
NATURE LIBRARY

FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA. Second Edition.

SCOTT, S.L., Editor. 1987. National Geographic Society, Washington. 464 pp. Paper \$27.00.

The best has been made better! And it has been done in only 4 years — less than a third of the time for major revisions to other major field guides. Because the first edition of this volume was reviewed in comparison with other guides in the March 1984 *Blue Jay*, only the more noteworthy changes relating to prairie province species will be mentioned here.² A more detailed review appears in *Wildbird* for October 1987.¹

Minor changes have been made to many of the 220 plates but at least three have been completely redone: the number of swallow plumages and postures has more than doubled on two plates and the cuckoo page has been repainted with both Black and Yellow-billed looking more like themselves. Further improvements include winter and immature plumages of loons, and changes to dowitchers, Stilt Sandpiper, male Northern Harrier and undoubtedly others. The foot of the male Connecticut Warbler, that had been criticized as being too big, has now been hidden by a dead leaf!

A few range maps have been changed, e.g. Bald Eagle now has a more restricted breeding distribution in northern

Manitoba and the Turkey Vulture has been reduced in Saskatchewan to the southwest corner of the province, although it breeds beyond this area.

Should you buy the new edition if you have the old one? Probably not, but you might try getting it as a gift or even using it as justification for having one guide at home and one in the car. Wherever you go birding in North America, it is the first bird guide you should pack, original or revised.

¹ GARRETT, K.L. 1987. National Geographic Society's field guide to the birds of North America, second edition (1987). *Wildbird* 1(3):52-53, 56-57.

² GOLLOP, J.B. 1984. The new bird identification books. *Blue Jay* 42(1):3-11.

— Reviewed by *Bernie Gollop*, 2202 York Avenue, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. S7J 1J1

NORTHERN FOREST OWL SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

As noted in the September 1987 issue these proceedings are now available. Canadian residents may obtain copies by writing to **R.W. Nero, Wildlife Branch, Biological Services, Box 14, 1495 St. James Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3H 0W9**

United States residents should write to **R.H. Hamre, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Fort Collins, Colorado, U.S.A. 80526** Ask for **General Technical Report RM-142**.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION — THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

E. NEVILLE WARD with BETH KILLHAM.
1987. University of Waterloo Press. 200
pp. \$12.50 (in US\$ outside Canada).

This publication was prepared and funded by the Lands Branch, Environment Canada and published by the Heritage Resources Centre, University of Waterloo.

It provides a national overview of planning for the natural heritage environment as it is structured throughout Canada. It begins with an overview of international conventions and programs which help to protect Canada's natural heritage within a world context. This is followed by a description of lands protected by the federal government through the Canadian Wildlife Service, the Parks Service and through the National Capital Commission. The largest part of the report is an overview of natural heritage legislation, policies and programs for each province and territory. Finally, the programs of six of the numerous non-government organizations which have programs to protect natural heritage are discussed to provide an indication of the kinds of activities carried out by such groups across Canada.

A vast amount of data exist on Canada's natural areas. These have been put in a tabular format which includes the names, area (in hectares), year of establishment, and designation (park, reserve, etc.) of all formally protected lands. National and provincial data summaries are found in the discussion of policies and programs. The information and data, which have been provided and verified by many agencies at all levels, are, to the best of our knowledge, current as of January 1987.

Order from the **University of Waterloo Press, Dana Porter Library, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario. N2L 3G1**

PROCEEDINGS OF THE URBAN NATURAL AREAS WORKSHOP, 24 JANUARY 1987

FEDERATION OF ALBERTA NATURALISTS. 1987. *Alberta Naturalist* 17(3). 73 pp. \$8.00

The Proceedings for the Urban Natural Areas Workshop includes articles and panel presentations relating to urban natural areas in Alberta, Canada, the United States and Great Britain. It should prove a useful reference source for anyone interested in promoting the establishment and use of urban natural areas. Contributors of the 15 articles and 16 photographs include wildlife biologists, naturalists, park interpreters, environmental educators, city and public lands planners and an environmental lawyer.

Order from **Federation of Alberta Naturalists, Box 1472, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. T5J 2N5**

ROBERT LISTER COLLECTION

A special natural history collection honouring the late Robert Lister has been started at the Tofield Municipal Library. The collection focuses on birds, wildlife and conservation within Alberta and in the prairie provinces.

We would appreciate any donations of books, periodicals, monographs, pamphlets, etc., relevant to the above-mentioned topics to include in this special collection, and would be happy to arrange for pick-up in the Edmonton area, or to assist with postage costs.

For further information about the Robert Lister Collection, please contact **Elizabeth Hubbard, Librarian, Tofield Municipal Library (403) 662-3838, or Box 479, Tofield, Alberta. T0B 4J0**