MAY 2025

Sacajawea Audubon News

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

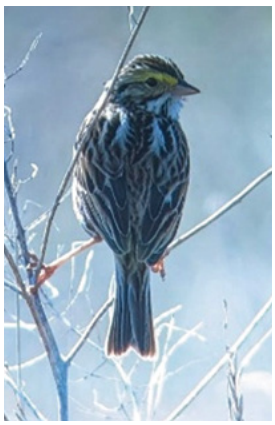
Annual Meeting: May 12, Sweet & Savory Potluck & Program at Hope Lutheran Church

REGENERATIVE GRAZING AND HOW IT BENEFITS BIRDS

with Adam E. Mitchell, Ph.D.

Adam E. Mitchell, PhD. Photo: Adam Mitchell

Livestock grazing on rangelands is the most widespread use of land on earth, and it is especially prevalent in the American West. Rangelands can be a sustainable use of agricultural land because they prevent habitat loss created by monoculture crops and urban and suburban development, all of which can have catastrophic, permanent effects on biodiversity and ecosystem resiliency. Given the extirpation of large native grazers, such as American bison, domestic animals on rangelands can fill an important and open niche in some rangeland ecosystems. Regenerative grazing techniques that attempt to mimic bison grazing patterns can increase the diversity and abundance of birds by moving cattle in ways that create variable vegetation structures and therefore diverse niches across the landscape. These landscape mosaics promote plant re-growth, provide nutrients through defecation and urination, and facilitate decomposition through hoof action. Adam will share detailed results from two field seasons of bird, soil, and plant surveys conducted in pastures grazed using regenerative techniques in the Centennial Valley, southwest Montana. In addition, he will highlight a recently published paper describing a previously undetected population of Sprague's Pipits in the Centennial Valley, and implications of this discovery.



Savannah Sparrow Photo: Adam Mitchell

Mark is a research ecologist in the Animal and Range Sciences Department with Montana State University and is interested in many aspects of avian ecology and conservation. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Montana in 2021, with a focus on the effects of weather on tropical bird physiology, life history, and evolution. More recently, he worked on projects aimed at improving agricultural practices for the greater benefit of avian habitats, diversity, and abundance in the northern Great Plains and Rocky Mountain regions.

Centennial Valley Wildflowers. Photo: Adam Mitchell

Your participation in this *Annual SAS Membership Meeting and Board of Directors Election* is requested and highly valued. SAS is among the few remaining local member driven environmental not-for-profits. All of you as members make it what it is and determine what it will become!

Join us on Monday, May 12 for the Annual Membership Meeting Sweet & Savory Potluck at 6:00PM at Hope Lutheran Church, 2152 West Graf (off S. 19th). A main dish, plates, and utensils will be provided by SAS. Bring a sweet or savory dish to share if you would like.

After the potluck, there will be a short meeting and board elections beginning at 7:00 PM followed by the program.

For virtual attendance, please register at https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/program. Attendees—whether in person or virtual—are encouraged to share their bird sightings at this and every monthly program.

SAS monthly programs are free and open to the public, featuring a special guest speaker the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May. For more information, contact Ken Sinay at programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org.

Our next monthly program meeting is Monday, September 8, 2025. We hope to see you at the Birdathon Celebration Party on Wednesday, June 25 at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve.

MESSAGE *from* SAS PRESIDENT, CHRIS NIXON

Remember….our May monthly meeting and Sweet & Savory Pot Luck will be our last membership meeting until September. So don't miss out on this gathering and presentation. (Page 1). You certainly don't want to miss out on all the great food that everyone brings. SAS will provide the main dish, you all provide the rest.

The May issue of our Sacajawea Audubon News newsletter is also the last newsletter until September. Most members receive the newsletter via email format. But more and more people are requesting a paper copy. Terri Narotzky does a great job getting all the articles and photos together each month and keeping it all organized. Thanks Terri! Whew…you can take a well-deserved break for the next three months.

Thanks to all of you that attended last month's presentation on the Prairies of North America by John Carlson. We had a huge crowd in person and a sizable attendance online. The video of John's presentation is now available on our SAS website….in case you missed it or if you wish to see it again. Appropriately, at this month's presentation on Regenerative Grazing and How it Benefits Birds in SW Montana by Adam E. Mitchell, Ph.D., we can all learn why livestock grazing on rangelands is one of the most likely, sustainable tools currently available to protect our grassland birds and other wildlife from habitat loss.

Make certain to see the article on the Motus tower project on page 3 and participate in the Give Big Event on May 1 & 2 to help SAS raise the funds to install and maintain three Motus towers in our area. Everyone is very excited about this new project! So, thank you in advance for contributing whatever amount fits within your means. I know we are all going to find value in the information the Motus towers will provide us about the birds utilizing the flyway in our corner of Montana.

The Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) committee just overcame a huge persistent hurdle which will permit us to move forward with plans for the wetland mitigation bank and preserve. Read all about that on pages 4 and 5. This year, the annual BioBlitz at the IAWP will be conducted a bit differently so that participants can jump right in with identification on the day of the event. Training will take place on various dates prior to the day of the BioBlitz.

Just because we do not hold monthly membership meetings or send out newsletters during June, July, and August does not mean that SAS shuts down cold turkey (pun intended). In fact, the summer is even MORE FILLED with SAS activities. Thus, it is even more important than any time of year for you to read this issue of Sacajawea Audubon News, add our events to your personal calendar, keep your newsletter handy, and follow the SAS Facebook page and website to stay informed.

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Officers

President	Chris Nixon pres@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Vice President	**Open Position**
Treasurer	Loreene Reid treas@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Secretary	Emma Narotzky sec@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Board Members

Aaron Clausen	aaronclausen@sacajaweaaudubon.org
John Edwards	johnedwards@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Ben Goodheart	bengoodheart@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Mikaela Howie	mikaelahowie@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Frank Marchak	frankm@bozemanwetlands.org
Doug McSpadden	dougmcspadden@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Halle Neinhaus	halleneinhaus@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Vicki Saab	vickisaab@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Ken Sinay	kensinay@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Activity Leaders

Education Chair	**Open Position**
Conservation Co-Chairs	Paulette Epple conservation@sacajaweaaudubon.org Lou Ann Harris louann@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Field Trips, Bird Sightings	John Parker birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Hospitality	**Open Position**
Membership	Loreene Reid membership@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Newsletter	Terri Narotzky newsletter@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Programs	Ken Sinay programs@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Website	Lou Ann Harris & Doug McSpadden webmaster@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Social Media/ Communications	Lou Ann Harris and Mikaela Howie socialmedia@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Book Club	Elisabeth Swanson & Hilary Johnson bookclub@sacajaweaaudubon.org
Newsletter Design	Tamara Knappenberger tkknappenberger@gmail.com

Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve

IAWP, LLC President	Frank Marchak frankm@bozemanwetlands.org
IAWP Busy Beavers	Loreene Reid loreener@bozemanwetlands.org

"Power of the Towers" - Motus Wildlife Tracking System

by Chris Nixon

With any luck from the wildlife tracking gods, this newsletter has made it into your hands by May 1 & 2 - as our SAS Motus Tracking Campaign is our focused project for Give Big Gallatin Valley 2025 on May 1 and 2.

This is our newest conservation project! And, we couldn't be more excited about the doors and windows into migration this system will open for us.

Motus is an international collaboration to study the movement and behavior of migratory and at-risk birds, bats, and insects. SAS is partnering with American Bird Conservancy and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks to bring the Motus Tracking System to Southern Montana to fill a wildlife tracking gap in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and contribute to an ever-growing dataset.

Right: *Motus Tracking System map for the Evening Grosbeak.* Left: *Evening Grosbeak fitted with a nano tag.* Photo: *David Yeany II, PA Natural Heritage Program at Western PA Conservancy.*

Over 70 tipping point species of North American songbirds have faced population declines of 50% or more, with trends showing little signs of abatement. The Motus Tracking System is one of the best tools to provide researchers and managers the information they need to identify root causes of decline, and to take action.

Our goal is to raise $40,000 to purchase, erect, and maintain three Motus towers and to acquire transmitting tags. The SAS Board has decided that the first tower will be placed near the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) to help monitor species utilizing our wetland. That tower will have a summer 2025 completion date, while the remaining two will be deployed before winter sets in.

So, if you haven't yet made a contribution to this exciting project, it is not too late. Use the information and/or links provided on the back of this newsletter. Hint, hint – SAS will still accept donations for this Motus project after May 2nd. And, GiveBig can still accept funds for the project for the week after the official date closure. Those wildlife tracking gods….they are on our side! There's power in the Towers!

We thank you for considering this request and for your continued support! If you have questions, feel free to call Doug McSpadden at 406.599.6735.

The Sacajawea Audubon Society Motus Tower Committee: Ben Goodheart, Doug McSpadden, Halle Nienhaus
https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/project/motus-towers/

Give Big for Wildlife Conservation

Support SAS's Motus Wildlife Tracking System Towers

- ❒ **$50**
- ❒ **$100**
- ❒ **$250 - (**Cost of one transimitter tag)
- ❒ **$500**
- ❒ **$1,000**
- ❒ **$5,000 –** (Funds a Receiver Station Tower)
- ❒ **Other Donation $** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____
(Street or PO Box)

_____
(City) *(State)* *(Zip)*

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to: Sacajawea Audubon Society

Mail this form and your check to: Sacajawea Audubon Society, Attn: Motus, PO Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771

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

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY

INDRELAND AUDUBON WETLAND PRESERVE

UPDATE: MAY 2025

THE WETLAND PRESERVATION PROJECT (WPP) was initiated to accomplish Sacajawea Audubon Society's mission to protect and restore increasingly rare wetland and riparian habitats in our region, and to provide educational opportunities and enjoyment for generations to come. The IAWP is the first of our wetland protection projects.

Exciting Update on the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve!

We have GREAT NEWS concerning the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP)! A huge impasse was overcome in April as members of the IAWP Board and our design team met onsite with an engineer of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. An agreement was reached that allows the project to move forward with a slight alteration. The additional new berm, which will be constructed on the southside of the rail line, will be pushed a bit further south in order to accommodate a hoped for return of the North Coast Hiawatha Passenger Line. Such would likely necessitate an additional set of tracks adjacent and south of the main line. This will require a slight tweak to our 70% design. BUT, it permits us to finalize the 100% design and implement the mitigation bank.

Wetlands are some of Bozeman's rarest and most valuable real estate. Protecting them is essential to the long term health and prosperity of our communities. Sacajawea Audubon Society is shining a spotlight on the role wetlands play in a sustainable Gallatin Valley future. The City of Bozeman Wetland Code Update will be presented to the City Commissioners in June 2025. Their focus is on the details of how to mitigate wetland impacts locally around Bozeman rather than far outside city limits, with an emphasis on providing the greatest positive benefit to ecological resources.

Wetlands are important as they provide critical bird and wildlife habitat and absorb water and release it during times that the rivers need it the most. Over 75% of wildlife species in Southwest Montana spend at least part of their life cycle in wetlands. Amid the frenzy of commercial and residential development, land that remains untouched has become rare. It has been estimated that we have lost a third of our wetlands since the mid 1800's.

The Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) is a wetland oasis surrounded by urban development. It has the potential to change the destiny of wetlands in the Gallatin Valley for generations. Being a remnant of the once large wetland complex, it is currently degraded. Over the years, it has been drained for agricultural and urban development, leaving it in poor shape.

Once locally known as the East Main Bozeman Wetland, the 40-acre site was constantly under threat of destruction until it was donated to SAS by prior owners Ileana Indreland and Mike Delaney in 2018. SAS purchased additional acres and has continued to accept additional property and water rights from adjacent land owners. The IAWP has been set aside to protect, enhance and restore this wetland community where education about wetland ecology will be made accessible to all ages and abilities. SAS aims to document the effect of human influence on wetland communities and inspire the conservation of other wetlands. Thus it will now serve as an environmental study area for future generations and become a place to experience the intricate beauty of a wetland—all within the city limits of Bozeman.

Beaver at IAWP. Photo: Kyle Moon

The design will showcase the role of beaver as a keystone species in creating wetland habitat. The interspersion of open water areas, marshlands, wet meadows, willow and alder dominated forest— as well as cottonwood and aspen forest habitat - will create numerous niches to support a diverse array of flora and fauna that maximizes the productivity of the site at many trophic levels. This design plan provides a significant improvement in wetland function while including visitor access and infrastructure consistent with conserving the wetland resource while offering a place of respite in an urban area.

View from the Northern Harrier(SAS 103) Chronolog Photo Station at the IAWP. Assist us with this Environmental Timelapse Citizen Science Project by being a "Wetland Paparazzi". Check out the timelapse video at https://www.chronolog.io/site/SAS103. Photo: Citizen Scientist Loreene Reid

The Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve is comprised of three sections:

1. The wooded wetland will be protected.

It is primarily Alder/Willow dominated and is the 2nd rarest type of wetland in Montana. Since it is still highly functioning, we won't need to enhance it. It will require little more than occasional non-native vegetation and beaver management.

2. The degraded wetland south of the railroad will be enhanced.

This section suffers from having been converted to farmland in prior decades. Proposed habitat improvements for this larger area east of the historic Milwaukee Railroad berm are designed to increase habitat diversity and interspersion on the site, thereby increasing associated flora and fauna diversity. Perhaps the biggest change is the addition of 3.3 acres of open water habitat, ranging in depths from two to 16 feet in seven ponds. The design includes the bottom release of cool water from the 16-foot-deep pond that, because of its depth, will cause the water column in the pond to stratify into temperature bands with coldest water occurring at the bottom. During late August and September, when water temperatures can be the most lethal for cold-water fish and aquatic organisms, cool water discharging from the pond will provide refuge from extreme water temperatures. Experience with this design in Montana has demonstrated a consistent reduction of 5-10° F between water temperatures flowing into a site and the water being discharged from a bottom release pond, such as intended for this section.

3. The grass meadow north of the railroad will be restored.

This section contains few small wetlands but is currently dominated by smooth brome (an upland non-native invasive grass species). Located between Interstate 90 on its north and east sides and the railroad on its south and west sides, excavation of approximately two feet of soil on this parcel will facilitate the creation/restoration of approximately six acres of new emergent wet meadow. This emergent wetland will be seasonally wet in the spring and early summer, and then likely dry out over the course of the summer months. Persistent open water or complex habitats are not proposed for this section.

Overall, shrubby thickets and forested areas add structural complexity and habitats sought by numerous neotropical migrant species. Proximity to open water, wet meadow, and marshy habitats makes these habitats even more productive and appealing to a variety of species, leading to increased biodiversity and abundance of species on the site. The addition of a newly forested area will add a visual buffer for resident and migrant waterfowl from development along East Main Street and from a planned visitor trail along that edge of the Preserve.

With the 100% Design, we will be able to take the final steps toward establishing a mitigation bank at the site. When all is said and done, Bozeman will finally have a long dreamed of nature center at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve—once all fundraising goals are met. There is more to be done and we hope that you choose to be part of it through your gifts, volunteering, and simply showing up to enjoy this treasured corner of east Bozeman!

Visit Bozemanwetlands.org for the complete set of plans and our many upcoming spring and summer activities including monthly wetland wildlife and plant workshops and morning bird walks.

Guided Bird Walks at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve

Saturday and Tuesday Mornings | May 3 – June 28

Visit https://bozemanwetlands.org/WP/events-calendar for specific times. **(May Bird Walks begin at 7:30AM; June Bird Walks begin at 7:00AM)**

Curious about the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve being restored by Sacajawea Audubon Society?

Eager to see some great birds without leaving the city?

Meet at Café M, 777 East Main for a brief intro to SAS's vision for the future of this amazing wetland, followed by a short walk to the Preserve. Bring your binocs and your enthusiasm for birds and wetlands.

All birding abilities welcome. No registration required.

Tour the Most Beautiful Wildlife Refuge in the USA

Birds & Wildlife of the Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge

May 24-26 2025 (Sa, Su, M) Memorial Day Weekend

Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge is located in the scenic and isolated Centennial Valley of southwestern Montana, about 60 miles west of Yellowstone National Park. This 3-day, 2-night tour will take you into a diversity of habitats, ranging from high elevation wetland, sagebrush and prairie to the forests of the Centennial Mountains. This diverse, wetland-prairie-sagebrush-montane environment gives Red Rock Lakes its unique character. Nesting birds are abundant throughout Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge at this time of year, with 120+ species possible. This refuge is best known as the primary location for the heroic efforts to save the Trumpeter Swan from extinction in the 1930's.

In addition to the majestic swan, another 230 bird species have been identified within the refuge, including: Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Sandhill Crane, Red-necked Grebe, Black-crowned Night-Heron, American White Pelican, Sora, White-faced Ibis, American Avocet, Willet, Wilson's Phalarope, Northern Harrier, Bald & Golden Eagles, Swainson's & Ferruginous Hawks, Prairie & Peregrine Falcons, Short-eared Owl, Sage Thrasher, Brewer's Sparrow, Western Tanager and various ducks, flycatchers, kinglets, warblers, vireos, thrushes, woodpeckers and, if we're lucky, Greater Sage-Grouse!

Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. Montana. Photo: Ronana Donovan

Guides: Steve Hoffman – Steve is the founder of HawkWatch Intenational and owns Merlin Birding & Nature Tours, LLC.

Cedar Mathers-Winn – Cedar is a naturalist, wildlife biologist, and Master Naturalist instructor based in Bozeman, MT.

More information and registration online at: https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/red-rocks-nwr-tour-may-24-26/

Get Wet with the Wetland Master Naturalist Course

Tuesday, June 24 – Saturday, July 26, 2025

This certified wetland-focused Master Naturalist class at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve will cover various aspects of wetland ecology and environmental science, tailored to Montana's unique landscapes and ecological characteristics. The course will include 10 classes and three full day field trips. Each class will be structured to last 2 hours, combining theoretical knowledge with practical, hands-on activities or field observations. Each topic will be taught by a subject matter expert from local specialists, the Montana University System, and the Society of Wetland Scientists.

The approach is a curriculum that focuses on the natural science aspects of wetlands, with a concentration on the understanding of wetland ecology, hydrology, soils, plants, and wildlife. It covers topics that provide a comprehensive understanding of the complex ecological interactions that occur within these ecosystems, with an emphasis on scientific observation, analysis, and interpretation, and integrates field trips and hands-on activities. For more information: contact Frank Marchak frankm@bozemanwetlands.org

Erik Anderson, Soil Scientist with Custer/Gallatin National Forest teaching the 2024 Master Naturalist class. Photo: Frank Marchak

- 6 consecutive weeks Tuesday/Thursday | 5:30-7:30 PM
- 3 Full Day Saturday field trips

Certification Requirements

- Attendance for 40 class hours
- Journaling and interpretative presentation on wetland topic of choice
- 6 hours volunteer service

Register online at: https://bozemanwetlands.org

2025 SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY SPRING BIRDING WORKSHOPS

with ASHLEY MARTENS

BEGINNING BIRDING IN FOREST & FIELD SERIES - *STARTS SOON!*

Learn to identify and appreciate bird families, common birds in our region, and what to look and listen for when seeking out the identity of a bird. Meet new friends to go birding with!

Classroom: Wednesday evenings, May 14, May 28, & June 18 (5:30–7:00pm)

Field Trips: Friday (Section A) or Saturday (Section B) mornings May 16/17, May 30/31, June 20/21

Cost: $100 members; $125 non-members

CAVITY NESTERS - *STARTS SOON!*

Learn all about the woodpeckers, nuthatches, and others who excavate cavities and those who use them again.

Dates: Thurs., May 8th (5:30–7:00 pm) & Sat., May 10th (7:30–10:30 am)

Cost: $55 members; $70 non-members

WARBLERS

Learn to identify differences between these wonderfully flashy, fidgety little birds by focusing on plumage, habitat, songs and calls.

Dates: Wed., May 21st (5:30–7:00 pm) and Sat., May 24th (7:00–10:00 am)

Cost: $55 members; $70 non-members

BIRDING BY EAR: THRUSHES AND OTHER SONGSTERS

Learn a variety of techniques to help you identify the bird sounds you hear.

Dates: Wed., June 4th (5:30–7:00 pm) & Sat., June 7th (7:00–10:00 am)

Cost: $55 members; $70 nonmembers

SPARROWS & ALLIES

Learn to appreciate the little brown birds' subtle beauty and differences by focusing on plumage, habitat, and songs and calls.

Dates: Wed., June 11th (5:30–7:00 pm) & Sun., June 15th (7:00 –10:00 am)

Cost: $55 members; $70 nonmembers

ART & SCIENCE OF BIRD LANGUAGE

Learn how and why birds are the messaging system of the forest! Join naturalists Ashley Martens and Cedar Mathers-Winn and you'll never hear the forest the same again.

Dates: Wed., June 25th (6:00–8:00 pm) & Sat., June 28th (7:00 –10:00 am)

Cost: $75 members; $90 non-members

BIG BEAKED BIRDS: FINCHES, GROSBEAKS, AND MORE!

NEW! Learn to identify and appreciate the birds with big beaks and varied plumage by sight, sound, and habitat.

Dates: Thurs., June 26th (6:00–7:30 pm) & Sun., June 29th (7:00 –10:00 am)

Cost: $55 members; $70 non-members

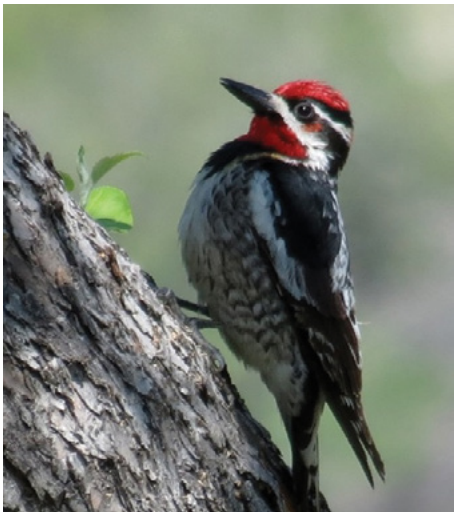
Register for all classes: https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/

STORY MILL COMMUNITY PARK BIRD WALKS!

Thursdays May 22 & May 29, 8– 9:30 AM

Sacajawea Audubon Society is partnering with the City of Bozeman to offer free guided bird walks at the Story Mill Community Park. The nature sanctuary offers a variety of habitats and thus a variety of birds. We will look for Black-headed Grosbeaks, Yellow Warblers, Red-naped Sapsuckers, Wilson's Snipe and many more.

Meet in front of the Story Mill Community Center off Bridger Canyon Drive at 8am. Bring your binoculars and plan for a 1-1.5 mile walk on flat trails. Preregistration is required. Visit https://secure.rec1.com/MT/bozeman-mt/catalog. Limit 15 participants.



Red-naped Sapsucker. Photo: Lou Ann Harris

2025 Sacajawea Audubon Society Spring Birding Series

Participants in all trips will meet at the front parking lot of the Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM and depart at 7:00 AM unless otherwise noted. Contact the trip leader to reserve a spot and for more details about all trips. If you signed up for a trip, but are unable to attend, please notify the trip leader as others may be on a waiting list. Field trips are limited to a certain number of participants and vehicles. Car pools will be arranged prior to the trip or at the predetermined meeting place. Dress for the weather; good footwear is a must as field trip conditions are not always dry. Bring any food or beverages that you will need during the course of the trips, and some of the longer trips might require that you pack a lunch. An offer to help with gas to the person driving is always appreciated but not mandatory. Please turn off your cell phones and keep unnecessary conversations to a minimum while in the field. We encourage all skill levels of birders to participate. Enjoy a good time with the birds and your fellow birders!

May 10, Saturday: ***Sweet Grass County Prairie Bird Tour***
Leader: Beth Madden 406-224-1012 bethmadden64@gmail.com
Full day tour, with option for early departure.
Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day with a trip to the prairies. We will follow an approximately 45-mile driving route through prairie and agricultural landscapes north of Big Timber, with an hour-long walk on some prairie lands. In addition to migrants, we can expect to see early breeders such as curlews, cranes, raptors, and prairie songbirds like longspurs and meadowlarks. **Meet in Big Timber (Big Timber is 63 miles east of Bozeman on Interstate 90) at the Town Pump located at I-90 Exit 367 at 8:00 am. Bozeman carpooling may also be arranged. 12-person limit.**

May 11 Sunday: ***Headwaters State Park***
Leader: Dave Story 206-718-5940 story.david.m@gmail.com
(1/2-day trip; easy walking)
The Headwaters area includes a variety of habitats, including sage/grassland and riparian, so anything from waterfowl to sparrows can occur. One of the unique features of the Headwaters area are the limestone cliffs, which support several cliff nesting species such as Peregrine Falcons and White-throated Swifts. The park, which is situated along the Missouri River corridor, is an ideal location to observe early spring migrants. **Carpooling will be arranged where possible. Meet in the northeast corner of the Target parking lot at 6:45 AM and depart at 7:00 AM. Those wishing to meet at Headwaters area, please make arrangements with the trip leader. 15-person limit**

May 18 Sunday: ***Milligan Canyon and the Headwaters Area***
Leader: Woody Martyn 406-224-1476 woodymartyn@hotmail.com
(Until early to midafternoon; 2 miles of easy walking on gravel roads)
This trip begins with a walk through the arid limestone cliffs of Milligan Canyon. Canyon Wrens, Rock Wrens, and Spotted Towhees frequent this dry landscape. Golden Eagles and Pinyon Jays are also a possibility along this portion of the trip. Later in the morning we will explore some of the other areas near Three Forks featuring a variety of habitats, including sage/grassland and riparian, so anything from waterfowl to sparrows is possible. **Meet in Three Forks, contact leader for details. 4 car and 12-person limit.**

May 21 Wednesday: ***Bozeman Fish Technology Center***
Leader: Travis Kidd 989-820-0078 travis.w.kidd@gmail.com
(Until late morning; moderate walking)
There are several habitat types that come together in this relatively compact area, including the riparian areas along Bridger Creek, the conifer slopes of Drinking Horse Mountain, and the drier slopes of the M Trail. Many of the breeding birds should already be on their territories and actively singing at this date. Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Townsend's Solitaires, Green-tailed Towhees, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and American Dippers are expected here. **Meet at the Drinking Horse Trail parking lot at 7:15 AM 8-person limit.**

May 24 Saturday: ***Glen Lake Rotary Park***
Leader: Brian Thorpe 406-581-8544 thorpe_22@hotmail.com
(3–4 hour trip; easy walking; at most two miles)
There are many possibilities at this local birding hotspot. Over 180 bird species have been seen in the recreation area. With a pond, riparian habitat, limited grassland, and mature cottonwoods, we hope to see a good diversity of what Gallatin Valley has to offer during peak breeding season. Species may include flycatchers, Warbling Vireo, Gray Catbird, several warblers, Lazuli Bunting, and Black Headed Grosbeak. **Meet 7:00 AM at the Glen Lake parking lot. 8-person limit.**

May 25 Sunday: ***North Cottonwood Canyon***
Leader: Woody Martyn 406-224-1476 woodymartyn@hotmail.com
(4-5 hours; moderate walking with some rocky terrain; 5 miles total)
This is an opportunity to stretch your legs and look for some early arriving migrants in the Bridger foothills north of Bozeman. North Cottonwood has a mix of riparian habitat, mature north facing conifers, and relatively dry open south facing hillsides. We'll be looking for species such as Western Tanager, MacGillivray's Warbler, Calliope Hummingbird, Lazuli Bunting, Green-tailed Towhee, grassland birds, and raptors that frequent the open country along the first mile of the trail. **Meet at Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM 8-person limit.**

May 28 Wednesday: *Sourdough Nature Trail*
Leader: Don Profota 406-579-3200 dprofota@gmail.com
(3-4 hours; easy walking)
Enjoy a weekday morning stroll following Sourdough Creek during the peak of migration and early breeding season. We should see and hear a wide variety of flycatchers, thrushes and warblers. During this time of migration there are often some surprises! Some of the neotropical birds nesting here are Northern Waterthrush, American Redstart, and Black-headed Grosbeak. **Meet at Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM 8-person limit.**

May 31 Saturday: *Mount Ellis*
Leader: Martha Collins 406-579-0506 marthacoll54@gmail.com
(4 -5-hour trip; moderately strenuous walking 3 miles)
During this slow-paced hike of approximately 3 miles, explore a number of habitats on State and Forest Service lands, including grassland, aspen meadow, and conifer forest edge. At this time of year many of the nesting birds, such as Calliope Hummingbirds, Dusky Flycatchers, Red Crossbills, Orange-crowned Warblers, MacGillivray's Warblers and a wide variety of sparrows will have arrived on their breeding territories. Along with terrific views of the Gallatin Valley, the wildflowers on this walk will likely distract you from the diversity of birds. **Meet at Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM 8-person limit**.

June 1 Sunday: *Shields Valley Driving Tour*
Leader: George and Valerie Nixon 406-219-6169 or 406-219-6170
hawkowl526@gmail.com
(Options for half to full day) The Shields Valley is home to some impressive diversity. When we leave Clyde Park, we will check some backroads and the riparian corridor along Highway 89 for nesting species as well as any migrants passing through. They should be out in force. We will also visit two separate marshes on the tour in search of Marsh Wren, Virginia Rail, and Sora. One of the highlights will be the visit to Cottonwood Reservoir, which can host an impressive variety of migrant shorebirds and waterfowl including displaying Western and Eared Grebes. The nearby sagebrush environs are a good chance to study Brewer's Sparrow and Sage Thrashers. Finally, we will head up the Shield River Valley drainage to explore some coniferous and montane riparian habitats to round out the experience! **Meet at the Clyde Park Post Office parking lot at 7:30 AM for car-pooling. 4 vehicle and 15-person limit.**

June 4 Wednesday: *Glen Lake Rotary Park II*
Leader: Dave Story 206-718-5940 story.david.m@gmail.com
(3–4 hour trip; easy walking; at most two miles)
There are many possibilities at this local birding hotspot. Over 180 bird species have been seen in the recreation area. With a pond, riparian habitat, limited grassland, and mature cottonwoods, we hope to see a good diversity of what Gallatin Valley has to offer during peak breeding season. Species may include flycatchers, Warbling Vireo, Gray Catbird, several warblers, Lazuli Bunting, and Black Headed Grosbeak. **Meet 7:00 AM at the Glen Lake parking lot. 8-person limit.**

June 7 Saturday: *Chestnut Mountain*
Leader: Andrew Guttenberg 406-451-5427 afgutte@hotmail.com
(1/2-day; hike of moderate difficulty, 4 miles out and back)
This trail climbs the north slopes of Chestnut Mountain, from Rocky Creek to the back side of Frog Rock. A wide diversity of birds breed here, including several species of woodpeckers, flycatchers, and finches, among them being Olive-sided Flycatcher and Cassin's Finch. The cool recesses harbor Swainson's Thrush and MacGillivray's Warbler. This may be the best local spot to find Ovenbirds. **Meet at Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM. 8-person limit.**

June 8 Sunday: *Spanish Creek*
Leader: Tim Preso 406-600-3302 presofamily@msn.com
(Until mid-afternoon; moderate walking on forest trail, with several hundred feet elevation gain)
This trip follows Spanish Creek through the Flying D Ranch, to the edge of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. We will spend most of the morning birding along the road focusing on the grasslands and forest edges. Once at the trailhead there is a juxtaposition of habitats, which support an interesting mix of birds. In one direction the trail borders the wet willow riparian area along Spanish Creek, while going in the other direction, the trail climbs through dry open slopes. **Meet at the rear parking lot behind The Jump at Cottonwood Road and Highway 191 at 7:30 AM. 10 person or 4 cars limit.**

June 11 Wednesday: *Triple Tree Trail*
Leader: Woody Martyn 406-224-1476 woodymartyn@hotmail.com
(5-hour trip; moderately strenuous climbing 500 ft, 4 miles)
As this trail climbs the hillside it passes through a number of habitats and transitional edges between them. At the bottom of the mountain, grassland quickly gives way to brushy deciduous habitat as the trail crosses Limestone Creek, where Ruffed Grouse, Calliope Hummingbirds, and Lazuli Buntings are some of the birds to expect. The trail then ascends through Douglas fir and lodgepole pine forests with a wide variety of nesting birds, including Cassin's Vireo, Swainson's Thrush, and Western Tanager. This trip features perhaps the greatest diversity of any short hike in the Gallatin Valley.
Meet at Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM. 8-person limit.

June 14 Saturday: ***Bridger Foothills***
Leader: Vicki Saab 406-581-7829 victoriaannsaab@gmail.com
(1/2-day trip; easy to moderate off trail walking)
We will spend the morning exploring the burn within the 2020 Bridger Foothills Fire perimeter. This is an opportunity to visit a recent burn and learn about post-fire ecology, including bird responses and relationships to forest fires and burned landscapes. Notably, Black-backed Woodpeckers and other woodpeckers are known to rapidly return to recent burns to feast on the insect life unique to this fascinating change in the ecosystem. Join us to find out what other pioneering birds and plant life can be found in such a recently burned forest. **Meet at Story Mill Community Park, 698 Bridger Dr. Bozeman at 6:45 AM. 10-person limit**

June 15 Sunday: ***Mission Creek***
Leader: Robin Wolcott 406-581-5418 pajaros@wewolcotts.com **email preferred**
(Until mid-late afternoon; mostly driving with light walking on roads)
In the rolling prairie just east of Livingston we will seek McCown's Longspur and Long-billed Curlew. Along Little Mission Creek we will watch for riparian species, then search for residents of the spruce/fir forest. On our return along Mission Creek, we could find a Cordilleran Flycatcher or a Golden Eagle. Over 130 species have been seen along this route including Sprague's Pipit, Upland Sandpiper, and Green-tailed Towhee. Spectacular views, abundant wild flowers, and wildlife make the trip through the northern foothills of the Absaroka Mountains a trip to remember. **After leaving Bozeman, we will reconvene at Albertson's parking lot in Livingston at 7:30 AM and then leave from there at 7:45 AM. Car-pooling is essential. 4 vehicles and 10-person limit.**

June 18 Wednesday: ***Little Bear Road***
Leader: John Parker 406-586-5863 conundrumjp@gmail.com
(1/2 day trip; 4 miles easy walking on forest roads)
Beginning at its lower end, this road passes through some cottonwood riparian and open grassland hillsides, then winds through aspen glades before moving into the conifer forest. After three miles the road eventually arrives at the mouth of Big Bear Canyon. Time permitting, we'll walk a mile up the canyon trail. Most of the foothill transition zone birds can be expected on this trip, including woodpeckers, flycatchers, thrushes, sparrows, and warblers. **Meet at the rear parking lot behind The Jump at Cottonwood Road and Highway 191 at 7:30 AM. 8-person limit.**

June 21 Saturday: ***Jackson Creek***
Leader: Lou Ann Harris 406-600-3585 montlou311@gmail.com
(4-5 hour trip; moderately strenuous walking on forest road 4 miles)
Located near Bozeman Pass, this area features a surprising mix of habitats and birds. We will begin this walk by passing through wet meadows and grasslands, and then follow Jackson Creek into higher elevation conifer forests. This is the beginning of peak breeding season, so most of the birds should be singing and displaying at their best. Over 40 species of birds can be found along this short run of the creek, beginning with cranes and swallows in the open country. As you work your way up the creek, several species of warblers inhabit the willows on one side of the road, while on the dry slopes an entirely different set of birds can be found. Once in the upper forest, some higher elevation birds will begin to make their presence known. **Meet at the Museum of the Rockies at 6:45 AM. 8-person limit.**

June 22 Sunday: ***Rocky Mountain Rd Bluebird Trail***
Leaders: Janne Hayward 406-587-6124 jannehayward@gmail.com**, and Lou Ann Harris 406-600-3585** montlou311@gmail.com
(1/2 day)
Get up close and personal with Mountain Bluebirds. Join blue-birders Janne Hayward and Lou Ann Harris, as they check bluebird nest boxes and band adults and nestlings along Rocky Mountain Road. This is a rare opportunity to get an inside look at the lives of these amazing birds, including nest building, egg laying and raising young.
The participants on this trip will meet at 8:30 AM, at the north end of the Target parking lot. Due to the sensitive nature of the work, we are limiting this field trip to 8 participants.

June 26 Thursday: ***Beaver Ponds Trail Yellowstone National Park***
Leader: John Parker 406-586-5863 birdsightings@sacajaweaaudubon.org
(Full day trip-12 hours; moderately strenuous hiking)
Once we arrive in Mammoth, we will be hiking the 5-mile Beaver Ponds Trail. The diversity of habitats along the Beaver Ponds Trail is unmatched by any other trail of such short length in Yellowstone. The Beaver Ponds Trail features a wide variety of birdlife including grouse, woodpeckers, and many sparrows as it passes through open forests, sagelands, and skirts several small ponds. If time allows, we will cover other locations on the northern range that are close to Mammoth.
Meet at the Museum of the Rockies at 6:15 AM. 8-person limit.

RAPTOR IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP & FIELD TRIP

August 21– Workshop | 6 – 8 PM

August 23 – Field Trip | all day

To kick off this year's annual Bridger Mtn. Raptor Project, Steve Hoffman will be sharing his knowledge and skills with a repeat of the Raptor ID Workshop. Grab this opportunity and sharpen your raptor identification skills! Who knows, if you took Steve's workshop last fall, you may want to do it all again. After all, who can learn too much about or see too many Raptors? Spending his life with raptors, Steve has proven that impossible!

The Thursday, August 21 evening presentation will start at 6:00 PM and conclude by 8:00 PM at Hope Lutheran Church, Bozeman, MT. Steve will provide a detailed discussion of the identification and natural history of all relatively common and widespread diurnal raptor species (e.g., hawks, eagles, falcons, etc.) found in Gallatin Valley. Steve's PowerPoint-illustrated talk will include descriptions of the many plumage variations - including color morphs as well as age and sex variations - of the most common and observable species. Helpful behavioral clues (i.e., manner of flight, preferred habitat, etc.) will also be incorporated. Golden and Bald eagles and the "buteo" hawks, such as Red-tailed and Rough-legged hawks will be emphasized.

Saturday's field trip on August 23 at 8 AM, will take you through the Gravelly Range, a great place to experience the beginning of fall migration. $40 fee for Sacajawea Audubon Society members (only $15 for students), or $65 for non-members.

Ferruginous Hawk. Photo: Mick Thompson

There will be a strict 20-person limit for the field trip. Advance reservation and payment are required. Early registration is strongly advised! **For more information, please contact: Steve Hoffman at** swhoffman0322@gmail.com

To register, go to: https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/

Workshop attendees are encouraged to attend the Bridger Mtn. Raptor Migration Kick Off Reception, 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 26. Come meet this year's Hawk Watchers to kick off the count at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve.

EVERYONE IS INVITED to attend the **Bridger Mountain Raptor Migration Kick Off Reception**, 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 26. Come meet this year's Hawk Watchers to kick off the count at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve!

BIRD-FRIENDLY GARDEN TOUR -- JULY 17TH!

Join us on **July 17 at 6:30 pm** as we visit the home of Brian Cassell and Linda Fineman who, with the expertise of Solstice Landscaping, designed their yard and gardens to attract birds, pollinators and other wildlife. Their home, located about 2 miles outside of Bozeman, includes an expansive yard with pollinator gardens, berry producing thickets for the birds, aspen groves, wildflower plantings, and beautiful flagstone paths connecting it all. A huge brush pile is a favorite place of refuge for the birds.

For more information and to register and get directions contact Vicki Saab vickisaab@sacajaweaaudubon.org or Paulette Epple conservation@sacajaweaaudubon.org 20 person limit.

2025 Sacajawea Audubon Birdathon

Are you going to Participate Hun?

Saturday, May 17 – Sunday, June 22, 2025

Gather your chicks (ie. your favorite birders) and register your Birdathon team. It's time to get out in the fields and scratch about and mark down all the different bird species you see for the day!

Have a ton of fun this Birdathon! You probably know by now that a Birdathon is similar to a walk-a-thon, but instead of collecting pledges per mile walked, you spend a great spring day outdoors with your Hunnies (and fellow birders), scanning skies, trees, shrubs, fields and water - even backyard feeders - for birds. The challenge is to identify as many bird species as possible within a 24 hour period. You collect pledges per bird species or number of birds seen. The money raised benefits SAS conservation and education projects.

You could even make this a "date" and just take "Your Hun" out for this enticing proposal. Who knows, some of you could make it an "anniversary event". Enough of the "puns" already.

Hungarian Partridge -"Hun".
Photo: Holger Teichman/ Macaulay Library

But...sincerely...the possibilities are endless.

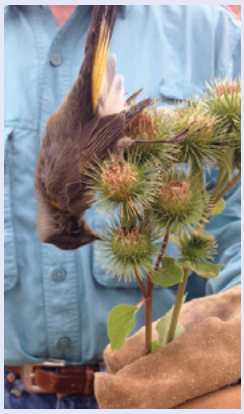
Participants have a chance to win prizes and awards! All the information you need is in the Birdathon kit, which you can find online at www.sacajaweaaudubon.org

Save the date: Everyone is invited to the Birdathon awards party at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve on Wednesday, June 25.

Want to join a team or need help setting up a team? Contact Loreene Reid at (406)600-6666 or treas@sacajaweaaudubon.org

Does your business want to take a "Bird Break"? Trade in your briefcase for binoculars, grab your co-workers and count birds on your lunch hour! Businesses can also become Birdathon Sponsors. Create a company Birdathon team. Sign up today!

This is the most fun you'll ever have helping to protect Southwest Montana's birds & other wildlife.



American Redstart tangled in Burdock.
Photo: Paulette Epple

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY

TRIVIA NIGHT

Native or Not?
Hosted by Mary Erickson

Test your knowledge and learn more about native and non-native birds, plants and fish with questions prepared by Mary Erickson, Virginia Kelly, Dan Reinhart & Vicki Saab.

Tuesday, May 20
5:30 PM – Social Hour
6:30 PM – Trivia begins

Trivia is free, followed by a raffle. Enter to win a prize basket and benefit the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve. Tickets are $5 each or 5 for $20.

Lockhorn Cider House – 21 S. Wallace, Bozeman

SAS Trivia Nights at Lockhorn Cider House are held on the third Tuesday evening of every month in 2025!

Birding River Safaris!

See riparian birds and wildlife on their terms!

On the Madison River at the Headwaters of the Missouri. 4 to 5 hour boat tour during May, June, and Early July.

Suitable for all ages and abilities. Secure and comfortable non-motorized boat with sturdy deck chairs.

Prices range from $50 to $75.00/person, depending on group size.

Professional Guide: Ken Sinay

For questions and scheduling, contact Ken at: 406-539-7359 or ken@yellowstonenow.com

Andrew Guttenberg Illustrates Art & Science

by John Parker

Andrew Guttenberg 2025.

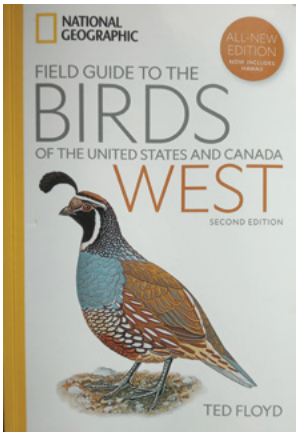
Local artist and illustrator Andrew Guttenberg has made the Gallatin Valley home for the past twenty years. Andrew was born in Glasgow, and until junior high lived there, where he was introduced to the open prairie and the bird life of eastern Montana. Practically born with a pencil in his hand, Andrew drew his first bird at age two. His mom still has the drawing of what he thinks maybe was supposed to be a Pileated Woodpecker.

With his parents' encouragement and a steady supply of art supplies, Andrew stayed focused on birds and how to portray their beauty through art. After high school, Andrew entered Montana State University with the intent of becoming an art teacher. But after having the opportunity to explore different mediums and techniques, he ended up getting his BFA degree in printmaking.

Snowy Plover 2011,Illustration for Birding Magazine

While continuing to refine his work, numerous opportunities and commissions followed, including illustrations for a field guide for the Caribbean Basin and drawings for the Caracara Project in Costa Rica.

More than three years ago, National Geographic began the initial phases of development for their trio of United States and Canada bird guides. Andrew joined the project early on as a technical advisor and to help with the layout and design. The production team quickly realized they should be using Andrew's artistic talents more comprehensively. Or as the lead author Ted Floyd said, "The birding gods smiled on us when Andrew Guttenberg, one of the greatest ornithological illustrators of his generation, agreed to join the project."



NG Western field guide Illustration

Over the course of two years Andrew drew hundreds of illustrations for the Eastern and Western guides, and also the "Big Book" which covers all of North America. Included in these illustrations were completely new drawings for all of the birds of Hawaii. Each drawing was done after many hours of studying hundreds of photos, videos, and the natural history of each species. All of the previous illustrations for the National Geographic guides were painted using acrylic or wash paintings, while Andrew's illustrations were done with colored pencil. Trying to match his style seamlessly with the older paintings was one the more challenging aspects of the project, along with finding the balance between finely detailed drawings and a more representational approach. Along with drawing the illustrations for the guides, Andrew and Marky Mutchler were responsible for the layout and annotations on all of the right hand pages.

When out birding, most of the time Andrew likes to keep it simple and bird local patches, finding "a lot of joy in visiting places that I know well." In Montana we are blessed with having public lands with good habitat where you can get out and enjoy the regular birds, whether it's listening to the Ruby-crowned Kinglets on a local trail or in eastern Montana, just "listening to the prairie."

When not frequenting some of the local patches in this area, Andrew and his wife Ana look forward to visiting her family in Brazil. It's not surprising that with the greatest biodiversity on the planet, "Brazil has grabbed a pretty big piece of my heart."

Now that the National Geographic guides have been put to bed, Andrew plans to catch up on some of the commissions that have been sidelined the last couple of years. Most of all, he'd like to get back to some more intricate drawings, paintings, and printmaking.

Be a part of birding's biggest team! Global Big Day is an annual celebration of the birds around you. No matter where you are, submit your checklists on May 10th using eBird. Your observations help scientists better understand global bird populations through products like animated abundance maps brought to you by eBird Science at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Last year, on Global Big Day, more than 63,000 people gathered observations on 156,000 checklists, setting new world records for a single day of birding!

You don't need to be a bird expert or go out all day long - even 10 minutes of birding from home counts. Global Big Day runs from midnight to midnight in your local time zone. You can watch the results roll in during the day from more than 200 countries on the Global Big Day page.

For more information and to learn how easy it is to participate, go to: https://ebird.org/news/global-big-day-10-may-2025

Because in our world, every bird counts!

Invite Birds & Pollinators to Your Home

Sacajawea Audubon Society has a great new resource to help you attract birds and pollinators to your yard. We have created four downloadable "recipe cards".

Visit our website to view and print more recipe cards to attract Finches, Berry-eating Birds, and Pollinators to your yard at this link: https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/invite-birds-pollinators-to-your-home/

Wings Across the Big Sky- Register Today

Join the fun in Missoula May 30 – June 1, for the 24th annual Wings Across the Big Sky Birding Festival. Field trips are filling up fast, so register today! (And don't forget to book your hotel room at the Holiday Inn Downtown Missoula before April 30 to secure the special group rate!)

Learn more and register online: https://mtaudubon.org/events/wings/

Field Trip Highlight: Hellgate Osprey Nest

Iris is one of the oldest-known ospreys in the world – about 30 years old! She is the star of the Hellgate Osprey Nest Camera, with millions of viewers all over the world. To the delight of all, she returned to her nest on April 7, 2025! In 2024, after several unsuccessful years with a different mate, she successfully raised two chicks- only time will tell what happens this year.

On this trip, we will visit Iris' nest, and you will get a chance to see "behind the scenes" of a nest camera. This special tour will be led by two local raptor researchers who have been studying local Ospreys and other raptors for decades.

Iris' two chicks from 2024, Sum-eh and Antali. Photo: Erick Greene

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ❒ **May through June:** SAS Spring Birding workshops
- ❒ **May 1-2:** GIVE BIG
- ❒ **May 2:** Motus Tower presentation at IAWP
- ❒ **May 3 – June 28:** IAWP Bird Walks begin (Saturdays & Tuesdays)
- ❒ **May 10:** World Migratory Bird Day
- ❒ **May 10:** Global Big Day
- ❒ **May 12:** Special SAS Annual Meeting potluck, program & board elections
- ❒ **May 16 – 19:** Sweetgrass Prairie Birding Tour – trip is full, with waiting list
- ❒ **May 17 – June 22:** SAS Birdathon
- ❒ **May 24 – 26:** Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Tour
- ❒ **May 30 – June 1:** Wings Across the Big Sky
- ❒ **June 24 – August 2:** Wetland Master Naturalist Class
- ❒ **June 25:** Birdathon Celebration at IAWP
- ❒ **July 16:** SAS at Bozeman Public Library Summer Learning Series
- ❒ **July 17:** Bird-friendly Garden Tour
- ❒ **July 19 -20:** IAWP BioBlitz
- ❒ **August 21 & 23:** Raptor ID class
- ❒ **August 26:** Bridger Mountain Raptor Migration Kickoff reception

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY – SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025

SHARED SPACES – CREATING BIRD-FRIENDLY CITIES & COMMUNITIES

This year, World Migratory Bird Day highlights seven simple actions you can take to create bird-friendly spaces where we live.

Learn more: https://www.migratorybirdday.org/conservation-theme/

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Individual or Family | January – December 2025

- ❒ **Basic Membership** **$25**
- ❒ **Supporting Membership** **$50**
  (Supporting local conservation & education projects)
- ❒ **Student Membership** **$10**
  (College & High School Students)
- ❒ **Additional Donation $** _____
  - ❒ Bridger Raptor Study
  - ❒ Wetland Campaign
  - ❒ Story Mill Park Bird Feeding Station
  - ❒ Wherever is Needed

Name: _____

Address: _____
(Street or PO Box)

_____
(City) *(State)* *(Zip)*

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Sacajawea Audubon Society Newsletter is sent by email. ❒ I would like a paper newsletter mailed to me.

We do not share your information except with the National Audubon Society, so your contact information is safe with us.

*Please check this box ❒ if you do **NOT** want your information shared with the National Audubon Society.*

❒ **YES!** include 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!

May '25 Newsletter

Choose your membership level above, and thank you for considering an additional donation.

Join or Renew for 2025 by filling out the membership form below or check out the many benefits of membership and join online at https://sacajaweaaudubon.org/join-sas/

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's Monthly Newsletter is available electronically to all Sacajawea Audubon Society members, September through May.

Deadline for article submission is the 10th 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

How will the Motus towers work?

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY
INDRELAND AUDUBON WETLAND PRESERVE

Learn more about the Motus Wildlife Tracking System by attending

POWER OF THE TOWERS EVENT

at the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve on May 2, 9:00 am – 11:00 am.

Visit our website to learn more and donate.
https://SACAJAWEAAUDUBON.ORG/MOTUS-TOWERS/

1. Radio tags are placed on birds, bats, and even insects throughout North, Central, and South America

*The tags are small, lightweight, and not invasive!

2. As a tagged subject flies by a Motus tower, critical data is recorded

3. Researchers then use that data to fuel crtical conservation efforts