



Student Artwork by Morgan Becker, 2022 Best of Show Winner



# GREAT SALT LAKE **BIRD FESTIVAL**

MAY 18-21, 2023

[www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com](http://www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com)



# WELCOME TO THE 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

The Great Salt Lake Bird Festival turns 25 this year, and we want to celebrate with you! Discover Davis, Utah's Amusement Capital, is pleased to once again welcome you to the Great Salt Lake Bird Festival in beautiful northern Utah. Davis County is home to the 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. Not only is Davis County a great place to find a variety of majestic birds, it is the ideal location for festival goers to relax after a long day of birding. From hotels to dining and shopping, to grabbing a quick breakfast before your adventure-filled day, you are in good hands as you go and Discover Davis!

We are pleased to offer over 45 field trips and 15 workshops during this year's festival. Our festival offerings are designed to create a unique experience with trips providing "behind the gates" access to areas that cannot be accessed 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. Utah is known for its diverse habitats, which result in a variety of birds. Vast desserts, high mountain peaks, rushing rivers, and of course, the saltiest lake in the country are sure to lure the most fascinating birds from all over the world!

Festival headquarters will be hosted at the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Wildlife Education Center at Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area. Located on the edge of Great Salt Lake, you'll discover a birder's paradise at one of the most incredible natural locations in Utah. The festival will take place over the course of four days, along with pre-festival trips that will be available through festival partners. Field trips with provided transportation will meet at this breathtaking spot before heading out to experience the Wasatch Front, or if you prefer to drive yourself, many opportunities will be available for you to meet your guide on location.

Not only will birders have the opportunity to attend our unique field trips, but also have the chance to sit down for a night, socialize, enjoy dinner, and listen to Mark Stackhouse provide the keynote address at the Davis Conference Center. Free educational workshops will also be available for participants, and of course, our annual Family Day, where birders of all ages are invited to learn about birds, participate in hands-on activities, and even do some birdwatching of their own.

We hope you will join us in our 25th year for another memorable festival.  
Happy Birding!

# REGISTRATION

Registration begins on **Monday, March 20, 2023 at 10am MT.**  
Online registration is the only method of registering.

Purchase tickets by visiting **[www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com](http://www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com)**

- All tickets will be electronic in the form of a QR code
- 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 additional details on participation waiver, cancellation, refunds, and disclaimer details, please visit the Registration page on the website

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

801.451.3286 • [gslbirdfest@daviscountyutah.gov](mailto:gslbirdfest@daviscountyutah.gov)

# FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE

Festival merchandise will be available for purchase on the website. Limited quantities of select merchandise will be available to purchase during the festival. We strongly encourage attendees to pre-order merchandise online for the best selection. Pre-ordered items may be picked up from the festival booth at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center on Saturday, May 20 between 9am–3pm or feel free to ask an available festival representative prior to your field trip departure. Make sure to check out our new 25th anniversary offerings too!

**PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND DETAILS ON ALL FESTIVAL OFFERINGS.**



Photo by Joshua Adam Photography

# BIRD SPOTLIGHT: FLAMMULATED OWL

Dwelling high in the mountains amidst the head waters of the rivers that flow downward to nourish Great Salt Lake and its associated wetlands, lives a tiny owl.

The Flammulated Owl is so appropriately named; the definition of flammulated being reddish in color or resembling a flame perfectly describing the flickering splash of rusty, flame-colored feathers on grayish brown plumage.

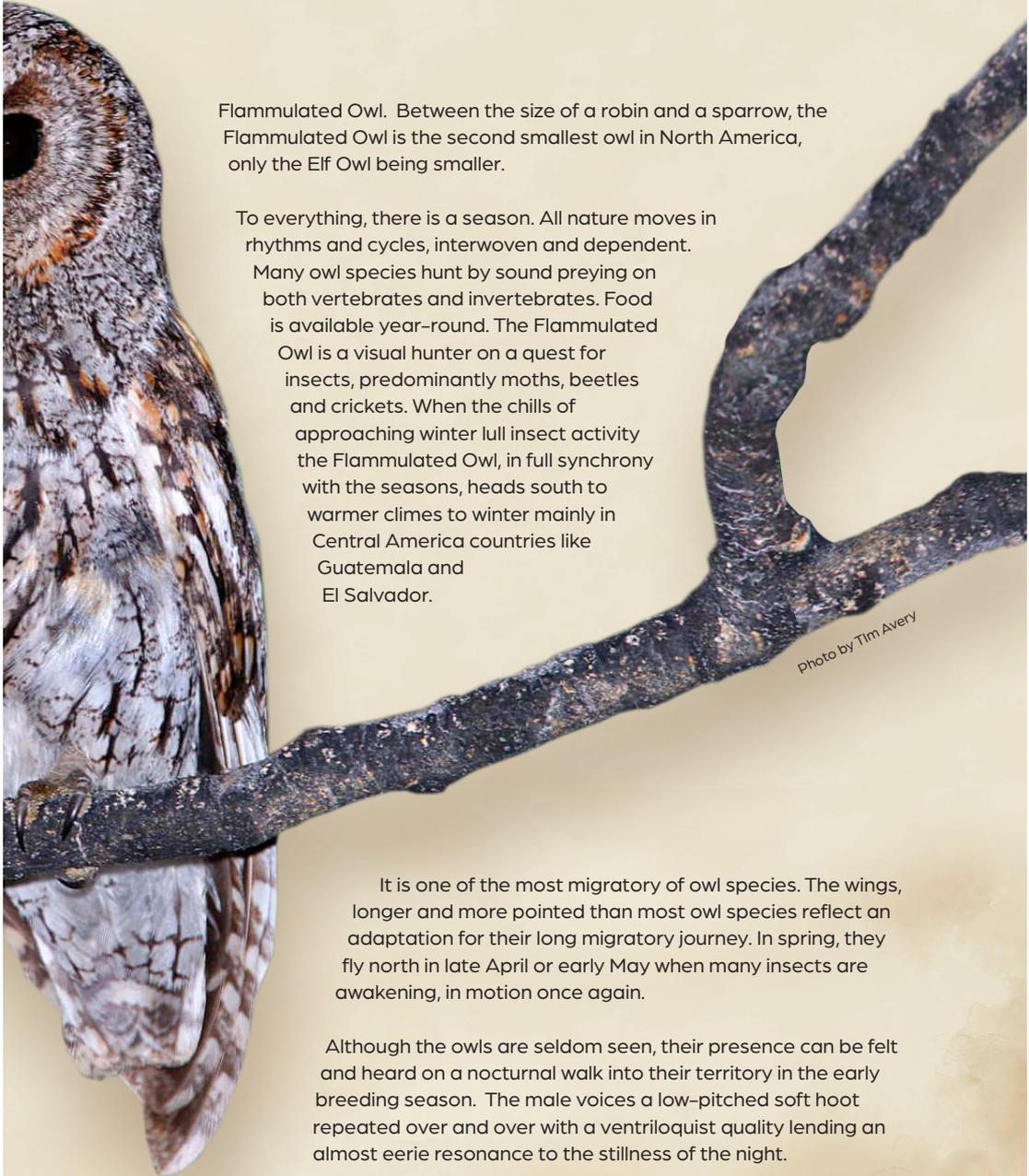
Many species of owls occur worldwide. Owls are familiar to most cultures present or past, their haunting gestalt often embedded into folklore and myths.

Most humans when conjuring up an image of an owl think of one of the large more observed species like the Great Horned Owl. The diminutive Flammulated Owl, during the nesting season, flies between the trees of remote pine, fir, and aspen forests, obscurely perched, camouflaged on a limb, or hidden deep in a cavity, its presence so seldom detected by human senses that in the past, the Flammulated Owl has been considered rare. As often happens when humans jump to conclusions with

partial data, today, through research this human misperception has been rectified. Flammulated Owls are now known to be common and widespread nesters throughout mountains of western North America and Mexico. Some have suggested it is perhaps the most common raptor of mountain forests.

A Great Horned Owl stands almost two feet tall. At less than half that size, the common Western Screech Owl is 8 1/2 inches. Flammulated owls are closely related to screech owls. Imagine if a screech owl were to be shrunk a bit to 6-7 inches, the ear tufts shortened, the yellow eyes turned to pits of pitch black and the plumage sprinkled with rufous feathers you would have a semi resemblance of a





Flammulated Owl. Between the size of a robin and a sparrow, the Flammulated Owl is the second smallest owl in North America, only the Elf Owl being smaller.

To everything, there is a season. All nature moves in rhythms and cycles, interwoven and dependent. Many owl species hunt by sound preying on both vertebrates and invertebrates. Food is available year-round. The Flammulated Owl is a visual hunter on a quest for insects, predominantly moths, beetles and crickets. When the chills of approaching winter lull insect activity the Flammulated Owl, in full synchrony with the seasons, heads south to warmer climes to winter mainly in Central America countries like Guatemala and El Salvador.

Photo by Tim Avery

It is one of the most migratory of owl species. The wings, longer and more pointed than most owl species reflect an adaptation for their long migratory journey. In spring, they fly north in late April or early May when many insects are awakening, in motion once again.

Although the owls are seldom seen, their presence can be felt and heard on a nocturnal walk into their territory in the early breeding season. The male voices a low-pitched soft hoot repeated over and over with a ventriloquist quality lending an almost eerie resonance to the stillness of the night.

— Ella Sorensen

# FREE OPENING NIGHT SOCIAL & SPEAKER

FRIDAY, MAY 19 • 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Join us for a free evening of workshops, live bird demo, student art viewing and awards. The evening will also include the GSL Bird Festival Bird Race awards and feature opening night speaker Fiona Gillogly for a hands-on nature journaling experience. Bring your nature journal or sketchbook and pencil and learn nature journaling techniques alongside Fiona. Art supplies will be provided for those that do not have them or may just be starting their nature journaling journey. Light refreshments will be served.

## **A BIRDER'S BRAIN ON PAPER: How keeping a nature journal enriches our birding experiences.**

Join teen birder and artist Fiona Gillogly as she shares her experience combining birding and nature journaling. Fiona has found that keeping a nature journal helps her activate her curiosity, notice more detail, have more fun, and build stronger memories of her birding experiences. She will share examples of her journal pages, demonstrate techniques, and share tips to help you add this to your birding practice. She will also share how mentors have been central to her development as a birder and an artist.

- 4:30 – 5:30 pm** Owl Pellet Dissection\*
- 5:00 – 6:00 pm** Opening Social, Student Art Viewing, & Refreshments
- 5:00 – 6:00 pm** Eurasian Eagle Owl demonstration with Nicholas Harris of Long Wing, Inc.
- 6:00 – 6:20 pm** Student Art Awards & GSL Bird Festival Bird Race Awards
- 6:20 – 7:30 pm** A Birder's Brain on Paper: Nature Journaling with Fiona Gillogly

### **ECCLES WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER**

1157 S Waterfowl Way,  
Farmington, UT 84025

\*Registration required.

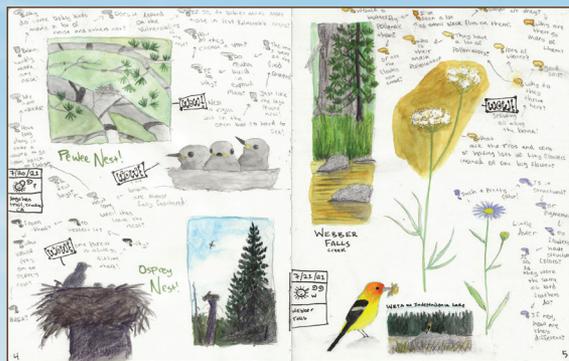
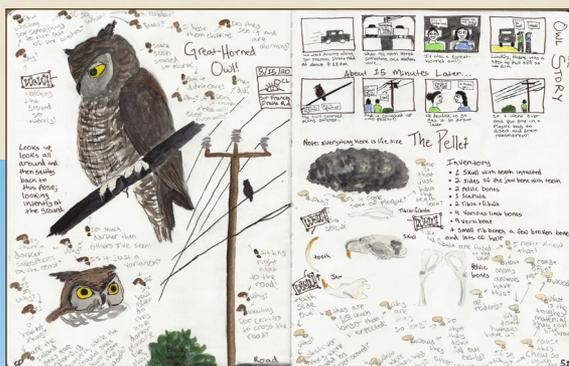


Photo by  
Joshua Adam Photography

# 2023 OPENING NIGHT SPEAKER: FIONA GILLOGLY

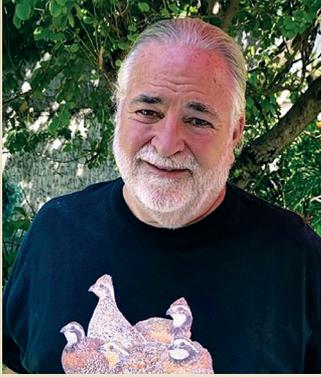


Born and raised in Northern California, Fiona Clare Gillogly, age 19, is an avid birder, artist, nature journaler, and advocate for nature. She has taught classes and given talks on birding and nature journaling for many organizations, including Audubon California, the Exploratorium in San Francisco, Environment for the Americas/World Migratory Bird Day, the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, and the Point Reyes Birding Festival. In June 2020, the American Birding Association's *Birding* magazine published Fiona's article and illustrations, "A Birder's Brain on Paper: How keeping a nature journal improves our birding experiences." Over the past 8 years, Fiona has volunteered many hours bird banding, monitoring nest boxes, and helping with Christmas Bird Counts. Learn more at [fionasongbird.com](http://fionasongbird.com).



Examples of  
Fiona's Journal.

# 2023 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MARK STACKHOUSE



For Mark Stackhouse, birding has been his passion since he was 5 years old, and he can't even remember a time before he was a birder. Mark has enjoyed watching birds throughout the Americas, and especially likes to share the beauty of birds and nature with other people. For most of his life, he has done this through teaching and guiding others in the field, his writing, and photography.

Mark has guided birders for nearly 50 years, has worked as a consulting biologist, developed and managed education

programs at Tracy Aviary in Salt Lake City, and has taught college-level courses in Field Ornithology in both English and Spanish. On his first visit to San Blas, Nayarit, Mexico, 24 years ago, Mark fell in love with Mexico, its people, culture, landscapes, and of course its spectacular birding. He now lives in San Blas, and has guided birders to nearly every part of Mexico over the last 20 years. Mark lives with his wife, Elizabeth Oregón Gonzalez, a native of San Blas, and their daughter Daniela.

## Mark will be co-leading the following ticketed field trips:

### THURSDAY, MAY 18

- Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Behind the Gates • 7:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Antelope Island Owl Prowl • 5:00 pm – 9:30 pm

### FRIDAY, MAY 19

- Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve • 7:00 am – 1:00 pm

### SATURDAY, MAY 20

- Cache Valley Hotspots • 7:00 am – 2:00 pm

### SUNDAY, MAY 21

- Bird the West Desert & Pony Express Trail • 6:00 am – 3:00 pm

# KEYNOTE ADDRESS

SATURDAY, MAY 20 • 6:00 PM • \$45

Join us for an evening of guest speakers, the Birder of the Year award, and keynote address given by Mark Stackhouse at the Davis Conference Center in Layton, Utah.

## **Musings of a Migratory Bird(er): Lessons learned from a lifetime of teaching others about birds and birding.**

The best way to learn about something is to teach it to others. In his talk, Mark will share some of the things he has learned, and insights he has gained, about birding and birders from the nearly 5 decades he has spent teaching. It's an often humorous, but sometimes serious, self-examination of who birders are, and how we relate to the world and our love for birds, illustrated by anecdotes and photographs from Mark's lifetime sharing time in the field with birders from all parts of the world.

### **DAVIS CONFERENCE CENTER**

1651 N 700 W, Layton, UT 84041

**Tickets are required to attend the Keynote Address and can be purchased during the online registration process. Options to purchase a vegetarian or gluten free meal ticket will be available.**



Photo by Megan Christensen

# STUDENT ART CONTEST

We welcome you to come and enjoy the student art displayed at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center. Each year, students from all over the state are invited to submit their individual art on the upcoming spotlight bird. There will be an award ceremony honoring students who show exemplary work.

This year, students will be creating artwork for the 2024 spotlight bird, the Long-billed Curlew, which will be included in next year's festival program. We invite all Utah students ages Pre-K to 12th grade to participate. Submissions will be accepted until April 14th, 2023. More information can be found on the website, including contest entry rules. You can also enjoy the virtual art gallery for the 2022 winners.

## ART VIEWING HOURS:

Friday • May 19, 4:30 pm – 6 pm

Saturday • May 20, 9 am – 3 pm

## AWARDS CEREMONY:

Friday • May 19, 6 pm

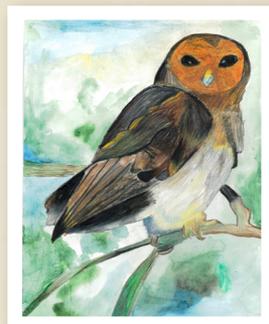
## WINNERS FROM 2022



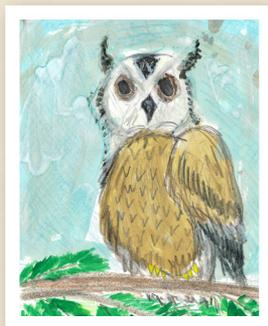
**Hadley Platt**  
1st Place, Grades 10-12



**Terica Ericksen**  
1st Place, Grades 7-9



**Zetong Li**  
1st Place, Grades 4-6



**James Rose**  
1st Place, Grades 1-3



**Linus Taylor**  
1st Place, Pre-K-Kindergarten

# FAMILY DAY!

## SATURDAY MAY 20

Join us for our 25th Anniversary at The Great Salt Lake Bird Festival Family Day!

We are excited to team up with HawkWatch International, Ogden Nature Center, and Tracy Aviary to create one "hoot" of a time. Come out and enjoy all things birds!

free  
entry!\*

### ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Live Bird Workshops
- Pinecone Feeders
- Book Readings
- Mist Netting & Bird Banding Demo\*
- Arts and Crafts
- Guided Nature Walks
- Live Bird Sketching
- Scavenger Hunt
- Bird Feeder Building
- Owl-Pellet Dissections\*
- Photo Ops
- Face Paint and More!

Family day will be hosted at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center from 9AM- 2PM on Saturday, May 20th, 2023. Visit the website for a detailed schedule of activities.

\*Online registration required for certain experiences

**Visit the website for a detailed list of activities.**



# SPONSOR RECOGNITION



- Antelope Island State Park
- Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
- Caffè Ibis Coffee Roasters
- Davis Conference Center
- Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area
- For the Birds and Bees
- Friends of Great Salt Lake
- George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Wildlife Education Center
- Gillmor Sanctuary
- Great Salt Lake Audubon
- Great Salt Lake Institute at Westminster College
- HawkWatch International, Utah
- Legacy Nature Preserve
- Linking Communities, Wetlands, and Migratory Birds
- National Audubon Society
- Pitta Nature Tours
- Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter
- The Nature Conservancy in Utah
- Utah County Birders
- Utah Wetlands Foundation
- Wildlife Expeditions of Teton Science Schools

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".

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Many Thanks to our Festival Committee:

Kristal Blessett – Chair, Jessica Merrill – Vice Chair, Jennifer Stout – Co-Vice Chair, Trish Ackley, Tim Avery, John Bellmon, Adam Blundell, Valerie Frokjer, Melissa Halvorsen, Dallin Henderson, Heidi Hoven, Ashley Kijowski, Max Malmquist, and Don Paul

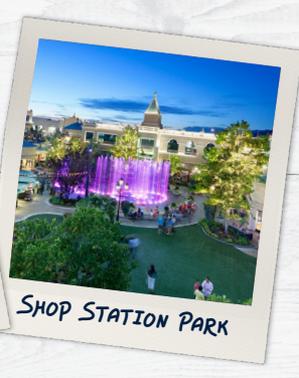
The Great Salt Lake Bird Festival is made possible by Discover Davis, Davis County Commission, and many community partners and industry supporters.

## SAVE THE DATE

26th Annual Great Salt Lake Bird Festival May 16–19, 2024

*\*All events and schedules are subject to change based on health department policies and other unforeseen circumstances*

# A BIRDER'S PARADISE



Book a stay in one of our nationally recognized hotels or dock your RV in one of our many RV parks or campgrounds — either way, Davis has the perfect lodging option for your Bird Festival adventure.

Stay close to the Bird Festival as well as all the food and fun Davis has to offer—from over 400 restaurants; shopping at Station Park; attending a performance at the CenterPoint Legacy Theatre; visiting Antelope Island State Park or participating in one of the many other outdoor recreation activities.



Visit our website for deals on local hotels and RV parks. | [DiscoverDavis.com](https://www.DiscoverDavis.com)

# ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE 2023

## FRIDAY • MAY 19

Community Science for Birders	3pm – 4pm
Owl Pellet Dissection	4:30pm – 5:30pm
Opening Night Social, Art Viewing, and Refreshments	5pm – 6pm
Eurasian Eagle Owl Demo**	5pm – 6pm
Student Art Awards & GSL Bird Race Awards	6pm – 6:20pm
A Birder's Brain on Paper: Nature Journaling with Fiona Gillogly	6:20pm – 7:30pm

## SATURDAY • MAY 20

Introduction to Bird Photography: Getting Started and Finding the Artist Inside You	8am – 8:50am
Family Day Activities including bird feeder making, arts & crafts, guided nature walks, and nature journaling with Fiona Gillogly	9am – 2pm
Vendor Booths & Festival Merchandise	9am – 3pm
Owl Pellet Dissection*	9am – 9:50am
Mist Netting and Bird Banding*	9am – 10am
Parade of Raptors**	9am – 9:50am
Before You Buy A Bird	10am – 10:50am
The A's & B's of Our Inland Sea Book Reading with Author Nicole Anderson	10am – 10:15am
Drawing Raptors from Life**	10:30am – 11:20am
Owl Pellet Dissection*	11am – 11:50am
Bald and Beautiful**	11:30am – 12:15pm
Bird Sketching & Science 101	12pm – 12:50pm
The A's & B's of Our Inland Sea Book Reading with Author Nicole Anderson	12:15pm – 12:30pm
Falconry's Influences on Modern-day Conservation, Culture and Politics	12:30pm – 1:20pm
Beginning Birders	1pm – 1:50pm
Falconer Q&A**	1:30pm – 2:20pm
Creative Nature Photography	2pm – 2:50pm
State of The Great Salt Lake	2:30pm – 3:20pm
Vendor Booths^	5pm – 6pm
Keynote Dinner & Speaker: Mark Stackhouse*^	6pm – 8pm

Free festival activities are open to the public at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center.

\*Registration Required \*\*Includes Live Birds ^Located at the Davis Conference Center

# 2023 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

We are pleased to offer our free in-person educational workshops at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center. Workshops do not require pre-registration unless noted. Visit the website for additional information on festival offerings happening in conjunction with the workshops and come and join in on the fun!

## WORKSHOPS • FRIDAY • MAY 19

### COMMUNITY SCIENCE FOR BIRDERS

**Presenter(s):** Tracy Aviary, Sageland Collective, HawkWatch International

**Time:** 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Birds make natural subjects for scientific study, and birders are often an asset to scientists when it comes to collecting data. Join representatives from three local organizations that rely on birders to help with projects. Learn about their work and how you might be able to get involved.

### OWL PELLET DISSECTION\*

**Presenter(s):** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Time:** 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Embrace your inner scientist with this fun family activity. Owls often eat their prey whole. After digesting the soft tissues, they cough up compact pellets of fur and bones. Dissect a real (sanitized) owl pellet to discover what the owls have been dining on! *\*Registration required.*

## WORKSHOPS • SATURDAY • MAY 20

### INTRODUCTION TO BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTING STARTED AND FINDING THE ARTIST INSIDE YOU

**Presenter(s):** Tom Mathewson

**Time:** 8:00 am – 8:50 am

This is a quick introduction to taking great bird pictures. We'll cover basic theory as well as the best camera settings and saving your pictures. Then we'll look at shooting techniques for bird photography, and finally examine how to tap your own artistic vision to capture those great bird scenes.

### OWL PELLET DISSECTION\*

**Presenter(s):** HawkWatch International, Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Time:** 9:00 am – 9:50 am

Embrace your inner scientist with this fun family activity. Owls often eat their prey whole. After digesting the soft tissues, they cough up compact pellets of fur and bones. Dissect a real (sanitized) owl pellet to discover what the owls have been dining on! *\*Registration required.*

## WORKSHOPS • SATURDAY • MAY 20 • CONTINUED

### PARADE OF RAPTORS\*\*

Presenter(s): HawkWatch International

Time: 9:00 am – 9:45 am

All raptors share a set of three important features, but did you know that these features can vary between types of raptors? Meet three live Raptor Ambassadors from HawkWatch International and learn how different raptors have evolved to use different hunting strategies and survive in all kinds of environments.

*\*\*Includes live birds.*

### BEFORE YOU BUY A BIRD

Presenter(s): Chris Roybal, Wasatch Avian Education Society

Time: 10:00 am – 10:50 am

With viral videos of people cuddling parrots, they may seem like an ideal family pet. While birds can be wonderful companions, they have special needs that many people don't understand before bringing home a new feathered friend. Join the Wasatch Avian Education Society to learn what it takes to be a forever home for a pet bird.

### DRAWING RAPTORS FROM LIFE\*\*

Presenter(s): Natalia Wilkins-Tyler

Time: 10:30 am – 11:20 am

Join a scientific illustrator to learn some tips and tricks for drawing birds from life. We'll focus on the "three sharps" that distinguish raptors from other birds and practice by using a live bird as a model. Bring your sketchbook and pencils and get ready to draw! Supplies will be provided if you don't have your own or are just getting started. *\*\*Includes live birds.*

### OWL PELLET DISSECTION\*

Presenter(s): HawkWatch International, Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Time: 11:00 am – 11:50 am

Embrace your inner scientist with this fun family activity. Owls often eat their prey whole. After digesting the soft tissues, they cough up compact pellets of fur and bones. Dissect a real (sanitized) owl pellet to discover what the owls have been dining on! *\*Registration required.*

### BALD AND BEAUTIFUL \*\*

Presenter(s): Ogden Nature Center

Time: 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Winter months in Utah are brightened by one of the most majestic birds in North America! Bald Eagles (named after the old English word "balde" meaning white) love to migrate down from the frigid north to the milder temperatures of Utah to go fishing. Fortunately, even though winter is over, you can learn all about these beautiful birds and where to find them next time the snow flies in Utah as you meet Ogden Nature Center's Bald Eagle, Des Ta Te. *\*\*Includes live birds.*

## **BIRD SKETCHING & SCIENCE 101**

**Presenter(s):** Frances Ngo

**Time:** 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm

Join Tracy Aviary's biologist Frances Ngo for an introduction to bird sketching. This workshop is geared toward beginner artists. During this workshop, we will explore observational drawing techniques and the basics of drawing bird forms. Frances will share tips for sketching birds in the field and lead participants through guided exercises. Bring your sketchbooks and pencils and get ready to draw!

## **FALCONRY'S INFLUENCES ON MODERN-DAY CONSERVATION, CULTURE AND POLITICS**

**Presenter(s):** Krista Hong Edwards

**Time:** 12:30 pm – 1:20 pm

This is certain: your life has been affected by falconry. Falconry is an ancient sport dating back 5,000 years ago, with its origins being traced in Asia, spreading to the Middle East, Europe, and eventually the Americas. In some way, shape, or form, our lives have been affected by falconers and falconry. Discover the role of falconers in conservation, the role of falconry in culture, and how falconry has shaped the political landscape in this interactive workshop led by Vice President of the Utah Falconer's Association.

## **BEGINNING BIRDERS**

**Presenter(s):** Dallin Henderson & Max Malmquist

**Time:** 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

Enjoy this free workshop for beginners and families. We will discuss bird identification and the common backyard birds in the Farmington area.

*\*Pre-registration required for Beginning Birding: Farmington Bay field trip that takes place immediately following the workshop. Workshop open to all.*

## **FALCONER Q&A\*\***

**Presenter(s):** Utah Falconers Association

**Time:** 1:30 pm – 2:20 pm

The sport of falconry has been practiced for thousands of years, and modern falconers continue to refine it as science provides more information about birds and their needs. If you have always been interested in falconry, or just want to learn a little more about it, please join us for this moderated panel discussion where local falconers will take questions from audience members. *\*\*Includes live birds.*

## **CREATIVE NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Presenter(s):** Scott Baxter

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 2:50 pm

Enjoy a fast-moving presentation followed by a Q&A session based on years of in-the-field photography by internationally published photographer and writer Scott Baxter. Whether you have thousands of dollars of camera equipment or use a camera that can send text messages, you will get ideas on how you can capture what you experience in an image that will engage the viewer.

## WORKSHOPS • SATURDAY • MAY 20 • CONTINUED

### STATE OF THE GREAT SALT LAKE

Presenter(s): Lynn Defratis

Time: 2:30 pm – 3:20 pm

In 2019, the Utah Legislature and Governor Cox unanimously supported (HCR-10) House Concurrent Resolution to Address Declining Water Levels of the Great Salt Lake. Finally there was a political will recognizing “the critical importance of ensuring adequate water flows to

Great Salt Lake and the wetlands to maintain a healthy and sustainable lake system.” Details in the HCR-10 report released December 2020, provided recommendations to be considered that would meet the goal of addressing and mitigating declining lake levels. In November 2022,

Great Salt Lake hit a new historic record low, increasing salinity concentrations in Gilbert Bay (South Arm) to the point where the ecological viability of the food web is now in peril, thus endangering the millions of birds that depend on that food web for survival. This presentation will provide an update of the ongoing work to sustain the future of this hemispherically important ecosystem.

## 2023 GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

# BIRD RACE

SATURDAY • MAY 13 • 5:00 AM - 3:00 PM

### WHAT IS THE GSL BIRD FEST BIRD RACE?

The bird race is a modified big day birding competition. A big day in birding is when you try to identify as many species as possible in a single calendar day. In our version we have some unique rules, quirks, and most importantly, a shorter version instead of a full day, so teams can rest, and safely enjoy the event! The race will be organized into two team divisions, beginner and competitive so birding teams of different skill levels can compete where they feel makes sense.

Create your team, review the rules, and get ready to join us for this exciting pre-festival competition starting off from the Eccles Wildlife Education Center. Prizes and awards will be presented at the Opening Night Social on Friday, May 19, 2023.

**For full details on bird race rules, team requirements, and to register visit [GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com](https://GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com). Registration fee is \$10 per person.**



# GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

## 2023 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

### Activity Level Key

**Accessible:** Fully accessible for festival-goers in wheelchairs or limited mobility

**Easy:** 0.5 miles or less walking on flat or paved surfaces

**Moderate:** Up to 2 miles walking with less than 250 feet elevation change on well-maintained trails or surfaces

**Active:** 2-3 miles walking or hiking with 250-500 feet of elevation gain on trails OR involving cycling or kayaking

Visit the Maps page at [GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com](http://GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com) for a full detailed list of field trip meeting locations.

## PRE-FESTIVAL TRIPS

### UTAH HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

**Date/Time:** Sat, May 6, 6:00 am to Tues, May 9, 5:00 pm • 4-day/3-night trip

**Guide(s):** Tim Avery

May in Utah is one of the best times to take advantage of birding across the entire state. While some of the best high elevation sites are still inaccessible, many of the low elevation locations more than make up for birds with migrants! This tour will cover the entire western half of the state, starting at the Great Salt Lake, and then spending 3 days discovering the incredible birding anchored around the southwest corner of the state and the Mojave Desert. With visits to Zion National Park, the Beaver Dam Conservation Area, and Kolob Plateau, this will be a memorable tour highlighting the variety of birds and places Utah has to offer.

*Visit Pitta Tours at [pittatours.com](http://pittatours.com) to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.*

### FLAMMULATED OWLING

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, May 17, 2023 from 8:00 pm – 11:59 pm

**Transportation:** Van **Cost:** \$60 **Guide(s):** Tim Avery **Spots:** 7

The mountains just outside of Salt Lake City, Utah provide some of the closest and easiest to access nesting habitat for Flammulated Owls, and by far the best opportunity to see these birds anywhere in the world. Often one of the last North American owls for ABA listers, Utah has become the go-to location to see this bird! This tiny, gray and reddish owl, the size of a smartphone, spends its summers foraging for moths and other insects in pine, oak, and aspen forests of the mountain west. These aspects make it hard to spot, although its repetitive, low-pitched hoot may be easier to notice. With more than 18 years experience in sharing Flammulated Owls with birders from around the world, join us for this special tour highlighting the 2023 Great Salt Lake Bird Festival spotlight species!

*Visit Pitta Tours at [pittatours.com](http://pittatours.com) for additional details and to register for this trip.*

# THURSDAY • MAY 18

## 1. BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD REFUGE: BEHIND THE GATES\*

**Time:** 7:00 am – 1:00 pm    **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus    **Cost:** \$65

**Guide(s):** Jen Wright, Patricia Mezza, and **Keynote Speaker:** Mark Stackhouse

Spend a day with expert birders on a birding adventure at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. You will soon learn 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. Its 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 is a great field trip for all levels of birders.

*\*If there are many birds nesting on the road, access behind the gates will be limited.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, and shrikes

**Spots:** 35

## 2. MIST NETTING AND BIRD BANDING AT FARMINGTON CREEK

**Time:** 7:00 am – 9:00 am or 9:00 am – 11:00 am    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$25    **Guide(s):** Russ Lawrence and Jace Taylor

Participants will learn how and why biologist use fine "mist" nets for trapping small birds, proper safety and handling of birds, and how birds are measured, weighed, and banded. They will also learn how the data is used for bird conservation. Participants will have the opportunity to assist (barring any avian flu outbreaks like we had in 2022) in handling and photo ops with the birds before they are released back into the wild. Best Management Practices will be in place to assure the safety and well-being of both the bird and the participants.

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7:00 am or 9:00 am during registration.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Accessible

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Flycatcher (sp.), Song Sparrow, Bullock's Oriole, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Audubon's Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Lincoln's Sparrow, Marsh Wren, and anything else willing to get caught in our nets.

**Spots:** 20 participants per start time

Many Thanks to our Field Trip and Workshop Committee for curating these birding experiences, and to the Volunteer Guides and Presenters who so generously donate their time to educate and share their birding knowledge of the Great Salt Lake and surrounding areas.

Field Trip and Workshop Committee: John Bellmon, Adam Brewerton, Valerie Frokjer, Melissa Halvorsen, Suzi Holt, Heidi Hoven, Jeanne Le Ber, and Don Paul

### 3. BIRDING BY KAYAK AT THE ECCLES WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

**Time:** 7:00 am – 9:00 am or 10:00 am – 12:00 pm    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$50\*    **Guide(s):** Heidi Hoven and Janice Gardner

Join us for an aquatic birding adventure throughout the wetlands of Farmington Bay's Hasenyager Preserve. Paddle on the calm waters that wind through the wetlands and discover all of its wild offerings while learning about what birds are in the area and listening to the sounds of the wetlands. Having all these ecosystems so close together provide a perfect habitat for a variety of wildlife and plants blooming along the water's edge. The wetlands' waters will take you deep into the marsh and provide wonderful opportunities to spy a few of our feathered friends. Keep an eye out for hawks, fox and long-tailed weasels hunting the banks looking for their next meal. A variety of waterfowl, shorebirds and songbirds frequent all corners of the wetlands. Come join us on a wetland adventure!

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7:00 am or 10:00 am during registration. *Weather permitting. \*Ticket includes kayak and life jacket rental.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Active

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** wetland species

**Spots:** 6 participants per start time

### 4. JORDANELLE WETLANDS AND HEBER FIELDS

**Time:** 7:00 am – 12:00 pm    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$25    **Guide(s):** Kenny Frisch and Janae Redke

The wetland and riparian areas below Jordanelle Dam offer excellent birding in these foothills to the Uinta Mountains. This area is an Audubon Important Bird Area (IBA). Possible species include: American Dipper, Osprey, Black-headed Grosbeak, Warbling Vireo, Common Yellowthroat and Bullock's Oriole. We will also look for returning Bobolinks.

**Meeting Location:** Canyon Rim Smith's Marketplace

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

**Spots:** 15

### 5. PHOTOGRAPHY AT FARMINGTON BAY

**Time:** 8:00 am – 12:00 pm    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$25    **Guide(s):** Tom Mathewson

This is a guided self-drive 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.

**Meeting Location:** Farmington Bay

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

# THURSDAY • MAY 18 • CONTINUED

## 6. BIRDING ROCKPORT BY CANOE/KAYAK

**Time:** 8:00 am – 3:00 pm    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$60\*    **Guide(s):** Kathy Donnell and Vivian Schneggenburger

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 canoes and kayaks. Participants will be required to row. Kayaking can be difficult if there is wind and waves. Please arrive by 7:45am for instructions. Allow for travel time.

*Weather permitting. \*Ticket includes park entry, canoe or kayak, and life jacket rental.*

**Meeting Location:** Rockport State Park

**Activity Level:** Active

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 12

## 7. AMERICAN KESTREL

**Time:** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm    **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus

**Cost:** \$55\*    **Guide(s):** Nikki Wayment and Jesse Watson

Learn about the American Kestrel from Hawkwatch International. They have been monitoring kestrels for 9 years from nest boxes they have put up around the Wasatch area, from the Great Salt Lake shores to the Wasatch Mountains. You will go out with the biologists to visit active nest sites to observe and help monitor these birds.

*\*Ticket includes head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** raptors

**Spots:** 15

## 8. BURROWING OWLS OF ANTELOPE ISLAND

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm    **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus

**Cost:** \$55\*    **Guide(s):** Nikki Wayment and Jesse Watson

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.

*\*Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** owls

**Spots:** 22

## 9. ANTELOPE ISLAND OWL PROWL

**Time:** 5:00 pm – 9:30 pm **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$55\*

**Guide(s):** Laura Cleveland, Chris Butler, and **Keynote Speaker:** Mark Stackhouse

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. This is a 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. *\*Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** owls

**Spots:** 22

## 10. MOUNTAIN OWLS

**Time:** 8:00 pm – 11:59 pm **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$60 **Guide(s):** Mike Hearrell **Spots:** 7

When birders think about owls, Utah probably isn't near the top of their list of places to look. But 14 of the 19 regularly occurring species found in North America have been seen in Utah. The mountains along the Wasatch Front provide a great deal of habitat for many of these species, and this tour will provide an opportunity to look for several. 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 we may encounter at dusk or while owling, include Common Poorwill and Hermit Thrush.

*Visit Pitta Tours at [pittatours.com](http://pittatours.com) to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.*

# FRIDAY • MAY 19

## 11. ANTELOPE ISLAND BIRDING

**Time:** 6:00 am – 1:00 pm **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$70\* **Guide(s):** Mike Hearrell

Bird along the causeway toward Garr Ranch. Depending on water level we will spend some time looking at shorebirds along the causeway before heading towards Garr Ranch to look for raptors, chukars, and songbirds along the way. Garr Ranch tends to be a migrant trap in the spring. Once there we will look for Great Horned Owls, raptors, songbirds, and more. Make sure to bring your own binoculars, scope, bug spray, snacks and your ears. *\*Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** Black-bellied Plovers, Snowy Plovers, willets, avocets, Black-necked Stilt, waterfowl, grebes, gulls, migrating warblers, vireos, flycatchers, owls, falcons, hawks, woodpeckers, and Virginia Rail. Also, there is always a chance of rare species this time of year!

**Spots:** 12

## FRIDAY • MAY 19 • CONTINUED

### 12. WETLAND BIRDING AT FARMINGTON BAY WMA

**Time:** 6:30 am – 11:30 am    **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$45    **Guide(s):** Alex Patia

Join Wildlife Expeditions guide Alex Patia on a walk around the wetlands at Farmington Bay WMA in search of waterfowl, grebes, rails, shorebirds, waders, and more! Expect to hear many Marsh Wrens, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, and Common Yellowthroats along the way as we watch Cinnamon Teal, Redhead, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Forster's Tern, Snowy Egrets, and perhaps even an elusive American Bittern!

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, grebes, rails, shorebirds, waders

**Spots:** 11

### 13. MIST NETTING AND BIRD BANDING AT FARMINGTON CREEK

**Time:** 7:00 am – 9:00 am or 9:00 am – 11:00 am    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$25    **Guide(s):** Russ Lawrence and Jace Taylor

Participants will learn how and why biologist use fine "mist" nets for trapping small birds, proper safety and handling of birds, and how birds are measured, weighed, and banded. They will also learn how the data is used for bird conservation. Participants will have the opportunity to assist (barring any avian flu outbreaks) in handling and photo ops with the birds before they are released back into the wild. Best Management Practices will be in place to assure the safety of both the bird and the participants.

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7:00 am or 9:00 am during registration.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Accessible

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Flycatcher (sp.), Song Sparrow, Bullock's Oriole, Yellow Warbler,

Common Yellowthroat, Audubon's Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Lincoln's

Sparrow, Marsh Wren, and anything else willing to get caught in our nets.

**Spots:** 20 participants per start time

### 14. BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD REFUGE: BEHIND THE GATES\*

**Time:** 7:00 am – 1:00 pm    **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus

**Cost:** \$65    **Guide(s):** Jen Wright, Patricia Mezza, and Bear River MBR Staff

Spend a day with expert birders on a birding adventure at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. You will 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. Its 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 is a great field trip for all levels of birders.

*\*If there are many birds nesting on the road, access behind the gates will be limited.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, and shrikes

**Spots:** 35

## 15. BIRDING BY KAYAK AT THE ECCLES WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

**Time:** 7:00 am – 9:00 am or 10:00 am – 12:00 pm   **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$50\*   **Guide(s):** Heidi Hoven and Ashley Kijowski

Join us for an aquatic birding adventure throughout the wetlands of Farmington Bay's Hasenyager Preserve. Paddle on the calm waters that wind through the wetlands and discover all of its wild offerings while learning about what birds are in the area and listening to the sounds of the wetlands. Having all these ecosystems so close together provide a perfect habitat for a variety of wildlife and plants blooming along the water's edge. The wetlands' waters will take you deep into the marsh and provide wonderful opportunities to spy a few of our feathered friends. Keep an eye out for hawks, fox and long-tailed weasels hunting the banks looking for their next meal. A variety of waterfowl, shorebirds and songbirds frequent all corners of the wetlands. Come join us on a wetland adventure!

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7:00 am or 10:00 am during registration. *Weather permitting. \*Ticket includes kayak and life jacket rental.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Active

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** wetland species

**Spots:** 6 participants per start time

## 16. SWANER PRESERVE & ECOCENTER, SANDHILL CRANES, & MORE\*

**Time:** 7:00 am – 11:00 am   **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$40   **Guide(s):** Rhea Cone and Vivian Schneggenburger

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.

*\*Special guest Fiona Gillogly, nature journaler, will be participating in this trip for those interested in a closer look at what nature journaling involves. We invite you to bring your own nature journal or sketchbook to try your hand at the process.*

**Meeting Location:** Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter

**Activity Level:** Active

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds

**Spots:** 15



Photo by Justice Adam Photography

## FRIDAY • MAY 19 • CONTINUED

### 17. INLAND SEA SHOREBIRD RESERVE

**Time:** 7:00 am – 1:00 pm **Transportation:** Van(s) **Cost:** \$80

**Guide(s):** Ann Neville, Ella Sorensen, and **Keynote Speaker:** Mark Stackhouse

Experience Rio Tinto Kennecott's Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve that is not open to the general public. Visit over 8,000 acres of private land managed just for shorebirds on the edge of Great Salt Lake. Shallow ponds or playas invite avocets, Black-necked Stilts, willets, migrating 'peeps' and one of the few places to consistently see Snowy Plovers. Prairie type sparrows, larks, pipits, shrike, hawks and falcons are possible. Access to some areas may be limited with wet weather. Depending on time and conditions access to bird Gillmor Sanctuary may be possible. This trip includes light walking with probable muddy conditions. It is recommended to bring an extra spotting scope if possible.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds

**Spots:** 20

### 18. BIRDING DIAMOND FORK CANYON

**Time:** 7:00 am – 2:00 pm **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$30 **Guide(s):** Keeli Marvel and Terri Pope

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 Wren, Sage Thrasher, Red-naped Sapsucker, Fox Sparrow. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, and lunch.

**Meeting Location:** Springville

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders

**Target Species:** raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 15

### 19. UTAH COUNTY DAYTIME HOTSPOTS

**Time:** 7:00 am – 3:00 pm **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$35 **Guide(s):** Suzi Holt, Jessica Holt, and Amanda Tinoco

We will begin our trip in the Genola Goshen Canyon area. We hope to see Blue Grosbeak, Yellow-breasted Chat, Sora, Virginia Rails, Canyon Wren and some waterfowl and shorebirds. Looking out for Short-eared, Great-horned, and Barn Owls. We will continue along Elberta Slant Rd. looking for Long-billed Curlew, Burrowing Owl and Gray Vireo. Lunch break in Eureka. Then we will explore the East Tintic Mountains for Juniper Titmouse, flycatchers, vireos and warblers.

**Meeting Location:** Payson

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 25

## 20. MANTUA RESERVOIR AND SURROUNDING AREA

**Time:** 7:30 am – 11:30 am **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$25 **Guide(s):** Valerie Frokjer and Dickson Smith

Mantua Reservoir is located in Box Elder canyon at the edge of the small town of Mantua. The reservoir is lined with Cottonwood trees that are great for finding birds. We will do some walking and driving as we explore around the reservoir and surrounding fields looking for waterfowl, waterbirds, tweety birds, and a nesting Bald Eagle family.

**Meeting Location:** Mantua Reservoir

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Bald Eagle, loons, ducks, grebes, sparrows, warblers, Bullock's Oriole, Lazuli Bunting, Western Tanager, swallows, Gray Catbird, Black-headed Grosbeak, Sandhill Cranes, raptors, Wild Turkeys, woodpeckers, gulls, terns

**Spots:** 20

## 21. MORGAN COUNTY BACKYARD BIRDING

**Time:** 7:30 am – 2:00 pm **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$30 **Guide(s):** Weston Smith and Arnold Smith

Some of the best birding in Morgan County is found in the backyards of the houses in the small towns of Morgan and Croydon. Cavity-nesting Tree Swallows, House Wrens, and American Kestrel will be target birds. Bird feeders will be attracting Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles, Cassin's Finches, Lazuli Buntings, and hummingbirds. This trip has averaged 65 species per year and surprises are possible. We will also bird along the Weber River looking for large nesting birds such as raptors and herons. There may be periods of standing, short mostly flat land walking, and watching bird feeders.

**Meeting Location:** Morgan

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

## 22. SAGE-STEPPE BIRDING AT PROMONTORY POINT

**Time:** 8:00 am – 1:00 pm **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus

**Cost:** \$60 **Guide(s):** Amanda Hayes-Puttfarcken and Jim Parrish

This trip will have stops from the wetlands and riparian areas from Bear River Bay and travel through the uplands as we focus on the sagebrush and upland communities of the Promontory Peninsula. We will see birds associated with each habitat as we move from the lower wetlands at the edge of the lake up to the slopes and ridges of the mountains. Highlights are seeing the different communities for different habitats, and typically find grassland, upland, and sagebrush associated birds, like Long-Billed Curlews and Sage Thrashers. We will also be near some non-bird points of interest like Golden Spike National Historic Park, where the transcontinental railroad was finished.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Long-billed Curlew, Short-eared Owl, Grasshopper Sparrow, Sage Thrasher, Sagebrush Sparrow, and Brewer's Sparrow

**Spots:** 20

## FRIDAY • MAY 19 • CONTINUED

### 23. RESEARCH BOAT TOUR ON THE GREAT SALT LAKE\*

**Time:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm or 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm   **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$50   **Guide(s):** John Luft, Jim Van Leeuwen, and Kyle Stone

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.

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

*\*Trip is weather and water level dependent. Water level will be determined on May 5, 2023. Weather date, Sunday, May 21, 2023.*

**Meeting Location:** Great Salt Lake State Park Marina

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** Eared Grebes, various gulls

**Spots:** 8

### 24. BURROWING OWLS OF ANTELOPE ISLAND

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm   **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus

**Cost:** \$55\*   **Guide(s):** Melissa Halvorsen and Renata Vazquez

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.

*\*Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** owls

**Spots:** 22

### 25. UTAH COUNTY EVENING HOTSPOTS

**Time:** 5:00 pm – 9:30 pm   **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$30   **Guide(s):** KC Childs and Janae Redke

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-gray 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:** Utah Lake State Park

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, songbirds

**Spots:** 25

## 26. ANTELOPE ISLAND OWL PROWL

**Time:** 5:00 pm – 9:30 pm    **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus

**Cost:** \$55\*    **Guide(s):** Melissa Halvorsen and Renata Vazquez

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. This is a 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. *\*Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** owls

**Spots:** 22

## SATURDAY • MAY 20

## 27. OGDEN BAY: BEHIND THE GATES

**Time:** 6:00 am – 1:00 pm    **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$75    **Guide(s):** Mike Hearrell and Connor Johnson

Join us for a new trip behind the gates at Ogden Bay. We will explore the wetlands, mudflats, and uplands for shorebirds. There is open water for waterfowl viewing. Then we will explore the trees along the edges for migrants passing through. Make sure to bring your own binoculars, scope, snacks and your ears. Bug spray and a head net are recommended.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** shorebirds, raptors, migrant trap for songbirds and warblers, Long-billed Curlew, avocets, Black-necked Stilts, waterfowl

**Spots:** 12

## 28. ANTELOPE ISLAND CAUSEWAY

**Time:** 6:30 am – 11:30 am    **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$45\*    **Guide(s):** Alex Patia

Join Wildlife Expeditions guide Alex Patia on a driving tour of the Antelope Island Causeway in search of primarily shorebirds as well as some waterfowl. Expect good numbers of Eared Grebe, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, and especially Red-necked Phalarope. Time allowing we will also explore the north end of Antelope Island for Burrowing Owls and other upland species.

*\*Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** shorebirds, waterfowl

**Spots:** 11

# SATURDAY • MAY 20 • CONTINUED

## 29. MIST NETTING AND BIRD BANDING AT FARMINGTON CREEK

**Time:** 7:00 am – 9:00 am    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$25    **Guide(s):** Russ Lawrence and Jace Taylor

Participants will learn how and why biologist use fine “mist” nets for trapping small birds, proper safety and handling of birds, and how birds are measured, weighed, and banded. They will also learn how the data is used for bird conservation. Participants will have the opportunity to assist (barring any avian flu outbreaks like we had in 2022) in handling and photo ops with the birds before they are released back into the wild. Best Management Practices will be in place to assure the safety and well-being of both the bird and the participants.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Accessible

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Flycatcher (sp.), Song Sparrow, Bullock’s Oriole, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Audubon’s Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Lincoln’s Sparrow, Marsh Wren, and anything else willing to get caught in our nets.

**Spots:** 20

## 30. BEHIND THE GATES AT LEGACY NATURE PRESERVE

**Time:** 7:00 am – 12:00 pm    **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$60    **Guide(s):** Andrea Nelson

This is a rare opportunity to go behind the gates at Legacy Nature Preserve. You will be guided along remnant oxbow features of the Jordan River to view migrant and resident waterfowl and shorebirds. You will also be treated to views of one of only four, known, active Bald Eagle nests in northern Utah. Rubber boots are advised.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, galliformes, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 12

## 31. BIRDING BY EAR

**Time:** 7:00 am – 12:00 pm    **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$55    **Guide(s):** Merrill Webb

This field trip will focus on listening to the songs and calls of common Utah birds first in a small group setting and then visiting nearby locales in Davis County where these birds will be setting up their territories.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** woodpeckers, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 10

### 32. CACHE VALLEY HOTSPOTS

**Time:** 7:00 am – 2:00 pm **Transportation:** Bus

**Cost:** \$60 **Guide(s):** Jim Parrish and **Keynote Speaker:** Mark Stackhouse

Cache Valley is one of the lesser known birding hotspots in the West. Our trip will reveal the area's great diversity and wealth of birds and other wildlife secrets. The trip will visit a variety of habitats and microclimates, ranging from sub-alpine forest to fast-flowing trout streams and semi-desert savanna to wetlands. We will also see The Barrens, a Bridgerland Audubon Chapter sanctuary project.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Active

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** White-faced Ibis, American Dipper, Great Horned Owl, and Bewick's Wren

**Spots:** 50

### 33. UTAH COUNTY DAYTIME HOTSPOTS

**Time:** 7:00 am – 3:00 pm **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$35 **Guide(s):** Suzi Holt, Jessica Holt, and Amanda Tinoco

We will begin our trip in the Genola Goshen Canyon area. We hope to see Blue Grosbeak, Yellow-breasted Chat, Sora, Virginia Rails, Canyon Wren and some waterfowl and shorebirds. Looking out for Short-eared, Great-horned, and Barn Owls. We will continue along Elberta Slant Rd. looking for Long-billed Curlew, Burrowing Owl and Gray Vireo. Lunch break in Eureka. Then we will explore the East Tintic Mountains for Juniper Titmouse, flycatchers, vireos and warblers.

**Meeting Location:** Payson

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 25

### 34. BOUNTIFUL POND

**Time:** 7:30 am – 10:00 am **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$20 **Guide(s):** Ian Batterman

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.

**Meeting Location:** Bountiful Pond

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

# SATURDAY • MAY 20 • CONTINUED

## 35. MORGAN COUNTY BACKYARD BIRDING

**Time:** 7:30 am – 2:00 pm    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$30    **Guide(s):** Weston Smith and Arnold Smith

Some of the best birding in Morgan County is found in the backyards of the houses in the small towns of Morgan and Croydon. Cavity-nesting Tree Swallows, House Wrens, and American Kestrel will be target birds. Bird feeders will be attracting Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles, Cassin's Finches, Lazuli Buntings, and hummingbirds. This trip has averaged 65 species per year and surprises are possible. We will also bird along the Weber River looking for large nesting birds such as raptors and herons. There may be periods of standing, short mostly flat land walking, and watching bird feeders.

**Meeting Location:** Morgan

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

## 36. BIRDING BY ELECTRIC BIKE

**Time:** 8:00 am – 10:00 am    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$65\*    **Guide(s):** Jordan Herman and Sammy Riccio

Join us for an easy 4.5-mile ride on e-bikes (electric bikes) along the Jordan River Parkway. This is one of the best places to find birds and other wildlife in the city, and all the energy you'll save peddling less can be spent on looking for birds. You're sure to see blackbirds, swallows, waterfowl, and songbirds. Raptors, quail, and wading birds are strong possibilities. We'll be sure to stop for plenty of birding breaks along the way. Please note that although using e-bikes is less strenuous than riding traditional bikes, participants should be in good health and able to walk 2-3 miles at a brisk pace without difficulty.

*\*Ticket includes electric bike and helmet rental.*

**Meeting Location:** West Valley City

**Activity Level:** Active

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, galliformes, raptors, swallows, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 15

## 37. BIRDING FOR FAMILIES

**Time:** 9:00 am – 11:00 am    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$15    **Guide(s):** Laura Cleveland and Chris Butler

If you've been looking for a way to get the whole family into birding, this field trip is the perfect opportunity. Participants will get the chance to meet a live bird, explore the features that attract birds to the environment, learn how to use binoculars and field guides, and look for wild birds at Red Butte Gardens, one of Salt Lake's easily accessible birding hotspots. This program is designed for families with children ages five and up.

**Meeting Location:** Red Butte Garden Visitor Center, Salt Lake City

**Activity Level:** Accessible

**Good For:** Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** galliformes, raptors, swallows, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

### 38. BEGINNING BIRDING: FARMINGTON BAY

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$15 (kids under 10 free, registration required)

**Guide(s):** Dallin Henderson and Max Malmquist

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

You are invited to join us in the classroom at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center for a free one hour workshop for beginners and families starting at 1:00 pm just prior to the field trip. We will discuss bird identification and the common backyard birds in the Farmington area.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Canada Goose, Mallard, Pied-billed Grebe, American Coot, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, California Gull, Forster's Tern, American White Pelican, Yellow-headed Blackbird and Red-winged Blackbird

**Spots:** 20

## SUNDAY • MAY 21

### 39. EAST CANYON STATE PARK

**Time:** 5:00 am – 12:00 pm    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$35    **Guide(s):** Weston Smith and Chris Haramoto

We will begin at the Henefer Lek to look for the Greater Sage-Grouse. The 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.

**Meeting Location:** East Canyon State Park

**Activity Level:** Easy to Moderate

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Greater Sage-Grouse, Golden Eagles, Mountain Bluebirds

**Spots:** 25

### 40. BIRD THE WEST DESERT & PONY EXPRESS TRAIL

**Time:** 6:00 am – 3:00 pm    **Transportation:** Van(s)

**Cost:** \$105    **Guide(s):** Keeli Marvel and **Keynote Speaker:** Mark Stackhouse

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.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

# SUNDAY • MAY 21 • CONTINUED

## 41. MARATHON BIRDING

**Time:** 6:00 am – 11:59 pm **Transportation:** Van

**Guide(s):** Tim Avery, Jeff Bilsky, Mike Hearell, and Kenny Frisch

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 Pitta Tours of course! Join Mike, Kenny, 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 14 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 Pitta Tours at [pittatours.com](http://pittatours.com) to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.*

## 42. ANTELOPE ISLAND CAUSEWAY

**Time:** 6:30 am – 11:30 am **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$45\* **Guide(s):** Alex Patia

Join Wildlife Expeditions guide Alex Patia on a driving tour of the Antelope Island Causeway in search of primarily shorebirds as well as some waterfowl. Expect good numbers of Eared Grebe, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, and especially Red-necked Phalarope. Time allowing we will also explore the north end of Antelope Island for Burrowing Owls and other upland species.

*\*Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** shorebirds, waterfowl

**Spots:** 11

## 43. BIRDS OF THE GREAT SALT LAKE

**Time:** 7:00 am – 8:00 pm **Transportation:** Van

**Cost:** \$125\* **Guide(s):** Bryant Olsen

Join Tracy Aviary's Conservation Ecologist, Bryant Olsen, as you explore the different habitats at Great Salt Lake from freshwater wetlands, playas and mudflats to open saltwater as well as upland steppe of the lake's islands and peninsulas to understand the numbers and diversity of birds that make this an internationally significant ecosystem and a great place to go birding. *\*Ticket includes head net.*

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced Birders, Intermediate Birders, Beginning Birders

**Target Species:** waterfowl, galliformes, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, corvids, songbirds

**Spots:** 11

#### 44. BOUNTIFUL POND

**Time:** 7:30 am – 10:00 am    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$20    **Guide(s):** Sharee Harrison and Will Harrod

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.

**Meeting Location:** Bountiful Pond

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

#### 45. BIRDING BY KAYAK/PADDLEBOARD ON ANDY ADAM'S RESERVOIR

**Time:** 8:00 am – 10:00 am    **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$45\*    **Guide(s):** Adam Blundell and Marzena Blundell

Enjoy a gentle paddle across and around the reservoir. While trying to not flush waterfowl, we'll head out on the water to gain a better view. Adam's Reservoir is easily accessible to the parking lot, however the reservoir is very difficult to bird with a lack of trails and impassable terrain. Using paddleboards and kayaks will allow visitors to gain greater access to the far shores and interior lake.

*Weather permitting. \*Ticket includes kayak and life jacket rental.*

**Meeting Location:** Adam's Reservoir

**Activity Level:** Active

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Double-crested Cormorants, Osprey, Common Loon, waterfowl, coots

**Spots:** 20

#### 46. SPIRAL JETTY ADVENTURE

**Time:** 8:00 am – 4:00 pm    **Transportation:** Bus

**Cost:** \$75    **Guide(s):** Jaimi Butler and Max Malmquist

Spiral Jetty, one of the world's most iconic examples of land art, is also a birders paradise! On the long drive through the grassland and sagebrush landscape, we will surely see many raptors including Ferruginous Hawks, Swainson's Hawks and Golden Eagles. Once at Spiral Jetty, amidst the hypersaline (and very pink) waters we will encounter American White Pelicans that breed on the remote Gunnison Island, flying overhead in their daily search for fish in the lake's eastern freshwater wetlands.

National Audubon's Max Malmquist will help us try to find Grasshopper and Sagebrush Sparrows, Long-billed Curlews and Snowy Plovers. As a steward of Spiral Jetty and avid GSL nerd, Jaimi Butler will help explore the ecology, history and the art of Spiral Jetty.

**Meeting Location:** Eccles Wildlife Education Center

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Good For:** Intermediate Birders

**Target Species:** shorebirds, raptors, songbirds

**Spots:** 24

# SUNDAY • MAY 21 • CONTINUED

## 47. BIRDING FOR FAMILIES

**Time:** 9:00 am – 11:00 am **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$15 **Guide(s):** Melissa Halvorsen and Renata Vazquez

If you've been looking for a way to get the whole family into birding, this field trip is the perfect opportunity. Participants will get the chance to meet a live bird, explore the features that attract birds to the environment, learn how to use binoculars and field guides, and look for wild birds at Red Butte Gardens, one of Salt Lake's easily accessible birding hotspots. This program is designed for families with children ages five and up.

**Meeting Location:** Red Butte Garden Visitor Center, Salt Lake City

**Activity Level:** Accessible

**Good For:** Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** galliformes, raptors, swallows, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

## 48. KAYSVILLE PONDS AND USU BOTANICAL CENTER

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$20 **Guide(s):** Sharee Harrison and Adam Blundell

Located off I-15, Kaysville Ponds are home to a network of family friendly walking trails in a beautiful wetland environment. This trip involves walking around the pond and down the walkway through the trees. The pond provides a stopover area for many gulls and waterfowl, and the surrounding trees and fields homes for many songbirds, owls, and other birds with close viewing opportunities.

**Meeting Location:** Kaysville Ponds

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

**Spots:** 20

## 49. KAYSVILLE EAST MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS PARK

**Time:** 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm **Transportation:** Self-Drive

**Cost:** \$20 **Guide(s):** Adam Blundell and Marzena Blundell

The Kaysville East Mountain Wilderness Park is an easily accessible park with a parking lot and trails following the Bonneville Shoreline area. This wilderness park features scrub oak patches and several small creeks. While good for birding year round, our target species will be the Lazuli Buntings! If you are looking for a chance to see these beautiful little blue birds, this field trip is one of your best chances, with an ideal habitat.

**Meeting Location:** Kaysville East Mountain Wilderness Park

**Activity Level:** Moderate (There is a dirt path that is easy to walk, but uneven and unpaved.)

**Good For:** Advanced, Intermediate, Beginning Birders, Families with Children

**Target Species:** Lazuli Buntings, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Black-capped Chickadees, Woodhouse's Scrub Jay, and possibly both Broad-tailed Hummingbird and Black-chinned Hummingbird.

**Spots:** 20

# SAVE THE DATE

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26th Annual Great Salt Lake Bird Festival  
**May 16-19, 2024**

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2024 Bird: Long-billed Curlew



Photo by Ila Jean Larson

# 2023 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY • MAY 18

1.	Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge: Behind the Gates	7am - 1pm
2.	Mist Netting and Bird Banding at Farmington Creek	7am or 9am
3.	Birding by Kayak at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center	7am or 10am
4.	Jordanelle Wetlands and Heber Fields	7am - 12pm
5.	Photography at Farmington Bay	8am - 12pm
6.	Birding Rockport by Canoe/Kayak	8am - 3pm
7.	American Kestrel	9am - 1pm
8.	Burrowing Owls of Antelope Island	2pm - 5pm
9.	Antelope Island Owl Prowl	5pm - 9:30pm
10.	Mountain Owls	8pm - 11:59pm

## FRIDAY • MAY 19

11.	Antelope Island Birding	6am - 1pm
12.	Wetland Birding at Farmington Bay WMA	6:30am - 11:30am
13.	Mist Netting and Bird Banding at Farmington Creek	7am or 9am
14.	Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge: Behind the Gates	7am - 1pm
15.	Birding by Kayak at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center	7am or 10am
16.	Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter, Sandhill Cranes, and More	7am - 11am
17.	Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve	7am - 1pm
18.	Birding Diamond Fork Canyon	7am - 2pm
19.	Utah County Daytime Hotspots	7am - 3pm
20.	Mantua Reservoir and Surrounding Area	7:30am - 11:30am
21.	Morgan County Backyard Birding	7:30am - 2pm
22.	Sage-Steppe Birding at Promontory Point	8am - 1pm
23.	Research Boat Tour on the Great Salt Lake	10am or 1pm
24.	Burrowing Owls of Antelope Island	2pm - 5pm
25.	Utah County Evening Hotspots	5pm - 9:30pm
26.	Antelope Island Owl Prowl	5pm - 9:30pm

## SATURDAY • MAY 20

27.	Ogden Bay: Behind the Gates	6am - 1pm
28.	Antelope Island Causeway	6:30am - 11:30am
29.	Mist Netting and Bird Banding at Farmington Creek	7am - 9am
30.	Behind the Gates at Legacy Nature Preserve	7am - 12pm
31.	Birding by Ear	7am - 12pm
32.	Cache Valley Hotspots	7am - 2pm
33.	Utah County Daytime Hotspots	7am - 3pm
34.	Bountiful Pond	7:30am - 10am
35.	Morgan County Backyard Birding	7:30am - 2pm
36.	Birding by Electric Bike	8am - 10am
37.	Birding for Families	9am - 11am
38.	Beginning Birding: Farmington Bay	2pm - 5pm

## SUNDAY • MAY 21

39.	East Canyon State Park	5am - 12pm
40.	Bird the West Desert & Pony Express Trail	6am - 3pm
41.	Marathon Birding	6am - 11:59pm
42.	Antelope Island Causeway	6:30am - 11:30am
43.	Birds of the Great Salt Lake	7am - 8pm
44.	Bountiful Pond	7:30am - 10am
45.	Birding by Kayak/Paddleboard on Andy Adam's Reservoir	8am - 10am
46.	Spiral Jetty Adventure	8am - 4pm
47.	Birding for Families	9am - 11am
48.	Kaysville Ponds and USU Botanical Center	2pm - 4pm
49.	Kaysville East Mountain Wilderness Park	6pm - 7:30pm



Scan for a detailed  
list of field trip  
meeting locations.



GREAT SALT LAKE  
**BIRD FESTIVAL**

PO Box 618

Farrington, UT 84025

[www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com](http://www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com)



Photo by Tim Avery