NOVEMBER 2020

Sacajawea Audubon News

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

Monday, November 9th, 2020 VIRTUAL PROGRAM:

"Natural Selection and Spatial Cognition in Wild Food-Caching Mountain Chickadees"

with Ben Sonnenberg, PhD student at the University of Nevada, Reno

Mountain chickadees are common residents in many backyards in the west, but how do these tiny birds survive the cold snowy winters? Why by storing tens of thousands of seeds, of course! Mountain chickadees are a scatter-hoarding species meaning that they hide many food items throughout a wide area of their forest territory.

Ben Sonnenberg, a PhD student at the University of Nevada, Reno, will be the speaker at our November 9th Virtual Monthly Meeting. He conducts research in the avian cognitive ecology lab focusing on Mountain Chickadees. His projects include monitoring the spatial learning and memory abilities as well as the reproductive investments of the long-term study population. Ben is a Montana native from Bozeman and received a degree in Biology from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA. He has worked around the country, including in Alaska and Connecticut, conducting avian research and public outreach.

The Pravosudov lab at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) has been working on untangling the secrets behind how Mountain Chickadees are able to recover their hidden winter food stores using a unique radio-frequency identification (RFID) equipped feeder system. The lab is able to test the spatial learning and memory abilities of individual birds as they are all banded with a unique PIT (passive integrated transponder) tag. These tags allow birds access to seed but only at specific feeders within the system. This allows the UNR team to directly measure how well chickadees remember their assigned feeders. The lab recently showed that elevation-related climatic harshness may be a major selecting force behind the variation in memory found in Mountain Chickadees of the Sierra Nevada. Join Ben to find out more about this fascinating species and to hear exciting new developments relating to this project in the areas of chickadee reproduction and genomics!

If you would like to attend the November 9 Virtual Program, please register at https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6277369579003181838.

SAS programs are free and open to the public. Our programs feature a special guest speaker the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May. ***Join us for a virtual social at 6:30 pm. Announcements and the program begin at 7:00 pm.*** *For more information on SAS Program Meeting contact Kyle Moon at* programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Ben Sionnenberg; Mountain chickadees at research feeder; Ben conducting research in the Sierra Nevada; Mountain chickadee. All photos © Ben Sonnenberg.

JOIN THE FLOCK & FLY HIGH TOGETHER

SAS Annual Local Membership Drive for 2021

Beginning Now for January- December 2021

Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS) encourages everyone who enjoys our field trips and monthly programs or supports our conservation work to join/renew your local chapter membership. Even if you belong to the National Audubon Society, we need your support through a Local SAS Membership. As an SAS member, you'll enjoy the benefits of membership while knowing that 100% of your annual dues will be used for conservation right here in your own neighborhood. Join our flock today by filling out the membership form below or join online at https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/its-time-to-renew-your-chapter-membership.

SAS's Local Membership gives you many benefits. **SAS Members Are…..**

- Managing farms, wetlands, and other working lands for birds and other wildlife
- Preserving and protecting bird species and their habitats
- Supporting bird-friendly communities in Montana with our bird-friendly landscape program
- Contributing to important environmental education programs on birds, wildlife, and habitat
- Supporting vital partnerships between other nonprofit environmental groups, citizens, and local government to shape the health of our community
- Advocating for important local and regional environmental issues

SAS Members Enjoy:

- Free monthly Keynote Speaker meetings
- Free "Birding Hotspots of Gallatin Valley" guide
- Free monthly e-newsletter (published 9 times a year)
- Member-only discounts on educational courses, programs, and special events
- Savings on purchases and access to member-only sales
- Opportunities to meet new people and become part of a group that shares an interest in birds, wildlife, the environment, and conservation
- Participating in citizen science projects
- Free guided birding field trips

While SAS is a chapter of the National Audubon Society and a participating chapter of Montana Audubon, SAS's local membership does not include membership in NAS. We are an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with our own board of directors, membership, budget, and programs.

We hope that you will join today, as we approach our 54th year as an effective local grass-roots group, building on an interest in birds to promote the conservation of our natural environment through enjoyment, education and action. Thank You!

~ Sacajawea Audubon Society's Board of Directors

Sacajawea Audubon Society Membership 2021

Individual or Family

January -December 2021

☐ Basic Membership $25

☐ Supporting Membership $50
(Supporting local conservation & education project)

☐ Thank You for Considering an Additional Donation .....$_____

- ☐ *Bridger Raptor Study*
- ☐ *Education*
- ☐ *Story Mill Park Bird Feeding Station*
- ☐ *Wetland Campaign*
- ☐ *Wherever is Needed*

Name _____

Address _____
(Street or PO Box)

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❖ Sacajawea Audubon Newsletter is sent by email. ☐ *I would like a paper newsletter mailed to me.*

❖ We do not share your information except with National Audubon, so your contact information is safe with us. Please check the boxes is you do not want your information shared with... ☐ National Audubon Society ☐ Montana Audubon

☐ ***YES!*** I have included another $20 to join National Audubon Society

Mail this form and your check to:

Sacajawea Audubon Society
Attn: Membership
PO Box 1711
Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

Thank you for your membership and donation. We look forward to birding with you!

Newsletter 11/20

The Ups and Downs of the 2020 Kestrel Season

By Paulette Epple

The 2020 season of the Kestrel Nest Box Project started with such excitement and optimism. Volunteers and landowners checking boxes were reporting a surprising amount of kestrel activity in our nest boxes. Anecdotally, people said they were seeing more kestrels in the area than in previous years. By the time all boxes had been checked there were 25 boxes occupied with 98 kestrel eggs inside, our best year ever! This far exceeded 2019 when only 15 boxes were in use. It would be nice to think our nest box offerings are paying off, increasing at least the local kestrel population.

But the season did not go as hoped. We saw a dismaying number of nests fail this year. Of the 25 nesting attempts, only 13 managed to fledge at least one young. It was so disappointing to find nests abandoned and cold eggs inside. In some of those cases the kestrels had incubated their eggs well beyond the typical 28-30 day incubation period before abandoning the nest. It turned out the eggs were infertile. At least one nest was abandoned after only about 10 days of incubation, indicating that the female (or possibly male) must have suffered an ill fate.

American Kestrel by Steve Dubois.

Other nests met with failure in mysterious ways. Both eggs and young nestlings disappeared from some boxes with no apparent reason to explain why. Some type (or types…) of predation must have been happening but we have no clear explanations, only questions.

Alicia Ochs assists with kestrel banding. Photo by Paulette Epple.

The year ended with only 48 eggs hatched of the 98 eggs laid and only 42 nestlings fledged from the 25 nests. After a very auspicious start, the year ended with our poorest success rate ever. Less than half of the eggs hatched this season and only 43% of the eggs hatched and successfully fledged young. Last year that statistic was 81% of eggs hatched and successfully fledged. Such variability! Ours is only a small sample in the overall picture of the kestrel population and may not be indicative of the national kestrel nesting success. Yet it shows some of the perils that kestrels face as their population slowly declines.

On a positive note we can take heart knowing that more of our boxes are getting used. We did have 42 young fledge from our boxes. We were able to band 36 of those nestlings and also take feathers to send to the American Kestrel Genoscape project for DNA analysis. Hopefully next year our local kestrels will benefit from a more successful nesting season.

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY

INDRELAND AUDUBON WETLAND PRESERVE UPDATE: NOV. 2020

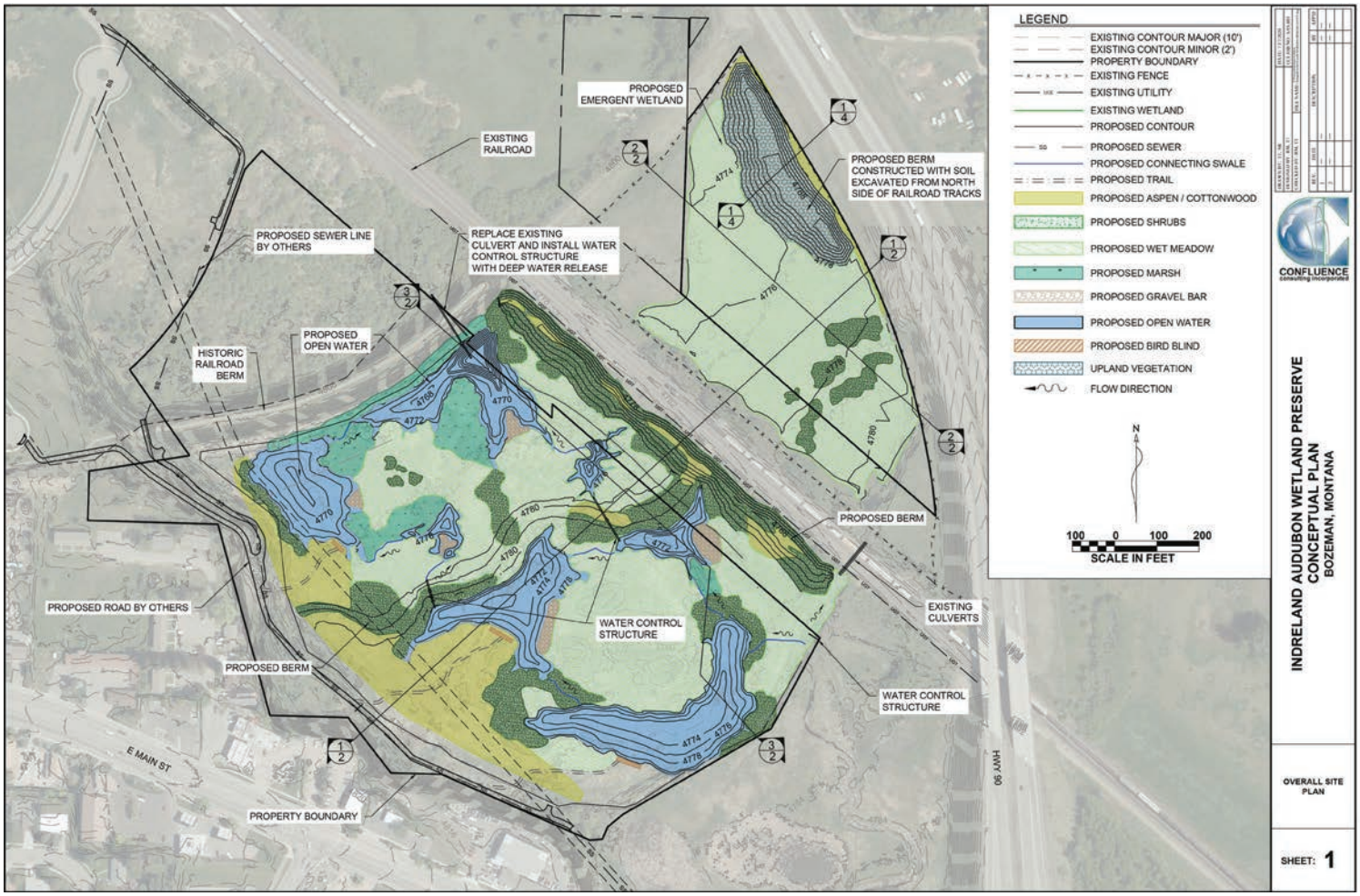
Wetland Preserve Conceptual Plan

Prepared by Confluence Consulting Inc. and the Sacajawea Audubon Society Wetland Committee, October 13, 2020

The Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS) October 12, 2020 Monthly Virtual Meeting featured a presentation of the conceptual wetland restoration plan for the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) located in east Bozeman. The presentation was made by Rich McEldowney of Confluence Consulting, Inc., the firm that is designing the restoration plan for SAS. Rich is a Vice President of Confluence and is a wetland expert who worked on the Story Mill Park restoration and many other wetland and stream restoration projects throughout the Rocky Mountain region. The map shows the features of the wetland restoration that are currently being evaluated by the SAS Wetland Committee, and we welcome input from SAS members on this preliminary design.

Once the conceptual plan has been finalized it will be presented to the City of Bozeman for their input. After receiving input from the city, the design process will take several months and will include additional opportunities for input from SAS members. The final design will be reviewed by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), whose permit is required before the restoration can be implemented.

Important goals to be achieved in the conceptual plan are to maximize the ecological value of the wetland within the permitting criteria used by the USACE, and to create a wetland/riparian area that is similar to natural wetlands. In order to achieve this Confluence surveyed several naturally occurring wetlands to find the appropriate balance between



Conceptual plan for the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve.

Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve photo by Paulette Eppel.

open water, marsh, wet meadow and tree/shrub zones. Confluence has done a preliminary assessment of the wetland functional value of the IAWP in its current condition compared to the functional value it will attain following restoration. That evaluation shows that the wetland functional value will increase significantly from the restoration.

In developing the IAWP restoration, SAS also has a goal of permitting and operating a wetland mitigation bank. If we are able to accomplish this, it will help prevent future loss of wetlands in Gallatin County and its watersheds.

When reviewing the conceptual plan map, note that the public will be able to view the wetland area from the current footpath along the former railroad berm, from a sewer line access road currently under construction at the site, and from several proposed bird blinds. SAS will be providing periodic updates on the IAWP design process in future SAS monthly newsletters, the SAS website (sacajaweaaudubon.org), and future monthly membership meetings.

Message from SAS President, Chris Nixon:

A HUGE THANK YOU to Karin Jennings!

The entire Board of Sacajawea Audubon Society and members of the SAS Wetland Preservation Project (WPP) Committee extend our deepest gratitude to Karin Jennings as she steps down from serving on the WPP Committee. Karin has played a major role on the WPP Committee for the past two years as she has served in an administrative capacity and helped keep our efforts and energies 'flowing' in the right direction.

Karin's incredible attention to detail, bubbly personality, and smile is going to be sorely missed at the weekly WPP Committee meetings and other wetland related events. We wish Karin all the best as she claims more personal time to just enjoy life and the great outdoors around Bozeman and SW Montana. We know we are going to be running into Karin out at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) on numerous occasions. She has been and continues to be hugely invested in seeing this incredible undertaking reach its fruition.

Karin, everyone involved with SAS can't thank you enough for helping carry the IAWP through its inception and first two exciting years of planning!

BIRD NOTES

by John Parker

The rarest bird seen in this area over the course of the last two months was the **White-winged Dove** that Jeff Safford spotted in his south Bozeman yard on August 11th. This dove returned to the Safford's yard for another three days after the initial sighting. The core of the White-winged Dove range is centered in Mexico, but they have been fairly rapidly expanding their range over the past couple of decades.

White-winged Dove photo by Mick Thompson.

On September 21st David Kembel heard a **Common Poorwill** calling in the Bridger foothills northeast of Bozeman. While Common Poorwills nest in Park and Madison Counties there are only a handful of records from Gallatin County. Coincidentally, this observation was likely within about a mile of the first observation in Gallatin County on July 20, 1909 by Aretas Saunders.

A couple of nice woodpecker sightings came from the Bozeman Pass area. Roxanna McLaughlin spotted a **Pileated Woodpecke**r on October 3rd, for a yard first. Another woodpecker that would be an exciting bird sighting for anyone's yard was the **Black-backed Woodpecker** that Judy Van Andel first saw at her home on September 17th. She saw the same or another Black-backed Woodpecker there on October 8th. As Black-backed Woodpeckers are highly dependent on burn areas, could these birds already be homing in on the Bridger Foothill Fire?

Like Common Poorwills, **Thick-billed Longspurs** (formerly **McCown's Longspur**) breed in both Park and Madison Counties, but are seldom seen in Gallatin County. On October 11th Andrew Guttenberg saw two Thick-billed Longspurs co-mingling with seven **Lapland Longspurs** along Bench Road south of Three Forks. Andrew previously found two Thick-billed Longspurs in the same area during this year's spring migration.

Black-throated Blue Warbler by Lou Ann Harris.

The early fall migration period had fairly benign weather with no dramatic weather systems that would cause large fallouts of migrating passerines. But a few locally rare warblers turned up in the Bozeman area anyway. A couple of **Chestnut-sided Warblers**, which are nearly annual here, were discovered in the woods east of Glen Lake in north Bozeman. The first to be seen was an immature female that Tim Preso and John Parker found on September 7th. The following day another immature male Chestnut-sided Warbler was photographed in the same patch of woods by John Parker as it was eating a damselfly. The run of unusual warblers continued for John Parker when on September 23rd he identified a **Mourning Warbler** near Hyalite Creek south of Bozeman. Then three days later he was astounded to find a **Black-throated Blue Warbler** at nearly the same location along Hyalite Creek. The Black-throated Blue Warbler and Mourning Warbler were southwest Montana's first and third records respectively. This has been Lou Ann Harris's year for **Magnolia Warblers**. As was mentioned in the September newsletter, Lou Ann was a member of the Birdathon team that found a Magnolia Warbler in June, which is the fourth sighting for this area of Montana. Lou Ann topped that with the Magnolia Warbler she spotted in her yard northwest of Bozeman on October 12th.

A couple of **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** made appearances in Bozeman this September. On September 15th Judy Tsaing had a Rose-breasted Grosbeak visit her feeder. Another Rose-breasted Grosbeak was coming to Bob Wiltshire's feeder September 26–27.

Mountain Bluebird by Lou Ann Harris.

Sacajawea Audubon 2020 Bluebird Trail Summary

By Lou Ann Harris and Janne Hayward, SAS Bluebird Trail Project Coordinators

It was a partially successful Mountain Bluebird nesting season in 2020. A total of 534 bluebirds fledged from boxes on our six monitored trails. 162 boxes were used (by bluebirds) out of 278 available. As is usual, Rocky Mountain Rd. (RMR) and Pass Creek Rd. (PCR) trails had high bluebird occupancy: 88% and 76% respectively. In comparison, the Sedan trail had 42% occupancy and Trail Creek trail 47% occupancy. The remainder of the boxes were used by Tree Swallows, House Wrens, House Sparrows, and one pair of Violet-green Swallows.

On the PCR and RMR trails, we banded a total of 297 birds, 259 nestlings, and 38 adult females. We also recaptured 14 adult female bluebirds, one of which was banded in 2017 in Park Co. by Neil Travis. This is the first time we have recaptured a bluebird that was banded in another county. Another "first" on RMR was a pair of Violet-green Swallows nesting in one of our boxes. Violet-greens generally nest in cliffs in small colonies, but occasionally will use nest boxes. Unfortunately, their box got knocked down by cows and the nest was abandoned. Finally, we had our first ever cowbird eggs dropped in one of our bluebird boxes. The nest had been predated in early June and the cowbird eggs showed up on our subsequent check two weeks later.

Predation of nests was mixed. The RMR trail had a total of 30 predated nests (up from 16 last year), including eight by American Kestrels.The other causes were varied: snakes, raccoons, and weasels. We plan to utilize Noel Guards on some of our problem boxes to discourage raccoon and kestrel predation. It's a metal mesh cage that screws onto the front of the box around the hole. Bluebirds, swallows, and wrens can come and go without a problem, but it makes it difficult for an animal to reach in and grab eggs or nestlings.

Human-caused nest failures increased this year. On the PCR trail, we found an unopened bottle of Corona beer in one box, which smashed the bluebird eggs underneath. On RMR a box was destroyed by gunshot (for the fifth time in 15 years), along with the nest inside. When we checked the box, the bluebird pair was still hanging around. We also had another nest failure likely caused by fireworks, paragliders, or a combination of both. Both of these boxes are adjacent to state land and the trend seems to be increased target shooting and other non-bluebird friendly activities. These boxes will be relocated. The Trail Creek—Gallatin Co. trail had quite a few nest failures due to cold wet weather just after a number of nestlings hatched.

With the pandemic, we were limited on the number of people we could bring along since everyone had to drive separately. We were delighted to have young Grace Asche and her dad Steve come along in July. It's so wonderful to have someone like Grace to energize us with her enthusiasm and curiosity. We just love young people!

Thanks to all our 2020 bluebird box sponsors:

Lance Beebe, Ondrej Ball, Glenda Barnes, Annie Buchwald, Gina Carolan, Julie Catanese, John Childs, Mary Ann Childs, David Cole, Francis Crowley, John Edwards, John Feckanin, Patty Fraser, Leo Freeman, Paul Gore, Janice Hand, Leslie Hayes, Patty Hunt, Virginia Jakobe, Beth Kaeding, Kathryn Kelly, Ronna Leon, Diana McDonough, Lisa Miklush, John & Lynn Mugaas, Debi Naccarto, Stephanie Nelson, Peggy Osbourn, Carolyn Ostby, John & Tamie Parker, Eva Patten, Adele & Sandy Pittendrigh, John Porter, Carla Pyle, Chris Raaum, Scott Radford, Mary Schlosser, Mary Lee Reese, Star Reierson, Jane Roberts, Emily Robinson, Rick Sanders, Bob Schleicher, Shiela Skinner, Erna Smeets, Suzan Strobel, Judy Tsiang, Mike Vivion, and Celinda Williams.

A special thank you goes to Stephanie Nelson, who was our very capable assistant all season. She also learned to band and hopefully will become a licensed bander in the near future.

Bridger Mountain Raptor Migration Project Update

by JoJo Morelli and Will Britton

Immature Northern Goshawk by Will Britton.

Jojo and Will here from the Bridger Mountain Raptor Migration Project! We returned to the ridgetop on September 20th after the watch was halted due to the Bridger Foothills Fire. We are glad to be back, and are so thankful for the hardworking firefighters who made it possible to return.

Count totals as of 10/14/20

Since returning to the ridge, we have seen an increase in accipiter migration: an influx of Cooper's Hawks (which seems to be tailing off now, for a total of 178), ongoing Sharp-shinned Hawk movements (206 currently), and some of our first Northern Goshawks (3) have entertained us as they either whiz past us or buzz our plastic owl decoy.

We have also seen a variety of buteos, which are always a delight in their diverse plumage and flight styles. On our first day back we observed a flight of seven Swainson's Hawks overhead at once, bringing our season total to more than double the season average (eight in 2020, compared to three averaged 1992–2018). Our Ferruginous Hawk count is also higher than the season average: five this year compared to the averaged three. Other buteo sightings include Broad-winged Hawks (12), an ongoing flight of Red-tailed Hawks (104), and the beginning of Rough-legged Hawk movements (5).

Other migrant activity includes continual movements of Prairie Falcons (10), Peregrine Falcons (12), Merlins (4), and Northern Harriers (20). Our one falcon we've most likely seen the last of for the season is the American Kestrel (50), who will be sorely missed.

October is for the eagles, as many of you know, and we've been thrilled to count a bunch of our slow-moving feathered friends; we have counted a total of 641 Golden Eagles and 29 Bald Eagles for the season so far.

Other ridge news includes the sighting of multiple flocks of migrating American Crows, as well as sightings of mixed flocks of Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches and Black Rosy-Finches.

Although the weather may be turning chilly, we still encourage visitors and would love to have your company and counting help up at the watch! Now is a great time to visit, as eagle migration reaches its peak.

Oh Come All Ye Faithful *to the* 2020 Christmas Bird Count!

by John Parker

This year the Christmas Bird Counts will be conducted differently than in the past, unfortunately with less social interaction and a more individually focused event. Look for more information about our local CBC's in the December newsletter. The guidelines from National Audubon offer two options.

OPTION 1: Run a COVID-19 safe and socially distanced CBC, if local rules allow. [Must wait until November 15 at the earliest to choose this option in order to better understand status of COVID outbreak in your region during the CBC.]

OPTION 2: If option 1 is not possible, cancel this season's CBC for your location. [Choose this option now if you wish.]

IF YOU CHOOSE OPTION 1, here are the guidelines that we urge you to follow:

1. Wait until November 15 at the earliest to confirm CBC will take place, if local regulations allow.
2. Cancel all in-person compilation gatherings.
3. Social distancing and/or masking are required at all times in the field.
4. Carpooling may only occur within existing familiar or social "pod" groups.
5. Activities must comply with all current state and municipal COVID-19 guidelines.

If you have any more questions you can contact me, John Parker, at birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org or any of the other local bird count compilers.

Thank you for your interest and patience.

Photo by Lou Ann Harris.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology NestWatch Bluebird Data Project

by Lou Ann Harris, SAS Bluebird Trail Project Coordinator

I was contacted by Cornell Lab of Ornithology this past winter about our chapter's bluebird trail project. Nest cards used to be filled out for each of the boxes and sent in every year. Cornell has now scanned and transcribed all those cards for inclusion into Nest Watch. What they found is that about one out of every five nest card submitted for Mountain Bluebirds came from our bluebird trails! The card program phased out in the early 2000s, and they need all our nesting data from then to the present. That combined with the transcribed nest cards would make our little bluebird trail the richest dataset for any bluebird species from one location.

The goal is to have SAS volunteers enter the data box by box, year by year, into Nest Watch. It will take some time, but is well worth the effort. All the nest boxes on both the Pass Creek Road and Rocky Mountain Road trails have been mapped into the application, and the old data sheets for each box is now on a master spreadsheet. We already have several members that have volunteered to help. If you are interested in helping with this exciting project, please contact Lou Ann Harris at louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

Embrace the Winter! Count Birds For Science

Cornell Lab's annual **Project FeederWatch** begins November 14th, 2020 and continues to April 9th, 2021. This is a winter-long survey of birds that visit feeders at backyards, nature centers, community areas, and other locales in North America. FeederWatchers periodically count the birds they see at their feeders, and send their counts to Project FeederWatch. This data helps scientist track broad scale movements of winter bird populations and long-term trends in bird distribution and abundance.

There is a small fee of $18 to participate, or $15 if you are a member of the Cornell Lab. To sign-up or to learn more, visit https://feederwatch.org/about/project-overview

Photo by Walter Siegmund

Plants for Birds

Ponderosa Pine

- **Scientific Name:** *Pinus ponderosa*
- **Height:** 60 to 100 ft tall in cultivation
- **Hardiness:** Zone 3
- **Wildlife Value:** Food source for many birds and provides cover, nesting and roosting sites.

Ponderosa Pine, the state tree of Montana, is a beautiful conifer to add to your bird friendly garden. It's popular as an ornamental providing perennial color, a more natural, open form to the garden and large seed cones which are often collected and used as seasonal decoration. This long-lived native (300-500 yrs) has long, deep green needles and reddish bark with the sweet aroma of vanilla or butterscotch. Its seeds provide food to many birds and animals such as chickadees, grosbeaks, crossbills, mourning doves, finches, jays, towhees, sparrows, turkeys, nutcrackers, chipmunks, and squirrels. Also, the trees provide valuable cover, roosting places and nesting sites for birds to raise young. Dusky grouse and spruce grouse will eat the needles and use the needles for building nests. Woodpeckers dig for insects hidden in the bark.

Ponderosa pine occurs throughout the mountainous areas of the western US from Montana to Mexico. These giants, growing over 200 feet tall at times, occur in drier mixed forests, in pure stands, in grasslands, and in rocky exposed sites. In a home landscape expect a ponderosa pine to typically grow 60 to 100 ft high and 25 to 30 ft wide, making it well suited for larger yards. It grows best in full sun and well drained dry soils and is drought tolerant. It has an extensive, spreading root system plus a deep tap root making it excellent for windbreaks, buffer strips and mass landscape plantings.

Some interesting facts about *Pinus ponderosa*: It is used in dendrology (tree ring dating) to study historic climate change and to precisely date Native American archeological sites. Native Americans used all parts of the plant, medicinally and for food, and ponderosa pine was made into canoes for Lewis and Clark after they crossed the Rocky Mountains into the headwaters of the Columbia River.

Plant this native in your garden and enjoy watching nuthatches, finches, grosbeaks and many more birds flock to your yard for food and cover. Other hardy pines that can provide similar value to birds are Scotch Pine and Austrian Pine. Both of these non-natives grow less tall and are more appropriate for small yards.

~ Leslie Eddington

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Wetlands Preservation	Karin Jennings wetlands@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Book Club	Sherry Staub/Elisabeth Swanson hospitality@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Newsletter Design	Amy Kelley Hoitsma aok@mcn.net

Bri Daniels

Welcome our New Bobcat Board Member

My name is **Bri Daniels** and I am thrilled to be the Boardroom Bobcat for Sacajawea Audubon Society this year! I am from Eau Claire, Wisconsin and moved to Bozeman to enjoy the incredible outdoor scene and atmosphere. In my free time I enjoy hiking, biking, and recently, birding! I am currently studying Environmental Studies and Business Management at Montana State University and hope to be a future board leader for a nonprofit. My interest in sustainability and conservation work aligns well with Sacajawea Audubon Society's mission.

Boardroom Bobcats is a program at Montana State University that partners passionate students and local nonprofits through the Leadership Institute. The program provides the awesome opportunity for students to serve as non-voting members on local nonprofit boards, giving students first hand boardroom experience and insights into the nonprofit sector while also providing the board with a fresh perspective. Throughout my time on the board, my hope is to promote the mission of SAS through offering my service to the community, gain invaluable nonprofit experience, and make meaningful connections with other members! I am here to serve SAS and I am excited for the opportunity to be connected with the most passionate members of the community.

Sacajawea Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1711
Bozeman, MT 59771-1771

Change Service Requested

Sacajawea Audubon Society, affiliated with the National Audubon Society, meets on the second Monday of each month, September through May.

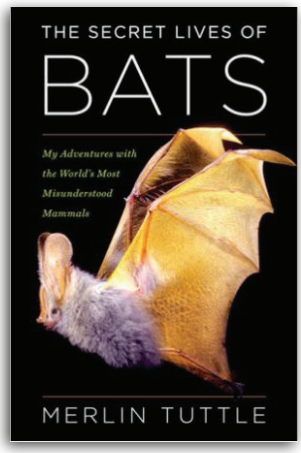
Sacajawea Audubon Society Monthly Newsletter is available electronically to all Sacajawea Audubon Society members September through May. Members and non-members can receive a mailed paper newsletter for an annual $10 subscription fee. Please send your check to the address above.

Deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month preceding the month the articles will appear. Send articles electronically to newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

Change of Address: If you have a change of address or are away, please notify membership@sacajaweaaudubon.org. Undeliverable mailed newsletters are returned to us for an extra fee.

Find more at the **Sacajawea Audubon Society website** at sacajaweaaudubon.org

SAS Book Club for November 18th
OFFERING BOTH IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETINGS



The November SAS Book Club selection is: "The Secret Lives of Bats: My Adventures with the Most Misunderstood Mammals" by Merlin D. Tuttle.

From the author: *"A lifetime of adventures with bats around the world reveals why these special and imperiled creatures should be protected rather than feared. Few people realize how sophisticated and intelligent bats are."*

Please join us for a fresh new look at these interesting and misunderstood mammals.

MEETING DATE/TIME/LOCATION:

When: November 18, 2020, 4:00–5:15 pm

Where: Pilgrim Congregational Church, with appropriate social distancing and mask mandating. If weather permits....we will sit outside but that will be determined when the group has assembled.

New this month: We will have the opportunity to meet on an internet platform. If you prefer to attend this virtual alternative book club discussion please let Elisabeth Swanson know that you want to join and you will receive instructions on how to participate: elsswa@gmail.com or 406-570-8325.

We are so grateful to Elisabeth for being willing to host this new virtual book club event.

It may become a permanent offering and possibly at a different time so that those who are still at work can take advantage of it. But for now....we are keeping it simple and just offering it at the same time as the in person gathering.

For more information contact: Sherry Staub at mayawindsong@gmail.com or 563-370-0757.