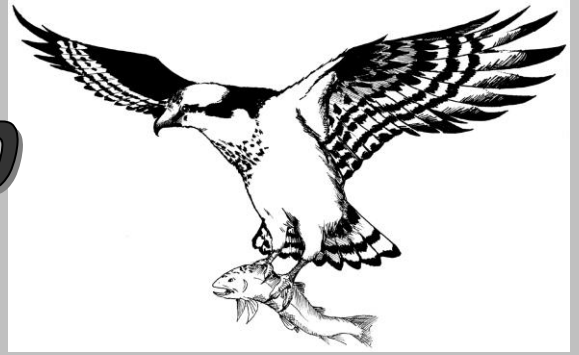


# THE FISH HAWK HERALD

Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society



February 2001

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 6

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

### BOARD MEETING

Date: February 12, Monday  
Time: 5:00 p.m.  
Place: Mountain West Bank  
125 Ironwood Dr.

### FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Date: February 19, Monday Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Place: First Presbyterian Church, 521  
Lakeside  
Program: Ponderosa Pine Ecology  
Speaker: Susan Weller  
One of the most threatened landscapes in  
the west is the ponderosa pine habitat.  
Come learn how this unique habitat is  
being preserved and enhanced for 31 of  
Idaho's bird species.

### GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Date: February 16-19, Friday-Monday  
Project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
and the National Audubon Society. Count  
the highest number of each bird species  
seen at one time and keep track of the  
amount of time spent counting. Log on to  
Birdsource at [www.birdsource.org](http://www.birdsource.org) to report  
your count. (See article on page 7 & 8 for  
more about the count)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kris Buchler

Many thanks go to the 70 people who attended our January meeting. Our "plan B" allowed us to view a video about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, engage in spirited discussion and hopefully have a better understanding about the wildlife and delicate balance in that particular ecosystem.

We realize many of you had hoped to hear Rich Landers speak about the refuge and share his pictures and experiences with us. You will not be disappointed and Rich Landers will join us at a future date. A serious medical emergency took him suddenly out of state and he contacted us immediately upon his return. Our thoughts and best wishes are with him.

## CATS INDOORS!

### A CAMPAIGN UPDATE FROM THE AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY

We're finishing up the 4th year of the campaign stronger than ever, with over 2,800 activists involved. Please see below for a few recent highlights.

1. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Cats Indoors! Campaign: recognizing that impacts of free-roaming cats on native wildlife are a growing concern, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has embarked on a statewide Cats Indoors! education campaign. Over 20,000 copies of Keeping Cats Indoors Isn't Just For The Birds brochures and 2,000 posters are being distributed to veterinary hospitals, county commissioners and animal control officers throughout the state. The Commission's Web site, [http://wld.fwc.state.fl.us/critters/domestic\\_cat.htm](http://wld.fwc.state.fl.us/critters/domestic_cat.htm) features a page on domestic cats and a link to ABC's Cats Indoors! Web page. The Commission is also

Continued on Page 2

# CATS INDOORS!

Continued from page 1



## CALI AND TUNSUS INDOOR CATS

Brevard and West Palm Beach counties have done, the Commission is encouraging counties to find other solutions to free-roaming cat overpopulation problems, such as low cost or free spay/neuter clinics, or mandatory spay/neuter and cat leash laws.

making it clear to counties that it is a violation of state law to release any species of the animal kingdom not native to Florida without a permit from the commission. Rather than allowing trap/neuter/release of stray cats, as

**2. Cape May Anti-Abandonment Campaign:** As birders arrive in Cape May by way of the Cape May/Lewes Ferry, they are greeted by a "Welcome to New Jersey" sign at the Lower Township Rotary Club Park along the waters edge. Directly underneath the sign, on top of and under the picnic tables and cars, are stray cats--fed there every night by well-meaning people. Stray and feral domestic cats are a serious problem in the birding hotspot of the east coast, largely because of people who fail to get their cats spayed or neutered, who do not keep their cats indoors, and who abandon their unwanted cats and kittens at the area's local parks and restaurants. Residents, as well as tourists, are to blame. Cats also pose a serious threat to nesting Piping Plovers and Least Terns along the beach at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center. ABC will be working with New Jersey Audubon, City of Cape May Animal Control, U.S. Coast Guard, and others in an anti-cat abandonment education campaign for the area.

**3. Writer of Teacher's Guide Wins Award:** Rhonda Lucas Donald, author of, "Cats Indoors! Educator's Guide for Grades K - 6," won the first place award for a brochure or pamphlet in the Cat Writer's Association annual contest. Ms. Donald received the award because the guide, "was informative, engaging, and well-illustrated," and because, "of its appeal to a very important age group of cat owners--children." Thanks to a generous grant from the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, the guide will be reprinted. If you need more copies, please let me know at <lwinter@abcbirds.org.>

**4. What are you doing on the campaign?** Please let me know if you are conducting an education campaign, getting a local cat ordinance passed, getting an existing law enforced, or if you are getting local media attention. I am especially interested in knowing if your efforts have been successful.

**5. Please note our new phone and fax numbers.**  
Linda Winter, Director  
Cats Indoors!  
American Bird Conservancy  
1250 24th Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20037  
NEW phone (202) 452-1535  
NEW fax (202) 452-1534  
lwinter@abcbirds.org  
<http://www.abcbirds.org>

## SUMMARY OF BOARD MEETING

**JANUARY 8, 2001**

- ◆ Kris Buchler opened the meeting at 5 p.m. 12 members present.
- ◆ National Audubon is gradually cutting back on the money it returns to local chapters from membership dues. We discussed ways to generate more income and cut expenses.
- ◆ Our Chapter will participate in the Earth Day Celebrations on April 22. All volunteers and suggestions would be welcome. Call any board member for information.
- ◆ Several projects to help birds were discussed. They were: Black-backed Woodpecker Surveys, Farragut State Park Wildlife Survey, Improve Bald Eagle habitat on Higgin;s Point, and the Haydens City Urban Park project.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our chapter and hope to see you at the field trips and meetings!

The Camerons, Roland & Patricia Craft, Ben & Cindy Heinig, Glenn & Carolyn Nyberg, Cyndi Ebert, Debra Howerton, Burt T. Koentopp, Patsy Bogan , Mr. & Mrs. Vanderzanden,.

● A BIG WELCOME !!!

## \$\$ RUMMAGE SALE \$\$

Our 2nd annual Rummage Sale is coming in June!! Doing Christmas and early Spring Cleaning?? Save your "collectibles" for us!!  
 Contact: Theresa Potts 765-0229  
 Or Jan Severtson 667-6209

## BROWN BAG BIRDING

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9**

Bill Gundlach

We didn't see any hybrid Blue Jays on our one-hour tour around my neighborhood but it was good birding. Four of us, Kris Buchler, Lynn Sheridan, Jerry Jancik and myself met at my house on south 16<sup>th</sup> Street in Coeur d'Alene to bird around two blocks bordering Lakeview Hill. There was considerable bird activity. We saw a mature Bald Eagle (flying over), American Crow, Pygmy Nuthatch, Black-capped Chickadee, American Robin, European Starling, Hairy Woodpecker and a Northern Flicker.

The highlight of the hour was spotting two Varied Thrush hanging out around the robins along the hill. We got good views of both a male and female Varied Thrush in a tree. This was a new sighting for Lynn Sheridan. The robins and thrushes were feeding on Hawthorne berries still available on some bushes. Another interesting, but very fleeting sighting was a small raptor chasing some small birds across a yard into a tree, probably an American Kestrel after either House Finch or European Starling.

It was a fun hour of birding and we would like to welcome Jerry Jancik, who drove over from Spokane, to join us on future birding trips.

## FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS

### SANDPOINT AREA

DATE: February 11, Sunday

TIME: 7:00 a.m.

MEET: (Old) Rosauer's parking lot, Highway 95 and Appleway, east side

LEADER: Lisa Hardy, 682-4808 or e-mail .

[basalt@earthlink.net](mailto:basalt@earthlink.net)

ACTIVITY: We will check for mid-winter birds at City Beach, make the obligatory stop at Starbuck's, and travel to Sunnyside for waterfowl. This will be a full day trip, so bring lunch and water.

### MICA BAY SURVEY

DATES: February 12 and 26, Mondays

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEET: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

LEADER: Shirley Sturts, 664-5318

Kris Buchler, 664-4739

ACTIVITY: We spend about 3 hours twice a month counting birds in the Mica Bay area. Beginner birders are welcome to join us.

### BROWN BAG BIRDING TRIP

DATE: February 13, Tuesday

TIME: 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m.

MEET: 3<sup>rd</sup> Street boat dock entrance to the Coeur d'Alene Resort Boardwalk

LEADER: Theresa Potts, 765-0229

ACTIVITY: We will walk around the boardwalk. Several grebes and ducks are feeding in the sheltered water around the docks. We will also look for different species of gulls that are wintering here.

### HAYDEN LAKE PARK

DATE: February 17, Saturday

TIME: 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

MEET: (Old) Rosauer's parking lot, Highway 95 and Appleway, east side

LEADER: Therea Potts - 765-0229 and Eula Hickman

ACTIVITY: We will look over this newly established park and discuss the possibility of our Chapter's involvement in creating bird habitat or a nature trail. We will look for birds that are currently using the area for food and shelter. If we have time we will go on to Honeysuckle Beach on Hayden Lake for further birding. Optional activity will be lunch afterward at the new Olive Garden Restaurant.

# THANK YOU

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT PARTICIPANTS

Shirley Sturts, Compiler (Coeur d'Alene - Spirit Lake)

Don Heikkila, Compiler (Indian Mountain)

Our three CBC's were a great success due to the participation of our many field observers and feeder counters. **Thank you:**

### **Coeur d'Alene field participants -**

Janet Allen, Kris Buchler, Janet Callen, Roland Craft, Dick Cripe, Ken Eppler, Lisa Hardy, Steve Lindsay, Gary Neilson, Theresa Potts, Scott Reed, George Saylor, Mark Schuler, Herb and Jan Severtson, Lynn Sheridan, Shirley Sturts, Phil and Judy Waring, Carl and Marilyn Weik, Roger Young.

**Feeder Watchers** - Gloria Andrews, Ed Buchler, Corinne Cameron, Dick and Elaine Codding, Carolyn Cozzetoo, Sharon Gould, Jim and Mickey McKahan, Bob and Ann Seddon, Ruth Sundler, Bud and Mary Vanderbilt, John Weber, Vera Weiniger

### **Indian Mountain Field Participants -**

Nona Andrews, Janet Callen, Dick Cripe, Ronald and Patricia Craft, Ken Eppler, Lisa Hardy, Don Heikkila, Earl and Jann Kendle, Steve Lindsay, Ellen Scriven, Shirley Sturts, Susan Weller. **Feeder Watchers** -, Toni Hardy, Ellen Hilton, Carrel Jennies, Dave and Joan Lindsay.

**Spirit Lake Field Participants** - Nona Andrews, Kris Buchler, Janet Callen, Roland Craft, Ken Eppler, Lisa Hardy, Kathryn and Kaitlin Henderson, Cindy Langlitz, Theresa Potts, Jan and Herb Severtson, Shirley Sturts. **Feeder Watchers** - Cheryl Costigan, Marge Dottel, JoAnn Tombow, Debbie Wagoner, Jim and Marty Yates.

On behalf of all of us, I want to thank Herb and Jan Severtson, Don Heikkila, and Cindy Langlitz for hosting the potlucks/pizza party and compiling sessions in their homes. All participants enjoyed good food and hot drinks.

The CBC results can be viewed on our website [www.cdaudubon.org](http://www.cdaudubon.org) or on-line at [www.birdsource.org](http://www.birdsource.org). If you do not have access to a computer you may pick up a copy at the February meeting or request one from Shirley Sturts 664-5318.



Photo by Wayne Tree

## CBC '99

Over the hummock where the barn stands  
 Wrapped in its shutters, hunkered under a tin roof  
 Low against the cold,  
 A harrier  
 Out of nowhere rises on a gust.

Here and there on spurs of the same wind,  
 Clear to the fence and clumped wood,  
 Flurried snow  
 Conjures up ghosts  
 That nearly form but disappear.

But this bird, the one tangible  
 In the temporal abstract, white on white,  
 Burns dark with intent. Tilt-winged,  
 As through the climates of millennia it's flown,  
 It goes hunting.

- Del Cameron -

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## Avian Trivia

The oldest documented age for any bird is a male Sulphur-crested Cockatoo named *Cocky* acquired in 1925 by the London Zoo from an individual who obtained it as an adult at the beginning of the century. It died on October 28, 1982 at age 80 or 82. (*10,001 Titillating Tidbits of Avian Trivia* by Frank S. Todd)



# KOOTENAI COUNTY CHECKLIST AND 'BIG YEAR'

Stephen L. Lindsay

"Listers" are those of us birders who enjoy keeping lists of the birds we see. Most of us have at least an informal "lifelist" that documents the species we have seen during the course of pursuing our hobby (or passion, when it gets out of hand -- I should know!). With some, listing becomes more formal, following the rules of the American Birding Association (ABA) for birds seen in North America (north of Mexico).



Many birders keep other lists as well. "Year lists" record the species seen within a calendar year. "State lists" record species seen within a state. "County lists" record species seen within a county. And on and on it goes. Dedicated listers can dream up no end of categories for keeping lists of species (park lists, trip lists, seasonal lists) Again, I should know!

Many birders have also found ways to turn their listing hobby into a sport, even a competition. There are "Big Days" in which the participants attempt to see as many species as possible within a geographic area (state, county) in a 24 hour period. Similarly, a "Big Year" is an attempt to see as many species as possible within a geographic area, but within a calendar year. These attempts are either a competition against other individuals or teams, or a competition against self, bettering previous attempts. These events may also follow rules set out by the ABA.

The ultimate in a Big Year attempt involves the whole "ABA Area" (North America north of Mexico). Kenn Kaufman, a noted author of field guides and the excellent *Lives of North American Birds*, has written a very entertaining book based on his Big Year as a hitchhiking teenager. The ultimate in Big Day competition is seen at the "World Series of Birding" each May in New Jersey. In this event teams, with corporate sponsors, scour the state after a new record for number of species seen within a day. Pete Dunn, noted writer and naturalist, has chronicled some of his

Big Days in his books *Feather Quest* and *Tales of a Low rent Birder*. ]

Helpful in keeping a list is a "checklist" of the birds expected in a particular area. One has only to tick the box in front of the species seen to keep the list. There are checklists available for almost any area one might wish to bird. There are official state lists, maintained by state record committees. There are refuge or park lists, often available at the appropriate office. There is an ABA list: *ABA Checklist, Birds of the Continental United States and Canada*.

And now, to the point of this article. For the past year or so I have been working on a Kootenai County Checklist. It is based on data collected by Shirley Sturts from observations made by many birders over the years. Such a list is dynamic, growing as new observations are made, and new species are discovered visiting within the borders of the county. At this moment, the checklist includes 275 species seen since 1950. This number includes 166 species one could expect to see within the county in any given year with diligent searching (categories "abundant, common, and uncommon"). There are 75 species considered "rare or local" that *may* be seen, but are more difficult or unreliable. There are also 34 species listed as "vagrant or accidental" that have been seen within Kootenai County only a few times and are not to be expected no matter how hard one may search.

This Kootenai County Checklist is currently in draft form and I am seeking input based on your personal observations and use. If you would like one, get in touch with me (see below) and I will send you a copy.

Also, I am attempting a Kootenai County Big Year in 2001. I would very much appreciate hearing of any unusual species you may sight within the county so that I may "chase" them and add them to my personal year list. Such attempts are very much dependent on the help of many birders sharing their finds on a timely basis. I am hoping to find at least 200 species in the county this year and can only accomplish this with the help of all Kootenai County birders.

So, to either obtain a Kootenai County Checklist, or to let me know of your sightings, you may contact me anytime at 699-3420 (voice mail) or [slindsay@dm.net](mailto:slindsay@dm.net) (e-mail). Thanks for your help -- both with the checklist and the Big Year!

# 2000 YARDLIST CHALLENGE

## AND THE WINNERS ARE....

The winners in the 2000 Yardlist Challenge are, of course, the birds themselves. Results were sent in from thirteen yards; eleven in Kootenai County, and one each from Bonner and Shoshone Counties. A total of 134 species were seen (or heard), with four species reported from all thirteen yards: Northern Flicker, American Robin, Dark-eyed Junco and Evening Grosbeak. The next most commonly reported species are Black-capped Chickadee and Pine Siskin (from twelve yards), followed by Rufous Hummingbird, White-crowned Sparrow and House Finch from eleven yards. Thirty-four of the species, or 25%, were reported from only a single yard. Check out the website for the complete results - [www.cdaaudubon.org](http://www.cdaaudubon.org) - and find out who saw all three nuthatches or which raptor was most commonly reported.

Participants in the urban category are Lynn Sheridan (29 species total), Patricia Sweet (24) and Judy & Phil Waring (25). The urbanites complained about neighborhood dog and cat populations, but still managed to turn up Blue Jay (Lynn), White-throated Sparrow (Patricia) and Brewer's Blackbird (Judy & Phil).

The suburban participants are Janet Callen (37 species) and Theresa Potts (45) with some surprising warbler sightings. Janet had a Common Yellowthroat, and Theresa found a Wilson's Warbler.

Three far-flung participants in the rural category turned up a combined total of 59 species - Ken Eppler (37 species), Dottie Jones (42) and Janet Wilcox (12). Ken saw both Western and Mountain Bluebirds, Dottie spotted a Northern Shrike, and Janet watched *Picoides* woodpeckers (Downy or Hairy) bathe in her sprinklers.

The water view category is the largest, with five participants - Wendy Aeschlimann (68 total species), Kris Buchler (63), Lisa Hardy (65), Wyatt Luce (76) and Shirley Sturts (47). Wendy had thirteen species of duck, Kris had six warbler species, Wyatt saw a Bald Eagle tussling with an Osprey, and Shirley racked up four Galliformes.

So, a big thank you to all the participants! And to all of you backyard birders who were too shy or too disorganized to submit a list, we hope you are motivated to participate in the second annual Yardlist Competition. Maybe 2001 will be the year we have cash prizes! So start counting...

## RULES FOR THE 2001 YARDLIST CHALLENGE

Same as last year - list any species that you can see or hear while you are in your yard, during the calendar year 2001.

# GULL SEARCH

## FIELD TRIP JANUARY 28, SUNDAY

Shirley Sturts

Our gull search netted us four species of gulls. The Ring-billed Gull is the most common gull in our



Photo by Wayne Tree

area. In the adult plumage it is easily recognized by the black ring around its bill. The California Gull is larger with a black and red dot on its bill. Both these species have

yellow legs. The larger Herring Gull, a winter visitor in our area, has pink legs and has a red dot on its large yellow bill and a yellow eye. Thanks to Lisa Hardy's diligence, we were able to add 1 adult Thayer's Gull to our list of gulls. It looks very similar to a Herring Gull but has a slightly darker mantle and a dark brown eye. As the rest of us checked the beach, Lisa went out on the dock to get a closer look at this gull which turned out to a Thayer's. It didn't stay around long enough for the rest of us to admire.

Gulls take 2 to 4 years to get their adult plumage, depending on the species. Their bills, leg color, and plumage change with their age. Gull identification can be very confusing.

Participants included: Janet Callen, Roland Craft, Ken Eppler, Lisa Hardy, Theresa Potts, Barry and Clayton Runkle, Lynn Sheridan and new member Laura Bayless and her three daughters Diana, Jenny and Luz. Total bird species admired - 18.

# MISTER STELLER COMES TO STAY

And grants me an honorary place within the jay clan

Continued from the January Newsletter

By Susan Weller

24 July



**Photograph by Wayne Tree**

everything going in his mouth or being tapped with his bill.

His leg must be feeling better because he has started a new exercise routine this morning. When I first let him out of his crate he hops madly around and around it. Faster and faster he goes, all the while squawking loudly. Then he hides around the backside of the crate and peeks around to see if I am looking. Then he begins hopping around the crate in the opposite direction.

Today he can pick the crickets and small meal worms out of a dish filled with pinon nuts and sunflower seeds. A huge pine beetle landed nearby today and I lopped its head off and dropped it front of Jay. He attacked it quite fiercely, pecking it into submission—or until it was tenderized--and then swallowed it. He seemed quite pleased with himself.

He is daily struck stupid by a sunbeam. He opens his mouth and pants, his eyes roll back into his head, his body goes limp, and his head lolls to one side. Goofy bird.

26 July

Jay's leg is improving daily. Thank God. I am replacing his smaller perches with larger ones of ponderosa pine. He was getting tired of the small ones since he has grown so much. His tail feathers are getting longer. I hope the resident jays will return soon because I hate to release him all alone in the world. That day is coming but is still a few weeks off yet. I do not know if the other jays will accept him or harass

him. Corvids are pretty clannish. He might not find a place for himself until he is ready to breed.

CONTINUED IN THE MARCH NEWSLETTER

## GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

The Great Backyard Bird Count needs everyone, everywhere to count birds.

It is well known that many bird species are showing population declines due to habitat loss or other human impacts. Now, people of all ages and backgrounds can help monitor bird populations - including several that are showing declines - by participating in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Great Backyard Bird Count, February 16 - 19, 2001.

A project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society, with funding provided in part by Wild Birds Unlimited and Ford Motor Company, the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) combines high-tech web tools with "citizen-science" observations of birds. Families, individuals, classrooms, and community groups are asked to count the kinds of birds that visit their feeders, local parks, schoolyards, and other areas during any or all of the four count days. Participants enter their observations at BirdSource [www.birdsource.org](http://www.birdsource.org),

Begun in 1998, the GBBC has engaged more than 100,000 people of all ages and skill levels in the effort to keep common birds common. This project is especially important for species that are already showing population declines. GBBC 2001 will put the spotlight on quail, a frequent backyard visitor, familiar to many outdoor enthusiasts in the U.S. and Canada. "While most people recognize quail when they see them, few people are aware that some species, including Northern Bobwhite in the East and Scaled Quail in the Southwest, are experiencing severe population declines," says Frank Gill, National Audubon's senior vice president for science. "Because quail are relatively easy to identify, even the casual observer can play an important role in helping them by participating in the GBBC.

Quail are flagship representatives of brushland/shrub habitat. Loss of this habitat and the results of some land management practices are the primary reasons for quail declines.

Continued on page 8



# GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Continued from page 7

In suburban areas, cat predation of these ground-dwelling birds is also of serious concern. Visitors to the GBBC web site can learn more about all six North American quail species.

Audubon and the Cornell Lab are also asking participants to pay special attention to several species of woodpecker, including the Red-headed Woodpecker and the Northern Flicker, which are also showing signs of serious population decreases. The web site will include several features relating to these species in need of attention.

New this year will be the GBBC's debut in several Latin American locations, allowing the benefits of the count to reach into a new region and affording a fascinating glimpse of tropical backyards and the birds found in them. This experiment is a first step toward one of BirdSource's ultimate goals - hemisphere-wide monitoring of bird populations and the educational opportunities that go with these projects.

Because the GBBC charts findings in real time, scientists have already made connections between weather patterns and bird movements. For the last few years, American Robins appeared farther north than typically expected, in areas where snow cover was scant or nonexistent. Such a correlation may be suggestive of global warmings or other broad-scale weather changes. This year's GBBC will again collect information about snow depth.

The GBBC has also helped track movements of winter finches that typically remain in Canada in the extreme northern U.S. but that move farther south some winters during irruptions. The count showed "southerly" concentrations of Common Redpolls in the northeast and across the Great Lakes and northern Rockies. "It's thought that some of these species, including Common Redpolls, irrupt biennially, as a result of a lack of seeds in what is typically their year-round ranges," says the Cornell Lab's Fitzpatrick. "But much of this phenomenon remains a mystery that participants in the GBBC can help us solve."

To participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count, count the highest number of each bird species seen at one time (to ensure that birds are not counted more than once) and keep track of the amount of time spent counting. Log on to Birdsource at [www.birdsource.org](http://www.birdsource.org) and click on the appropriate state or province for a

THE FISH HAWK HERALD

checklist of the most frequently reported birds in that region.

Results are updated hourly in the form of animated maps and colorful graphs for all to view. Participants will be able to see almost immediately how their observations fit into the continentwide perspective. Findings from previous years are also available at the site.

The GBBC web site also includes a vocabulary section, bird watching and bird-feeding tips, bird vocalizations, and more, including information about House Finch eye disease. Educators will find the bibliography and geography sections especially handy, as well as suggestions for conducting the count with groups of kids.

Instructions for participating can be found at [www.birdsource.org](http://www.birdsource.org) by clicking of "Great Backyard Bird Count." There's no fee or registration. Those who would like to participate but aren't online can try their local library or call an Audubon Chapter Board Member. For further information about getting involved in GBBC call 1 800 843-2473 or write Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, New York 14850 .



## BIRD SEED FOR SALE

**Black Oil Sunflower**

**50LB \$14.00**

**25LB \$ 7.50**

**Niger (Thistle) \$1.25 LB**

**Available at Regular Meetings**

**or call Janet Callen at 664-1085**

**Price includes sales tax  
All proceeds benefit  
Coeur d' Alene Audubon**



# OBSERVATION POST



## OBSERVERS:

Janet Allen (JALL),  
 Craig Buchler (CBUC), Kris Buchler (KBUC), Janet Callen (JCAL), Roland Craft (RCRA), Dick Cripe Ken Eppler (KEPP), Bill Gundlach (BGUN), Jerry Hanson (JHAN), Wes Hanson (WHAN), Lisa Hardy (LHAR), Steve Lindsay (SLIN), Julie Parker (JPAR), Theresa Potts (TPOT), George Saylor (GSAY), Jan Severtson (JSEV), Lynn Sheridan (LSHE), Shirley Sturts (SSTU) MICA Bay Survey observers: (SSTU, TPOT, KBUC, KEPP, RCRA, DCRI, BGUN, JCAL, WHAN, JHAN)

RBA Rare Bird Alert for Northern Idaho-Eastern Washington-Northeastern Oregon

Phone (208) 882-6195 or Internet-Web Site:

<http://pimacc.pima.edu/~cwilliamson/index.html>

**Redhead** 2 Wolf Lodge Bay, CDA Lake, Jan. 13 (GSAY)

**Lesser Scaup** 1 Mica Bay Survey, Jan. 22 (MICA)

**Red-breasted Merganser** 1 male City Mariana Harrison, Jan. 7 (CSWI) Jan. 8 (SLIN) Dec. 21 & Jan. 29 FHAY. (Rare in our area)

**Hooded Merganser** 4-1 Mica Bay Survey Jan. 8-22 (MICA)

**Bald Eagle** official BLM Eagle survey in Wolf Lodge Bay, CDA Lake is being done by Corinne and Cliff Cameron. A continuation from last month's observation post: **46 ad. 7 imm Dec. 20 -- 26 ad. 5 imm. Dec. 26 -- 18 ad. 2 imm Jan. 3 -- 15 ad. 7 imm Jan. 8 -- 4 ad. 6 imm 2 unk Jan. 16 -- 4 ad 2 imm Jan. 23 -- 2 ad. Jan. 29.**

**Red-tailed Hawk** 2 Rathdrum Prairie, Dec. 31 (JALL)

**Merlin** 1 Post Falls, Jan. 10&17&21 and 1 CDA 15<sup>th</sup> & Lakeside Jan. 12 (SLIN)

**Ruffed Grouse** 1 CDA Armstrong Hill, Jan. 14 (KBUC)

**California Quail** several daily at her home near State Line this winter (AHAR), 4-6 daily Fernan Lake home feeder (SSTU)

**Gray Partridge** 1+ Rathdrum Prairie, Jan. 16 (SLIN)

**California Gull** 12 CDA City Beach, Jan. 11 (LSHE)

**Thayer's Gull** 1 1<sup>st</sup> winter Spokane River (NIC Dike Rd.) Jan. 21 (SLIN)

**Barn Owl** 1 Hayden area on Ramsey between Prairie and Leisure Park, Jan. 24 (CBUC)

**Great Horned Owl** 1 Rathdrum Prairie, Jan. 20 (SLIN)

**Short-eared Owl** 2 Rathdrum Prairie, Jan. 30 (SLIN)

**Northern Pygmy-Owl** 1 CDA Armstrong Hill, Jan. 15 (KBUC); 1 Mica Bay Survey, Jan. 8 (MICA)

**Belted Kingfisher** 1 Wolf Lodge Bay, CDA Lake, Jan. 13 (GSAY)

**Northern Flicker** 2 Wolf Lodge Bay, CDA Lake, Jan. 13 (GSAY), 1 Dalton Gardens Jan. 6 (JALL); 1 CDA H.S., Jan. 14 (JPAR); 1 CDA Armstrong Hill, Jan. 17 (KBUC); 1 Fernan Lake, Jan. 6 (SSTU); 1 Mica Bay Survey, Jan. 22

**Downy Woodpecker** 1 Mica Bay Survey Jan. 22 (MICA)

**Northern Shrike** 1 (1<sup>st</sup> seen in her yard) CDA Armstrong Hill, Jan. 13&25 (KBUC); 1 O'Gara Road, Harrison Jan. 1, 1 Clagstone Rd. n. of Athol Jan. 10, 1 Rathdrum Prairie Jan. 16, and 3 Thompson Lake Jan. 21 (SLIN); 1 on the Mica Bay Survey Jan. 8 (MICA)

**Horned Lark** 25 & 18 Rathdrum Prairie Jan. 10 & 6 (SLIN)

**Chestnut-backed Chickadee** 4-6 Mica Bay Survey Jan. 8 and 22 Jerry Hanson's feeder)

**Mountain Chickadee** 1 Ash Ave. CDA, Jan. 6 (GSAY)

**Golden-cr. Kinglet** 1 Ocean Ave. CDA, Dec. 3 (JCAL)

**Townsend's Solitaire** 1 Tubbs Hill Dec. 27 (BGUN)

**Varied Thrush** 2 CDA Lakeside Hill, Jan. 9 (BGUN); 1 CDA Armstrong Hill Jan. 17 (KBUC)

**Cedar Waxwing** 4 CDA 12&Ash Dec. 31 (GSAY)

**Snow Bunting** 60 Rathdrum Prairie, Jan. 10 (SLIN)

**Western Meadowlark** 7 and 5 Rathdrum Prairie, Jan. 5 and Jan. 16 (SLIN)

**Rusty Blackbird** 2 Osprey Inn, Harrison, Jan. 1 (SLIN)

**Pine Grosbeak** 2 females Rathdrum Mountain, Jan. 20 (SLIN)

**Red Crossbill** flock Rathdrum Mountain, Jan. 20 (SLIN)

**House Finch** 2 feeder CDA Fairmont Loop Rd., daily (JSEV)

**Pine Siskin** 2 feeder CDA Fairmont Loop Rd., daily (JSEV)

