

THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society

www.cdaaudubon.org

January 2019

Volume 29 Number 5

January Program

Date: January 8, Tuesday

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Lutheran Church of the Master,
4800 N. Ramsey, CDA

Speaker: Craig Cooper

Program: "Solving the Climate Change
Challenge - What's Happening and What You
Can Do to Help"

Climate change poses a critical threat to our environment, our economy, our security, and our lives. We are beginning to see its effects today. Summers are longer and hotter, storms are more frequent and more severe, droughts are growing worse and fires more devastating. These threats are growing rapidly, and threaten the future of our families and communities.

The good news is that we know how to solve this problem, and how to create the political will to do so. The Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL) is a non-partisan, non-profit grassroots network of local volunteers working in communities across the nation to implement national policies to address climate change. Our Carbon Fee and Dividend proposal would greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions while growing our economy and helping our families adapt. Please join us to learn more about our organization, and how we can work together to build a more livable world.

President's Letter

Merry Christmas!



However, as I write this message four days before Xmas I have to confess I'm not yet in the holiday spirit. Too much shopping and package mailing, Christmas cards to write, planning for meals in and meals away, all of it definitely upsets my routine. By the special day, however, all that will have been done and I'll enjoy meals with friends, exchanging gifts, and lengthy phone conversations with family. I'll be sure to take some time to ponder the meaning and wonder of it all.

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President's Letter

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Red-breasted Merganser – Cougar Bay –
CDA CBC Photo taken by Roger Doucet

The CdA Christmas Bird Count was a success with 19 participants in 6 teams and 10 feeder counters that covered the CdA area. 67 + 3 count week species were identified and 9024 individual birds which is on par with previous years. I spent the day with Doug Ward on the Rathdrum Prairie and the Dalton Gardens area. Doug's skill took the pressure off me as I was able to spot and identify maybe one bird for every 10 that Doug spotted. But, it was fun and the weather for the day was great. Thanks to Teresa Potts who hosted the potluck dinner at her house where we tallied our count at the end of the day.

On January 5 we will conduct the Indian Mountain Bird Count in two teams. Janet Callen will lead the east team around Harrison and Shirley Sturts will lead the west team around Chatcolet and Heyburn SP. Our results will be reported into Audubon national office. The weather is predicted to stay mild. So sign up with either of them to

participate: Janet - 208-664-1085; Shirley - 208-664-5318.

Happy New Year!

- Dick Cripe -



Christmas Bird Count

This was the 28 year that our chapter has been participating in the CBC. The results of all the previous counts can be found on our Website - There is one chart that has each year listed. Another chart shows the current year, how many counts it has been seen on, and the highest number seen. They are found under "Projects".

<http://cdaudubon.org/Projects/cdacbc.html>

<http://cdaudubon.org/Projects/cdacbcchart2.html>

Thank you to all that participated in the count this year. A special thanks to Theresa Potts for hosting the potluck and compiling party after the count. I appreciated and also thank Doug Ward for being the lead on the compiling session and to Crystal Murray-Weston who stayed at the end and added up all the totals. Crystal saved me a lot of work on the compiling and it is much appreciated.

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Christmas Bird Count

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Some of best birds were the Red-breasted Merganser (9th time plus 2 cw on the count), Peregrine Falcon (2nd time on the count), Lesser Black-backed Gull (count week CW), Anna's Hummingbird at Doug Ward's feeder for the 5th year in a row), Gray Jay (6th time found on the count, American Robin (for the 2nd highest numbers-537-reported by all teams and some feeders - we had 966 in 2016 but only 1 last year) - see sighting for who reported these species and where,

Team E (City Beach, Dike Road, Cougar Bay to Kidd Island had the highest number of species (40) and team F doing the Spokane River from Highway 95 bridge to Post Falls had the highest number of individual birds (2228). Feeder Watchers (including Avondale Lake) had 25 species and 154 individual birds.



December Bird Sightings



Barrow's Goldeneye -

December 4 - 12-
Higgin's Point -
Doug Ward

Red-breasted Merganser -

December 15 - CDA CBC - Cougar Bay -
Roger Doucet, Rich Del Carlo, David Yake,
Crystal Murrary-Weston

Great Blue Heron - December 9 - 25-30
mostly standing around on the ice at
Harrison Slough - Carl Lundblad

Lesser Black-backed Gull - December 4 - 1
(among 350+ gull feeding with the eagles -
Higgin's Point - Doug Ward - and December
16 for CDA CBC Count Week - David Yake

"Thayer's" Iceland Gull - December 9 - 1
adult at Harrison Slough and 1 -1st cycle at
Harrison Harbor- Carl Lundblad

Peregrine Falcon - December 9 - 1 Harrison
Harbor- Carl Lundblad and
December 15 - Cougar Bay - CDA CBC - Rich
Del Carlo, David Yake, Crystal Murray-
Weston

Anna's Hummingbird - December 4 - 2
(continuing) - Loch Haven, Hayden - Doug
Ward

Swamp Sparrow - December 9 - 1 along the
boardwalk in Heyurn State Park - Carl
Lundblad

Gray Jay - December 15 - 1 possibly 2
CDA CBC - English Point - Bill and Sally
Gundlach

Dark-eyed Junco December 8 - St. Maries
- showed up with other juncos but without
it's long tail? - maybe escaped from a
predator = Donni Moen



Attract Birds: A Dozen Native Trees and Shrubs That Birds Love

Howard Youth - American Bird Conservancy ABC -
November 27, 2018

Howard Youth is ABC's Senior Writer/Editor. He has been a birder for 40 years - and a native plant gardener for just about as long. Howard volunteers in parks near his home in Maryland, cutting back invasive exotic plants so they do not overwhelm important bird habitats.



Manicured suburban lawns just don't cut it for birds. Sure, you may see an American Robin stop by. But to attract birds to your home (and provide needed food and shelter), move beyond lawns to create a buffet of benefits for your avian neighbors. Read on for a list of a dozen kinds of plants that will have your yard bursting into song.

It's About Location ... of Food

For starters, remember that to attract birds to your home, real estate is a lot about location, location, location ... of food. Recent studies document widespread losses of insect life, which adversely impact bird populations. As for birds, a recent study documented how [suburban birds need native plants](#) — which host native insects — to thrive.

As natural habitats dwindle, especially around large urban centers, suburban and urban residents need to up their game for

wildlife. It can be a lifesaver for birds that are losing habitat to development. Kay Charter, Founder and Executive Director of [Saving Birds Thru Habitat](#), has some encouraging words on every individual's effort to attract birds and provide habitat.

"Every single person who owns a piece of property of any size can make a difference. They can begin by removing non-native plant species on their land and replacing them with natives. Why native plants? Native plants are important for many reasons, but they are essential as virtually the only hosts for many native insects. Insects are essential food for many birds, particularly nesting songbirds. ... A small yard, even in the heart of a city, can provide these crucial sites."

Kay and her husband Jim established the 45-acre Charter Sanctuary near Omena, Mich., where more than 60 bird species have nested. The Charters have worked hard to keep native plants going strong and to provide an educational opportunity for others. Charter explains why native plants are the best choice for breeding birds:

"Baby birds, like baby humans, must have the building blocks of protein in order to develop and grow into healthy fledglings. ... [they get] that necessary protein from insects. Insufficient insect food results in underweight or fewer fledglings, or, worse, failed nests."

Planting bird and insect-friendly native trees and shrubs is a great way to get started now on a property that will sustain wintering, migrating, and breeding birds.

Field Trips and Activities

Our field trips are also posted on our Website <http://cdaaudubon.org/fieldtrips.html>
Please contact Dick Cripe 208-665-0010 to volunteer to lead a trip or make suggestions

Mica Bay Survey

Date: January 8, Tuesday

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Meet: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

Leaders: Janet Callen, 208 664-1085

Shirley Sturts 208 664-5318

Call leader: if you are coming

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

Indian MT Christmas Bird Count

Date: January 5, Saturday.

Time: 7:00 am. (East side)

Meet: Sherman Avenue Forest Service Office for east side birders - TBA for west

Leader: Janet Callen (east side 208-664-1085 approx. Rose Lake to Harrison - to St. Maries) (west side - Shirley Sturts 208-664-5328 Spokane Pt. CDA Lake - to Heyburn State Park to St. Maries). Contact the above if you want to join their team.

Activity: All day - total species and numbers will be compiled and sent into National Audubon by Lisa Hardy.

CdA Bird Feeder Survey

Date: January 19

Time: 9:00

Meet: Former K-Mart parking lot.

Leader: Judy Waring (208) 765-5378.
Dependent on weather.

Activity: Half-day. This is a repeat of a popular event last year. Participants will visit the houses of various members in CdA and check on their feeders.

Heyburn State Park:

Date: February 9.

Time: 9:00

Meet: Lowes Parking Lot, west side.

Leader: Dick Cripe - 208-665-0010. Trip is dependent on weather.

Activity: This is a $\frac{3}{4}$ day trip to tour the waters around Plummer, Heyburn Park, and Benewah Lake.

Lincoln County, WA.

Date: Mid-March

Time and Meet: TBA

Leader: TBA. Dependent on weather

Activity: This is a popular annual trip. Check on early waterfowl as well as owls and other predators. Reardon, WA including Reardon Ponds, Davenport, WA including cemetery, rural roads and Mill canyon.

Chain O' Lakes, CdA River.

Date: Mid-April.

Time: TBA

Meet: Sherman Avenue Forest Service Office.

Leader: TBA

Activity: Observe the early arriving waterfowl along the chain of lakes from Killarney Lake to Harrison. Look for swans, ducks of all kinds, early migrants.

Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge - Hamilton, Montana

Date: TBA - Late May to early June.

Time and Meeting: TBA

Leader: George Sayler

Activity: This will be a two day trip to the area around Hamilton, MT. This area provides diverse habitats of wetlands, riparian, dry uplands, and forested areas.

CDA Audubon Chapter
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Dick Cripe 208 665-0010

Vice President:

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George Saylor 208 664-2787

Education: Barbara Christofferson 208 667-
3931

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Membership: Peggy Albertson 208 664-1616

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Newsletter: Shirley Sturts 208 664-5318

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National Audubon
New Member Application

Join Online at:

<http://www.audubon.org>

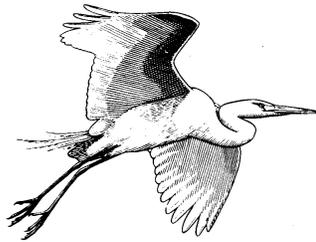
Or

Join by Phone – call:

1-844-428-3826

Reference our Chapter

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