

oozing (if in a living tree).

How is it that a bird that is nearly as large as a crow and is a year-round resident escapes notice for so long? Pileated Woodpeckers apparently prefer isolated, undisturbed forest habitat remote from man especially during the breeding season. According to Godfrey(1972), however, these are not essential. "Where unmolested, it also inhabits woodlots, parks, and other less extensive stands of mature trees." It may be then that a small population of Pileated Woodpeckers does exist on the Island. No recent sightings have been made although this may not be surprising as the species has the reputation for being elusive. Watch for the tell-tale signs of their borings. The voice is described as being similar to a flicker's but lower-pitched, more deliberate and powerful. If anyone has sighted evidence of the Pileated Woodpecker, either an actual sighting or borings on a tree, please contact me or Gary Schneider, editor of this newsletter. We are coming much closer to establishing the confirmation of this impressive species as, once again, a part of our Island's avifauna.



Literature Cited

- Bain, Francis. 1981. Birds of Prince Edward Island. Haszard and Moore, Charlottetown.
- Godfrey, W. Earl. 1954. Birds of Prince Edward Island. Nat. Mus. Can. Bull. 132: 155-213.
- Godfrey, W. Earl. 1972. The Birds of Canada. Nat. Mus. Can. Bull. 203: 428 p.
- W.R. Salt and J.R. Salt. 1976. The Birds of Alberta. Hurtig Publishers, Edmonton. 498 p.
- W. Austin Squires. 1976. The Birds of New Brunswick. New Brunswick Museum, Monog. Series no. 7, Saint John. 221 p.

Environmental Calendar

- To Jan. 31: "The Best of the Birds", an exhibit of 93 bird photos at the Eptek Centre, Water St., S'side.
- Feb. 2: Natural History Society meeting at 8 p.m. at the Farm Centre. Tim Beatty of Sunbury Shores Nature Centre in St. Andrews, N.B. will speak on whales in the Bay of Fundy and the Operation Lifeline project.
- Feb. 11: Nature Art Workshop at the Farm Centre. Instructor - Therese d'Amour. Everyone aged 10 and up welcome, but you must preregister before the workshop by calling the Nature Trust office 892-7513.
- Feb. 18: Lady's Slipper Naturalists meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Eptek Centre, S'side. For information call Les Homans, 436-2623.
- March 1: NHS meeting at the Farm Centre, 8 p.m. Dr. David Kellum will read from his new book My Very Bestiary.
- Feb. 20 or 27 (very tentatively) - a meeting of P.E.I. members of the Atlantic Environmental Network is being planned. Leslie Cuthbertson, Regional Coordinator for the AEN will be in Charlottetown to discuss the network, computer WEB and your concerns. For more information, please contact Gary Schneider at 838-2678.
- March 10: Photographer Fred Breummer will show slides and speak on Arctic wildlife as part of the Island Nature Trust's Public Lecture series. 7:30 p.m. at the Farm Centre in Charlottetown.