

Mr. John Biewener  
President  
Audubon Society of Portland  
5151 NW Cornell Rd.  
Portland, OR 97210

January 2, 1988

Dear Mr. Biewener:

At the annual meeting of the Pacific Seabird Group just concluded, we learned through David B. Marshall that the Audubon society of Portland, joined by other chapters of the National Audubon Society, plans next month to petition the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the Marbled Murrelet as a threatened species in Washington, Oregon and California. Copies of the draft status report were circulated at our meeting, and were widely read by our membership. Mr. Marshall, the author of the status report, has been in close contact with those persons most knowledgeable of the species, most of whom were present at a special Marbled Murrelet workshop held during our meeting. He has received their input and endorsement of the status report.

The Pacific Seabird Group passed resolutions in 1982 and 1986 addressed to appropriate agencies on the precarious status of this species. These resolutions pointed out the critical need for research while information is still readily obtainable. Our resolutions have been largely ignored. The gaps in knowledge about the species represent threats in themselves.

The Pacific Seabird Group wishes to commend you for your initiative in having the status report prepared, and we support your efforts to list the Marbled Murrelet as a threatened species in the above three states (particularly in view of the lack of action to date by responsible agencies).

Sincerely,

Scott A. Hatch  
Chair