

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.

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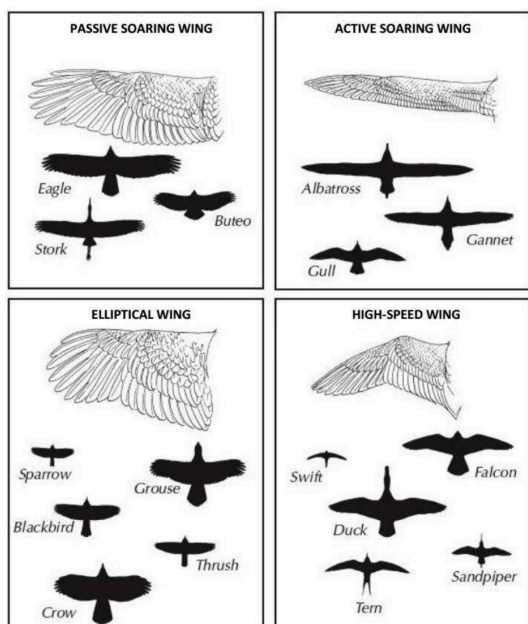
Winter birding can be harder work in Montana than it is in other seasons. Most bird species (and many birders) are gone from the state during these cold abbreviated days when food and exuberance are in comparatively short supply.

Ducks and some other birds can still be frequently spotted at such places as unfrozen river reaches and at Yellowtail Dam Afterbay on the Big Horn River. These places are frequented by Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society members and other birders, sometimes in desperate attempt to get outside and to challenge birding skills, the weather and doldrums. Winter birds can be harder to ID than spring and summer birds.

Heroic efforts by countless birders, scientists and others have given us all some crafty tools to help ID birds. A "top 10" list of quick questions we may ask ourselves when we want to ID a bird might include: How big? Overall shape? Colors and patterns? Flight pattern? Perching posture and location? Beak shape? Habitat? Alone or in a group? Wing shape?

There are four general wing shapes common in birds: Passive soaring, active soaring, elliptical wings, and high-speed wings. Another type of wing are the 'hovering wings' of Hummingbirds - small and quick.

Birders work to refine their skills and tools. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology works to help in that effort. For example, a Cornell web tool to help learn the anatomy of a bird can be freely used at <https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/features/birdanatomy/>. Also currently at the Lab is a birding class focusing on "where's the white" (WTW) as a strategy to take your waterfowl ID skills to the next level. Some free details are at <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/wheres-the-white-a-simple-question-can-be-the-key-in-waterfowl-id/>. A full scope (6 lesson) class about "WTW" and other duck and waterfowl identification techniques is offered there for a fee. But self-study with a bird book, some web searching and field time can also be an effective way to explore and exploit the "WTW" idea.



* There are four general wing shapes common in birds: Passive soaring, active soaring, elliptical wings, and high-speed wings. Another type of wing are the 'hovering wings' of Hummingbirds - small and quick.

And while we're at it, "where's the white" can be a good question to add to your "top 10" of quick questions when trying to ID any bird:

"There's a Chickadee - "WTW" - breast, auriculars, malar region, and eyebrow (aka. supercillium) = Mountain Chickadee!"...

"I see a greenish headed duck way out there - "WTW" - breast and uppertail and undertail coverts - then not a Mallard, Teal, Wigeon, Merganser or Wood Duck = must be a Northern Shoveler!"...

"There's a large raptor overhead - "WTW" - it has a white head and tail = well that's a ..." too easy. ...And so on.

We so often glimpse a bird for a heartbeat, or only partially, or at a hazy distance. Honing our bird anatomy knowledge, ID skills, field tools and questions can help a lot in deciding "what is that bird"!

Submitted by Steve Regele



WE ARE ON THE WEB YVAUDUBON.ORG

John James Audubon: Five Fun Facts

- ❖ FF#1: The name is John James *Laforest* Audubon. Really.
- ❖ FF#2: One of his many foibles was to dress for shooting in silk, satin, and RUFFLES!
- ❖ FF#3: He played a variety of instruments, principally the violin, flute, and flageolet.
- ❖ FF#4: John James spent months at a time wandering in the wilderness with the Osage Indians, whom he admired above all other tribes.
- ❖ FF#5: He professed that his interest in birds stemmed from a traumatic incident when his mother's parrot "Pretty Polly" was killed by his mother's pet monkey. John James had to be tranquilized, so distraught was he.

And a lagniappe ("a little extra; a "freebie"):

- ❖ FF#6: Does it surprise you to know that while traveling with several pack horses laden with cash and goods, JJLA lost sight of the horses and the cash they bore, "to watch the motions of a warbler."

Jump directly to Volume I of his Journals: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/39975/39975-h/39975-h.htm>

Start to read about Audubon's life in his own words: https://www.gutenberg.org/files/39975/39975-h/39975-h.htm#Page_5

The European Journals (1826-1829):

The Missouri River Journals (1843): https://www.gutenberg.org/files/39975/39975-h/39975-h.htm#Page_447

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Submitted by Sue Weinreis



AUDUBON IN INDIAN DRESS From a pencil sketch drawn by himself for Miss Rathbone, 1826



John, J. Audubon

2020 CBC MTBL Summary to Observers

51 species were reported in the Billings CBC count circle on December 19, 2020, by 29 observers and 10 feeder watchers, in 10 out of 15 count areas. There were 29 observers in 11 parties, and 10 feeder watchers, in 51 party hours covering 257 miles. Five of the count areas had no roving observers due to covid, except feeder watchers at 8 locations. Much of Lockwood and Pryor Creek had no observers. For comparison, in 2019, 57 species were reported by 42 observers in 15 parties, and 9 feeder watchers, in 76 party hours covering 614 miles, with fog and light snow during the morning, on at least the higher locations like Four Dances.

In the area near Huntley between HWY 312 and the Yellowstone River, observers were Jim Court, Gail Speck, and Mallory Ewer-Speck. This party reported one new species never before on the Billings CBC, a House Wren. They were also the only group to report a Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk, and one of two groups to report a Prairie Falcon and an American Tree Sparrow.

In Two Moon Park and Billings Heights SE of Main St, observers were Deb and Steve Regele, one of two groups reporting Gadwall 2.

In Alkali Creek and along the Rims, observers were Helen and Peter Cummins, one of two groups reporting Wild Turkey 43.

In the Heights west of Main, the south half of Lake Elmo, and south to, but not including Alkalai Creek, observers were Bob Mackin, Elliott Mackin, Madeleine, and Jerry Dalton, one of two groups reporting American Coot.

The Montana Audubon Center staff party, Alina Garner, Gabi Morey, Paul Morey, and Heather Bilden, covered the MAC, Norm's Island, Briarwood, and Blue Creek area. Hairy Woodpecker 1, was only seen by this group, and one of 2 parties to report Prairie Falcon 2, Townsend's Solitaire 1, and American Tree Sparrow 3.

Pictograph Cave, Four Dances Natural Area, and nearby rural Lockwood, was covered by Ron Kuhler, and Emily Chilcoat and Jan Shorthill also from the MAC. Their unique observation was Red Crossbills 11. They were one of 2 parties reporting Townsend's Solitaire 3.

Mike Weber, Sonya Smith, and Mike Glunt, reported 32 species at Exxon Ponds and nearby. They were the only party that reported Wood Duck 1, American Wigeon 8, Hooded Merganser 5, Sharp-tailed Grouse 2, Double-crested Cormorant 2, Cooper's Hawk 1, Peregrine Falcon 1, Belted Kingfisher 1, Yellow-rumped Warbler 9, Song Sparrow 2, and American Goldfinch 1. They were also one of 2 parties to observe Gadwall 1, Bufflehead 7, and American Coot 3.

The "parks" party, Carolyn Jones, Sue Weinreis, Rita Harding, and Mary Fitzpatrick, covered Coulson, Mystic, and Riverfront Parks. They reported more Ravens, 4, than any other group, and saw 15 species.

In the Shepherd area, north of HWY 312, and west of HWY 87, Ruth Vanderhorst and Pam Pipal reported the most Rough-legged Hawk 6, and Red-tailed Hawk 3. They were also one of two parties that reported American Kestrel 1.

Brian and Teresa Henderson covered the country west of HWY 87 and north of Skyview High, including the north half of Lake Elmo, and Dover Park. Unique species were Cackling Goose 3, Merlin 1, and Horned Lark 3. They were one out of two parties that saw Bufflehead 6, and American Kestrel 2. Seven Ring-necked Pheasant was a high count.

Feeder watchers included Rita Cetrone, Helen and Peter Cummins, Joanne Miller, Bernie and George Mowat, Jay Kintzing, Joyce Stewart, Ruth Towe, and Lois Dalton. Rita Cetrone added the only Northern Shrike that was reported.

For more Christmas Bird Count results, current and historical, go to <http://christmasbirdcount.org/>

Submitted by Jerry Dalton

Bird Species and Numbers from Past YVAS Christmas Bird Counts

Included in this Flyer is a two-page report showing the results of Christmas Bird Counts from 2010 to 2020. If you want to review more historic counts, Christmas Bird Counts going back to 1973 can be found at: <https://yvaudubon.org/birding/>.

Submitted by Deb Regele

Historical Christmas Bird Counts 2010 to 2020. For more results, go to yvaudubon.org/birding/.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Cackling Goose			10		1		1	33	26	236	3
Canada Goose	3117	11457	10671	7449	9774	5278	3581	8401	8517	9945	15566
Wood Duck	7	1	1	8		11		11		2	1
Gadwall	55	17	24	24	2	23	13	35		21	3
American Wigeon		7	10					3			8
Mallard	1132	3664	1957	1666	1104	1607	989	1216	1679	1465	2297
Northern Shoveler	1	3						8	1		
Northern Pintail	3	2	2	1			2		1		
Green-winged Teal		20							5	cw*	
Redhead			1					3			
Ring-necked Duck	1	25	26	11	3			115			
Lesser Scaup	212		8		6						
Bufflehead	16	107	41	9	3	34	10	16	31	8	13
Common Goldeneye	2673	428	742	2170	1179	2371	581	530	361	673	682
Barrow's Goldeneye	12					8					
Hooded Merganser	73	4	14	2	17	12		20	11	1	5
Common Merganser	44	10	21	19	18	37	35	66	13	20	36
Gray Partridge						20					
Ring-necked Pheasant	39	14	41	34	55	113	74	41	28	84	17
Greater Sage-Grouse											
Sharp-tailed Grouse	16			20		24	9	77		6	2
Wild Turkey	121	182	147	158	192	61	63	149	102	115	62
Pied-billed Grebe	1	2	1	1		1				1	
American White Pelican									1		
Double-crested Cormorant					1	5		3		2	2
Great Blue Heron (Blue form)	4	10	9	6	4	11	3	6	1	2	
Bald Eagle	93	30	34	37	43	45	35	40	60	33	45
Northern Harrier	1	2	4	4		2	3	1	6	1	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	7	2	4	3	4	9	11	12	6	6	3
Cooper's Hawk	3	1	5	2	1	8	2	3	1	4	1
Northern Goshawk	3										
Accipiter sp.				10			2				
Red-tailed Hawk	45	33	42	48	41	49	33	41	29	43	14
Harlan's Hawk							1	2		7	1
Ferruginous Hawk							1				
Rough-legged Hawk	33	19	21	27		25	22	50	28	24	11
Buteo sp.		5			7	9	5	12	5	5	9
Golden Eagle	5	8	4	1	6	6	5	3	9	1	
American Kestrel	4	4	7	11	9	9	1	8	1	7	3
Merlin	4	3	1			1	4	2	1	1	1
Peregrine Falcon		1							1		1
Prairie Falcon	4	4		1		3	2		3	1	3
falcon sp.									1		2
Virginia Rail		2	2	3				1			
American Coot	4	12	8	6	7	7		10	8	4	4
Killdeer			4	1	1		3	1		2	
Ring-billed Gull			12			6		1			
Thayer's Gull								1			
gull sp.			4					3			
Rock Pigeon	936	660	476	3205	1326	1723	1961	1996	2914	1377	1787
Eurasian Collared-Dove	81	204	542	304	256	1189	425	656	641	406	118
Mourning Dove	15	13	2	1			7	1		2	
Eastern Screech-Owl	1					2	1				
Great Horned Owl			3				3	2	1		
Long-eared Owl						1			1		
Northern Saw-whet Owl			1								

Belted Kingfisher	1	2	9	6	3	6	5	7	1	1	1
Downy Woodpecker	15	11	20	19	17	27	19	12	10	39	9
Hairy Woodpecker	2	2	2	3	2	6	2	5		6	1
Northern Flicker	74	78	116	79	111	140	56	80	37	88	31
Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker	30						26	39	12	23	20
Northern (RedxYellow-shafted)									1		
Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker		4						1	1		
Northern Shrike	6	1	4	3		2	3	2		3	1
Steller's Jay								13			
Blue Jay	7	1	3	2	1	8	3	5	3	34	6
Pinyon Jay	6	5	12	76			35				
Black-billed Magpie	125	149	155	124	218	242	180	255	138	197	91
American Crow	152	219	333	569	358	439	247	131	315	160	97
Common Raven	7	13	6	17	16	28	20	10	30	27	10
Horned Lark		17		18		138	7				3
Black-capped Chickadee	186	150	187	202	223	280	196	285	197	297	121
Mountain Chickadee	1		2	2							
Red-breasted Nuthatch	8	4	23	7	5	10	2	30	7	17	7
White-breasted Nuthatch	4	5	15	8	11	23	1	3	4	11	7
Brown Creeper			4			4			1	8	
House Wren											1
Canyon Wren				3	1		2	2	2	2	
Marsh Wren		2	1		1			1	1		
Townsend's Solitaire	17	19	37	20	15	8	19	18	19	41	4
American Robin	4072	1325	1742	279	854	1236	795	527	1625	814	793
European Starling	3642	8077	11699	5409	5271	7923	6048	7922	5699	2368	2976
Bohemian Waxwing			265	54			16			cw*	
Cedar Waxwing	63	133	474	14		59	145	67	113	103	
Yellow-rumped Warbler		2	2		3	6		22	9		9
American Tree Sparrow	31	20	1	4	50	71	43	52	11	2	4
Song Sparrow	5	5	12	6	13	13	35	13	2	cw*	2
White-throated Sparrow	1				1						
Harris's Sparrow				1							
White-crowned Sparrow		1		6			1				
sparrow sp.				3							
Dark-eyed Junco	103	61	126	49	106	140	69	53	59	51	10
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco								10		33	
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco							15	2	2		5
Dark-eyed (White-winged) Junco							4				
Snow Bunting		5									
Red-winged Blackbird				7		24	22	200		6	
Western Meadowlark				4	1	8					
Rusty Blackbird			20								
Brown-headed Cowbird		4					1				
blackbird sp.							10				
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch								30			
rosy-finch sp.						40					
Pine Grosbeak										2	
Cassin's Finch						15	2				
House Finch	744	562	445	342	322	539	432	404	154	543	123
Red Crossbill		5	90			7	29			75	11
Common Redpoll			cw	8		66	1	60			
Pine Siskin	39	40	13	3	4	24		4		9	
American Goldfinch			5	1	6	79	23	1	10	5	1
Evening Grosbeak	19										
House Sparrow	813	604	495	668	297	1135	469	636	545	769	188
Total Number of Species	61	65	68	65	51	65	69	73	60	60	51
Total Number of Individuals	18939	28482	30725	23219	21984	25456	16874	24481	23501	20239	25232

Ravens Forevermore

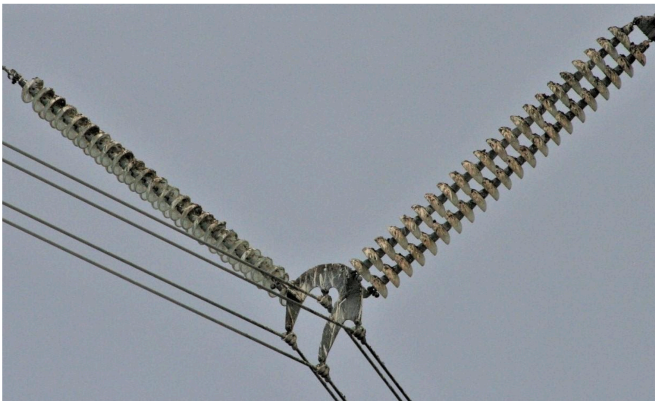
A few winters ago, the high voltage transmission lines that run from Colstrip through central Montana to Washington began to experience sporadic outages of unknown origin. The lines are an integral part of the regional power grid so identifying the problem quickly became a priority. NorthWestern Energy engineers and power line crews visited sites where outages occurred and discovered tower insulators heavily contaminated with bird droppings. What left the guano calling card, however, remained a mystery.

Late one afternoon the following winter while a crew was washing insulators, hundreds of Common Ravens began to arrive from all directions to congregate near the transmission lines. The culprits had seemingly been identified.

Ravens gather in large nocturnal roosts on trees, cliffs, and anthropogenic structures such as towers, buildings, and bridges. Roosts typically form in autumn and persist through winter before disappearing in spring as breeding pairs disperse to territories. The number of ravens in a roost can be impressive; I counted over 1500 on transmission line towers near Broadview one evening last winter! Two other roosts along the transmission lines peaked at over 1000 ravens each.



Common Ravens roosting on transmission line towers.



Transmission line insulators contaminated with Common Raven droppings.

NorthWestern Energy crews attached perch deterrents to towers to exclude ravens from roosting directly above insulators. The deterrents succeeded in reducing the accumulation of droppings and the number of outages. Other portions of the towers were purposely unaltered. Somewhat counterintuitively, the goal was to keep roosting ravens on the towers they had selected to discourage them from moving to other towers, which would have created additional outage risks.

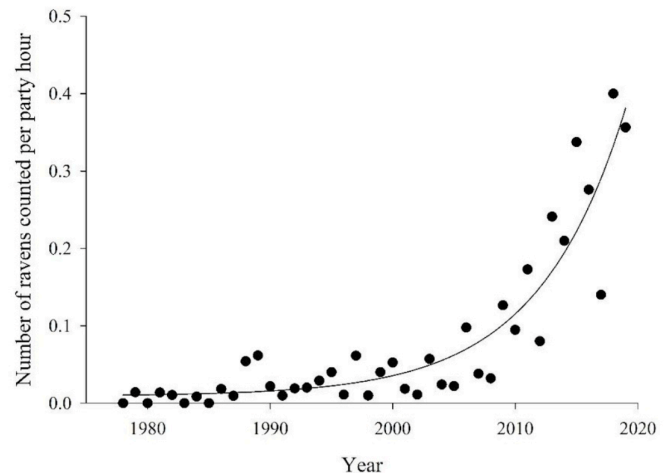
The transmission lines have been in service for decades and raven-caused outages were a recent phenomenon, begging the question "Why now?" Enter YVAS. The Christmas Bird Count data collected by YVAS in Billings have provided compelling historical perspective on the emergence of raven-caused outages. The Billings CBC has been conducted annually since 1949 but the first raven wasn't observed

until 1979. The number of ravens wintering near Billings has increased exponentially the last 10-15 years. Today, ravens are a common to abundant bird in south-central Montana.

Raven populations throughout the West have benefited from food subsidies provided by humans. Widespread conversion of native grasslands and sagebrush to agriculture, larger landfills, and more roadkill all supply this human commensal with the bounty that increases survival and reproduction. Decreases in direct and indirect persecution from shooting and poisoning, respectively, have probably added another population boost.

Raven population growth shows no signs of slowing, and conflicts on large transmission lines should be expected as new roosts form or existing roosts move. It seems imprudent, therefore, to trust any raven that croaks "nevermore."

Submitted by Marco Restani



Number of Common Ravens counted on the Billings Christmas Bird Count.

YVAS Board of Directors Highlights January 2021

- ❖ The Bob Landis Christmas Program on YouTube received many good comments.
- ❖ YVAS Board has been brainstorming ways to assist non-computer users obtain access to YVAS virtual monthly programs and the many other outstanding and entertaining ZOOM, YouTube, and web-based programs available. We sure could use any suggestions you might have!
- ❖ The Twine recycling shed is now sporting new doors! Several deposits of clean twine have been made, both at the recycling shed and at the various twine bins placed at strategic locations around Billings.
- ❖ Have you ever heard of "Walkabout Park?" It is a parcel of DNRC land on the south side of the river just upriver from Norm's Island. YVAS is working with DNRC with the goal of making this and other lands and waters accessible to the public for recreational use.
- ❖ YVAS, like you and everyone else, has a LOT of "STUFF!" YVAS has "stuff" we need to convert from paper to digital; "stuff" like the projector, laptop, and screen; and then we have "stuff" like coffee pots and GPSs. Just know that the Board has been diligently trying to separate the "wheat from the chaff" (the warblers from the starlings???) and find a safe and permanent home for our "STUFF."

Submitted by Sue Weinreis

* * * NOTICE * * *

Three pair of Binocular Straps remain of 100 purchased in 2013 in honor of Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society's 60th Birthday! To purchase a pair contact Pam Pipal at ppipal@charter.net and she'll see that you get a pair. The cost is \$15 for one or \$25 for two.



Southwest Wings Wild and Wonderful Speakers Series

Each Wild and Wonderful live online presentation is FREE and begins at 11 AM Arizona time (MDT year-round). To register for the live version, [see a full list of future talks - here](#). A recorded version of the last talk will be available for several weeks afterwards on the Southwest Wings website. All of the earlier talks are available on the [Southwest Wings YouTube Channel](#).

Upcoming Online Speaker Talks:

- ❖ **January 27:** Northern Jaguar Project: Protecting the World's Northernmost Jaguars - Diane Hadley
Archived here: <http://bit.ly/36Bgwjb>
- ❖ **February 24:** Bluebirds, Robins and Thrushes - Kathe Anderson
- ❖ **March 24:** Twelve New Clouds - Glenn Minuth
- ❖ **April 28:** Wildlife, Rescue, Rehabilitation, Release and Coexistence - Angeline Fahey

Submitted by Sue Weinreis

The Twine Shed has Doors

S Bar S Builders finished installing the two sliding doors on the twine shed December 30, much to the dismay of the unhappy, raucous pair of Ravens that moved in a year ago. A 300-gallon bin, donated by the City of Billings, is anchored outside the shed for small twine deliveries at any time. Twine continues to be deposited for recycling on a regular basis both by individuals and by those requesting assistance from volunteers.



Again, thank you to all YVAS members and Osprey nest monitors who donated during Patagonia's Matching Grant Program in the fall of 2019. And thank you all who continue to support and work on this project.

Submitted by Deb Regele

Eagle Survey Field Trip Report- Jan 10, 2021

Billings was fogged in on the morning of the eagle survey. Fortunately, some of the 8 participants had driven in from Red Lodge that morning and knew there was no fog over there. We agonized over it for a while then drove to Columbus and started there. It was a lot of extra driving for some and a late start for the survey, but we ate lunch on the wing and managed to still finish the route just before dark.

We had apparently made the right decision to change the survey start to Columbus because when we got back to Billings later in the day, it was still hazy.

There was almost no ice on the river - only a bit at the edges and the weather was very mild so viewing was easy. The hardest part was that there were so many eagles, it was difficult to know if you were counting the same birds twice!

We recorded a total of 42 Bald Eagles and 3 Golden Eagles.

Submitted by Brian Henderson

Use Amazon Smile to Support YVAS

I find myself ordering everything on line so much more than I ever thought I would. Honestly, I think I will continue to do so if/when we get sprung from our isolated form of living. You all probably know about ordering with Smile, but I'm a bit slow about learning new things on the internet. Long story short, I have learned to order from Amazon by using smile.amazon.com. It takes me right to my Amazon account, I order as I normally would and Amazon donates a small percent of my order to YVAS.

I believe you can do this with other sites you may order from as long as you request the donation to go to a non profit organization.

Please, others, add to this information and spread it to our members. All donations are so very much appreciated by YVAS!

Submitted by Dorothy Bartlett

Field Trips

Due to Covid-19, YVAS has decided to SUSPEND our monthly scheduled birding trips until further notice. We do, however urge everyone to bird on their own or with others while adhering to the pandemic requirements. If you have any questions or comments, please let me know. Here's to good birding and good weather!

Donn Bartlett
406.812.1008
406.598.3689

February Events at the Montana Audubon Center

Advance registration is required for all programs. Visit our website at mtaudubon.org/center for more info or to register. Current members of the Montana Audubon Center receive discounts on all of our programs! Become a member today by visiting our website.

We are taking the following precautions to protect everyone's health and safety. Our adult programs are held entirely outdoors or online. Masks are required for all in-person programs, and social distancing between participants will be maintained. Please stay home if you feel sick or have a fever.

- ❖ A Sense of Place: Readings in Natural History: Thursdays from Feb 11 - March 11 at 11am - 12pm online. Join nature lovers from across the country as we discuss our sense of place. Each week a partner nature center will offer natural history readings centered in their region and engage participants in a discussion. This class provides a chance to gather virtually with others to discuss our connection with the land, learn about

different ecosystems, and share our own nature-connection experiences. Participating states include Montana, Ohio, New Mexico, and Florida. Take a virtual tour of the nation through natural history writings this winter. \$25/person or \$22/members

- ❖ Winter Walk with a Naturalist: Tuesday February 23 from 4-5:30pm

Although the world is seemingly more barren in winter, there's much we can learn about nature at this cold and dark time of year. Join us to make observations, follow our curiosity, and share naturalist knowledge with each other. We'll meet at the Center and go wherever our curiosity takes us! Bring a mask, warm layers, and any naturalist tools you like to use (binoculars, field guides, magnifying glasses, journals, etc.). We'll also have some equipment you can borrow. Suggested donation \$10/person or \$5/members.

View more programs at: mtaudubon.org/center

Submitted by Gabi Morey & Heather Bilden

YVAS MEETINGS & PUBLIC PROGRAMS - September through May

Next Board of Directors Meeting: **Feb 8, 2021:** The YVAS meeting of the Board of Directors will be held from 4pm to 6pm. The Meeting will be held virtually by Zoom conference

- ◆ Board of Directors meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 4:00pm. Board meetings are open to all members.
- ◆ YVAS Public Programs are suspended until further notice.

Board of Directors

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 Vice President: Steve Linder 406-380-0073 beacon1@bresnan.net
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Montana's Congressional Delegation to the US Congress:

Senator Steve Daines
 www.daines.senate.gov
 Billings: 406-245-6822 Wash DC: 202-224-2651

Senator Jon Tester
 www.testersenate.gov
 Billings: 406-252-0550 Wash DC: 202-224-2644

Representative Matt Rosendale
 https://rosendale.house.gov/contact
 Billings: 406-413-6720 Wash DC: 202-225-3211

Committees and Chairs

Bird Questions: Any Board of Directors or member
Birdathon: Ruth Vanderhorst 245-5118 erv132@charter.net
Christmas Bird Count: Jerry Dalton 656-3656 daltonlj@centurylink.net
Conservation Advisor: Steve Regele 962-3115 smregele@gmail.com
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Field Trip Chair: Donn Bartlett 812-1008 donnbartlett@msn.com
Flyer Editor: Teresa Henderson 337-263-7985 yvasflyer@gmail.com
Injured Raptors: Montana Raptor Conservation Center 406-585-1211
Injured Waterfowl: WJH Bird Resources: 652-7175 wjhbird@yahoo.com
Membership Data Admin: Peter Cummins 248-8684 membership.data@yvaudubon.org
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 Sue Weinreis 855-4182 granpeak47@gmail.com
Osprey Project Nest Monitor Coordinator: Deb Regele 962-3115 debregele@gmail.com
Osprey Project Research Coordinator: Marco Restani 425-2608 restani@stcloudstate.edu
Twine Recycling Project: Deb Regele: 962-3115 debregele@gmail.com
 Doreen Hartman 697-0277 rdzlhman@bresnan.net
Program Committee: Steve Regele 962-3115 smregele@gmail.com
Publicity: Steve Regele 962-3115 smregele@gmail.com
Recycling (aluminum): Larry Handsaker 855-9832918 Avenue C, Billings
Recycling (baling twine): Deb Regele 962-3115 debregele@gmail.com
 Doreen Hartman 697-0277 rdzlhman@bresnan.net
Website: Deb Regele 962-3115 debregele@gmail.com

Membership Updates

Chapter members listed below are up for renewal. Please use the application form below (include your email address) and submit, along with a check, to any Board Member or mail it to the address on the application.

- ◆ January renewal: Adrienne Baker, Erin Baker, Robert Hills, Gerald Moore, Joy Mallard, Kari Longshore
- ◆ February renewal: James Hansen, John & Carol McNeal, Charles W. Paris, Roger Williams, Gordon Cox

Contact the Data Base Administrator: Peter Cummins at membership.data@yvaudubon.org with any questions.

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 \$25. If applying for a new or renewing student membership, make check for \$15 and indicate academic affiliation. **PayPal option is also available for renewing or joining YVAS. It can be found on the YVAS Website under Memberships.**

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

P.O. Box 1075

Billings, MT 59103-1075





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Right:
Larry Handsaker's sister, Debi Herman, in Kansas City, MO took this photo. This leucistic robin was first seen around Jan 7 and was still hanging around her yard on the 16th. Debi said the other robins in her yard accept this unique one at the feeders, they apparently don't see it as any different. Debi calls its unique body "tie dyed".

Below:
Immature Bald Eagles and a Cedar Waxwing at Two Moon Park on New Year's Day.
Rare male Pine Warbler seen January in Red Lodge. Photos: Will Crain

