

crow attack. Biologist Alan Godfrey identified it as a Barred Owl. On Nov. 7 Conservation Officer Nelson Hurry picked up a dead Barred Owl at Birchwood School (just down the block). The owl, probably the same one as previously observed, had crashed into a plate glass window.

Young raptors show little fear of man and often with drastic results. Its the same with arctic birds that rarely encounter humans or their civilization. CFB Summerside reported 2 Snowy Owls following argus aircraft down the runway. On November 23, the Fish and Wildlife Division set two live traps near the runway, but as we go to press, trap success has been zero and the owls are still at large.

Snowy Owls arrive irregularly in winter on P.E.I. and rarely in large numbers. These sightings seem to be a bit early but are not unusual. Pat Rousseau, National Parks Warden, saw a Snowy Owl sitting on a duck blind at Brackley marsh at 1600 hours on November 14. As for the doves, Al Godfrey reported that he and Conservation Officer Buddy MacIntyre saw a Mourning Dove in Marshfield on November 20. Al saw two Mourning Doves on November 22 at Glenfinnan.

Final score: Hawks 4, Owls 4, Doves 3.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Rosemary Curley
P.E.I. Fish and
Wildlife Division

Park Policy Discussion

At the international meeting called Parks for Tomorrow - Ten Years Later held during October (1978) in Banff, Alberta, the need for regional discussions of Parks Canada's policies was expressed. In response to this suggestion Parks Canada held seven regional meetings to discuss the contents of the proposed revisions to the National Park Policy issued in February of 1978. On November 22, 1978 local interest groups in the maritime provinces gathered at the Parks Canada Atlantic regional office in Halifax to voice their concerns. Debbie Sharpe represented the Natural History Society of P.E.I. at this meeting.

The need for policy that is flexible and sensitive to the regional differences of the settled Maritime region was considered most urgent. The lack of sensitivity to the local peoples views when establishing historic parks was criticized. Repetition of research efforts was raised by Heritage Canada and more cooperation and consultation with local groups was requested. The desire for public participation at early stages of park planning was expressed throughout the meeting. Parks Canada assured those in attendance that all comments and briefs offered would be reviewed before the final draft policy was revised and submitted to cabinet.

Debbie Sharpe
Saint Peters

The following statement was submitted by the Natural History Society:

STATEMENT BY THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
ON THE PARKS CANADA POLICY DISCUSSION PAPER

The National Parks Policy section (pp 57-84) reinforces the preservation mandate under which Parks Canada has been operating in terms of "protecting for all time representative natural areas of Canadian significance in a system of national parks." It also spells out how parks are to be selected, established and used - and introduces the concept of "wilderness parks" for the Northwest Territories and Yukon.