



The CHATTER December 2025

December Birders' Night

Birders' Night: Klamath Refuges

December 11, 2015

Teresa Wicks, the Eastern Oregon Biologist and Program Manager for the Bird Alliance of Oregon, will present on bird productivity in the Klamath Refuges and management of botulism there.

The program will start at 6pm. Note the start time is earlier than usual.

Feel free to come early for dinner and a beverage. Worthy Brewing offers a happy hour from 3-6pm.

Annual Event Recap

The East Cascades Bird Alliance Annual Event, held November 9, was a resounding success, drawing a full house of bird enthusiasts, volunteers, and community members. The evening opened with a warm welcome and a comprehensive budget update from Treasurer Gordon Wetzel, offering transparency and insight into the organization's financial health. Board members Wendy Andrick, Brian MacDonald and Aaron Jenkins were unanimously voted in for a second term, reaffirming the community's appreciation for their dedicated leadership.

The program was rich with updates and inspiration: Elise Wolf of Native Bird Care shared an update on her land after the fire. David Vick took us on a journey through Hawk Watch history and offered a compelling look at what lies ahead.

We celebrated and appreciated all of our volunteers with a special acknowledgement to our youngest, Chloe Rhoades, our brilliant website administrator, Shannon Norquist, and our indispensable volunteer of the year, Miriam Lipsitz.

Kylie Lanuza from Think Wild offered a program update and exciting new volunteer opportunities, inviting deeper engagement from attendees. Author and naturalist Marina Richie gave a tantalizing preview of her forthcoming book, due out next fall, leaving many eager for its release.

The evening's undeniable highlight was youth scholarship recipient Mason Jeffries, whose captivating stories, sharp knowledge, and infectious humor had the audience hanging on every word. His passion for birds and conservation was both heartwarming and inspiring—a true reminder of the bright future ahead for bird advocacy in our region.

Christmas Bird Counts

December is here and the local CBCs will be taking place. Here are the dates and organizer contact information. Watch COBOL for any updates or check the [ECBA calendar](#).

- Summer Lake. Tuesday December 16th. Marty St. Louis, 541-219-0879, <mailto:stlouismartin541@gmail.com>
- Tygh Valley. Tuesday December 16th. josephblowers@ymail.com
- Madras. Wednesday December 17th. Annette Lange Hildebrand, 503-750-2567, lange69annette@gmail.com
- Bend. Saturday December 20th. Tom Crabtree. tc@empnet.com
- Sunriver. Saturday December 27th. Sevilla Rhoads and Lexie Houchins-Park. bird@snco.org and lexiehouchins@gmail.com
- Prineville. Wednesday December 31st. Mark Gonzalez, towhee@bendbroadband.com 641-233-3359
- Redmond. January 3rd. Mike Golden gardenbug99@bendbroadband.com 541-420-5814.

Your Data Is for the Birds

Seven Capes Bird Alliance invites you to attend the last session in our fall webinar series, Your Data Is for the Birds, all about community science and how You can make a difference for bird conservation! Join us for our third and final session, **Giving Back to Birds by Contributing Observations to eBird with Dr. Douglas Robinson** on December 3, 6-7:30 p.m. eBird is an online community science project managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society for birders to record and share their bird sightings.

When: Wednesday, December 3, 6-7:30 p.m.

Where: Online via Zoom. Webinar is free, but pre-registration is required. Register at www.sevencapes.org/dataforthebirds.

Sisters Library Bird Talk

Cute but Wild: Discovering the Lives of Fluffy Birds with Sevilla Rhoads

Friday, December 19

2:00pm - 3:00pm

Learn about adorable local birds and their wild habitats.

So much fluff! Stay cozy inside for an afternoon program about our fluffiest local birds while learning about their stories and habitats. From our largest fuzzy owls to the smallest downy nuthatches, kinglets and bushtits, we'll see beyond their unbearable cuteness into their fascinating lives in the natural world around us.



Sharing her enjoyment and knowledge about our local birds, **Sevilla Rhoads**, a Certified Access Birding Outing Leader, leads birding outings and programs for many Central Oregon organizations, including Oregon State Parks, the Sunriver Nature Center, and the East Cascades Birding Alliance. Sevilla's experience also includes community science projects, such as bird surveys, for various state, federal, and non-profit agencies.

Questions? Contact beccar@dpls.lib.or.us

ECBA Merchandise is Now Available

ECBA is again offering custom t-shirts and hats for sale. These would make great Christmas gifts! Designed by our long-time friend and most talented artist, Don Sutherland, we are pleased to make them available online. You can order merchandise from a local small business, Our Personal Touch, and you can either pick up your order in the store or have it sent to your home. Ordering information is at the top of [the ECBA home web page](#)

Waivers - Need To Sign Once Per Year

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

Crooked River Wetlands walks and Sunriver bird walks are done for the winter. They will return in the spring.

Are you a birder? These might be of interest:

The best resource for all things birdy is the [East Cascades Bird Alliance website](#).

If you are interested in knowing what is going on locally and as well as the state, sign up for one of the list serves: Central Oregon Birders Online, COBOL and Oregon Birders Online, OBOL. Go to this page <https://ecbirds.org/birder-resources-2/birders-connect/>

Want to know where to go to bird in Oregon? Check out this amazing collection of information, <https://ecbirds.org/birding-locations/>

Are you a social media user? The ECBA Facebook page is administered by Chuck Gates and Don Sutherland. This page has many great bird photos and links to interesting information.

Oregon Birding Discord is a great place to stay connected with birders statewide. You'll find channels for each region of the state for rare bird alerts, general chat, and more. Download Discord from your app store and join the Oregon Birding discord: <https://discord.gg/gdwFZeby>

If you are a Fred Meyer Rewards participant, consider [linking your account](#) to their Community Rewards program, specifically the East Cascades account and search for East Cascades Audubon Society. (It is still listed under the old name) The organization number is RY026. That will allow a contribution from Fred Meyer be made to ECBA on a quarterly basis based on what you have spent, nothing more than that. There are several non-profits that are linked to this so you may find more than one that you would like to help.



Golden Eagle by Amanda

GOOD BIRDING!