

L.A. City Planning Department Publishes Final Animal Regulations

The Los Angeles City Planning Department has submitted its final draft of the proposed ordinance to restrict the number of gamebirds, waterfowl and other small birds and mammals to be allowed on residential property within the City of Los Angeles. The proposed ordinance will be submitted for public scrutiny before the City Planning Commission public hearing to be held Tuesday, June 24, 1975, at 7 p.m., at the Northridge Junior High School Auditorium, 17960 Chase, Northridge, California.

Under the proposed regulations, residents on lots of 20,000 square feet or larger in R-1 zones (single family dwelling) will be allowed to keep one gamebird, waterfowl or poultry per 1,000 square feet of lot space and one other small animal per 500 square feet. Residents of RA zones (residential agriculture-minimum lot size 17,500 sq. ft., single family residence) are subject to the same numerical limitations except the minimum lot size is less.

It is reasonable to assume residents of average size R-1 lots of 5,000 square feet

will be allowed fewer animals than those on 1/2-acre and acre parcels. Under the small animal designation a maximum of 35 finches, canaries, psittacines, etc., could be maintained on 1/2-acre lots — far fewer than what most breeders currently possess.

Los Angeles area aviculturists should submit their comments on the proposed limitations to the L.A. City Planning Commission and to their City Councilman as early as possible. Inaction allows the river of regulation to seek the path of least resistance ■

VET'S CORNER — Contd from pg 11

called the cecum, which occurs in pairs, and is similar to the appendix of mammals. Bacteria in the cecum break down cellulose to its digestible components further complementing a more complete utilization of food.

Finally, in the large intestine, water absorption takes place and the solid dark fecal matter is formed.

This material moves, by rhythmic muscular contractions of the large intestine's wall into the cloaca, where in a portion called the urodaeum it mixes with the pasty white urate produced by the kidney. It is then stored in the proctodaeum until the birds owner catches the bird, at which time it is expelled through the anus onto the owners lap or shoes ■

WOODRAILS — Contd from pg 6

meat, fish, fruit, cooked rice, tomatoes, corn, some seed and also any food they can obtain for themselves in the flight-cage. They are omnivorous birds but of the selection provided seem to prefer the ground meat, fish, corn and a little cooked rice.

The Woodrails usually feed during the morning after the fresh food trays have been put out. This is the time they usually spend at the pools, an area in which they often forage for food. The afternoons are usually spent resting or sunbathing.

CONCLUSIONS

Although Woodrails, in the wild, appear to be rather secretive I think this is due more to their habitat than to their nature. They do tend to be rather shy but more wary than secretive. Woodrails in captivity are not very different from Woodrails in the wild. In the wild they are reported to be noisy birds which sing both night and day, more in wet weather. In the flight-cage I noticed that although I would not call them noisy, calls seem to be made less frequently in captivity, they could hardly be called quiet. In keeping with their behavior in the wild they made more noise on wet days or after the overhead sprinkler had been switched on. The call is hard to describe but once it has been heard it is easily recognized. The

Contd on pg 30



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