



THE CALLIOPE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST CASCADES
AUDUBON SOCIETY

SPRING 2015

From the President -- The Woodpecker Festival is On The Way!

DEAN HALE WOODPECKER FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD JUNE 18 – 21 IN 2015!

The Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival will be held June 18-21 this year. This year we'll have some of the tour routes that we've had in past years but we are also adding several new trips, including trips to two new burn areas, Bridge 99/Green Ridge and Two Bulls. The website will be open and registration will begin on April 1 and, if the last 3 years are any indication, all the trips will fill up fast, so get your registration in early. There will be no online registration and credit cards are not accepted.

As in past years, the Festival is all about the volunteers!

- Chuck Gates has put together his usual stellar list of tour guides, and scouting has already started.
- Sherrie Pierce does it all. Developed the registration form and posted it on the web. Developed the poster. She'll take the incoming registrations, checks, and waiver forms and get letters out to the participants. Keeps the Festival web page updated. And other duties as required!
- Jon Putnam will handle all the publicity – a big job he does particularly well.
- Terri Hyde and Mary Oppenheimer developed the new waiver form which will go to all participants.
- Jan Rising is putting together a team for Saturday registration in Sisters' Creekside Park.

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The t-shirt design has been received (you can see it at the right), porta-potties have been ordered, permit coordination is underway with the US Forest Service, the Belfry has been reserved, and Creekside Park has been reserved for Saturday and Sunday mornings.

I know I'm missing other volunteers – it takes a bunch to put on a successful Festival. My thanks in advance.

Ken Hashagen, President



Lewis's Woodpecker
Art by Lisa Walraven

Forest Service Presents Plans for Calliope Crossing

At the February 19 Birders' Night, staffers from the Sisters Forest Service Office, Julie York, wildlife biologist, and Will Brendeke, silviculturalist, discussed plans for the restoration of Indian Ford Creek. The prime birding spot at Calliope Crossing (Indian Ford Road & FR #2058) is included in this proposal. One goal of the project is to assist fish passage along Indian Ford Creek with improved stream flow and the reduction of artificial barriers. Riparian habitat conditions are also to be improved by the promotion of streamside aspen growth in the project area.

Since the audience was most interested in the how the plans affected Calliope Crossing, the remarks and questions focused on that portion of the proposal. Up to eighty percent of the streamside conifers would be removed to encourage the aspen to regenerate. The plans also propose a revision to the stream crossing at Forest Road 2058 that currently contains culverts. An April through July window is envisioned when thinning and reconstruction would not occur in order to lessen the impact on the wildlife.

In spring 2014, in response to a Forest Service request in the scoping phase of this project, ECAS submitted a comment letter drafted by the Conservation Committee and approved by the Board. The letter is available by going to the ECAS website, then using the A-Z search function for the Conservation Committee. Alternatively, you can go directly to the letter at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6LenQuFPYPM2IIVG42dkRNNkU/edit> Of most concern was the effect this action would have on water levels that currently create a riparian area upstream of the road crossing. In general, the thinning of conifers to promote regeneration of Aspen trees was supported. Sisters District Forest Service personnel involved in the project hosted a subsequent on-site gathering of interested individuals. Several ECAS members attended and will continue to be involved in commenting on the final phase of the project.

The draft environmental assessment was released March 17, 2015. To obtain a copy, either contact Michael Keown at the Sisters Ranger District at 541-549-7735 or go to this link: http://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa_project_exp.php?project=43733 Comments must be submitted by April 16, 2015.

Marion Davidson

River Song



American Dipper photo by Jim Bachman

*so chipper
this dipper
chipper
chipper
in the river*

*treble trill
i will i will
despite the trill
outsing the river
in winter weather*

*under water
for food I search
clawing rocks
the river strong*

*in air
a nest I'll build
this bridge will do
treeo treeo*

Marion Davidson

Blast from the Past – Spring 30 Years Ago

Back in 1985, Central Oregon Audubon (our predecessor) held four or five field trips or counts per month. Could we do more today if we had a few more people willing to lead trips? Consider leading one when the call for help goes out to the membership. You don't have to be a top expert, but knowing an area and the roads is important.

Returnees from a Malheur field trip at the end of April may have had a biology teacher or wildlife biologist as a leader because they remarked on learning that black pigment and feathers are stronger than white pigment and feathers and that is why many of our long distance migrants sport black flight feathers in the primaries. There was no mention of who the field trip leader was but perhaps Ivy Hilty, Ed Styskel, Cal Elshoff or Wayne Eschelman.

Phenology for spring arrivals was reported: Post this on your frig and compare with what happens in your yard this next spring. Have things changed?

May 1	Rufus Hummer, Dusky Flycatcher, Western Tanager
May 3	Solitary Vireo (now Cassin's), Wilson's Warbler, Common Poorwill
May 5	McGillivray's Warbler, Brewer's Sparrow
May 6	Hermit Thrush, Bullock's Oriole, Lazuli Bunting
May 10	Willow Flycatcher, Western Wood Peewee, Townsend's Warbler
May 11	Warbling Vireo
May 12	Yellow-breasted Chat
May 13	Ash-throated Flycatcher, Red-necked Phalarope
May 14	Black-throated Gray Warbler
May 18	Olive-sided Flycatcher
May 23	Swainson's Thrush
May 26	Common Nighthawk

The club donated funds for putting gravel on the trails at the new Rimrock Springs Nature area, and board members attended the dedication to represent Audubon.

Jim Anderson reported on the status of Osprey at Crane Prairie Reservoir. They were just coming back from being a threatened species. We still await their arrival each spring, but no longer worry that they are threatened.

Judy Meredith

More from the Board -- 2014 Annual Report Now Online

The ECAS 2014 Annual Report provides useful information for our members and any others who are interested in ECAS projects or would like to delve deeper into the data or activities that have been generated during the past year. It can be read by clicking on "Annual Report" in the right hand list on our website www.ecaudubon.org. This is our fifth annual report, and like those that preceded it, it is done in a spirit of transparency and reflection.

Sherrie Pierce, Secretary

Migratory Bird Salvage Permit

Education is one of ECAS's primary activities, and one of the Education Committee's goals has been to obtain a permit for the collection of salvageable migratory bird remains. Loren Smith, an Education Committee member, has obtained permission for this activity by working with The High Desert Museum and John Goodell, its Curator of Natural History.

Signed on as subpermittees, designated ECAS members are now authorized to salvage "migratory birds (except species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act) found dead that you had no part in killing or death". This also includes the salvage of abandoned migratory bird nests and nonviable eggs after nesting season, except for the nests of eagles and threatened or endangered species. Any dead bald or golden eagle salvaged must be reported within 48 hours to the National Eagle Repository, (303)287-2110. In addition, any dead or injured migratory birds that appear to have been poisoned, shot, electrocuted, or have collided with industrial power generation equipment or might have been injured as the result of potential criminal activity should be immediately reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (503) 682-6131.

Any items collected will belong to the High Desert Museum, but ECAS will have access to the collections. This will allow us to build a group of educational materials that can be used in various activities. If you do encounter any birds that fit the above descriptions, and you would like to know if it is a salvageable specimen, the authorized ECAS members to contact are:

Loren Smith, lorendsmith@gmail.com
Mary Yanalcanlin, yanalcanlin@yahoo.com
Desiree Morris, calypsobulbosa@gmail.com
Sherrie Pierce, sapierce@bendbroadband.com
Tom Crabtree, tc@empnet.com

Thanks to Loren for her work on this important educational asset.

Sherrie Pierce, Education Committee

Overnight Field Trip to Klamath Basin

Thanks to trip leader Tom Penpraze, ECAS is sponsoring an overnight field trip to the Klamath Basin on April 11-12. ECAS Klamath Basin Field Trip. The proposed itinerary includes Upper Klamath Marsh NWR, Silver Lake Road to Klamath Marsh HQ, Collier State Park, Lost River, Tule Lake NWR, Petroglyph Point on Saturday, and Lake Euwanha, Miller Island, Lower Klamath Marsh NWR, Putnam's Point, Moore Park, Wood River Wetland (if time permits and group decision), and Collier State Park on Sunday.

The trip will leave Bend at 7:30am on Saturday and return between 6 and 7pm on Sunday. As usual, participants will carpool and share gas expenses. (Tom reports that his gas expense on a recent scouting trip was \$80). Tom recommends that participants bring binoculars (and scopes if participants have them), protection from wind, cold (layering is best), sun (hopefully!), and lunch makings for two days.

Tom recommends making reservations at the Klamath Falls Motel 6. Single room are \$39.99 plus tax, and the AARP discount is 10%. Saturday dinner is planned at Sergio's Mexican Restaurant, which is an easy walk from Motel 6, with Sunday breakfast at the Black Bear Diner next to the hotel.

Many thanks to Tom for organizing this very special trip. **Please be sure to contact him at tmpenpraze@aol.com if you plan to go on this trip so that he can make final plans.**

Mary Oppenheimer

Welcome New Members! *Thanks for your support!*

Jan Brougher	Bend	Danielle Lordi	Bend
Carolyn Howe	Bend	David Menashe	Portland
Karon Johnson	Bend	Kathi Thomson	Bend
Robert Johnson	Bend		

Nature's Trust & Oregon's Climate Future -- May 19 at the Tower

Mary Wood is the Philip H. Knight Professor of Law and the faculty director for the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program at the University of Oregon School Of Law. On May 19, she will review the latest science on climate change and outline a promising new legal approach that would hold government at all levels accountable for protecting natural resources in a talk at the Tower Theater in Bend. As we know, climate change affects birds' life and migratory patterns, so this talk may be especially interesting to ECAS members.

Professor Wood's talk is sponsored by the Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program of the COCC Foundation. The presentation is at 6:30pm, and tickets, which cost \$10 are available at the Tower Theater box office website, www.towertheater.org.

Spring Birders' Nights

Everyone, ECAS member or not, is welcome at our free monthly Birders' Nights. Each meeting features announcements of coming birding events and unusual bird sightings before a talk on a topic of birding interest organized by Diana Roberts. Jon Putnam and Diana have put together a wonderful PowerPoint format for the announcements! No longer is there any need to crane the neck and strain the eyes to read the announcements on the ancient Environmental Center whiteboard. So, mark the third Thursday of each month for these programs.

On April 19 Crooked River Rancy locals John and Marilynne Keyser will take us “**Birding Every Corner of Alaska**” with stories and photographs from St. Paul Island (a part of the Pribilofs,) Nome, Barrow, the Kenai Fjords National Park and Denali National Park. Highlights of the trip were seeing thirteen alcid species and all four eiders. Close encounters with a northern hawk owl, a "flaming" ruff and a huge polar bear were magical moments!

On May 21, Douglas Robinson, Mace Professor of Watchable Wildlife at OSU and Director of the Oregon 2020 birds project, will visit Bend to present “**Oregon 2020: A Benchmark Survey of Our Birds**”. This program, which Sherrie Pierce described in the Summer 2014 CALLIOPE, is a collaboration of professionals and citizen scientists who are dedicated to compiling a high quality, state-wide measurement of the abundance and distribution of Oregon's birds and their response to habitat change. Doug will talk about how local birders can be involved in this landmark study, which promises to leave a legacy for future generations. Citizen Science opportunities will exist for local birders in "Birding Blitzes" scheduled for Wheeler County (June 6-7) and Sherman and Gilliam Counties (May 23-24). More information is available at www.oregon2020.com.

The June 18 program features COCC Biology Professor Jim Moodie explaining “Where the Heck are the Falcons? Phylogenies and Changing Field Guides: An Evolutionary Tale.” Jim will entertain us with some up to date science explaining why new field guides now group falcons with parrots!

Programs are held at The Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. Doors open for coffee and conversation at 6:30pm, with the evening's program beginning at 7pm. The array of snacks, organized by Nancy Merrick, is extraordinary.

What's Happening

Spring Field Trips

The spring schedule has been announced. Times and places of departure, and other trip information, will be posted on COBOL approximately a week before each trip. (To sign up for COBOL, go to <http://lists.oregonstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/cobol>.) As in the past, participants will carpool and share gas expenses.

- April 5 Birds of the Sage to White Geese, Howard Horvath, leader.
April 11-12 Klamath Basin Overnight, Tom Penpraze leader. Full information is on page x.
Please be sure to contact Tom at tmpenpraze@aol.com if you plan to go on this trip so that he can make final plans.
April 18 Lower Bridge & Redmond Lagoons - Steve Dougill and Chuck Gates, leaders
May 3 Paulina Marsh & Summer Lake - Tom Lawler, leader
May 16 Sisters Area - Steve Dougill, leader
May 30 Crook County – Chuck Gates, leader
June 7 Woodpeckers - Judy Meredith, leader



Wednesday Birders at Summer Lake, March 18, 2015. Photo by Chuck Gates.

These trips are a wonderful opportunity to meet other birders, explore Central Oregon, and, most of all, to enjoy the birds. Thanks to Howard Horvath and all the volunteer leaders for putting together this unusually extensive field trip schedule.

Wednesday Birders continue to meet each Wednesday, generally at Nancy P's in Bend. Start times are changing based on earlier sunrises. The April 1 start time will stay at 8am, but April 8 is an EXTRA early start (5:30am at Wild Birds Unlimited) to get out to the desert for the dawn show. Starting April 15th, the regular start time will shift to 7am for the rest of the spring and summer unless special times are posted. Be sure to check our web site for exact starting time and place for each trip. Information is also posted on COBOL. To sign up for COBOL, go to <http://lists.oregonstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/cobol>.

Birding for Preschoolers continues at 10am each Monday in Drake Park.

Fledgling Fun meets on and continues on the second Monday of each month through May. Scheduled programs include. On April 13, the program is "Bird Migration". On May 12, the final program until autumn is "A Bird-Day Celebration". All Fledgling Fun programs are held at The Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend, from 3:45 to 5:15pm. The programs are aimed at K-5th grade, but all ages are welcome. Details at www.ecaudubon.org.

Young Birders of Central Oregon is for young people 9-18 and supporting adults. Meetings and field trips happen at least once each month. For information, contact Annette Gerard at 541-385-1799.

Central Oregon Winter 2014-15 Field Notes

Webster defines winter as "the coldest season of the year that is after autumn and before spring." In the Central Oregon birding world, we define winter as the time between December 1 and February 28. Below, you will find a summary of the birding highlights for the 2014-15 winter birding season.

Several unusual water birds made an appearance this winter in our area. A single SNOW GOOSE showed up at Cindy Zalunardo's pond in Powell Butte (1/16/15). Donna Nordstrom was the first to report a CACKLING GOOSE at Fireman's Pond (2/13/15) and several local birders verified this sighting. TRUMPETER SWANS turned up in the Crooked River (Nancy MacDonald, 2/5/15), Sunriver (Russ Namitz, 12/13/14) and on the Redmond Sewer Ponds (Chuck Gates, 2/3/15). EURASIAN WIGEONS were reported from Hatfield Lake (Judy Meredith, 12/11/14) and Metolius Sewer Ponds (David Vick, 1/16/15). The only GREATER SCAUP observation came from the Redmond Sewer Ponds and was turned in by Steve Dougill and Jake Schas (2/14/15). A lone SURF SCOTER was located on Suttle Lake on 12/10/14 (Chuck and Pat Gates). A RED-NECKED GREBE was also seen on Suttle Lake by the Gates brothers on 12/10/15. Peter Low heard SANDHILL CRANES over Black Butte Ranch on 2/21/15.

On the raptor front, there were a few surprises for local birders. Though not a raptor (we have to put them somewhere), the first TURKEY VULTURES were reported on January 31 (Tom Crabtree, Kris Kristovich). A very late OSPREY was reported on December 1st from Bend's Farewell Bend Park (Tom Penpraze). Jennifer Curtis made the only NORTHERN GOSHAWK report near Big Eddy on the Deschutes River (2/3/15). RED-SHOULDERED HAWKS were spotted at Sunriver Nature Center (Tom Lawler, 12/6/14), near Tumalo (Tom Crabtree, 12/17/14), and on Billadeau Rd. Bend (Peter Low, 12/21/14). A single Deschutes County BARN OWL report is unusual so having two of them in one season was notable (Bend, Mark Gonzalez on 2/9/15 and Smith Rock, Steve Dougill on 2/22/15). Sue Tank reported hearing WESTERN SCREECH-OWL 11 miles northeast of Sisters (2/10/15) and Tony Kutzen reported the same

species from Pilot Butte on 2/22/15. A very cooperative NORTHERN PYGMY-OWL was seen and photographed by Chuck Gates at Suttle Lake on 12/10/15. Todd Alleger located a BARRED OWL in the Ochoco Mountains on 2/17/15, and Sue Tank heard the unmistakable "bouncy ball" of the NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL near her place northeast of Sisters on 2/13/15.

Woodpecker news is short but sweet. Mary Crow saw and photographed an ACORN WOODPECKER at her place east of Sisters (12/2/14). This sighting is only the 10th Central Oregon report for this species, but it's the third time one has shown up in her yard. Unusual numbers of over-wintering WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKERS were noted this winter. This is likely a result of very mild winter temperatures. Perhaps the most unusual Williamson's sighting came from Prineville Reservoir State Park, where 3 females were seen in the junipers (Chuck Gates, 2/8/15).

Rare passerine news was a bit underwhelming this winter, but a few fun sightings did occur. The first SAY'S PHOEBE was noted by Sue Tank at her house on 2/18/15. BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES were found wintering at Lower Bridge on two occasions (Lew Rems, 21/11/14 and Steve Dougill, 2/16/15). Craig Miller found a BEWICK'S WREN along the trail at Tumalo State Park on 12/19/14 and an AMERICAN DIPPER spent the winter at Lake Creek where it enters Suttle Lake (Chuck and Pat Gates, 12/10/14). WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS were located on 4 different occasions by Kim Boddie (Bend, 12/3/14), Tom Crabtree (Bend 1st St. Trail, 12/6/14), Jake Schas and Steve Dougill (Prineville Sewer Ponds, 12/7/14) and Mark Gonzalez (Bend 1st St. Trail, 1/21/15). TRICOLORED BLACKBIRDS were seen in their normal winter haunts north of Prineville and also in the Culver area (Chuck Gates, 12/12/15). GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCHES made a good showing this winter with reports coming from Smith Rock (Pat Gredagian, 12/25/14, Steve Dougill, 1/3/15, and Tony Kutzen, 1,18/15), Century Drive (Peter Low, 1/1/15) and Pilot Butte (Tony Kutzen, 1/10/15). The only COMMON REDPOLL sighting this winter happened on 12/1/14 at Dillon Falls (Steve Dougill). PURPLE FINCHES were reported sporadically over the area but a record from Ochoco Park in Prineville was notable (Mark Gonzalez, 2/23/15).

Perhaps the biggest bird news of the winter was the discovery of fluid flocks of PINE GROSBEAKS on the Pacific Crest Trail west of Suttle Lake and north of Big Lake. While most of these sightings occurred in Linn County so do not qualify for inclusion in this report, a few were seen just inside Jefferson County. Those who were able to add this species to their included Chuck Gates, Tony Kutzen, Steve Dougill and Sally Hill among others.

Chuck Gates



Pine Grosbeak on the Pacific Crest Trail
Photo by Chuck Gates

EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

P. O. Box 565, Bend Oregon 99709

www.ecaudubon.org

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<p>President Ken Hashagen Vice-President Ted Groszkiewicz Secretary Sherrie Pierce Treasurer Terri Hyde Board Members Jan Rising Karen Gentry Jon Putnam Kevin Smith</p> <p>Spring 2015 Board Meetings April 7 May 5 June 2</p> <p>Board meetings are held at 6pm at The Environmental Center on the first Tuesday of each month. All members are welcome to attend. Future Board meeting dates can be found in the activity calendar at www.ecaudubon.org. Board minutes are also posted at that site after approval by the Board.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Annual Event</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Sherrie Pierce</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bluebirds</td> <td>Ken Hashagen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birders' Night</td> <td>Diana Roberts, Nancy Merrick</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communications</td> <td>Jon Putnam</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Conservation</td> <td>Vacant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education</td> <td>Mary Yanalcanlin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Field Trips</td> <td>Howard Horvath,</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finance</td> <td>Terri Hyde</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Green Ridge Raptors</td> <td>David Vick</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lake Abert Study</td> <td>Steve Dougill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lewis's Woodpeckers</td> <td>Diane Kook</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership</td> <td>Jan Rising</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newsletter</td> <td>Mary Oppenheimer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Science</td> <td>Vacant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Summer Lake Survey</td> <td>Steve Dougill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technology</td> <td>Steve Dougill,</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vaux's Swifts</td> <td>Bob Johnson</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Mary Ann Kruse</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Volunteers</td> <td>Sherrie Pierce</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday Birders</td> <td>Judy Meredith</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Howard Horvath</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Woodpecker Festival</td> <td>Ken Hashagen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Winter Raptor Survey</td> <td>Jeff Fleisher</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>If you would like to volunteer for a committee or event, please contact Sherrie Pierce at 541-548-4641.</i></p>	Annual Event	Sherrie Pierce	Bluebirds	Ken Hashagen	Birders' Night	Diana Roberts, Nancy Merrick	Communications	Jon Putnam	Conservation	Vacant	Education	Mary Yanalcanlin	Field Trips	Howard Horvath,	Finance	Terri Hyde	Green Ridge Raptors	David Vick	Lake Abert Study	Steve Dougill	Lewis's Woodpeckers	Diane Kook	Membership	Jan Rising	Newsletter	Mary Oppenheimer	Science	Vacant	Summer Lake Survey	Steve Dougill	Technology	Steve Dougill,	Vaux's Swifts	Bob Johnson		Mary Ann Kruse	Volunteers	Sherrie Pierce	Wednesday Birders	Judy Meredith		Howard Horvath	Woodpecker Festival	Ken Hashagen	Winter Raptor Survey	Jeff Fleisher
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The East Cascades Audubon Society (ECAS) is a 501(c)(3) organization that furthers knowledge and appreciation of birds and their habitats through field trips, education, and field studies. Join ECAS and help preserve the birds of the Central Oregon region at www.ecaudubon.org.