

# BIRD CONSERVATION

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 4 OCTOBER 2013

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Environmental videos</i>	1
<i>Videos, continued</i>	2
<i>Curlew search</i>	3
<i>Forest birds</i>	4
<i>Membership</i>	5

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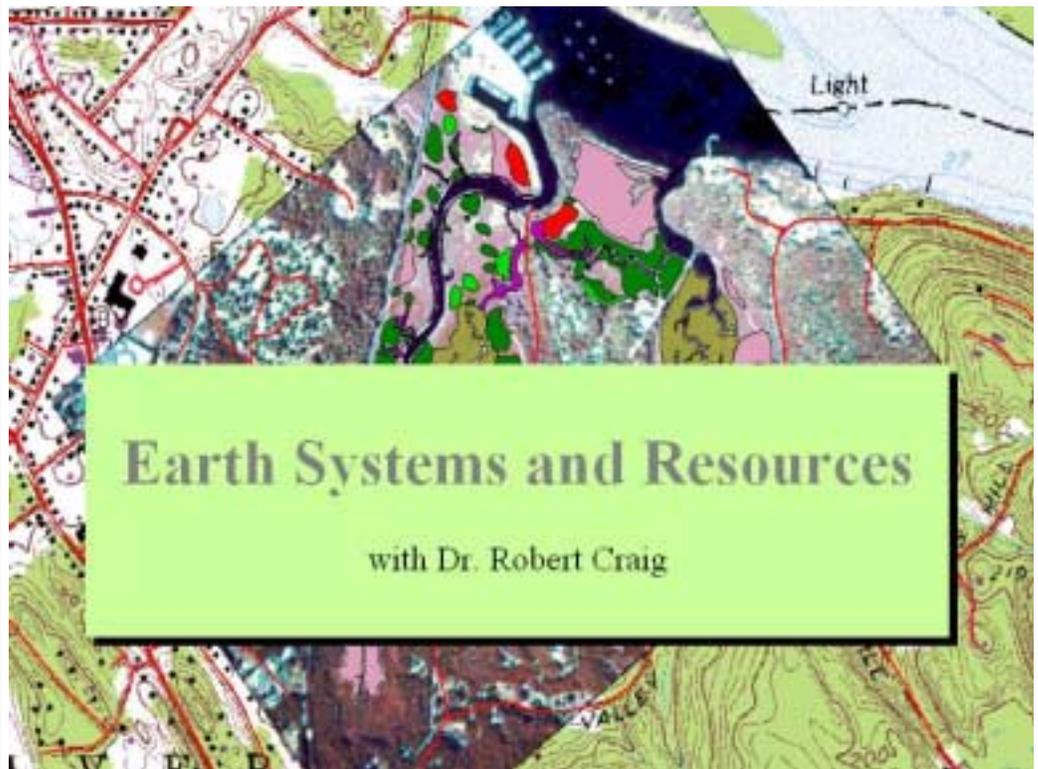
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## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE VIDEOS



**This aerial infrared photo superimposed over a topographic map is the opening image in BCR's new video series that focuses in on college level environmental science.**

**BCR** is developing high level environmental science materials for the classroom. To date, we have produced Power-

Point presentations, laboratory investigations and videos on New England habitats. We are now producing videos that

cover the national AP Environmental Science curriculum. They are in-

*(Continued on page 2)*

# ENVIRONMENTAL VIDEOS– CONTINUED

*“We are now producing videos that cover the national AP Environmental Science curriculum.”*



One of the images from our second environmental science video shows Hawaii's Haleakala volcano as being representative of Earth's tectonic activities.

*(Continued from page 1)*

tended for use by upper level high school students as well as by college students taking environmental science courses.

The first video in the series introduces environmental science by exploring the evolution of birds and their relationship to dinosaurs. It makes the point that living organisms have inhabited Earth for a very long time, and that life and

the Earth's changing environments are intimately intertwined. This video may be viewed at the BCR web site or on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1IWce762dl>.

The second video, at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c\\_tArZj3cCs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_tArZj3cCs) on YouTube, considers the topic of plate tectonics and how the physical processes that drive Earth's crustal movements are related to the distribution of living or-

ganisms.

## CURLEW SEARCH: YEAR 4



**These American Oystercatchers were with a group of American Golden Plovers— once associates of Eskimo Curlews.**

**D**isappointing fall weather characterized this year's attempts at locating migratory Eskimo Curlews in southern New England. Ideal conditions occur after early fall storms sweep in off the north Atlantic, but no such storms developed this year. Instead, weeks of nearly dead calm, blue sky days prevailed across the region.

In light of the low likelihood of any curlews appearing on southern New England's shores this year, we turned our at-

tention to less likely places to look for birds—i.e. places where no one would normally ever think of looking. Our logic was that this was a good time to check out spots where birds might simply be passing through unnoticed regardless of weather.

Although most historical records from southern New England come from the Cape Cod region, scattered records also exist for Connecticut and Rhode Island. Hence, our searches this year centered on extreme

southeastern Connecticut and coastal Rhode Island.

We searched for places where American Golden Plovers were present, as this species was once associated with curlews during fall migration. Although we were successful in finding groups of golden plovers foraging from dunes and adjacent mussel beds (like those in the photo above), no suspicious birds made an appearance this year.

***“We searched for places where American Golden Plovers were present...”***

# FOREST BIRDS OF CONNECTICUT AND RHODE ISLAND



**The Redpoll was an irregularly-occurring winter resident during the forest bird survey. During the winter of 2007-2008, it was particularly common, however.**

Although there is still much data to analyze, *The Forest Birds of Connecticut and Rhode Island* is presently in production. It is the compendium of data from the *Forest Bird Survey of Southern New England*.

Most all data have been computerized and organized and major analyses like the computation of population estimates are now complete. Based on such data, we are developing species accounts that detail the habitat use, distribution and

population status of forest birds throughout the region.

One of the next steps in production of species accounts is the development of distribution maps. Maps require still more data manipulation before the task can be completed, however. Our nearly 150 study sites must be positioned on regional maps so that population data can be attached to them. Based on the data, maps that show the distribution of population densities can be generated.

Another feature of the species accounts is an analysis of how species distributions are related to habitat factors. These analyses have already been presented for permanent resident species at <http://www.birdconservationresearch.org/pdf/permanent%20residents.pdf>, but much work remains to be done to determine habitat relationships for all species.

***“Although there is still much data to analyze, *The Forest Birds of Connecticut and Rhode Island* is presently in production.”***

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# Bird Conservation Research, Inc.

## Membership

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- \$35 Family membership
- \$50 Sustaining member
- \$100 Contributor
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*Make sure your membership is up to date. We're watching.*

## MEMBERSHIP

Becoming a member of BCR has just become easier. You may now join or renew your membership by going to <http://www.gofundme.com/1nqlss>.

[com/1nqlss](http://www.gofundme.com/1nqlss).

If you are presently a member, you will still receive a renewal form by mail. Membership applications and contribution

options are also available at [www.birdconservation-research.org](http://www.birdconservation-research.org)