

# Ornithological Newsletter

American Ornithologists' Union  
Cooper Ornithological Society  
Waterbird Society

Association of Field Ornithologists  
Raptor Research Foundation  
Wilson Ornithological Society

Cheryl L. Trine, Editor

NUMBER 215

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## ORGANIZATION NEWS

THE *ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER ON-LINE* can be found at <http://www.osnabirds.org/on>. Also, visit:

OSNA - <http://www.osnabirds.org>

AOU - <http://www.aou.org>

AFO - <http://www.afonet.org>

COS - <http://www.cooper.org>

WS - <http://www.waterbirds.org>

RRF - <http://raptorresearchfoundation.org>

WOS - <http://www.ummz.lsa.umich.edu/birds/wos.html>

BIRDNET - <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/>

**LAUNCH OF THE NEW *AUK* AND *CONDOR*** – On behalf of the American Ornithologists' Union and Cooper Ornithological Society, we are pleased to announce the new Editor-in-Chief of *The Auk: Ornithological Advances*- Dr. Mark Hauber, from CUNY-Hunter College. Mark has a distinguished research career in avian behavioral ecology. His editorial experience is substantial, as he has served as Associate Editor (or in a similar role) for several journals, including the *The Auk*, *Emu*, *Behavioral Ecology*, *Ethology*, and *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology*. He has a very strong interest in guiding *The Auk* through the forthcoming editorial transition, a commitment to the historical prominence of *The Auk* and to further enhancing its stature as the preeminent journal of ornithology. *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* will focus on publishing the highest caliber work in basic avian biology. We are also pleased to announce the new Editor-in-Chief of *The Condor: Ornithological Applications*- Dr. Phil Stouffer, from Louisiana State University. Phil has an extensive career in avian conservation, working in both North and South America. He has experience as an associate editor and book review editor. He will work to establish *The Condor: Ornithological Applications* as the premier journal in avian conservation and applied work on birds. Both journals will feature insightful synthesis articles, rapid publication of letters and regular length articles. The new format will be primarily online with weekly posting of articles. Quarterly print issues will also be available. The journals will continue to be available in both print and online to members and as subscriptions to libraries, as well as through BioOne and JSTOR subscription services. *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* and *The Condor: Ornithological Applications* will be supported by the Central Ornithology Publication Office (COPO). The new publication office will offer faster publication and better promotion of our science while savings the two societies money. The COPO will be lead by a Managing Editor, who will work with other professional staff members to support the authors, editors, and readers of *The Auk* and *The Condor*. A committee of AOU and COS members has conducted a national search to recruit staff and in the near future we will announce the names of the professionals who will work with us to produce our journals. We look forward to receiving your manuscript for inclusion in *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* or *The Condor: Ornithological Applications* in 2014. During July and early August, manuscripts can be submitted through the existing Scholar One portal

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and we will be sure that the paper reaches the proper editor. We are eager to receive manuscripts now for the inaugural issues of our 2014 journals. During July we will release detailed guidelines for each journal and for submitting manuscripts to our new manuscript flow system, which we will launch in August. Look for additional information about our new web platform, with enhanced resources for readers. Of course, there are no words to express our gratitude to outgoing *Auk* and *Condor* editors Michael Murphy and Michael Patton and their editorial staff. They have put their hearts and souls into the journals for the past few years and we hope they will enjoy getting their regular lives back. We will have more details about the new journals at the Chicago meeting in August. Hope to see you there!

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NORTH AMERICAN BANDING COUNCIL CERTIFICATION SESSION FOR LANDBIRDS**, Braddock Bay, N.Y. 4-6 Oct 2013. Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO), located near Rochester NY, will be holding a North American Banding Council (NABC) certification session for landbirds on **4-6 Oct 2013**. Testing will be available at the Bander level for up to six candidates seeking or already possessing a US or Canadian banding permit or subpermit, and at the Trainer level for up to three candidates who have already achieved NABC bander-level certification. Applications may be obtained from the NABC website (URL: <http://www.nabanding.net>), and may be submitted no later than 24 Aug to ANDREA PATTERSON, 144 Greystone Lane #24, Rochester, NY 14618; (PH: 585-490-5361; EM: [andrea.j.patterson@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.j.patterson@gmail.com)). An additional charge of \$25 per person is needed for snacks, lunches and dinners. Checks or money orders should be made out to Elizabeth W. Brooks. Accepted candidates will be notified no later than 31 Aug. NABC manuals and certification expectations are also available from the NABC website. Those seeking bander certification are encouraged to contact an NABC trainer (see website) as early as possible to proctor the written exam portion of the certification prior to coming to BBBO; however, for those not able to do so, the exam may be taken at BBBO by prior arrangement. Passing the examination is required in order to participate in the bander field evaluation. Trainer candidates who have previously passed bander certification need not retake this written exam if they obtained a grade of 90 or better in the last five years. Persons not yet bander certified may apply for both the bander and trainer candidate positions, and will be evaluated for trainer based on first passing the bander certification at this session and a written exam score of 90 or better.

**ENDANGERED MILLERBIRD GETS NEW LEASE ON LIFE** – Historic Translocation Efforts are securing a future for the species. The latest count of endangered Millerbirds on Hawai'i's Laysan Island found that the bird's population has doubled to over 100. The translocation program was initiated several years ago, when all of the world's remaining Millerbirds -- between 400 and 600 at that time -- were limited to the island of Nihoa in the remote Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. By moving some of the birds to a second island, Laysan, approximately 650 miles northwest of Nihoa, the Millerbird team hoped to reduce the high risk of extinction from catastrophes such as severe storms, droughts, fires, and accidental introduction of alien species such as rats, mosquitos, and/or diseases such as avian pox and malaria. Establishing a second population reduces this risk by increasing the population size and distribution. The translocation of the Nihoa Millerbird to Laysan also serves another purpose. It re-establishes the link in the ecosystem that was lost when the closely-related Laysan Millerbird went extinct in the early 20th century as a result of the island being denuded by non-native rabbits. In the highly successful first phase of the translocation effort, 24 Millerbirds were moved 650 miles from Nihoa to Laysan in September 2011. A second translocation of 26 birds took place in August 2012.

The translocated birds produced 29 young during their first breeding season in 2012. The second breeding season is currently underway, and the 73 adults on Laysan have produced at least 29 offspring in 2013, with many more nests still active. The overwhelming success to date indicates that Laysan has suitable habitat and food resources to support the resourceful and adaptable Millerbirds. (Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument News Release, 24 Jun 2013)

**PROBLEMS FOR NORTH AMERICAN ATLANTIC PUFFINS** – Atlantic Puffins are in some serious trouble in U.S./Canadian waters. In the Gulf of Maine, these birds have been losing body weight and even dying of starvation, possibly as a result of shifting fish populations caused by an increase in ocean temperature. Shifting fish populations can impact the productivity of puffins and other local seabirds. In this region, the lack of herring is perceived to be the major problem species. At most colonies, Atlantic Puffins are typically able to continue to produce chicks when there is a food shortage, but often these chicks are smaller and will weigh less, says USFWS biologist Linda Welch. Last summer, the survival rates of fledglings on Maine's two largest puffin colonies plunged, and currently puffins are in declining health at the largest puffin colony in the Gulf. This colony, on Machias Seal Island on the Maine-Canada border, has witnessed some drastic changes. At Machias Seal Island, the average body weight of both adult and young puffins is declining, according to Tony Diamond, a University of New Brunswick professor who studies the birds on Machias Seal Island. The amount of herring in the birds' diet there has also been falling by about five percent a year, Diamond said. According to Steve Kress, who has worked to restore and sustain the Atlantic Puffin population off the Maine coast over four decades, the diet issue is a very serious concern. Instead of primarily feeding their youngsters a herring diet, Atlantic Puffin parents have been attempting to feed their young butterfish, normally a more southerly fish that has become increasingly abundant in Gulf waters. Butterfish has become more accessible to seabirds because the fish have moved higher in the water column in response to temperature change. Unfortunately puffin chicks can still starve to death because the butterfish are too big and round for the youngsters to readily swallow, Kress said. Piles of uneaten butterfish have been found next to some of the dead puffin chicks. Interestingly, Atlantic Puffins in the Gulf of Maine seem to be particularly vulnerable since they live on the southern periphery of the species' breeding range. "You never know what climate change will bring," Kress says. "We don't know how the puffin will adapt to these changes - or if they'll adapt to these conditions," he adds. Related problems plague other seabirds in the region, such as Arctic and Roseate Terns and Razorbills. You can read a recent USFWS review of the issue here:

<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/news/SeabirdsWarnOceanChange.html> (The Birding Community E-bulletin, July 2013; archives <http://refugeassociation.org/news/birding-bulletin/>)

## POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Positions and Opportunities section is available only in the on-line edition. It can be accessed at (<http://osnabirds.org/Jobs.aspx>). Submissions can be made any time and are posted free of charge. Members may post directly to the board after logging in to OSNA using their OSNA member log in. Non-members may have announcements posted by sending them to the Ornithological Newsletter Editor, Cheryl Trine (EM: [ctrine@andrews.edu](mailto:ctrine@andrews.edu)) in the body of the email message.

AN E-LIST SERVICE is available. Subscribers to this list will receive the same announcements that appear on-line in a weekly/biweekly list. To subscribe, send the following message to: [lyris@cornell.edu](mailto:lyris@cornell.edu), in the body of the message type: join Birdjobs-L "your name". The subject line should be blank. Please use the "plain text only" e-mail format option, include your own name in the message, and put quotation marks around your name.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

FOR INFORMATION ON CONTINUING GRANTS PROGRAMS relevant to ornithological research, visit: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/grants/index.html>

**CRAIG S. HARRISON CONSERVATION FUND** – The Pacific Seabird Group has established the Conservation Fund small grants program to advance the conservation of seabirds by providing funds or supplies to individuals from developing countries as well as those from elsewhere working in those developing countries primarily in or bordering the Pacific Ocean, (1) for conservation and restoration activities that benefit seabirds in the Pacific Ocean; and (2) to help develop within-country seabird expertise in developing countries within or bordering the Pacific Ocean. Examples of activities that may be funded include: (1) the cost of supplies, transportation, or other field-work expenses for removal of invasive species from a nesting colony; (2) the provision and distribution of materials to train local residents how to reduce the impacts of human activities on seabirds or their colonies/habitats; (3) the provision and distribution of educational materials or equipment for teaching fishermen how to reduce seabird bycatch; and (4) costs for colony surveys of presently-unsurveyed areas to evaluate the status and conservation needs of seabirds. Examples of activities that will not be funded include: (1) travel to the PSG or other society meetings; (2) regular monitoring or censusing of colonies; (3) research that includes the purchase of satellite- or radio-telemetry tags; or (4) the study of breeding biology. The size of grants usually will be between US \$250 and US \$2,000. For additional information, please see <http://www.pacificseabirdgroup.org/index.php?f=grants&t=Grant%20Program&s=1> To apply, (1) Send an email to VERENA GILL (EM: [verena.gill@gmail.com](mailto:verena.gill@gmail.com)) and CRAIG HARRISON (EM: [charrison@hunton.com](mailto:charrison@hunton.com)), briefly explaining what you want to propose and where you want to do the work. That way, you can get a rapid determination from them of whether your proposal is eligible for consideration for funding. (2) If they determine that your study is eligible, then fill out and send the application form, the proposal/budget, and the letter of reference, as described below, to Verena Gill and Craig Harrison. If you have questions about the Application Form, please see the Example Form that has been filled out. Please note that applications/proposals may be submitted at any time—there is no fixed deadline for submission. All applications/proposals will be evaluated whenever they are submitted.

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

FREE. Email RICHARD SCHNEIDER, (EM: [rschneider@fs.fed.us](mailto:rschneider@fs.fed.us)), stating your name and address in address format and the citation and quantity of any or all of these publications. They are also available online at [http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/publications/titles/rmrs\\_gtr.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/publications/titles/rmrs_gtr.html).

- Finch, Deborah M., ed. 2012. Climate change in grasslands, shrublands, and deserts of the interior American West: a review and needs assessment. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-285. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 139 p.
- Bagne, Karen E.; Finch, Deborah M. 2012. Vulnerability of species to climate change in the Southwest: threatened, endangered, and at-risk species at the Barry M. Goldwater Range, Arizona. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-284. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 139 p.
- Coe, Sharon J.; Deborah M. Finch; Megan M. Friggens. 2012. An assessment of climate change and the vulnerability of wildlife in the Sky Islands of the Southwest. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-273. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 208 p.
- Bagne, Karen E.; Friggens, Megan M.; Finch, Deborah M. 2011. A System for Assessing Vulnerability of Species (SAVS) to Climate Change. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-257. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 28 p.

## PERSONAL EXCHANGES

BOOKS AVAILABLE: My shelves are overflowing, so I am downsizing my personal library. I am offering many titles for sale at very attractive prices, and have a long list of items I am willing to donate (if receiver pays for shipping) to institutions or individuals. Subjects include birds and ornithology, other vertebrates, plants, and general natural history. Included are many collectors' items and some signed copies. I am a motivated seller willing to bargain. Please email me (EM: dpratt14 AT nc.rr.com) for my price and/or donation list.

## MEETINGS

A 'permanent' meeting list is maintained on BIRDNET (URL: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/ornith/birdmeet.html>) showing planned ornithological meetings as far into the future as possible.

\* in this section indicates new or revised entry

THE 131<sup>ST</sup> STATED MEETING OF THE AOU will be held **13-17 Aug 2013** in conjunction with the COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY Annual Meeting at the Palmer House-Hilton in Chicago, IL. It is being hosted by the Field Museum and the local committee chair is John Bates.

THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY will be held in conjunction with the AOU 13-17 Aug 2013, in Chicago, Illinois. The meeting will be hosted by the Field Museum and the local committee chair is John Bates.

5<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS IN FLIGHT CONFERENCE, Snowbird, Utah, **25-28 Aug 2013**. The 5th Partners in Flight Conference brings the bird conservation community together to create a unified vision for full life cycle needs and how to address them with innovative approaches. <http://www.pifv.org/index.html>

THE 5<sup>TH</sup> WESTERN HEMISPHERE SHOREBIRD GROUP MEETING will take place **17-21 Sep 2013** at Santa Marta, Colombia. The meeting will be hosted by Asociación Calidris, Colombia. The four-day scientific program will consist of plenaries, symposia, contributed papers and poster sessions. There will be several workshops and fieldtrips available. If you have any questions, please contact the local host, CARLOS RUIZ (EM: [cjrui@calidris.org.co](mailto:cjrui@calidris.org.co)) and RICHARD JONSTON (EM: [rjohnston@calidris.org.co](mailto:rjohnston@calidris.org.co)), or the scientific program committee chair, GUILLERMO FERNANDEZ (EM: [gfernandez@ola.icmyl.unam.mx](mailto:gfernandez@ola.icmyl.unam.mx) or [whsgm5colombia@gmail.com](mailto:whsgm5colombia@gmail.com)). Please check <http://www.calidris.org.co/WHSG/home.html> for updated information. We welcome you to join us in Santa Marta in Sep 2013!

37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERBIRD SOCIETY, **24-29 Sep 2013**, in Wilhelmshaven, Germany. The Waterbird Society will hold its 37th annual meeting in 2013 in Germany for the first time. The Institute of Avian Research "Vogelwarte Helgoland", one of the oldest ornithological research institutes in the world, will be the host. The meeting venue is the Stadthalle, located in the center of Wilhelmshaven on the German North Sea coast. Wilhelmshaven can be reached easily by train from the nearby airports: Bremen, Hamburg, Hannover, Frankfurt or Amsterdam. Wilhelmshaven is located adjacent to the World Heritage Site "Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony". There will be good opportunities to experience the rich biodiversity of the Wadden Sea, which provides critical habitat for both breeding and migrating waterbirds along the East-Atlantic Flyway. The opening reception will be held on Tuesday evening 24 Sep, the closing banquet on 28 Sep. The three day scientific program will consist of plenaries, symposia, contributed papers and poster sessions. Saturday, 28 Sep, will be a joint scientific day with the International Wader Study Group (IWSG) annual conference (27-30 Sep). Mid-conference field trips will be offered on Friday, 27 Sep. Exhibitors, including book and equipment suppliers, will be present during the meeting. Please check <http://www.waterbirds.org> for updated information. We welcome you to join us in Wilhelmshaven in Sep 2013!

I WORLDWIDE RAPTOR CONFERENCE, **21-24 Oct 2013**, Bariloche, Argentina--RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION annual conference 2013, Ill Neotropical Raptor Network Conference, WWGBP VII International Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls. The link to the conference website is (URL: <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/current-conference>). For the first time, a joint meeting between the Raptor Research Foundation, the Neotropical Raptor Network (The Peregrine Fund) and the World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls will take place in South America. A perfect mixture of wild nature and cultural heritage awaits you, so mark your calendars now and we will ensure that you experience all the wonders the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, Patagonia and Argentina have to offer. This international meeting will be held in the heart of Nahuel Huapi National Park, Bariloche City, Rio Negro province, Argentina. The conference will be hosted by the Universidad Nacional del Comahue – INIBIOMA/ CONICET, Bariloche, Argentina. Pre (workshops) and post (field trips) conferences activities are also offered. The conference venue is the Hotel Panamericano Bariloche, a five star hotel in downtown Bariloche. The local organizing committee chairs are Drs. MIGUEL D. SAGGESE, College of Veterinary Medicine-Western University of Health Sciences, California, USA (EM: [msaggese@westernu.edu](mailto:msaggese@westernu.edu)), VALERIA OJEDA (EM: [campephilus@bariloche.com.ar](mailto:campephilus@bariloche.com.ar)) and SERGIO A. LAMBERTUCCI (EM: [slambertucci@comahue-conicet.gob.ar](mailto:slambertucci@comahue-conicet.gob.ar)), Labor-atorio Ecotono, Universidad Nacional del Comahue – INIBIOMA/CONICET, Bariloche, Rio Negro, Argentina. For more information, please contact the conference chairs or, preferred, send an email to (EM: [barilocheraptors2013@gmail.com](mailto:barilocheraptors2013@gmail.com)) MIGUEL D. SAGGESE - VALERIA OJEDA – SERGIO LAMBERTUCCI (Conference chairs)

THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY will be held **29 May to 1 June** at Salve Regina University in Newport, RI. This will be a joint meeting with the Association of Field Ornithologists. The local host, JAMESON (JIM) CHACE, may be reached at the Dept. of Biology and Biomedical Sciences, Salve Regina University, 100 Ochre Point Ave., Newport, RI 02840 (PH: 401-341-3204; EM: [jameson.chace@salve.edu](mailto:jameson.chace@salve.edu)).

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY, **31 Jul - 5 Aug 2014** (just a few days before ABS 2014 at Princeton, NJ) at Hunter College in the City of New York, contact: (EM: [ISBE2014@gmail.com](mailto:ISBE2014@gmail.com)), updates (URL: <http://cabi.hunter.cuny.edu/>)

\*The Cooper Ornithological Society will meet in Estes Park, Colorado, **24-27 Sep 2014**.

\*THE WORLD SEABIRD UNION has endorsed an Expression of Interest by the African Seabird Group to host World Seabird Conference II in Cape Town, South Africa, **12-16 Oct 2015**. Although formal approval is awaiting provision of further details, all those interested in seabirds are advised to put these dates in their diaries and plan accordingly. It is expected that an official First Circular would be produced in late 2013. For more information, about the World Seabird Union please visit <http://www.seabirds.net>

## THE FLOCK - SPECIAL SECTION

To correct your address in the membership database please send the new information to the OSNA Business Office, 5400 Bosque Blvd., Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710 (EM: [business@osnabirds.org](mailto:business@osnabirds.org), PH: 254-399-9636, FX: 254-776-3767) or change it yourself online (URL: <http://www.osnabirds.org>). To alert your colleagues of new address information, contact the *Ornithological Newsletter* Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE (EM: [ctrine@andrews.edu](mailto:ctrine@andrews.edu)).

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THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2013, Vol. 130, #2 (May); *Condor*, 2013, Vol. 115, #2 (Jun), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2013, Vol. 84, #2 (Jun), *Raptor Res.*, 2013, Vol. 47, #2 (Jun), *Waterbirds*, 2013, Vol. 36, #3 (Jun), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2013, Vol. 125, #1 (Mar). Numbers follow at about 3-month intervals. If you are missing an issue, please contact OSNA. New members receive the first issue of the volume year. Please check your address label to confirm membership information and address.

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THE NEXT NEWSLETTER will be issued in October. Items you wish to have included must reach the Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE, 3889 E. Valley View, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 (PH: 269-471-7886; EM: ctrine AT andrews.edu), **by 1 September 2013**. Submission by email (in the body of the email message--not an attached file) or on diskette (PC format: WordPerfect or ASCII) with hard copy; e-mail preferred. Items sent to the OSNA office may not reach the Editor in time. Items with deadline dates should be submitted at least four months in advance of that date to allow time for response.