



SAGE GROUSE PLANS UNDER ATTACK

Once numbering in the millions, the Greater Sage-Grouse has declined precipitously across its range due to widespread habitat destruction. Montana is included in these steep declines. To help prevent this iconic bird from becoming endangered, many stakeholders—states, ranchers, conservationists, industry, scientists, and federal agencies—collaboratively developed a balanced conservation plan to protect 67 million acres of habitat for the sage-grouse and 350 other species. These landmark plans also ensure sustainable economic growth for communities across the West. Now, the Department of the Interior is trying to overhaul these plans, which will weaken or eliminate their vital habitat protections.



perts in the field. Secretary Zinke has emphasized eliminating burdens on energy development on public lands, even if it comes at the expense of sage-grouse conservation—or long-term predictability for industry interests. However, recent studies have shown that very few of the protected areas overlap with high-potential places for oil and gas or other forms of development.

This new announcement raises concerns that habitat protections could be weakened or eliminated by exploring “creative approaches” that are alternatives to protecting habitat, such as captive breeding and setting population targets state by state. Neither approach is supported by applicable science nor ex-

The Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, is accepting public comments until November 27 on this misguided effort. The only public meeting in Montana was held in Billings on November 8 but written comments are still being accepted. You may submit comments through the National Audubon Society (<http://www.audubon.org/conservation/issues/greater-sage-grouse>) then click on “send letter to the administration”) or directly to the Department of Interior at <http://bit.ly/GRSGplanning> then click on “click here to go directly to comments submission form.”
Adapted from National Audubon Society action alert

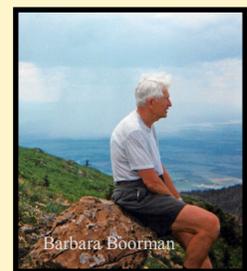
Remembering Ed Prach (Oct 1923–June 2017)

Long-time Flathead Audubon member Ed Prach passed away this past June in California. He was 94. Ed was for many years a regular participant in Flathead Audubon, and well known in the Flathead as one of Glacier’s premier hikers.

Ed first came to the Flathead to work on the Hungry Horse dam as a field engineer. He and his wife Carla fell in love with the place. They moved to Whitefish in 1987 after Ed retired, and one of the first

things they did was join Flathead Audubon, back when the meetings were still held in Bigfork. They quickly became active in FAS activities and became regulars at FAS meetings.

continued on page 3



Ed Prach
Swift Current Lookout

DECEMBER FLATHEAD AUDUBON CALENDAR

Monday, December 4, 2017. 6 PM. FAS Board of Directors Meeting, Gateway Community Center, US Hwy 2 West, Kalispell. All welcome.

Monday, December 11, 2017. 7 PM Flathead Audubon General Meeting, Gateway Community Center, US Hwy 2 West, Kalispell. See page 3.

Saturday, December 16, 2017. Bigfork Christmas Bird Count, see page 5 for details.

Sunday, December 31, 2017. Kalispell Christmas Bird Count, see page 5 for details. See page 5 for other Christmas Bird Count dates.

BIRD OF THE MONTH

American Bittern

By Denny Olson

American Bitterns are in the heron family, all no strangers to swamps. They are often described as “secretive” or “elusive”, but those conclusions are drawn by a high-and-dry species (us), which does not spend much time in the marshes and swamps. Another reason for that perception is their amazing cryptic coloration (buff and brown vertical stripes in identical shades to cattails, rushes and sedges), and cryptic *behavior*. When they stick their beaks into the air and their body goes vertical – and they freeze – a 30-inch tall bird can literally disappear. But that camouflage skill is completely dependent on where they normally live.

I was once in a marsh for more vegetative reasons, trying to find an uncommon orchid, when a Bittern hopped onto the gravel road causeway through that marsh. It was time to reload gravel into its gizzard. A good-sized pickup truck barreled down the road far too fast for conditions. The driver spotted the Bittern, slammed on the brakes, and stopped five feet away in a cloud of dust. The Bittern stuck its beak into the air and froze.

There was a slight breeze, and the bird, being the perceptive type, even swayed slightly like blades of cattail leaves. The truck driver was befuddled at first, but then started to laugh. “Dude, wrong background.” Instincts don’t always operate in the best interests of Bitterns.

Another adaptation tuned to that instinctive behavior is the placement of bittern eyes. They are located down far

enough on their skulls to be able to look 360 degrees when in their “you can’t see me” posture. Even though their beak is vertical with throat pointed our way, they can look directly at us. The downward-facing eyes also assist in finding their insect, amphibian, crayfish, small mammal and fish prey.

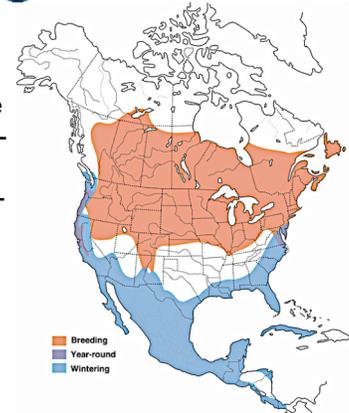
But come springtime, male Bitterns are anything but elusive. They park in their chosen territories, inflate their esophagus and thrash their necks violently upward, emitting a loud, eerie, low pitched, ventriloquistic “dunk -- a-doo”. It’s a serious message to other males, and trespassers are chased and pecked in a spiraling ascending flight with a dagger-like bill. Ground encounters between males are done in a low crouch, with normally covered white plumes showing prominently at the crook of their wings.

Mating happens mostly in April, and there the pair bond dissolves and the genders become solitary again. Somewhat ironically, even though they have little to do with each other, females often build their nests close to a territorial male, whose antics probably distract predators away from the nest. The nest is a platform built of reeds and grasses over shallow water. Eggs hatch mostly in May, and young stay in the nest until fledging in July.

American Bittern populations have declined 43% since 1966, some of the declines due to human disturbance or contamination. But, the fate of such an odd and iconic bird is inextricably linked to the fate of wetlands, and of course, habitat loss is the main culprit in the decline. “Draining the swamp” might be a popular metaphor in politics, but its political insensitivity is indicative of a real ignorance. It behooves us humans, if we want a healthy world, to leave the swamp alone, thank you very much ...



 THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA



December Program

Christmas Bird Counts in the Flathead and Early Winter Birds

Presented by Pete Fisher and Craig Hohenberger

As we roll into December, it is once again Christmas Bird Count (CBC) time! Join compilers Craig Hohenberger and Pete Fisher on Monday, December 11 for a presentation that will combine summaries of trends, some "virtual birding" and a wide variety of photos to help tell the story of early winter birds in the Flathead val-



ley. Hopefully, you will come away from the meeting inspired to participate in either (or both) the Bigfork or the Kalispell CBC's.

Please join us at 7 PM in the United Way Conference Room of the Gateway Community Center, off US Highway 2 West in Kalispell. The program is free and all are welcome.

Ed Prach continued from page 1

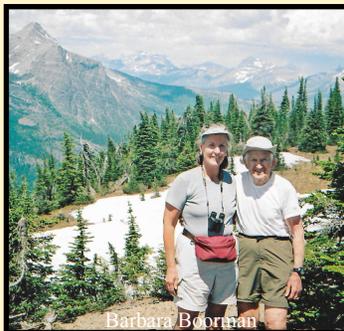
Ed served on the FAS Board for 8 years (1990-1998), and was in charge of FAS Programs for 7 years (1991-1998). Carla was in charge of Hospitality for FAS meetings during most of this period. Ed participated in all of the Owen Sowerwine Work Days, and every summer he and Roy Dimond (a founding member of Flathead Audubon) signed up as a team to do a scheduled Owen Sowerwine Volunteer Monitoring Visit. He had many Flathead Audubon friends.

Ed loved to hike. He was often accompanied by one of his Audubon hiking companions: Loren Kreck, Roy Dimond, and Barb Boorman. He was a long-time member of the Over-the-Hill Gang, and with that group walked most of the trails in Glacier Park and climbed 12 of its mountains. He also participated in most of the Montana Wilderness Association's Wilderness Walks in northwest Montana, on both sides of the Divide, and served as Secretary of the local MWA chapter for eight years. Ed also explored trails in the southwest with the well-known Southern Arizona Hiking Club while wintering at his winter home in Phoenix. He had joined the club in 1991, making him one of its earliest members.

Ed was one of those people who took on new challenges with courage and determination. In 2000,

at age 77, he suffered a life-threatening fall in Glacier Park while tackling Mt. Reynolds with some of the Over-the-Hill Gang. He slowly recovered and pushed through a tough program of rehabilitation. Eventually he was spending summers on the trails in Glacier again. In 2006, at age 81, he climbed up to the Mt. Brown Lookout in Glacier with Barb Boorman on his two new artificial knees. And that same year he started taking dancing lessons.

Hiking wasn't Ed's only passion. In the winter months, he cross-country skied when he was in the Flathead, and bicycled when he was in Arizona. Ed



Ed and Barb on Mt Brown, 2006

was also loved music – classical and jazz. He attended the Glacier Symphony concerts whenever he was in the Flathead, and would drive to Missoula for jazz performances.

In late 2013, just after he turned 90, Ed moved to California to live closer to family. When he left the Valley his Flathead Audubon family missed him. Ed had been one of those people you look forward to seeing when you went to FAS meetings. When walked in and looked around the meeting room, you were sure to spot him -- a shock of white hair, a wide smile, a twinkle in his eyes, chatting with someone about his latest hike.

By Linda Winnie and Barb Boorman



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.



Conservation Educator's Niche

By Denny Olson

I've already been gathering research materials for the FAS 2019 Phenology Calendar. Informal discussions with our ad hoc committee are centering around a return to "Birds of Glacier Country" ideas, but I've been working on the assumption that we will arrive near that topic with our theme, and I'll write the monthly/daily content and gather photography with Jake Bramante – who will also make it stunningly gorgeous ...

Some general notes on Owen Sowerwine Natural Area: The FHS student's study (presented to us Nov. 13th) will make it quite obvious that our cottonwoods at OSNA are great Vaux's Swift habitat (really old, really big and many broken and hollowed), but there is almost no recruitment or regeneration anywhere but on the low river silt bars on the far east main channel of the Flathead River. We don't know yet if the tree age classes correlate to historical flood events; students are working on that right now. They will also be show-and-telling about their work to re-scheduled elementary school students on their field trips this spring.

I will be examining the feasibility of doing *student-led* follow-up studies on (a) plant succession patterns under the old cottonwoods, (b) the mitigating effects of invasives on that succession and on cottonwood regeneration, (c) a whitetail deer exclosure study on regeneration in the two small areas we have found seedlings, (d) a study on the effects of micro-elevation differences and river channel down-cutting on cottonwood succession, and (e) a comparison study using the same techniques on regeneration at the much lower Old Steel Bridge FWP land. All of this has to do with bird diversity *strongly* correlating with cottonwood age class diversity in other Montana river-bottom studies.

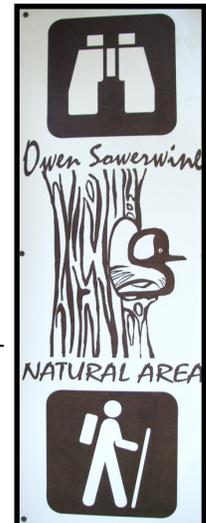
I would like to use our same permanent plots to do yearly spring breeding bird surveys – preferably with us Auduboners teaming with high school students as a learning experience for them.

Despite the dedicated work of our small crews in the past, OSNA is suffering from invasives neglect.

Away from the trails, hound's tongue and Canada thistle are everywhere. The growth of invasive highbush cranberry in all low and open areas in the last couple of years has been exponential. Common tansy invasive has taken over the small field where the trail approaches the Stillwater River. Many hard workers have helped, but we need bigger crews, working much more time, in multiple years, to take care of new growth stimulated by the removals, to get ahead of this. And this is just on the smaller mainland area of the 442 acres. It is obviously affecting plant and animal (bird!) diversity. A few of us are committed to plugging away at the cranberry even during the winter months (it is easy to see). But, follow-up with carefully applied chemical control of new suckers will be essential in the spring, or we will just exaggerate the problem.

We have a great educational resource in OSNA, but some problems to solve to make it as available as it should be. Treasure Lane and Greenwood entrances can never function as drop-off areas for more than two or three cars, let alone buses of students. We are working with the Montessori School staff to formalize dropping students off in their parking lot for access to the north end of OSNA through their property. In exchange, we are flagging and building an access trail for them (and the other students) that will connect the north accessible area to the southern trail system – along the Stillwater River. Two bridges will make the area accessible during the high-water months (also known as "school field trip" months!).

We want to make school "programs" more outdoor and OSNA oriented, and continue developing outdoor curriculum to augment the Riparian Wetlands: Birds and the River trunk. We will need LOTS of volunteer help for many of these projects – teaching and trail work. Can you help?



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LOST YOUR COAT?

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A gold coat and matching hat were left at October's general meeting. If these are yours, please contact Lois Drobish at 756-7405 to further identify.

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WINTER FIELD TRIPS FOR YOU!

All Flathead Audubon field trips are free and open to the public and are geared for all ages and levels of field experience. They are led by area biologists, retired professionals, and some of the best birders in the region. For all Field Trips, dress for the weather, bring binoculars or spotting scope if you have them, wear sturdy footwear, and drive and pull off the road safely. All drivers must have their own vehicle insurance. For more information, contact Kathy Ross at 837-3837 or Cory Davis at 257-3166, or the individual field trip leader listed below. Also, a free brochure, "Birding Hotspots of the Flathead" is available at the Flathead Audubon general meetings and on www.FlatheadAudubon.org.



No field trips other than Christmas Bird Counts are currently scheduled for December.

Northwest Montana Christmas Bird Counts

To participate in a Christmas Bird Count, contact the listed person.

Count	Date	Contact Information
Bigfork	Saturday, Dec 16	Craig Hohenberger, asoleado2003@yahoo.com 406-890-1629
Upper Swan	Saturday, Dec 16	Luke Lamar, luke@svconnections.org , 406-754-3137 or 406-754-2965
Libby	Saturday, Dec 16	Gene Reckin, gnreckin@gmail.com , Home: 406-293-9344 Cell: 406-291-8482
Eureka	Saturday, Dec 16	Lewis & Lynda Young, llyoung@interbel.net , 406-889-3492 or Ellen Sullivan, 406-889-3983
Glacier National Park	Sunday, Dec 17	Compiler/Contact: Lisa Bate, Lisa_Bate@nps.gov 406-888-7833
Ninepipe	TBA—call Brian	Brian Williams, brianwilliams406@gmail.com 406-721-1467
Troy	Saturday, Dec 30	Donald Jones gr8gray@frontiernet.net 406-295-4291
Kalispell	Sunday, Dec 31	Pete Fisher, pfisher@krmc.org 406 250-9624

Bigfork CBC

The 44th annual **Bigfork Christmas Bird Count** will be held **Saturday, December 16th**. First established in 1974, the Bigfork count circle is centered at the "Little Brown Church" north of Bigfork, and includes >30 miles of the Swan and Flathead Rivers, the north end of Flathead Lake, and many varied upland habitats. We became the first count in the state to report 90 species (in 2011), and always find a diverse and surprising mix of birds, with nearly 150 species over the history of the count. This count typically depends on veteran group leaders to scour their usual areas, and we are always looking for additional participants. We will begin preparation for the count at the December 11th general meeting, and finalize most of the groups before the count day. Also, there will be a gathering at 8 AM on count morning at the Flathead Brewing Company parking lot at 116 Holt Drive, Bigfork, to make any last minute arrangements and will gather again at 5 PM to review the group's results. Contact Craig at [aso-lead2003@yahoo.com](mailto:asoleado2003@yahoo.com) or 406-890-1629.

Kalispell CBC

The 19th annual Kalispell count will be on **Sunday, December 31st**. Centered at Reserve and Highway 93, the 15-mi diameter count circle includes Evergreen, much of the Flathead River corridor including the Owen Sowerwine Natural Area, Happy Valley, Heron Park, and the Kuhn's Wildlife Area. This count has proven to be a popular New Year's tradition. This count is "young" enough that we still have much to discover. And yet it is "urban" enough to include the homes, bird feeders, and favorite birding spots of many of our members! Our traditional start to this count is a group breakfast at 7:00 AM; **this year we will meet at Perkin's Restaurant at 1390 Highway 2 East in Kalispell.** It is here that we will finish assigning circle segments and field teams for the day's efforts. If you are interested in participating, please sign up and leave your contact information at the December general meeting, or contact Pete Fisher at pfisher@krmc.org or 406-250-9624



123rt.com

Education Committee News

Winter is a wonderful time for birding. Part of my morning routine is to enjoy a cup of coffee and watch chickadees, nuthatches, and our resident two bluejays eat seeds and nuts from our feeders. They are followed by a stream of gulls which fly over our property on their daily route to Whitefish Lake.

My thoughts wander back many winters ago when my boys were young and sat in my lap to watch the same bird varieties eat the sunflower seeds we offered at our window box feeder. Bird-watching, filling the feeders, and reading about birds were popular wintertime activities. Now my grandchildren are bird-watching with my son, and will receive bird books and a feeder from their grandmother for Christmas.

Flathead Valley children, youth and adults are fortunate to have Flathead Audubon Society's mem-

bers and conservation educator Denny Olson to provide winter-time birding activities.

The education committee will meet on December 4 at 4 PM at Sykes Market. We will review the fall programs that have been completed and discuss events planned for winter. We will consider re-introducing the popular 'Bird Books for Schools' program and adopting Peregrines as a theme for these books. We will also consider developing outreach programs for Flathead Valley's elders. Audubon members set out nine blue bird boxes at the Springs of Whitefish last spring, and cleaned the bird boxes this fall. Copies of the Pileated Post have been given to residents. Certainly elders are looking out their windows to enjoy winter birds too.

by Gail Shay Linne, Education Chair

Sportsman Ski Haus and Flathead Audubon present

SHOP WITH THE BIRDS

Saturday, December 9, 10 AM until 2 PM

FREE and open to the public

Come see live owls and hawks courtesy of Kari Gabriel, the Montana Bird Lady. Professor Avian Guano will be on hand to provide interesting bird facts and stories. The new Glacier Country Phenology Calendars will be on sale. They make a great Christmas gift and provide important funds for the Flathead Audubon Education Program.



CHIRPS & SQUAWKS

Highlights from November 6, 2017 Board Meeting

- ◆ Appointed Jake Bramante 'poet laureate of Flathead Audubon' in recognition of his calendar poem in the November Pileated Post
- ◆ Approved sending an end of the year appeal letter to Flathead Audubon members, with a challenge donation from the Board. Last year's letter raised over \$2000
- ◆ A calendar sales event will be held at Kalispell's Sportsman and Ski House, December 9, 10 AM-2 PM, headed up by Gael Bissell, with board members helping.
- ◆ A short video about National Audubon's Sage Grouse Initiative will be put on the FAS website, with an article encouraging individuals to support this effort
- ◆ Board selected next 3 Conservation Achievement Recognition recipients

Jewel Basin 2017 – Anything but Average

The 10th annual hawk migration survey at the Jewel Basin got off to a roaring start; we recorded birds at record rates from late August through Sept. 22nd. But just as we hit our usual peak season, the snows started to fall. As much as we welcomed the early season snow following a smoky fire season, the safety of our (mostly) volunteer workforce eventually pre-empted surveys during what is typically our peak season in late September and early October. Indeed, we managed just 11 surveys in October. Our final survey was conducted Oct 27th, but only because our all-star observer, Barbara Summer, braved the 93-switchback trail from the lower Jewel Basin Road to our alternative (lower) observation site.

How did this season stack up against previous efforts? We tallied 2,313 raptors over 42 surveys, averaging 9.5 birds per hour for the season (see table). That amounts to about 300 fewer birds, and 3 fewer surveys than our previous average efforts. Sharp-shinned Hawk was once again our most abundant species, with 1,024 counted (9-yr av-

erage: 1,207), and we had above average numbers of Cooper's Hawks (390) and Red-tailed Hawks (216) this season, and set new single-season high totals for Bald Eagle (106), Northern Harrier (102), Prairie Falcon (12), and Swainson's Hawk (3). And although Montana sites had stellar eagle migrations, our Golden Eagle count of just 212 was less than half of our long-term average. We have now tallied 26,248 raptors in 10 seasons at the Jewel Basin site. Our annual report, to be completed this winter, will include analysis of trends over the years and within species.

Thanks to all who participated this year, notably those who served as primary observers: Nickie Broesel, Dan Casey, Josh Covill, Diane Lundgren, Kathy Ross, Barbara Summer, Rod Walette, and

bj Worth. Their dedication keeps this valuable effort going, and our first season of on-site, real-time data entry was a resounding success!

by Dan Casey



Species	Total	Species	Total	Species	Total
Turkey Vulture	1	Broad-winged Hawk	10	Merlin	15
Osprey	11	Swainson's Hawk	3	Peregrine Falcon	11
Bald Eagle	105	Red-tailed Hawk	216	Prairie Falcon	12
Northern Harrier	102	Ferruginous Hawk	0	Gyr Falcon	0
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1,024	Rough-legged Hawk	9	Unidentified Falcon	5
Cooper's Hawk	390	Unidentified Buteo	16	Unidentified Eagle	3
Northern Goshawk	24	Golden Eagle	212	Unidentified Raptor	15
Unidentified Accipiter	50	American Kestrel	78	TOTAL	2,313



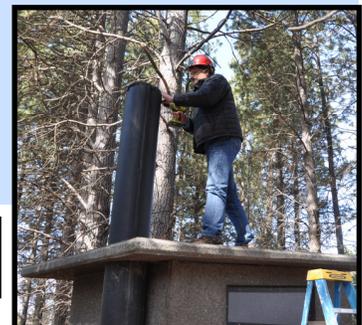
During spring and summer 2017, the Swan Lake Ranger District of the Flathead National Forest installed 10 toilet vent screens donated by

Alyssa Anderson installing screen. USFS photo.

More Toilet Vent Screens Installed

Flathead Audubon. The screens prevent birds and bats from going down the vents and becoming fatally trapped.

Rick Yates installing screen. USFS photo.



OSNA Workday Successful

In spite of a "100% Rain" forecast, 12 volunteers showed up for work at 9 AM at the Kalispell Montessori School for the 16th annual OSNA Fall - Workday, held Saturday, September 30, 2017. It



Linda Winnie

Bob Lee and Devvi Moore with bagged weeds

turned out to be a beautiful fall morning – no rain, partly cloudy, cool temperatures – a perfect time to just be out and about in Owen Sowerwine.

The usual trail maintenance was done – clear-

ing, lopping low-hanging branches, and mowing along the edges. Also the usual clipping and bagging of thistle heads and mature houndstongue stalks inside the Treasure Lane and Greenridge entrances and beyond. The crew at the Greenridge entrance also pulled out a rusty car fender. And new this year was removal of non-native viburnum (*Viburnum opulus*). Two people working with chainsaws removed the heavy growth along wet & dry water ways, starting inside Treasure Lane and working down to the big ravine to the east, then north in ravine. There remains more to be removed in the southern end of the ravine – a job for another day.

When the work was finished, everyone returned to the Montessori School to share stories of the day while enjoying cookies and cake. A quick poll was taken: "Did you have a good time?", "Do you feel you accomplished a lot?" "Did you like the cookies?" The result was a unanimous "Yes", "Yes", and "Yes". It was a good morning spent with Audubon friends at Owen Sowerwine.

By Linda Winnie



Denny Olson

Lewis Young getting ready to saw



Be sure to check flatheadaudubon.org for

Late breaking FAS news and announcements
Online FAS membership sign up or renewal
Latest eBird reports on species being observed in the Flathead area



Clipartfest.com

Flathead Valley Winter Solstice Gathering December 21st, 5:30 PM, Lawrence Park in Kalispell

Join with your neighbors from this valley to honor the earth on the Winter Solstice. The longest night of the year calls us to honor winter, the time of healing and rest for our fragile planet. We will respect those who came before us on the earth, consider these darkest days, and gather around the bonfire with hot apple cider and warm clothes in the darkness.

As we move into winter, we invite you, as a representative of a Flathead Valley organization, to join us in a valley-wide Winter Solstice Celebration. During these difficult times, as we face the challenges

of climate change, we particularly feel the need to pull together as people with similar concerns. The Solstice is a natural time in the earth's cycle for us to do this.

Sponsored by: Glacier Unitarian Universalist Fellowship as well as several environmental and religious organizations. By Jill and Mike Fanning





Thank You!

...to those below who have made donations to Flathead Audubon mid-October through October 31, 2017.

Supporting Member + Donation

- Rod and June Ash
- Dan and Susanna Casey
- Bruce Tannehill
- Raylene Wall
- Rod Walette



granderie.ca

SPECIAL GIFTS

I wish to help make Flathead Audubon's vision a reality. Here is my contribution to the continued success of our chapter.



- Eagle Donation, \$1000+
- Osprey Donation, \$500+
- Snowy Owl Donation, \$250+
- Merlin Donation, \$100+
- Kestrel Donation, \$50+
- My Own Vision, amount of my choice

The FAS activity which most interests me is:

- Education Programs
- Owen Sowerwine Natural Area
- Scholarships and Grants
- Field Trips and Outdoor Events

I want my gift to recognize another:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Please send a notification of this gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Donor's Name _____

Address _____

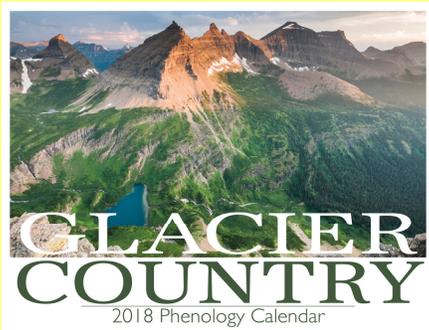
City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please do not acknowledge my gift in the Pileated Post

Please make checks payable to:

2018 FAS CALENDAR AVAILABLE!



Pick up the calendar at our general meeting, on our website, or at various stores in northwestern Montana. Find out more at: flatheadaudubon.org/calendar

Science on Tap – Flathead

Diane Boyd will present "It's the Journey and the Destination: Wolves in Montana" December 5, 6 PM, at the Flathead Lake Brewing Company.

Dr. Boyd is a Wolf Management Specialist with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Region 1. She has worked with wild wolves for 40 years, conducting wolf research in Northern Minnesota, Isle Royale, Ellesmere Island, Montana, British Columbia, Alberta, Romania, Arizona, and New Mexico. Boyd is best known locally as the wolf biologist who monitored the return of wolves to the North Fork in the late 70's and early 80's. For more information visit www.scienceontapflathead.org/.

THANKS FOR DONATING BINOCULARS!

We took binoculars donated by FAS members to Honduras with us and donated them to an orphanage school along with the birds beyond borders curriculum in both English and Spanish. They were very well received and we can send more with a teacher from the school who will be visiting this winter. If you happen to have binoculars sitting around that are no longer being used and would like to find a very useful home for them please contact Frank and Linda de Kort, 755-3704. We can pick them up or meet you at the December FAS meeting.
By Linda de Kort





Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

P.O. Box 9173
Kalispell, MT 59904-9173

DECEMBER 2017



Bohemian Waxwing

Allaboutbirds.com

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 115
Kalispell, MT
59904-9173

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. Meetings start at 7 PM and include a featured guest who presents a conservation or nature program. The Board of Directors meet the Monday preceding the general meeting, at 6 PM at Gateway Community Center, US Hwy 2 West, Kalispell. Both meetings are open to all.

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: lindawin626@gmail.com. Deadline for newsletter copy is the 18th of each month. Contact newsletter editor at 755-1406; email submissions to: lindawin626@gmail.com

Website: www.FlatheadAudubon.org

Conservation Educator - Denny Olson: auduboneducator@gmail.com

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY

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2017-2018 Carole Jorgenson cjmoving2AK@gmail.com 890-2211
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