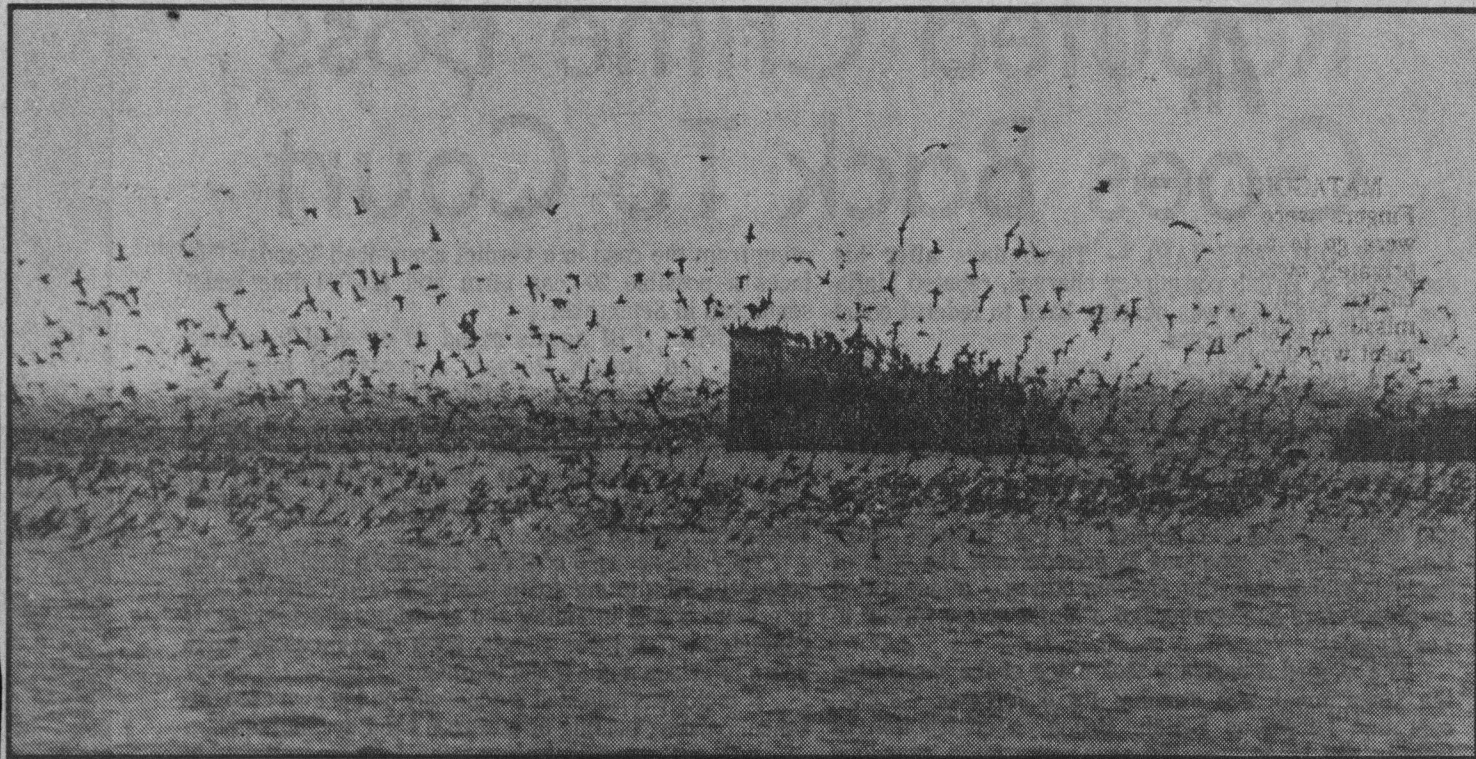


# BIRDS

Thursday, Aug. 6, 1981 — Santa Cruz Sentinel—7



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

## Sea Birds Flocking To Monterey Bay

Thousands of sea birds are flocking to Monterey Bay to feed on the shoals of anchovies now in local waters. Each year, the anchovies come, and each year, the birds follow. And, each year, thousands of the birds die and are washed up on local beaches. Some of the birds kill themselves or are killed in their frenzied feeding on small fish; others become entangled and drown in the nets of fishermen. Last year, the state Department of Fish and Game began a study to

determine how many and why the birds are die. Murres, a bird that breeds locally, may be endangered, according to a Fish and Game biologist. The birds also create an annual problem for the state Department of Parks and Recreation, whose job it is to keep the beaches clean. Maintenance workers try to keep the crowded mid-county beaches relatively free of the carcasses, and leave the more remote south county beaches to the care of time and the tides.