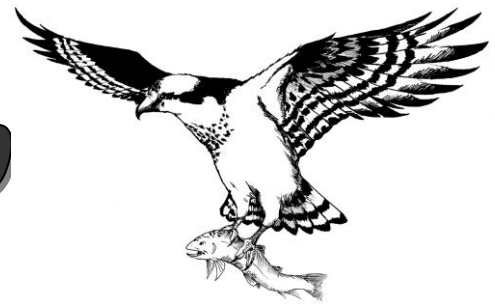


THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society
www.cdaudubon.org

April 2011

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 8

APRIL PROGRAM

DATE: April 12, Tuesday

PLACE: Lutheran Church of the Master,
4800 N. Ramsey - **THIS MONTH'S MEETING
WILL BE HELD IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THE
CHURCH. THIS IS THE BUILDING ACROSS
FROM THE SANCTUARY AND OFFICE**

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

**PROGRAM: "Wolverine Research and
Conservation in the Western US"**

It will be a Wolverine 101 presentation
focusing on our current understanding of
wolverine ecology, and addressing a variety
of management issues,

SPEAKER: Jeff Copeland

Jeff has been involved in wolverine research
for over 20 years as a research biologist for
Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the
Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Research
Station in Missoula, Montana prior to
retirement in 2010. He has led wolverine
ecology studies in Idaho, Wyoming, and
Montana, including Glacier and Yellowstone
National Parks, and participated in research
in Canada, Alaska, Scandinavia, and
Mongolia. Jeff's work is widely published in
peer-reviewed journals and popular articles,
and has been featured in Discovery, Animal
Planet, and PBS Nature television series.
Jeff is currently a co-founding director of The
Wolverine Foundation

jpcopeland@wolverinefoundation.org,
www.wolverinefoundation.org

BOARD MEETING

DATE: April 12, Tuesday

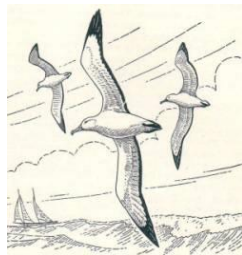
PLACE: Mountain West Bank,
125 Ironwood

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

Visit our website:
www.cdaudubon.org

OLDEST KNOWN WILD BIRD AND A NEW MOTHER AT 60!

Reprint from the "Bird Studies of Canada" Website



11 March 2011 – A few weeks ago, the oldest known wild bird in the Northern Hemisphere was spotted at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge in Hawaii. The bird, a female Laysan Albatross named Wisdom, is at least 60 years old; she is also a new mother.

Wisdom was spotted with her chick a few weeks ago by John Klavitter, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist and the deputy manager of the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge. She has sported and worn out five bird bands since she was first banded by U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) scientist Chandler Robbins in 1956. At the time, he estimated the albatross to be about five years old. Robbins rediscovered Wisdom in 2001, when she was at least 50.

"She looks great," said Bruce Peterjohn, the chief of the North American Bird Banding Program at the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, Maryland. "And she is now the oldest wild bird documented in the 90-year history of our USGS Fish and Wildlife Service and Canadian bird banding program," he added. "To know that she can still successfully raise young at age 60-plus, that is beyond words. While the process of banding a bird has not changed greatly during the past century, the information provided by birds marked with a simple numbered metal band has transformed our knowledge of birds."

Wisdom, Peterjohn said, has likely raised at least 30 to 35 chicks during her breeding life. Almost as amazing as being a parent at 60 is the number of miles she has likely flown. Adult birds average about 50,000 miles annually, so Wisdom has flown at least two to three million miles since she was first banded. That's the equivalent of four to six trips from earth to the moon and back again, with plenty of miles to spare!

This Newsletter is printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper

EARTH DAY 2011

Lynn Sheridan

The calendar notes that Earth Day is on April 22nd, but our city is celebrating it on Saturday, April 23rd from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Coeur d'Alene Library. There are many activities planned and many booths, including one by our Audubon Chapter. Besides having a booth, Audubon will offer short nature walks on Tubbs Hill.

As our theme will be "A Bird Friendly Garden", Janet Callen and I researched native plant species, and nurseries. We plan to give away about 75 native plants. Two local nurseries, Aspen and Northland are donating plants and Plants of the Wild, a nursery located in Tekoa, Washington offered us a very good deal. We will drive down to pick them up on Tuesday, April 19. We will also be handing out pamphlets and a few handcrafted bird feeders made out of 1/2 gal plastic milk bottles.

Volunteers are needed to work in the "booth" and to guide short walks on Tubbs Hill.. Call me at 765-2603 for more information to or to offer your time or suggestions.



ADOPT-A HIGHWAY

IT'S TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING!

Date: May 14th, Saturday

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Place: Meet at Mica Grange Hall for donuts, coffee and road assignments.

Plan on about 2 hours. Wear long pants and sleeves, and work gloves are advisable. Please note, due to revised IDT procedures **Audubon is now required to submit a roster of participants' names prior to the clean-up date.** If you are planning to participate in this effort, please attend the April 12th meeting and sign the roster. If you later decide to withdraw, no problem, just notify Mike Zagar or another participant. **For more information contact Mike Zagar 819-5115**

HUNT FOR EARLY SPRING ARRIVALS

FERNAN LAKE AND COUGAR BAY

Shirley Sturts



Of the fourteen target birds I listed as possible spring arrival sightings, only two were found. Several Red-winged Blackbird were in full voice, giving their gurgling *kong-la-ree* song and

chack note call at both ends of Fernan Lake and in Cougar Bay. One Killdeer was heard but not seen at Cougar Bay. We looked for the Eurasian Wigeon, another target bird, that was reported in Cougar Bay on February 19th by Lisa Hardy. We could only find four of the more common American Wigeon.

Although the main body of Fernan Lake is still frozen, both ends had some open water populated by several Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Mallard and Canada Goose. The lone Double-crested Cormorant sitting on the rowing dock at the west end of the lake was unexpected. We checked out the two Bald Eagle nests that Kris Buchler is monitoring for Idaho Fish and Game and found both nests to be occupied but we couldn't tell if they were incubating eggs. The nest at the west end of the lake is located in the Great Blue Heron Rookery. Will the herons also nest or chase the pair of eagles out of the area? It will interesting to see what happens.

Highlights at Cougar Bay included: a pair of Red-breasted Merganser, a Red-tailed Hawk, a Downy Woodpecker, 50+ Tundra Swan and 100s of Canada Goose mixed in with 8 species of ducks.

We tallied 23 species at Fernan Lake and 25 species from the Cougar Bay area. Observers included Kris Buchler, Janet Callen, Roland Craft, Bill Gundlach, Adela Sussman, Judy and Phil Waring. Thank you for participating in the field trip.

41ST ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

April 22, 2011:

<http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/world/earth-day>

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY

April 27 <http://www.arborday.org/arborday/>

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

May 14 <http://www.birdday.org/birdday>

2011 - INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS

Reprint from *Bird Studies of Canada: BirdLife Website*

24 January 2011 – It's official...2011 is the United Nations International Year of Forests. Deforestation of tropical rainforests continues to be the highest threat to species. Estimates put the current losses of forest at over 10 million hectares per year, which is about the land area of a medium-sized country like Egypt, Bolivia, or Tanzania. As things now stand, few tropical forests will survive to the end of the 21st century.

"The world's forests are not only essential to life in all its diversity but also to achieving mankind's biggest goals, such as reducing poverty, combating climate change, and attaining sustainable development," says Dr. Marco Lambertini, BirdLife International's Chief Executive.

The BirdLife Partnership has numerous projects to conserve and restore degraded forest ecosystems and promote sustainable forest use. BirdLife's work is at the centre of global efforts to conserve and restore forests so that the profusion of life they contain and the vital services they provide are not lost to the world forever.

An exciting new initiative is BirdLife's **Forests of Hope Programme** which aims to prevent deforestation or promote restoration of natural forest at up to 20 sites covering at least five million hectares of tropical forest by 2015. The fundamental belief being that threatened biodiversity is not lost and can be saved, and degraded forests can be restored. Conserved or restored forests can continue to provide the services that local communities and society world-wide depend upon.

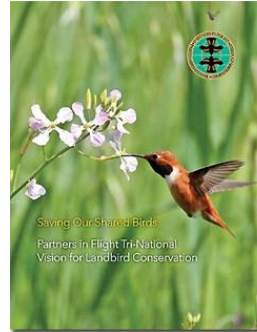
The official launch of the International Year of Forests 2011 took place at the Ninth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests at the United Nations Headquarters, New York on January 24, 2011.

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HOW VULNERABLE ARE NORTH AMERICA'S BIRDS?

Reprint from *Bird Studies of Canada: BirdLife Website*

20 January 2011 – A recent study carried out by scientists from Canada, Mexico, and the United States, including several BirdLife Partners, found that of the 882 native landbirds shared across borders, 17 per cent (148 species) need immediate conservation action.



The report, **Saving Our Shared Birds**, an initiative of Partners in Flight, assessed the status of all 882 shared landbirds, and used their findings to rank the vulnerability of each species.

The 148 species identified as *most* vulnerable include:

- 44 species having limited distributions
- 80 tropical species which depend on deciduous, highland, and evergreen forests in Mexico
- 24 species that occur in temperate-zone forests, grasslands, and arid land habitats during the breeding season

Hawk-eagles, Wood Partridges, Cyanolyca Jays, and Macaws are some of the birds included in the list of 148 species. As is the case for biodiversity, habitat loss is the greatest threat to these birds.

The report concludes with six steps that Canada, Mexico, and the United States must take to reverse the trend of declining North American land bird populations.

One Zen master stood up before his students and was about to deliver a sermon. And just as he was about to open his mouth, a bird sang. And he said, "The sermon has been delivered"
Joseph Campbell

**Western Field Ornithologists
Conference: Sierra Vista, AZ
August 17-21, 2011**

Ed Pandolfino, Ph.D.

Vice President, Western Field Ornithologists

If you've never been to southeast Arizona during the late summer season (or even if you have), this is an opportunity you won't want to miss. We will offer field trips to all the southeast Arizona hotspots looking for local specialties like Scaled and Montezuma quail, Gray, Short-tailed, and Zone-tailed hawks, a dazzling variety of hummingbirds and flycatchers, Elegant Trogon, Red-faced Warbler, Cassin's, Botteri's, Rufous-winged, and Five-striped sparrows and much more. To register and see full details go to www.westernfieldornithologists.org and click on the 'Annual Conference' banner in the middle of the page. You will probably want to download the Conference Details document and review before you begin registration. Non-member registration includes a one-year membership to WFO and a subscription to our publication, Western Birds.

The rains that come during late summer to southeast Arizona create breeding conditions for some species and, for others, ideal conditions for molting prior to movement to the wintering grounds. This phenomenon of molt migration will be the subject of a Keynote address by Peter Pyle during the conference, and will make the field trips particularly interesting. As always, we'll have Science Sessions Friday and Saturday afternoons, a wide variety of field trips, and workshops on topics like flycatcher identification, bird banding, study skin preparation, and wilderness first aid. Dan Fischer will give a talk about the first naturalists to visit the southwest. We are offering pre-and post-meeting field trips to the Chiricahua Mountains and California Gulch and a Sunday trip focusing on butterflies and dragonflies. Many local experts will be helping us out with workshops and field trips including Tony Battiste, Bob Behrstock, Homer Hansen, Melody Kehl, Michael Marsden, Ted Mouras, Heather Swanson, Wezil Walraven, Jack Whetstone, Sheri Williamson, and Erika Wilson. In addition, you'll have chances to bird with members of the WFO board like Ken Able, Jon Dunn,

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Kimball Garrett, Dave Krueper, Kurt Leuschner, Dave Shuford, and Jay Withgott.

As so many discovered last year, you need to register very early to be sure to get your first choice of field trips and workshops, so visit the WFO web site (www.westernfieldornithologists.org) right away to see full details and to register.

Editors Note: Lisa Hardy and Shirley Sturts attended the Western Field Ornithologists Conference in Boise last fall and found it very worthwhile.

**9TH ANNUAL SAGE GROUSE
FESTIVAL**



**APRIL 15- 16,
2011
DUBOIS, IDAHO**

SAGE GROUSE VIEWING AND C Photo by Wayne Tree

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Friday evening social dinner and then off to bed early!
- Early morning guided lek tours to view the amazing courtship display of the male Greater Sage-Grouse.
- Delicious late breakfast following lek tour.
- Outstanding bird presentations in the early afternoon—
- Falconry, Birding in Costa Rica, Teton Raptor Center
- Raffle to raise funds for sage-grouse conservation projects.
- Additional local birding opportunities before or after event.

For information: Dubois Grouse Days
jeff_liday_179@hotmail.com (208)313-2730
www.grousedays.org

Bluebird Trail Monitoring 101

DATE: April 5, Tuesday

PLACE Lutheran Church of the Master,
4800 N. Ramsey

TIME: 7:00-8:30

This 1-1.5 hour presentation is for those people interested in helping to monitor our two bluebird trails which have been nurtured and maintained for more than a decade! Helping with the effort is guaranteed to be fun! You get to see bluebirds as well as other cavity nesting species up close and you help provide important information to Mountain Bluebird Trails www.mountainbluebirdtrails.com

If you have any interest please come, age or experience is irrelevant. **Please contact Roland Craft for more information: 457-8894.**



FIELD TRIPS

PLEASE REGISTER: Watch the website or newsletter for updates to our field trip schedule. Participants should contact the trip leader at least 24 hours in advance of the field trip to find out if the meeting place/time, or destination has been changed. Participants will share in a mileage reimbursement for the driver.

MICA BAY SURVEY

Date: April 12, Tuesday (held 2nd Tuesday of each month - times vary depending on month)

Time: 8:00 a.m. 2-3 hours (**TIME CHANGE**)

Meet: (CHANGED-this month only - due to bridge construction on highway 95) Lowe's parking lot on Appleway – southwest corner.

Leader: Shirley Sturts 664-5318

Activity: Everybody is welcome, especially beginner birders. We will help you with identification skills.

WESTMOND LAKE

Date: April 30, Saturday

Leader: Janet Callen 664-1085

Meet: K-Mart parking lot, south side

Time: 8:00 a.m.

This is planned as a half-day trip. We may, depending on the weather, time, and the participants, also hike the trail (approximately 2 miles) that circles RoundLake. Bring a snack and water. Target birds include Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, and Warblers.

JAMES T. SLAVIN RANCH CONSERVATION AREAS

Date: May 7, 2011, Saturday

Leader Roland Craft 457-8894

Meet: K-Mart parking lot, south side

Time: 8:00 a.m.

This will be a 3/4 day trip so bring a lunch. We will look for waterfowl and songbirds. The area is located southwest of Spokane about 10 or 15 miles. It is quite similar to Turnbull NWR but will be a new area to investigate. We will be hiking several miles, so bring sturdy clothing, boots and lunch.

KAMIAK BUTTE, LEWISTON, CLARKSTON & ASOTIN

Date: May 21, Saturday and May 22, Sunday 2011

Leaders: Judy Waring 765-5378

Janet Callen 664-1085

Meet: To be arranged with drivers.

Time: Depart CdA by 7:30 a.m.

Activity: Saturday we will journey to Kamiak Butte and hike the trail to the top (approximately 3 miles) and search for birds, wildflower and a magnificent view of the Palouse. We will then travel on to Lewiston for visits to Mann Lake, Nez Perce National Park (Spalding), the levee ponds, and time permitting, Hells Gate State Park. We will stay the night in Clarkston at the Quality Inn. Target birds: many, including the Black-crowned Night Heron, Black-headed Grosbeaks and Bullock's Orioles. And my secret target: a Yellow-breasted Chat. Descriptions of the various areas are in the Idaho Birding Trail Guide at N40, N41, N42 & N44.

Sunday Will be spent in the Asotin, WA area. Our target bird is the elusive Mountain Quail, known to be in higher elevations on Asotin Creek. This fellow often responds to a recording, but to see him/her is another story. Fortunately Keith Carlson, an excellent birder and photographer from Lewiston, has said that he will accompany us on that portion of the trip taking us to the more likely spots. Other birds of interest can be found along the way including Chukar and Golden Eagle. On our return to Asotin we will visit the Asotin Slough Habitat Management Unit at the south end of town for song birds and also visit sites along the Snake River, where several species of geese are reported every spring. Our destinations will be chosen by what is currently being reported in the area. Anyone is welcome to join us for one day only. Bring a lunch for Saturday. Please call the leaders, for more information and to confirm that you are planning to join us.

