

around the Chesapeake Bay. These are the populations surrounded by some of the densest populations of humans, who have access to some of the most effective means of public communication ever devised.

The future for Ospreys looks bright. Although humans continue to modify the natural habitats in ways that are detrimental to many species, Ospreys continue to exhibit a range of adaptability that promises to keep them with us into the foreseeable future.

COLLINS HANDGUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF THE INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

Martin Woodcock. 1980. Republished 1989 by The Stephen Greene Press, Lexington, Massachusetts; distributed by Viking Penguin Inc., 40 W. 23rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10010. Illus. 176 pp. \$11.95.

Here is a book designed for the casual tourist to the Indian sub-continent. Of the approximately 1250 species of birds recorded from the region, the most common (or more interesting) 273 are illustrated in color. Woodcock's paintings, based on my limited experience with several of the species in the field, are certainly acceptable. They are good clear drawings that demonstrate the appropriate markings of the species. An additional 272 species are described briefly (and some are illustrated in black and white) in a synopsis of families at the back of the book.

Clearly, the biggest drawback to the Handguide is that it only covers about 43% of the known birds (and only half of those are covered thoroughly). The alternative is to invest in the ten volume Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan by Ali and Ripley which is not exactly portable and will cost you considerably more than the modest asking price of this volume.

My guess is that the casual visitor who wants to identify the birds most commonly encountered will be more than satisfied with this aid.

NOCTURNAL FLIGHT CALLS OF MIGRATING THRUSHES

Bill Evans. 1990. Sound Tracker, P.O. Box 46, Mecklenburg, NY 14863. Forty-eight minute cassette with liner notes. \$10.00 postpaid.

Bill Evans' cassette opens up a whole new world for average birders by giving us an excellent tutorial on how to identify five common species of North American thrush by their nocturnal flight call-notes. Side A begins with short sequences of the nocturnal flight notes of Gray-cheeked Thrush, each preceded by an identifying announcement. This summary, located right at the beginning of the tape, is obviously designed for use in the field, as we struggle to associate the squeaks and chips we hear in the pre-dawn spring of fall sky with the tutorial on the tape.

The summary is followed by the tutorial proper. Evans goes over each species in turn, giving several long cuts of their nocturnal flight calls. He then compares the nocturnal calls to the species; diurnal calls, and contrasts each species with the