

THE CALLIOPE

EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2018 - 2019



President-Elect's Report

by Tom Lawler

2018, The Year of the Bird, has come to a close. Some of the major accomplishments for your Society this year were:

- The Board approved nearly \$14,000 in grants to organizations such as Deschutes Land Trust, City of Prineville, Black Butte School, and Oregon Eagle Foundation to name a few. These grants help these organizations promote bird watching and bird conservation projects.
- The Board contributed \$500 towards the reward offered by Sunriver Nature Center for the successful apprehension of the culprit in the shooting death of Chuck the Trumpeter Swan.
- Tom Lawler and Kara Jakse continued capping vault toilets for Deschutes National Forest, Ochoco National Forest and Oregon Parks and Rec. Over 90 toilets were capped this year. This project will continue into coming years.
- Stu Garrett and his great group of volunteers continued with the West Nile Virus monitoring program and other Sage Grouse conservation projects.
- Tom Lawler, Kara Jakse and Bob Sizoo completely rebuilt the upper blind at Cabin Lake.
- The Membership Committee, led by Jan Rising, implemented Member Planet to track our membership (and much more). A special thanks to Liz Thill for the countless hours spent getting this up and running.
- Using Eventbrite to better advertise and allow ECAS member sign-ups for field trips.

Lake Abert Surveys, Green Ridge Raptor Migration Surveys, the Bluebird Project, the Kestrel Project, the Golden Eagle Camera, Winter Raptor Routes, the Lewis Woodpecker Project, Wednesday Birders, Birders' Night, and our Birding for Preschoolers and other programs for children all continue, thanks to our project leaders and a huge number of volunteers. These programs will continue in 2019 and are always looking for more volunteers if you'd like to get involved! There are numerous other

projects presented to the Board that we could become involved with but we lack volunteers to work them.

Our largest fund-raising project, the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival, was a success again in 2018, thanks to a huge number of volunteers. The annual picnic in July was well attended. The Annual Event was held in a different format which may or may not be repeated in 2019. The Shorebird Identification class held in conjunction with the Annual Event was a great success.

This year we said good-bye to Board member Ken Hashagen who served on the board for six years and as President for many years, and John Brune who assisted with Treasurer duties. Thank you both for your service to ECAS. Bob Sizoo has been elected to the Board. We are still in search of a couple additional Board members. Perhaps you would be interested? Please contact Tom Lawler (tjlawler@crestviewcable.com) if you would like to serve on the Board. We also need a new Treasurer. Our current Treasurer has expressed interest in leaving the position. Please help if you can!

It is a pleasure and an honor to be part of this active Chapter. We could do much more with more volunteers. If you would like to help out go to <https://www.ecaudubon.org/volunteer> and let ECAS know of your interests. If you would like to talk to me about a conservation project you have in mind or volunteer opportunities please contact me at my above email address.

Here's to great birding in 2019!

UPCOMING EVENTS ----

Christmas Bird Count

By Sherrie Pierce



*White-crowned sparrow
by Don Sutherland*

Local Christmas Bird Counts were mostly held in December, but Redmond, January 2, is being covered by Wednesday Birders. If interested and not usually part of that group, contact Mike Golden gardenbug99@bendbroadband.com or Sherrie Pierce sapierce@bendbroadband.com

Several counts in early January are being held elsewhere in Oregon. The Oregon Christmas Bird Count schedule is available at oregonbirding.org/cbc/

Get involved! Not only will you be contributing to a worthwhile cause but also you will get yourself outside and have fun birding on a cold winter day. All levels of birders are welcome on the counts.

The National Audubon Society started the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) 119 years ago. Bend's first recorded CBC was in 1954, with two participants! Today the Audubon CBC includes thousands of volunteers across the U.S., Canada, and many countries in the Western Hemisphere who go out over a 24-hour period on one calendar day to count birds. Since the Christmas Bird Count began over a century ago, this citizen science project has relied on the dedication and commitment of volunteers.

The data collected by observers over the past century allow Audubon researchers, conservation biologists, wildlife agencies and other interested individuals to study the long-term health and status of bird populations across North America. When combined with other surveys such as the Breeding Bird Survey, it provides a picture of how the continent's bird populations have changed in time and space over the past hundred years. It informs strategies to protect birds and their habitat, and helps identify environmental issues with implications for people as well. Read more at www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count

2019 Birders' Nights

By Sue Bertsch

January 17 We will view the film *The Messenger*. The earth has only half the number of songbirds it had in 1960. This video tracks the migration of songbirds and attempts to answer the questions of why 10 billion songbirds perish every year and how this does not bode well for the health of the planet. Some solutions are offered.

February 21 The group, **Protect Animal Migration (PAM)**, will present information about their program. Their focus is barrier free migration for mule deer and other elk, and their mission is to get community support for wildlife crossings. However, over 40 species use the under crossing at Lava Lands. Many birds of prey are killed or injured by vehicle strikes as they attempt to dine on road kill. Wildlife crossings can dramatically reduce the number of carcasses on highways. Below is an excerpt from the PAM information sheet:

"PAM is a registered nonprofit organization and fiscally-sponsored project of the Oregon Wildlife Foundation that works with public agencies to inform the community of the urgent challenges mule deer and other wildlife face because they cannot move barrier free to needed habitat.

We work in partnership with the Foundation, Oregon Hunters Association (OHA), ODOT, ODFW and the Forest Service; Deschutes National Forest to advocate for the removal and mitigation of barriers to the free movement of mule deer and other wildlife across our shared landscape.

Although PAM focuses on giving deer and elk safe passage across Highway 97, other species also benefit. The Lava Butte Underpass was designed for deer and elk, but it is also used by over 40 different wildlife species. It has reduced animal/vehicle collisions by 85%.

PAM and our partners are working together to raise the funds needed to build ten miles of funnel fencing as part of the Gilchrist wildlife crossing project. Funnel fencing is a necessary part of any wildlife crossing. It funnels wildlife toward the crossing on both sides of the crossing and on both sides of the road. This is part of the commitment we have made to provide mule deer, elk, and other wildlife with safe passage opportunities across our busy roads and highways."

March 21 Nesting Bald Eagles of Smith Rock State Park

For five seasons, nature photographer **George Lepp** has followed the nesting bald eagles of Smith Rock State Park. Working from a respectful distance of some 200 feet, Lepp uses the latest digital technology to capture close-up still and video images of the nesting cycle, including intimate portraits of the tiny, newly hatched eaglets and behavioral studies of activities including feeding, sibling rivalry, flight development, and fledging. In this special program for the East Cascades Audubon Society, Lepp shares the insights and images he's gathered from more than 500 hours of observation and photography of the eagle nest and its inhabitants.

One of North America's best-known contemporary outdoor and nature photographers and a leader in the field of digital imaging, George Lepp is the author of many books and hundreds of nationally and internationally published articles about the creative, ethical, and technical aspects of nature photography. He is field editor of Outdoor Photographer magazine, where his "Tech Tips" column is widely read. His photography is extensively published and exhibited, and represented by Getty Images, Corbis, AgStock, and Photo Researchers. Lepp is one of the first members of Canon USA's Explorers of Light program, featuring the industry's most influential photographers. He has presented hundreds of lectures and led workshops all over the world, and often serves as a judge of international photography competitions. A founder and fellow of the North American Nature Photographers Association (NANPA), Lepp has won many awards for his work, including Photo Media's Photography Person of the Year and the Photographic Society of America's prestigious Progress Award. First trained in wildlife and wildlands management, Lepp later earned a BA and honorary MSc from Brooks Institute of Photography. George and his wife and collaborator, Kathryn Vincent Lepp, live in Bend, Oregon, and can be contacted at www.GeorgeLepp.com.



ECAS Winter Field Trip

By Judy Meredith

We will do the Wallawas field trip Jan 14 to 18 again. The trip is based in Enterprise, the epicenter of interesting winter birding and scenic vistas. Participants lodge in a motel, carpool during the birding, bird all day, do the checklist together and have the evening meal together in a restaurant. Drivers can expect some snowy and icy conditions with slow travel. Four-wheel drive is **mandatory** so that we can get up forest roads and are safe with travel. Forest trails will be snowy, so snowshoes or traction devices on footgear is needed. Target species: Pine Grosbeak, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, American Tree Sparrow, Bohemian Waxwings, Gray Partridge, and hope for birds not found annually, such as Dusky and Ruffed Grouse, Gyrfalcon, Snow Buntings, White-winged Crossbills, Common Redpolls, etc. This is a good trip for the variety and number of raptors and for experiencing different habitat and winter conditions in Oregon. Did I mention it could be very cold and snowy? The trip is for 5 days to allow for some flexibility if weather is poor. Maximums: 3 cars for birding, 12 birders total. Questions or to register: contact Judy Meredith at jmeredit@bendnet.com.



Some of the birds seen last year on the ECAS Wallawas field trip: gray-crowned rosy finches, gray partridges, and common redpolls. Photos by Claire Weiser.

Snow Goose Festival in Chico, California January 23-27, 2019. Naturalist and Birding Guide David Wimpfheimer is the keynote speaker, and information is available at www.snowgoosefestival.org

Winter Wings Festival by Anne Wenner and Diana Samuels, Festival Coordinators

The 40th Annual Klamath Basin Winter Wings Festival, February 14-17, 2019. Enjoy over 50 guided birding and photography field trips, workshops, receptions, keynotes, and more throughout the Klamath Basin in Oregon and California. Our featured speakers are Pepper Trail, George Lepp and Julie Zickefoose. To learn more visit www.WinterWingsFest.org. Registration opened December 15th.



Eagle Watch at Round Butte Overlook Park February 23-24, 2019. A family-friendly event held each year at the Round Butte Overlook Park Visitor Center ten miles west of Madras. Eagle viewing sessions at Round Butte and Smith Rock, "Eagle Village" features displays and presentations by regional birds-of-prey experts, and kids' crafts and prize drawings. More information is at <https://covepalisades.wordpress.com/parkprograms>

Olympic Birdfest



Olympic Peninsula April 12-14, 2019
BirdFest
Come bird with us!

- ▣ San Juan Island Cruise
- ▣ Neah Bay Birding Excursion
- ▣ Guided Birding Trips
- ▣ Bird Art Classes
- ▣ Photography Workshop
- ▣ NAS Photography Exhibit
- ▣ Auction & Raffle
- ▣ Gala Banquet with Speaker:
John Marzluff

Located in Sequim, WA
For more information:
www.olympicbirdfest.org
info@olympicbirdfest.org
or 360-681-4076

Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Kasparek Grill
Dungeness River Audubon Center
at Railroad Bridge Park
First Federal FUNDRAISER

SAVE THE DATE: 16th Annual Olympic Birdfest, April 12-14, 2019. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction, raffle, gala banquet, and more. Our featured speaker: John Marzluff, professor of wildlife science at the University of Washington and author. Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 9-11, 2019 or extend your festival with our Neah Bay post-trip on April 14-16, 2019: three days exploring northwest coastal Washington. To learn more and register, visit www.olympicbirdfest.org

The Olympic BirdFest is a partnership of the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Dungeness River Audubon Center and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. Proceeds from this festival help support the educational programs of the Dungeness River Center Audubon Society.

RECENT EVENTS--

Fall Field Notes - 2018

By Chuck Gates

The Fall birding season is the longest of the four. It covers August through November. This is because birds take their time in the fall migration as there is no hint of the urgency that comes with the spring breeding migration. Since the fall expropriates an extra month from the calendar, look for the upcoming summer report to cover only June and July to balance things out.

Below, you will find a summary of the bird highlights for Central Oregon in the Fall of 2018. Listings include rare birds, common birds in unusual places and birds found out of season.

Fall is water bird season. This is the time of year when one can see the widest variety of water birds and the best time to make unusual discoveries. SNOW GEESE are annual in the area but the 37 counted in Culver was certainly noteworthy for Jefferson County (Vick). CACKLING GEESE continue to become more common in Central Oregon with 10 reports coming in from around the area (mult. obs.). TUNDRA SWANS usually show up late in the season, but 2 birds summered at Hatfield Lake and were present throughout the Fall season (mult. obs.). Two TRUMPETER SWANS were seen along the Crooked River east of Prineville, near Post (Mickle). Single EURASIAN WIGEONS were spotted at Hatfield, Redmond Sewer Ponds and Bend's Mirror Pond (Cahill, Sutherland). A hybrid EURASIAN X AMERICAN WIGEON was also noted at Hatfield this season (Cahill). A late CINNAMON TEAL was tallied on Oct. 13 (C. Miller) and a very late BLUE-WINGED TEAL was seen at the Crooked River Wetlands on Oct. 29 (Gonzalez). GREATER SCAUP are expected at Wickiup in the Fall but birds that turned up at Haystack Reservoir (Cahill) and Suttle Lake (Meredith) were out of the ordinary. SURF SCOTER numbers were down from recent years with a smattering of reports coming from Wickiup Reservoir (Low), Suttle Lake (Falco) and Ochoco Reservoir (Gates). The region's only Fall LONG-TAILED DUCK was found at Suttle Lake in mid-November (Meredith). A RED-BREASTED MERGANSER was found at Hatfield Lake (Low) and another at Wickiup Reservoir (Low). A very unusual LEUCISTIC RUDDY DUCK turned up at the Crooked River



RUDDY DUCK (LEUCISTIC) – Crooked River Wetlands, 10/18/18, Sue Holt

Wetlands and, later, at the Redmond Sewer Ponds (Cook). The only PACIFIC LOON seen away from Wickiup Reservoir was a single bird at Haystack Reservoir in late October (Cahill). RED-NECKED GREBES were spotted at Wickiup Reservoir (Jett), Haystack Reservoir (P. Scranton, C. Scranton, Cahill) and Crane Prairie Reservoir (Jett). Being fairly common, EARED GREBES almost never make this list but two birds on a nest in the middle of September at Hatfield Lake certainly surpassed the weird threshold (Low). CLARK'S GREBES were spotted at Wickiup Reservoir (Jett, Low), Haystack Reservoir (Cahill), Ochoco Reservoir (Hill, Buck), Hatfield Lake (C. Miller) and Suttle Lake (Williamson, Cahill).



GREEN HERON – Wickiup Reservoir,

8/18/18, Tom Crabtree

A very unusual Deschutes GREEN HERON stayed at Wickiup Reservoir for several days giving many their first glimpse of this species in the county (Low). Moving SANDHILL CRANES were heard overhead at the Crooked River Wetlands (Brittain) and WHITE-FACED IBIS were tallied at Powell Butte (MacDonald) and Hatfield Lake (Moodie). FRANKLIN'S GULLS were recorded on a couple of different dates at Wickiup Reservoir (C. Miller, Meredith, Low) and HERRING GULLS were found at 6 different water features around Central Oregon (Freiboth, Moodie, et al.). The only SABINE'S GULL of the season was noted at Wickiup Reservoir (Low). COMMON TERNS were seen at Wickiup Reservoir (mult. obs.), Bend Old Mill (Talbot) and Haystack Reservoir (Neuman).

Shorebirds deserve their own paragraph because this group often provides some of the best Fall sightings. 2018 did not disappoint. An occasional AMERICAN AVOCET can be expected in Crook County but one that showed up at Wickiup Reservoir was certainly a surprise (Low). Slightly less surprising was a BLACK-NECKED STILT that was reported from Hatfield Lake (C. Armstrong, M. Armstrong). BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS were found at a Redmond Farm Pond (Smith) and at Hatfield Lake (Low). One of the largest gatherings of SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS ever seen in Central Oregon (18 individuals) was recorded at Wickiup Reservoir (Cahill, Jett). SOLITARY SANDPIPERS were discovered at the Prineville Sewer Ponds (Gates), Crooked River Wetlands (Golden, McAtee, Frank, Zalunardo), Hatfield Lake (Low, Moodie, Cahill, Jett) and the Redmond Sewer Ponds (Lowe) highlighting their affinity for sewer ponds. Single records of LONG-BILLED CURLEW (Low) and MARBLED GODWIT (Low) were noted from Wickiup Reservoir. Over a dozen reports of SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPERS seemed suspiciously high for this hard-to-identify species (mult. obs.).

One of the most exciting birds of the fall was a **LITTLE STINT** found at Wickiup Reservoir for only a second Deschutes County record and the eighth record ever in Oregon (Low).

LITTLE STINT – Wickiup Reservoir, 9/7/18,

Jim Moodie



SANDERLINGS were tallied at Wickiup Reservoir (Low) and, for a second county record, at Haystack Reservoir (Burgess, Weiser). SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHERS were found at Wickiup Reservoir (Low) and Hatfield Lake (C. Miller). A single RED PHALAROPE was photographed at Wickiup Reservoir (Jett).

Rare Central Oregon Game Birds were, well, rare this season. Not a single Chukar was reported from anywhere in the area highlighting this species decline statewide. MOUNTAIN QUAIL were spotted at McKay Creek (Gates, Moodie, Sutherland), Whychus Creek (Thomas) and on Wildcat Mountain Road in Crook County (Jett). Ruffed Grouse don't often get reported so sightings at La Pine State Park (Martinez), Round Mountain (Polo) and Metolius Preserve (Shunk, Elder) were welcomed. The blue grouse were represented by one SOOTY GROUSE report from Cultus Lake (Brown) and one DUSKY GROUSE from the Ochoco Mountains (Gates, Sutherland, Moodie).

Raptors often move through Central Oregon on their way to warmer living down south. At least a dozen NORTHERN GOSHAWKS were found in Central Oregon this fall for a bigger than normal tally (mult. obs.). RED-SHOULDERED HAWK reports were slow but steady throughout the time period totaling about a dozen birds in various locations (mult. obs.). On the other end of the spectrum, only one BROAD-WINGED HAWK was recorded on Green Ridge this year (Low) during the ECAS Fall Raptor Migration Count. The first ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK of the season was Oct. 29 (Low) and an early MERLIN was recorded at Tumalo Reservoir on August 19 (M. Hughes, L. Hughes). BARN OWLS were reported from Warm Springs (Yerger), Walton Lake (Polo), Crooked River Ranch (Namitz) and Bend (Cahill).

WESTERN SCREECH-OWLS were found at Wildcat Campground in the Ochocos (Frank) and on the COCC campus in Bend (Moodie).



WESTERN SCREECH-OWL – Bend COCC

11/19/18, Jim Moodie

BARRED OWLS turned up at Elk Lake (Willrick), Ryan's Meadow (C. Miller, M. Miller), east of Sisters (B. Turner), Black Butte (Low) and along the Deschutes River Trail (Thomas). One BOREAL OWL was heard calling near Todd Lake for the first time in a few years (C. Turner).

Finally, A NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL was spending evenings under the eaves of a Terrebonne house in late September (Nordstrom).

We all know individuals that just refuse to conform to the norms of acceptable society. In the bird world, nightjars, woodpeckers, swifts and hummingbirds are like that. They just won't fit in a nice, neat slot. Here, we deal with them collectively. COMMON POORWILLS were still being heard as late as Sept. 23 (Tank). Four fortunate humans were able to find THREE-TOED WOODPECKERS at Bobby Lake (Low), on the old Santiam Wagon Road (Beerman), on Broken Top Crater Trail (Thomas) and on the Winopee Lake Trail near Cultus Lake (Cahill). Migrating BLACK SWIFTS were spotted in Bend (Crabtree), near Mt. Bachelor (Sutherland) and close to Tumalo Falls (Meredith, Moodie). BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRDS came to two different feeders in Bend this season for two (fairly) uncommon fall records (Moodie, Cahill).

We will conclude with the biggest and best (some people think) family of birds, the Passerines. A surprising number (at least 3) of BLACK PHOEBES were discovered locally this season. Black Phoebes were found in Powell Butte (Zalunardo), Warm Springs (Thomas et al.) and multiple times at the Crooked River Wetlands (Vine, Burke, Mickle) between August 1 and Nov 29. EASTERN KINGBIRDS were tallied at Mecca Flats near Warm Springs (Crabtree, Reuland) and, oddly enough, at Crane Prairie (Low). Some nice excitement ensued after two RED-EYED VIREOS were found at the museum in Warm Springs (Mrvelj et al.). Resident BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES were found cohabitating with the vireos (mult. obs.). CHESTNUT-SIDED CHICKADEES turned up on the Winopee Lake Trail (Cahill), near Lucky Lake (C. Miller) and on the Sisters Mirror Trail (Mauer). BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHERS were found near Prineville Reservoir (Authier, Frank, Barnes) and at Alder Springs (Burgess, Sizoo). On Nov. 26, a late SAGE THRASHER popped up near Lone Pine in Crook County (Brittain) and Jefferson County's first BROWN THRASHER was filmed coming to a feeder near Willowdale (Bray).

TENNESSEE WARBLER - Tumalo State Park, 10/27/18, Craig Miller



A very unusual TENNESSEE WARBLER was found at Wickiup Reservoir and then another, different Tennessee showed up the next day in the same area (Miller, Low).

Northern Waterthrush – Powell Butte, 9/16/18, Chuck Gates



Crook County's first ever NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH spent several days at a large pond in Powell Butte (Zalunardo). Hatfield Lake produced a rare MAGNOLIA WARBLER (Crabtree) that proved to be hard to re-find and an AMERICAN REDSTART stayed a full day in a Powell Butte yard (Gates). A very late COMMON YELLOWTHROAT was seen foraging at Wickiup Reservoir on Oct. 27 (Low). YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT sometimes turns up in Northern Deschutes County but an individual at Tumalo State Park was a rare record for Bend (Thomas). Migrating SOOTY FOX SPARROWS made appearances at Prineville (Gonzalez), Powell Butte (Gates) and along the Deschutes River Trail (Low). A LARK SPARROW made an unusual appearance at Hatfield Lake in Deschutes County (Lear). In the "Birds Sometimes Show Up in Weird Places" category, SAGE SPARROWS were tallied twice at Wickiup Reservoir miles from preferred habitat (Low). Several SWAMP SPARROWS showed up near the Slough Parking Area on the Deschutes River Trail (Low, Wright, Horvath) while another was found at Hatfield Lake (Low). Central Oregon was graced with at least 6 WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS in the season (Gonzalez, Zalunardo, Lowe, Moodie, Crabtree, Cahill) and a HARRIS'S SPARROW turned up along Ochoco Creek in Prineville (Gonzalez). A LAPLAND LONGSPUR spent a few days hanging around Hatfield Lake in mid-October and Deschutes County's second RUSTY BLACKBIRD put on quite a show near Slough Parking Area on the Deschutes south of Bend. Finally, hikers on the North and South Sisters as well as Mt. Bachelor reported seeing sporadic sightings of GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCHES with numbers as high as 8 individuals (Burchett, Sutherland, Neuman, Zalunardo, Ralph).

Whew!! No wonder the fall season is longer. That's a lot of great birds. I hope you're not as tired reading this as I am from typing it.

OBSERVERS

David Vick, Tom Mickle, Matt Cahill, Don Sutherland, Craig Miller, Mark Gonzalez, Judy Meredith, Peyton Cook, Peter Low, Chuck Gates, Kris Falco, Courtney Jett, Pam Scranton, Chris Scranton, Jack Williamson, Sally Hill, Vickie Buck, Sue Brittain, Sue Brittain, Nancy MacDonald, Jim Moodie, Cindy Armstrong, Mark Armstrong, Cody Smith, Cache Lowe, June McAtee, Mike Golden, Andy Frank, Cindy Zalunardo, Diane Burgess, Claire Weiser, Kari Freiboth, Colby Neuman, Brodie Talbott, Evan Thomas, Robert Martinez, John Polo, Steve Shunk, Christine Elder, Thomas Brown, Mark Hughes, Lisa Hughes, John Yerger, Russ Namitz, Andy Frank, Lindsay Willrick, Marilyn Miller, Boyd Turner, Craig Turner, Jeff Nordstrom, Sue Tank, Aaron Beerman, Tom Crabtree, Milton Vine, Bob Burke, John Reuland, Nick Mrvelj, Alan Mauer, Bob Authier, Peter Barnes, Bob Sizoo, Trent Bray, Jerry Lear, Will Wright, Howard Horvath, Sharon Burchett, Peter Ralph.

Fall Raptor Survey

By David Vick, ECAS member from Terrebonne

This fall East Cascades Audubon Society's Fall Raptor Survey counted a total of 1505 migrating raptors during 64 hours of observation over five weekends. Thank you to Steve Small and Carol Cwiklinski who contributed to the total with an additional 20 hours of midweek observations on Oct. 1,2,3 & 4

Daily totals:

9/22	88
9/23	167
9/29	179
9/30	70
10/1	71
10/2	144
10/3	41
10/4	214
10/6	No count conducted due to weather
10/7	309
10/13	48
10/14	94
10/20	52
10/21	28

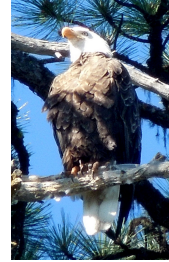
Species totals:

184	Turkey Vulture
12	Osprey
93	Bald Eagle
6	Northern Harrier
647	Sharp-shinned Hawk
194	Cooper's Hawk
9	Northern Goshawk
256	Red-tailed Hawk
7	Rough-legged Hawk
2	Broad-winged Hawk
27	Golden Eagle
4	American Kestrel
27	Merlin

8 Peregrine Falcon
2 Prairie Falcon
11 Unid. Accipiter

7 Unid. Buteo
9 Unid. Raptor

Special thanks go out to ECAS president Ken Hashagen, Sisters Ranger District Biologist Kris Hennings and district faller Eric for hazardous tree removal. We had many great visitors join our usual crew of awesome ECAS volunteers who assisted with observations. Most of all thanks to Peter Low for his continuing dedication to this project - always an honor to bird with this gentleman. See you all next fall.



ECAS Annual Event

by Diane Burgess, ECAS board secretary

The ECAS Annual Event was held on October 13 at The Bend Senior Center. The purpose of this event is to thank all the volunteers who support ECAS throughout the year. A big “thank you” to all of you who donated time, effort, and funds to keep our many programs staffed and functioning. And a special “thank you” to the volunteers who organized and managed the Annual Event.

The event started with a brief business meeting which was followed by social time with desserts, coffee, and tea. A raffle was held, the funds of which support ECAS programs throughout the next year. An excellent slide show “Year in Review,” compiled by **Chuck Gates**, highlighted the many volunteers who make ECAS a wonderful organization and showcased the special birds that were seen this past year. You can check out the slideshow at www.ecaudubon.org/2017-annual-event-slide-show

This year’s guest speaker, Tim Boyer, shared beautiful photographs and detailed information on shorebirds. On the day after the Annual Event, Tim taught a well-attended class for ECAS members on shorebird identification.

Current board members, **Tom Lawler** and **Terri Hyde**, were re-elected. **John Brune** stepped down from the board at the end of 2018. Many thanks to John for his contributions. Newly elected board member **Bob Sizoo** will begin in January 2019.

Conservationist of the Year award went to **Don McCartney** and his crew for their work with American Kestrels. The Volunteer of the Year award went to **Kara Jakse** for her many hours

spent on various projects: vault toilet screens, guzzler repairs, Cabin Lake blind construction, and much more. Congratulations to both!

ECAS Restoration Project Underway at Whiskey Springs

By Judy Meredith

Whiskey Springs is a small, delightful spot for birds and wildlife on PRIVATE property up on Green Ridge. Years ago, the owner gave permission for birders to visit. Over time, with some vandalism and many visitors, it became more open and less hidden with less vegetation. The owner expressed disappointment in the changed condition and in the actions of birders. In July, he placed barriers and signs around the property. He asked birders to stay back, remarking unhappily that the vegetation had been changed and the surroundings were trampled to dust.

Recognizing the special nature of the site, and the opportunity to improve the reputation of birders, our ECAS board approved a project and budget to do some restoration. Volunteers were ECAS members Mike Golden, Carolyn Rochelle, Jake Schas, Clay Crofton and Judy Meredith. We worked over several days and weeks to place dead brush for barriers, plant native shrubs and trees, and to water and protect them with cages. Our focus was to make the site more natural again for the wildlife. We plan more work in the spring when conditions allow us to do more planting and more volunteers would be welcomed.



Photos by Judy Meredith and Mike Golden

Thanks to Karen Theodore of Winter Creek Restoration for advice on the project. Thanks to Bob of Timber Services of Lebanon, Oregon for allowing us to bird there. And thanks in advance to all birders and photographers who visit there and respectfully adhere to the need to stay behind the barriers to allow the plants to recover and birds and wildlife to have their hidden place. And a big thanks to ECAS for supporting this effort to restore a good relationship with a private landowner who allows us birding access.

TECH TALK--

COBOL Is Now on Groups.io

By Tom Lawler, COBOL administrator

Oregon State University, which owns the servers that host the COBOL (Central Oregon Birders On-Line) list, contacted me a couple months ago about removing COBOL from their servers. OSU discussion groups are for OSU employees/students and general public interested in participating in their topics. OSU wants an OSU email address for the group moderator and also some OSU members. COBOL does not meet these requirements. The OSU Administrator was nice enough to let us slide for a while but thought it would be best if we found a new home in the near future.

A new COBOL has been set up on groups.io. Many of you may already belong to discussion groups on groups.io. If you do, just sign in to your account and search for the COBOL group and join. If you do not then you need to sign up for groups.io account. It is pretty simple and you just use your existing email address. Either way go to: <https://groups.io> to get started. Two advantages to switching COBOL over to groups.io are avoiding bounced mass emails which make your ISP think COBOL is SPAM and unsubscribes everyone and an improved SPAM filter.

An email was sent to all COBOL members on December 15, 2018, informing them of this change. On January 1, 2019, I deleted the COBOL list from the OSU listserv. If you want to continue receiving COBOL you need to belong to the groups.io COBOL . People started posting to COBOL@groups.io on January 1.

Two years of archives were copied from the OSU COBOL list to the groups.io list. These will be easy to spot when you look at the messages in the group. It is not convenient to look at these archives. It was not convenient to look at the archives in the current COBOL! But, they are there. It will be much easier to find past info on the groups.io COBOL. You will have the ability to search through all messages.

Your understanding and cooperation on this change are appreciated. If you have difficulty signing up on groups.io or, if you are already signed up on groups.io , joining the group, you may contact me.



“The art of life is a constant readjustment to our surroundings.”

-- Kakuzo Okakura, *The Book of Tea*

Member Planet

by Jan Rising, ECAS Membership

Thank you to all ECAS members who have responded to our invitation to set up their membership account on our new membership recording system through Member Planet.

We emailed an invitation to all members on November 27, 2018, to “join” by setting up your personal account and many of you have done this. By setting up your account, you will be able to directly access and edit your contact information and view your membership payment history. Some of you have already received an emailed renewal notice through our new system and have responded by sending us your membership renewal payment, either through our online PayPal process or by sending us a check through postal mail.

In September, the ECAS Board approved our migration to a more contemporary membership recording system. We have worked diligently for several months getting our Member Planet system operational. And we are grateful for all the effort, time and talent that Liz Thill has made available to us. Without her knowledge and skills we could not have done this.

We are planning to email our monthly news email, Chatter, and our longer quarterly e-newsletter, Calliope, through this new system early in 2019. You will also be receiving notices about our birding field trips and other ECAS events through our Member Planet membership system. So be on alert for these communications and if you don't receive them, check your spam or promotions tabs.

If you have any questions, you can email us at: ecasmp@ecaudubon.org

Thanks for getting on board!

Northwest Nature Matters

By John Goodell jfiskegoodell@gmail.com

A new conservation podcast called Northwest Nature Matters, produced by the Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society in collaboration with the Oregon Wildlife Foundation, is now available. The first episode is about the peregrine recovery. Episode 4 will probably be marbled murrelet.

Get episodes from the Libsyn site <http://nwnaturematters.libsyn.com/> From here you can select an episode, copy the link and then post to a website or facebook etc., and you can link to other host sites such as itunes, spotify, google play etc.

WELCOME NEW ECAS MEMBERS!

Peter Barnes	Gresham, OR
Bradley Bishop	Bend, OR
David Braunschweiger	Eugene, OR
Vickie Buck	Walterville, OR
Paula & Bob Burns	Redmond, OR
Becky Dobrowski	Bend, OR
Sheri Facer	Bend, OR
Laurie Gordon	Bend, OR
Virginia Harmon	Bend, OR
Jeff Hiatt	Bend, OR
Bill Holder	Bend, OR
Joan Holland	Prineville, OR
David Hoogerland	Bend, OR
Robert Korfhage	Bend, OR
Ron Larson	Klamath Falls, OR
Jerry Lear	Bend, OR
Pat Lynch	Bend, OR
Barbara Phillips	Bend, OR
Mary Poss	Bend, OR
Pam & Mike Pulzone	Bend, OR
Jeffrey Richardson	Bend, OR
Joan Segal	Bend, OR
Brian Thill	Bend, OR
Gordon & Linda Wetzel	Bend, OR



EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. Box 565, Bend, Oregon 97701

www.ecaudubon.org

ECAS Board

President-Elect	Tom Lawler
Vice-President	
Secretary	Diane Burgess
Treasurer	Terri Hyde
Board Members	Tom Penpraze
	Diana Roberts
	Carolyn Rochelle
	Bob Sizoo

Contact information for Board members, Committee chairs, and Project leaders is posted on the ECAS website under MORE - Contact ECAS and ECAS Board.

Winter Board Meetings:
January--no meeting (Board Retreat)
February 5
March 5

Committee and Event Chairs

Annual Event	Ken Hashagen
Bluebirds	Ken Hashagen
Birder's Night	Sue Bertsch
Communications	Diana Roberts
Conservation	Tom Lawler
Education	Sherrie Pierce
Field Trips	Tom Penpraze
Finance	Terri Hyde
Grants	Mary Oppenheimer
Green Ridge Raptors	David Vick
Lake Abert Study	John Reuland
Lewis's Woodpeckers	Diane Kook
Membership	Jan Rising
Newsletter	Claire Weiser
Science	Ken Hashagen
Summer Lake Survey	Mike Bogar
Vaux's Swifts	Bob Johnson
	Mary Ann Kruse
Volunteers	Mardi Jensen
	Sherrie Pierce
Website	Ted Groszkiewicz
Wednesday Birders	Judy Meredith
	Howard Horvath
Winter Raptor Survey	Jeff Fleisher

Board meetings are held at 1pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the Environmental Center. All members are welcome to attend. Board minutes and upcoming meeting dates are posted at www.ecaudubon.org.

If you would like to volunteer for a committee or event, please contact Sherrie Pierce at 541-548-4641.

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