

about a month before the contest.

July 22 - 25 - The North Okanagan Club will host the 1993 Canadian Nature Federation Conference at Vernon, B.C. The theme will be "From Desert Sands to Alpine Slopes". For further information contact the Club Secretary at Box 473, Vernon, B.C. V1T 6M4

#### ANIMAL, PLANT, AND OTHER SIGHTINGS

The Eastern Larch in Donagh reached maximum needle colour change and started needle-fall on October 29. Most of the needle fall occurred the week of Nov. 9 (JDM).

The first significant snowfall occurred on November 16th and covered the grainfields to stubble height. Large flights of geese reportedly headed south in response to this snowfall (LY) but it melted away quickly. The storms of December 3rd and 5th laid down a heavy layer of snow across the Island.

Red-throated Loons - 1 at National Park, Nov. 19 (MR)  
Horned Grebe - 2 close to Rustico Island causeway Nov. 18 (RC)  
Shearwater - 1 at Cape Tryon on Nov. 22 (DK)  
Cormorant - 1 at Hillsborough Bridge on Dec. 8 (NS)  
Great Blue Heron - 1 young heron who could not fly was found in the woods at Sleepy Hollow on Nov. 1 (EC); 1 - 2 at Brackley Beach Nov. 14 - 28 (RC)  
Bar-headed Goose - 1 with about 100 geese on Oct. 28 at Mount Albion (P&AW)  
Wood Ducks - 1 at Fullerton's Marsh in late Nov. (BH)  
Lesser Scaup - 3 at North River on Dec. 5 (SM, DS)  
Common Goldeneye - 200 + at North River on Nov. 28 and Dec. 5 (SM, DS)  
Barrow's Goldeneye - 7 at North River on Dec. 5 (DS, SM)  
Bufflehead - 5 at Long Pond on Nov. 14 (RC)  
Oldsquaw - 20 flying offshore at Rustico Island causeway and Brackley Nov. 27 (BB, JDM)  
Hooded Mergansers - 3 to 11 at Cavendish pond between Oct. 24 & Nov. 8 (GM)  
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1 at East Royalty Feeder, late Nov. (C&MW); 1 at South Lake feeder on Dec. 10 (FS)  
Red-tailed Hawk - 1 at Brookvale on Sept 20 and 1 at Green Bay on Oct. 25 (EC); 1 at National Park, Nov. 19 (MR)  
Rough-legged hawk - female dark-morph at DeSable on Dec. 1 and crows mobbing a Rough-legged hawk in early Dec. at DeSable (BP); 1 dark phase at China Point on Dec. 16 (RC)  
Bald Eagle - 1 adult at West River in Bonshaw on Oct. 28 (PF); 2 at Grand View Nov. 2 (P&AW); 1 on tidal flats at Covehead Harbour (Nov. 8 (RC)  
Northern Harrier - 1 hunting over fields at Strathgartney on Oct. 28 (PF); 1 male at St. Anns on October 28 (JDM)  
Gyr Falcon - 1 at National Park, Nov. 19 (MR)  
Ring-necked Pheasant - male seen at National Park on Nov. 19 (RG); 1 male at Hazelgrove on Dec. 16 (LS)  
American Coot - 1 at Campbell's Pond, National Park on Nov. 15 (MR)  
Semipalmated Plover - 1 at Rustico Island Causeway on Nov. 14 (RC)  
Lesser Golden Plover - still at the airport on October 24 (RP)  
White-rumped Sandpiper - at the Ch'town Airport on Oct. 24 (RP); 32 at Brackley marsh on Nov. 14 (RC)  
Dunlin - 4 at Brackley Marsh on Nov. 14 (RC)  
Sanderling - 3 at Covehead Harbour on Nov. 8 (RC)  
Bonaparte's Gull - Flocks of from 10 to 100 or more at North River causeway, Ellens Creek, and Belvedere Golf Course Pond in October (JDM)  
Kittiwake - Jack MacAndrew has a kittiwake which is at his place at DeRoches which he gives a swim in the pool each day, feeds well, and it seems not to want to leave (DG)