

Mission: Building on the tradition of special interest in birds, Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society is organized to promote enjoyment and protection of the natural environment through education, activism, and conservation of bird habitat.

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 5

MAY 2014

CHAPTER MEETING MONDAY, MAY 19, AT 6:45PM*

DOUG POWELL TO SPEAK ON USFWS WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTION AREAS



The last YVAS Chapter program of the season on May 19th will feature United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) biologist Doug Powell, speaking on federally managed birds. He will talk about bird sightings and news from the Waterfowl Production and Management Areas, including the specific state areas, what they have to offer, and the best times of the year to plan a birding visit. Doug will be joined by a bird biologist and will have challenging slides for our members to help identify. There will also be discussion about some of the controversies regarding USFWS and the philosophy of management by a governmental agency.

For birders, USFWS is one of the most important and powerful federal agencies. Some of National Audubon's new policies have clearly been crafted in acknowledgement of this and the federal philosophy toward endangered birds. Those policies have also shaped by the Department of the Interior which regulates minerals and oil.

As part of the Department of the Interior, USFWS manages bird habitats and migratory routes, along with fish species and some bodies of water. It is charged with enforcing the Endangered Species Act., and federal laws and programs in the State of Montana. Its role, to manage sports species and protect endangered species and their habitats, is sometimes problematic, if not out right controversial. USFWS also manages sports excise tax revenues and distributes different kinds of grants to state and local governments.

*Please note that we have elections for the Board of directors and a Chapter business meeting starting at 6:45pm. The preprogram dinner will begin at 5:30 and the presentation will start at 7:15pm.



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YVAS MEETINGS

All YVAS Meetings are at Mayflower Congregational Church, corner of Rehberg Lane and Poly Drive, Billings, unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome, there is no admission fee and ample free parking is available.

Monday, May 12, 6:00pm: Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, May 19, 6:45pm: Chapter Meeting

We will hold a YVAS fundraiser dinner at 5:30, before the Chapter meeting. Dinner donation: \$6. Bernie Mowat has generously volunteered to coordinate. Please contact her at 656-7467 or gmowat@bresnan.net before May 16 to make reservations and tell her what you will bring.



☞ We're on the web! yvaudubon.org

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FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Long-time YVAS Chapter member Jerry Dalton has once again stepped up and volunteered to chair the Audubon Adventures Program. Having served on the Board of Directors in the past and led YVAS members on many a field trip, Jerry is ready to bring exciting direction to Audubon Adventures. The success of YVAS depends entirely on our volunteers—THANK YOU JERRY!!



YVAS is privileged to welcome Marco Restani as a new board member. Dr. Restani was awarded his Ph.D. in Biology from Utah State University. He did his undergraduate work at the University of Montana and his M.S. at Montana State University. Dr. Restani is a professor at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota and spends his breaks and summers doing research in Red Lodge. He serves on a number of boards, including Zoo Montana. Dr. Restani has been instrumental in developing the Osprey Project with YVAS and Rocky Mountain College. He brings incredible knowledge, experience and a great sense of humor to our board. He will attend in person when he is in Montana and by speaker phone when he is in Minnesota.



YVAUDUBON.ORG Just when you become totally dependent on new technologies, something seems to run amuck. The YVAS Board of Directors has worked for months to update our website, www.yvaudubon.org. The effort has turned out to be more complex than anticipated—somewhat like Obamacare. We are working with all the experts who assure us that we are close to having our new website, user-friendly and available soon. Watch the Flyer and sign up for email notices to get the latest information. We will keep you posted.



Phyllis Holt, one of our hospitality volunteers, is moving to Florida in June. She and her husband Robert plan to live at Merritt Island, where their son Tim and wife Belinda, live. Phyllis is a long-time member of YVAS. She joined in 1982 and for 31 years attended birding classes taught by Helen Carlson Cummins and Bebe Fitzgerald. She will miss the Billings Mustangs and the local Hockey games, as well as YVAS and our classes and field trips. We wish Phyllis well and hope the Florida birding will be great!

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Officers:

President: Steve Regele, 962-3115, sregele@juno.com
Vice-President: open
Secretary: Dorothy Bartlett, 252-0757, dpadanyi@live.com
Treasurer: Deb Regele: 962-3115, dregele@juno.com

Board of Directors:

Donn Bartlett: 252-0757, donnbartlett@msn.com
 Cameron Sapp: 406-702-1138, csapp@wildmontana.org
 Steve Linder: 406-380-0073, becon1@bresnan.net
 Bill DeMeyer: 671-7501, bademeyer@gmail.com
 Shelia McKay: 652-7175, cell 694-7918, wjhbird@yahoo.com
 Jeanette Tasey: 669-3169, jtasey@gmail.com
 Nancy Wiggins: 651-0218, nwiggins83@gmail.com

Montana's Congressional Delegation:

John Walsh: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510
 website: <http://walsh.senate.gov>
 email: max@baucus.senate.gov
 Billings: 657-6790 Wash. D.C.: 1-800-332-6160
Sen. Jon Tester: U.S. Senate, Wash. D.C. 20510
 website: <http://tester.senate.gov>
 email: senator@tester.senate.gov
 Billings: 252-0550 Wash. D.C.: 1-866-554-4403
Rep. Steve Daines: U.S. House of Rep. Wash. D.C. 20515
 website: www.rdianes.house.gov
 email: steve.daines@mail.house.gov
 Wash, DC: 202-225-3211

Committees and Special Assignments:

Audubon Adventures: Jerry Dalton, daltonlj@centurylink.com
 Bird Questions: George Mowat, 656-7467 or
 Helen Carlson Cummins, 248-8684
 Birdathon: Ruth Vanderhorst, 245-5118 or acrv@bresnan.net
 Christmas Bird Count: Jim Court, 259-5099, C: 860-0450,
custertours@gmail.com
 Conservation Chair: Steve Regele, 962-3115,
sregele@juno.com
 Editor: Nancy Wiggins, 651-0218, nwiggins83@gmail.com
 Field Trip Chairs: George and Bernie Mowat, 656-7467,
gmowat@bresnan.net
 Hospitality: Audrey Jurovich 656-2748
 Injured Raptors: Jeanette Tasey 669-3169, jtasey@gmail.com
 Membership Secretary: Joel M. Bowers, 534-3672,
 cell: 591-5635, jmba@jmba.com
 Osprey Project: Deb Regele, 962-3115, dregele@juno.com
 Publicity: Dorothy Bartlett, 252-0757, dpadanyi@live.com
 Program Chair: Shelia McKay, 652-7175,
wjhbird@yahoo.com
 Recycling (aluminum): Larry Handsaker, 406-855-9832
 Website: to be announced

- **Meetings** are held September through May at Mayflower Congregational Church, corner of Poly and Rehberg, Billings, MT.:
 - Board Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 6:00pm. Board Meetings are open to the entire membership.
 - General Chapter Meetings are held the third Monday of each

Below is a table of the annual YVAS Funds Activity Report. At the May Chapter Meeting there will be a full summary available for those that are interested.

**Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Mid-Fiscal Year Report
July 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014**

	Operating Fund	Audubon Adventures Fund	Osprey Fund	Yellowstone River Fund	General Projects Fund	Endowment Fund
Balance on 7-1-13	14,150.00	1,765.00	1,914.00	1,294.00	0.00	40,183.00
Revenue	9,248.00	150.00	1,523.00	1,400.00	3,798.00	207.00
Expenses	-6,756.00	-883.00	-700.00	-200.00	-2,107.00	0.00
Balance on 3-31-14	16,642.00	1,032.00	2,737.00	2,494.00	1,691.00	40,390.00

YVAS FUNDS ACTIVITY

Total YVAS Bank Accounts on 3-31-14: 64,986.00

Note: There are three months remaining in the fiscal year.



FIELD TRIP NOTES

TUESDAY APRIL 9TH SHARP-TAILED GROUSE LEK WATCH



SHARP-TAILED GROUSE
PHOTO BY GEORGE MOWAT

Led by Bruce Waage of NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service) and YVAS member Jim Court, a large band of YVAS birders gathered at the 5 AM Rocky rendezvous, and departed in a six car convoy to the Ballantine area, to view the sharp-tailed grouse (Genus: Tympanuchus, Family: Phasianellus). Sharp-tailed grouse are mostly terrestrial and have been around since the end of the Miocene epoch, 5 million years ago. Because of wide spread habitat destruction, the sharp-tailed grouse population has seen a dramatic decline, so we weren't sure what we would find, but at the crack of dawn the grouse appeared—about 70 yards away. We saw a few male grouse dashing to and fro with their raised crests, strutting and dancing in place, rising to repeat the rattle and dance again. As the sun rose we found

ourselves in a landscape of open agriculture lands and pristine short grass prairie, habitat threatened by recent drilling operations.

Grouse mating is rather complex and takes place within a lek, a display area 12 to 50 feet in diameter. The center area of the lek is where the competition begins. A female grouse chooses a male by his performance in holding a spot in the display area and driving off various suitors. I hadn't witnessed the phenomena since my years in Jackson, WY where the Greater Sage-Grouse come out on the airport runways to strut their stuff regardless of the crowds.

After the selection ritual, the sharp-tailed grouse, numbering from 8 to a dozen, flew off to set up housekeeping nearby. The female scratches and scraps up a nest and incubates from one to twenty elliptical, white to earthy olive-brown eggs that fledge young in 14 to 30 days. Born to fly, and capable of short flights within 7 to 14 days, mostly they just walk.

Bonus! Bonus!

The end was just the beginning for some of the group, who went on to identify a meadowlark with an unusual beak that was baffling, and either Barrow's or common golden-eye. They then headed to observe an osprey nest at the sugar beet refinery. Along the way they saw some 24 species, including sandhill cranes and American widgeons. The platform nest has been vacant in recent observations, but as this time of the season is full of firsts, we were treated to a first osprey sighting. However, the bird was on a high-power electrical tower some 30 yards from the nest platform, so it is not clear yet if it will occupy the nest.

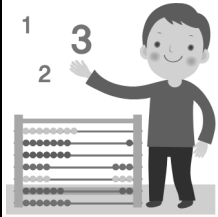
Thank you to Will Crain, "Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior" and "National Geographic Complete Guide to The Birds of North America."

SATURDAY APRIL 19 EXXON PONDS AND EMERALD HILLS

It was a pleasure for our group of about twenty birders to be out enjoying the sunny, windless day. We checked an Osprey platform, but a Canada Goose was occupying the nest. We then watched a Bald Eagle perch nearby on a dead tree. It then landed by the Yellowstone River, devoured some food, and flew a large nest on the other side of the river. We were pleased to see that its mate was in the nest.

The croaking sound of a Sandhill Crane directed our gaze to that large bird flying nearby, and we watched three Hooded Mergansers swimming in a nearby pond. Also on the river were Common Mergansers. The black and white males with their red beaks were very handsome. I could not answer the question as to where the males go during summer when the females are nesting and raising young in this area.

We finished up our walk through the Exxon Ponds with a sighting of nine American White Pelicans circling and soaring gracefully overhead. We then drove up through Emerald Hills, sighting a distant male Mountain Bluebird and admiring its intense blue color through the scope. Birds were sparse, so we did a lot of visiting and catching up on news between occasional sightings such as Turkey Vultures, Red-tailed Hawks, and American Kestrel. Our group sighted about 33 species of birds. Thank you to George Mowat



BIRDER ALERT!!!!

MAY 31-JUNE 1, 5 PM to 5PM 2014 BIRDATHON YVAS needs your participation. Sign up now! The event is scheduled for MAY 31-JUNE 1, 5 PM to 5PM A gathering for all the teams is planned for 5 pm on Sunday to discuss results and declare winners.

The **BIRDATHON** has two purposes: 1. To raise money for the YVAS Osprey Project by soliciting sponsors for your team, and 2. To have fun. Form a team and give this a try. Ask for help in forming a team. Request sponsors from local businesses, friends, family, self, and people who are willing to provide financial donations. If you have questions, don't know how to get started or simply want to talk about the BIRDATHON, call or email Ruth V at 245-5118 or acrv@bresnan.net. The April Flyer had copies of the application form for teams and a form for sponsors. Thanks for considering this great way to build funds for new nests and a great project. Submit your team applications and start planning your strategy. We appreciate you!

June 6-8, 2014 *Wings Across the Big Sky* ~ Bozeman, Montana

IT IS NOT TOO LATE to register for Montana Audubon's Wings Across the Big Sky Festival in Bozeman, Montana, on June 6-8, 2014. Mail your print registration form, go online to www.mtaudubon.org, or call the Helena office (406.443.3949) to register! Checks can be made out to 'Montana Audubon' and mailed with registrations to: Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena MT 59624. You may also email any questions to cerickson@mtaudubon.org or mtaudubon@mtaudubon.org.

The meeting will be held at the Best Western GranTree Inn in Bozeman. Call 1-800-624-5965 to reserve your room and be sure to mention that you are part of the Montana Audubon Wings Across the Big Sky Festival. Sacajawea Audubon has planned a fun Friday night kickoff including an ever-popular bird identification event. At the Saturday social hour prior to the banquet you can hone your bird call skills while trying to stump fellow birders!

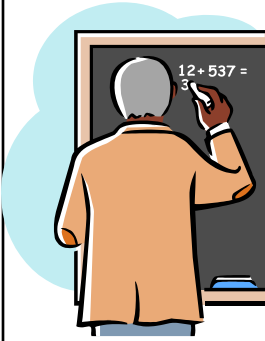
If you're a camper, consider staying in one of the many campgrounds near Bozeman. Visit

<http://www.allstays.com/Campgrounds/mt-bozeman-campgrounds.htm> for camping sites, both private and public. There is also camping at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds. Visit

http://www.gallatin.mt.gov/Public_Documents/GallatinCoMT_Fairgrounds/FacilityRental/OpenCamping. A WalMart, across the main street from the hotel, allows free camping in their parking lot (no hook-up.)

There is still room on many of the field trips Saturday and Sunday. Call the Helena office and someone will be happy to help you choose from what is available. There is a great variety of speakers for Saturday afternoon presentations. Talks will focus on local forests, where researcher Vicki Saab will talk about birds, beetles and burns. Other presentations will take us around the world, where Forest Rowland will share his knowledge and images of bird migration in the Middle East. You can learn how Montana Audubon is acting to protect Greater Sage-Grouse and other associated species. and what Montana bird species might be moving north as the climate changes. Given that the Bridger Mountains are just outside Bozeman, Steve Hoffman will share the latest golden eagle migration stories from that long-term study site. There will be six great talks - the challenge will be choosing which ones to attend!

Each year Montana Audubon recognizes individuals who work for the conservation and protection of birds and other wildlife by presenting Awards at the Saturday evening banquet. Nominations are being sought in the following categories: Lifetime Achievement Award, Educator of the Year, Conservationist of the Year, Citizen Scientist of the Year, and Special Achievement Award. To make a nomination, download a nomination form from www.mtaudubon.org/about/awards.html. Nominations are due at the office by May 23, 2014. Mail completed forms to Montana Audubon, PO Box 595, Helena MT 59624.



JUNE 9, 10, 12, AND 13. YVAS Bird Class

PRESENTED BY DR. MARCO RESTANI AT ZOO MONTANA. The classes on June 9, 10, and 12, will be held from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm, and will focus on bird identification (by bird group). The final class on 13 June will be a MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) Program refresher. The MAPS program will include capturing/netting, banding, and releasing birds. A morning bird walk at the Zoo will be included if there is interest (date and time to be determined). Dr. Restani's classes have been very popular with the community in the past. The cost for all four classes is \$60.00 per YVAS member and \$75.00 for non-members. The cost per class on a date specific basis is \$20.00 per class for YVAS members and \$25.00 per class for non-members. Please contact Deb Regele to register at 962-3115, dregele@juno.com.

CONSERVATION ISSUES

- In response to the rapid and severe decline of the lesser prairie-chicken, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced the final listing of the species as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as well as a final special rule under section 4(d) of the ESA that will limit regulatory impacts on landowners and businesses from this listing. Under the law, a "threatened" listing means the species is likely to become in danger of extinction within the foreseeable future; it is a step below "endangered" under the ESA and allows for more flexibility in how the Act's protections are implemented.
- Climate Change News: Private Forests Essential for Combating Climate Change & Maintaining Bird Populations.** The Forest Climate Working Group is a coalition of conservation, industry, landowner, and carbon interests that has developed detailed recommendations for the forest component of the President's Climate Action Plan. ABC (American Bird Conservancy) is a participant in and an endorser of these recommendations.

<https://www.forestfoundation.org/stuff/contentmgr/files/1/2639216f634a610a5fe7137ffd9ad0dc/files/fcwgfinal.pdf>
Panel's Warning on Climate Risk: Worst Is Yet to Come By JUSTIN GILLIS NY Times March 31 2014.
Climate change is already having sweeping effects on every continent and throughout the world's oceans, scientists reported on Monday, and they warned that the problem was likely to grow substantially worse unless greenhouse emissions are brought under control. The [report](http://ipcc.ch/pdf/ar5/prwg2/140330prwgIIspmen.pdf), <http://ipcc.ch/pdf/ar5/prwg2/140330prwgIIspmen.pdf>, by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a United Nations group that periodically summarizes climate science, concluded that ice caps are melting, sea ice in the Arctic is collapsing, water supplies are coming under stress, heat waves and heavy rains are intensifying, coral reefs are dying, and fish and many other creatures are migrating toward the poles or in some cases going extinct. The oceans are rising at a pace that threatens coastal communities and are becoming more acidic as they absorb some of the carbon dioxide given off by cars and power plants, which is killing some creatures or stunting their growth, the report found.

NESTING MATERIALS



- Nature Photography: Objectivity, Manipulation, and Ethics

When it comes to nature photography, how much manipulation is acceptable? We're not just talking about Photoshop; we also want your take on shooting captive animals, baiting wildlife, and more. Click through and tell us if the 10 images we've got on display pass your ethical test. Read

More—www.audubonaction.org

- Solving the Snowy Owl Mystery Snowy Owls have invaded the Lower 48 this winter in numbers not seen for 50 years. Naturalist Scott Weidensaul is on the ground, trapping the majestic birds and attaching transmitters that offer scientists astounding insights into the winter life of these often-elusive birds. Check out his firsthand report from the irruption zone. Read More—www.audubonaction.org
- Get Fascinated by Feathers With New All About Bird Biology Site
Feathers are amazing: they're light, aerodynamic, beautifully patterned, colorful, waterproof, and warm. To help curious minds of all ages learn about these impressive structures, ABC (American Bird Conservancy) just launched an in-depth, immersive website. It's the first stage of their new 'All About Bird Biology' project, with more to come. Try out 'All About Feathers', which includes these great elements: self-paced interactive features with custom art and video, free Powerpoint downloads of all the illustrations and animations—especially useful for teachers, accompanying reference article that provides quick access to the science, a video library featuring 90+ videos that bring bird biology to life. Visit www.cornelllabs.org.

MILES CITY EAGLE CAMERA ON LINE

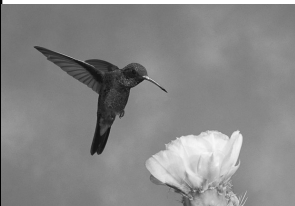


MILES CITY-- With support from YVAS and other community resources, a camera providing 24 hour live feed footage of nesting Bald Eagles is officially live. There are two ways to access the live stream video:

1. Go to <http://53431558b81c6.click2stream.com> or
2. Go to <http://click2stream.com>, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on [view our cameras worldwide](#), navigate to Montana and click on Miles City, the video [Miles City Eagle Cam](#) will come right up.

The nest is approximately eight feet wide and sits ninety eight feet high housed in a cottonwood tree. It has been used consecutively for five years by nesting pairs. The eagles are currently on the nest and from what can be viewed, there are two eggs in the nest. "We have already learned so much from this opportunity," said Brad Schmitz, Fish Wildlife and Parks, Region 7 Supervisor, "Not only about this pair of eagles in particular, but also this technology that may be used in future projects." FWP expects the resident Bald Eagles have an enormous amount of information to share with the community. This project has not just been a Fish, Wildlife and Parks project. "It has truly been a community project", stated Cathy Stewart, Regional Information Officer. Immediately after beginning to pursue the idea, support and offers to help came out of the woodwork. Organizations directly involved have been Yellowstone Valley Audubon, ROCKS Program, Mid-Rivers Communication, Department of Transportation, Miles City Fire and Rescue, City of Miles City, Kiwi Pete's Tree Service, Technologies Plus and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Individuals and entities providing skills or monetary donations include Dean Hanvold of Technologies Plus, Kiwanis, Builder's Club-Washington Middle School, Holy Rosary Healthcare Foundation, Dr. Williams, Jay and Denise Harvey, Ron Thomas and Ruben Oberlander. For further information on the Miles City Eagle Cam please contact Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks at 406-234-0900.

• PLANTING FOR HUMMINGBIRDS

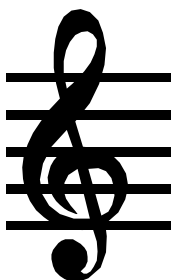


You can turn your yard into a hummingbird spectacular, and help scientists save these tiny wonders at the same time. We've got 10 plants that attract a variety of hummingbirds. Plus info on how you can help these remarkable birds by building habitat, feeding them right, and participating in Audubon's citizen science programs. Read More→www.audubonaction.org

- BILLIONS TO NONE** *Passenger Pigeons* were once the most abundant bird species in North America, traveling in flocks so enormous they could darken the skies for days at a time. Now, a hundred years after the death of the last Passenger Pigeon, we look at why the species went extinct, and whether it can be, and should be, brought back to life. Read More→www.audubonaction.org

• WHAT BIRDSONG CAN TEACH US ABOUT CREATIVITY

By Allison Eck on Wed, 09 Apr 2014



To most of us, birdsong is background, a part of nature's soundtrack. But as a professor of psychology at Hunter College in New York City, Ofer Tchernichovski pays more attention than most. He slows down bird songs in an attempt to see what kinds of vocal tricks are up their sleeves. He prods birds to see if they'll deviate from traditional tunes. Then he tries to put himself in the bird's head. "We're trying to understand these songs more intimately," he says. "What about the song is getting them in a sexy mood?" Learn more at: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/next/nature/what-birdsong-can-teach-us-about-creativity/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=pbsofficial&utm_campaign=nova_next

National Audubon Society
Recruitment Code: C0ZN500Z
Application for New Membership

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society. I understand that I will receive the Audubon Magazine and Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society Flyer. Make check payable to **National Audubon Society**.
*Renewals will be sent to you through National Audubon.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

One Year Membership

☐ \$20 One year new membership

Send this application and your check made out to **National Audubon Society** to:

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Attention: Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 1075
Billings, MT 59103-1075

Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Application for New & Renewal Membership

Please enroll me as a supporting member of Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society. I understand I will be supporting local chapter activities and receiving the local newsletter. I will enjoy full family Chapter benefits. Make check payable to **Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society** for \$20. If applying for a new or renewing student membership, make check for \$10 and indicate academic affiliation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Do you want to receive the Flyer electronically?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Send this application and your check to:
Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Attention: Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 1075
Billings, MT 59103-1075



WHOOPS!!

Is it time for you to become a YVAS member or renew your chapter membership?

PLEASE CHECK THE MAILING LABEL ON YOUR FLYER. IF IT SHOWS "YVAS JAN 12" BELOW YOUR NAME, THEN YOU ARE A SUPPORTING CHAPTER MEMBER WHOSE MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED IN JANUARY 2012. IF YOU ARE NOT A SUPPORTING MEMBER OR YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED, HELP US OUT BY JOINING OR RENEWING NOW WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$20, USING THE FORM ON THE RIGHT. YOUR MEMBERSHIP HELPS FUND THE PUBLICATION OF THE FLYER ALONG WITH OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR CHAPTER.

Membership Information

Although the National Audubon Society gives complimentary membership in our chapter as a benefit, no dues come to us. We strongly encourage you to join YVAS as a Supporting Chapter Member, which is offered for \$20 a year. Use the application form above to join as a Supporting Chapter Member or to renew your Chapter Membership.

1. **Moving???** Let us know as early as possible when you plan to move. The Post Office does charge us a fee for returned flyers. Include your old address as well as your new address so we can track you. You may write, call, or email the information to the Membership Secretary.
2. Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society offers Supporting Chapter student memberships for a reduced rate of \$10 a year. If you applying for a new student membership or are renewing a student membership, make sure you indicate your academic affiliation in your application. Joel Bowers, Membership Secretary



YELLOWSTONE VALLEY AUDUBON FLYER

Non-Profit Organization
PRST STD
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PERMIT NO. 27

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Billings, MT 59103-1075

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Field Trip Calendar:

All field trips depart from Rocky Mountain College parking lot on Rimrock Road, adjacent to Billings Studio Theater, unless otherwise noted, and will be by car. All field trips are open to the public. Passengers will share gas costs with driver when car-pooling. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING PETS.** Do make sure you check all field trips with listings in the Flyer each month for any changes. FIELD TRIP CHAIRS: George and Bernie Mowat 656-7467

May 3	Sat	LAKE BASIN 8 a.m.	Sack lunch. Mike Weber, leader.
May 10	Sat	MEET AT RIVERFRONT PARK at 8:00 a.m. S Billings Blvd, 1st parking area on right,. Half day.	Half day. George and Bernie Mowat, leaders.
May 15	Thur	MEET AT RIVERFRONT PARK. 5:30 p.m.(See above location)	Mike Weber, leader.
May 17	Sat	STILLWATER AND WOODBINE AREAS. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Sack lunch. Ruth Vanderhorst, leader.
May 24	Sat	POMPEY'S PILLAR. 7 a.m. to early afternoon.	Sack lunch optional. Ruth Vanderhorst, leader.
May 31- June 1	Sat - Sun	BIRDATHON Sat 5p.m. To Sun 5p.m.	Contact Ruth Vanderhorst 245-5118 or acrv@bresnan.net
June 3	Tues	MEET AT PICTOGRAPH CAVE. 5:30 p.m. Exit I-90 at Lockwood (Exit 452) and turn onto Coburn Road	Ruth Vanderhorst, leader.
June 14	Sat	RED LODGE TRIP. 7 a.m. at Rocky Mountain College for car-pooling or Visitors Center in Red Lodge at 9 a.m.	Sack lunch. (The group from Billings will be birding on the way to Red Lodge). Jerry Dalton, leader.

