

Spring Birds of Malheur NWR

June 5th—8th, 2015

Klamath Bird Observatory

Join professional birding guide and KBO board president, Harry Fuller, and one additional trip leader (TBD) for a trip to this world-renowned birding destination and the largest wetland in eastern Oregon. This is truly an unforgettable trip. We should see Bobolinks, Sage Sparrows, and Eastern Kingbirds, and the area provides important breeding grounds for Sandhill Crane, Swainson's and Ferruginous Hawk, Prairie Falcon and more! This special outing in support of bird conservation is limited to 10 participants. Register soon before spaces fill.



Prairie Falcon
3/11/05, Tule Lake NWR, Calif.
Photo by James L. Vaudias

When

June 5th—8th, 2015

Cost

\$500, which includes lodging, a bird presentation, two dinners, three breakfasts, & \$300 tax-deductible donation.

Transportation

Carpooling in four vehicles, gas costs shared among participants.

Food

Bring lunches, snacks, drinks, and a potluck dinner dish. Three breakfasts and two dinners are included.

To Register

Email kac@klamathbird.org or call Kaitlin at (541) 201-0866 ext. 5#

A Conservation Fundraising Event

Klamath Bird Observatory
P.O. Box 758
Ashland, OR 97520

Phone: 541-201-0866
Fax: 541-201-1009
E-mail: admin@klamathbird.org

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Trip Leader



Harry Fuller is an experienced bird trip leader and Board President of Klamath Bird Observatory. He has led birding trips along the Pacific Coast from Big Sur to the Puget Sound and along the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Mountains. Harry is the author of *FREWAY BIRDING*, a guide to birding spots along Interstate 5 from San Francisco to Seattle. His birding blog is at atowhee.wordpress.com, email: atowhee@gmail.com, phone: 541-488-8077.

Meeting Location and Dates for the Trip

We will meet at **6:30 am on the morning of June 5th** in the **SE corner of the Rite-Aid parking lot in Ashland** (2341 Ashland St.). We will form carpools, and depart for Malheur. We will return to Ashland on the **afternoon of June 8th**.

Bird Presentation June 4th

At **6:00 pm the night of June 4th** there will be a visual presentation by Harry Fuller on the ecology and birds of Malheur. The presentation will be exclusively for trip participants and it will be held in the KBO Conference Room (320 Beach St. in Ashland).

Cost

\$500, which includes a \$300 tax-deductible donation, evening presentations, lodging, two dinners, and three breakfasts. *Your support makes a difference!* At KBO we take pride in our conservation leadership and internationally recognized conservation model. In our fundraising outings we combine a celebration of birds with the commitment needed to ensure their continued survival. Your participation in these outings not only puts you in touch with incredible displays of nature; it also makes a positive contribution to bird and habitat conservation. We are truly grateful for your support!

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June 5th Itinerary

We depart Ashland and head for Malheur. Stops along the way will include Rocky Point on Klamath Lake, Collier State Park on the Williamson River, Klamath Marsh Wildlife Refuge, Silver Lake (town), Sage Hen Rest Area, and wherever we find our first Swainson's Hawk and Prairie Falcon. We usually arrive at the Malheur Field Station with at least fifty species for the day of "travel." At the Malheur Field Station, we will share a potluck dinner (see the section "**Food**" below for more details).

June 6th Itinerary

There is an optional dawn trip to the Malheur HQ; this man-made forest is a noted migrant trap. Birds seen by Harry here include Cape May Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Gray Catbird, and Black-chinned Hummingbird. More usual western migrants, such as Lewis's Woodpecker and Evening Grosbeaks, are sometimes here in huge flocks. After, the humans will return to the Field Station for breakfast, then head north and east toward Crane, Oregon. This day includes a visit to Raptor Alley and passage through some rich marshland with rails, terns, shorebirds, White Pelicans, and possible American Bittern. Bring your lunch. Dinner will be back at the Field Station.

June 7th Itinerary

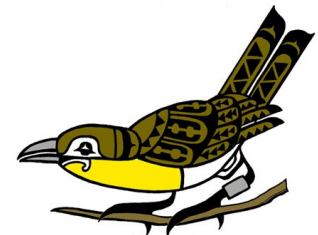
We'll start with a pre-dawn bird walk around the Malheur Field Station, looking for possible Common Nighthawks and Short-eared Owls. Breakfast back at the Field Station, then southward along the refuge roads to Page Springs. Bring your lunch. Dinner this evening will be at the Diamond Hotel.

June 8th Itinerary

We will clean up the dorm and depart for Ashland after breakfast, with appropriate stops for Burrowing Owl et al.

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Transportation & Gasoline

Participants will be **required to carpool**. If the trip is full we will take four cars with three people in each car. Participants will share gasoline costs. If you are a driver, please begin the trip with a **full tank of gas**. Our first gas station is >100 miles from Ashland.

Food

Three breakfasts and one dinner at the Malheur Field Station are included, plus one dinner at the Diamond Hotel. We will share a potluck supper at the Malheur Field Station the first night. You can bring food or stock up at the Safeway in Burns on your way to our destination; it has wine, beer, deli, and a full line of non-organic foods. **You are responsible for your lunches, snacks, and drinks, as well as a dinner dish to share** for the potluck. The Field Station dorms have plenty of refrigerator space and full kitchens, including microwave and the necessary coffee making equipment. After we leave the Burns Safeway there will be very little chance to buy much more than gasoline. Bring whatever batteries, aspirin, alcohol you think you may need.

Lodging

Participants will be lodged in a nice dormitory at the Malheur Field Station.

Clothing

Wear layers and **dress warmly**. The elevation is over 4,000' so the weather is much like Klamath Falls, with possible cold mornings and evenings.

Equipment

We will be providing one spotting scope. If you own a spotting scope, please bring it along. Please note that **binoculars are essential** for this field trip. If you have a camera, bring it.

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Bathrooms

There will be a few bathroom breaks each day.

Trip Maximum

10 Participants plus the Leader and an Assistant Leader

Trip Minimum

The **trip will be canceled if there are not at least 5 people signed up** one month before the trip.

Payment & Refund Policy

Your \$300 conservation donation secures your spot on this trip. The conservation donation portion of your payment is non-refundable. If a participant cancels more than 6 weeks before the trip, the non-donation portion (i.e., \$200) is refundable. If a participant cancels less than 6 weeks before the trip *and* their place is filled, they will be refunded the non-donation portion of the trip (i.e., \$200).

Registration and Questions

Contact Kaitlin via e-mail <kac@klamathbird.org> or phone (541) 201-0866 ext. 5#.

Other Important Information

1. Bring **sleeping bag, pillow, and towel**. Also consider hand sanitizer and insect repellent. Malheur is arid so bring a **water bottle** to refill.
2. There is wireless **internet** access at the Field Station. Cell phones are not dependable at Malheur.

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3. If you are driving, be sure you have a **spare tire** and know where it is in your vehicle. One year a driver in a new vehicle spent two hours along the roadside because the spare was in some mysterious place nobody could figure out. The only tow truck is in Burns, 35 miles from the Field Station, 70 miles from Page Springs.
4. Malheur Field Station has a **store that sells t-shirts, bird books, etc.** They take credit cards but it is good to have cash at some stops. There is not an ATM after you leave Burns.
5. At the evening meal each night we will go over the day's sightings, if you want to **keep a checklist**. Harry will provide checklists, and he will also bring a reference library of field guides.
6. On each trip we hope to have a **mist-netting demo** by the Field Station staff. They will catch some of the local birds and we get to see and photograph them at close hand, literally. The staff are licensed bird banders and professional ornithologists. Usually this catch includes Yellow-headed Blackbirds. If the staff schedule allows for a demo, we should each make a small cash donation to the foundation that supports the Field Station (\$5 is fine).
7. There will be **no admission charges** anywhere that we go.

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