

BlackHawk Watch

A stylized black hawk in flight, positioned between the words 'BlackHawk' and 'Watch' in the title. The hawk is black with white underparts and is shown in profile, flying towards the right.

Newsletter of the Northern Arizona Audubon Society

October 2022

October, 2022



Curve-billed Thrasher
By Dennis Tomko

BlackHawk Watch

Newsletter of the Northern Arizona Audubon Society October, 2022

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About our cover bird, Curve-billed Thrasher

- The oldest recorded Curve-billed Thrasher was at least 10 years, 9 months old when it was found in Arizona in 1946. It had been banded in the same state in 1936
- Your best bet for finding a Curve-billed Thrasher is to listen for a whistle "like someone hailing a taxi."
- Curve-billed thrashers sometimes reuse the nests from earlier breeding seasons. Their nests are usually at heights of 3-5 ft (0.9-1.5 m) above the ground. They build their nests most commonly in the fork of cholla cactus, throng shrubs, prickly-pear cactus, mistletoe clumps, yucca.
- The conservation status of the curve-billed thrasher is Least Concern .



<https://www.northernarizonaaudubon.org/>

Our Mission Statement:

"To promote the understanding and appreciation of birds and other wildlife and the conservation and restoration of their natural habitats."

Most of the articles in this newsletter have been contributed by our NAAS members. You are invited to join us. Please submit articles or notes to:

nazaudubon@northernarizonaaudubon.org



THURSDAY! October 27, 2022. Sedona Public Library, 5:30 social time, 6:00 program begins.

Title: Birds and Mistletoes by Bob Mathiasen

Synopsis: Mistletoes are parasitic flowering plants that grow on a variety of trees throughout much of the World. Although mistletoes are primarily distributed in tropical regions, there are two native groups of mistletoes found in the United States. These are the dwarf mistletoes and the leafy mistletoes. Although most mistletoes have their seeds dispersed by birds, only the leafy mistletoes primarily depend on birds for their spread from one tree to another. In this presentation, we will delve into the biology and classification of the mistletoes commonly found near Sedona and discuss some of the birds that are involved in their dispersal. Specimens of the mistletoes found around Sedona will be available for observation.

Bio: Robert Mathiasen retired from teaching at NAU in 2019. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in the 1970s and has been studying mistletoes ever since. He has cooperated with the publication of many articles on mistletoes and recently published a book on the identification of these fascinating parasitic plants for the U.S. and Canada. He has lived in Sedona since 2008. He and his wife, Carolyn, enjoy birding and it has become one of their favorite pastimes.





Save Water (and birds), Drink Mead

Tuesday, October 25 · 7:00 – 8:30pm

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

1601 N San Francisco St, Flagstaff, AZ 86001, USA

Topic: As the Southwest continues to see blatant reminders of our parched landscape and drought, we look to reduce our use in any ways we can. One of those ways might surprise you. Our choice of alcoholic beverages could be one of the many threads that is attached to this issue, and mead happens to have an enormously small fraction of water use in its production.

Brief Bio: Nick Irvine was a High School science teacher for 9 years here in Arizona. In 2015, he quit teaching to pursue another dream, starting a brewery. He has since moved over to the mead side and has fallen in love with so many of the aspects of fermented honey, now working as the Ambassador of Buzz for Drinking Horn Meadery.





The Natural Resources Conservation District sponsored “A Day In The Garden” on September 17 at Verde River Growers in Cottonwood. NAAS, of course, entered a booth since the day was dedicated to environmental –themed organizations. It was a big success with many people visiting our booth and expressing an interest in birding. NAAS even had a speaker on the schedule: Rich Armstrong

talked about backyard birding and even had bird feeders to illustrate his theme. Our thanks go to Sally Reynolds, Rich Armstrong, and Karin Slavey for making the booth a big win.

The 33rd Annual Verde River Day was held on September 24 at Dead Horse Ranch State Park and NAAS was there with a booth. This is always a huge event featuring non-profit exhibitors , most of which are environmentally oriented. It is a free entrance day at the Park and also includes free non-licensed fishing for a day. Our thanks go to Sally Reynolds and Karin Slavey for staffing our booth and for engaging visitors is “bird-talk”. As has always been the case, many people stopped by our booth and were educated about NAAS by our great volunteers.

Free Event 9 AM - 3 PM
Saturday, September 24th

at Deadhorse Ranch State Park

After 2 long years, we are so glad to be back!
Come One - Come All to celebrate our river!
You don't want to miss this!



**Fishing - Fun -
Food - Hikes -
Entertainment -
Exhibits - and
Activities Galore**

CottonwoodChamberAZ.org for more info!



Support Our Birds - Seed Campaign

“Big Sit” Arm Chair Bird Watching with NAAS at Dead Horse State Park

We need your help to keep feeding the birds! We have some important bird feeding programs here in the Verde Valley, but as they have expanded and costs have increased, we need help to keep them going.

NAAS is raising funds to feed birds for educational purposes. Your support of this Seed Campaign is essential to the success of our educational programs. Plus, you'll also ensure many hours of bird-watching pleasure while learning more about our most prevalent watchable wildlife.

A little history:

NAAS has provided seed at the Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival for bird watching pleasure for many years. The practice was to lure birds by filling the feeders a month before the festival. Happy birders sat and socialized while watching birds. Once the festival was over, the birds were on their own.

Patti Greenelch, NAAS Board member and Education Committee Chair, saw a need for those feeders to be stocked more often. For several years, she personally supplied the seed at the Dead Horse State Park Arm Chair Birding site in all months (except summer when seed is plentiful and fledglings are being taught to forage in the wild.)

Community members would give her a donation to assist in her costly attendance to the birds. But when NAAS learned that both the birds and Community were benefiting greatly from Patti's efforts, we began picking up the tab.

Last year our seed budget bloomed from \$250 to \$1,500. Costs were mainly spent at Dead Horse Arm Chair birding; but also by providing seed for a “Bird Garden” at Mountain View Elementary School in Cottonwood – another of Patti's brilliant achievements.

Support Our Birds, con't

However, doing this on a yearly basis will surely eat into our operating expenses. So we are instituting a fall fundraiser: **Support Our Birds - Seed Campaign**. You can donate toward this project by visiting the donation tab on the NAAS website <https://nazaudubon.app.neoncrm.com/forms/seed-support>

The last thing we want to do is stop this practice which is beloved by the Community, essential to our Education Programs and wonderful for the birds. So instead, we are looking to increase it. With your support, we can expand these and other educational opportunities.

Thank you in advance for your donation!

Kay Hawkle, President

Email us with
a click here:

nazaudubon@northernarizonaudubon.org





I was joined by 3 folks on August 27th for a long hike in **Oak Creek Canyon**. It was a cool morning with a very unexpected Logger-head Shrike! Expected, but always great to see was an Olive-sided Flycatcher. Perfect hiking weather ended in a few rain sprinkles just as we got to the cars. But we got to see up close Mountain Chickadees and Pygmy Nuthatches taking a bath in a puddle, so we weren't the only ones to get a tiny bit wet! We did prove what we set out to - exercise and birding does work!

Trip Leader: Kay Hawkle



Logger-head Shrike by Eric Gofreed



Mountain Chickadee by Eric Gofreed

On Sept 6th I was joined by 5 ladies for a 1 hour walk around the **Sedona Wetlands**. It was already hot at 830 and we expected nothing. 1st a Nashville Warbler semi cooperated along the trail. At the big pond we had a Neotropic Cormorant, the over summering Bufflehead, 2 likely early arriving Ring-necked Ducks and a couple Killdeer. Then 5 Killdeer flew in and brought with them a Baird's, a Western, and 2 Least Sandpipers for a nice comparison. I showed the ladies these



Osprey at Sedona Wetlands
by Lilla Khalsa

birds had all come from the Arctic tundra. On the walk back we had a close perched Osprey, a Zone-tailed Hawk flying in the wrong direction, and

in pond 1 a young American Coot, probably 2 2nd or 3rd clutch bird. As we were all getting in the cars a flock of about 20 Pinyon Jays flew past super fast. We expected nothing and had a very good hour!

Trip Leader: Rich Armstrong

To see the most recent field trip and event postings, please go to our website calendar by clicking on this green box.



On **September 10th** I was joined by 10 people at the **V Bar V**. You know it's a great morning when 12-15 Coatimundi pass over your head on a vine! And the birds were fantastic too! Excited to join their first field trip ever were three new birders. A light rain



Coati (seen on trip) by Jack Hallin

fell which not one person complained about. It cooled off the morning and brought out the birds. Early on we had a "a strand of silky flycatchers" - Phainopepla. We saw a nest they used during the summer. They have two broods per year and leave this area to breed in their other habitat - both in the same year. The area's One-seed Junipers are beginning to provide fruit for most of the 40 species we saw. We had fun discerning the different species with crests: Juniper Titmouse, Northern Cardinal, and Phainopepla. But the real stars of the show were the 12-15 Coatimundi - babies and adults! Notable was the lack of warblers - they have largely gone South and we look for their return by the festival time next year.

Trip Leader: Kay Hawkle

On **September 12th** I was joined by 5 folks birding **Crescent Moon Ranch** on an almost-perfect Monday morning. This was the first field trip ever for one of the participants who enjoyed close up looks at Bridled Titmouse; Vermillion Flycatchers - both male & female; Summer Tanagers - both male & female; Say's and Black Phoebes and many more species. High-



Woodhouses's Scrub Jay
Macaulay Library

lights were Woodhouse's Scrub Jays attempting to steal food from an American Kestrel. (Thank you Becky for your sharp spotting of this event!) Noticeable absence of warblers which have moved South. Crescent Moon Ranch is a favorite birding spot for its abundant birds right out in front of the parking area and restrooms!

Trip Leader: Kay Hawkle





On **September 14th** I was joined by 6 folks for a walk around the **Bubbling Ponds**. Finally we were blessed with a cool morning. We set out around the ponds and found some Spotted Sandpipers doing their bobbing dance. Saw both male and female



Spotted Sandpiper by Eric Gofreed

Vermilion Flycatcher. We were graced by the presence of the always stunning Common Black Hawk perched for all to see. Lots of White throated Swifts flying high above. Bells Vireo we're singing through the mesquite bosque. Also a coyote crossed the trail ahead of us. There were also lots of butterflies and hummingbird moths out in the back field on the Black Hawk trail. Beautiful Wood Ducks both male and female. All in all we had 39 species and a great bird walk for the middle of September.

Trip Leader: Janie Stewart

There were 8 of us who met at **Babbit Tank on September 17** and were overwhelmed by the large amount of sparrows and warblers that greeted us: Brewer's, Lark, White-crowns plus Green-tailed Towhees; Wilson's, Orange-crowned and Yellow Warblers. Our time there was capped off with a large flock of Pinyon Jays flying over !We tore ourselves away and went to our next stop - **Meteor Crater RV park**. We were immediately overwhelmed again by the number of species and individuals. Out of place, but fun to see, were Belted Kingfisher and an Osprey. That left us wondering where the closest fishing spot is? Five of us drove on to John **Lake Playa** where we immediately saw a large group of Long-billed Curlew. We also saw Avocet, Phalarope, ducks and quick peeps at peeps. These migrant traps were doing their job of feeding migrants on their way to their wintering grounds. It was super fun to bird with many sharp eyes when hunting for migrating birds. -

Trip Leader: Kay Hawlee



Pinyon Jays—MacCaulay Library



On **Sept 18th** I was joined by 10 folks including 3 1st timers for a 1 hour walk around the **Sedona Wetlands**. Weather was great, but it was a slow day. We all looked at 100+ Violet-green Swallows



Violet-green Swallow by Eric Gofreed

and I found 1 Cliff Swallow. All had scope looks at Phainopeplas, a male Summer Tanager, ducks (Shovelers, Wigeon, Cinnamon Teal, Ring-necked, Rudy) and 1 Spotted Sandpiper.

Trip Leader: Rich Armstrong



Common Yellow-throat by MacAulay Library

I was joined by 4 folks on **Sept 24th** for a 1 hour walk around the **Sedona Wetlands**. All had scope views of Western & Eared Grebes, Osprey, Phainopepla, Neotropic Cormorant, Spotted Sandpiper, Black & Say's Phoebes, and the usual ducks.

Trip Leader Rich Armstrong



Western Grebe by Dennis Tomko

I was joined by 2 birders braving the rain on **Sept 21st at Verde River-Tuzigoot Rd** and Indian Spring. The rain turned out to be mild and light. We birded from the parking lot South and had looks at lingering migrant Common Yellowthroat. Figuring out if a female bird is either a Common Yellowthroat or a Nashville Warbler was a fun puzzle when getting brief glimpses. Summer Tanager males were still there and purring. After birding there, we went on a special jaunt to Indian Spring where we heard a Great Horned Owl! It was a great morning - rain just cooled it off and wasn't a hindrance to our birding at all!

Kay Hawkle



On Sunday, **September 26th** eight of us began the journey to find Shorebirds and/or Terns that might be visiting the targeted **Lake Mary Road lakes**. To our surprise we were inundated with passerines at our first stop at the South end of Lower Lake Mary; including both Western and Mountain Bluebirds. The surprise bird was a Rock Wren - on a rock - in the middle of the field. We progressed to other lakes where we had good looks at Red-naped Sapsucker, Orange-crowned and MacGillivray's Warblers, Lincoln Sparrows, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk. Not one shorebird, but many passerines that were fun to observe. We were treated to the weird nasal calls of Pinyon Jays at two different stops. We didn't have any shorebirds or terns and few ducks, but the passerines and camaraderie made up for it!

Trip Leader: Kay Hawklee



Rock Wren by Eric Gofreed

Kachina Wetlands Field Trip September 24, 2002

Our field trip was graced with sunshine after three days of morning rain. Eleven people participated, and of those, four had never been on an NAAS field trip. It's always nice when new people show up, especially when they are as interested and appreciative as these folks were. We saw 23 species during our two-hour walk. Due to the productive monsoon season, most of the pond basins had more weeds than water, so duck numbers were low. However, a pair of American Kestrels captivated us with their interactions, and we were treated to a long look at a perched Cooper's Hawk. It was a raptor-filled morning, with a pair of Red-tailed Hawks as well. Western Bluebirds and Yellow-headed Blackbirds were abundant, and we also saw Violet-green and Barn Swallows. Alas, no herons or ospreys, yet in all, it was a delightful morning.

Trip Leader: Christina Vojta



Yellow-headed Blackbird by Gary Botello



I was joined by 4 folks for Northern Arizona Audubon's **1st Big Sit on Sept. 20th at the Dead Horse State Park** feeders. We sat, chatted and learned. At first we thought there was a female Black-headed Grosbeak, then we realized that it was a first-year male. Very fun puzzle! Sally Reynolds came along to put a net below the feeders to catch excess seeds - so we learned more about feeding birds while not wasting the seed. We had 15 species without ever leaving the picnic tables! Northern Arizona Audubon is planning Big Sits there every Tuesday in October at 9 AM for an hour.

Kay Hawklee





Field Trips Are Great!! You Can Help Support Them.

This is a note From Rich Armstrong:



Rich Armstrong, Field Trip Coordinator,
Below the Rim

As all of you know all Northern Audubon Society field trips are FREE FREE FREE. We are reasonably sure they will continue to be FREE FREE FREE.

Quite a few people have asked if they could support the field trips

The answer is you can - if you want to donate to NAAS and to have that donation designated for field trips you can. This helps not only field trips, but the sanctuaries they go to - Sedona Wetlands, Bubbling Ponds, Kachina Wetlands, and Picture Canyon.

Please do NOT give money to field trip leaders, rather go to northernarizonaaudubon.org, and on far right of the menu click on field trip fund donation. You can use your credit card to make a one-time donation or a recurring monthly donation. Donations may be deductible; ask your tax accountant.

To see the most recent field trip and event postings, please go to our website calendar by clicking on this green box.



Tuesday, October 4, 2022 Big Sit Birdwatching - Dead Horse State Park @ Armchair Birding feeders	Tuesday, October 18, 2022 Bubbling Ponds Preserve
Wednesday, October 5, 2022 Ogden Ranch Rd & Del Rio Ponds Tuesday Oct 5th, 8-11 am.	Tuesday, October 18, 2022 Big Sit Birdwatching - Dead Horse State Park @ Armchair Birding feed
Saturday, October 8, 2022 Nature Preserve Bird Walk and Pumpkin/Ginger Pancake Breakfast	Wednesday, October 19, 2022 Red rock crossing (evening) - Wednesday October 19th, 4:30-6:30 pm.
Saturday, October 8, 2022 Sedona Wetlands Preserve - Sunday, October 8th - 8:30–9:45 am.	Sunday, October 23, 2022 Black Canyon Heritage Park and Lake Pleasant – Sun, October 23rd, 7:00 am-4 pm.
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 Big Sit Birdwatching - Dead Horse State Park @ Armchair Birding feeders	Tuesday, October 25, 2022 Big Sit Birdwatching - Dead Horse State Park @ Armchair Birding feeders
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 Sedona Wetlands Preserve - Wednesday, Oct 12th - 8:30–9:45 am	Thursday, October 27, 2022 Sedona Wetlands Preserve
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 Bubbling ponds preserve (evening) Wednesday October 12th, 4:30-6:30pm	Saturday, October 29, 2022 Trick or Treat – Chasing rare bird sighting – Saturday October 29th, 7 am-??
Sunday, October 16, 2022 Sedona Wetlands Preserve - Sunday, Oct 16th - 8:30–9:45 am.	Friday, November 11, 2022 Winter Sparrow Workshop with Michael Hilchey & Weekend birding in Sierra Vista

Get the most up-to-date field trip information by viewing our Meetup Group page. Please click on the image at the right

Meetup Group! (click on this ad)

Flagstaff, Sedona and the Verde Valley



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What we're about

Are you a birder, birdwatcher, or curious about birdwatching? Come birdwatch with Northern Arizona Audubon Society in the Flagstaff, Sedona and Verde Valley area. Northern and Central Arizona contain all the major types of biomes and offers some of the best inland birding in the United States. We are sponsored by NAAS, but membership is not required to participate. We are an inclusive group, so people of all backgrounds, lifestyles, and perspectives are highly encouraged to participate.



Finding Bird Hybrids

By Jenny Barnes

Identifying and learning about the many bird species found in Northern Arizona continues to be a rewarding and fun experience. I'm grateful for the help from Northern Arizona Audubon and Red Rock State Park (RRSP). I've gradually learned to distinguish between male and female and juveniles, depending upon the species, as well as some of the subspecies. The more I learn, the more I realize how much more there is still to learn, as usual in life. Now another challenging window has opened for me in identification possibilities—bird hybrids.

Bird hybrids, where the parents are from two distinct species, often occur when seasonal distribution ranges overlap. With Tori Marshall's guidance at Red Rock State Park, I saw and heard my first hybrid Lazuli Bunting crossed with an Indigo Bunting. RRSP has had a Lazuli x Indigo Bunting hybrid there for many weeks this summer (see photo by Tori Marshall). This male



Red-naped Sapsucker x Red-breasted Sapsucker. By Tori Marshall

hybrid bird (assuming there is just one) is easy to find, as it is a beautiful rich blue with a white belly and thin white wing bars. If I hadn't noticed the white belly, I probably would have checked off Indigo Bunting on my eBird checklist, especially since it sounds like an Indigo Bunting. Other Lazuli x Indigo Bunting hybrids have been reported in Yavapai and Coconino Counties too. The summer ranges of the Lazuli Bunting and Indigo Bunting overlap. One special morning on a summer RRSP bird walk, we saw an Indigo Bunting, Lazuli Bunting, and the hybrid of the two species.

Another probable hybrid seen at RRSP is the Red-naped x Red-breasted Sapsucker. In this photo by Tori Marshall, you can see how the hybrid differs from each parent species. When comparing this bird to a Red-naped Sapsucker, there is no black border marking on the breast below the red color. And the red is further down the breast and into the throat area. Many years ago, the Red-naped Sapsucker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker were all considered to be Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers.

With all that can be delved into regarding hybrids, the main concept that I take away once again is to observe individual birds for variations from the norm. We have many “blue” bird species in the area and checking for hybrids is another item to investigate in the field. Hybrids are often overlooked even though they are more common than generally believed. And hybrids between species don’t always look the same. Some can look similar to the parents, where others show varying degrees of intermediate characteristics between the two parent species. They can give us hints



Lazuli x Indigo Bunting hybrid. By Tori Marshall

about the process of speciation and fluctuating biodiversity, along with the taxonomic topic of lumping and splitting bird species. With climate change, it will be interesting to see what happens with hybridization as ranges expand and contract.

Some of the more frequently reported hybrids are hummingbirds. Apparently the recent 2022 Hummingbird Festival in Sedona had a first ever Rivoli’s x Black-chinned Hummingbird hybrid at a banding station, a world record! On eBird, hybrids are noted by an **X**, as in Lazuli x Indigo Bunting. If you want to find the common hybrids for a birding location, type in “(hybrid)” in the eBird Find a Species search box during checklist entry. Submit good photos or a detailed drawing and notes. Enjoy your search for hybrids!

Sources:

[Sibley’s Birding Basics](#), *Abnormal Birds: Hybrids*, pages 50-51

www.allaboutbirds.com *Analysis: Hybrid Birds Are Supercolliders of Speciation*

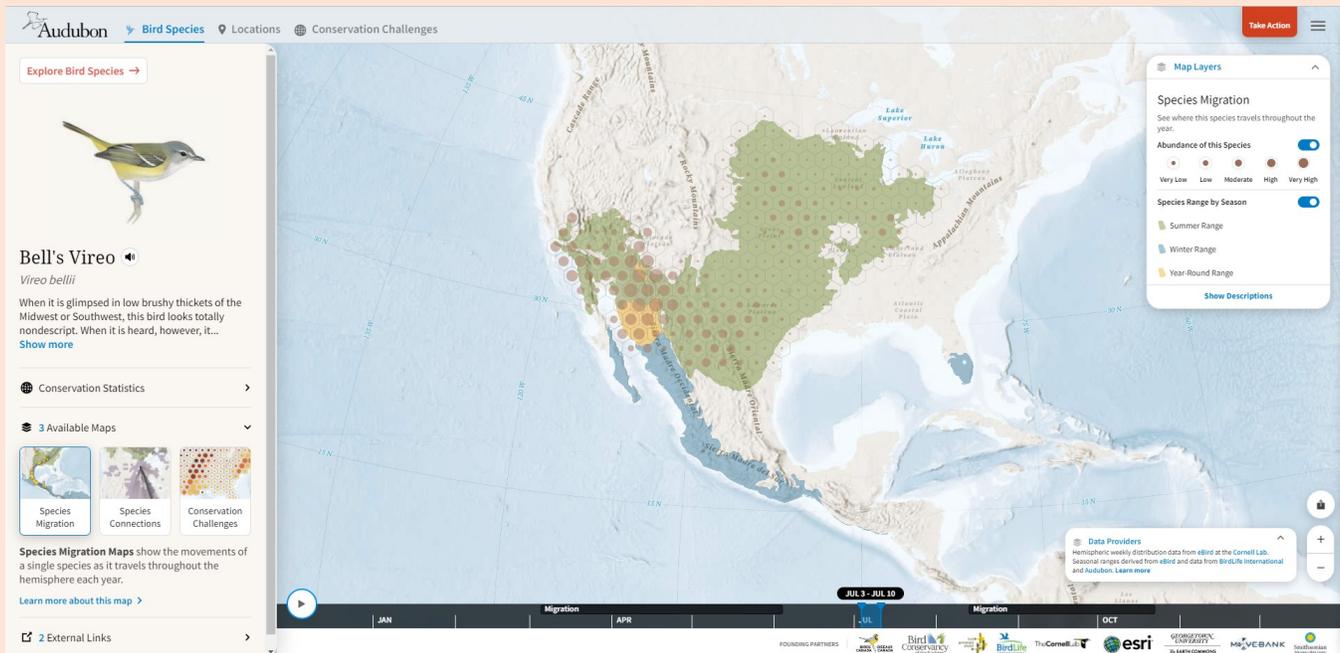
eBird instructions about recording of hybrids



Exciting New Migration Tracker From Audubon

“Today we are launching the Bird Migration Explorer, a game-changing and unprecedented digital tool that brings the phenomenon of bird migration to life through the tracking of millions of point-to-point connections made across our hemisphere by following nearly 500 species of migratory birds. I am thrilled to welcome you to the [Bird Migration Explorer](#) - an incredible moment that will forever change how we protect the birds we love. “

(Excerpt from 9/15 newsletter.



Editor Note: Take some time to explore this new tool. It is loaded with features such as abundance, conservation status, locations of tagged individuals, and more.



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a click here:

nazaudubon@northernarizonaaudubon.org



A Local Wildlife Success Story

Six Barn Owl owlets were found in an attic space during a home renovation project earlier in the year. The Runnin W Wildlife Center rehabbed them and 4 had been released successfully. The last 2 were very ready for release. About 12 folks came to Windmill Park in Cornville to see me release them. Both flew off nice and far and healthy.

Tori Marshall



Photo by Bernadette Bezich

Attention: Avian technical types: You will want to read this article in the Smithsonian Magazine that describes how the science of tracking bird migrations is rapidly coming of age in a digital world.

An excerpt: .Three new technologies are rapidly expanding what we know about bird migration. The first is satellite telemetry of bird movement. *Researchers fit birds with small solar-powered transmitters, which send data on the birds' locations to a satellite and then on to a scientist's office computer. The scientist can learn where a bird is, the route it took to get there and how fast it travels.* Read more here: [Scientists Are Using These High-Tech Tools to Study Bird Migration | Innovation | Smithsonian Magazine](#)



THE BIG SIT

Join us in a “Big Sit” at Dead Horse State Park on Tuesdays in October between 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. You watch birds through your binoculars, while a NAAS guide teaches about the species visiting numbered feeders at the *Armchair Birding site.

We’ll “Put The 4 Keys Into Practice”:

Bird watchers can identify many species from just a quick look. They’re using the four keys to visual identification: Size & Shape, Color Pattern, Behavior, and Habitat. <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/building-skills-the-4-keys-to-bird-identification/#>

The fifth key (no pun intended---kind of):

Another joy of bird watching is bird listening. Whether it’s the buzz-trill of a Bewick’s Wren, which Dena Greenwood said sounded like a rotary-dial telephone; or the squeak toy sound of a Gila Woodpecker, birds can be fun and challenging to identify by ear:

It’s an almost universal feeling: the thrill of hearing a mysterious new bird song. And it’s usually followed up by a question: What was that bird?

The question just got much easier to answer. The [Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s](#) free [Merlin Bird ID app can now identify bird sounds](#). Merlin can recognize the sounds of more than 400 species from the U.S. and Canada, with that number set to expand rapidly in future updates. (<https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2021/06/what-bird-singing-merlin-bird-id-app-offers-instant-answers>)

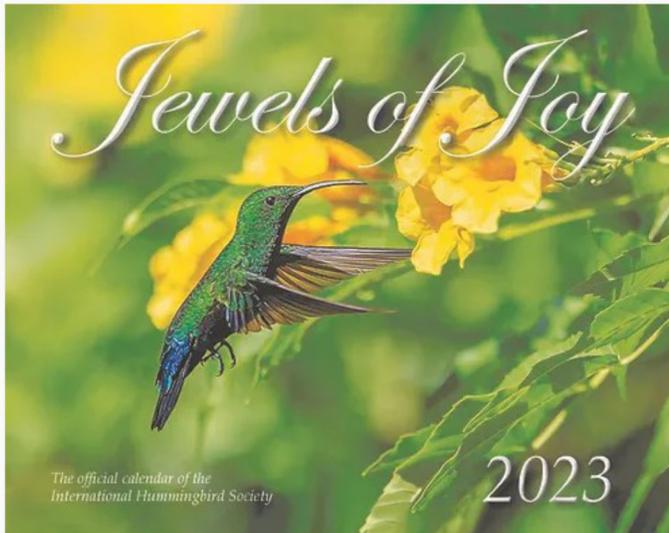
We’ll learn how to use this new marvel, the Merlin Bird ID app! Find out how to use it in your own yard. Experts know that one of the best ways to learn bird sounds is to watch a bird while it sings or calls. As Lisa Grubbs says, while “its lips are moving.”

Come sit with us and learn more about bird identification through structure, sound, behavior and more.

*Arm chair birding can be found at Dead Horse State Park. Turn right on Owl Road, the first road after entering the park. Park on the North end strip – to the right as you drive toward the circular parking. A short stroll up a groomed path to the North takes you to the feeders that NAAS volunteers maintain. There are picnic tables and a bench. No need to schlepp chairs unless you desire. An Arizona State Park pass, or day pass, is required for entry.



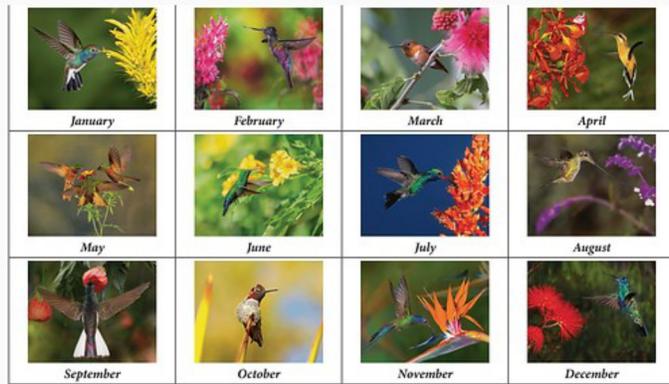
Please support our "sister bird organization"
Click below



"Jewels of Joy" Calendar 2023

The official calendar of the International Hummingbird Society is available now!

Hummingbirds are often called jewels and have a tendency to bring joy to those who view them. We thought it fitting to name our 2023 calendar, Jewels of Joy! This gorgeous calendar is overflowing with vivid colors, superb photography, and a plethora of different hummingbirds for your enjoyment.



Price: US \$26, includes shipping

What Bird Is This?

This is a common enough duck around here.
Hint: The bill is not really all black.

Click on the photo to see the answer.
And the learn a bit more.:





New Renewing Members

Jennifer	Brehler
Gretchen	Burgess
Suellen	Church
Joanne	Curry
Margaret	Dyekman
Michael	Erb
Gregory and Rebekah	Griffin
Jack	Hallin
Amy	Johnson
Chetan	Kane
Beth	Kingsley Hawkins
Steve	Powell
Susan	Thompson

Did you know?

- Northern Arizona Audubon Society was officially recognized as a chartered chapter of the National Audubon Society way back in 1972.
- NAAS incorporated in 1978 as a 501(c3) non-profit.
- National Audubon assigns areas by zip code and NAAS includes the Verde Valley, Flagstaff area, Winslow and Page.
- Although the heart beat of NAAS is measured in filed trips, we also have 4 bird sanctuaries, engage in multiple public events, have members working on many bird surveys and contribute to Citizen Science.

NAAS Budget Approved!

The NAAS Board has recently approved the **NAAS annual budget** and thanks to your continued support, we are pleased to report that your Audubon Chapter is in excellent financial condition; and we gave out grants to like-minded organizations whose actions support our mission.

To read more about the highlights of this year’s budget, follow this link:

[Audubon-Annual-Budget-article-2022-2022.pdf \(northernarizonaaudubon.org\)](http://www.northernarizonaaudubon.org/Audubon-Annual-Budget-article-2022-2022.pdf)



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Flagstaff, Sedona and the Verde Valley



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What we're about

Are you a birder, birdwatcher, or curious about birdwatching? Come birdwatch with Northern Arizona Audubon Society in the Flagstaff, Sedona and Verde Valley area. Northern and Central Arizona contain all the major types of biomes and offers some of the best inland birding in the United States. We are sponsored by NAAS, but membership is not required to participate. We are an inclusive group, so people of all backgrounds, lifestyles, and perspectives are highly encouraged to participate.

Email us with a click here:

nazaudubon@northernarizonaaudubon.org

Video of the Month

Visit Kachina Wetlands and see the wildflower garden Set there by the neighboring Forest Highlands Garden Club..

Please click on the image here to view the video.

