

BIRD CONSERVATION

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 4 OCTOBER 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Open access journal</i>	1
<i>journal, continued</i>	2
<i>Eskimo curlew search</i>	3
<i>Forest birds</i>	4
<i>Membership</i>	5

Board of Trustees

Marvin Haltzer,
President

John J. Carta, Jr.

Gregory M. Castanza

Michael P. Curtis

Thomas Prescher

Juan Sanchez

Katherine Sheldon

Ronald J. Tillen

Donald E. Williams

Robert J. Craig, Director

OPEN ACCESS CONTRIBUTIONS JOURNAL NOW ACCEPTING MANUSCRIPTS



A Turkey Vulture soars above the full moon just after dawn.

Open access publications on the internet are available to all readers at no cost. No journal subscription is required

and access is 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Although subscriber-only print journals have

long dominated the field of science, the practical needs of researchers have already resulted in

(Continued on page 2)

ONLINE JOURNAL- CONTINUED



This winter-plumaged American Goldfinch was one of the species examined in the first paper published through the newly updated Bird Conservation Re-

“The free publications of Bird Conservation Research, Inc. ... have a much larger annual viewership than many subscriber-based journals.”

(Continued from page 1)

freely available internet sources of information surpassing traditional outlets in actual viewership. The free publications of Bird Conservation Research, Inc. (available at <http://www.birdconservationresearch.org/publications.html>), for example, have a much larger annual viewership than many subscriber-based journals.

In the emerging field of online science journals, the frequent subscription requirement and ex-

tremely high author's publication costs have continued to limit viewership and the variety of papers offered. These factors further drive researchers to seek new internet sources for information.

Bias has also emerged as an issue in scientific publication. Scholars have demonstrated that researchers from less prestigious institutions who do not have “celebrity” co-authors, as well as women researchers, can be at a significant disadvantage in having papers accepted by

traditional outlets.

To address shortcomings like these in scientific publication, BCR has revised its *Contributions* series to make it not only open-access, but also available for author submissions in an unbiased and low cost environment. BCR uses a double blind peer review process that makes authors and their institutions invisible to reviewers. See author instructions at <http://www.birdconservationresearch.org/submissions.html>.

ESKIMO CURLEW SEARCH CONTINUES



This mount of an Eskimo Curlew taken in Connecticut is one of the only specimens known from this state.

The admittedly Quixotic search for surviving Eskimo Curlews that might still migrate through outermost coastal Massachusetts entered its second year this August.

We continue to search habitats not traditionally scanned by bird watchers seeking migrating shorebirds. One tantalizing possibility is that birds move through each fall undetected because

the birdwatching community has forgotten how to look for the species. We focus our efforts on sand flats and dune hollows where 19th century gunners once hunted curlews. We avoid searching the tidal mudflats used by the majority of other shorebird species.

Although the probability of success in finding a curlew is low, previous similar efforts by BCR

Director Robert Craig have ultimately yielded success. In searching for the supposedly extinct Aguiguan Reed-warbler, knowing how to look for the species made all the difference in successfully relocating it. Similarly, learning how to look for the Black Rail led to its rediscovery as a Connecticut summer resident after 14 years of searching.

“One tantalizing possibility is that birds move through each fall undetected because the birdwatching community has forgotten how to look for the species.”

FOREST BIRD ANALYSIS CONTINUES TO PRODUCE POPULATION ESTIMATES



The Common Raven was one of the species that has had its Connecticut and Rhode Island populations computed.

The tedious labor of computing the summer and winter populations of every species of forest bird in Connecticut and Rhode Island continues, and has recently shed light on populations of several additional species:

Great Crested Flycatcher:
Northeast CT- 11,951
Southeast CT- 18,951

Central CT- 20,227
Northwest CT- 11,467
Southwest CT- 11,774
RI- 13,849

Hairy Woodpecker:
Summer:

Northeast CT- 5,834
Southeast CT- 4,801
Central CT- 9,144
Northwest CT- 7,133

Southwest CT- 3,203
RI- 2,927

Winter:

Northeast CT- 4,969
Southeast CT- 4,122
Central CT- 6,646
Northwest CT- 6,457
Southwest CT- 4,231
RI- 3,890

The Newsletter of
Bird Conservation Research, Inc.

90 Liberty Highway
Putnam, CT 06260

Web: www.birdconservationresearch.org

E-mail: mail@birdconservationresearch.org

Bird Conservation Research, Inc.

Membership

- _____ \$25 Regular member
- _____ \$35 Family membership
- _____ \$50 Sustaining member
- _____ \$100 Contributor
- _____ \$250 Patron
- _____ \$500 Benefactor
- _____ \$1,000 Grand benefactor

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

City _____

State, zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____



Become a member and have something to crow about...

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please consider becoming a member of BCR or renew your membership if you have not yet done so. You may support us by returning the member

form on the left of this page.

Memberships provide a significant part of the funds necessary to conduct our research and

public education activities. Membership applications and payment options are also available at www.birdconservationresearch.org.