

A WORKSHOP ON WESTERN BIRDS

Management of Western Forests and Grasslands for Nongame Birds. Richard M. DeGraff and Nancy G. Tilghman, compilers. 1980. General Technical Report INT-86, U.S. Forest Service, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah 84401. 535 pages (paper). No charge.

This report is the proceedings of the last of a series of four regional workshops on nongame bird research and management. Other workshops dealt with nongame birds of western coniferous forests, southern forests, and forests of the northeast and north central states. Like its predecessors, this volume contains a few "keynote-type" papers, typically presented by administrators, as well as a variety of technical presentation by researchers and resource managers.

Many western habitats are discussed by biologists intimately familiar with them and the birds they support. Of particular interest to *Prairie Naturalist* readers might be contributions on shelterbelts in North Dakota, by J. Frank Cassel and John M. Wiehe, and on riparian bird communities of the Great Plains, by Allen A. Tubbs.

In addition to the studies with a habitat orientation, there are several that deal with specific management practices, such as grazing (reviewed by Ronald A. Ryder), fire in coniferous forests (Dale L. Taylor and William J. Barmore, Jr.), and strip-mine reclamation (James R. Karr). The major thrust of the workshop, however, involves balancing timber harvest against the needs of nongame birds.

It is a useful document for forest managers as well as ornithologists interested in bird communities of the west.

Staff