



CELEBRATE NATURE!

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE COLORADO PHOTOGRAPHERS



Photo By Andi Poland

COLORADO PHOTOGRAPHER RECOGNITION EVENT

It's no surprise we love nature in Colorado and use images to promote conservation. Our photographers frame their shots to raise awareness and inspire action. Gala attendees will be treated to the best of this year's submissions.

*Wednesday, February 13, 2019 from 6:30-8:30pm
University of Colorado South Denver campus
(formerly The Wildlife Experience)
10035 Peoria Street, Parker CO 80134*

3 Conservation Report

5 Lois Webster Fund - Plains Bison

8 Backyard Birds

THIS IS COLORADO'S GREATEST EVENT OF THE YEAR FOR NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY



Photo By Ginger Wick



Photo By Robert RakerVert



Photo By Rita Summers

Share the View Colorado contest photographers who are among the prize winners, top 250, and semi-finalists will be recognized and celebrated at the University of Colorado South campus (formerly The Wildlife Experience). The event will feature a slide show of Colorado photographer images on a mammoth screen, presentations by high scoring Share the View photographers, and insights into contest judging.

All are welcome! Seating is limited and although there is no charge to attend, reservations are required. We received rave reviews from photographers, family members and friends who attended the event last year. And each photographer left with a memento of this festive occasion. You will want to be a part of this special evening

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11: CALL 303-973-9530 OR REGISTER ONLINE AT DENVERAUDUBON.ORG

November Elections:

The results of the November elections were very exciting for conservationists: State policies that will Protect Bird Habitat have a chance to become law for the first time in years!

With Democrats taking over the Colorado Senate and their retention of control of the House, we might see some real advances in the areas of water, climate change, funding for conservation programs and mined land reclamation. There are also a number of Republicans who are interested in passing environmental bills, and hopefully work will proceed across the aisle.



~Water

Most of Colorado's wildlife, including the birds we love, spend some time in their lives in riparian (streamside) habitats, and many birds depend on the fish and insects produced in our streams. Think: American dipper, belted kingfisher, yellow warbler, Wilson's warbler, many ducks, great blue heron, bald eagle ... the list is a long one. Water conservation, water quality, water management are all issues that Audubon follows closely. We'll be looking for measures to keep our streams healthy, such as an expansion of the Instream Flow Program, whereby owners of water rights can lease them to the Colorado Water Conservation Board so that water remains in a stream, to benefit fish, wildlife (birds) and water-based recreation. Secondly, the legislature needs to find mechanisms to fund the stream restoration and water resource planning elements of the State Water Plan, and third, encourage Alternative Transfer Methods (ATMs) whereby cities and farmers can share water effectively during drought years.

~Conserving Water

We'll also look for measures to encourage more intensive water conservation, recycling, and reuse. Given projections for increases in Colorado's population, we'll have to use water much more efficiently, unless we want to see our streams completely dried up, diverted or dammed, with bird habitat destroyed or degraded.

~Climate Change

Several bills aim to alter the mission of the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. The goal is to eliminate the requirement that the agency foster oil and gas development and to strengthen the mandate to protect public health and the environment. There could be increases in setbacks for oil/gas facilities, or more authority for local governments to determine them. Bills will be introduced to create goals for carbon/methane reduction and a map towards meeting them.

Meet and Greet with Audubon Lobbyist

Denver Audubon will host a session with the Audubon lobbyist, where all these and other measures will be discussed, on February 19, 2019. We also intend to invite the new Senators and Representatives for a "meet and greet" session with our members. This will be an evening meeting; put it on your calendar and plan to attend! (More information will be forthcoming on our website).

Chatfield

On a more somber note we must report that, despite much hard work by our legal team and Conservation Committee members, Denver Audubon's lawsuit against the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Chatfield Reallocation was dismissed by the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. The construction now going on in the Park will continue to its conclusion. This has disappointed all of us; though our case was a good one we knew that chances of success were small from the beginning.

The court disagreed with our contention the Corps had circumvented the Clean Water Act and dismissed our arguments that they failed to seriously consider a number of feasible alternatives to tearing up Chatfield State Park. We considered three options for further action, but none of them were good. Perhaps some later court decision will flip the bad precedent that's been set by the Corps' actions here. It was worth a try, though

One lesson to be learned is that we need to have strong leadership from the agencies themselves. The Environmental Protection Agency initially sided with us, but after several years of contention with the Corps, suddenly, for reasons never explained, accepted the Corps' position on the Clean Water Act. The capitulation happened suspiciously soon after the Colorado Congressional delegation sent a letter to the agency. The Corps of Engineers' own Regulatory program staff also took the position we did on the Clean Water Act but was ignored by its Civil Works branch, which handled Chatfield. To conclude: good environmental leadership at the top - an environmentally oriented federal administration, a State administration committed to protecting our State Parks, members of the General Assembly and Congress - is important, and the way to get it is to vote for candidates with an environmental ethic.

Meanwhile we want to thank everyone who attended public hearings, wrote comments on the EIS, helped spread the word about the project, and gave generously of their time and support. We now need to make sure the mitigation is completed and done right, and keep monitoring bird populations at the State Park. So there is still plenty to do.

ASGD/Front Range Birding Seed Sale Partnership: A portion of all seed sales will be donated to ASGD

The Audubon Society of Greater Denver and The Front Range Birding Company have partnered to make backyard bird feeding easy and affordable. You will be supporting Denver Audubon as a portion of all seed sales - all year - will be donated to ASGD. Be sure to take advantage of Front Range Birding's "Seed Vault Program." You can buy as much as you like up front and pick up fresh seed anytime. Seed Vault purchases never expire! There's no need to pre-order. Just stop by the Front Range Birding Company store and let them know you are there for Denver Audubon. Front Range Birding Company: 10146 W San Juan Way #110, Littleton, CO 80127 303-979-Bird (2473)



Spotted Towhee by Dick Vogel

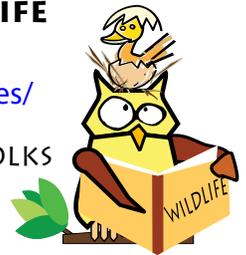
WOODPECKER WOES AND OTHER WILDLIFE ISSUES?

<http://www.denveraudubon.org/about/wildlife-issues/>



HERE IS THE WEBSITE FOR FOLKS
TO REPORT FOX SIGHTINGS
AS PART OF A
RESEARCH PROJECT:

www.ifoundafox.org



THIS LINK WILL
CONNECT YOU TO THE NATIONAL AUDUBON WEBSITE AND OTHER
HELPFUL LINKS TO HELP YOU DEAL WITH COMMON QUESTIONS!

LOIS WEBSTER FUND - PLAINS BISON

By Kate Wilkins,
Colorado State University Graduate Student

The plains bison (*Bison bison*), along with natural fire, helped shape the grasslands that form North America's Great Plains. These grasslands provide habitat for birds and mammals, but have been degraded due in part to the loss of native grazers. Studies show that large grazing mammals, including bison, can help restore habitat for grassland birds and mammals. A recent bison reintroduction (November 1, 2015) to northern Colorado (Soapstone Prairie Natural Area and Red Mountain Open Space) provided me with the opportunity to study how bison affect grassland birds, mammals, and plants. I also tested for differences in bird, mammal, and plant communities between bison-grazed and cattle-grazed sites.



Fig 3. Kate Wilkins checks one of 60 wildlife cameras evenly distributed between bison-grazed, cattle-grazed, and reference sites. Cameras remained on the landscape from May-October (2015-2017).

To perform this research, I conducted field work for before the bison reintroduction (May-November 2015) and after the reintroduction (May-October 2017) at the bison reintroduction site, a cattle-grazed site, and two reference sites. All sites were located either within Soapstone Prairie Natural Area or Red Mountain Open Space in northern Colorado (Figure 1). The reference sites contained neither cattle nor bison, but had pronghorn, elk, and deer that freely roamed the landscape.

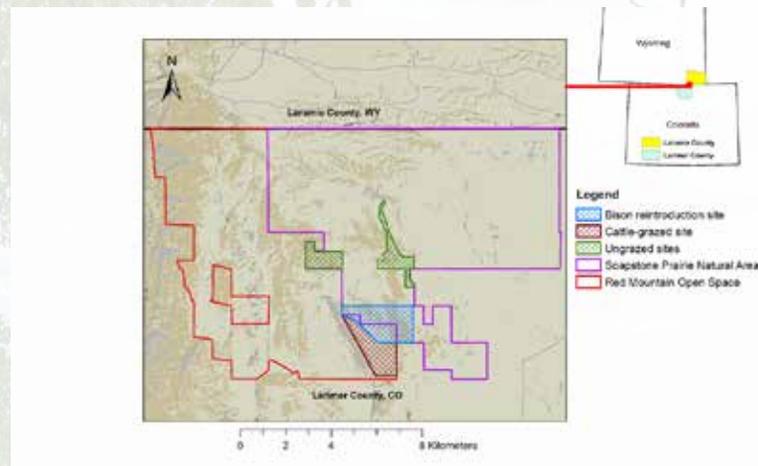


Fig 1. Map of study sites in northern Colorado

Although we are still analyzing data, the most common bird species observed across all sites and years included Western Meadowlarks (*Sturnella neglecta*), Vesper Sparrows (*Pooecetes gramineus*), Grasshopper Sparrows (*Ammodramus saviannarum*), and Horned Larks (*Eremophila alpestris*). Less common birds included Lark Buntings (*Calamospiza melanocorys*; Figure 6) and Common Night Hawks (*Chordeiles minor*; Figure 7)

Fig. 6 Colorado State bird, the Lark Bunting perches on a fence post at Soapstone Prairie Natural Area. Fig. 7. A Common Night Hawk on fence post near Red Mountain Open Space.

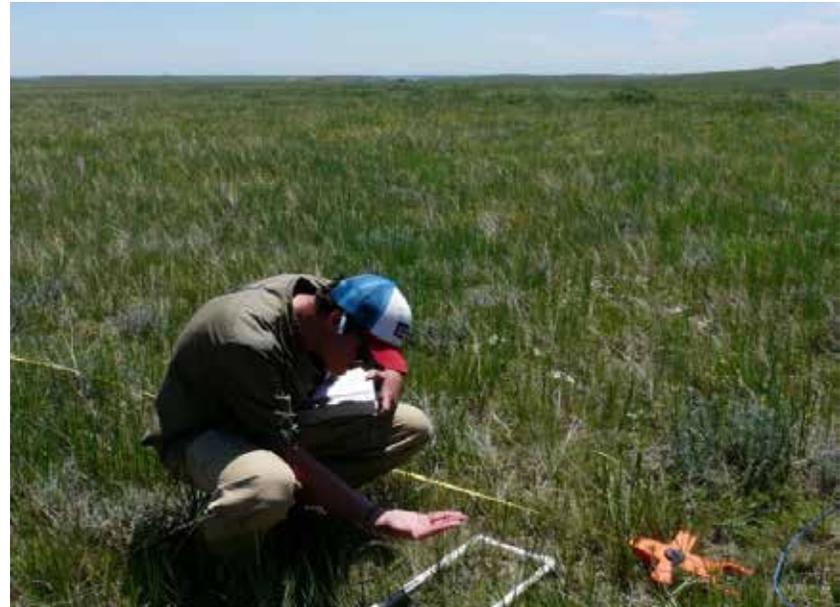


BISON (CONTINUED)

My field technicians and I collected data on birds, mammals and plants from 2015-2017 at all three sites. We studied breeding birds at point count stations (Figure 2) and used remotely-triggered wildlife cameras to study mammals (Figure 3 - page 5). To study plants, we conducted 120 transects (one for each point count and wildlife camera) from June-July each year. Along each transect, we assessed cover (Figure 4) and height (Figure 5) of plant species.



Left, Fig. 2 Colorado State University graduate student, Kate Wilkins, surveys breeding birds at one of 60 point count stations evenly distributed between bison-grazed, cattle-grazed, and reference sites. We visited each station five times from May-June (2015-2017) and noted all birds seen or heard in a 5-minute interval.



Above: Fig. 4 Field technician, Conrad Marshall, assesses percent cover of plant species using a 100 cm² frame (Daubenmire frame), which was placed every 10 meters along a 50 meter transect.

Right: Fig. 5 Field technicians, Brandon Marshall and Makenna Spencer, measure vegetation height every 10 meters along a 50 meter transect using a modified Robel pole marked with centimeter-tall bands from 0-90 cm.



BISON (CONTINUED)

Figure 8. Wildlife camera photos for most commonly viewed mammals: a. Pronghorn fawns, b. Bison bull with bison herd in the background, c. Cow, d. Mule deer, e. Coyote, f. Black-tailed jackrabbit



The mammals most often captured on cameras (Figure 8), across sites and years, included pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*), bison (*Bison bison*), cows (*Bos taurus*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), and black-tailed jackrabbits (*Lepus californicus*). Dominant grass species included blue gramma (*Bouteloua gracilis*), buffalo grass (*Bouteloua dactyloides*), Columbia needlegrass (*Achnatherum nelsonii*), and western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*), while the main forbs were two-grooved milkvetch (*Astragalus bisulcatus*), silky sophora (*Sophora nutalliana*), and American vetch (*Vicia americana*). Dominant shrubs included prairie sagewort (*Artemisia frigida*) and broom snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*).

Backyard Birds starts this time with a fox. **Jill Holden**, on Sept. 18, “saw a big fluffy tail of an animal walking on my deck and thought, ‘that sure looked like a fox tail.’ I tried not to get my hopes too high and it was



Fox by Jill Holden

just some dog that had gotten loose and found its way into our back yard. Upon getting to where I could see the rest of the animal I watched a healthy fox come up and drink out of my bird bath before moving on. **Michelle Robbins** sent in the most surprising observation: “I work downtown and a buddy of mine found this little guy Oct. 16 at the base of a large building. Must have been a window strike. He could fly, but acted quite lethargic so they “rescued”

him and put him in a tree when they got home. Looks to be a Pygmy Nuthatch and it is quite confusing that this little guy would be downtown.” We receive very few reports of window strikes in tall downtown Denver buildings and hope this poor nuthatch doesn’t start a trend.

Nearby, in Barnum Park (Federal & I-25), **Hannah Schechter** saw a Belted Kingfisher – her first in nine years walking in the park. It “hung around the quieter corner where the flow goes into the pond at the south end.”

Out in the suburbs, **Suzanne Johnson** described her crowded water bowl on Nov. 10: “in 5 minutes 6 species drank.” They included a White-crowned Sparrow, Black-capped Chickadee, House Finch, and Northern Flicker all on water and a Dark-eyed Junco on ground. Plus one that she couldn’t identify. As she says, “While the photo color is a little tan for his head, he has more of an olive (yellow green) upper back with striped white and black wings. We’ve seen them for several weeks. When I look up the color/size I only get Yellow throated Vireo or Pine Warbler and their region appears to be East of Colorado.” Her photo shows a classic, lovely, winter American Goldfinch – with plumage that you don’t see on Christmas cards.

On Oct. 28, **Kevin Corwin’s** “a small flock of Cedar Waxwings just invaded my little townhouse yard in west Centennial. Gobbling down the little fruits on the ‘crabapple’ tree (I have no idea what kind of tree it really is, something the builder planted when these places were built in the early 80’s). We’ve also been inundated by robins the past few days.”

On Green Mountain, **Pam Zimmer** had a healthy list of yard birds in November: “American Tree Sparrow, a Red-naped/Yellow-breasted Sapsucker, Harris’s and White-throated sparrows, Western Bluebirds during the



Pygmy Nuthatches by Michelle Robbins

last snowstorm, a Song Sparrow (a new yard bird for me), along with the usual American and Lesser goldfinches, House Finches, Chickadees, flickers, juncos, Red-winged Blackbirds, Downy Woodpeckers, and Bushtits. I also had a Great Horned Owl fly

low very close to my head and hiss while I was in the yard late one afternoon.”

Nearby at Ken Caryl & Wadsworth, **David Sloan** sent a photo of “some sort of a Hawk that keeps roosting in a tree behind the house. This bird roosts for long periods of time in a tree behind my house. Just taking care of his feathers.” A Red-tailed Hawk.

In Roxborough, **Bea Weaver** reported, Nov. 17, that “the Blue Jays are out in force in my back yard, as well as in neighboring Roxborough State Park.” In our Franktown yard, we don’t see Blue Jays in the summer, but they show up each fall to spend the winter. We have counted up to a dozen since they arrived Sept. 27.

On the other hand, **Leslie Hankerson** in Elizabeth had them all summer. “The Steller’s Jays, Blue Jays, crows & magpies had tons of kids. Loved watching the Magpie parents teach the kids how to catch grasshoppers. The Crow kids were confused by the grasshoppers.”

She also reported on her nest boxes: one pair of bluebirds “may have had 3 broods. Family in box further from house had at least 1 brood. Wrens very happy and stuck around with the family longer than I’m used to. Swallows had one brood and moved on.”

Barbara Spagnuolo has developed a massive nest box monitoring effort in Castle Rock (she works for town’s Parks Dept.). “This is a quick summary of the 188 boxes that were monitored this season by volunteers with the Town of Castle Rock POST Partners Volunteer Program: 254 total nesting attempts, 1127 total eggs laid but only 857 total fledglings successfully left the boxes. There were only 98 unhatched eggs (mostly unviable eggs left behind), compared to 134 unhatched eggs last year due to the late season snowstorms. Overall, we had a 95% occupancy rate of the 188 nest boxes.

“Overall numbers for 4 species of native birds nesting in the boxes:

Mountain Bluebird: 323

Western Bluebird: 166

Tree Swallow: 361

Black-capped Chickadee: 7

“Other highlights from the 2018 season: This season marks the 12th consecutive year of data collection in Castle Rock. In all, a total of 5244 birds have fledged from our boxes since the first nest box was installed in 2007.

This was the first year that the first confirmed eggs laid this season were by a Western Bluebird, whereas first eggs every other year have been laid by Mountain Bluebirds. A Tree Swallow took over an active Western Bluebird nest after one WEBL egg had been laid and the TRES successfully raised chicks in the nest, but the bluebird egg never hatched.

Three clutches of Mountain Bluebird nests occurred in one nest box; the



Western Bluebirds by Dick Vogel



Mountain Bluebirds by Dick Vogel

second clutch was lost to predation but the MOBL pair returned and successfully raised another clutch.

A visitor at Philip S. Miller Park (where we monitor 8 nest boxes) recorded a large Bull-snake crawling around and inside a nest box. At the time of the filming, the box was completely empty but an active nest of 4 eggs in that box had been predated a few weeks earlier. Filming may have been of the same snake that predated the nest.”

Cindy Valentine lives in Castle Pines: “We have had lots of Wild Turkeys this fall. A group of 15 visit my feeders daily for the corn dropping’s my other birds leave. The others include Steller’s, Blue, and Woodhouse’s Scrub-Jays, Hairy & Downy woodpeckers, plus nut-hatches.”



Steller's Jay by Roy Hohn

Each fall we like to hear Sandhill Cranes fly over. Douglas County had flocks of 50-80 Oct. 13-15 (Karen Metz, Maribeth Eaton, and us).

An Osprey showed up by a pond near our house, afternoons from Oct. 7-15 (two on Oct. 12). They probably found the trees on the edge good perches to spot fish. Randy saw, in early October, 8 Turkey Vultures “circling overhead and drifting quickly southward;” **Urling** spotted 9 soaring over our Franktown house on Oct. 13.

Late migrants included Orange-crowned Warblers, seen in October by **Randy Nelson in (Parker) and Karen Metz (Franktown).**

The last column discussed hummingbirds, and this one ends with the October Hummingbird pageant. They often stay into October, and migrants also come to feeders. Reports came from **Ellie Brown** (Morrison--up to Oct. 9); **Randy Nelson** (Parker--through Oct. 12); **Karen Metz** (Franktown--Oct. 13); **Leslie Hankerson** (Elizabeth--Oct. 20), and **Jill Holden** (Roxborough).

Part of the discussion addressed how to keep feeders from freezing during cold weather. Karen has an ingenious solution: she drapes the feeders with Christmas tree lights that she leaves on all night. "It might look like a Rube Goldberg device but it worked. We included an umbrella plus a flat baffle to keep snow off the feeder and ports. We wrapped the light string (outdoor--use incandescent) around the four-hanger attachment of an Erva deck-mount tubular pole and managed to get multiple light bulbs close to the feeder, especially under the reservoir.

I learned the technique from hummingbird bander **Curtis Culp** of interior British Columbia, where night temperatures can routinely fall below freezing in spring. After that, I found that **Sheri Williamson** had included the technique in her blog:<https://fieldguidetohummingbirds.wordpress.com/2010/11/23/keeping-hummingbird-feeders-from-freezing/>. In that blog she also describes nectar solution measurements for cold weather."

The second part of the discussion involves **Jill's** Black-chinned Hummer. It came regularly the first half of October. Near the end of the day on Oct. 14 I saw it once again on the feeder, but figured by the time I could get seed for the other birds ready to take out and get into my coat and shoes that it would move off. Well, I got ready to go out and it was still there just sitting on the feeder like it was thinking



Black-Chinned Hummingbirds by Dick Vogel

about whether it could manage to drink any more. I stood there in my coat waiting for over 5 minutes while it would sit there and every once in a while take another drink and then sit there some more.

"Yesterday in the late afternoon, I saw that the sun had come out and there were an abundance of little tiny bugs (maybe midges?) filling the air. I'm hoping that the hummingbird got a good boost in protein hunting these, and it certainly consumed a lot of sugar water today. Now hopefully it found a nice sheltered spot maybe where a house is losing a little heat, or by an exterior light that is putting off some heat where it can go into torpor and get through the cold night.

This bird arrived at her feeders each morning at 6:53 a.m. On Oct. 19 she worried: no hummer at 6:53. "It was 2 minutes late. Still really close, but not the precision timing that I had come to expect. I'm sure that coming out of torpor must be similar to the human stumbling out of bed and needing to get that first cup of coffee, so 2 minutes really isn't much. It was as adorable as ever and came back several times for long drinks during the morning, but by late morning it seemed to have maybe stopped coming. We did leave for quite a while, so don't know for sure whether it was making some trips back, but I'm thinking that when the sun starts getting the bugs active that it goes off to get some protein after its sugar fix. Got to fuel up for that upcoming journey.

Finally, on Oct. 20, "No hummingbird this morning, so I assume that it likely started off on its way yesterday after the last late morning visit to fuel up, since hummingbirds migrate during the day. No telling how far it has gotten by now. Maybe I will see it again in the spring, but then I will just see a Black-chinned Hummingbird and won't have any way to tell whether it was the one that I helped through the early cold snap and snow-storm."

Your contributions write this column. Thanks to you in urban and suburban Denver who sent in all these intriguing reports. Send a note or post card to P.O. Box 584, Franktown 80116, or Email me: ouzels8@aol.com.

Leave a Legacy

Educate Generations - Protect Birds and Habitats into the Future Include ASGD in Your Will, and Other Gift Planning Options

The Audubon Society of Greater Denver offers an opportunity for you to make a gift or bequest to leave a legacy and a lasting impact. The goal of planned giving is to help you plan your estate and charitable giving in a way that benefits you, your family and ASGD. We invite friends who share a commitment to educating all ages about birds, other wildlife, and habitats to consider making a personal investment in the future of our programs. There are several ways you can make these planned gifts to charity and enjoy tax and income benefits:

- **Specific, Residuary and Contingent Bequests**
- **Retirement Accounts and Pension Plans**
- **Insurance**
- **Securities**
- **Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)**
- **Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)**

Please consult with your financial planner and attorney to assure you receive the best financial advantages and that your intentions are carried out fully.

We would be glad to discuss any planned giving option with you – in confidence and without obligation. For more information, please call 303-973-9530 or e-mail Karl Brummert, Executive Director, at kbrummert@denveraudubon.org

Please Let Us Know

We often receive bequests from people whom we have never had the opportunity to thank. If you include Audubon Society of Greater Denver in your estate plans, please let us know. We value the opportunity to express our gratitude in person to let you know that your gift is greatly appreciated now and for future generations of people and birds to come. Those people who have notified us of their intention to make a bequest to the Audubon Society of Greater Denver are invited to our Legacy Circle. Legacy Circle special events and activities highlighting the work we accomplish together will keep you connected to the “legacy” that you have planned for us.

Legal Designation: If you wish to name Audubon Society of Greater Denver in your will or estate plan, we should be legally designated as: *“Audubon Society of Greater Denver, a nonprofit organization (Tax ID #23-7063701), with its principal business headquarters address of 9308 S. Wadsworth Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128.”*
Date of Incorporation: September 30, 1969



Photo by Dick Vogel

QUICK GLANCE - UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS & PROGRAMS

JANUARY / FEBRUARY CHEAT SHEET

JAN 1	TUE	50TH ANNIVERSARY DENVER BIG YEAR CONTEST BEGINS	FEB 2	SAT	RAPTORS OF THE NORTHERN FRONT RANGE
JAN 5	SAT	FRONT RANGE BIRDING	FEB 2	SAT	FRONT RANGE BIRDING
JAN 6	SUN	WALK THE WETLANDS	FEB 3	SUN	WALK THE WETLANDS
JAN 12	SAT	KENNEDY GOLF COURSE	FEB 9	SAT	BELMAR PARK
JAN 12	SAT	WHEATRIDGE GREENBELT	FEB 9	SAT	BIRD WALK AT COAL CREEK ARENA
JAN 19	SAT	BIRDING INSIGHTS: DABBLING DUCKS & GREBES GALORE	FEB 10	SUN	BACKYARD BIRD WATCHING AT THE HOME & GARDEN SHOW
JAN 19	SAT	BIRDING INSIGHTS: THERMAL RIDERS OF THE SKY	FEB 13	WED	COLORADO PHOTOGRAPHER RECOGNITION EVENT
JAN 23	WED	DENVER AUDUBON'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY KICK-OFF EVENT	FEB 19	TUE	ANNUAL GETTING GREEN LAWS EVENT
JAN 26	SAT	CHATFIELD STATE PARK	FEB 23	SAT	SAND CREEK PARK
JAN 26	SAT	HAWK WALK AT COTTONWOOD CREEK	FEB 23	SAT	CHATFIELD STATE PARK
JAN 27	SUN	RAPTORS OF THE NORTHERN FRONT RANGE	FEB 23	SAT	BIRDING INSIGHTS: DIVING DUCKS & LIMBER LOONS

FOR A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THESE FIELD TRIPS, VISIT WWW.DENVERAUDUBON.ORG/EVENTS/ OR CALL 303-973-9530

Spring Magic in Nebraska - March 29-April 1, 2019

Kansas Prairie-Chickens and Spring Migration: Wetlands, Shorebirds and Grasslands:

**May 4 to 9, 2019
and May 11 to 16, 2019**

This birding tour will take you east into Kansas, with stops at some of the best midwestern birding destinations – Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge.



Lesser Prairie-Chicken by Bill Schmoker

Price: \$1,360 per person with 9 participants for 6 Days and 5 Nights Trip cost includes guide and driver, all access fees, five nights of lodging and more. Register: Charles Thornton-Kolbe, 720-320-1974, email charles@PIBird.com

Iceland – Land of Fire and Ice (May 31 – June 9, 2019)

Often referred to as the “Land of Fire and Ice,” Iceland's landscape is characterized by waterfalls, geysers, glaciers, volcanoes, beaches, thermal hot springs, and otherworldly steaming lava fields. In addition to stunning landscapes, Iceland is a birder's paradise. Its remote location at the junction of two oceans allows for a unique mix of migratory and vagrant species. Join ASGD on this unforgettable birding and natural history tour to Iceland in 2019. Register at www.reefstorockies.com

Brazil's Pantanal

July 7-15, 2019

Register at www.pibird.com

Peru – Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu and Manu (September 2019)

Peru is home to more than 1800 species of birds, including 45% of the world's neotropical species. It's also home to the Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu and Amazon basin - bucket list destinations for many travelers. This ASGD exclusive itinerary combines unique birding experiences at all three locations including Andean condor, cock-of-the-rock (Peru's national bird), and many endemics. More details coming soon.

Register at www.reefstorockies.com

South Africa

Oct 21 – Nov 1, 2019

Register at www.pibird.com

Belize – Rainforest to Reef (November 2019)

Belize, a country roughly the size of New Jersey, is home to more than 600 species of birds. Compare that to about 700 species in all of North America. This week long itinerary combines renowned Chan Chich Lodge (the world's only ecolodge set within a 3000 year old Maya Plaza) and Orchid Bay (gateway to Lamanai Maya Ruins, Barracuda Lake, and one of the most isolated sections of the Belize Barrier Reef). More details coming soon. Register: at www.reefstorockies.com

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*Thanks to all committees,
board members and Audubon Master
Birders for volunteering their time.*

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Benson, Tina Leslie, Audrey Stokes

Your volunteer hours are very important to us!

Your volunteer hours are very important to us as we
use them to raise money through grants and the
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Kate Hogan with your completed hours as soon as
possible. Thanks!

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The Warbler is published bi-monthly by the
Audubon Society of Greater Denver (ASGD)
Produced by M. Urban © 2018
ISBN 1531-2283 Vol. 53 Number 1

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