

# THE CALLIOPE

EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2022



## President's Message

*By Mary Shivell*

A theme was suggested for this month which applies to the weather, the birds members ECAS are reporting, and ECAS activities: things are starting to change.

The ECAS Board of Directors is working on the important project of creating our Strategic Plan for 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Planning for the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival 2022 is in full swing and members will be pleased with the variety of trips that will be offered with both new and familiar guides. Birding by Ear with Dave Tracy on Tuesday mornings in Sawyer Park has returned, celebrating the return of Spring.

Birder's Night Reimagined, the monthly centerpiece of ECAS's education program, continues to offer captivating topics. A hybrid model (Zoom and in-person) will make its debut on April 21.

As always, all of the activities provided by ECAS rely on volunteers. Inside this newsletter you will find many opportunities to get involved as a volunteer; some are short-term and narrow in scope and others are longer commitments. There is a role for every member to be an active and important contributor to ECAS that fits with their schedule. I want to welcome the new volunteers I have had the pleasure to get acquainted with this month while recruiting guides for DHWF 2022, as well as the DHWF Committee of volunteers: thank you!

Enjoy Spring, and go birding!

# 10th Annual Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival 2022

*by Diana Roberts*

The popular Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival (DHWF), based in Sisters, will return June 2 - 5, 2022. **Registration opens Saturday, April 9th at 8:00 am PDT.** Tours will fill quickly.

DHWF participants have a choice of 14 guided tours in search of 11 targeted species of woodpeckers and 200 birds of other species. Tours go to a variety of habitats including Summer Lake, Trout Creek Butte, Three Creeks, Cold Springs, the Milli Burn, Abbot Creek, Suttle Lake, and Green Ridge. Central Oregon's recent forest fires left behind burned areas which attract bugs, which, in turn, attract woodpeckers. Participants have a chance to see not only common woodpeckers like Hairy and Downy but also much rarer species like White-headed, American Three-toed, and Black-backed Woodpeckers. In addition to the birding tours, the festival offers native plants/birding tours and an opportunity to observe the banding of kestrels and bluebirds.

"The Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival is a great time to bird with old friends, make new friends, and see a great variety of neat birds while enjoying views of the beautiful Cascade Range," observed Festival bird guide, Mark Gonzalez. "It's a winning recipe of birds, forest, geology, and companionship in the Great Outdoors."

The DHWF was started in 2011 and named in commemoration of local birder Dean Hale. Today the woodpecker festival is part of Dean's legacy as an excellent birder and consummate conservationist and teacher. In his spirit, East Cascades Audubon Society members want to share Dean's birding enthusiasm, help folks to see great birds, and have a fun time.

The DHWF is run totally by ECAS volunteers and all registration funds benefit ECAS conservation and education projects. Festival organizers and guides aim to keep things low-key, casual, fun, and affordable. Local birders lead the tours and group size is restricted to 10 participants plus two leaders. The DHWF follows ethical birding practices such as minimizing recorded playbacks and following strict protocols about approaching nests. Carpools, Covid 19 vaccinations and masks are required.

Information about the DHWF is currently available on the ECAS website at: [www.ecaudubon.org/dean-hale-woodpecker-festival](http://www.ecaudubon.org/dean-hale-woodpecker-festival) Click on the green boxes across the top of that page to learn more about the registration process and daily activities. (Email questions to Gordon Wetzel at [dhwf2022@gmail.com](mailto:dhwf2022@gmail.com).) Check it out now so you are ready to register at 8am PDT April 9!



American Three-toed, White-headed, and Lewis's Woodpeckers and Williamson's Sapsucker  
Photos by Tom Lawler

## Birding Basics Zoom Course Offered in April 2022

*By Lynda Paznokas*



It's not too late to join Lynda Paznokas on Zoom in April for Birding Basics and to explore the fascinating world of birding.

Birding Basics is designed for beginning birders and other birders who want to review the basics. Four class sessions, lasting about an hour each, will be held **Wednesdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27 from 7:00-8:00 pm**. Although the sessions will be arranged sequentially, participants are welcome to attend all or some sessions as their schedules allow.

April 6 Session 1: Bird Identification: Color, shape, size, and behavior

April 13 Session 2: Resources: Books, apps, websites, games, equipment, ethics

April 20 Session 3: Backyard Birding: Houses, baths, feeders, gardening for the birds

April 27 Session 4: Birding as a Social Activity: Organizations, events, citizen science, bird cams.

This is a free course. Invite your friends! **To register, email Lynda at [Lpaz@bendnet.com](mailto:Lpaz@bendnet.com)** with the following information:

- Your first and last name
- City and State where you live
- Your email address
- Indicate whether you're an ECAS member or guest of ECAS

Lynda will email you with the Zoom link and other class information.

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## Monthly Birders' Nights Reimagined

*By Gordon Wetzel*



**Birders' Night in April** will be IN-PERSON at **The Environmental Center (TEC)** of Bend!! TEC has new technology that will also allow a **Zoom** meeting, so those who are not able to attend in person can Zoom in with this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89681112935>

Join us in person or remotely via Zoom on **April 21 at 7pm** to hear John DeLuca tell us how to make our yards more friendly for birds. John is a new Wildlife Biologist for the USFS, Sisters Ranger District.

He earned a B.A. in Zoology and Environmental Science from Miami University of Ohio and an MS in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation from the University of Florida. He has worked in numerous and exotic places including the Brazilian Amazon, the

Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, the Alaska Bird Observatory, Kaibab National Forest, Camp Lejeune, the Northwest Oregon District of the BLM, and now at the Sisters Ranger District. John has a lifelong passion for landscape-scale conservation and the stewardship of rare and restricted-range species and ecosystems.

**Birders' Night in May** will be on **May 26 (the 4th Thursday) at 7pm**. Popular speaker Elise Wolf of Native Bird Care in Sisters will return to educate and enlighten us on all things bird.

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## Central Oregon Sparrows Zoom Talk July 12

You are invited to join Chuck Gates as he takes you on a Zoom journey through the wonderful world of Central Oregon Sparrows. This two-hour program looks at sparrow ID (males, females, and juveniles), behaviors, preferred habitats and reproduction strategies. You'll learn where to find each species and some techniques to make your sparrow hunting a little easier. While concentrating on the more common species, Chuck will briefly discuss some of the rarer sparrows and how to tick them off your life list. The program will conclude with a chance to quiz yourself with a bundle of sparrow photos and a Q & A session. All of this airs on Tuesday night, **July 12 starting at 6:30PM** and ending at 8:30PM. The Zoom link will be available in July on COBOL and in the Summer *Calliope*.



Chuck Gates is a Founding Board Member and holds an honorary lifetime membership in the East Cascades Audubon Society. He helped develop ECAS projects like the Winter Raptor Surveys, Green Ridge Hawkwatch, and the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival. He is the author of the *Birding Oregon Site Guide – Over 1100 places to go birding in Oregon* and co-author of the “Eggs, Nest, and Young” webpage found on the ECAS Website. Chuck is the current Central Oregon Regional Field Notes Editor for Oregon Birds Magazine and writes a seasonal field notes summary for the ECAS *Calliope*. He is the head of the Prineville Bird Club, is one of the Volunteers at the Crooked River Wetlands in Prineville where he leads monthly Wetland Bird Walks, and regularly shares photos and information to their Facebook page. Chuck is a retired Biology teacher who lives with his wife Dorothy in Powell Butte.

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## ECAS Whychus Golden Eagle Cam 2022

According to Frank Isaacs of the Oregon Eagle Foundation, the Golden Eagles using this nest have raised young each year since 2010. They are the only nesting pair in Oregon that nested successfully each year of the Golden Eagle Nest Survey Project (2011–2021). Follow this [link](#) for a live video of the nest. A brief history of the project is available at [www.ecaudubon.org/golden-eagle-cam](http://www.ecaudubon.org/golden-eagle-cam) If you want to support this effort by helping to pay for the necessary broadband usage, you can donate to ECAS using the Donate button on the ECAS home page [www.ecaudubon.org/](http://www.ecaudubon.org/) Thank you!

## 2021-22 Winter Field Notes

*By Chuck Gates*

The winter season of 2021-22 was characterized by mild temperatures and lots of open water. This created a bane or boon situation for us locally. Some birds were more common than normal, and some didn't materialize at all. Below is a summary of the highlights of that season.

As one might expect from the introduction above, lots of liquid water produced some good waterfowl sightings. Small numbers of SNOW GOOSE and CACKLING GOOSE were present throughout the season at various locations like the Crooked R. Wetlands (CRW) and Hatfield Lake (HL) but nary a single Ross's Goose was recorded. Five TRUMPETER SWANS were tallied in eastern Crook County on Feb 1 (MacDonald). EURASIAN WIGEONS were spotted at HL (Jeffries), Fireman's Pond in Redmond (Sizoo), Madras Sewer Ponds (McKay), Smith Rock (Voight), and Mirror Pond in Bend (Jett). GREATER SCAUP were found at Suttle Lk. (Crabtree, Robb) and HL (Wilkerson, Jefferson). Suttle Lk. produced several WHITE-WINGED SCOTER reports (Sutherland et al.). A LONG-TAILED DUCK made a nice showing early in the season at Suttle Lk. (Sutherland et al.) A SANDHILL CRANE was located at Smith Rock for an unusual winter record (Vick). Finally, SORA were reported from HL and CRW during the season (Johnson, C. Miller).



Female Eurasian Wigeon Photo by Chuck Gates

Most game birds are non-migratory and should be equally visible in every season, but winter is usually a good time to find them as hiding places are fewer and less dense. MOUNTAIN QUAIL are usually hard to find but a relative plethora were found this season. A record 70 birds were tallied on the Prineville Christmas Bird Count (CBC). Other birds were found at Calliope Crossing (Cahill), Bear Creek south of Prineville Reservoir (C. Miller), and off Skyliners Rd. in Bend on the 430 Road (Cahill, Pidgeon). A CHUKAR was seen at the Pelton Regulation Dam

Overlook on Feb 11 (Beerman) and 3 DUSKY GROUSE were tallied for the first time ever on the Prineville CBC (Kathol).

Shorebirds and gulls are unexpected in the winter season, so any sighting is worthy of inclusion in this report. A SPOTTED SANDPIPER was seen at HL on Dec 27 for only the 5<sup>th</sup> December record (Johnson, Poss). DUNLIN were seen at the Old Mill in Bend (Sutherland), at HL (Cowan), and Houston Lake (Gates, Gonzalez, C. Miller). A LEAST SANDPIPER turned up at the CRW (Crabtree, Wilson-Fey) and a GREATER YELLOWLEGS was seen in Bend at Farewell Bend Park (Burgess). A late BONAPARTE'S GULL materialized at HL on Dec 18 (Kruse) and a HERRING GULL was found at Farewell Bend Park (Burgess). Bend's Old Mill District also produced a rare GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL on Dec 27 for a late Christmas present (Low).



Glaucous-winged Gull Photo by Tom Crabtree

Vultures and raptors were well represented this season. TURKEY VULTURES began to arrive on Feb 11 at Sunriver (Burgess). OSPREY on this summary included a late bird on Dec 22 near Trout Creek C.G. (Schas, Dougill) and an early bird on Feb 22 at Barnes Butte in Prineville (Jaynes). NORTHERN GOSHAWKS were located at Deschutes River Woods in Bend (Moodie), Skyliners 430 Rd. (Cahill, Swiney), and in Bend on Onyx Road (Poss). RED-SHOULDERED HAWKS were found in 6 different locations in Crook and Deschutes counties and were seen by multiple observers. In one section along Shumway Road in Powell Butte, surveyors counted 32 ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS for an unusually large number (Zalunardo, Tinsley, Pidgeon, Williams). PEREGRINE FALCON reports numbered 20 at 15



Rough-legged Hawk Photo by Chuck Gates



Peregrine Falcon Photo by Tom Crabtree

different sites and the rare “Prairie” subspecies of MERLIN was spotted at River’s Edge GC (Kottkamp), east of Bend at two different locations (Low), and on Hwy 27 south of Prineville (Authier). Shifting gears to the night shift, GREAT GRAY OWLS were photographed in the Sunriver area (Rhoads et al.) SHORT-EARED OWLS were seen at their historic wintering grounds in Powell Butte (Tinsley et al.) and in a new spot near Alfalfa (Low, Gates, Cahill). A LONG-EARED OWL was found at Lower Bridge (Nordstrom) and a WESTERN SCREECH-OWL was discovered near the Sunriver Canoe Takeout Area (Centanni, Jett). BARRED OWLS were reported from 8 different locations in Deschutes and Crook counties by multiple observers. NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL reports came in from Coyle Cr. in the Ochocos (Wilson), Ochoco Ranger Station CG (Fagan), Riley Ranch in Bend (Jenkins), and the Sunriver Canoe Takeout Area (Centanni, Jett).

Near Passerines include the hummingbirds and woodpeckers among others and that’s why they are included in the same section of this report. The big hummingbird news of the winter was a CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD that came to a Sisters feeder on Feb 12 and was photographed a full 6 weeks earlier than the previous early record (Gerke). ANNA’S HUMMINGBIRDS continue to be more and more abundant in winter including areas east of the normal Hwy 97 corridor to which they were formally confined. For the first time, Anna’s were recorded on the Prineville CBC. WILLIAMSON’S SAPSUCKERS usually migrate out for the winter so 11 separate reports were all unexpected. A single RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER was seen at Bend’s Tillicum Village (McLean) and RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER reports exceeded 25 in the region. An AMERICAN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER was found on the Skyliners 430 Road for the only seasonal record (Low).



Williamson’s Sapsucker Photo by Don Sutherland

While the Passerines remain the largest group of birds in this report, their numbers are less dominant in winter as many of their ilk reside in the sunny climes south of here. That said, a few goodies did show up. BLACK PHOEBES were located at CRW (Wilkerson) and between Trout CR. CG and Frog Sp. on the Deschutes River in Jefferson County (Sutherland). NORTHERN SHRIKES can always be found in this season but a LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE that stayed the whole winter at HL was big news (Cahill et al.). BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES were found at their expected haunts north of Gateway (Schas, Dougill, C. Miller) and CHESTNUT-BACKED CHICKADEES were seen at Black Butte Ranch (Romanaggi) and in the city of Bend (Pastore). A NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD spent most of the winter at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond (Cowan, Gardiner et al.). It was a bumper season for thrushes. Over 100 VARIED THRUSHES were recorded in various places around Sisters as the surveyor plowed roads for his day job (Schas). More than 30 records of HERMIT THRUSHES were received from almost as many reporters. By far the biggest thrush story of the season was the presence of millions



American Robin Hordes Photo by Chuck Gates

(no exaggeration) of AMERICAN ROBINS throughout the season. AMERICAN PIPITS were tallied 11 times from 10 locations and a rare winter ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER was spotted on the Prineville CBC (Gates). FOX SPARROWS were so abundant, this recorder stopped collecting reports halfway through the season. The same could be said for WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS. SWAMP SPARROWS were located at Suttle Lk. (Moodie) and at Les Schwab Fields Park in Prineville (Dougill). The only SAVANNAH SPARROW of the season was seen at CRW on the Prineville CBC (Dougill, Zalunardo, Pidgeon). HARRIS'S SPARROWS turned up in Cloverdale (Gard), in a Bend neighborhood (Low), in La Pine (Hibbs), and at Bend's Riverfront Park (Kohn). Large numbers of CASSIN'S FINCHES were received throughout the season and the number of WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL reports was completely unprecedented. An odd, GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCH turned up at the Old Mill in Bend on Jan 1 for a New Year's surprise (Burgess). BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD reports came in from 6 locations but the most surprising was a report of well over 100 birds found west of Terrebonne on Lower Bridge Road (Cahill). That same location produced the only



TRICOLORED BLACKBIRDS of the season as well. To cap it all off, a RUSTY BLACKBIRD was discovered at the Knott Landfill during the Bend CBC (Gates, Boever)



Rusty Blackbird Photo by Chuck Gates

#### OBSERVERS

Nancy MacDonald, Chris Johnson, Alisa Jeffries, Bob Sizoo, Douglas McKay, Nancy Voight, Courtney Jett, Tom Crabtree, Roger Robb, Lorin Wilkerson, Alisa Jefferson, Don Sutherland, David Vick, Gloria Beerman, Kim Kathol, Matt Cahill, Craig Miller, Colleen Pidgeon, Chris Johnson, Mary Poss, Lisa Cowan, Chuck Gates, Mark Gonzalez, Dan Wilson-Fey, Diane Burgess, Peter Low, Mary Anne Kruse, Jake Schas, Steve Dougill, Shirley Jaynes, Jim Moodie, Chaney Swiney, Cindy Zalunardo, Joel Tinsley, Colleen Pidgeon, Cherry Williams, David Kottkamp, Bob Authier, Sevilla Rhoads, Jeff Nordstrom, Caleb Centanni, Tyler Wilson, Damian Fagan, Aaron Jenkins, John Gerke, Jake McLean, Ben Romanaggi, Candace Pastore, John Gardiner, Loren Gard, Ondi Hibbs, Roger Kohn, and Nancy Boever

## Sunriver Bird Walks

*By Kelli Neumann, SNC Animal Program Manager*

Sunriver offers excellent Upper Deschutes birding within a short distance of the Nature Center (SNC). One of the county's top ten eBird birding hotspots, Sunriver's lists include over two hundred species thanks to the various riparian habitats of the Deschutes (including mudflats, wetlands, and reeds) bordered by large open meadows, forests, ponds and streams. Depending on the season, Bitterns, Soras, Egrets and Shrikes forage the river and wetland edges while the meadows are prime for various owl species, falcons, and hawks. The willow-lined trails fill with migratory birds including warblers and flycatchers.

Most Saturdays you can join local birders including experts like Tom Lawler and Sevilla Rhoads to enjoy our regular resident species and search for the uncommon and rare. There are two options to choose from, an adult bird walk which begins at 8:30 a.m. and a family oriented walk at 9:00 a.m. Birders of all skill levels are welcome at both, but the family walk is better suited to children and those looking for a more casual introductory experience.

While the family walks are shorter, both walks cover at least three miles of variable terrain including uneven ground. Committed to inclusion, we welcome people of all backgrounds, experiences, cultures, identities, and abilities. Birding is an accessible activity for people of all abilities and ages, so please let us know if you need to tailor the birding experiences for different mobility and other considerations. Binoculars are available upon request. **Advanced registration is required** at <https://snco.org/events/> and be sure to check out the Birding Blog by Sevilla at <https://snco.org/learn-explore/educational-programs/bird-blog/>



Red-shouldered Hawk and Greater Yellowlegs photos by Sevilla Rhoads

## **Birds of a feather flock together**

*by Erin Barnholdt, Deschutes Land Trust*

For over a decade, The Deschutes Land Trust and ECAS have enjoyed supporting each other's efforts to survey our feathered friends that fly through Central Oregon. The Land Trust has a year-round Bird Surveying Volunteer Program where volunteers are given an orientation to our preserves and birding protocols, and then turned loose to survey as little or as much as they like on our preserves. All data is collected via eBird, where it can be sorted and stored. What began as an effort for us to know the inhabitants of our preserves, has evolved into a better understanding of our post-restoration effects and providing a baseline that will help us look at climate change down the road. If you are interested in joining the Land Trust's Bird Survey Volunteer Program, please reach out via email to Erin Barnholdt at **erin@deschuteslandtrust.org**. We thank ECAS for all of their support, partnership, and the amazing work they are doing.

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## **It's Bird Migration Time**

*By Mary Coolidge, Portland Audubon*

Spring is upon us and brings the rolling arrival of our beloved spring migrants. Migration is a truly marvelous, if perilous, feat and one that most birds will perform under the cover of darkness while we sleep. About 70% of our North American birds are migratory and over 80% of those migrate at night. Nighttime passage offers a number of benefits including refuge from diurnal predators, cooler temperatures, a less turbulent atmosphere, preservation of daylight hours for refueling, and star maps!

Though migration is already well underway, peak numbers of birds will occur between mid-April and mid-May. And there are a number of ways we can each contribute to helping safeguard birds on their journeys (keeping cats indoors, providing habitat in our yards, and marking our windows to prevent collisions.) But one of the easiest things we can do is turn off our unnecessary overnight lighting—especially during peak migration—to reduce the fog of skyglow that clouds the skies over our cities and towns, drowns out the stars and lures birds into lighted areas.

Researchers at Colorado State University's AeroEco Lab use the unique signatures produced by concentrations of birds on radar maps to predict when and where bird migration numbers will be highest each night during spring migration. With this information, aeroecologists issue forecasts, including red, orange yellow alerts that help focus our efforts on peak movement nights. Want to lend birds a hand? This spring, look for opportunities to reduce your unnecessary overnight lighting, and watch CSU AeroEcoLab's website (<https://aeroecolab.com/uslights>) or Portland Audubon's social media feeds for red alert nights when it is most critical to turn off our lights to keep our avian friends aloft!

## Welcome to Our Newest Members!

*By Miriam Lipsitz, Membership*

Andrea	Barss	Bend, OR
Sharon	Booth	Sisters, OR
Miriam	Champer	Bend, OR
Eric	Crockett	Redmond, WA
Tom	Dichiara	Bend, OR
Alyce & David	Drescher	Sunriver, OR
Jan	Flattum-Riemers	Madras, OR
Katie & Jeff	Grenier	Bend, OR
Greg	Hochstein	Redmond, OR
Cinda & Ron	Johnson	Bend, OR
Ron & Linda	Klein	Redmond, OR
Roger	Kohn	Bend, OR
William	Ledain	Bend, OR
Kimberlee	McDonald	Bend, OR
Tabitha	Mollo	Bend, OR
Kitt	O'Malley	Sisters, OR
Sue	Ohanian	Bend, OR
Donna	Owens	Bend, OR
David	Potter	Emmett, ID
Katherine	Smith	Madras, OR
Carolyn	Tate	Bend, OR

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## Share Your Favorite Local Resources

*By Amanda Accamando and the Website Committee*

As we work to update and redesign the ECAS website, we are asking for your help to make sure that the site is a one-stop-shop for local and regional birding resources. We are looking for suggestions of digital resources that our members find useful for staying up-to-date with birding activities in our area. We already include some of the more well-known resources (e.g., COBOL, OBOL, Birding Oregon Facebook page), but we'd like to include additional favorites. The general guidelines are:

1. Digital resource types include, but are not limited to, blogs, listservs, message groups, Facebook pages, Instagram pages, etc.
2. The resource/content should be local or regional in nature: Central Oregon/East Cascades, Oregon state, or PNW.
3. The resource/content should be free and easily accessible (i.e., not requiring a paid subscription.)

You can share suggestions with us via email at: [ecaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:ecaudubon@gmail.com). Please put "Webpage Resource" in the subject line. Thank you!

## **A Message from the Membership Committee: Thank You!**

*By Jan Rising*

Finally it feels like we might be able to return to an organization that can function as we have in the past. The COVID years of 2020 and 2021 have been challenging for all individuals and organizations. But thanks to supportive and generous members, dedicated volunteers and innovative approaches to meetings provided by technology, ECAS has managed to carry on and stay connected.

ECAS membership has remained strong with new folks joining, many of whom are also new to central Oregon. ECAS is still a small organization when compared with larger groups identifying with nature in this region but we are 100% volunteer driven and fortunate to have so many knowledgeable talented members who generously share their skills and interests with others.

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Many ECAS volunteers have given decades of their time helping this organization survive and thrive and some of these folks are ready to hand the baton over to a replacement. Please consider helping us keep ECAS a respected and relevant organization working to share knowledge about wild birds to help them thrive in central Oregon.

As of February 2022:

- 379 active ECAS memberships.
- 80% of these members are located in the cities of Bend, Redmond, Sisters and Sunriver.
- 8% are located in Prineville, Terrebonne, Madras, Powell Butte and La Pine.
- 8% are from other areas in Oregon.
- 4% are from out of state.

ECAS membership levels are: Student \$15, Senior \$15, Individual \$25, Family \$35, Contributing \$50, Sustaining \$100, Lifetime \$400

Membership Committee members who volunteered approximately 385 hours in 2021: Jan Clark, Miriam Lipsitz, Jan Rising, Barb Standiford, Liz Thill, Bonnie Thompson, Sheila Timony, and Jean Tuomi.

If you have questions about your ECAS membership, email [ecasmp@ecaudubon.org](mailto:ecasmp@ecaudubon.org) or call and leave a message on our phone line 541-241-2190.

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## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**BIRDERS NIGHT** - an assistant to help with planning and hosting this monthly Zoom meeting

**BOARD MEMBERS** - 2 openings for helping with ECAS future direction and administration

**BOOKKEEPER** - enter financial data into QuickBooks

**DEAN HALE WOODPECKER FESTIVAL** - volunteers are needed to help with everything from

leading tours and field trips, scouting locations, managing event registration and logistics, and getting the word out about the festival.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE LEADER** - help an established committee manage memberships

**SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE** - help monitor our social media (Facebook and website)

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR** - connect volunteers with projects or programs

Participants for discussion on the following committees; meetings occur 2-4 times a year

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**SCIENCE COMMITTEE**

Interested in helping in any of these areas? Please email us at [ecaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:ecaudubon@gmail.com) and we'll get back to you with more detailed information.

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

### Summer Lake Shorebird Survey

**Where:** Summer Lake Wildlife Area

**What:** Volunteers conduct counts of all shorebirds and waterbirds across the entire Summer Lake Wildlife Area

**When:** *Saturday & Sunday, May 21 and 22, 2022*

**Why:** The survey was established to monitor breeding shorebird and other waterbird populations and to document bird responses to habitat enhancement and management actions in each of Summer Lake Wildlife Area's habitat management units. The Survey has been conducted annually since 2009. On average, over 3,200 shorebirds representing the 9 breeding species have been counted and several non-breeding species have been found. A total of 22 different shorebird species have been recorded including uncommon or rare species such as Red Knot, Wandering Tattler and Whimbrel. Other waterbirds such as waders, gulls & terns, grebes, pelicans & cormorants, Sandhill Cranes and rails are counted and average over 1,300 individuals in over 20 species. In all, 120 species of birds have been found by past groups throughout the weekend of birding.

**How:** Volunteers count from vehicles along roads, and/or by foot hiking along dikes and levees cross-country and/or wading through marsh and shallow ponds in order to survey all types of wetland habitats. In the past, bicycles, canoes and kayaks have been used in a few areas. Binoculars are essential and the use of spotting scopes in many areas is encouraged. Historically, most volunteers have camped at one of the Wildlife Area's four primitive sites. Others have chosen commercial lodging at the Lodge at Summer Lake. Volunteers meet at River Campground on Summer Lake Wildlife Area at 7:30am and are assigned specific areas to survey.



Please contact Marty St. Louis for additional details and information:  
Marty St. Louis: PO Box 68, Summer Lake, OR 97640  
Cell phone: (541) 219-0879 or email: [stlouismartin541@gmail.com](mailto:stlouismartin541@gmail.com)

## Volunteer Opportunity

### Don and Lowell Franks Nest Box Project

This project consists of cleaning out nest boxes after nesting season, repairing/replacing nest boxes that are designed mainly for Bluebirds and Tree Swallows. The project should be accomplished each year from late summer, after nestlings have fledged, through late winter, before birds start nesting in the spring. It provides additional nesting sites around water sources where there are limited natural nesting opportunities and helps increase bird populations and enhances birding opportunities for ECAS members. It offers people a way to work on a valuable project and to get outside in excellent birding areas. The nest boxes are located in:

1. Pumice Springs – Sand springs area
2. Cabin Lake area
3. Fort Rock area
4. Wastina Townsite (located off Hwy 31, 3 miles south of the Fort Rock turnoff)
5. Summer Lake Wildlife Area

To volunteer, contact project leader Kim Boddie at [kcboddie@bendbroadband.com](mailto:kcboddie@bendbroadband.com) or 541-410-2951



Photo: Lowell Franks at Summer Lake in 2016 who, with his brother Don, started this endeavor back in the 1980's. They built and put up almost 200 boxes and maintained them carefully for many years. ECAS is honoring their memory with this project.

## Local, State and National Articles of Interest

Winter Raptor Survey results on the ECAS website [www.ecaudubon.org/winter-raptor-survey](http://www.ecaudubon.org/winter-raptor-survey)

Video from Central Oregon Daily on researching and restoring Sage-grouse habitat near Brothers, partially funded by ECAS  
<https://centraloregondaily.com/large-scale-grazing-study-begins-that-could-restore-sage-grouse-habitat/>

Bird Walks at CRW from The Source Weekly by Damian Fagan  
<https://www.bendsource.com/bend/bird-walks-at-the-crooked-river-wetlands/Content?oid=16453631>

Pepper Trail wrote this article which appeared on the National Audubon website about the catastrophic water situation at the Klamath refuges:  
<https://www.audubon.org/news/the-klamath-basins-water-crisis-growing-disaster-waterfowl>

From Paul Sullivan: The 2021 Oregon Birders Listing Results are finished and available for viewing on the OBA website.  
<https://oregonbirding.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2021-Oregon-Listing-Results-v2.pdf>

Rare double clutch by condor at Oregon Zoo  
<https://ktvz.com/news/wildlife/2022/03/04/rare-double-clutch-raises-oregon-zoos-california-condor-count-to-13/#:~:text=Rare%20'double%20clutch'%20raises%20Oregon%20Zoo's%20California%20condor%20count%20to%2013,-Liz%20Musich%2Fcourtesy&text=PORTLAND%2C%20Ore.,to%20a%20lucky%20number%2013.>

State uses fireworks to get cormorants off of Astoria Bridge  
[https://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/environment/state-uses-fireworks-to-move-cormorants-off-astoria-bridge/article\\_2737c801-c58c-5b08-ae43-130d0c577311.html](https://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/environment/state-uses-fireworks-to-move-cormorants-off-astoria-bridge/article_2737c801-c58c-5b08-ae43-130d0c577311.html)

Bird Flu in the Pacific Northwest  
<https://www.morningagclips.com/oda-prepares-as-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-is-confirmed-in-the-pacific-flyway/>

Beak deformities in landbirds  
<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/alaska-science-center/science/beak-deformities-landbirds>

4-letter Bird banding codes  
<https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/bandcodes.html>



# EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. Box 565, Bend, Oregon 97701

Website [www.ecaudubon.org](http://www.ecaudubon.org)

Email [ecaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:ecaudubon@gmail.com)

## ECAS Board

Mary Shivell, President  
Jan Rising, Vice President  
Amanda Accamando, Secretary  
Treasurer, Gordon Wetzel  
Miriam Lipsitz  
Laurel Collins  
Duke Tufty

## Committee Chairs

Executive Committee - Mary Shivell  
Finance - Gordon Wetzel  
Grants - Mary Oppenheimer  
Membership - Jan Rising, temporary  
Conservation - Gordon Wetzel  
Science - Ken Hashagen  
Education - Sherrie Pierce

## Program Leaders

Birder's Night - Gordon Wetzel  
Field Trips - Mary Shivell  
Volunteering - Miriam Lipsitz, temporary

## Newsletters

Sherrie Pierce, *Chatter* (monthly) Editor  
Claire Weiser, *Calliope* (quarterly) Editor

## Spring Board Meetings

April 5  
May 3  
June 7

Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month 6pm - 8pm. All members are welcome to attend. Contact [ecaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:ecaudubon@gmail.com) at least 2 days in advance for the Zoom code.

Minutes and meeting dates are posted at [www.ecaudubon.org/board-meeting-minutes](http://www.ecaudubon.org/board-meeting-minutes)

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 central Oregon at [www.ecaudubon.org/join](http://www.ecaudubon.org/join)

