

THE FISH HAWK HERALD



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

February 2016

Volume 26 Number 6

February Program

DATE: February 9, Tuesday

PLACE: Lutheran Church of the Master,
4800 N. Ramsey, CDA TIME: 7:00 p.m.

SPEAKER: Kris Buchler

PROGRAM: "Birding The Pribilofs"

The Pribilof Islands, St. Paul and St. George, are located in the middle of the Bering Sea, 800 miles southwest of Anchorage, Alaska and north of the Aleutian Islands. St. Paul is one of the premier Asian vagrant hotspots, attracting rare migrant birds and is also home to many nesting seabirds, some only found there.

The volcanic island offers varied habitats of grassy tundra, uplands, wetlands, ponds, towering cliffs and rocky shorelines. Bering Sea weather systems influence the species found. Weather also determines whether or not you get there or leave as planned.

St. Paul is home to an Aleut village of 400+ residents and hosts a Trident fish processing plant housing many workers. St. Paul may be known to those of you who were fans of a Discovery Channel program titled "Deadliest Catch."

Ed and Kris Buchler, Anne and Keith Schroder and John Shipley, our favorite bird guide, spent a week on the island, birding and photographing wildlife.

Join us for the Next Great Backyard Bird Count

February 12-15, 2016 - It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

Copied from the Great Backyard Bird Count Website



Red Crossbill - Photo by Larry Krumpleman
at his feeder on January 21, 2016

1. [Register for the count](#), or use your existing login name and password. If you have never participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count or any other Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you'll need to [create a new account](#). If you already created an account for last year's GBBC, or if you're already registered with eBird or another Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you can use your existing login information.

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Great Backyard Bird Count

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2. Count birds for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the GBBC. You can count for longer than that if you wish! Count birds in as many places and on as many days as you like—one day, two days, or all four days. Submit a separate checklist for each new day, for each new location, or for the same location if you counted at a different time of day. Estimate the number of individuals of each species you saw during your count period.

3. Enter your results on the GBBC website by clicking "[Submit Observations](#)" on the home page. Or, download the free [eBird Mobile app](#) to enter data on a mobile device. If you already participate in the eBird citizen-science project, please use eBird to submit your sightings during the GBBC. Your checklists will count toward the GBBC.

Bluebird Trails

Shirley Sturts



Starting in the 2016 nesting season, Rob and Nancy Kroese have volunteered to organize checking the boxes and enter the nesting information in Cornell's "Nest Watch" program. This includes all three of our established trails: Mica Bay, Mica Flats, and Hoo Doo. A big thanks to Rob and Nancy for keeping this program active.

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Idaho Birds Website

Shirley Sturts



Mountain Bluebird – Photo by Darlene Carlton

The Website www.idahobirds.net was founded by J Harry Krueger and Stacy J. Peterson on October 5, 2004. Funding was provided by the Idaho Audubon Council. Although they are still listed as Webmasters, Harry passed away in 2013 and Stacy Peterson moved to Alaska.

At present, there is no one designated as Webmaster of the website. There are some areas of Website that need to be updated but other areas are currently active. Cliff Weisse, from Island Park, has taken on the task of keeping much of the Website functioning. I help him with the Idaho bird records by keeping the "Review List" and the rare bird species sightings lists up to date. I also do the bird distribution section. Lew Ulrey is responsible for the county big year spreadsheet.

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Idaho Birds Website

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Acorn Woodpecker photographed in Swan Valley, Bonneville County, Idaho on May 6, 2015 by Robert Miller. This will be a first record for Idaho if accepted by the Idaho Bird Records Committee. It is currently being reviewed by the Committee.

The Idaho Birds Website is worth exploring. If you go to their home page, you will find nine topics to click on.

- What's New? It needs some updates.
- Facts, Figures, and Development Lew Ulrey is updating the County Composite Big Year Spreadsheets. You can see how Kootenai and Benewah County Big Years compare with other counties in Idaho.
- Image Gallery Although it is not recently updated, there are many rare birds with photos. For example, if you click on the Panhandle region it will bring up a list of rare birds between 1986 and 2005. There was a Little

Blue Heron in Sandpoint on October 31, 1986 - Clicking on "Little Blue Heron" will bring up a photo and details.

- Identification pages You will find good information as well as links to other Websites. For example, "Identification of Canada and Cackling Goose" leads you to the Sibley Guides Website which has a wealth of information on bird identification.
- IBRC Idaho Bird Records Committee: This section is kept up-to-date by Cliff Weisse and me. Here you will find the official list of Idaho Birds under "Review Species" and which species need to be documented. Clicking on underlined species will bring up a list of Idaho sightings.
- Distributiot this shows how species are distributed by mapping by latilong. This is an ongoing process. You may submit a latilong change using the form on the Website or email me [shirley.sturts@gmail](mailto:shirley.sturts@gmail.com).
- Idaho Bird Events/News Pages: There is no current news but you can publicize events by contacting Cliff Weisse.
- Personal List Totals: Not updated since 2006
- Links: Last updated January 23 2016



Brown Thrasher

Shirley Sturts

The Brown Thrasher is on the IBRCs "Review List". There

are several accepted records in South Idaho. This is the first sighting of Brown Thrasher in North Idaho. The above Brown Thrasher has been at the home of Marrienne Love in the Sandpoint area since November 22, 2015. Kas Dumroese, from Moscow, submitted a rare bird report on the sighting January 16th. The Photo is by Kas. Use the link below to see the list of records for Idaho.

http://www.idahobirds.net/ibrc/reviewspecies/vireo_accentor.html#brth

Christmas Bird Counts

Shirley Sturts

The 116th Christmas Bird Count period has ended and data is being sent to the Audubon Website. So far, 1199 counts reporting some 32,127,840 birds have submitted their data. Each count goes through a regional editor before being accepted. Compilers need to send in documentation for birds reported that are out of season or rare for that region.

To check Christmas Bird Count results, go to the Audubon CBC Website:

<http://netapp.audubon.org/cbcobservation/>

You can look for either a species or a count. For this year, click on "Current Year" at the top of the page.

Spirit Lake Christmas Bird Count

Sixteen birders showed up for the 19th year of this count. John Shipley started this count. After he moved to Montana, I took over as the compiler but I'm now ready to hand this job over to someone else. If no one volunteers to take over as compiler, this will be the last year this count is run.

We divided up into four teams. Kris Buchler, Carrie Hugo, Valerie Zagar, and Tanya Lyder covered the Bayview area. They had great views of 4 Brown Creepers, always a fun bird to see climbing up the trunks of trees. They also added a new species to the count list, a Mew Gull. They reported 19 of the 20 Common Redpolls.

Lisa Hardy, Roger Doucet from Bonners Ferry, John Harbuck, and Jim and Sheelagh Lynn covered Farragut State Park. They found an American Dipper which has been seen only one other year, 2006. Another good bird was a Pacific Wren. Their best bird was a Barrow's X Common Goldeneye hybrid. Roger took a photo of it which is



also on our photo gallery.

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Spirit Lake Christmas Bird Count

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Janet Callen, Judy Waring, Roland Craft, and Mary Deasy covered the southwest area of the circle including part of Athol and part of Spirit Lake (town). The other teams are jealous of this team because they get coffee and brownies to eat at the home of Cheryl Costigan while they count birds at her feeder. Here they picked up 5 Steller's Jay and 2 Pileated Woodpecker. Cheryl was able to add the only Gray Jay to the count. We all thanked this team for bringing some of Cheryl's brownies to the compiling/pizza party as a peace offering.

The fourth team consisted of myself, Mike Blackbird, Theresa Potts, and Scrappy (dog). We do the north part of Athol and then drive through the Hoo Doo Valley. In Athol we picked up some feeder birds and lots of American Crow and Common Raven. The Hoo Doo Valley was pretty much empty of birds this year. With spirits low and boredom setting in, we finally found a feeder with birds to count. As we counted chickadees and finches, Mike spotted a Northern Shrike. Finally we got a bird we could brag about at the compiling party! It is usually seen on this count but not always (15 out of 19 counts). As it turned out, we were the only ones to see a Northern Shrike.

A big thank you to all those who participated and to Janet who hosted the compiling/pizza party at her home.

Field Trips

Rathdrum Prairie Hawk Survey

November through March. This two hour, fast-paced journey across the prairie is a learning experience that is a lot of fun. Limited to one car - call Doug Ward to reserve a spot 208 699-9327

Pend Oreille River & Lake/ Priest River

Date: February 6, Saturday 2016

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Meet: K-Mart parking lot, south side.

Leader: Bill Gundlach 755-2378

This will be a full-day trip. Bring lunch and water. Target birds are primarily waterfowl and eagles.

Mica Bay Survey

Date: February 9, Tuesday (held 2nd Tuesday of each month) - times vary

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Meet: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

Leader: Shirley Sturts 664-5318 and Janet Callen 664-1085

Activity: We spend about 3 hours once a month counting birds at Mica Bay. Beginner birders are welcome

Lincoln County Winter Bird Trip

Date: February 20, Saturday 2016

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Meet: K-Mart parking lot, south side.

Leader: Roland Craft 457-8894

This will be a full-day trip. Bring lunch and water. We will travel the roads in the Davenport area in search of winter birds including Great Horned and Snowy Owls, Horned Larks and Snow Buntings.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Become a member of the National Audubon Society, Join online at www.audubon.org or use this form.

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Publicity: Open
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Janet Callen 664-1085
Education : Barbara Christofferson
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Conservation: Midge Marcy-Brennan
661-0206
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