

that colonial species that are more precocial, such as gulls and terns, may suffer lower ectoparasite rates than less precocial species, such as the herons and egrets. This provides another interesting aspect to examine with colonial species. I use these specific examples only to illustrate the wealth of information and ideas presented in this wonderful book by the Browns - ideas that can well serve to generate many testable and important hypotheses in behavioral ecology.

Finally, let me say that I enjoyed the writing style, the presentation, and the quotes at the beginning of each chapter. The book was enjoyable to read, as well as stimulating. It made me want to begin anew the study of terns and skimmers, and to test some of their suggestions. This in the end, is an excellent final note for any book, that it is interesting, informative, and stimulating. I recommend it highly to everyone interested in birds, ecology of social animals, evolution of social behavior, and conservation of animals that live in groups. It is a must for all of our libraries.—**Joanna Burger.**

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Conservation of the White Stork: Western Population.—Edited by O. Biber, P. Enggist, C. Marti and T. Salathé. 1995. Proceedings of the International Symposium on the White Stork (Western Population) Basel 1994. Schweizerische Vogelwarte, Sempach, Switzerland. 370 pp. Softcover, 38 Swiss Francs, or c. \$26.00 U.S. (ISBN 3-9521032-0-9).

This volume is the proceedings of a conference held in Basel in April 1994. The symposium itself was extremely timely. It marked the 50th anniversary of the institution of the coordinated western European White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) censuses (a model of sustained international coordination and commitment), receiving preliminary results of

the fifth census: 1994-95. The meeting responded to a long-term declining trend suggested in these censuses. And it had the goal of setting an action agenda for a coordinated region wide approach to management, reintroduction, and conservation of the population. Few species enjoy such a base-line of census data, such a legion of dedicated ornithologists and conservationists, or such an international commitment to their welfare. It is because so much can be done, that the results of the White Stork conservation initiative can have fundamental implications in the management of declining colonial water-bird populations.

The book contains over 50 contributions from the conference's 215 participants. Given the strength of participation, the thoroughness of the deliberations, and its concrete vision for future conservation action, the Conference and this book will stand as the definitive statement on White Stork conservation for the second half of this century. The book is divided into four sections: analyses of population status and trends in the breeding and wintering areas; conservation issues, particularly the identification of mortality factors; workshop results aimed at finding ways to solve the problems that emerged; and conservation opportunities. Introductory materials, workshop results, and article summaries are presented in English, German, French and Spanish. Articles (full or abstracted) are in the language of their author.

The underlying causes of decline are complex, but most fundamentally involve competition with increasing human populations through changing land use practices. This is expressed as reduction and changes in natural habitats available at breeding sites in Western Europe, stopover sites on migration, and wintering sites in Africa. Many of these changes are caused by improved drainage, agricultural intensification, impoundment, and urbanization. Locally, powerlines and persecution contribute. Underlying these threats are long term ecological changes and climatic cycles. The future lies locally in re-introductions, but on the larger scale in habitat improvement and management co-

ordinated internationally, taking advantage of educational opportunities for a species so deeply connected with human culture, and attention to alleviation of specific mortality factors. The agenda is not an easy one, and will require continued international coordination and commitment. But if a conference such as this one can set the movement on a pathway, and each responsible entity does its

local best, then the movement may just succeed. Those concerned with the conservation of other waterbirds should watch and evaluate the progress of White Stork conservation in relation to their own initiatives.—

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Books/Monographs/Reports in Brief

A Conservation Assessment for the Marbled Murrelet in Southeast Alaska.—By A. R. DeGange. 1996. U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. General Technical Report PNW-GTR-388. 72pp. Softcover, no price (available from: Pacific Northwest Research Station, U.S. Forest Service Research Information Services/Publication Requests, P.O. Box 3890, Portland, Oregon 97208, USA).

A review of the ecology and conservation prospects of this species in southeastern Alaska where the species still appears in good shape, but local problems may occur because of very rapid deforestation of private lands. (DCD)

Checklist of Seabirds.—By W. R. P. Bourne and M. B. Casement. 1996. *Sea Swallow* 45 (Supplement). 12 pp. Softcover, free to members; £0.75, or c. \$1.50 U.S. (available from: M.B. Casement, Editor, *Sea Swallow*, Royal Navy Birdwatching Society, Dene Cottage, West Harting, Petersfield, Hants. GU31 5PA, England, UK).

Revision of RNBWS seabird checklist previously published in *Sea Swallow* 42: 16-27 (1993). This revision takes into account problems related to the international nomenclature of seabirds, particularly common names, and attempts to clarify and reduce confusion. A useful summary for seabird watchers. (DNN)

Coastal Waters of the World: Trends, Threats, and Strategies[†].—By D. Hinrichsen.

1997. Island Press, Covelo, California. 420 pp. Hardcover, c. \$60.00 U.S. (available December 1997; softcover edition to follow). (ISBN 1-55963-382-4)

Comprehensive review of the state of the world's coastal areas. Focuses on major threats and management plans and strategies needed to deal with them. Complexity of the task is highlighted by an examination of the implications and inter-relatedness of expanding human populations and ensuing pollution, unsustainable economic activity, and the inability of governments to design and implement effective coastal management plans. A must read for anyone interested in coastal habitats, wildlife and humankind. (DNN)

Guidelines for Managing Visitation to Seabird Breeding Islands.—By the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. 1997. Special publication, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Queensland, Australia. 87 pp. Softcover, \$6.00 Australian, or c. \$4.30 U.S. (available from: Information Officer, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, P.O. Box 1379, Townsville, Queensland 4810, Australia, or e-mail: n.turia@gbrmpa.gov.au). (ISBN 0-642-23029-3)

A review of approaches used to regulate and control visitors, amateur and professional, to island colonies of breeding seabirds. Although aimed at Australian seabird colonies, the information and techniques outlined in the report are probably widely useful. Managers of seabird colonies can get