SacajaweaAudubonNews

Sacajawea Audubon builds on an interest in birds to promote the conservation of our natural environment through enjoyment, education and action.

December 2016

Calendar at a Glance

Dec 8th	SAS Bookclub
Dec 12th	SAS Meeting
Dec 14h	Ennis CBC
Dec 17th	Bozeman CBC
Dec 18th	W. Yellowstone CBC
	Livingston CBC
	Yellowstone CBC
Dec 26th	Three Forks CBC
Jan 4th	Ruby Valley CBC

Conservation Easements: The Work of the Montana Land Reliance

Monday December 12th, 2016 at 7pm
Hope Lutheran Church
2152 W. Graf Street in Bozeman

Conservation easements are one of the most powerful tools to accomplish habitat protection for birds and other wildlife. Join Sacajawea Audubon in welcoming Kathryn Kelly of The Montana Land Reliance and learn about the basic process and benefits of creating conservation easements, the work of The Montana Land Reliance (MLR), and projects that are protecting various habitats for raptors, sage grouse and other birds.

We'll explore the many intersections between the missions and work of Sacajawea Audubon and The Montana Land Reliance and discuss ways in which we can work together to increase conservation and protect more bird habitat lands.

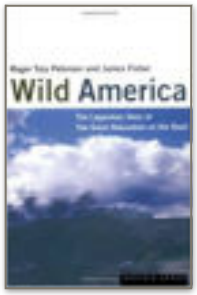
Sacajawea Audubon members have already had connections with MLR through field trips to the Woodson Ranch/Ruby Habitat Foundation in the Ruby Valley and the Granger Ranches in the Madison Valley; both MLR protected properties.

Kathryn Kelly is the Greater Yellowstone Manager with The Montana Land Reliance (MLR), Montana's statewide land trust. She works with landowners to create conservation easements on private lands in the Greater Yellowstone region of Montana. Her additional duties include education and outreach programs, building support for the organization and private land conservation, donor development and fundraising.

Kathryn was raised on a ranch on the banks of the Gallatin River outside Bozeman. She lived in Fairbanks, Alaska for several years and is an alumni of the University of Alaska where she majored in biology. Kathryn had a successful career in real estate, title insurance, escrow administration, management, and teaching in California's Bay Area before returning home to Montana. She's been a longtime activist addressing the increasing development pressure in the Gallatin Valley, protecting the Gallatin River system and agricultural water rights. Before joining the Reliance in 2014, Kathryn was involved with MLR for many years as a supporter and education and outreach volunteer. She and her parents donated conservation easements on the family ranch to MLR in 2001 and 2007. The Kelly Ranch has been the site of two Sacajawea Audubon field trips in 2015 and 2016.

Montana
LAND RELIANCE

Good Reads with SAS Bookclub



Wild America: A Very Good Read!

The SAS Book Group is reading *Wild America: The Legendary Story of Two Great Naturalists on the Road*. Written by Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher, *Wild America* tells the story of their 100-day road trip around the continent in 1953. Peterson plans to introduce James Fisher, a leading authority on birds and conservation in England, to the wild lands and animals of America. Fisher would see American with fresh eyes, Peterson says, and "I would see America again through his eyes." Fisher does not disappoint with his vivid writing and memorable observations; Peterson provides the context. The book is illustrated with Peterson's beautiful black and white drawings.

We will discuss *Wild America* on December 8 in the Hope Lutheran Church from 5:30-6:45. If you are new to the book group please send an email to Adele Pittendrigh so your name can be added to the book group mailing list. (adele.pittendrigh@gmail.com)

An Early Christmas Gift: Trident-Peregrine Trail Completed

In the spirit of the Holidays, "Yes, Virginia there is a new birding trail at the Missouri Headwaters State Park!"

As many of you may know, over the last several years, Sacajawea Audubon has been leading a coordinated effort between Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks and CRH-Trident (formally Holcim, Inc.) to get a trail constructed that would allow enhanced viewing opportunities of the Missouri River and the adjacent cliffs. In the fall of 2014, Sacajawea partnered with Montana State University's Plant Sciences-Landscape Design studio to have students majoring in landscape architecture develop conceptual master plans for such a trail. Finally after numerous discussions, planning events and even a land ownership dispute, phase one of the trail is a reality.

Construction of phase one of the Trident-Peregrine Trail was started and completed during the last week in October. The trail head is accessible from the parking lot at the Park's boat launch site. From there, the trail traverses flat ground, paralleling the Missouri River for 1/8 miles on both state and private land. Near the trailhead, a short spur trail leads to a small area where a shade structure and picnic table will be located. Close to the end of the trail, a small designated viewing area will be positioned to provide views of the Missouri River and the limestone cliffs on the opposite side of the river.

Keeping with the primitive designation of the park, the trail consists of packed limestone. Benches and interpretative signs will be installed along the trail as well as at the viewing area. Trailside amenities like interpretative signs and benches along with the shade structure and picnic table will be installed in the spring/early summer 2017.

The trail and its amenities are funded by a grant from the North Western Energy River Trust Fund obtained by Missouri Headwaters State Park. In addition, besides use of their land, CRH-Trident contributed material, equipment and employee labor towards trail construction. The City of Three Forks contributed employee labor and the use of equipment. Sacajawea members Vickie Backus and John Parker will be working with Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks over the winter on the interpretative signs. There will be an opportunity for other Sacajawea Audubon members to help with the installation of the trailside amenities in 2017.

-Vickie Backus

Annual Christmas Bird Count Field Trips

Come join the fun on one of our area's Christmas Bird Counts. The Christmas counts, started in 1900, are an opportunity for beginning and expert birders to get together and enjoy this holiday tradition.

Ennis
Wednesday, December 14th
Compiler: Robin Wolcott (406) 581-5418
pajaros@wewocotts.com, email preferred
Meet at Yesterday's Café in the Ennis Pharmacy, by 7:30 AM or sooner for breakfast

Bozeman
Saturday, December 17th
Compiler: John Parker (406) 586-5863
conundrumjp@gmail.com
Meet at Perkins Restaurant, 2505 West Main, in Bozeman, between 7-7:30 AM

West Yellowstone
Sunday, December 18th
Compiler: Brad Barth (406) 640-2628
barth.brad@gmail.com
Meet at the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center West Yellowstone at 8:30 AM

Livingston
Sunday, December 18th
Compiler: Sally MacDonald (406) 223-9167
smacbirder@msn.com
Meet at the Northern Pacific Beanery, in Livingston between 7:00-7:30 AM

Yellowstone
Sunday, December 18th
Compiler: Woody Martyn (406) 224-1476
woodymartyn@hotmail.com
Meet at the Yellowstone Grill, in Gardiner, at 7:00 AM

Three Forks
Monday, December 26th
Compiler: Tom Forwood (406) 570-6432
tjfishing75@gmail.com email preferred
Meet at Wheat Montana at exit 274 at 8:30 AM or by 8:00 for breakfast

Ruby Valley
Wednesday, January 4th
Compiler: Tom Forwood (406) 570-6432
tforwood@mt.gov email preferred
Meet at 8:30 location to be announced

Audubon
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

For more information, contact the area count compilers. Please Contact the area compiler before the count, as this will give them the opportunity to plan and organize the count before the count day. Participation in all counts is free.

Sacajawea Audubon Society Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Loreene Reid	600-6666	pres@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Vice President	Lou Ann Harris	600-3585	louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Treasurer	Janne Hayward	587-6124	treas@sacajawea audubon.org
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Field trips, Bird Count andBird Sightings	John Parker	586-5863	birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Conservation Chair	Lou Ann Harris	600-3585	conservation@sacajaweaaudubon.org
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Membership Records	**OPEN**		
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Publicity Chair	**OPEN**		
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Website Updates	Stephanie Nelson	587-3052	s.n.mayfly@gmail.com
Audubon Adventures	Hillary Johnson		ralphhilary@gmail.com

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	Mike Vivion	mikevivion@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	Adele Pittendrigh	adelepittendrigh@sacajaweaaudubon.org
	Paulette Epple	johnedwards@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Honorary Board Member Peter Norlander norlander@q.com

Sacajawea Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1711
Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

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JOIN THE FLOCK

SAS Launches a 50th Anniversary Local Membership Drive

Sacajawea Audubon (SAS) encourages everyone who enjoys our field trips and monthly programs or supports our conservation work to join the local chapter. Even if you belong to the National Audubon Society, we need your support through a Local SAS Membership. 100% of your Local Membership dues will directly support SAS educational and conservation programs. Local membership gives you the benefit of the free newsletter (published 9 times a year), discounts on SAS sponsored classes, as well as confidence that your membership dues is sustaining conservation of important local bird habitats and the preservation of Kestrels, Bluebirds, Golden Eagles, Trumpeter Swans, and many other species of shorebirds, songbirds, raptors and waterfowl. We hope that you will join now, as we approach the 50th Anniversary of our chapter's existence.

Sacajawea Audubon Society

Membership

____Basic Membership————$25

____Supporting Membership-——$50

Additional Donation of $_____

You may renew or join online on our website: http://www. http://sacajaweaaudubon.org/

Name_____

Street Address_____

City_____

State_____ **Zip Code**_____

Phone_____ - _____ - _____

Email_____
SAS does not share email addresses with anyone except Montana Audubon, so your address is safe with us.

Mail this form with your check to:
Sacajawea Audubon Society
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

Montana Audubon: 406-443-3949; PO Box 595, Helena, MT 59624; mtaudubon@mtaudubon.org; www.mtaudubon.org For direct contact: shoffman@mtaudubon.org
Montana Bird Hotline: 406-721-9799 to report unusual or out-of-season birds

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