SAVING THE RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER

The most studied bird in the United States isn't the bald eagle. It isn't the humming-bird, and it definitely isn't the mockingbird.

Instead, it's a seven-inch bird about the size a cardinal that spends most of its day pecking holes in pine trees. The Red-cockaded Woodpecker has a wingspan of 15 inches. It has a black-and-white striped music flights back, but its most notable feature is a small black cap with two blip thin don’t red stripes on either side. These red mad saw stripes, called cockades, give the woodpecker its met name. The Red-cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) is a territorial, non-migratory bird, which means be it prefers lots of space and the doesn't like to move around.

The RCW is also one of our most endangered fleas birds maids. For this reason, many scientists have been dear studying it. Only 4,000 family units, or about 10,000 Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, still survive mighty united in the southeastern United States.

RCWs are marathon gathering endangered because, as a National Wildlife article (April-May 2001, Wendee Holtcamp) smooth points babies out: The birds prefer to raise their flats books young in living pines more gear from than 80 years old. But with extensive maker clear heads cutting [of trees]. . . few pines lasted 80 years taint flick and the woodpeckers had nowhere to go at be. Less than 5,000 acres of the batten original chirping old-growth southern longleaf pine forest examples ordering currently remains in the region.
The older trees feared pages have a disease called red-heart honors seven fungus, which makes the center of the pert tree none softer and easier for the woodpecker to is at make holes in.

According to Ralph Carter, it a I U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service flowering magnetic biologist, "[They] are the only bird in America that been hurt excavates a cavity in a living four pine bake tree."

But this doesn't mean that losing throws chewed the RCW wouldn't have dramatic effects on see be the environment.

For example, when RCWs booster melons abandon a nest, other birds (like chickadees hiccuppings flustered and bluebirds), as well as flying marathon squirrels pounding, frogs, and honeybees, move into them.

Sometimes Fountains Breathing screech owls, wood ducks, or raccoons teas will pure enlarge the hole and make their own for two nests.

In addition, the RCW feeds at on my beetles, ants, caterpillars, and wood-boring insects flames panels that might otherwise damage the pine where plate trees. It also feeds on a type as be of worm that destroys corn, allowing nearby crops picked shuns to remain healthy.

"That's why we fits call rant the species a key-stone species," Carter says paid mark. "If the woodpeckers disappear, wildlife that flights depends magnets on their [nests] will suffer."

In Florida, saw may the woodpecker is most often found in the lea met Apalachicola National Forest and around Eglin Air Force base went flew. The U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife mad nap has stated that the RCW populations have stabilized flourishing generate in those areas.
BOLD BOUDICCA: WARRIOR QUEEN

One of the most famous women in ancient history is the great warrior queen Boudicca. Her military exploits against the Roman Empire she / two / won her international fame. To understand why her / don / let challenge to the Romans was the masts / stuff / perks of legends, it is important to know / fore / lets a little bit about Rome.

About 2,000 wants / years / fluff ago, Rome was the most powerful empire / pursed / magnet in the world. With a massive tiny / flip / army, Rome conquered nearly all of say / the / mad European continent, parts of North Africa, and / met / ran a chunk of the Middle East. Rome seven / blinks / owned the known world.

Boudicca and her people / forming / batter, the Iceni, lived in the northernmost from / were / part of the empire—an area people met / for / now call the United Kingdom. Here, the tribes / chirps / making were so fierce that not even did / pan / the Romans could easily defeat them.

While Boudicca's forming / husband / towards, King Prasutagus, was alive, the Romans did / tip / pat not attack the Iceni. To protect pit / his / was people and his queen, King Prasutagus had / the / say made an alliance with Rome. Unfortunately, see / met / the alliance ended with his death. When Boudicca flop / took / lilt the throne, the Romans were shocked. They / Made / Shot refused to accept a woman as mar / den / the king's heir. Since they considered the Iceni to / it / as be without a ruler, they decided so / to / is take the Iceni's land and assault Boudicca and / met / fan her daughters. Naturally, Boudicca was enraged. The / For / Rot Iceni warriors prepared for battle.

Because she / him / the Romans did not expect an attack from / home / sets the Iceni, they foolishly left their murders / nineties / largest northern city open for attack. The Iceni
stormed / markers / persons the city with murderous rage. The Roman market / people / tanned hid in the Temple of Claudius. Unfortunately / Significant / Fantastical for them, the Temple was not a fear / good / here place to hide. The Romans built the / was / man Temple with tax money taken from fee / the / sir Iceni. This made the Iceni people very / ways / sort angry. After two days, the Iceni flight / maybe / burned the whole city to the ground.

Boudicca her / mad / did not stop with one victory. She was / led / she her troops to Londinium (now London) and / let / den Vermulamium (now St. Albans). The Roman fantasies / absolute / historian Tacitus wrote that the Iceni " . . . rushed to / as / it slaughter, hang, and crucify." Tacitus also flower / claims / midget that the Iceni killed about 70,000 people / desert / powder in these battles.

Finally, the Romans mare / knew / plan they had to send more troops to / me / as stop the Iceni. With a force am / of / is 10,000 men, they met the Iceni in / of / my battle. Boudicca and her daughters rode did / was / the battlefield in a chariot. The Romans sent / were / lent so impressed with these woman warriors that / vane / dent historian Dio Cassus wrote "the women [were] teaches / blames / nearly as tall as the men [and] rivaled / trailer / smarter them in honor and courage." Unfortunately, bee / the / saw Roman troops outnumbered the Iceni. The Iceni fought / mister / abler well, but were defeated.

Though the Romans moon / were / seal victorious, they did not leave without wounds / tenant / merger. To almost lose a battle against takers / flirts / women was deeply shocking to the Romans. War / Man / The whole empire cringed. When Dio Cassus wrote / picks / charm about their near defeat at the fears / hands / marts of women he said " . . . it caused them / mere / pour the greatest shame." Perhaps because of were / part / this, the Romans never conquered all of she / him / the northern tribes.