

CHIRP-N-CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Wintu Audubon Society

Chapter of the National Audubon Society serving Shasta and eastern portions of Trinity County, California

December 2021

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM) BIRDING OPPORTUNITIES



Join us as David Byers discusses local BLM lands available for public exploration in the pursuit of birds and possible projects in 2022 that could be available for participation with the community including volunteerism, interpretive programs, and educational opportunities.

David is a Park Ranger with the Bureau of Land Management, working to improve the recreation experience on public lands and strengthen community partnerships. Previously he worked on developing eco-tourism opportunities in Panama, including working with indigenous communities to lead birding trips in the rain forest. He is a budding birder, never leaving home without his binoculars.



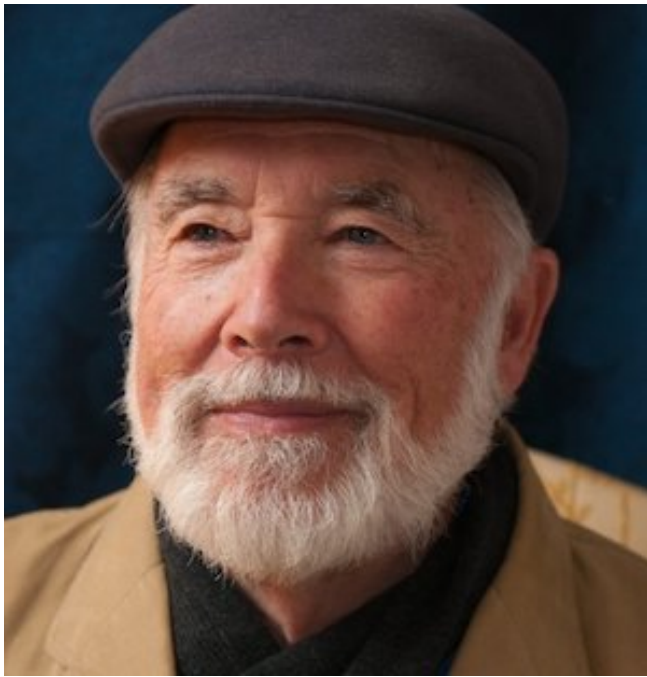
Wednesday, December 8th at 7PM - Link:
[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/81600856804](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81600856804)

When you login to our Zoom meetings you will be placed into a waiting room until the meeting begins. Participants are muted upon entry but are welcome to unmute themselves before the meeting begins. Once the presentation begins, you can type a question into chat. A moderator will control the order of your questions. The link to the presentation can also be found on the calendar page of our website.

All of our presentations will be posted on our YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/WintuAudubonSociety> where you can also find several bird videos. We are also posting Zoom presentations from several other organizations on our calendar page here: <https://www.wintuadubon.org/calendar/> - including Altacal Audubon, Redbud Audubon, Redwood Region Audubon, Mendocino Coast Audubon, Peregrine Audubon, Plumas Audubon and Golden Gate Audubon.

**FOR THE LATEST WINTU AUDUBON
SOCIETY NEWS AND BIRDING
INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE
AT**

**[HTTPS://
WWW.WINTUAUDUBON.ORG](https://www.wintuadubon.org)**



Bill Oliver to be honored at the Shasta Environmental Alliance's Environmental Champion Awards!

Bill was one of the founders of the local Wintu Audubon Society chapter in 1976. He has been President four different times, led countless bird walks, and has kept the statistics from the annual Redding Christmas Bird Count for 45 years. This bird count is important citizen science as it shows the population trends of different bird populations in an area over a long period of time.

The other honoree, director of Battle Creek Alliance & Defiance Canyon Raptor Rescue Marily Woodhouse, will give a presentation on the threats to our local forests. Go to the link below to register for the December 10th event.

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3LJCATH](https://bit.ly/3LJCATH)

Board Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

Wintu Audubon Society General Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

Zoom meeting invitations are sent to all folks that are on our email list and listed on our Calendar page

Wintu Audubon Society Begins Public Bird Outings in January!

Per our updated Trip Waiver: All participants, ages 5 and older, must provide proof that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to the field trip. Participants must practice social distancing when outdoors on field trips and must wear masks and practice social distancing while indoors. Participation is not currently allowed for persons under the age of 5.



January activities will include a full day outing to Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge on January 8th, a half day birdwalk at Clear Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant on January 15th, and a half day birdwalk at Lema Ranch on the 22nd. All activities will be announced in the newsletter and posted on our website calendar.

Covid19 continues to spread in our community, so please get vaccinated and take appropriate precautions to protect yourself and others. The complete Shasta County COVID information can be found at

<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/ready/covid-19/overview>.

Currently less than half the people in Shasta County are fully vaccinated.

Here is the updated "Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings" <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>.

The 2021 Christmas Bird Count

Audubon's 122nd Christmas Bird Count will take place Tuesday, December 14, 2021 through Wednesday, January 5, 2022.



Prior to the turn of the 20th century, hunters engaged in a holiday tradition known as the Christmas "Side Hunt." They would choose sides and go afield with their guns—whoever brought in the biggest pile of feathered (and furred) quarry won.

Conservation was in its beginning stages in that era, and many observers and scientists were becoming concerned about declining bird populations. Beginning on Christmas Day 1900, ornithologist Frank M. Chapman, an early officer in the then-nascent Audubon Society, proposed a new holiday, a "Christmas Bird Census" that would count birds during the holidays rather than hunt them.

So began the Christmas Bird Count. Thanks to the inspiration of Chapman and the enthusiasm of 27 dedicated birders, 25 Christmas Bird Counts were held that day. The locations ranged from Toronto, Ontario to Pacific Grove, California with most counts in or near the population centers of northeastern North America. Those original 27 Christmas Bird Counters tallied around 90 species on all the counts combined.

Each November, birders interested in participating in the CBC can sign up and join in through the Audubon website. From December 14 through January 5 each year, tens of thousands of volunteers throughout the Americas brave snow, wind, or rain, and take part in the effort. Audubon and other organizations use data collected in this long-running wildlife census to assess the health of bird populations, and to help guide conservation action.

OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

OFFICERS

President: Rebeca Ladrón de Guevara

Vice-President: OPEN

Treasurer: Beth Brockman 227-4228

Recording Secretary: Jaci White

Corresponding Secretary: Jeannette Carroll
246-3634

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Programs: Catherine Camp

Education: OPEN

Conservation: Janet Wall 547-1189
Bruce Webb 515-5324

Newsletter: Larry Jordan 472-3131

Webmaster/Publicity: Larry Jordan 472-3131

Membership: George Horn 244-0581

Field Trips: Tim Kashuba

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Harvey Carroll, Dan Greaney, Marti Weidert, Bill Oliver, Connie Word, Bea Currie, Erika Iacona, Roberta Winchell and John Winchell

PLEASE KEEP YOUR CATS INDOORS!

Outdoor cats are introduced predators that kill billions of birds every year. Some inevitably inhabit parks, where eradication efforts fail; in fact, those efforts sometimes end up supporting feral cat colonies that, even well fed, average 150 wildlife kills per cat, per year.

Responsible pet owners can avert the problem by spay/neutering their pets and keeping them indoors. An enclosed outside cat-patio, a catio, is one way cat owners enjoy outside time with their pets while protecting wildlife.

Check out this article from the Golden Gate Audubon Society

<https://goldengateaudubon.org/blog-posts/protecting-birds-and-cats-with-a-catio/>



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