

# SNAIL KITE

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Snail Kite is published by the Florida Ornithological Society as an information exchange among persons interested in the conservation, research and enjoyment of birds in Florida. Notices or requests for information or assistance and news of interest should be sent to the editor: Tom Palmer, 1805 26<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Winter Haven FL 33881, W. (863) 902-7535, Fax (863) 902-7809, H. (863) 967-4711, E-mail [tom47@yahoo.com](mailto:tom47@yahoo.com). Recent issues of the newsletter and other information are available on the FOS website [www.fosbirds.org](http://www.fosbirds.org).

## FROM THE EDITOR

As you can see, this is a pretty thin issue.

There's a reason for this.

Few people are submitting anything.

Let me take a moment to invite submissions and to tell you what kinds of material I'm seeking to make Snail Kite into a clearinghouse for bird news in Florida.

Some of the kinds of things I'd like to get include:

Articles on birding spots, especially birding spots that may not be as well known as Ft. DeSoto, Saddle Creek or Merritt Island.

Avian research news. How's are the Mottled Duck Wars going? Is the Roseate Spoonbill banding program telling us anything? What's the latest on Snail Kites? Where did the Eurasian Collared Doves go?

People: We're a collection of individuals. Did anyone get an award, a grant, a promotion or appointment to a new position? Share the news with us.

Conservation; There are plenty of conservation issues out there that would be a great subject for an article. Help us spread the word.

Oh, yeah, and send photos.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Tom Palmer, Editor**

## Bird News

HawkWatch International's, Florida Keys HawkWatch Project at Curry Hammock State Park will not occur this year, reportedly because of a lack of funding for the project. The site has been used for monitoring of thousands of migrating raptors for the past decade.

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Applications for Florida's State Wildlife Grants Program. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Oct. 15. Selection will be determined by Feb. 2. Selected projects will start July 1. For more information, please visit:  
[http://www.myfwc.com/WILDLIFEHABITATS/Legacy\\_grantfunding.htm](http://www.myfwc.com/WILDLIFEHABITATS/Legacy_grantfunding.htm)

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The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service has announced new permit guidelines that they say will be used to improve the management of Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/BaldEagle/Final%20Disturbance%20Rule%209%20Sept%202009.pdf>

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Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has tentatively approved new rules that will allow the capture some wild migrating Peregrine Falcons in Florida for falconry. See  
[http://www.myfwc.com/Newsroom/09/statewide/News\\_09\\_X\\_PeregrineFalconry1.htm](http://www.myfwc.com/Newsroom/09/statewide/News_09_X_PeregrineFalconry1.htm)

## Requests For Assistance

Black vultures are being tagged on the Merritt Island National Wildlife refuge with white wing tags on their right wings, each with a unique 3-letter code. The wing tags are clearly visible on perched birds and can be read using binoculars or spotting scope. Please report all sightings of tagged vultures including: 1) tag ID, 2) date/time, 3) location, 4) number of vultures, and 4) a brief description of the activity (e.g., roosting, loafing on the ground, feeding at a carcass) to Eric Stolen, at [eric.d.stolen@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:eric.d.stolen@ksc.nasa.gov)

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## Member News



### Judith **Buhrman**, 1939-2009

Judith Buhrman, a longtime FOS member, died in July. She was 69. She was a former member of the FOS board. She lived in Seminole in Pinellas County at the time of her death. She had been active in the North American Crane Working Group, was membership secretary for the Whooping Crane Conservation Association. She was also a member of the Florida Native Plant Society.

**Please submit material for the Winter 2010 issue  
of Snail Kite by Jan. 15, 2010.**

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