

Western Region

An 88-page report entitled "Bird Community Survey At Pinnacles National Monument," by Michael L. Avery and Charles van Riper II, has been published

as Technical Report 24 by the NPS/CPSU at University of California, Davis. Surveys of bird communities were made in seven vegetation types at Pinnacles during winter and spring from November 1983 to June 1985. Bird densities were estimated, using the variable circular plot technique, in valley oak woodland, blue oak woodland, mixed riparian woodland, California buckeye, chamise chaparral, hollyleaf cherry chaparral, and mixed chaparral. Of the 110 species recorded, 46 are year-round residents, 18 are mainly winter residents, 30 are spring residents, and 16 are transients. Sixty species are known to nest at Pinnacles and 22 others probably do so.

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Charles van Riper III, leader of the NPS/CRSU at University of California, Davis, has three recent publications to report:

In the Proceedings of the Helminthological Society of Washington, Vol. 52, No. 2, July 1985, "New Species of Spiruridae (Nemata: Spirurida) from Endemic Hawaiian Honeycreepers (Passeriformes: Drepanididae), the Japanese White-eye (Nemata: Spirurida) from the Japanese White-eye Collected on the Island of Hawaii," (with Cid del Prado Vera and A.R. Maggenti); in the Proceedings of a Symposium held June 5-6, 1984 at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, "Hawai'i's Terrestrial Ecosystems: Preservation and Management" (edited with J. Michael Scott), and a chapter from the same Proceedings, with C. John Ralph, entitled "Historical and Current Factors Affecting Hawaiian Native Birds."

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"Yellow-bellied Marmots and Vehicle Damage in Mineral King, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park, California" is the subject of Technical Report No. 23, by Roger C. Helm and Christine Schonewald-Cox and issued by the NPS CPSU, University of California, Davis. The report recommendations include the suggestion that the Park provide Rangers with a new report form, specifically designed to document damage by animals other than bears, plus a short form to be filled out when an animal is destroyed. "Substantially improved documentation of a problem will help both the Park and any outside person or agency diagnose a situation more accurately and rapidly," the report notes. "A terrific sodium need" on the part of marmots early in their active season is seen as driving the animals' problem behavior. Several solutions to this are suggested.