

## THE COLLINS FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF GALAPAGOS

Michael Harris. 1974. Republished 1989 by The Stephen Greene Press, Lexington, Massachusetts; distributed by Viking Penguin, Inc. 40 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010. illustrated by Barry Kent MacKay. hardbound. 160 p. \$19.95.

Yet another re-released Collins Guide to birds in an exotic part of the world has been made available to the American bird-watching public. The large number of nature tours visiting these famous desolate islands that inspired Darwin will probably make it possible for The Stephen Greene Press to sell enough copies of this book to cover the associated costs of producing it.

As is typical of all of the Collins guides, the text is competent and the illustrations are adequate for identification purposes. The quality of the printing and binding are excellent and the cover is strong and durable (an important feature when traveling to an area such as this). If you are planning to see the Galapagos and wish to identify its remarkable bird-life, this is a guide that you ought to take along.—H. T. Hendrickson

## POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF OIL SPILLS ON SEABIRDS AND SELECTED OTHER OCEANIC VERTEBRATES OFF THE NORTH CAROLINA COAST

David S. Lee and Mary C. Socci. 1989. Occasional Papers of the North Carolina Biological Survey 1989-1, Raleigh, N.C. Illus. 64p. soft cover. \$8.00

David Lee's marine studies of vertebrate animals since 1975, probably make him better able to describe the nature and abundance of these organisms in the area off Cape Hatteras than anyone else. Because of this knowledge, he has been asked to respond to the proposal to explore for gas (or oil) in this same area and describe the effects on wildlife should a spill occur.

Four species listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as Endangered or Threatened are known to occur in the oil lease areas and it is presumed they could be severely affected by oil spills. These are the Black-capped Petrel, Bermuda Petrel, Peregrine Falcon, and Roseate Tern. Three of these species are also listed in the Mountfort book reviewed above. In addition, six other species that are not considered Endangered or Threatened are considered highly vulnerable to oil pollution in that they are known to occur in highly concentrated numbers at least in some seasons in the area of oil leases. These are the Greater Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, Audubon's Shearwater, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, Masked Booby and Bridled Tern. It is also probable that there would be significant mortality of Common Loon, White-tailed Tropic Bird, Red-billed Tropicbird and/or Northern Gannet if a spill were to occur, depending upon the season of the year.

In addition to the assessments of danger of oil spills, there is much useful information on the basic biology of these species and some drawings that will help in

the identification of some seabirds. Information on whales and turtles is also included which will be of interest to anyone making pelagic trips out of Oregon Inlet.

The maps showing the locations where the various species have been found are most useful, particularly when used with the acetate overlay that shows the location of the oil lease sites. Lo and behold, the birds and the petroleum companies both want the same areas.

I found several typographical errors, such as a consistent inability to spell *Procellariiformes*, but these did little to detract from the overall merit and utility of this contribution.—H. T. Hendrickson

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