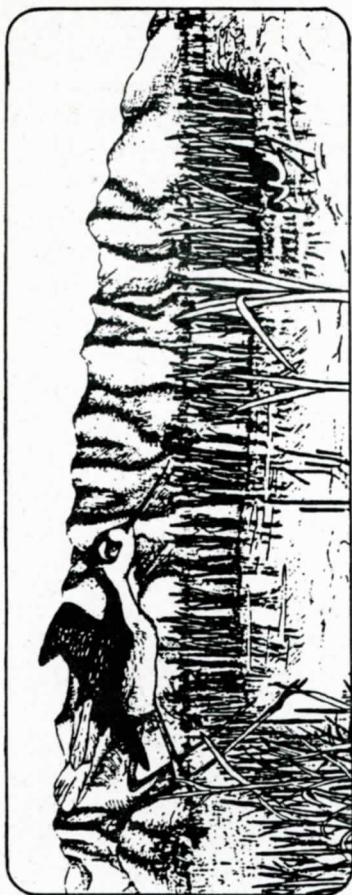
The Amalga Barrens continues to attract interest from water developers as a site for an off-channel storage project on the upper Bear River, even though as recently as the early 1990's the State Division of Water Resources concluded it was not the best alternative. In December of 1997, BAS hosted a meeting to ask what had changed (other than politics) to make it worth considering and we learned that not a lot had changed - the Barrens was still a poor choice for a reservoir. Nonetheless, the Division of Water Resources continues to study it and some local leaders continue to suggest that it should be built. If so, we'd lose 1500 acres of unique salt playa wetlands. We're worried, so it seemed an appropriate time to ask once again:

The Barrens - What's Changed?

Panelists:

- **Dennis Strong, Assistant Director, Utah Division of Water Resources:** recent topographical, geotechnical, and hydrological analyses of the dam project.
- **Larry Anhder, Cache County Council:** the relationship between the proposed Cache County Water Conservancy District and the Amalga Barrens Dam.
- **Dr. Janis Boettinger, USU Plant, Soils and Biometeorology Dept.:** recent findings regarding the nature of the Barrens wetlands complex.
- **Guest:** understanding the link between faulting and the springs at the Barrens, and possibilities for earthquake activity at the site.
- **Vicky Roy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge:** new understandings about the role of the Barrens in the regional ecosystem.

Following the panel presentation, we'll take questions from the public. Please come!



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BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. Box 3501
Logan, Utah 84323
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Nonprofit Organization
BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 104
Logan, Utah

The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, September through June, in the Meeting Room of the Logan City Building, 255 N. Main. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. The BAS Planning Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, September through June. The Conservation Committee will meet the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in Room 3 in Logan City Library. Locations may change monthly. Check calendar page. Everyone is welcome to attend.

President	Bryan Dixon, 752-6830
Vice President	Chris Wilson, 753-3769
Secretary	Wendy Hellstern, 753-8750
Treasurer	Susan Drown, 752-3797
Conservation	Bruce Pendery, 792-4150
Education	Jack Greene, 563-6816
Membership	Alice Lindahl, 753-7744
Field Trips	Ron Hellstern, 753-8750
Newsletter	Lois Olson, 752-9085
Circulation	Susan Durham, 752-5637
Hospitality	Tim & Jackie Henney, 755-6888
Hotline	Nancy Williams, 753-6268

Trustees

1995-98 Suzanne Marychild, 755-5571; Peter Ruben, 797-2490; Allen Christensen, 258-5018; Doug Tempel, 755-6774

1996-99 Jack Greene, 563-6816; Lois Olson, 752-9085; Ron Hellstern, 753-8750; Merr Lundahl, 753-1707

1997-20 Glen Gantz, 258-2748; Robert Schmidt, 755-9262; Teri Peery, 753-3249; Mae Coover, 752-8871

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.

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

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