



the Post

Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

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Some of the U.S.'s Most Imperiled Birds Make their Home in Montana

New Report Identifies Species at Greatest Risk

WatchList 2007, the newest and most scientifically sound list of America's birds at greatest risk, was released in November by National Audubon and the American Bird Conservancy. The bird species on this list are often rare and limited in range; consequently, they face a more imminent threat of extinction. Forty of these imperiled species spend at least part of the year in Montana. Conservation efforts in Montana and nationally will play a critical role in determining their future.

"All of us in Montana have an opportunity and responsibility to help protect our birds at greatest risk – including the Greater Sage Grouse and Trumpeter Swan," said Steve Hoffman, Montana Audubon's Executive Director. *"We need conservation action now, while there is still time, and WatchList helps focus action where we need it most."*

Among the Montana birds on the 2007 WatchList, 22 of the 40 species (55%) require wet-

lands or streamside habitats, and another nine species (22%) are grassland-dependent. Three species are restricted to sagebrush habitats, and two species prefer Ponderosa pine forests. The remaining four species inhabit coniferous forests, alpine or pinyon-juniper habitats.

Steve Hoffman of Montana Audubon and Dan Casey of the American Bird Conservancy detailed the conservation status of 13 Montana species on the list. These status reports will be reprinted in the next issues of the Post. We begin this January issue with reports on three species that are familiar to most of our Flathead Audubon readers.

For the complete WatchList and details on how to help, visit www.audubon.org. To learn more about Montana Audubon's work protecting these and other species, visit www.mtaudubon.org.

(Read about 3 Montana birds on the WatchList on page 6.)

JANUARY FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR

Monday, January 14, 2008: Flathead Audubon General Meeting, 7 PM, The Summit, Conference Room 3. 'Asta Bowen presents a program on Bird Recording in Ireland, see details on page 3

Monday, January 7, 2008: Flathead Audubon Board of Directors Meeting. 6 PM at 295 3rd Ave EN, Kalispell (Jane Lopp & Associates Building) All are welcome.

Saturday, January 12, 2008: Winter Trails Day. See Field Trip List on page 6

Sunday, January 13, 2008: Raptor Watching in the West Valley. See Field Trip list on page 6

Saturday, February 2, 2008: A Winter Outing in Glacier National Park. See Field Trip list, page 6

Sunday, February 17, 2008: A Wander in the Mission Valley. See Field Trip list, page 6

BIRD OF THE MONTH

By Gail Cleveland

VARIED THRUSH

Think thick, damp, mossy coniferous forest. I think Avalanche Campground and the Cedars Nature Trail. Think a more isolated patch of old growth with an understory of alders, ferns and Devil's Club. I think a Middle Fork adventure hike. Now within that dank solitude, listen. I hear a series of single drawn out notes on different pitches much like a British police whistle; some say fuzzy, metallic notes in minor chords. However you describe it, it is the unmistakable song of *Ixoreus naevius*, the Varied Thrush.

One of my memorable Varied Thrush experiences took place at Glacier Wilderness Ranch in late February or early March with several feet of snow on the ground. Suddenly, that unmistakable series of discordant notes. Where did he come from? Has he been here all winter? Would he be singing if he weren't thinking about breeding?



Our local bird guru Dan Casey has told us to be on the lookout for Varied Thrushes on the Christmas Bird Counts. Possibly, a few of our breeding population may come to the lower elevations, deciding to stay if feed is available, or a northern migrant may consider this a balmy food-laden winter habitat. But because the Varied Thrush is one of our earliest migrants, my bird was probably an early arrival testing out his territorial vocals.

While breeding and raising their chicks, Varied Thrushes feed on insects and invertebrates, coming down from the tops of trees where they sing, foraging on the ground much like the American Robin. In the winter they switch to fruit, berries and nuts, so they can be attracted to bird feeders in their winter range and will flock together occasionally.

In conifers during the spring, the female



Google Drawing

builds a cuplike nest near the trunk of the tree, where she lays three to four pale blue eggs flecked with brown. Much like their relatives, the American Robin, both parents feed the young and will raise two broods if the weather permits.

From those not acquainted with this beautiful bird, one often hears in the early spring, "I had the weirdest Robin in my garden." Similar in size and shape to the American Robin but slighter in build, the Varied Thrush is a much more boldly patterned bird. In the male, the rust-colored belly and throat are interrupted by a black breast-band; the female has a lighter, grayish band. A similar band lines the face at the eye. A rust-colored stripe lines the head above the eye-band, and the crown is bluish gray, as are the back and tail. The wings are boldly patterned with slate, black, and rust. Female patterning is similar, but the back is brownish.

Varied Thrushes are definitely a western bird. Their breeding range extends as far north as Alaska through western Canada to the forests of the coasts of Washington and Oregon, and into Idaho and western Montana. They winter down the California coast to Baja. They are seldom found east of the Rocky Mountain front.

The Varied Thrush was first identified by naturalists on Captain Cook's third voyage in 1778 at Nootka Sound on Vancouver Island.

It's only the beginning of January. I shouldn't be thinking about spring, but I am anxious to see a Varied Thrush in March or April foraging in my garden before he heads for the high country where he flies to the top of a fir or a hemlock, beginning to defend his territory with those discordantly eerie notes that I love so much.



© Donald White/CLO



THANK YOU to all who bought tickets for Flathead Audubon's 2007 Christmas Raffle!!

A final flurry of ticket buying at the start of December's meeting pushed the total amount raised to over \$150—a welcome boost to the Flathead Audubon treasury.

This year, the Christmas Raffle offered two prizes. Flathead Audubon member Lynda Young was the lucky winner of the beautiful, framed, color photograph of an American Goldfinch by local nature photographer Mike O'Dale. The gorgeous Christmas wreath crafted by Kay Mitchell was won by Flathead Audubon member Peggy Casey.

CONGRATULATIONS to Lynda and Peggy on their good fortune! And MANY THANKS to Mike Campbell/O'Dale and Kay Mitchell for generously donating the raffle prizes for this fund-raising event.

January 2008 Program

**BIRD RECORDING (AND OTHER ADVENTURES) IN IRELAND**

'Asta Bowen is "absolutely mad about music." She also has a strong citizen science bent, so it should be no surprise that she became interested in the late 1990s in recording natural sounds. And, birds became No. 1 on the list of natural sounds about which she was curious. During our first program of the new year, 'Asta will share her experience. "Immersion in bird sound," she says, "is truly extraordinary." Many more birds may be heard than can possibly be seen.

'Asta first practiced audio recording on her own. Then in the summer of 2004, she enrolled in a formal week-long course in the Sierra Nevada Mountains by Cornell University on how to record birds. Following the Cornell training, 'Asta gathered recording gear to practice the techniques she had learned.

Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology website includes the Macauley Library of Natural Sounds which regularly posts a list of its 100 "Most Wanted Birds." When 'Asta decided to travel to Ireland this past summer, she noted that the Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*) was at the top of the most wanted audio recordings list. The Manx is named for the Isle of Man. She subsequently contacted the library's curator, whom she knew from her Cornell training, and offered to make audio recordings of the Manx. Cornell provided 'Asta with state of the art equipment for recording birds.

'Asta found Manx Shearwaters on the Blasket Islands in County Kerry, off the Dingle Peninsula. Although Shearwaters number in the hundreds of thousands, they are difficult to find because they are nocturnal on land and dwell in burrows. They are ill-suited to life on land because they can barely walk. Thus, the small birds are vulnerable to rats, cats and foxes. They spend most of their days at sea and make a heroic winter migration to South America.

'Asta succeeded in recording adult and chick sounds from Manx burrows. She says the bird is nicknamed "Devil Bird" because of its sounds. She is waiting to learn whether her recordings have been accepted into the Cornell archives. She will also show video footage of huge colonies of Gannets on the Skellig Islands, which are visible from the Blasket Islands.

'Asta comes from a Midwestern family. She has taught English literature and writing to juniors and seniors at Flathead High School for 15 years. She is the author of *THE HUCKLEBERRY BOOK* and *WOLF: THE JOURNEY HOME*. Her musical interests include the Irish whistle, piano and singing. She also enjoys kayaking on Flathead Lake, cross-country skiing and gardening. She lives in Somers.

Please join us to learn more about recording bird songs at 7 p.m. on Monday, January 14, in the Community Room of The Summit, 205 Sunnyview Lane, Kalispell.



Please remember Flathead Audubon when you are changing over your calendars for the new year! Our Education Committee can make good use of bird pictures from your old calendars. Bring them with you to the next General Meeting and give to Nancy Zapotocki, Sonja Hartmann, or Ansley Ford – thanks!

Flathead Audubon's FlockMaster, John Kyle's "Glacier Park Panorama" photos can be viewed at www.artaraphoto.com. They are pretty spectacular!!

**FLATHEAD AUDUBON MISSION STATEMENT**

THE FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY IS A LOCAL CHAPTER
OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY.



- OUR MISSION IS TO CONSERVE BIRDS, WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND ECOSYSTEM DIVERSITY.
- WE PROMOTE AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION OF THE NATURAL WORLD THROUGH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND ADVOCACY PROGRAMS.
- WE WORK WITH DIVERSE GROUPS AND AGENCIES TO ACHIEVE SOUND DECISIONS ON NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES.
- WHILE FOCUSING OUR EFFORTS IN NORTHWEST MONTANA, WE BELIEVE IN THE PROTECTION OF THE EARTH AND ALL OF ITS INHABITANTS.

BOARD BRAINS
AT WORK



BOB LOPP
FAS Past President

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM
INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS
AND OFFICERS

WATER! WATER! What's this white stuff?

Birds need water to survive, even in winter. Though they can extract some moisture from their food, most birds drink water every day. Birds also use water for bathing, to clean their feathers and remove parasites. After splashing around in a bath for a few minutes, a bird usually perches in a sunny spot to dry, then carefully preens each feather, adding a protective coating of oil secreted by a gland at the base of its tail.

The traditional concrete basin mounted on a pedestal may be nice lawn ornaments but they aren't the best setup for most birds. They are often too deep. A good birdbath mimics shallow puddles, which are nature's birdbaths. When choosing a birdbath, look for one with a basin that you can clean easily. It should also have a gentle slope to allow birds to wade into the water or put a rock in the basin that will be above the water level. Look for a birdbath made of a tough material that won't break if the water freezes or if your dog knocks it over.

Birds seem to prefer baths that are at ground level, but if you are concerned about cats, raise the bath two or three feet off the ground. Place the bird bath in a shady location near trees or shrubs if possible. Birds can't fly well when they are wet so they are vulnerable to predators when they are bathing. With cover nearby, they will feel safer.

Immersion-style water heaters are perfect for keeping the water from freezing in a birdbath and they are safe to operate. Put your heater on a ground-fault interrupted circuit to eliminate the danger of electrical shock. **DO NOT PUT ANTIFREEZE IN A BIRDBATH.** It is lethal to birds!

The key to attracting a large number of birds is to keep your bath full of water at all times and clean it regularly. Few things are more attractive than a well-maintained birdbath. Just add water and watch the fun!



Based on information from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology



MYSTERY SOLVED

(from last month's *Pileated Post*)

BLACKPOLL WARBLER MIGRATION

The North American songbird with the longest migration is the Blackpoll Warbler.

This half-ounce combination of feathers and determination leaves Western Alaska in August and flies 3000 miles across the continent to the Northeastern states. At this point some, but not all, Blackpolls start out into the Atlantic Ocean. They will need to fly 2000 miles to South America without eating, drinking or resting. With an average flying speed of 20 miles per hour, the Blackpoll should take 100 hours for the trip but it has an energy reserve for only 40 – 50 hours of flying time. How can it possibly make the trip? Why does the Blackpoll choose this risky migration?

ANSWER: The reason the Blackpoll Warbler is able to make a 2000 mile flight from the New England states over the Atlantic Ocean and into South America is that it "knows" how to judge the weather. It leaves New England on a northeast wind after a cold front. This wind carries it down the Atlantic coast as far as Bermuda, where the winds change to tropical trade winds from the northeast, driving the Blackpolls onward and to the west so that they do not miss South America. Without the winds or with an adverse wind, the Blackpolls will not make it. Hence, it is important that the whole population does not take this risky route.

Why take this long flight over water and lose half the population some years? Why not take the easy route overland through the US, Mexico and Central America? Very simply, because the overland route is not as easy as it seems. The migration through a human-dominated environment filled with predators both natural and unnatural, an environment filled with obstacles to hit and insects laced with pesticides to eat is an equally risky trip.

From Bruce Tannehill

SOURCE: Living on the Wind by Scott Weidensaul





YOUR CHOICE OF COFFEE CAN HELP SONGBIRDS



Another beautiful fall morning in Montana... You taste that first sip of coffee and watch the birds visit your feeder. The spring and summer species have migrated to the warmth and safety of their southern winter homes. Time to enjoy the hardy residents that stay behind. Unfortunately, that cup of coffee in your hand may be putting those summer birds at risk. Or, if you have chosen your coffee wisely, that cup of coffee could be part of the answer to protecting endangered songbird species.

Years ago, all coffee was grown under a protective canopy of shade. It had to be, because traditional coffee plants cannot survive exposure to the fierce tropical sun of the best coffee-growing regions. Thus, in a happy marriage of agriculture and ecology, coffee growers helped preserve rich and diverse ecosystems in which a wide range of birds and other wildlife prospered. Then about thirty years ago scientists began promoting new kinds of coffee plants that could withstand full sun. Coffee-growing countries, eager to increase export income and encouraged by international development, began cutting down the traditional shade trees and planting "sun coffee." At first, sun coffee appeared to be a great success. It raised production and increased income to poor countries. It was plentiful and "cheap." It soon became clear, however, that the low per-bag price of sun coffee hid its real costs: the added expenses of large, single crop plantations. Fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides were now needed to replace the self-sustaining ecosystem of the shade-grown farms.

Even more alarming, the songbirds that

once thrived in the rich habitat began to disappear. According to the Smithsonian's Migratory Bird Center, shaded farms harbor as many as 150 different bird species, while sun farms often support as few as five. Ultimately, the fate of these ecosystems and the migratory birds that depend on them to survive may lie in the hands that hold the coffee cups. One third of all coffee produced is consumed in the U.S. The coffee we choose to drink can make a difference. Many small-scale growers still produce coffee in the traditional way. In order to resist the economic pressures to sell their forest farms or convert their farms to sun plantations, they must be able to market their coffee and make a decent living. A major contributor to the decline of migratory bird populations is steady loss of wintering habitat. Supporting production of shade grown coffee could halt and even reverse that trend.

Fresh-roasted and blended shade-grown coffee is delicious. It tends to be less acidic, more aromatic and contains slightly less caffeine than its cousin "sun coffee." If also organically grown, it is much better for you, and if also "fair-traded," the farmer gets more for selling his coffee and can afford to continue his small family plantation.

Organic, fair-traded, shade-grown coffee can be mail-ordered from Starbuck's in Seattle or Pete's in Berkeley. It can also be bought right here, freshly roasted, from Colter or Montana Coffee Traders, whose Good Migrations series comes in several blends, from dark and full to light and crisp. It costs a bit more than cheap coffee, but to me it is well worth it.

Jill Fanning

In response to last month's question/answer about possible lead in bird feeders from China, reader Mary Aley wrote, "We purchased 2 hoses in the summer, and after getting them home, noticed that they contained lead. Do not drink from, wash hands, etc. So even if your bird bath does not have lead, beware of the hose that you use to fill it."



Bigfork Christmas Count 2007: Year of the Chickadee

The 34th annual Bigfork Christmas Bird Count took place on Saturday, December 15th, and the preliminary results are hot off the presses. Among the rewards for our 35 observers on this blustery day were the 674 Black-capped, 154 Mountain, and 90 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, all marking new count highs. New records were also set for Bald Eagles (64), Hooded Mergansers (169), Wilson's Snipe (2), Herring Gulls (64), Mourning Doves (150) and Horned Larks (50). We counted more than 14,000 individuals of 82 species, about average for recent years, but well above totals seen on most other Montana counts. Other highlights included a single Trumpeter Swan along the Flathead River and a Prairie Falcon in the Lower Valley, just the third time we have found each of these species. A Long-eared Owl along the north shore of Flathead Lake was a good find, as were the six Red-breasted Mergansers and three Mew Gulls in Somers Bay. Wild Turkey numbers continued their recent downward trend, with 288 recorded. An additional five species were found during count week but not on count day, including a Boreal Owl along the Swan River near Ferndale. This is a species we have never found on the Bigfork count. Thanks to everyone who took time in their busy holiday season to keep the tradition alive!

Dan Casey

THREE MONTANA BIRDS ON THE 2007 WATCHLIST

Greater Sage Grouse. This widespread game bird is threatened primarily by loss of sagebrush habitat. Heavy livestock grazing, global warming, recent introduction of the West Nile virus, invasion of exotic plants and fragmentation of sagebrush habitat due to agricultural expansion and energy development are the most significant threats facing the species in Montana. Long-term, range-wide declines have fueled proposals for federal listing of the species under the Endangered Species Act. Montana Audubon and American Bird Conservancy are working to identify sagebrush conservation opportunities, incorporate bird habitat needs in energy facility-siting guidelines, and ensure that conservation efforts benefit not only the Greater Sage Grouse, but other WatchList species that depend upon sagebrush habitats (e.g., Brewer's Sparrow).



Trumpeter Swan. Trumpeter Swan populations have recovered from the critically low numbers of the early 1900's, but Montana is one of the few states still supporting natural populations of this threatened species. Trumpeters historically bred throughout much of western Montana; now they are found only along the Rocky Mountain Front and in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. American Bird Conservancy (ABC) has worked with a number of partners to help secure North American Wetland Conservation Act funding to protect key swan habitats in the Centennial and Madison Valleys. Reintroduction of swans in the Blackfoot and Flat-

head Valleys require persistent efforts to protect and restore wetlands for pioneering nesting pairs, and ABC continues to work with local land trusts to achieve this goal. Montana Audubon has identified critical nesting and wintering sites for Trumpeter Swans as part of its Important Bird Area (IBA) program.

Calliope Hummingbird. Western Montana is a stronghold for North America's smallest bird, which has shown significant population declines. The causes for these declines are unknown. The species requires healthy riparian or montane shrubland habitats for nesting. Noxious weed infestations may be reducing feeding habitat at critical times of the year for this species.



WINTER FIELD TRIPS FOR ALL!




Saturday, January 12, 2008 Winter Trails Day. A family-oriented morning to be spent snowshoeing; we will be looking for interesting tracks in the snow and watching for the feathered ones that inhabit a winter landscape. The walk will be short and snowshoes will be provided. Meet at the Upper Blacktail trailhead parking area at 10AM. This field trip is co-sponsored by the Swan Lake Ranger District, the Flathead National Forest and Flathead Audubon. To sign up for the trip and reserve your snowshoes, call the Swan Lake Ranger District at 837-7500.

Sunday, January 13, 2008 Raptor Watching in the West Valley. Come spend a morning roaming the roads of the West Valley, in search of Rough-legged Hawks, Bald Eagles and Short-eared Owls, to name a few of the magnificent birds we may find. We will focus on identification of the various raptors found in the Flathead Valley. Meet at Fish, Wildlife and Parks on Meridian Road at 8:30AM. Dress for the weather; you may wish to bring snacks. Call Leslie Kehoe at 837-4467 evenings for more info and to sign up for the trip.

Saturday, February 2, 2008 A Winter Outing in Glacier National Park. Join Flathead Audubon for a morning of snowshoeing and bird watching along the Flathead River in Glacier National Park. Meet at West Glacier Post Office at 9:30AM. Bring snowshoes or skis, some snacks, and dress for the weather. Please contact Bruce Tannehill at 862-4548 for further information and to sign up for the trip.

Sunday, February 17, 2008 A Wander in the Mission Valley. Spend most of a day in the beautiful Mission Valley wandering the byways in search of wintering migrants and year-round denizens. In years past we have seen snow buntings, a variety of hawks, several owl species, falcons and even a chilly American robin. Meet at Park 'n Ride at the intersection of Hwy 93 and Hwy 83 at 8:00AM. Bring lunch and winter weather gear. Contact Leslie Kehoe (837-4467, evenings) to sign up for the trip.

Flathead Audubon makes Contributions South of the Border

We returned to the Copper Canyon area of Chihuahua, Mexico, last November with a pickup truck filled with donations for the indigenous school, the free clinic and the Habitat for Humanity program. Thank you to all of the FAS members who donated binoculars, school supplies, warm jackets and blankets, baby clothes, fabric, socks and vitamin pills. Thanks also to the FAS board for the \$70 which purchased bird curricula and nature books in Spanish. My husband Frank and I were accompanied by Karin Connelly who brought materials for art projects and an uncanny talent to connect with the students and staff through her sketching and painting.

The Raramuri are considered the "purest and most unmixed of any Indian tribe in Mexico," according to Shep Lenchek. "Their true name "Raramuri" was corrupted to "Tarahumara" and never corrected. The world knows them only as long distance runners. Living in high altitudes, they have developed tremendous oxygen carrying capacity and have hunted deer and mountain goats by running them down on foot. They are known for their strict moral codes, unable to tell lies, nor can they cheat or fail to aid a fellow human being." Living conditions among the Raramuri are subsistence. They barter rather than use pesos, and speak little Spanish.

Our main focus was the indigenous school in the Sierra Madres. The school was started by Raramuri women, to offer students an alternative to going away to boarding schools run by Mexicans or foreigners. The school, Biniwami Raramuri Niwara, allows the students to dress in traditional dress and to speak and learn in Raramuri in the primary grades. The upper grades are mainly taught in Spanish. We used the bird costume (designed by Sonja Hartman and donated by FAS) to learn the characteristics and importance of birds, field markings and names of parts of the bird in both Spanish and Raramuri. We used the Spanish bird guides, donated by National Audubon, to identify the birds we saw in the juniper forest next to the school. The forest is a poor habitat because it is quite dry and every snag and dry branch is gathered for firewood to cook food and warm adobe buildings in this high country. We were able to spot and identify turkey vultures, American kestrels, Gila wood peckers, Stellers jays, Western and Eastern bluebirds, Purple finches, and Brown creepers. The older students were fascinated with the binoculars and quickly learned how to use them. They also were amazed that each kind of bird had a specific name, rather



than "those that eat our corn", "those that sing before the wind arrives" and "those that taste best roasted." The upper grades received letters and drawings of local birds from the 5th grade classes at West Valley School; they replied to the letters and included their drawings of local birds from their area.

During recess the students learned from Karin how to make bird cards to sell in their crafts shop in town and how to use braid kits designed by Alpine Spinners and Weavers Guild to create 7-strand yarn braids. Several girls came to school the next day with their hair embellished with these braids; they do indeed learn quickly! We purchased items from the crafts shop, the major source of financial support for the school, to sell at FAS meetings; the proceeds from these sales will be used to purchase additional educational materials for the indigenous school as well as for our local schools.

On the way back to North America, we stopped in Alamos on the recommendation of Dan Casey. We stayed at Solipaso, operated by David and Jennifer Mackay who have lived in Mexico for 20 years. David is a great bird guide and with his help we were able to get good views of fascinating endemic birds: Black-throated magpie jay, Sinoloa wren, Happy wren, Black-capped gnat catcher, Elegant quail and Rufous Bellied Chachalaca, as well as some resident and migratory species: Grey Hawk, Violet-crowned parrot, Rose-throated Becard, and Streak-backed oriole. If you are interested in good birding excursions (or a restful yoga retreat) less than a day's drive from the US border, we recommend looking them up at www.solipaso.com.

The local school and Habitat for Humanity affiliate have asked us to return to Chihuahua to help with school programs and to build more homes. We hope to help build adobe composting toilets for the school and other public areas. The teachers have asked us to help set up an ecotourism program for older students, which might provide a modern sustainable profession. But we are never quite sure what awaits us, which makes it a grand adventure! If you are interested in helping transport donations and/or helping with projects, please let us know. We will probably be returning in late 2008 or early 2009. Thanks to all who support these projects. It is an honor to deliver your thoughtful donations, which are greatly appreciated by Copper Canyon recipients.

Linda de Kort





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The Flathead Audubon Society is affiliated with Montana Audubon and the National Audubon Society. Flathead Audubon meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. The meeting starts at 7:00PM and includes a featured guest who presents a conservation or nature program. The Board of Directors meet the Monday preceding the general meeting, at 6PM at 295 3rd Ave. EN, in Kalispell. Both meetings are open to all those interested.

THE PILEATED POST is published September through May and is sent to members of Flathead Audubon Society as a membership benefit. For membership information or address change, please call Mike Fanning at 862-8070. To receive this newsletter electronically, email your request to: lindawin@centurytel.net. **Deadline for newsletter copy is the 18th of each month. Contact newsletter editor at 755-1406; email submissions to: piledatedpost@flatheadaudubon.org**

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

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FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY

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