



The CHATTER March 2025

March Birders' Night: Pinyon Jay Conservation

Claudia Funari will present a program about Pinyon Jay conservation followed by volunteer training for the upcoming surveys on March 22 at a site to be announced. The program will be held at eastside Worthy Brewing from 7 – 9pm. For more information on Pinyon Jays, their status, and conservation (including trend data, monitoring protocols, conservation strategies, and past Pinyon Jay research), [visit the Pinyon Jay Working Group website](#). If you are interested in this Pinyon Jay project and would like more information, please send an email to: ecba@ecbirds.org. Please put PJ project in the subject, then include your name and contact information (phone, email address) in the body of your email.

Calling All Artists!

The East Cascades Bird Alliance is excited to announce our latest art contest, open to artists of all ages and skill levels! We are seeking your creative vision to design captivating merchandise that celebrates the vibrant and diverse avian life of the East Cascades. Whether you're inspired by the majestic flight of a golden eagle or the delicate beauty of a mountain bluebird, we invite you to share your artistic interpretation with us. Your design could be featured on T-shirts, mugs, and more, helping to support our mission of conservation and education. So, grab your brushes, pencils, or digital tools, and let your imagination take flight! Kindly no photography. Submit your designs by May 1st, 2025, and be part of this incredible journey to protect and celebrate our winged wonders. Good luck, and we can't wait to see your amazing artwork!

Member Reminders

We are looking for someone with some treasury skills and an interest in joining the Board. Please let us know if you or someone you know has the interest and skills we need to fill this spot this year.

Birding By Ear Starts Tuesday March 11

Dave Tracy will be leading Birding by Ear walks in Sawyer Park starting Tuesday March 11. No Registration fee is required, and all ages and birding abilities are welcome. You do need to fill out a waiver for participation in the walks. The link for this can be found below.

Location: Sawyer Park parking lot

Time: 8:00 am on Tuesdays running from March through early June

Duration: Typically, 1-1.5 hours depending on bird activity

The walk usually covers about 1-1.5 miles over mostly flat trails. Depending on the weather, be prepared to dress for cool, breezy conditions. Wear suitable clothing & footwear in case of snow, rain & muddy trails.

Feel free to contact Dave if you have any questions.

dctracy03@gmail.com

541 390-9931

We have several programs coming up that might be of interest and we need volunteers to contribute:

- a STEM night in the schools
- collaboration with Think Wild for an event on Migratory Bird Day at Lake Creek Lodge (bi-lingual volunteers appreciated)
- a City Nature Challenge hike at Smith Rock
- the ever popular Earth Day Festival on April 26th.

If you are interested in contributing to any of these efforts, your time would be much appreciated. For more information, email us at ecba@ecbirds.org

If you are taking part in any ECBA activity, you need to have a waiver on file. You can [fill out the waiver online](#).

If you plan on visiting the Redmond Sewer Ponds for birding, you can [fill out a different waiver online](#).

There are now birding backpacks available in Grant county. These backpacks are available at the local libraries.

ECBA is sponsoring a Youth Scholarship for the Southeast Arizona Birding Festival in August 2025. [View more information](#) on our website.

The Summer Lake Shorebird Survey will take place the end of May. Please contact [Marty St. Louis](#) for more details or [read more on our website](#).

Whiskey Springs Birding Visits

Whiskey Springs is a popular destination for birding, especially now that the winter snows are receding. If you go there, please remember when birding at Whiskey Springs, it's crucial to respect the private landowners and their property. Stay on the designated road and avoid venturing onto private land to help maintain a positive relationship with the landowners. Whiskey Springs is a tranquil and slow birding spot, so consider bringing a chair or staying in your car to quietly observe the birds without disturbing the environment. If you have a dog with you, it is best to keep it in your car or on a leash to avoid disturbing the wildlife. Your cooperation ensures that this beautiful area remains accessible for birding enthusiasts for years to come. Happy birding! If you need any more information or have other questions, feel free to ask by sending an email to ecba@ecbirds.org

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Spring Surveys

There are two surveys this spring that might be appealing to interested folks.

- [Learn about the Spring Shorebird Survey](#), April 23 – 26.
- [Read about The Spring Sandhill Crane Bioblitz](#), April 27 – 30.

Harney County Migratory Bird Festival

The festival is April 10 – 13 this year. [Visit their website](#) for more information on programs and registration.

Birders' Nights

Birders' Nights in 2025 will be held at Worthy Brewing on the second Thursday of each month. [Check the ECBA calendar](#) for current scheduling and potential scheduling changes.

We need your help. We are looking for new ideas for potential speakers and topics. What birding topics most interest you? What speakers would you like to hear from? Are you interested in presenting? We would greatly appreciate all of your thoughts and ideas. Please email Duke at dukedt@gmail.com

Website Blogs

The ECBA website hosts several blogs that may be of interest. Take a [look at our list of blogs](#).

Do you have 3 - 4 hours a month to spare?

The Membership Committee needs a volunteer to oversee its workings but not necessarily be involved in the day-to-day data input keeping the ECAS member lists up to date. There are three volunteers already in place that very ably carry out

those functions. What is needed is someone who can be the face of Membership with the Board and Public, maybe bringing new ideas and perspective to this very necessary part of any non-profit, its members. Are you that person? If so or if you have questions, contact us at ecba@ecbirds.org

Crooked River Wetlands Walks

In 2025, Wetlands Walks will be held on the first and third Saturdays of the month starting in April and running through September. The first walk will be April 5, 2025 and the last walk of the year will be September 20, 2025. We gather in the CRWC Parking lot at 7:45AM. Walks will begin at 8:00AM and conclude at 10:00AM. The walks are approximately 2 miles long and last about 2 hours. There is no drinkable water at this facility so bring water and dress for Central Oregon weather. A 4-person golf cart is available to carry those who can't walk the distance. Email Chuck Gates (cgates326@gmail.com) if you would like a seat(s) on the cart.

Details:

- First and third Saturday of every month
- April thru September 7:45 am-10:00 am
 - April 5 and April 19
 - May 3 and May 17
 - June 7 and June 21
 - July 5 and July 19
 - August 2 and August 16
 - Sept 6 and Sept 20
- Meet at the Wetlands pavilion - 4035 NW Rimrock Acres Loop
- For more information, [email Chuck Gates](mailto:cgates326@gmail.com) or [visit the Crooked River Wetlands website](#).
- Sponsored by Prineville Bird Club and Crooked River Volunteers



Golden Eagle by Amanda

GOOD BIRDING!