



THE FISH HAWK HERALD

Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the Audubon Society
Editor: Shirley Sturts - 24615 Peraan Lake Rd - Coeur d'Alene, ID. 83814 -664-5318

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Vol. 3 No. 9

BIRD FEEDER SURVEY

The first local winter feeder survey has been completed. The purpose of this survey is to share information about the birds coming to feeders during the winter in North Idaho. If the survey proves to be of interest we will continue doing it over the next few years. In this way we can track seasonal and long-term changes in the abundance of bird species that are attracted to our feeders. The idea for this survey came from "Project Feeder Watch" organized by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Participants in this local survey were asked to count the birds visiting their feeder on four count days. They were to choose 1 day out of four time periods: Dec. 15-Dec. 31, Jan. 1-15, Jan. 16-30, and Feb. 1-15. If you are interested in taking part in this feeder project next year please call Shirley Sturts 664-5318. (See results on page 2)



CALENDAR CHECK

MARCH 15 TUESDAY

REGULAR MEETING

Time: 7 PM

Place: Iron Horse

Program: Scott Robinson will have a slide presentation on the Bald Eagles

MARCH 20 SUNDAY

FIELD TRIP: COEUR D'ALENE RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Time: 7:30 AM

Place: Ward's Parking Lot S.E. corner

**Leader: Shirley Sturts
664-5318 (please register)**

We will take I-90 to the Rose Lake

Junction and then travel south on Highway 3 to Harrison and Thompson Lake. Our return trip will be by way of Highway 97 around Coeur d'Alene Lake. We should return around 2 PM We will be looking for returning migrants. (See arrival dates on page 3)

APRIL 10 SUNDAY

FIELD TRIP: PEND OREILLE LAKE SUNNYSIDE TO CLARK FORK
Time: 7 AM

Place: Ward's Parking lot S.E. corner

Leader: Shirley Sturts 664-5318 (please register)

This will be an all day trip to check on spring arrivals. Bring a lunch. (See arrival dates on page 3)

THE BIRD FEEDER SURVEY RESULTS

OBSERVERS:

Jane Badrau (JB) Rathdrum Prairie (farm land, forest edge)
 Barbara Borrell (BB) Squaw Bay, C&A Lake (forest, wetland edge)
 Gary Manning (MM) C&A city (residential)
 Theresa Potts (TP) Arrowhead Road (edge of city, Ponderosa Pine, bushes, small trees)
 Jan and Herb Severson (JHS) (rural residential 50' from forest area)
 Shirley Starts (SHS) Pergus Lake (forest, near lake)
 Phil Waring (PW) C&A city (residential)

The number represents the total number of birds seen at 7 feeders on 1 date during the following 4 time periods.

The initials represent the feeders that were reporting the species in order of the largest number counted

NAME OF BIRD SPECIES	DEC. 15-31	JAN. 1-15	JAN. 16-30	FEB. 1-15
Ring-necked Pheasant (JB)	1	5	4	5
Downy Woodpecker (JB,PW)	3	6	6	3
Hairy Woodpecker (JB)	3	4	5	6
Northern Flicker (JB,TP,MM)	4	2	5	3
Black-Billed Magpie (JB)	5	8	10	7
B-C Chickadee (JB,BD,SHS,JHS,MM)	15	12	19	13
Mt. Chickadee (JB,SHS,PW,TP,BD)	8	10	9	10
Chestnut-backed Chickadee (SHS)	0	1	0	1
Red-B Nuthatch (JB,SHS,TP,JHS,BD)	8	8	3	7
Pygmy Nuthatch (JB,TP)	11	12	12	12
Brown Creeper (JB)	0	0	0	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet (JB)	0	0	0	1
American Robin (TP)	4	0	0	0
Song Sparrow (SHS,BD)	1	1	1	2
Dark-eyed Junco (BD,SHS,TP,JB)	21	14	24	41
Cassin's Finch (BD,SHS)	1	3	3	3
House Finch (JB,PW,SHS,TP,MM)	49	86	56	41
Pine Siskin (JB,SHS,PW)	4	3	8	5
American Goldfinch (JB)	3	2	0	0

Bird species in count area but not using feeders or provided water:

Bald Eagle (BB), Ruffed Grouse (SHS), Great Horned Owl (JB), Hairy Woodpecker (BB), Northern Flicker (BB), Black-backed Woodpecker (JB), Black-billed Magpie (SHS,BD,MM), Raven (BB), R.B. Nuthatch (MM), Brown Creeper (SHS) American Robin (MM,TP), Varied Thrush (TP), Bohemian Waxwing (MM), European Starling (JB), Yellow-rumped Warbler 3 (PW), House Sparrow (MM)

Bird species using feeder and/or water provided but not on any count date at that feeder: Chucker 1 (very unusual) (JB) Song Sparrow (BD), Mourning Dove 4 (TP), Black-capped Chickadee (MM) House Finch (MM)

Take Action

Black Bear Hunting Reform

by Mike Hibelick

There is an opportunity to let the Idaho Department of Fish and Game know your opinion concerning changes to Black Bear hunting regulations in Idaho. An organization based in Moscow, Palouse Voice for Animals, recommended legislation that would restrict the use of dogs and bait when bear hunting. I support the proposed changes as I don't believe there is any justification for using dogs and bait to hunt black bears. The proposed legislation was not introduced in the legislature but there is still time for Audubon members to write to the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game if they have the same concerns.

Letters can be sent to:
 Dave Ortman
 Idaho Department of Fish and Game
 2750 Kathleen Ave.
 Coeur d'Alene, ID 82814

*******WANTED*******

Bird photographer to take pictures of Bluebirds, and Woodpeckers at my house. Please call Jane 687-3333

GUIDES / BOOKLETS AVAILABLE

1. Vertebrates of the Coeur d'Alene River Wildlife Management Area Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 1987. This is a checklist of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles and amphibians found in the management area. (free)

2. Idaho Coeur d'Alene District Bird Guide This checklist was compiled by Susan Weller and published by the BLM and Partners in Flight. (free)

3. 3 Nongame Pamphlets available free at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game are as follows:

a. Building for Bluebirds.

b. Idaho's Migratory Landbirds.

c. Idaho's Threatened and Endangered Species.

Inquire about other Nongame Pamphlets. Some are being reprinted.

4. Idaho Bird Distribution: mapping by Latilong by Daniel A. Stephens and Shirley Horning Sturts. Idaho Museum of History, 1991. (for the serious birder) (\$7.00 + tax copies can be purchased from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game or the Idaho Museum of Natural History Box 8096 Idaho State Univ. Pocatello, Idaho 83209

Bird Feeder Survey continues....

Types and numbers of feeders and types of food used.

Feeders:

Tube (18)
Suet (11)
Platform (ground and hanging)(9)
window (1)
hanging (satellite, dish, etc.(7)
hopper (squirrel proof on post) (1)
ground areas (4)

Food

Sunflower seeds (7)
Sunflower seed meats (2)
Suet (7)
Peanuts (1)
Mixed (5)
Milo (1)
Thistle (4)
Cracked Corn (1)
Millet (2)
White wheat (1)
Dog and catfood (1)

ARRIVAL DATES

It is time to start looking for returning migrants. I've been keeping records of returning migrants for several years. I would appreciate records of the first arrival dates for this year. Shirley Sturts 664-5318.

	Median Date	Earliest Date	Location	Observer
Red-Winged Blackbird	Feb. 21	Feb. 3, 1967	Fernau Lake	S. Sturts
Killdeer	March 3	Feb. 19, 1977	Cougar Bay CDA	S. Sturts
Western Bluebird	March 9	Feb. 16, 1983	Balton Gardens	E. Ray
Violet-Green Swallow	March 11	Feb. 22, 1977	Thompson Lake	A. Brunner
Western Meadowlark	March 16	Feb. 18, 1981	Blackwell Hill	G. Hanson
Rufous-sided Towhee	March 24	March 9, 1981	Blackwell Hill	G. Hanson
Mountain Bluebird	March 25	Feb. 26, 1981	Balton Garden	E. Ray
Tree Swallow	March 31	March 3, 1991	Harrison	P. Gontz
Osprey	April 1	Feb. 23, 1991	St. Maries area	P. Gontz
Turkey Vulture	April 3	March 25, 1988	Hayden Lake	P. Hughes
Common Noddy	April 4	March 21, 1972	Fernau Creek	S. Sturts
Brewer's Blackbird	April 9	March 28, 1992	St. Maries	D. Svingen
Northern E.W. Swallow	April 16	April 11, 1989	Cataldo	S. Heller
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	April 18	March 12, 1978	Rinrock Rd.	H. Manning
Cliff Swallow	April 20	March 28, 1981	Potlatch Hill	F. Andrews
Red-Winged Sapsucker	April 21	March 22, 1987	Black Lake	E. Howard
Yellow-Headed Blackbird	April 26	March 28, 1992	St. Maries	D. Svingen
Barn Swallow	April 28	April 5, 1968	Wolfledge Bay	S. Sturts
Chipping Sparrow	April 30	March 29, 1973	Rinrock Rd.	H. Manning
House Wren	April 30	March 26, 1979	Thompson Lake	A. Brunner

5. Birds and Birding Routes of the Idaho Panhandle. By Shirley Horning Sturts, Sandra Schultz, Beth Paragamian and the many North Idaho Birders who contributed records. Illustrated by Etta Wegner and Pete Bengeyfield. Sponsored by Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game, Bureau of Land Management and Spokane Audubon Society. (\$2.95 plus tax, copies are available Forest Service and Idaho Fish and Game lobbies, Templins Gift Store, and Book and Games in the Silver Lake Mall.

6. Idaho Viewer's Guide. by Leslie B. Carpenter. A Multi Agency Project, Falcon Press, 1990. This booklet describes the 94 best places in Idaho to view watchable wildlife. (\$5.95 plus tax, copies available at the Forest Service and Idaho Fish and Game lobbies, Templins Gift Store, and Book and Games in the Silver Lake Mall.

For more information on books in the Watchable wildlife series write to Falcon Press, P.O. Box 1718, Helena Mt. 59624 or call 1-800-582-Book.

Check the Forest Service and Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game and BLM for copies of current research on various birds.

FEB. 6 FIELD TRIP

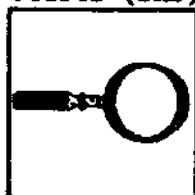
Theresa Potts and Shirley Sturts drove around Rathdrum Prairie and found the following birds: Mourning Dove 8, Northern Harrier 1, Red-Tailed Hawk 1, Rough-legged Hawk 5, Black-billed Magpie 2, Canada Goose 40 flying over,

Common Raven 6.

We drove to Hauser Lake which was frozen and found about 30-40 Canada Geese standing on the ice and in the marsh at the south end of the lake. We thought these might have been the ones we saw flying over the prairie earlier. We looked for the Snowy Owl on Huetter Road and around the Cda airport but we were not fortunate enough to see one.

OBSERVATION POST

Observers: Jim Acton (JC) Kas Dumroese (KD), Dale Goble (DG) Warren Hall (WH), Dave Holick (DH) John and Marty Hurst (JMH) Shirley Sturts (SHS), Dan Svingen (DNS)



Yellow-Billed Loon
2 1/28-2/6 Cda Lake
at Harrison
DNS, KSD, JA, WH, EUN.
Red-throated Loon
and Common Loon Feb

6 Cda Lake at Harrison JA, WH.
Wood Duck 2 wintered Cda City
Beach DNS, SHS. Greater Scaup 1/15
3 Carlin Bay, CDA Lake JMH and 10
Lake Chatcolet DNS. Red-Breasted
Merganser 1 2/6 Cda Lake at
Harrison DNS, KD, DH. Golden Eagle
1 imm. 2/6 Harrison area. Harlan's
(Red-Tailed) Hawk 1 2/5-2/21 St.
Maries area DNS, KAS. Gyrfalcon
(white Phase) near Moscow 2/4 DG.
Mew Gull 1/31 Cda City Beach DNS
and 2/20 1 Spokane River at Harbor
Center KD. A few Glaucous,
Glaucous-Winged and Thayer's Gull
most being seen at the Fighting
Creek Land Fill (DNS, KD, SHS, DH).
Blue Jay in Moscow all winter (DG)
Tree Sparrow 1/15 Harrison area
(JMH)

**COEUR D'ALENE
AUDUBON SOCIETY**

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Fieldtrip: Shirley Sturta 664-5318

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: A membership in the National Audubon Society also entitles you to chapter membership in the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society and receipt of the bimonthly Audubon magazine and the chapter newsletter, The Fish Hawk Herald. First time members should make their checks payable to the National Audubon Society and send them to our membership chairman (see address below) If you send your membership check direct to the National Audubon Society data center, please mention you wish to be affiliated with the Coeur d'Alene Chapter and give them the chapter code 73C88
New Membership \$20, Regular Membership \$30.

The Fish Hawk Herald is published monthly (except for June, July and Aug.) by the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Annual nonmember subscriptions to The Fish Hawk Herald are \$5.00 which should be sent to the membership chairman & Coeur d'Alene Audubon Chapter - P.O. Box 361 - Coeur d'Alene, Id 83814. The deadline for submission of materials to be included in the newsletter is the 25th of each month. Copy should be sent to the Editor at 14615 Fernan Lake Road - Coeur d'Alene, Id 83814.

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