

# Pileated the Post

Newsletter of the Flathead Audubon Society

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March, 1999

## Old Growth - Glorious Death and Decay!

There's a lot of talk about old growth forests. Some people want logging to stop in old growth, while the timber industry hotly resists that idea. The debate is often fiercely emotional. What's the big deal?

To the timber industry, they're valuable dollar-wise. To the forester who wants to see a stand of vigorously growing trees, old growth forests appear old, decadent, mortality often exceeds growth, and dollar value is declining. For short-term economic reasons, it makes a lot more sense to cut old growth down and start a new stand. Many others say old growth is special and biologically very important and shouldn't be cut. Why?

In Northwestern Montana we are blessed with a wide diversity of forest types due to varied environments. To name just a few, we have Ponderosa Pine in warm dry lowlands, Cedar/Hemlock forests in wet areas, Douglas Fir/Western Larch forests at mid-elevations, and subalpine Fir/Spruce forests in cold, high elevations. Old growth is different for each forest type, and will support different plant and animal species. But they share some basic similarities.

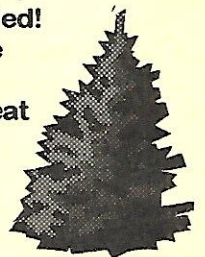
A generic definition of old growth is that it's a late successional stage of forest development, that has structural characteristics such as large live trees, snags, downed logs, and decadence. As a wildlife biologist, I see old growth as a place that provides homes to many species of wildlife, homes that most younger forests simply cannot provide. Big old trees, big

rotting snags, mossy rotting downed logs, all create a very unique environment. Countless live plants and animals thrive on death and decay, which gloriously abounds in old growth.

Some of the oldest trees may be up to 500 years old, although 300 years is old for our area. An old tree growing on a good site with enough water and sunlight, may get up to 35 or 40 inches in diameter. Like many plants, parts of the tree will die while the main part of the tree lives. Often 30-70% of the wood on the limbs and trunk of big old trees is dead. These dead areas begin to rot as fungi and insects take up residence. The wood becomes softer, which allows small animals and birds to burrow into the wood. In these rotten pockets of wood they'll find juicy insects to eat, and a safe place to make a home and raise their young. Lichens may become established on old trees, which produce soil enriching nitrogen, as well as provide a high protein food source for some animals.

Many big trees have multiple tree canopy layers, with platform-like limbs. Goshawks and bald eagles often build their nests on such large limbs. For the bald eagle, whose typical nest is 4-5 feet in diameter, it's obvious why a large strong limb is needed! These tree limbs can also support large mistletoe brooms which provide nest structures for Great Gray Owls and Great Horned Owls.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)







## CHICKADEE CHATTER

The snow was coming down at a rapid rate, it actually looked as if it might stay this time. It did not. The beautiful white flakes fell much of the day, alas, they melted as quickly as they fell. The writing is on the wall, as they say, and the turn of the seasons, albeit a bit early this year, is upon us. Spring is in a hurry this year I think, the geese in the bay are pairing up and taking possession of the prime nesting spots. Several of them think that the old pier of the bridge that crossed the river here looks like a good place. Unfortunately, they think so every year and I have yet to see any baby geese survive on that spot.

This is just the beginning, soon the spring migration will begin and thousands of migrating waterfowl will be coming through Montana, from March until May millions of birds will pass through, some will stay but most are on their yearly voyage north.

Freezeout Lake near Fairfield is one of those special places one can go to see an abundance of migrating birds. During the peak of the spring migration one can observe hundreds of thousands of Snow Geese and thousands of Tundra swans, a sight not soon to fade from memory. There are ducks too, of all varieties, and by April shorebirds and gulls of all kinds are returning. There are, also, the usual raptors and owls. The list of birds to be seen there is quite lengthy and if you haven't been to Freezeout Lake you should put it on your shorter list of places to visit this spring. [For more information on Freezeout Lake take a look at the Montana Wildlife Viewing Guide by Carol and Hank Fischer. It is a wonderful guide that describes sites where one might see wildlife all over Montana.]

This migration of birds is truly an amazing thing, millions of birds, hundreds of species. The variety always overwhelms me and leads me to think of the places where these birds have just migrated from, hundreds and even thousands of miles to the south of the Flathead Valley. More exotic places, where the variety of birdlife, all life, is truly overwhelming. Biodiversity!

*Biodiversity*, the diversity or variety in the living things of a particular area, according to the dictionary. It is a relatively new term for the English language, one would not have found it in a dictionary just ten years.

ago and it is a word that has been getting a lot of use recently.

We are just realizing the variety of life that exists on the Earth. New species are being discovered regularly; from bacteria that live under the ocean near deep-sea volcanic vents to a new bromeliad found in the rainforests of Venezuela to a new bat species in the cloud forests of Madagascar.

The variety of life in Montana isn't as spectacular as say Ecuador, where scientists have been studying the forests canopy. At one 1500 acre site in the rainforest they have found 3000 species of plants and 530 species of birds, remarkable! The diversity of life in Montana is not so grand, we have about 300 species of birds that reliably occur and over 2500 species of plants spread over 145,338 square miles.

It does not matter how many forms of life are found in any one place; what matters is the preservation of the biodiversity. From old growth forests and pothole lakes here in Montana to the rainforests and river valleys in Ecuador the diversity of life must be protected and cared for if *Homo sapiens* are to prosper in the future.

The web of life is all around us we just need to open our eyes and take a good look. [The February issue of National Geographic is primarily devoted to the topic of biodiversity, it is well worth a few moments of your time.]

BY LESLIE KEHOE



### FEBRUARY MEETING

Monday, March 8, 1999

Fish, Wildlife & Parks Building

490 N. Meridian Rd., Kalispell

Business Meeting begins at 5:15 PM

General Meeting begins at 7:30 PM

**PROGRAM:** Chad Olson, a graduate student at the University of Montana, will present a slide show and discuss the roosting dynamics and foraging habits of the Rough-legged Hawks that gather each winter in the Mission Valley. There were record numbers of Rough-legged Hawks in the Mission Valley this year. Olson is completing a 5-year study of these birds. This research has been partially funded by the Flathead Audubon Society. (See Jan. 1999 Pileated Post)





## Neurotic Narrative of a Nebulous Nature – The Nine Pipe Notes

- heavy snow in Missoula & Flathead valleys, sunshine in Mission Valley on January 16, 1999
- 53 people, 6 dogs
- raised approx. \$130 in donations
- participants came from C. Falls, W. Glacier, Bigfork, St. Ignatious, Trout Cr., Thompson Falls, Kalispell, Whitefish, Polson, Helena, Evergreen
- 2 Great Horned Owls roosting in tree at lodge.
- Sign below owls: "Reserved Parking."
- Kestrels – most here in winter are males, females winter farther south
- (females are smarter, no?)
- Northern goshawk harassed by several Northern Harriers
- Rufous phase redtail (no red phase rufous tails noted)
- juv. Ferruginous Hawk with leg injury
- record roost this year – 326 raptors (mostly Rough-legged Hawks)
- a wide selection seen from the Ronan grocery store: adult Bald Eagle, sub-adult Bald Eagle, Great Blue Heron, Rough-legged Hawk, adult Golden Eagle
- watched Rough-legged Hawk catch and consume a vole
- cold Western Meadowlark
- juv. Harlan's hawk
- Merlin picked off House Sparrow from flock in flight, plucked and ate it on a fence post, got its picture in the local paper
- Prairie falcon
- Home
- Sleep
- Work, work, work...
- By John Ashley, Fieldtrip Chair



Society and will be a fund-raiser for both organizations.

When NABS was founded in 1978 to promote the recovery of bluebirds and other native cavity-nesting bird species. The three species of bluebirds in North America have made a dramatic recovery since then because of NABS's efforts.

Two hundred fifty participants are expected in Great Falls from all over North America. The four-day event will include field trips to the Rocky Mountain Front, the Little Belt Mountains and Giant Springs State Park including hikes along bluebird trails. Programs and panel discussions will cover a variety of topics from bluebirds and other cavity nesters to native plants, wildlife and Montana history.

For information and registration forms one may contact Bob Niebuhr at 406-453-5143 (work), 40-761-5842 (home), e-mail: [BluBrdBob@prodigy.net](mailto:BluBrdBob@prodigy.net). The North American Bluebird Society also has a web site, which has additional information on the annual NABS Convention. NABS web site: <http://www.cobleskill.edu/nabs/>

## Legislature Information

The following is a list of addresses and phone numbers to help you contact your legislator should the need arise. There are still many wildlife and wildlife habitat issues before the legislature that need to be followed, keep your eyes open.

### Montana State Legislature:

Rep. Name  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 201701  
Helena, MT 59620-1701

Sen. Name  
Senate  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 201702  
Helena, MT 59620-1702



## INTERNATIONAL BLUEBIRD CONVENTION

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS) will be held in the Great Falls at the Heritage Inn on June 17-20 1999. The convention will be hosted by Mountain Bluebird Trails with the help of the Upper Missouri Breaks Audubon

Message Center: Hours 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
Phone: 406-444-4800  
Fax: 1-900-225-1600 (\$.45 per minute)  
Email should be addressed to specific legislators. Include the legislators name at the beginning of the message  
Email: [house@state.mt.us](mailto:house@state.mt.us)  
[senate@state.mt.us](mailto:senate@state.mt.us)





## FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



*"We live in the kind of world where courage is the most essential of virtues; without courage, the other virtues are useless."*

*Edward Abbey "A Voice Crying in the Wilderness"*

Do you have that lackluster internal feeling from passively watching too much television with too many Starrs, Lewinskys, and impeachment hearings; idly noting too many pundits and Clinton jokes? Are you overwhelmed by too many confusing details of Y2K? Have you done your citizen's duty of assessing and responding to innumerable legislative issues? Have you thought about the effect of Montana Power's deregulation? And have you wondered if Ameritrade is for you? Stop! Enough. It is as folks of New Orleans say this time of the year, "Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler", let the good times roll – and lighten up!!

We are in the season of celebration, reflection, and the time of renewal with Mardi Gras, Chinese New Year, Lent, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter. Forget the talking heads, and take time to listen to the melt. Abstain from passively surfing your television channels and checking out more videos. Take the time to hone those lapsed birding skills, and learn to "see" again. It is time to re-create. So, grab your glasses, and take a drive to the "Big Game Viewing Area" on Highway 2 East. It is time to become aware of what roams, lies concealed, and forages among the obvious trees, rocks, and snow-packed hills. Relax, breathe deeply, open yourself to the hidden enchantment that awaits you. It's time to track the dozens of elk and deer camouflaged only by your bias of what is.

With that biased view in mind, I can't help but reflect upon our February Audubon meeting and the forum that we provided to discuss Zero Cut, logging issues and the economy of Northwest Montana. It was appropriate for our chapter to seize the opportunity and courageously raise controversial issues. Personally, I had to face my biases and the search for a more perfect world vs. people's right to a living wage. I also learned that I am not yet well-informed enough to come to a logical decision. I do know that it is my responsibility to make sense of the issues and comprehend what is biologically best for our county, forests, our 49<sup>th</sup> ranked state economy, and our communities.

As Glenn and I scoped the hills for herds of elk and deer last Sunday, I thought of that issue, and reflected upon this time of the year when it seems that an icy gray haze has hovered and shrouded our perception of issues, logic, and each other. It is as if our western weather, frigid and gray, skews our point-of-view. To warm ourselves, we tend to focus so intently upon maintaining the way things "used to be", that discussions become inflated angst-driven one-sided diatribes initiated by fear and suspicion of change. That haze has interfered with our "seeing" another point-of-view. And there we were, a few miles away and over the hill, midst the elk and deer, and a myriad of viewers strolled around trucks and SUVs. They sported cowboy hats and farmers caps; arrived in kid-cramped cars, or not; with glasses and scopes or chose to squint. Out there hostilities melted as we helped each other witness the great bull elk with the prize set of horns and the thirty cows mere yards from the highway. We mingled and shared information, listened, created a positive experience for those who could not see.

I recommend a trip to the Wildlife Viewing Area. Take some time to reflect upon your path and your perception of issues. Put a pause button on road rage, name calling, and myopic biases on your journey to the Millennium. Simplistic? Possibly. It all depends upon how each one of us remembers how to see, then hopefully we can return to the debates and effect "bio-logical" change as we move beyond our differences and towards an economically functional northwest community.



*"Freedom begins between the ears." Edward Abbey "A Voice Crying in the Wilderness"*

BY PATRICIA McLAUGHLIN, FLATHEAD AUDUBON BOARD MEMBER

### A REMINDER:

A WONDERFUL PRINT "EVENING ON FLATHEAD LAKE" BY BRETT THUMA AND FRAMED BY THE FRAME OF REFERENCE HAS YET TO BE RAFFLED. A FEW RAFFLE TICKETS ARE LEFT AND CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE MARCH MEETING. TICKETS ARE \$5 EACH AND THE PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY TO FLATHEAD AUDUBON.





## SPRING FIELD TRIPS

### "A DAY IN THE FIELD WITH LONG-EARED OWLS" WITH DENVER HOLT Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

Spend a day in the field participating in long-eared owl capture & banding with biologists from the Owl Research Institute. Denver Holt & crew will demonstrate netting techniques and, with owls in hand, show and explain evolutionary adaptations such as silent flight and cryptic coloration. Denver will also give an on-site lecture on the biology of long-eared owls and small mammals.

We will meet at 9 am sharp in the parking lot of the Polson WalMart and carpool to the field location. In the field, be prepared to walk approximately one-half mile and spend 3-4 hours standing outdoors. Proper attire should include warm clothes, warmer boots, a tasty lunch, and a beverage.

The Owl Institute has been conducting the long-eared owl project for 12 years in the Missoula and Mission valleys. Over 700 long-eared owls have been marked and more than 130 nests have been located. Denver Holt is a leading owl expert and has volunteered to lead this field trip as part of the Institute's public education efforts.

This Flathead Audubon field trip is free, and everyone is invited. For more information, call John Ashley (892-3825) or Jim Rogers (883-3611).

### OVERNIGHT TRIP TO FREEZEOUT LAKE

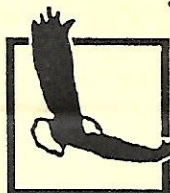
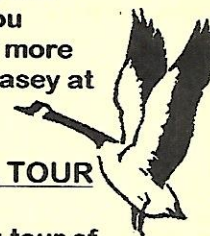
Saturday and Sunday, March 27 & 28.

Join Dan Casey and Flathead Audubon on a trip east of the mountains to view one of Montana's bird spectacles. Last year a small group of birders saw well over 100,000 Snow Geese at the Freezeout Lake Wildlife Management Area. They saw 46 species of birds in a few short hours including thousands of Northern Pintails, American Widgeons and Tundra Swans. This year should be no exception, we may see some White Pelicans, Bald and Golden Eagles, numerous gulls, and Rough-legged Hawk or two may still be

hanging around. The plan is to leave Kalispell around 1:00PM on Saturday and spent the night in Choteau. Up early Sunday morning for birdwatching and back to Kalispell by 5:00PM. If you would like to take this trip and for more information please contact Dan Casey at 857-3143.

### LOWER VALLEY WATERFOWL TOUR Saturday, April 3

A four hour guided birding tour of wetland sites in the Somers area will feature a variety of resident and migrating waterfowl. We should see at least 20 species of waterfowl, songbirds and raptors including Eurasian Widgeon and other recent spring arrivals. Participants are to meet at the Somers Recreation Area (boat ramp) on Highway 93 at Somers Bay at 8:30AM. Bring binoculars and a sack lunch. For more information please call Dan Casey at 857-3143.



## WILDLIFE AND THE NONGAME TAX CHECK-OFF

The non-game tax check-off on the Mt tax form assists in the funding of programs for birds and other non-hunted wildlife. Since 1983 Montana's Watchable Wildlife Program has relied heavily on this tax check-off. If the fund receives less than \$20,000 in two consecutive years it will be dropped from the tax forms. Senate Bill 380 lowers the threshold for removal to \$10,000. The Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks usually matches the money \$3 to \$1 on wildlife projects: so \$20,000 of money raised by the check-off translates into a total of \$80,000 in projects for non-game wildlife.

We can help in two ways: First don't forget to check the Wildlife Tax Check-off on your Montana tax forms on April 15<sup>th</sup>! Second support Mt Audubon by supporting SB 380, call your legislator and voice your support. For more information you may call Mt Audubon at 406-443-394.





## State Lands Old Growth

The Flathead Audubon Chapter board of directors was recently approached for help with an effort to improve Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) state lands old growth management. After hearing more about the concerns, Audubon gave some grant money to this effort, and more importantly, moral support.

In a state wide planning document, the DNRC had committed to maintaining 50% of the historic amount of old growth. However, actual in-house guidance showed that they were planning on maintaining far less than that. Two recently proposed timber sales are planning on harvesting almost a thousand acres of high-quality virgin old growth in the Swan Valley and the North Fork, key areas for Montana wildlife. DNRC documents reveal that their current guidelines allow them to harvest over 30,000 acres of old growth on just the Swan and Stillwater State forests.

Four individuals who have been closely watching DNRC old growth management are working to hold DNRC to their commitment: Jane Adams, a former DNRC wildlife biologist; Steve Barrett, a fire ecologist; Steve Thompson, a long-time forest activist; and Malcolm Thompson, an environmentally conscious logger. Andy Stahl, the executive director of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, recently joined the effort because of the serious implications the actions of the DNRC have on ecosystem management. On February 18, these 5 held a meeting with DNRC state forester Pat Flowers and his staff, to discuss old growth issues.

Some minor issues were resolved, but several issues remain unresolved. The hope remains to convince the DNRC to voluntarily revise their current old growth guidelines. It was agreed that within the next 6 weeks, written communications will further clarify unresolved concerns and propose solutions, and the DNRC will outline their plan to act (or not act) on the concerns. We'll keep Audubon informed of progress!

BY JANE ADAMS

**SUNFLOWER SEEDS ARE STILL AVAILABLE. IN BIGFORK CALL 837-5018, IN KALISPELL CALL 755-2142, IN WHITEFISH CALL 862-2028, & IN CONDON CALL 754-2289 !**



## Advanced Birding Class Offered at FVCC

Dan Casey will once again be teaching a birding class at Flathead Valley Community College. It is scheduled to start on April 7 and continue through May 12. It is an evening course on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. Two evening and three half-day Sunday field trips are included in the cost of \$64. To register or for more info. contact the FVCC Continuing Education Center at 756-3832.

This is a fun, fact-filled class for anyone with a love of birds who wants to sharpen their birding skills. The course goes beyond the basics: Dan will customize the course to the student's wishes, but focuses on difficult to identify groups. These include sparrows, flycatchers, shorebirds and hawks; as well as pointers on telling apart some of our trickier look-alikes (e.g. Downy and Hairy Woodpecker, Greater and Lesser Scaup, House and Cassin's Finches). Since it's a spring course this year, the course will also focus on "birding by ear". Dan guarantees that you'll be able to tell a Robin from a Western Tanager song by the end of the course! Bonus topics will include selecting optics, building a birding library, and birding on the internet.



### A REMINDER: MONTANA AUDUBON ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Montana Audubon will be held at the City Hall in Hamilton on April 23 and 24 this year. For information contact MT Audubon at 443-3949.

If you are thinking a year ahead, sow a seed.  
If you are thinking 10 years ahead, plant a forest.  
If you are thinking 100 years ahead, educate the people.  
By sowing a seed once, you harvest only once.  
By planting a forest, you will harvest ten fold.  
By educating the people, you will harvest your dreams.

— Chinese proverb





## OLD GROWTH-GLORIOUS DEATH & DECAY...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Very large trees provide homes to wildlife like no smaller tree can. One Black Bear researcher found that one-third of the denning bears he located were in hollow trees. Apparently black bears are like mice - if they can get their skull bones through a hole, they can squeeze the rest of their body through! But they do need trees large enough so they can be comfortable once they get inside. The Fisher, a forest carnivore that looks like a large stocky weasel, prefers to nest and den in cavities high up in large trees and snags. Several bat species roost in hollow trees, and large hollow trees can house whole colonies of Vaux's Swifts.

Big old trees also have thicker bark than younger trees. Thicker bark is more fire resistant, enabling many large trees to survive moderate fires. Once trees start to die this bark may peel away in large strips, providing a space between the tree and the bark that the little Brown Creeper can tuck its nest into. Brown creepers are one of the species most closely associated with old growth because of this need, and because it feeds largely on spiders that live in the deeply furrowed bark of big trees.

Dying trees are often riddled with insects. Many birds eat insects, and need huge numbers of them to feed their rapidly growing nestlings in the spring. Research has shown that plentiful food means a parent can feed more to its young with less effort, which can greatly increase nestling growth and survival. I did my masters research on Vesper Sparrows, and the nestlings grew from dime-sized naked hatchlings, to fully feathered, adult-sized fledglings in about 10 days - it takes a lot of insects for that kind of rapid growth!

Dead standing trees, or snags, are possibly the single most valuable thing found in forests for wildlife. Snags are valuable precisely because they're decadent and rotten. Rotten wood is easy to dig into, and even birds with relatively short, weak bills like Red-breasted Nuthatches and Chickadees can excavate cavities in soft snags. Birds with stronger bills, like most of the woodpeckers, can excavate cavities in soft as well as harder snags.

The Pileated Woodpecker, our largest woodpecker, prefers large snags, 25" in

diameter and larger. Large snags have a thicker wall which provides more thermal insulation for nestlings and greater protection from predators, as well as providing a large enough cavity for the nestlings to grow into. As part of its courtship ritual, the Pileated Woodpecker excavates a new hole every year. The Pileated is very important ecologically because many other animals and birds, some of which can't excavate their own holes, will use abandoned Pileated holes for their den and nest sites. Some of the animals and birds that nest in old Pileated holes located in old growth include the Pine Marten, Fisher, Flying Squirrel, and Boreal Owl.

Once a dead tree falls, its useful life continues. Many mammals will den inside hollow logs, or under logs, including Black Bears, Fishers, Pine Marten, Lynx, and Wolverine. Lynx seem to prefer areas with many fallen logs so that they have can move their young kittens to a new den if danger threatens. Many other animals have found useful ways to use downed logs. Like the Ruffed Grouse who uses fallen logs for its courtship drumming, and squirrels who use them to sit upon while eating pine nuts. Small mammals like shrews, mice and voles seek protection under logs and use them for safe travel through the forest. Several amphibians, like salamanders and frogs, love the dark moist conditions found under fallen logs. Large logs house multitudes of insects, from millipedes and beetles, to slugs and snails and large colonies of carpenter ants, the favorite food of Pileated Woodpeckers. Red-backed voles, a favorite food of Boreal Owls, feed on the fungi growing on rotting logs.

Besides providing homes for animals, fallen logs bring new life to the soil. In fact one of the most useful things a tree can do is to die, and replenish the soil. Many nutrients, like nitrogen, calcium and magnesium, accumulate in dead wood and are released back to the soil as the tree decomposes. Dead wood and dead tree roots soak up water after rains to release it slowly into the soil, preventing erosion. Rotting wood gives structure to the soil, so young trees can sink in their roots, and so continue the complex cycle of life, and death-giving-life, in the forest.

BY JANE ADAMS







## Flathead Audubon Society Directory

### OFFICERS

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Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Past President

Jim Rogers, P.O. Box 984, Polson, MT 59860  
Neal Brown, 560 Wolf Creek Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911  
Gail Sullivan, 932 Columbia Ave., Whitefish, MT 59937  
Bruce Tannehill, 239 Deer Trail, Whitefish, MT 59937  
Leo Keane, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish, MT 59937

883-3611  
837-5018  
862-5775  
862-4548  
862-5807

### DIRECTORS

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1997-2000  
1998-1999  
1998-1999  
1998-1999  
1998-2000  
1998-2001

William Breen, 335 Mountain Meadow Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901  
Sharon DeLong, 2495 Grave Creek Rd., Eureka, MT 59917  
John Ashley, P.O. Box 154, West Glacier, MT 59936  
Robin Magaddino, 2100 Swan Hwy., Bigfork, MT 59911  
Sonja Hartmann, P.O. Box 1388, Columbia Falls 59912  
Pattie Brown, 560 Wolf Creek Rd., Bigfork, MT 59911  
Pat McLaughlin, 223 Goat Trail, Whitefish, MT 59937  
Linda Winnie, P.O. Box 220, Kila, MT 59920

755-2142  
882-4501  
892-3825  
837-4294  
758-8516  
837-5018  
862-4559  
755-1406

### CHAIRS

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Brent Mitchell, 960 Kienas Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901  
John Ashley, P.O. Box 154, West Glacier, MT 59936  
Lois Drobish, 324 Helena Flats Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901  
Tracy Schiess, P.O. Box 154, West Glacier, MT 59936  
Pattie Brown, 560 Wolf Creek Rd., Bigfork, MT 59911  
Gail Leonard, 514 Pine Place, Whitefish, MT 59937  
June Ash, P.O. Box 1129, Condon, MT 59826  
Leslie Kehoe, 1020 Holt Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911  
Jim Rogers, P.O. Box 984, Polson, MT 59860  
Linda Winnie, P.O. Box 220, Kila, MT 59920  
Feme Cohen, P.O. Box 1782, Whitefish, MT 59937  
Lynn Kelly, 6525 Rocky Point Road, Polson, MT 59860  
Neal Brown, 560 Wolf Creek Drive, Bigfork, MT 59911

755-1311  
756-8130  
892-3825  
756-7405  
892-3825  
837-5018  
862-5807  
754-2289  
837-4467  
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### Montana Audubon

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Janet Ellis, P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624  
Howard Strause, 1917 W. Hill Pl., Great Falls, MT 59404

443-3949  
727-7516

**BIRDING HOTLINE: 756-5595**

The Flathead Audubon Society is affiliated with the National Audubon Society and meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. The regular meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and includes a featured guest who will present a conservation or nature program. The regular monthly meeting is preceded by the Executive Board meeting. Both meetings are open to all those interested.

THE PILEATED POST is published September through May and is sent to members of the Flathead Audubon Society as a membership benefit. Subscriptions for non-members are \$10.00 per year.

Deadline for newsletter copy: the 20th of each month. Newsletter e-mail [ljkehoe@diglays.net](mailto:ljkehoe@diglays.net)

### National Audubon Society Membership Application



Enjoy full National Audubon Society benefits and AUDUBON magazine, as well as PILEATED POST newsletter.

Check your category rate from the following:

First-time Applicant	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individual Renewal	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family	\$38	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustaining	\$50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting	\$100	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life	\$1500	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dual Life	\$2000	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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Send this application and your check to:

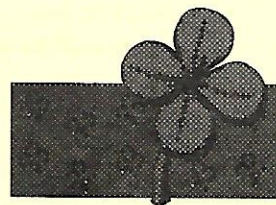
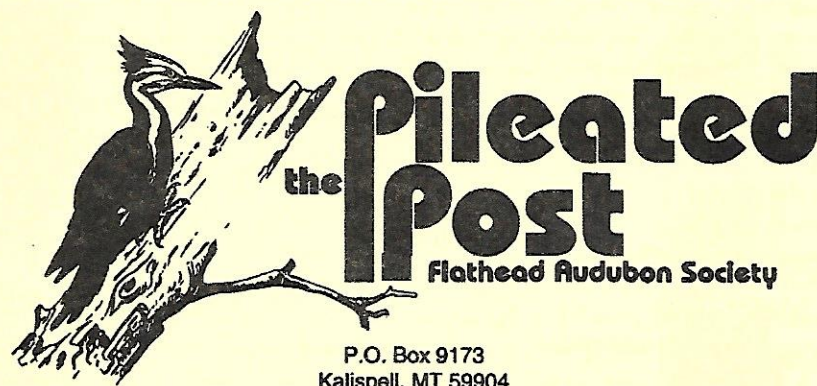
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