



Student Artwork by Elyse Harris, 2020 Best of Show Winner



GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

MAY 13-16, 2021

www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com

Photo by Joshua Adam Photography



Photo by Max Malmquist

Many Thanks to our Festival Committee: Kristal Blessett – Chair, Jessica Merrill – Vice Chair, Noelle Graf – Co-Vice Chair, Trish Ackley, John Bellmon, Adam Blundell, Yaeko Bryner, Billy Fenimore, Danielle Finlayson, Valerie Frokjer, Amy Haran, Dallin Henderson, Heidi Hoven, Jason Jones, Max Malmquist, Ann Neville, Don Paul, Nikki Wayment, Wendy Wilson

The Great Salt Lake Bird Festival is made possible by Discover Davis, Davis County Commission, and many community partners and industry supporters.



WELCOME TO THE 23RD ANNUAL GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

Discover Davis, Utah's Amusement Capital, is pleased to once again welcome you to the Great Salt Lake Bird Festival in beautiful northern Utah, where birdwatchers will find unique and exciting opportunities to observe many different birds in their natural habitat. Davis County is home to Great Salt Lake, a major North/South migration route for more than 250 bird species, making it one of the top places for birders to catch unique glimpses of our many feathered friends.

Great Salt Lake Bird Festival attendees will have the distinct opportunity to go beyond the habitats and trails of this premier birding location with trips that take them around the Wasatch Front to areas with open water, shores of fresh and saline lakes, sagebrush foothills and, depending on weather, to aspen and evergreen forests. We are pleased to offer over 27 field trips during this year's festival, each designed to create a uniquely different experience. Some trips even offer exclusive access to areas that cannot be visited by the general public. Attendees will be able to experience some of Utah's most beautiful State Parks, State Wildlife Areas, and National Refuge areas.

While we missed hosting you in 2020, we look forward to providing you with a top tier Festival experience this year in a safe and socially distanced manner. With precautions in mind, we will say goodbye for 2021 to large group gatherings, bus tours, and in-person workshops. Field trips will have smaller attendee capacities and will be self-drive only to adhere to safety regulations. The safety of our attendees, volunteers, and partners is of the utmost importance, just as we look to protect the birds and the land they call home if only for a short while on their migratory path. When the time is right, we look forward to returning to the Festival activities and experiences we are all used to in the future.

Our event headquarters will be the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Wildlife Education Center at Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area. Located on the edge of Great Salt Lake, here you'll discover a birder's paradise at one of the greatest natural locations in Utah. The Wildlife Education Center will not be filled with workshops and informational booths in 2021, although some of our field trips will begin here. We encourage everyone to support the Center and explore the area on their own time, as we believe you will not be disappointed.

We hope you will join us this year for another great Festival. Happy Birding!

REGISTRATION

Registration begins on **Monday, March 15, 2021 at 9am MT**. Online registration is the only method of registering this year.

Purchase tickets by visiting www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com

- All tickets this year will be electronic.
- Purchased tickets are automatically emailed to the email address provided during checkout.
- Field trip leaders will be scanning ticket QR codes on each field trip to verify registration.
- For more information and details, please visit the Registration page on the website.

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR WAIVER, CANCELLATION, REFUNDS, AND DISCLAIMER DETAILS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

801-451-3286 • gslbirdfest@daviscountyutah.gov

2021 FESTIVAL UPDATES & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

It is of the utmost importance to us to keep our attendees, volunteers, partners, and staff safe during the Festival.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS:

- All 2021 field trips are "drive your own vehicle". There will be no bus transportation available.
- Face masks are mandatory throughout the Festival.
- Temperature checks and a verbal symptom check will be conducted at the beginning of each field trip during check-in with the trip leader.
- Please adhere to the minimum 6 foot social distancing guidelines while on field trips and interacting with fellow Festival attendees, volunteers, and staff.
- Hand sanitizer will be available, however we encourage frequent handwashing and keeping personal sanitizer with you during Festival activities.
- Participants who have tested positive within 2 weeks of the festival or who are currently experiencing COVID-19, cold or flu like symptoms must refrain from participating (field trip refund will be made if this applies).

For up to date health and safety restrictions and protocols required during the Festival please visit the website.

NEW IN 2021

All Festival attendees, both in-person and virtual, will be required to pay a \$25 registration fee in 2021. This fee provides access to all virtual programs.

Workshops

All workshops will be held virtually and are included in the registration fee. Visit the website for a schedule of programs being offered in this year's festival.

Keynote Address

For 2021 the Keynote address will be delivered virtually and in-person to all attendees as part of the registration fee. The socially distanced in-person event will be held at Megaplex Theatres at Legacy Crossing in Centerville, Utah. Both options will be able to participate in the live Q&A section of the address.

To attend in-person, please register for the Keynote address at the same time you register for field trips. Seats will be limited.

Can't watch live? Watch later! The Keynote address and all virtual Workshops will be recorded and shared after the Festival with all registered attendees.

Welcome Bags

Registered in-person field trip attendees will each be receiving a welcome bag this year filled with goodies and informational items from our sponsors and partners in lieu of vendor booths.

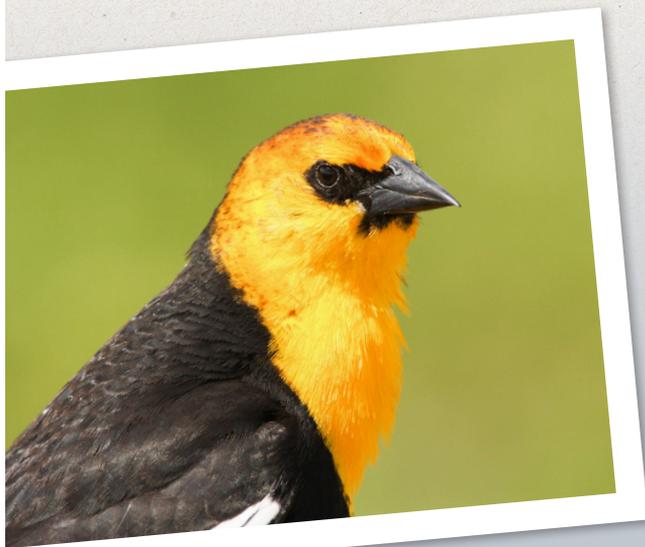
Festival Merchandise

Festival merchandise will only be available for purchase on the website. Please order your merchandise early to ensure items will arrive in time for the Festival. More items will be added this year, be sure to check it out!

Please visit the website for additional information and details on all Festival offerings.

Photo by Joshua Adam Photography

BIRD SPOTLIGHT: YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD



In March, among the first sounds to break the stillness of winter in a Great Salt Lake marsh is the harsh rasping voice of the male Yellow-headed Blackbird. This loud raucous cacophony lasts through spring and into the summer. The daytime vocal peaks of dawn and twilight extend into the night when moonlight floods the darkened skies.

Some liken the noise to the sound of a strangling cat. G.A. Ammann who studied this blackbird in Michigan describes the sounds as “the most awful, hoarse squeals one could imagine”.

Weak vocalizations begin while still tightly enclosed within the egg and the repertoire intensifies and diversifies as the bird matures to include songs and calls directed to those nearby and those far away, alarm calls, predator calls, scream calls, growl calls and calls of courtship and for their young.

Yellow-headed Blackbird is a species named by description. The dramatic and eye-catching intense yellow head of the male has been accredited by some as the spark that initiated their interest in learning more about birds. Two white patches contrast sharply with a black body. Males arriving in early spring before females often form large flocks; a visually spectacular bird phenomenon as they fly like giant amoebas rolling and swirling low around the marsh and adjacent uplands, giving to the human eye a pleasurable kaleidoscopic vision of changing patterns of bright yellow, black, and brilliant white. Females are much smaller, browner, have less intense yellow and lack the white wing patches.

The sporadic mysterious red-headed blackbird sometimes reported is likely an individual bird caught in the vagaries and quirks of light.

Visually and vocally conspicuous, Yellow-headed Blackbirds seldom go unnoticed.

Red-winged and Yellow-headed blackbirds breed commonly in the same emergent marshes of Utah. Red-winged blackbirds arrive first and begin setting up nesting territories. Yellow-headed finding their migratory path back from the southern United States and Mexico return to the reeds, rushes, and cattails and preferring nesting vegetation growing out of deeper water often usurp these areas from the red-winged. But red-winged can successfully nest in drier and other areas where yellow-headed will not.

The earlier arriving yellow-headed males begin setting up and defending territories in preparation for the arrival of the females. Males are polygamists. Multiple females will select a small area to nest within the male's larger territory.

The nest is woven from water-soaked bulrush or other vegetation attached to stocks sticking several feet above the water surface. The drying nest-building materials contract, tightening the nest construction as well as the sheltering stocks.

In breeding season, yellow-headed forage mainly on aquatic insects in wetlands and adjacent uplands. Greasewood shrubs near wetlands swarming with midges are a favorite foraging site. In fall they more often frequent uplands where they walk or hop about gleaning seeds and insects from the ground.

As the chills of winter approach, Yellow-headed blackbird numbers dwindle as the birds, less tolerable of cold temperatures than other blackbirds, drift south to warmer climes.

— Ella Sorensen

Photos by Scott Baxter



2021 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ROB P. CLAY, PH.D



Rob Clay is the Director of the Executive Office of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), housed by Manomet, Inc. WHSRN is a science-based, partnership-driven, conservation initiative for protecting the ecological integrity of critical habitats for shorebirds throughout the Americas. The Executive Office is focused on building the capacity of local site partners for site conservation and habitat management, good governance, community engagement, research and monitoring. Prior to joining Manomet, Rob worked for BirdLife International as Senior Conservation Manager in the Americas Secretariat, where he led the development of conservation and monitoring programs for grassland birds, migratory birds, and globally threatened birds. He received his B.A. in Zoology and his M.A and Ph.D. in Behavioral Ecology from the University of Cambridge. A native of the UK, his interest in Neotropical birds and conservation began during an undergraduate expedition to Paraguay in 1992, which led to Ph.D studies of manakins in Costa Rica and Panama. Since 1997 Rob has called Paraguay home. He is a member of the steering committees of the Atlantic, Pacific and Midcontinent Flyway Shorebird Initiatives, the Americas Steering Committee of the Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative, and a Conference of the Parties Appointed Scientific Councilor for Birds to the Convention on Migratory Species.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021 • 6:00 PM

Our Keynote Speaker, Rob Clay, will be joining us virtually from Paraguay. His presentation will illustrate the network of linkages that connect Great Salt Lake to the rest of the hemisphere through shared migratory birds, underline the interdependence that exists between these networks of sites, and report on the conservation successes throughout the hemisphere that have occurred thanks to the pioneering efforts at Great Salt Lake.

STUDENT ART CONTEST

Each year the Festival extends an invitation to schools in Utah to submit their best artwork of the featured bird. In 2021 we will honor these students with a virtual gallery of their artwork and award prizes to our top submissions. This year students will be creating artwork for the 2022 spotlight bird, Wilson's Phalarope, which will be included in next year's Festival program. We invite you to enjoy the virtual art gallery on the Festival website.

WINNERS FROM 2020



Ella Harris
1st Place, Grades K-3



Veronica Gao
1st Place, Grades 4-6



Zoe Byde
1st Place, Grades 7-9



Jayden Harris
1st Place, Grades 10-12

GREAT SALT LAKE CELEBRATES 30 YEARS AS A WHSRN SITE

In April 1991, Great Salt Lake was designated as a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) Site of Hemispheric Importance. At over a million acres, Great Salt Lake is the largest terminal lake in North America and annually supports approximately 1.4 million migrating and breeding shorebirds, including Snowy

Plover, Marbled Godwit, Western Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Red-necked Phalarope. The site is particularly important for Wilson's Phalarope (500,000 birds), American Avocet (250,000 birds), and Black-necked Stilt (65,000 birds) whose peak counts have exceeded 30% of the global populations for these species.



Great Salt Lake and its wetlands, are an integral part of the WHSRN Network, of saline lakes situated across the flyway that support various life stages of shorebirds. Due to their great importance for shorebird communities, other saline lakes such as Chaplin Lake (Saskatchewan, Canada), Mono Lake (California, United States) and Laguna Mar Chiquita (Argentina) have also been designated as WHSRN sites. These lakes efficiently accumulate and recycle nutrients that can sustain plant and animal life and provide forage for migrating shorebirds. However, living in a hypersaline environment also creates a physiological challenge that many animals are not adapted to survive, like fish. In the absence of these predators, invertebrates reach high levels of abundance and are exclusively available as prey to birds, making saline lakes ideal stopover sites for large flocks of shorebirds.

Partners at Great Salt Lake have long embodied the spirit of WHSRN, connecting with other sites for better conservation. Together, with Chaplin – Old Wives – Reed Lakes site, and the Marismas Nacionales site (Mexico) these sites created the “Linking Communities” initiative in 1997, which has promoted collaboration and site exchange on shorebird research, education, and ecotourism.

A diverse set of stakeholders including the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; nine state-owned Wildlife/Waterfowl Management Areas; three state parks; private conservation properties owned by The Nature Conservancy of Utah, National Audubon, and several privately owned duck clubs play an important role in protecting valuable habitat for wildlife that rely on the Lake for resting, staging and nesting during their migratory journey. Additionally, the state of Utah has a legal stewardship responsibility to manage the sovereign lands of Great Salt Lake as a Public Trust resource under the Utah Constitution and the Utah Department of Natural Resources helps to oversee management of this ecologically unique and economically significant saline system.

Authored by GSL WHSRN site partners.

With over 100 designated sites, WHSRN's mission is to conserve shorebirds and their habitats across the Americas through action at a network of key sites.



SPONSOR RECOGNITION



- Antelope Island State Park
- Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge – US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Brome Bird Care
- Davis Chamber of Commerce
- Davis School District
- Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area
- Friends of Great Salt Lake
- George S. & Dolores Dore Eccles Wildlife Education Center at Farmington Bay
- Great Salt Lake Audubon
- Great Salt Lake Institute at Westminster College
- Hampton Inn & Suites Farmington
- HawkWatch International, Utah
- JEPS Foundation
- Linking Communities, Wetlands, and Migratory Birds
- National Audubon Society
- Rockport State Park
- Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter
- The Nature Conservancy in Utah
- Utah County Birders
- Utah Wetlands Foundation
- Wasatch Audubon Society
- Wild About Birds Nature Center, Layton
- Willard Bay State Park

Photo by Joshua Adam Photography



Thank you to our sponsors for their continued support of the Great Salt Lake Bird Festival's mission "to increase awareness and conservation of the Great Salt Lake ecosystem through education and nature tourism".

Pick your
perch for
adventure.



Whether you're looking to stay in a hotel for the night or park your RV for the weekend, Davis has the perfect lodging option for you.

Stay close to the bird festival and enjoy all the food and fun Davis has to offer—from over 400 restaurants; shopping at Station Park; attending a performance at the Davis Arts Council or CenterPoint Legacy Theatre; visiting an art gallery or participating in one of the many outdoor recreation activities.

Visit our website for deals on local hotels and RV parks.

discoverdavis.com



discover
davis

UTAH'S **AMUSEMENT** CAPITAL





GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

2021 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY • MAY 13

1. PAST, PRESENT, AND ORNITHERAPY

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Speaking Engagement & Book Signing

Richard Crossley & Holly Merker

Limit 50 | Cost \$35

Internationally acclaimed birder, photographer and award winning author Richard Crossley will be sharing tales of lessons learned while growing up in the wild British birding scene, from travels around the world, to living in Japan and America. This fast-paced story will help you understand Richard's thoughts on reality birding and Ornithery. We must learn to understand our connections with birds and other wildlife to get the full rewards for mind, body, and soul. Richard's newly published books, *The Crossley ID Guide: Western Birds* and *Ornithery* will show you a new and more rewarding world of birds and nature.

Learning the bird and its personality, not its name, are key to making birding more enjoyable—it's imperative that we change the way we look at birds, books, conservation, and ourselves. As the world changes, so must we. Come learn who Richard really is, through his different world of birding. You might be relieved, surprised, and excited by what lies ahead for you. It could change your life, and maybe even save it.

Richard will be joined by fellow author Holly Merker and they will be signing books and answering questions after the presentation. Books will be available for purchase on-site.

Meet at the Megaplex Theatres at Legacy Crossing for a socially-distanced in-person event at 1075 W Legacy Crossing Blvd., Centerville, UT 84014.

2. MOUNTAIN OWLS

Late Night Trip • 7:30pm – 12:00am

Mike Hearell & Taylor Abbott

Limit 9 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$35

Join us as we search local mountain areas for some of Utah's many owl species. The main target bird will be the Flammulated Owl, but others including the Northern Saw-whet Owl, Western Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Northern Pygmy-Owl may be seen. Other possible species include Common Poorwill, Common Nighthawk, Swainson's Thrush, and Hermit Thrush. Be sure to bring a drink, flashlight, and appropriate clothing.

*Meet at the Wildlife Education Center 1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1100 W. Glovers Lane) Farmington, UT 84025. *Weather dependent, and may move to Friday evening.*



FRIDAY • MAY 14

3. SWANER ECOCENTER

7:00am – 11:00am

Heidi Hoven

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

Come visit high altitude wet meadows, marshes, riparian areas and uplands here in search of Sandhill Cranes. Cranes have successfully nested and reared their young in the Preserve in years past and are typically very visible during the spring. Surrounded by a scenic backdrop of the Wasatch Mountains, walk along trails normally closed to the public. These high altitude wetlands and adjacent uplands are home to more than 70 species of birds, including Mountain Bluebirds, Yellow-headed and Red-winged Blackbirds, swallows, various raptors and Yellow Warblers.

Meet in front of the Swaner EcoCenter: 1258 Center Dr., Park City, UT 84098. Plan to explore the exhibits at the conclusion of the tour. Visit www.swanerecocenter.org for more information.

4. DIAMOND FORK CANYON, UTAH COUNTY

7:00am – 2:00pm

Keeli Marvel & Terri Pope

Limit 15 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

Diamond Fork Canyon encompasses a wide diversity of habitats including montane forest, sagebrush, scrub oak, juniper forest, wetland marsh, stream, and pond riparian areas and cliff habitat in which a wide diversity of bird species may be found. Possible bird sightings include: Western Tanager, Lazuli Bunting, Western Bluebird, Belted Kingfisher, Western Scrub-jay, Golden Eagle (possibly on a nest), Canyon, Marsh, Pacific wrens, Sage Thrasher, Red-naped Sapsucker, and Fox Sparrow.

Meet in Springville, Utah at the Walmart: 660 S. 1750 W., Springville, UT 84663.

5. UTAH COUNTY DAYTIME HOTSPOTS

7:00am – 2:00pm

Suzi Holt & Utah County Birders

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

Visit Rocky Mountain scrub oak and pinyon-juniper habitats. This has been a highly productive trip with a variety of species including Blue and Black-headed Grosbeaks, Common Grackle, Lazuli Bunting, Virginia's Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Common Bushtit, Juniper Titmouse, Pinyon Jay, and Bullock's Oriole. Approximately 90 species have been seen on this trip.

Meet in Payson, Utah at the Walmart: 1052 Turf Farm Rd. Southbound I-15 take the 2nd Payson exit.

6. BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD REFUGE

7:00am – 11:00am

Local Guides & Bear River Staff

8:00am – 12:00pm

Limit 10 per start time | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$35

9:00am – 1:00pm

Spend a day with expert birders on a birding adventure at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. You will soon learn

10:00am – 2:00pm

and see why this area has been protected over the last 75 years. It is considered one of the top ten birding spots in the nation and one of Utah's premier birding hotspots. It's 78,000 acres provide a vast wetland habitat for a phenomenal number of migrants including waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, White-faced Ibis, several species of blackbirds, gulls, terns, swallows, marsh wrens, and more. This trip will caravan around the auto tour loop with stops and do some walking behind the gates. This is a great field trip for all levels of birders.

Meet at the Visitor Center Parking lot at Bear River Refuge Center. 2155 W Forest St., Brigham City, UT 84302.

Four trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7am, 8am, 9am, or 10am during registration.

7. LEARNING TO LOOK: HIGH ELEVATION

Richard Crossley, Holly Merker, & Billy Fenimore

Limit 10 per start time | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

Enjoy an intimate setting connecting with nature, our high elevation feathered friends, and authors Richard Crossley and Holly Merker in the sagebrush steppe

habitat of Northern Utah. Understanding is the key to learning. As you shift your focus to look at birds longer, closer, and from a broader perspective than is typical, a new world of discovery opens up. This program is for those who want to learn helpful hints on how to identify birds, observe interesting behaviors, and discover identification tricks of the birding trade with Richard and Holly. Come experience bird watching as an open door into the natural world, and connect with nature for your overall well-being.

The class will remain in one viewing location for the duration and is perfect for birders of all levels.

Meet at Smith Residence, 1375 North 6800 East, Croydon, UT 84018. Take US 89 Frontage Road toward Morgan, Evanston. Use the I-84 East exit. Continue on I-84 East and take exit 111 toward Croydon. Turn right onto N 5800 E. Turn right onto N 6800 E. Destination is on your right.

Five trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7am, 9am, 11am, 2pm, or 4pm during registration.

7:00 am – 8:30 am

9:00 am – 10:30 am

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

8. WILLARD BAY STATE PARK

Valerie Frokjer & Dickson Smith

Limit 15 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$25

This trip will walk around the campground looking through trees and bushes. We will also look out on Willard Bay for waterbirds, hoping for a Loon. Other possible species include Gray Catbird, Bullock's Oriole, Western Tanager, Downy Woodpecker, Willow Flycatcher, Black-headed Grosbeak, swallows, and various warblers. Bring water and snacks.

*Meet at Willard Bay State Park outside the north entrance gate: 900 W. 650 N., Willard, UT 84340. *Ticket includes park entry*

7:30am – 12:00pm

9. ROCKPORT RESERVOIR BY CANOE/KAYAK

Kathy Donnell & Vivian Schneggenburger

Limit 12 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$40

Rockport Reservoir's nearby springs host many ducks, grebes, herons, and raptors (including nesting Osprey) with the smaller birds occupying the adjacent trees and shrubs. You will have a grand birding experience at the reservoir using their canoes and kayaks. Participants will also be required to row. **Please arrive at 8 am for instructions. Allow for travel time.**

*Meet at Rockport State Park at 9040 N. Hwy 302, Peoa, UT 84061. Take I-80 east to Wanship exit #155. Turn right and take Highway 32 to mile marker 24 (approx. 4 miles). Turn left into the state park. Follow that road 3 miles to the main marina. (435-336-2241) Bring water and snacks. Weather permitting. *Ticket includes park entry.*

8:30am – 3:00pm

10. AMERICAN KESTREL

Jesse Watson & Nikki Wayment

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$25

Learn about American Kestrel behavior. You will visit active American Kestrel nests to observe and monitor.

Meet at the Wildlife Education Center: 1157 S. Waterfowl Way, (1100 W. Glovers Lane) Farmington, UT 84025.

9:00am – 1:00pm

FRIDAY • MAY 15 • CONTINUED

11. RESEARCH BOAT TOUR ON GREAT SALT LAKE 10:00am – 12:00pm 1:00pm – 3:00pm

John Luft, Jim Van Leeuwen, & Kyle Stone

Limit 8 per start time | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$40

Why is there such an abundant suite of wildlife, particularly birds on Great Salt Lake? Take a ride with the wildlife biologist who is responsible for monitoring the lake's health. Board the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources research boat and experience Great Salt Lake's ecosystem first hand. You will likely see Eared Grebes and various gulls, although this is not a birding trip. This excursion is a hands-on learning experience about GSL ecology and current research projects. The geology and history of the islands and other landscapes will be discussed.

Meet at the Great Salt Lake State Park Marina at 13312 West 1075 South, Magna, UT 84044. Trip is weather and water level dependent. Water level will be determined on April, 30, 2021. Weather date, Sunday, May 16, 2021.

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 10:00 am or 1:00 pm during registration.

12. BURROWING OWL 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Jesse Watson & Nikki Wayment

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$35

Think you know everything about owls? Well not these little hoots. Come see the underground-dwelling, awake in the day, sentinels of the grasslands – burrowing owls. This is a field trip to Antelope Island State Park to look for Burrowing Owl sites.

*Meet outside the Antelope Island Entry Gates. 4528 W 1700 S, Syracuse, UT 84075. Continue to drive West on W 1700 S to large parking lot on South side of street to meet field trip leaders. *Ticket includes park entry*



Photo by Scott Baxter

SATURDAY • MAY 15

13. ANTELOPE ISLAND: CAUSEWAY

7:00am – 9:00am

Mike Hearell & Taylor Abbott

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle. | Cost \$30

We will spend the morning looking along the causeway at all the shorebird species that pass through the Great Salt Lake area on their way to their nesting grounds. If you have a scope please bring it, as many of the birds are off the causeway. Possible species: Black-Bellied Plovers, Snowy Plovers, Willet, Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Hawks, waterfowl, Grebes, Gulls and many more. Also, there is always a chance of rare species this time of year!

Meet outside the Antelope Island Entry Gates. 4528 W 1700 S, Syracuse, UT 84075.

*Continue to drive West on W 1700 S to large parking lot on South side of street to meet field trip leaders. *Ticket includes park entry*

14. BIRDING BY EAR

7:00AM – 12:00PM

Bryant Olsen, Merrill Webb, & Max Malmquist

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$25

Every bird species has its own unique song. Imagine being able to identify birds that you cannot see in the canopy and dense scrub by their vocalizations. Spend the morning developing your listening skills. Likely species include a variety of warblers, vireos, chickadees and orioles including: Yellow, MacGillivray's Orange-crowned Warblers, Warbling Vireo, Bullock's Oriole, and Black capped Chickadee.

Meet at the Wildlife Education Center: 1157 S. Waterfowl Way, (1100 W. Glovers Lane) Farmington, UT 84025.

15. CACHE VALLEY HOTSPOTS

7:00am – 1:00pm
Canyon | Water | Valley

Adam Brewerton, Mike Taylor, & Jim Parrish

Limit 10 per location | Drive Own Vehicle. | Cost \$30

Cache Valley offers beautiful views of the surrounding mountains and quiet solitude off the busy I-15 corridor birding scene. Three small groups will join three local guides to travel through three habitat types – the local mountain canyons, the area's water and wetlands, and the valley's grasslands and riparian pathways. The potential walking conditions range from a paved, flat sidewalk to an uphill dirt canyon trail, potentially for up to a mile at each location. Attendees can always go at their own pace or ability if the group speed or conditions are not amenable.

Past year species: three species of hummingbirds, Wood Duck, Chukar, Gray Partridge, Northern Pygmy and Short-eared owls, Swainson's and Hermit Thrushes, Green-tailed Towhee, Peregrine Falcon, Golden Eagle, and migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, flycatchers, vireos, and warblers.

*Each group of 10 people will start at a different area and rotate between ALL areas throughout the morning. **At registration please choose Canyon, Water or Valley as your starting point.** Closer to the event you will be emailed from the guides with the meeting location for your starting spot.*



SATURDAY • MAY 15 • CONTINUED

16. LEARNING TO LOOK: WETLANDS

Richard Crossley, Holly Merker, & Billy Fenimore

Limit 10 per start time | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

Enjoy an intimate setting connecting with nature, our Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area wetland feathered friends, and authors Richard Crossley and Holly

Merker in the wetlands that surround the Great Salt Lake habitat of Northern Utah. Understanding is the key to learning. As you shift your focus to look at birds longer, closer, and from a broader perspective than is typical, a new world of discovery opens up. This program is for those who want to learn helpful hints on how to identify birds, observe interesting behaviors, and discover identification tricks of the birding trade with Richard and Holly. Come experience bird watching as an open door into the natural world, and connect with nature for your overall well-being.

The class will remain in one viewing location for the duration and is perfect for birders of all levels.

Meet at the Wildlife Education Center 1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1100 W. Glovers Lane) Farmington, UT 84025.

Five trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7am, 9am, 11am, 2pm, or 4pm during registration.

7:00 am – 8:30 am

9:00 am – 10:30 am

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

17. BOUNTIFUL POND

Ian Batterman

Limit 20 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$15

Located on the outskirts of Farmington Bay WMA, Bountiful Pond is a lovely oasis for all kinds of birds. This trip involves walking around the pond. The large pond provides a stopover area for many gulls and waterfowl, and the surrounding trees and fields hide many songbirds, owls, and other birds with close viewing opportunities. During migration, Bountiful Pond can often house rare vagrants like Eastern Wood Warblers.

Species to see: Wood Duck, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Red-breasted Merganser, Pied-billed Grebe, Western Grebe, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Northern Harrier, Osprey, Virginia Rail, American Coot, Wilson's Snipe, California Gull, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Barn Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, American Kestrel, Western Wood-pewee, Dusky Flycatcher, Black-billed Magpie, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Marsh Wren, Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Song Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Western Tanager, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Great-tailed Grackle.

Meet at the Bountiful Pond parking lot. 1275 W 1600 N, Woods Cross, UT 84087.

7:30am – 10:00am

18. PHOTOGRAPHY AT FARMINGTON BAY

Tom Mathewson

Limit 15 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$25

This is a guided "drive-your-own-car" tour of specific spots at Farmington Bay, with an emphasis on serious bird photography. We'll have hands-on sessions at each stop for photographing birds with a tripod as well as hand-held shooting and shooting from a car. We will cover equipment tips, camera settings and shooting techniques for getting the best pictures possible in nearly any conditions. Bring your camera, lens, tripod etc.

Meet at the Wildlife Education Center 1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1100 W. Glovers Lane) Farmington, UT 84025.

8:00am – 12:00pm

19. BURROWING OWL

9:00am – 12:00pm
1:00pm – 4:00pm

Jessica Taylor & Trish Ackley

Limit 10 per start time | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$35

Think you know everything about owls? Well not these little hoots. Come see the underground-dwelling, awake in the day, sentinels of the grasslands – burrowing owls. This is a field trip to Antelope Island State Park to look for Burrowing Owl sites.

*Meet outside the Antelope Island Entry Gates. 4528 W 1700 S, Syracuse, UT 84075. Continue to drive West on W 1700 S to large parking lot on South side of street to meet field trip leaders. *Ticket includes park entry*

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 9:00 am or 1:00 pm during registration.

20. ANTELOPE ISLAND: GARR RANCH

10:00am – 12:00pm

Mike Hearell & Taylor Abbott

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

Bird a popular migrant stopover at Fielding Garr Ranch on Antelope Island. Birds crossing the west desert drop into the Ranch's grove of giant cottonwood trees as the first green spot they see. The area offers several springs and trees with plenty of insects. Possible species: migrating warblers, vireos, flycatchers; also owls, falcons, hawks, woodpeckers, and Virginia Rail.

*Meet at Fielding Garr Ranch by way of 4528 W 1700 S, Syracuse, UT 84075. Enter Antelope Island State Park and continue on to Fielding Garr Ranch per park signage, which is approximately 30 minutes from Park entry gate. *Ticket includes park entry*

21. BEGINNING BIRDING: FARMINGTON BIRDING HOTSPOT

2:00pm – 5:00pm

Dallin Henderson & Max Malmquist

Limit 20 | Adults \$10 | Children Free.

We will walk to explore the area and wetlands around the Wildlife Education Center and practice new birding skills.

Probable Birds: Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Pied-billed Grebe, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, White-faced Ibis, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Virginia Rail, American Coot, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Barn Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Northern Harrier, Red-tailed Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, American Kestrel, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Marsh Wren, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Song Sparrow, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Kingbird, Eastern Kingbird

Meet at the Wildlife Education Center: 1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1100 W. Glovers Lane) Farmington, UT 84025.

22. UTAH COUNTY EVENING HOTSPOTS

5:00pm – 10:00pm

Joseph Andreasen & Danielle Finlayson

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

This trip will start during the day in the valley near Utah Lake and finish high in the mountains of American Fork Canyon in the evening. Be prepared for waterfowl and warblers in the day and poor wills and owls at night.

Probable Birds: Woodhouse's Scrub-jay, Steller's Jay, Yellow Warbler, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Long-billed Dowitcher, Wilson's Phalarope, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Northern Harrier, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Western Kingbird, Eastern Kingbird, Mountain Chickadee, Blue-grey Gnatcatcher, Chipping Sparrow, Brewer's Sparrow, Bullock's Oriole, Western Tanager, Orange-crowned Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Common Poorwill, and many others.

Meeting location: The Skipper Bay Trail begins just north of Utah Lake State Park at 40.23929, -111.73418. To reach the trailhead from I-15, take exit 265 for Provo Center Street and continue west on Center Street towards Utah Lake State Park. After approximately 2.5 miles you will reach the Utah Lake State Park entrance. Do not enter the park; turn right onto North Boat Harbor Drive. Continue to a "T" in the road and turn left onto 4200 West. There is no formal parking lot, but you may park alongside the dead-end road. The trail begins on the north side at the end of the road.

SUNDAY • MAY 16

23. EAST CANYON STATE PARK

5:00am – 12:00pm

Billy Fenimore, Weston Smith, & Chris Haramoto

Limit 20 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$25

We will begin at the Henefer lek to look for the greater sage grouse. We will leave at approximately 6:30am to return to the state park office. The continuing tour will view feeders placed in the state park and look for water birds on the reservoir. We will then travel to several other locations within the park looking for mountain birds. We expect to see around 60 species. Possible sightings include greater sage grouse, common loon, grebes, swallows, different hawks, and eagles. Bring food and water.

Meet at the East Canyon State Park Office located at the Park Entrance. 5535 South Highway 66, Morgan, UT 84050. Continue on approximately 2 miles to entrance gates. Park office is located at the North end of the lake.

24. MARATHON BIRDING

6:00am – 12:00am

Tim Avery, Kenny Frisch, Mike Hearell, & Taylor Abbott

*All Day and Late Night Trip

What happens when you take 4 crazy birding guides, a couple of vans, and have 18 hours during the height of migration in northern Utah? Marathon Birding with Mountain West Birding Tours of course! Join, Mike, Taylor, Jeff, and Tim as they guide you along the shores and wetlands of the Great Salt Lake, through the canyons and mountains of the Wasatch front, and try to seek out 150 species in a fast-paced, bird-filled, sort-of big day. Over the past 12 years, we've averaged just over 150 species each day and topped out at 170 in 2015. We never know what we'll find, but we will have a great time, and cap things off with a spectacular Flammulated Owling outing! Meals, snacks, water bottles, and a swag bag are included!

Visit: www.mwbirdco.com/trips-marathon to see options, pricing, and Register for this trip!



Photo by Scott Baxter



25. JORDANELLE WETLANDS AND HEBER FIELDS 7:00am – 12:00pm

Terri Pope

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$25

The wetlands below Jordanelle Dam offer excellent birding in these foothills to the Uinta Mountains. This area is a National Audubon Important Bird Area (IBA).

Possible species include: American Dipper, Osprey, Black-headed Grosbeak, Warbling Vireo, Swainson's Thrush, Common Yellowthroat and Bullock's Oriole. We will also look for returning Bobolinks.

Meet at the Salt Lake City REI located at 3285 E. 3300 S., Salt Lake City, UT. 84109. The drive is about 40 minutes and will be following the guide.

26. WEST DESERT & PONY EXPRESS TRAIL 7:00am – 3:00pm

Keeli Marvel & Co-Lead

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$30

Bird the West Desert and the Pony Express Trail. Experience the birds of the West Desert and the ruggedness of the Pony Express Trail first hand. We'll bird a loop starting at Clover Springs CG in Johnson Pass, traveling over to Lookout Pass, and back around past Fitzgerald WMA. Highlights could include desert specialties such as Bushtits, Juniper Titmice, Pinyon Jays, Sagebrush Sparrows, Black-throated Gray Warblers, and Horned Larks.

*Meet at the Macey's Grocery parking lot next to the McDonalds in Tooele at 972 N. Main St., Tooele, UT 84074. **A vehicle with higher clearance will be required to travel road conditions.***

27. OWL PROWL ON ANTELOPE ISLAND 5:00pm – 9:30pm

Melissa Halvorsen & Annette Hansen

Limit 10 | Drive Own Vehicle | Cost \$35

Who, Who should go? Owl lovers that's WHO! Antelope Island is prime habitat for several species of owl: Great Horned, Barn, Burrowing, Long-eared and Short-eared owls. Great opportunity to see other wildlife in the park. Picturesque views of the Lake and timing of this evening trip will be great for photographing the island's famous sunsets.

*Meet outside the Antelope Island Entry Gates. 4528 W 1700 S, Syracuse, UT 84075. Continue to drive West on W 1700 S to large parking lot on South side of street to meet field trip leaders. *Ticket includes park entry*



Photos by Joshua Adam Photography

2021 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY • MAY 13

1.	Past, Present, and Ornithery	6pm – 8pm
2.	Mountain Owls	7:30pm – Midnight

FRIDAY • MAY 14

3.	Swaner EcoCenter	7am – 11am
4.	Diamond Fork Canyon	7am – 2pm
5.	Utah County Daytime Hotspots	7am – 2pm
6.	Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge	7am – 11am 8am – 12pm 9am – 1pm 10am – 2 pm
7.	Learning to Look: High Elevation	7am – 8:30am 9am – 10:30am 11am – 12:30 pm 2pm – 3:30pm 4pm – 5:30pm
8.	Willard Bay State Park	7:30am – 12pm
9.	Rockport Reservoir: Canoe/Kayak	8am – 3pm
10.	American Kestrel	9am – 1pm
11.	Research Boat Tour on GSL	10am – 12pm 1pm – 3pm
12.	Burrowing Owl	2pm – 5pm

SATURDAY • MAY 15

13.	Antelope Island: Causeway	7am – 9am
14.	Birding by Ear	7am – 12pm
15.	Cache Valley Hotspots	7am – 1pm
16.	Learning to Look: Wetlands	7am – 8:30am 9am – 10:30am 11am – 12:30 pm 2pm – 3:30pm 4pm – 5:30pm
17.	Bountiful Pond	7:30am – 10am
18.	Photography at Farmington Bay	8am – 12pm
19.	Burrowing Owl	9am – 12pm 1pm – 4pm
20.	Antelope Island: Garr Ranch	10am – 12pm
21.	Beginning Birding: Farmington Hotspot	2pm–5pm
22.	Utah County Evening Hotspots	5pm – 10pm

SUNDAY • MAY 16

23.	East Canyon State Park	5am – 12pm
24.	Marathon Birding	6am – Midnight
25.	Jordanelle Wetlands & Heber Fields	7am – 12pm
26.	West Desert & Pony Express Trail	7am – 3pm
27.	Owl Prowl on Antelope Island	5pm – 9:30pm

SAVE THE DATE

24th Annual Great Salt Lake Bird Festival

May 12-15, 2022

2022 Bird: Wilson's Phalarope



Photos by Scott Baxter



GREAT SALT LAKE
BIRD FESTIVAL

PO Box 618
Farmington, UT 84025
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