



The Sequoia



BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 18, Number 1

September 1968

Sequoia Audubon Society is a branch of National Audubon Society. Its purpose is to enjoy and safeguard the wildlife of the Bay Area. All interested persons are welcomed at field trips, bird walks and monthly general meetings. President, Dr. Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Dr., Hillsborough 342-3620 - Editor, Mr. J. L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo, 344-5497.

MEETINGS

Sept. 5
Thursday
8:00 PM
BOARD MEETING at the home of President Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Drive, Hillsborough. All Board members and committee chairmen should attend this first meeting of the season. Other members are welcome.

Sept. 12
Thursday
8:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING at the Burlingame Recreation Center, 850 Burlingame Avenue, featuring our traditional "KALEIDOSCOPE" program of color slides showing the activities of our members during the summer. Any member with slides to show please contact Program Chairman Charles Newman (697-5601) as soon as possible to let him know what you will show. Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting, courtesy of our new Social Chairman, Ann Hall.

PLEASE NOTE

At the end of last season it was announced that we would meet this year at Beresford Park, in San Mateo. Due to prior commitments, we have not been able to obtain use of these facilities at least until November, so the first two meetings will be at the Burlingame Recreation Center, as last year.

FIELD TRIPS

(Chairman: Jean Jones 344-9339)

Sept. 7
Saturday
9:00 AM
DUMBARTON BRIDGE AREA
LEADER: Neil Dickinson (366-7661)
MEETING PLACE: KGO Radio Station on north side of road, about midway on Dumbarton Bridge crossing. This is always a fine birding area, and the Phalaropes should still be there. Lunch is optional.

Sept. 21
Saturday
9:00 AM
PILLAR POINT (Half Moon Bay)
LEADER: Katherine Kroll (697-2051)
MEETING PLACE: Meet at intersection of Skyline, Skylawn (cemetery), and Half Moon Bay Roads. A trip to see sea and shore birds. Lunch optional.

BULLETIN SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members of Sequoia Audubon receive this bulletin by virtue of their membership.
Non-members may subscribe for the bulletin by sending \$1.50 to the Editor, John L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo, California. Include your zip code number with the address. Such subscriptions expire with the September issue. ALL CURRENT SUBSCRIPTIONS IN THIS CLASS EXPIRE WITH THIS ISSUE. To ensure continued receipt of the bulletin, renew at once. Complimentary copies are sent to libraries, other branches of the Audubon Society, and to selected individuals who should be aware of our activities.

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY 1968-1969

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Pres.	Dr. Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Dr., Hillsborough	342-3620
V.P.	Charles Newman, 25 Corte Alegre, Millbrae	697-5601
Sec.	Mrs. Liv Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Drive, Hillsborough	342-3620
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Dir.	J. L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo	344-5497

COMMITTEES 1968-1969

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Mrs. L. Alice Steele Mr. & Mrs. J. Ed. McClellan

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Mrs. Oleta Dickinson
Mrs. Liv Gurevitz Dr. William Lofthouse
Mr. William Anderson Mrs. L. Alice Steele

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Mrs. Margaret Campbell Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kroll
Miss Maryann Danielson Mrs. Bonnie McClellan
Mrs. Ruth Hass Mr. J. L. Morrill

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Mrs. Jean Maxwell Miss Maryann Danielson
Mrs. Barbara G. Kane Mr. Charles Newman
Mrs. David J. Fullagar Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Freedman
Mrs. H. L. Dobson Mr. J. L. Morrill

Pescadero Marsh Subcommittee
Mr. J. L. Morrill, Chairman 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo(344-5497)
Miss Maryann Danielson
Mrs. Katherine Kroll Mrs. Florence Richardson
Mr. J. Ed McClellan Mrs. L. Alice Steele

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Mrs. Florence Richardson
Mrs. Gene Hebbroon Mr. Mark Zumsteg
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kroll Mrs. Ruth Hass

Social Arrangements
Miss Anne M. Hall, Chairman 1417 Oak St., San Mateo 341-5198

Additional members are still needed on several committees. Anyone interested in serving on one of the committees this year is requested to contact the chairman of the committee.

CONSERVATION NOTES

Sequoia Audubon officers and Conservation Committee have been active during the summer months, attempting to "SAVE THE BAY". 1). Letters were mailed to individual members of city councils in San Mateo County enclosing reprints of the Harold Gilliam article "The Rape of San Francisco Bay - Praise the Buck and Pass the Dirt" which appeared in the March/April issue of the Audubon Magazine. 2). The following letter was presented at the August 1 public hearing of the BCDC Preliminary Plan:

Gentlemen:

The Sequoia Audubon Society, representing approximately 200 members of the National Audubon Society who reside in San Mateo County and who have followed the interim reports of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission with interest and appreciation wishes to express whole-hearted support of the objectives stated in the BCDC Preliminary Plan, namely:

- 1). to protect the Bay as a great natural resource for the benefit of present and future generations;
- 2). to develop the Bay and its shoreline to their highest potential with a minimum of Bay filling.

In general, we feel that to retain the unique Bay environment which we value and hope to maintain, it is vital that Bay fill be stringently restricted to water-oriented uses, to providing public access to the shoreline and to protect the Bay ecology.

More specifically, the following topics are of especial interest to our membership:

A. Wildlife Refuges

The National Audubon Society presently and for many years has leased and administered as wildlife refuges the whole of Greco Island and property on the east side of the Bay south of Dumbarton Bridge. At present we actively support the plans to establish a National Wildlife Refuge as proposed by the South San Francisco Baylands Planning, Conservation and National Wildlife Refuge Committee. The National Wildlife Refuge recommended by this Committee would encompass (a) Greco Island and the southern part of Bair Island; (b) mudflats and marshes south and west of Coyote Hills Park; (c) the Alviso-Drawbridge area. These locations are habitats for indigenous waterfowl and mammals such as herons, egrets, the California Clapper Rail (which is a candidate for the "endangered species" list) and the Harbor seal, as well as being an indispensable stopping place on the Pacific Flyway for migratory birds.

In view of these considerations we recommend:

- 1) Removal from the Plan of the waterfront park on the south tip of Bair Island, and the exclusion of commercial facilities and public use of motor launches in this area and around Greco Island. Such activity would conflict with the purpose of a wildlife refuge.
- 2) If sloughs are dredged and opened, the dredged materials should be managed by an ecologically competent agency such as the State Department of Fish and Game or the Federal Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife so that natural habitats would not be adversely affected.
- 3) When diked areas are taken out of Commercial use they should revert to the Bay.

B. Bay Freeways

We recommend the BCDC on the stand taken on freeway traffic on the Bay shoreline. We hope there will be no further consideration given by any governmental agency to construct the undesired Bayfront Freeway on the west side of the Bay.

C. Fill Charge

The Plan suggests that, after agency approval of Bay fill, a charge of \$3000 an acre be collected as damage compensation or that other unfilled acreage be provided for each acre filled. If the "damage compensation" provision is included in the final plan, the charge for fill by private firms should, at minimum, be tripled or based on a scale that is r to the current market value of the property created by the fill, is the greater amount. We recommend that the provision for "swapp... acreage be further evaluated from the standpoint of whether this contains the possibility of eventual downgrading of the geographical quality of the remaining unfilled acreage.

In conclusion, we are convinced that creation or designation of an agency to administer the proposed plan is crucial to the preservation of the unique features and the environmental quality of the San Francisco Bay Area. The agency appointed must be indisputably empowered to fully implement the provisions of the Plan.

Respectfully,
Marian Lockwood, Chairman
Conservation Committee
Sequoia Audubon Society

REPORT ON PESCADERO MARSH

It was reported in the April Sequoia Bulletin that the State had acquired title to a substantial portion of the Pescadero Marsh area. The administration of this new addition to the State Park system is under the supervision of Dave Redding, located at Half Moon Bay.

Our thoughts on the development of the area, primarily as a wildlife refuge have been discussed with Mr. Redding, and he has indicated he would be willing to work with us on this matter.

The area has not been posted to keep out hunters due to a shortage of manpower. However, the renewal of the license for the adjacent gun club stipulates that this area is now closed to hunting.

Mr. Redding indicated that he would be glad to have any volunteer assistance we can furnish, to post the area as State Park. He will let us know when he has the signs for posting. Anyone interested in helping on this project should contact Jack Morrill (344-5497).

CONSERVATION - SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

There will be a public meeting at the University of California's Santa Cruz Campus on Saturday, September 21, 1968, to take a good look at the future of the Santa Cruz Mountains. There will be panel discussions of the opportunities and problems relative to development conservation, what uses may be constructive or destructive, what u. may be inevitable, and what controls may be necessary and possible.

The meeting will last all day.

Admission will require advance registration, and there will be a small fee.

A brochure containing details will be mailed to all of our members shortly.

Bonnie and I have represented Sequoia Audubon and its Conservation Committee at the planning sessions, which have been held at the Santa Cruz Campus. Our participation has been authorized by the Board of Directors.

J. Ed McClellan

Non-Pr
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U. S. F
PER
BURLI

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