

adequacies in scientific method and the reliance instead on a nonscientific approach. Nonetheless, the paper does raise legitimate concerns about the American Black Duck and its management, and these questions deserve serious attention—soon and in depth.—JOHN P. HUBBARD.

Report of the 1979 Greenland White-fronted Goose study expedition to Eqalungmiut Nunât, West Greenland.—A. D. Fox and D. A. Stroud (Eds.). 1981. Aberystwyth, U.K., School of Biological Sciences, University College of Wales. 319 pp.—In the best of British traditions for such endeavors, this expedition grew from one person's dream to a serious study of the breeding biology of the Greenland White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons flavirostris*), one of the rarest subspecies of geese. Twelve intrepid amateur naturalists investigated these birds (and almost everything else) from May to August 1979 in the Eqalungmiut Nunât, 900 km² of upland tundra at the western edge of the Greenland Ice Sheet. This report, written and edited by expedition members, is an unorthodox but fascinating account of their results and their adventures and anecdotes. As such, in addition to the scientific aspects, it conveys an appreciation of personal experiences and "... the magic of Eqalungmiut Nunât, a beautiful but often unusual and alien environment."

Approximately one-third of the report is devoted to Greenland Whitefronts, based on studies of the population of about 400 birds in the study area. The expedition arrived there just ahead of the geese and stayed until the geese had molted and regained flight. Thus, the 1979 season is covered: arrival, nesting, predation, food and feeding, post-breeding, and molt. This section is rounded out with a discussion of banding and banding recoveries and a general review of the life history of the Greenland White-fronted Goose.

Systematic ornithological reports on an additional 31 species observed and a breeding bird survey are also given. Mammal observations include a curiously detailed analysis of salvaged caribou atlas vertebrae. The scientific reports are completed with sections on botany, invertebrates, meteorology, and on fauna on other sites visited by expedition members.

The scientific activities and results of the expedition and the relevant literature are thoroughly covered. The presentation of detail, however, makes for a lengthy report. The discussion of results is stimulating, although one must sometimes question the generalization of conclusions based on small sample sizes. For example, the recovery patterns (based on visual sightings of "Darvic" leg bands and hunting kills) of the 96 geese banded by the expedition in Eqalungmiut Nunât may not be representative of the subspecies, which totals about 15,000 birds and whose

breeding range extends for over 800 km, south to north, on West Greenland.

Narrative and technical accounts occupy about a fifth of the report. They provide an excellent description of daily activities and logistics, and a backdrop of the landscape and environment. Having taken that approach, however, they should have provided more background on individual expedition members. The reader is left to piece the characters together from intriguing but incomplete details in the reflections and anecdotes given. Logistical and technical aspects are covered in detail and should prove useful in planning for any similar expedition. Here the authors are completely candid, dealing with their mistakes and troubles just as clearly as with their successes.

The expedition succeeded in its basic objectives to obtain current breeding information on the Greenland Whitefronts, a subspecies still in jeopardy but still hunted on its wintering grounds in Britain. Key expedition members are working and planning for another expedition to Greenland soon. I wish them success.

This volume is written and illustrated well, including many attractive and decorative sketches. Minor nuisances in readability are caused by small, noncolumnar print and a lack of scale bars on many key maps. It would be a desirable addition to university or museum libraries, and to personal libraries of those interested in geese, particularly the Greenland Whitefront.—RICHARD H. KERBES.

Birds of the Netherlands Antilles.—K. H. Voous. 1983. Utrecht, Netherlands, De Walburg Pers. 327 pp., 28 plates. £11.75.—Is there a need for yet another Caribbean field guide? With Brudenell-Bruce's "The birds of the Bahamas," French's "A guide to the birds of Trinidad and Tobago," Raffaele's recent "A guide to the birds of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands," and Bond's classic "Birds of the West Indies," there would seem to be little need for an additional guide. Voous' "Birds of the Netherlands Antilles," however, is a revised English edition of his 1955 edition of "De Vogels van de Nederlandse Antillen," which fills an important niche.

Voous' book is intended to serve as both a field guide and a miniature handbook to the 252 bird species recorded from Aruba, Curaçao, and Bonaire (the Leeward Group, along the Venezuela coast) and St. Martin, Saba, and St. Eustatius (the Windward Group, to the east of Puerto Rico). The Windward Group has a West Indian avifauna while the Leeward Group, 900 km to the southwest, falls just outside the zoogeographic limits of the West Indies and hence has an avifauna predominantly of South American origin and is usually omitted from West Indian field guides. Because of these avifauna differences, the author has divided the book into two sections and treats