Number 493 February 2024

The Chat

A voice for education and conservation in the natural world Rogue Valley Audubon Society www.roguevalleyaudubon.org

Deadline for the March 2024 issue is February 20



February IN PERSON Program Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024 at 7:00 pm RVAS Members Showcase

Join us for this in-person meeting for an opportunity to hear from fellow RVAS members! We will enjoy photos and stories about the birding highlights of recent travels near and far.

If you didn't get a chance to get signed up to present your own in February, contact Rebekah ASAP at: rebekah.bergkoetter@gmail.com!



Location: Medford Congregational Church of Christ-Lidgate Hall, 1801 E. Jackson St., Medford Time: 7:00 pm (coffee/tea/cookies will be served beginning at 6:30 pm)

Zoom option: The Zoom link will be posted on the Rogue Valley Audubon webpage the day of the meeting.

RVAS would like to honor all of the incredible folks who have stepped up to serve in the role of Board President throughout our 50+ years. Please enjoy looking through this list - and if you know any of these fine folks, consider taking a moment to drop a call or an email to let them know how much they are appreciated!

1971-1977	John (Jack) Ballard	1984-1985	Tom Wicklund	1996-1998	Hans Rilling
1974-1975	Jim Collins	1985-1986	John Keller	1999-2001	Edith Lindner
1975-1976	Gordon Dickerson	1986-1987	Roger Schnoes	2001-2002	Tom Smith
1976-1977	Lois Smith	1987-1988	Mark Swisher	2002-2004	Gwyneth Ragosine
1977-1978	Steve Summers	1988-1989	Debbi Sharp	2004-2006	Vicki Arthur
1978-1979	Margaret Ewing	1989-1990	Stewart Janes	2006-2008	Grace Murdoch
1979-1980	Otis Swisher	1990-1991	Eric Setterberg	2008-2011	Alex Maksymowicz
1980-1981	Tony Wright	1991-1992	Susanne Krieg	2011-2014	Bill Hering
1981-1982	Bill Stotz	1992-1993	Doug Foster	2014-2017	Linda Kreisman
1982-1983	George Arnold	1993-1994	Lloyd Knapp	2017-2021	Carol Mockridge
1983-1984	Mike Paczolt	1994-1995	Richard Hahn	2021-present	Erin Ulrich

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Birdathon: Vacant

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Project FeederWatch:

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https://www.facebook.com/RogueValleyAudubonSociety/

Mailing Address

RVAS

P. O. Box 8597 Medford, OR 97501

Chapter Program meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month,
September through April, at 7:00 pm. Meetings take place at 1801 E. Jackson St., Medford, in Lidgate Hall of the Medford Congregational Church of Christ.

NOTE: If deemed unsafe for gathering, chapter meetings will be held on Zoom.

Promote RVAS in Our Community!

Did you know that we now have quality t-shirts and sweat-shirts featuring our beautiful RVAS logo? They are very reasonably priced, too! With each purchase, Bonfire donates a portion back to RVAS, so it's a win-win! You get a great product, and RVAS gets a donation! Find our wares at: https://www.bonfire.com/store/rvas/



News from Jacksonville Elementary School...

My name is Georgia and I am the lead ornithologist this

month for Mr. Williams 3rd grade class at Jacksonville Elementary. The most exciting bird this month was a flock of Bushtits and a Spotted Towhee that was pecking the ground, looking for something. There have been no problems this month except the deer came back to our feeder so we had to put the cage around our feeder again. I love to read bird books and watch birds by the window.



Status of upcoming events

Field trips: Denman Bird Walk - Feb. 7, Mar. 6, Apr. 3

Lost Bird Project Showing: Feb. 5
Great Backyard Bird Count: Feb. 16-19
Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 7pm

Letter From the Board

As you may know, the 2024 Winter Wings Festival in Klamath Falls has unfortunately been canceled. One of the reasons stated for the hiatus is a lack of volunteers to help with the event.

I am ending my 3-year term as RVAS President in June of this year. For personal reasons, I cannot extend my term. We cannot run this organization without a President, so I am reaching out to all of you to think about what you can do to help RVAS continue. Can you pick up where I leave off and help the organization grow? Our membership is made up of so many amazing bird advocates. Are you willing to go the extra step to make a difference in our local area? Do you have just one goal that you would like to see RVAS achieve? Are you able to step up to make that happen?

When I volunteered for this position, I had no idea how to be a President of a non-profit organization. Absolutely no clue. I still, most of the time, feel like I don't know what I'm doing even though others tell me I'm doing a great job (Editor's Note: Erin is doing a fantastic job!). So, there you have it. You don't have to be an expert to lead this organization. I am keeping things going because I have an amazing group of supporting characters. They have assisted and guided me along the way and I am truly grateful for their help. (Is this sounding like an Oscars speech?)

The following positions are currently open for volunteers who want to contribute their time in a meaningful way. I hope you will consider taking a more active role with RVAS. We, and the birds, could use your help! To learn more about these positions, contact me or any of our board members (find contact info on page 2).

-- Erin Ulrich, RVAS President

Open Positions:

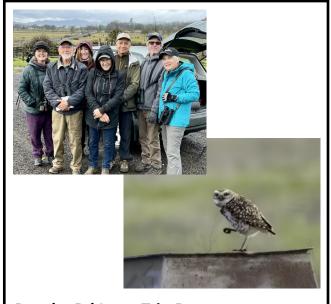
Board President (opening in June!)
Board Members (anytime!)
Committee Chairs:

Archivist
Birdathon
Education
Field Notes
Holiday Party
Hospitality
Publicity



Jon Deason just retired after many years of providing hospitality at RVAS programs. Photo shows the presentation of Jon's recognition gift: (left to right) Rebekah Bergkoetter, Secretary; George Peterson, Vice-President; Jon Deason, and Erin Ulrich, President.





Brophy Rd Loop Trip Report

Janet Kelly and Vince Zauskey led a Brophy Rd Loop birding trip for RVAS on January 17, 2024. A fantastic total of 46 species were spotted, including Burrowing Owl, Prairie and Peregrine Falcons, Golden Eagle, and Lewis's Woodpeckers. The Loop took about 5 hours and 12.5 miles. It has some of the better farmland in the valley for a wide variety of birds.

Photos: Birding crew, Credit: Kay Simmons Burrowing Owl, Credit: Keeley Kirkendall

Medford Christmas Bird Count 2024 Report

By Rebekah Bergkoetter

In the pre-dawn hours of December 30, 2023, 57 intrepid volunteers prepared for a full day of birding. Spread between 12 areas across Medford, Central Point, Eagle Point, and White City, birders scoured oak woodlands, ponds, city parks, and public hiking trails to tally every bird they encountered during the day. By day's end, 17,841 individual birds were logged by volunteers, representing 124 different species.

The day started for many as chilly and cloudy, with some birding parties walking through a looming fog, relying on their ears to track avian calls. While the clouds never fully broke, the weather cooperated enough for volunteers to log over 50 miles of birding by foot, and another 289 by car.

The most common sightings for the day were American Wigeon (818), Brewer's Blackbird (1,116), American Robin (1,374), Canada Goose (2,155), and European Starling (2,953). A handful of species were observed only once during the day including Redhead, Green Heron, Ferruginous Hawk, Hutton's Vireo, Northern Shrike, and Mountain Chickadee. The Lewis's Woodpecker, who was notably absent from the 2022 Medford Christmas Bird Count, had a tally of 64 this year.

The Christmas Bird Count relies on the labor of volunteers, and this year a total of 143 hours were spent on the birding alone! This community science keeps us close with the birds, and closer to our wild Rogue Valley. Specific details for each area are posted to the RVAS website. Thank you to everyone who participated this year, I hope to see you again!





Ashland Christmas Bird Count 2024 Report

By Cat Gould

A total of 115 species (116 including a Gadwall during count week) were sighted on the annual Ashland Christmas Bird Count, which took place Sunday December 17th. We had seasonally mild weather with a temperature range of 33 to 50°F. This year we began collecting data via eBird, and the trip report for the entire Ashland CBC can be found here: https://eBird.org/tripreport/183717/. Location data were only collected for groups using the app, so some sightings may simply list Jackson County as the location. Please note you must be logged into eBird to view the trip report.



Area 1a (76 species) in the Butler Creek Rd. area East of I-5 and the Imperatrice Property was led by Dick Ashford and included team members Kristi Mergenthaler; Marshall Malden; Dona Zimmerman; and Nate Trimble, Sarah Rockwell, and their three-year-old daughter, Willow Trimble (which incidentally gave them a record age range of 80 years in their party!). The highlight of their outing was watching from above while a Golden Eagle dropped through oak woodlands to chase Wild Turkeys.

Area 1b to the south (37 species) was led by John Bullock with wife Stephanie. They were hosted by very generous land owners and treated to some persimmon cookies and enjoyed viewing a Northern Harrier amongst the Grizzly Peak Winery oak woodlands.

Area 2 (62 species) covered the Billings Ranch and Ashland Mine Rd. region, and was led by Shannon Rio. The team included John Alexander, Ryan Terrill, Cydne Jensen, Janet Anderson, and Jessica (Mycellia) Harris. A marvelous little Swamp Sparrow was spotted along the greenway near the Ashland dog park. Three Barn Owls were

Ashland CBC, continued on page 5

Ashland CBC, continued from page 4

admired in the barn at the Ranch, along with a Chestnut-backed Chickadee. The team was shown the new rare deer collection by host Thaddeus Gala.

Area 3 (69 species), led by Janet Kelly - with Michael and Emmalisa Whalley, and Cookie Sims - was amazed to note zero Starling sightings but they did have 12 Western Meadowlarks and two Wilson's Snipe. A questionable highlight of the day was being pooped on by an Acorn Woodpecker. #Blessed.



In Area 4a and b (66 species) Sammie Peat and Renee Allen led 11 members and sighted a Pelican flying over Kestrel Parkway, four Merlins, and many Red-shouldered Hawks. Nepenthe Ranch had a lot of ducks, a Double-crested Cormorant and two White-throated Sparrows.

Vince Zauskey led the charge in North Mountain Park with Max, Amanda, and Kurt. Their highlight was a fine look at a Red-shouldered Hawk eating something as it perched on a tree limb.

Area 5a and 5b (57 species), led by Carol Mockridge, with Cat Gould, Elijah Hayes, and Lin Stern in tow, began at Ruby Whaley's house on Bush St., and proceeded through neighborhoods. The team was very pleased to view a Western Screech Owl in a box above the skating rink. The highlights of the day included two very cooperative Merlins; a delightful mixed flock of Pygmy Nuthatches; Mountain, Chestnut-backed, and Black-capped Chickadees; and a Townsend's Warbler at the top end of Euclid St. This just may be a new hotspot!

Lithia Park was led by Bob Quaccia, with Asa Cates and Dorsey Burger. It was a quiet day for the Dippers (two) but a large flock of Bushtits and Golden-crowned Kinglets, and two Brown Creepers, were sighted.

Area 6 (65 species), led by Mick Smith with team members Dave Garcia and Kay Simmons, birded over five hours on foot south of Park St. in Ashland. They had several notable sightings including a Wilson's Snipe, Peregrine Falcon, 16 Evening Grosbeaks, and a lovely close look at a juvenile Red-shouldered Hawk.

Area 7 (52 sp.) was led by Linda and Peter Kreisman with Barbara Settles, and a separate team including Andre Carvalhaes, Tim Sorby and Jon Pope. Highlights include three Wilson's Snipe, a Hutton's Vireo, Slate-colored Junco, a Dipper, and a Cackling Goose along E. Emigrant Creek Rd.

Area 8 (76 species) led by George and Sally Petterson, and including Bill Lofthouse, Jeff Miller, and Ron Crowel and Lynn Kellogg, worked around the Emigrant Lake area. They were rewarded with the rare find of a Semipalmated Plover, as well as a wonderfully reliable Rock Wren, followed by an equally satisfying chili lunch overlooking the lake.

Area 9 (38 species), led by Bob Hunter with Ann Goff, Debbie Levy, and Lauren Hisatomi, began at Emigrant Lake and headed up to the balmy 50° weather at Buckhorn Springs. They encountered 83 Western Bluebirds, 11 Varied Thrushes, a Great-horned Owl, 10 Lewis's Woodpecker, and White-headed Woodpecker - a first for the team!

Area 10 (60 species) was a solo venture by Frank Lospalluto, who was happy to have a good look and listen to a flock of Red Crossbills as they alighted onto a small stand of Douglas Firs with cones. Frank added several owl species to our count, including Barn, Barred, Sawwhet, and Great-horned. The Pine Grosbeak that has been drawing birders to Pilot Rock recently also showed its rosy head!



Pygmy Nuthatch Credit: Lin Stern

The Conservation Column

By Pepper Trail

<u>Editor's Note</u>: Due to the particularly sensitive and complex issues raised by the USFWS Draft Barred Owl Management Strategy, the RVAS Board held a special meeting with Dr. Trail in January 2024 to discuss the public comment letter that follows. Although the Board was not in complete agreement about the proposed strategy, we voted unanimously to approve this letter as a fair and well-considered position that adds several important suggestions to improve the Barred Owl Management Strategy if/when it is approved.

In November, the US Fish and Wildlife Service released a Draft Barred Owl Management Strategy that attempts to deal with an extraordinarily difficult problem: the decline of Northern Spotted Owls in the face of Barred Owl expansion. Due to their larger size and aggressiveness, much more varied diet, smaller territories, and greater fecundity, Barred Owls are capable of pushing out Spotted Owls in even the most pristine old-growth. The FWS Preferred Alternative proposes to halt and perhaps reverse the Spotted Owl's decline by killing up to 400,000 Barred Owls over a 30-year period throughout the range of both Northern and California Spotted Owls. Links to the FWS Strategy and Environmental Impact Statement are given at the end of this column.

The Strategy was open for public comments through January 16. The following is a shortened version of the comments that Rogue Valley Audubon submitted to FWS in response.

The Preferred Alternative is based on two assumptions:

- That the killing of huge numbers of Barred Owls is justified based on their classification as a "non-native" species.
- That the killing of huge numbers of Barred Owls actually represents a solution to Spotted Owl declines in the Pacific Northwest.

Our comments challenge both of these assumptions.

Classification of Barred Owls as "Non-Native"

Barred Owl expansion into the Pacific Northwest from eastern North America was made possible by human-caused habitat changes, both those due to the activities of European settlers and to the effects of climate change. Barred Owls did not begin to expand westward until the early 20th century, and likely didn't reach Oregon and California until the 1970s. These facts are sufficient for FWS to consider them as "non-native" and subject to lethal control.

However, unlike other species considered "non-native" by FWS, the Barred Owl is a native North American bird, protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. As species always do, it expanded its range when changing environmental conditions made that possible. We are living in an age often dubbed the Anthropocene due to the pervasive impacts of human activity on the biosphere. It would be difficult to find any species whose range has changed in the past century that was NOT responding to human-caused environmental changes. Range shifts in response to these changes will be essential to species survival. Will we intervene every time one expanding species displaces another? When two species compete, how can we dictate which "deserves" to survive?

Despite all that, Barred Owl removal might be justified as the only remaining option to prevent Spotted Owl extinction if it could actually work. However, there is no reason to believe that the FWS plan would meet its objective.

Can the Preferred Alternative Succeed?

FWS lethal removal experiments from 2009-2019 showed that removing Barred Owls can halt the population declines of Spotted Owls in limited areas. However, a meaningful definition of "success" requires an end point. Once the removal experiments stopped, Barred Owls soon recolonized those areas, and Spotted Owl declines resumed. The FWS preferred alternative envisions killing hundreds of thousands of Barred Owls over a 30-year span across the entire range of Spotted Owls. Then what?

When the threat posed by Barred Owls was first recognized, many of us hoped that old-growth forests, to which Spotted Owls are so superbly adapted, would prove to be the species' stronghold. Surely Barred Owls couldn't outcompete Spotted Owls there? As the amount of old-growth forests increased thanks to the protections of the Northwest Forest Plan, Spotted Owl populations would also increase, and Barred Owls would settle into a variety of woodland and younger forest habitats. Coexistence would be possible.

Sadly, it has not worked out that way. Barred Owls have proven capable of pushing out Spotted Owls in even the

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most pristine old-growth - for example, Redwoods National Park. That is why this huge killing campaign is being proposed, as a desperate last resort. But to "succeed," the killing will have to go on forever - akin to keeping Spotted Owls on life support, with no prospect of ever resuming unmanaged existence.



There is no reason to think that Barred Owls will stop entering the Pacific Northwest from the east. And the large established Barred Owl populations in the region's towns and woodlands will not stop dispersing into forests. This is not an island situation, where it is possible to kill every individual of a non-native species, and return the ecosystem to its prior natural state. FWS will never kill every Barred Owl in the Pacific Northwest.

A More Realistic Alternative

As stated in the Management Strategy (p. 35), "Non-native barred owls currently occur in dense populations in most of the range of the northern spotted owls." The size of established Barred Owl populations throughout the Pacific Northwest makes it clear that their permanent removal would be impossible almost everywhere.

However, there are still a few places within the range of Spotted Owls where Barred Owls are not yet well established. In these areas, a targeted program of Barred Owl removal has at least a chance of succeeding, allowing the persistence of Spotted Owls.

The FWS Environmental Impact Statement includes Alternative 6, "Management Focused on Best Conditions," which prioritizes Barred Owl management in the southern portion of the Northern Spotted owl range, where Spotted Owl populations have not decreased to the degree they have in the north. We believe that this approach has at least some chance of maintaining viable Spotted Owl populations without killing

enormous numbers of Barred Owls. Specifically, our comments advocate the following priority areas:

For Northern Spotted Owls:

- the California Coast Province, especially the Marin/Sonoma Management Zone, which is relatively Barred Owl free
- the California Cascades Province. Though this area does not support large Spotted Owl populations, Barred
 Owl control here would be particularly important to prevent the expansion of that species south into the Sierra
 Nevadas.

and, for California Spotted Owls:

- the Sierra Nevada population
- the Coastal-Southern California population

By focusing on California Spotted Owls, a targeted Barred Owl removal strategy could save that subspecies from the fate of most Northern Spotted Owl populations - elimination by this expanding competitor.

Regardless of alternative, ecological forest management research must be included (a recommendation from the Oregon Audubon Council):

Regardless of whether Alternative 2 or 6, or some other approach is adopted, USFWS should support research to lay out longer-term forest management strategies that will enable reducing or eliminating lethal removal while understanding habitat requirements that minimize Barred Owl impacts on Northern Spotted Owls. Potential research recommendations:

a. Examination of survivorship of Spotted Owls in different sized viable nesting habitat patches co-occurring with Barred Owls. Hypothesis: even when barred owls are present, spotted owls will have higher survival rates (both nesting and adult survivorship) in larger suitable forest patches than smaller ones. There is some evidence to

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Conservation Column, continued from page 7

suggest reduced impact on Spotted Owls from Barred Owls' competition when barred owl densities are lower, and that quality spotted owl habitat may buffer spotted owl populations from the impacts of barred owls, at least in the short-term.

b. Further examination of habitat preference differences between the two species to help inform subsequent management and coexistence of the two species in the long-term. Previous research has suggested that barred owls tend to prefer lower elevation and less sloped habitat as compared to Spotted Owls although most evidence suggests considerable overlap in habitat use and selection between the two species.

Conclusion. Spotted Owl management presents the Fish and Wildlife Service with an agonizing Sophie's Choice there is no "good" solution. The extinction of Spotted Owls by a superior competitor may be evolution in action, but that does not make it less heartbreaking. The killing of hundreds of thousands of Barred Owls may artificially prop up Spotted Owl populations, but would need to continue forever. How can that be justified ecologically or ethically?

Given these unacceptable alternatives, the Fish and Wildlife Service needs to step back and adopt more modest, targeted strategy. It should abandon its proposal to kill enormous numbers of Barred Owls, a native North American bird, in pursuit of the illusion of restoring Spotted Owls across their range. Instead, it must focus on the limited but realistic goal of protecting those remnant Spotted Owl populations that are not yet overrun by Barred Owls.

FWS Barred Owl Removal Strategy: https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Final%20draft%20Barred%20Owl%20Management%20Strategy.pdf

FWS Environmental Impact Statement, with the range of alternatives: https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Final% 20draft%20Barred%20Owl%20EIS.pdf

Great Backyard Bird Count

From National Audubon Society

Project Goal

Each February, for four days, the world comes together for the love of birds. Over these four days we invite people to spend time in their favorite places watching and counting as many birds as they can find and reporting them to us. These observations help scientists better understand global bird populations before one of their annual migrations. This year, it runs from February 16th - 19th.

What's Changed?

In 2020 we designed a new website to help make your 4-day count easy, clear, and inspiring! In an effort to spread the love of birdwatching even further, we've moved away from using the [previously used] Charley Harper image. Instead, we use pictures of birds and people from around the world participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count. No matter what corner of the world you live in or visit, we want to share in your joy of birdwatching.

Joint Partnership

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an interorganizational effort between the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society, and Birds Canada. We work together to bring the joys of bird watching to our members.



Clockwise from top left: Maria Kalardi in Sweden, Pradip Mishra in India, Taylor Long in United States, Irvin Calicut in Kuwait.

Join Us

Whether you count one bird or hundreds, participating is easy and fun for all ages! Let birds bring you closer to nature and to each other by spending four days in February with us! Participating is easy, fun to do alone or with others, and can be done anywhere you find birds.

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GBBC, continued from page 8

- **Step 1**: Decide where you will watch birds.
- Step 2: Watch birds for 15 minutes or more, at least once over the four days, February 16 19, 2024.
- **Step 3**: Identify all the birds you see or hear within your planned time/location and use the best tool for sharing your bird sightings:
 - If you are a beginning bird admirer and new to bird identification, try using the Merlin Bird ID app to tell us what birds you are seeing or hearing.
 - If you have participated in the count before and want to record numbers of birds, try the eBird Mobile app or enter your bird list on the eBird website (desktop/laptop).

If you already contribute to Merlin or eBird, continue what you are doing! All entries over the 4-days count towards GBBC.

To learn more about how to participate, visit https://www.birdcount.org/participate/

The Lost Bird Project: Memorials to Extinct Birds

<u>Join us</u> for a very special showing of The Lost Bird Project with sculptor and filmmaker Todd McGrain, co-sponsored by RVAS and the Institute for Applied Sustainability at SOU. After the showing, Todd will be available for questions from the audience and a discussion about bird conservation. This event will take place on <u>Monday Feb. 5</u>, at 6pm, in the SOU Recital Hall.

The Lost Bird Project by Todd McGrain is part natural history, part artist's diary, documenting the extraordinary effort to place a series of public memorials to birds driven to extinction in modern times. As a chronicle of humankind's impact on our changing world and a moving record of dwindling biodiversity, The Lost Bird Project is an ode to vanished times and vanished species. The Great Auk, Labrador Duck, Passenger Pigeon, Carolina Parakeet, and Heath Hen were birds that once filled unique niches in the North American landscape from the shores of Labrador and New York to the Midwestern plains. Across the great American prairie, the skies were nearly black with Passenger Pigeons whose disappearance, like the buffalo's, was thought to be inconceivable.

As works of site-specific environmental art, the sculptures featured in The Lost Bird Project were originally placed in the locations where the birds were last seen in the wild (below) and are now permanent public sculpture installations.



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BIRDCENTRIC EVENTS FROM AROUND THE REGION

RVAS

First Wednesday Bird Walks: February 7, March 6, April 3

Join RVAS for our monthly outing to Denman Wildlife Area. Walks begin at 8:30 am and end before noon, and are led by Jim Hostick. The gate will be open from 8:00 - 8:20 am. Participants need to purchase an ODFW Area Parking Permit at the ODFW Office, Sportsman's Warehouse on Delta Waters and Highway 62 in Medford, or at Bi-Mart. We request that all participants be vaccinated for COVID-19.

<u>Directions to meeting spot</u>: We will meet at the entrance off Agate Rd. between 1/4 and 1/2 mile past the fire station on the left side of the road. Coming out Table Rock Rd., turn right on Antelope Rd. and go to the light on Agate Rd. and turn left. The fire station will be on your left at the corner of Ave. G and Agate Rd. Go 1/4 to /12 mile past the fire station and the gate will be on your left. Coming out on Highway 62 to Antelope Rd., turn left and go to the next light. Turn right and continue to the gate on Agate Rd.

Lost Bird Project Viewing Event

Join us for a very special RVAS-sponsored showing of The Lost Bird Project with sculptor and filmmaker Todd McGrain. After the showing Todd will be available for questions from the audience and a discussion about bird conservation. The Lost Bird Project film is part natural history, part artist's diary, documenting the extraordinary effort to place a series of public memorials to birds driven to extinction in modern times. As a chronicle of humankind's impact on our changing world and a moving record of dwindling biodiversity, The Lost Bird Project is an ode to vanished times and vanished species.

DATE: Monday Feb 5 TIME: 6:00 pm

LOCATION: SOU Recital Hall, 450 S Mountain Ave, Ashland, OR 97520

COST: Free

Wild Birds Unlimited

North Mountain Park Bird Walk

Max McClarnon will be leading a bird walk to N. Mountain Park in Ashland this month. Limited to 9 participants. To reserve your spot, come in or call the store at (541) 772-2107.

DATE: Saturday Feb 3

TIME: 9:00 am

Educational Talk - Birds of Australia

Jim Livaudais will be with us this Sunday to talk about the birds of Australia. Not only is Jim an accomplished birder (he's birded all over the world), he's also an excellent photographer and will be showing us his photos of the many birds and mammals of Australia. Come join us and feast your eyes. Space is limited. To reserve your spot, come in or call the store at (541) 772-2107.

DATE: Sunday Feb 18 TIME: 2-3:00 pm

Klamath Wildlife Refuge Bird Tour

Erin Linton and Max McClarnon are joining up to lead an <u>all-day birding tour</u> of the Klamath Wildlife Refuge. Carpooling will be required. Limited to 3 car loads, (3-4 people per car). To reserve your spot, come in or call the store at (541) 772-2107.

DATE: Saturday Feb 24 TIME: 7:00 am (all day)

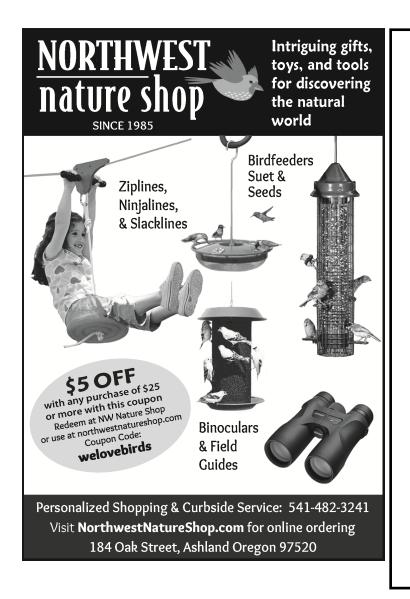
Klamath Bird Observatory

Save the Date - Bear Divide Trip with Dr. Ryan Terrill

Join KBO's Science Director for an avian awe-inspiring experience, a spectacle of spring bird migration that is on full display at Bear Divide in the western San Gabriel Mountains of southern California. Bear Divide's topography is a funnel for long-distance migratory birds on the Pacific Flyway. Visitors and scientists can see and study migratory birds up close and personal. Registration opens on February 5th. To learn more, visit https://klamathbird.org/callnote/save-the-date-bear-divide-trip-with-dr-ryan-terrill/.

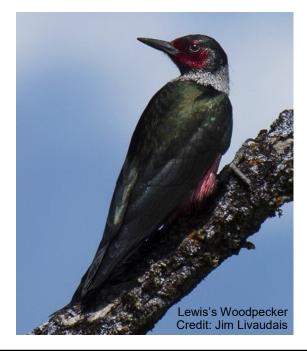
DATES: April 24 to 28, 2024

COST: TBD



A Haiku in Honor of lewis's Woodpecker By Rebekah Bergkoetter

Jewel-faced Woodpecker Thank you for returning here missed you dearly





20% OFF One Regularly-priced Item

*Valid 10/1/23 thru 9/30/24 at the Medford, OR WBU store. One discount per purchase. Not valid on bird food, previous purchases, optics, gift cards, DSC

ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

THE CHAT
Newsletter of the
ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
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