



Saturday and Sunday Field Trips

2015 Mountain Bird Festival hosted by Klamath Bird Observatory

May 29th – May 31st

Field Trip Meeting Location:

ScienceWorks Hands-On Museum
1500 E Main St
Ashland, Oregon 97520

Notice: Bring weather-appropriate layered clothing, sunscreen, and water on all trips. It can be quite cool in the mornings. Also, don't forget your binoculars! Unless otherwise noted, you will be responsible for your own lunch, as well as snacks, on these trips. Participants will carpool on field trips, unless otherwise noted. Enjoy!

Optional Friday Evening Trip, May 29th, 2015

Evening Owling

Saturday Field Trips, May 30th, 2015

Great Gray Owl Nest
Mist-netting and Klamath Lake
Oak Woodlands Conservation
Siskiyou Mountain Specialties
Cascade Mountain Lakes
Dipper Walk and Talk
Emigrant Lake and Oak Woodlands
Siskiyou County and Shasta Valley, California
Big Day in the Cascades
Wildflowers in the Siskiyou
Klamath Basin Top to Bottom
Dragonflies in Rogue River Valley
Cascade Wilderness
Mt Ashland and Pilot Rock
Sandhill Cranes and Nesting Territory

Sunday Field Trips, May 31st, 2015

Great Gray Owl Nest Visit
Ashland Town
Klamath Basin Top to Bottom
Siskiyou County and Shasta Valley, California
Calliope and its Neighbors
After the Dam is Gone
Cascade Mountain Lakes
Little Hyatt Reservoir and Keene Creek in the Cascades
Wildlife Images & Banding Station
Klamath Basin Top to Bottom
Shasta Valley Wildlife Area & Butte Valley Grasslands
Wildflowers in the Siskiyou
Klamath Lake North
Siskiyou County & Klamath River
World's Best Boat Ramp
Sandhill Cranes and Nesting Territory

Friday Night Trip

EVENING OWLING:

7:15 PM – 10:00 PM

Meet at ScienceWorks parking lot at 7:15 PM. We will visit active owl nests and see what other birds are having dinner as the sun sets. We may see both Barn and Screech-Owls on this trip. We will be back before 10 PM.

Field Trip Leader: Vince Zauskey

Vince is a long-time resident of the Rogue Valley and has been a member of the Rogue Valley Audubon Society since 1971. He has also been a member of the Klamath Bird Observatory for several years. Vince has led many local and regional birding field trips and has been a volunteer at North Mountain Park in Ashland for many years, completing yearly park surveys, photographing birds in the park, leading bird walks, and participating in the Feeder Watch program.

In the early 1980s, Vince did contract work for the US Forest Service. Working out of the Klamath National Forest office in Yreka, CA, he monitored Northern Spotted Owl habitat use and made recordings of birds seen in his study area. From 1990-1991, through the Bureau of Land Management office in Medford, OR, he researched owl habitat use and banded Northern Spotted Owls in the Butte Falls Resource Area. He was also tasked to identify other raptors in the resource area and locate active raptor nest sites.

Saturday Trips

GREAT GRAY OWL NEST:

7:00 AM – 4:00 PM

The Great Gray Owl is North America's tallest owl and a scarce breeding species in some isolated pockets of the Sierra and Cascades. At this time of year the female owl should be on the nest with nestlings and although prey delivery to the young is rare, there is the potential to observe this behavior. We will spend most of the day above 4500' elevation and off-road hiking will be required. To preserve the secrecy of the nest site, participants will be blind-folded in the van when we get close to the nest site! We will spend plenty of time at the nest to ensure everyone gets good looks through a spotting scope, but will balance that with brevity in order to minimize disturbance. In addition to viewing the Great Gray Owl, we will spend time in other montane habitats as time permits, including mixed-conifer forest, meadows, and riparian.

Other species we could find include Pileated Woodpecker, Williamson's Sapsucker, Cassin's Vireo, Mountain Bluebird, House Wren, Vesper Sparrow, Hermit Warbler, American White Pelican, and Sandhill Crane.

Field Trip Leader: Harry Fuller, KBO Board President

Harry is an experienced field trip leader, living in Ashland. He is co-founder of Partnership for International Birding. He guides trips for Golden Gate Audubon, Pt. Reyes Field Seminars and private clients. He is author of Freeway Birding (about birding Interstate 5 from San Francisco to Seattle). Fuller is president of the Klamath Bird Observatory Board of Directors. He maintains a birding blog at: atowhee.wordpress.com

Field Trip Leader: Sarah Rockwell, KBO Research Biologist

Sarah fell in love with birds during an undergraduate study abroad experience in Ecuador, where she got to see many spectacular species in the Amazon, cloud forest, and coastal regions of that country. She is now a staff research biologist who joined KBO in 2013 after completing her doctorate at the University of Maryland and Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center. For her dissertation, Sarah studied the ecology of the endangered Kirtland's Warbler in her home state of Michigan. Sarah has worked on many other avian research projects, including studying avian malaria in endemic Hawaiian forest birds, comparing life history traits of temperate and tropical bird species in northern Arizona and Venezuela, territoriality in winter family groups of Western Bluebirds in central California, and the ecology of Eastern Bluebirds in the South Carolina Low Country. Sarah currently manages KBO's bird monitoring work in partnership with the Trinity River Restoration Program in northwestern California. The goal of this research is to determine how changes in habitat structure associated with river restoration are related to riparian bird abundance, diversity, and demography. Sarah and her crew use methods such as point counts, territory mapping, nest monitoring, and vegetation surveys to measure the health of bird populations and the success of restoration. Her best yard bird (in downtown Ashland) is a Northern Pygmy Owl being mobbed by several Anna's Hummingbirds in December 2014!

MIST-NETTING AND KLAMATH LAKE BIRDING:

7:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Most of the day will be spent at 4000' elevation. We will bird Rocky Point along the north shore of Klamath Lake and observe a KBO mist-netting operation on public land. This will be your chance to see birds at close range, which is tremendously helpful for identifying birds in the field, to find out how sexing and aging of mist-netted birds is done, as well as learn about the conservation significance of banding stations. This behind the scenes look at how KBO collects data on birds in the hand is a truly unforgettable experience.

Birds likely to be seen: White-Headed Woodpecker, Hermit Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, nesting Bald Eagles, Black Tern, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, and Bullock's Oriole.

Field Trip Leader: Kaitlin Clark, KBO Banding Crew Leader

Kaitlin started interning for KBO during summer 2014 as a part of the bird banding project. She worked throughout the winter as KBO's Science Communications and Outreach Intern, and has returned to the bird banding project for the summer 2015 season. She loves anything outdoors, especially birding, hiking, and biking, and is enchanted by the beauty of southern Oregon and northern California. She is currently a student at Michigan State University studying Wildlife Biology and Spanish. She would like to gain a variety of field and communications experiences before starting long-term bird monitoring on agricultural lands managed holistically and conventionally, and hopes to work with farmers to achieve greater production and thriving wildlife and plant communities.

OAK WOODLANDS CONSERVATION:

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM

This trip is entirely below 2000' elevation however, the climb up to Lower Table Rock Plateau is fairly steep and includes a 700 meter increase in elevation. You must carry water and lunch with you. There are no facilities beyond the trail head.

Unique vernal pools and wildflowers are on the plateau, and you will also enjoy great views of Rogue River Valley. We will spend much of the day in precious oak woodlands, one of the most endangered habitats in the western U.S. Klamath Bird Observatory has produced a land management guide for oak forest land owners. Most of this land is now in private hands and relatively small parcels. Species we may find include: Acorn Woodpecker Granary tree, Osprey nesting, Common Merganser, Hutton's Vireo, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Peregrine Falcon, and Great Horned Owl nesting. Many of these species face series threats due to climate change and habitat loss.

Field Trip Leader: Jaime Stephens, KBO Science Director

Jaime is the Science Director at Klamath Bird Observatory. She has been exploring the diverse ecosystems of southern Oregon and northern California for over 15 years, much of that time spent studying birds. Most recently, her work has focused on songbirds in oak woodlands, riparian, and mixed conifer habitats, collaborating with partners to guide on-the-ground restoration and evaluate ecological change. Jaime resides in an oak woodland in Sam's Valley north of Medford. She spends most weekends hiking or skiing in the nearby hills and paddling the lakes and rivers. She also enjoys travelling abroad and has spent time in ten countries, learning something new from each of those experiences. Jaime received her Master's degree in Biology from Southern Oregon University and her B.S. in Zoology and Conservation Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

SISKIYOU MOUNTAIN SPECIALITIES:

7:45 AM – 4:00 PM

We will spend the day birding Mt. Ashland, mostly above 4500' elevation. The habitat here includes oak-madrone-conifer forest at lower elevations and white fir dominated forest mixed with wet meadows at higher elevations. Species we may encounter: White-headed Woodpecker, Mountain Quail, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Dusky, Hammond's, Willow and Olive-sided Flycatcher, Calliope and Rufous Hummingbird, Sooty Grouse, Western and Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Hermit and MacGillivray's Warbler, Green-tailed Towhee, Western Tanager, Lincoln's and Chipping Sparrow, Purple and Cassin's Finch.

Bring your camera for world class views across the mountains to Mt. Shasta. Bring lunch and water. Expect bright sun, possible wind in the afternoon.

Field Trip Leader: Vince Zauskey

Vince is a long-time resident of the Rogue Valley and has been a member of the Rogue Valley Audubon Society since 1971. He has also been a member of the Klamath Bird Observatory for several years. Vince has led many local and regional birding field trips and has been a volunteer at North Mountain Park in Ashland for many years, completing yearly park surveys, photographing birds in the park, leading bird walks, and participating in the Feeder Watch program.

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CASCADE MOUNTAIN LAKES:

6:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring water, lunch, and sunblock. Most of the birding will be above 4500' elevation. There will be modest hiking. We will bird grasslands, lakeshore, conifer forests, and mid-level oak scrub. Species we may see include: Lazuli Bunting, Western & Mountain Bluebirds, Green-Tailed Towhee, Mountain Quail, Williamson's Sapsucker, Cassin's Vireo, Sandhill Cranes, Osprey Nest, Pileated & White-headed Woodpecker, Bald Eagle, Vesper Sparrow, Dipper, MacGillivray's Warbler, Gray Jay.

Field Trip Leader: John Bullock

John began birding seriously in the early 1970's in Santa Barbara County when there were fewer than 20 California Condors, and the Peregrine Falcon and Brown Pelican were endangered. He served on the board of the Santa Barbara Audubon Chapter and was an active participant in their field trips and renowned Christmas Bird Count, rubbing elbows with some of the best birders on the West coast. Retirement brought him to Ashland, where he is active in the local birding community, leading field trips for KBO, and helping to resurrect the Ashland CBC. He has traveled to bird in Ecuador, Australia, New Zealand, Arizona, Texas, Nebraska, Vermont, Maine and New York.

DIPPER WALK AND TALK:

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Bring along snacks and water. This morning field trip will primarily occur in Ashland's beautiful Lithia Park, and will be followed by an optional lunch at a downtown Ashland cafe. In recent years three pairs of American Dippers have nested and reared young along Ashland Creek in downtown Ashland and adjacent Lithia Park. We will do a dipper count and check nest boxes and other nest sites. There will be description of the "Dipper Lifestyle" and likely some good photo opportunities. We may venture a little ways into the forest at the back of Lithia Park in search of more birds.

Field Trip Leader: Kate Cleland-Sipfle

Kate Cleland-Sipfle Kate first birded in 1998 with a Pennsylvania Audubon Society and immediately sought birding opportunities in Southern Oregon after moving to Ashland in 1999. She took advantage of educational programs of the Klamath Bird Observatory, the Rogue Valley Audubon Society, and Ashland Parks and Recreation. She credits, in alphabetical order, John Alexander, Dick Ashford, Harry Fuller, Frank Lospalluto, Pepper Trail, and Vince Zauskey, and "too many KBO people to mention" as her principal Rogue Valley teachers in classroom and field study. She has attended the Audubon Camp on Hog Island, Maine, and has birded with professional guides in Oregon, Colorado, Arizona, Florida, Costa Rica, Belize, Honduras, Trinidad /Tobago, and "birds the world" while surfing the Internet.

EMIGRANT LAKE AND OAK WOODLANDS:

7:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Bring water, snacks, and sunblock. There will be some hiking at 2500' elevation. We will bird a reservoir and surrounding open space a few miles from Ashland. There is a colony of Acorn Woodpeckers at the lake and a pair of nesting Osprey. Other species we may see: spring warblers, Western Bluebird, Oak Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Golden and Bald Eagle, Great Blue Heron, Scrub-Jay, Raven, California and Spotted Towhee, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

Field Trip Leader: Shannon Rio, KBO Board Vice President

40 years ago when I was living in Santa Barbara, I took a birding class and discovered the wonder of seeing birds through binoculars. At that time, I was discovering in myself, as a young adult, that I loved nature and since then, this discovery of love of plants and birds and all things outside has only deepened. Time with friends and with my husband outside and looking at birds is a big part of my life. It is a grand joy, that wherever we go, we can set up chairs or walk and look at the birds and feel FULL in a satisfying way. My relationship with birding is based on having curiosity about the connections within nature: What are the birds eating? Where are they going? How can I be still and be curious so that I can learn of the life of birds? I was invited onto the board of Klamath Bird Observatory and am grateful for the chance to be with other board and staff and to be connected to an organization that uses science to protect the wild places I so love. I have taught classes on common backyard birds at North Mountain Park. I often wear my binoculars and love to show anyone who is interested, the close up view that binoculars give into this magical world. I have dedicated this year, 2014, to a more in depth study of the birds of our area with the intent to teach anyone interested in the fun facts and stories of the birds who live around us.

SISKIYOU COUNTY AND SHASTA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA:

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Most of this day will be spent in elevations from 2500-3500 feet. Bring lunch, water and sunblock. We will bird along the Klamath River and then visit Shasta Valley with great views of nearby Mt. Shasta. We will bird in riparian, sagebrush steppe, and freshwater wetlands. Species we hope to see: Northern Harrier on breeding territory, Lewis's Woodpecker, Bullock's Oriole, Sandhill Cranes, Wilson's Snipe, Cinnamon Teal, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, and Rock Wren. We will look for Tricolored Blackbird and Canyon Wren as well.

Field Trip Leader: Terence Philippe

I discovered birding shortly after moving to Ashland and taking my current position at the Northwest Nature Shop. The challenge and excitement of discovering birding fit with my extensive experience in outdoor activities which have included hiking, climbing, and skiing throughout the world. These activities also spawned an early interest in all things concerned with natural history!

BIG DAY IN THE CASCADES:

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM

This trip will bird along the upper Rogue River and reach an elevation up to 5000'. Be sure to pack plenty of water, snacks, and a lunch. Some moderately difficult hiking is expected. We will pass through grassland, oak woodland, and conifer forest, as well as the riparian corridor along the river. Fantastic views of the Rogue River and impressive Douglas Fir stands included!

Target birds: American Dipper, Black-backed Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Common Merganser, Hermit and MacGillivray's Warbler, Cassin's Vireo, Rufous and Calliope Hummingbird, Spotted Owl, and Clark's Nutcracker.

Field Trip Leader: Russ Namitz

Russ has only been birding for 17 years, but those years have been intense and purposeful. Complementing a nomadic 12 years of seasonal wildlife biology work, Russ has traveled extensively throughout North America in search of birds. Though he has experience birding the continents of Asia, South America and Australia, most of his international birding experience comes from over a dozen trips to Central America. He enjoys hard-to-identify groups like gulls, shorebirds and seabirds. Russ has guided for Oregon's only pelagic birding company, The Bird Guide, Inc. for the last 5 years. He is an active member in the Oregon birding community and currently holds the Oregon Big Year record of 381 species. After almost a decade of teaching high school Biology and Oceanography, Russ now divides his time teaching part-time at Rogue Community College and wildlife consulting.

WILDFLOWERS IN THE SISKIYOU:

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring water, lunch and sunblock. There will be walking at elevations above 4300'. We will take the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) from Pilot Rock Road up to the ridge, and then work our way down the old quarry. This loop trip will be about 3 miles, including 500 feet of elevation gain and loss, and the descent will be more rapid. We should see lots of neat plants, both along the PCT and on the rocks. We will walk back along the road from the bottom of the quarry to our cars. We can expect to see some mountain bird species along the way as well.

Field Trip Leader: Alex Maksymowicz

Alex has been identifying, photographing, and just enjoying wildflowers in the Pacific Coast states as well as other parts of the world for 35 years. He has spent the last 12 years roaming the Siskiyou and Cascade Mountains in southwest Oregon and the adjoining part of California to check out the plants, and leading field trips for the local chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon (NPSO) and his own wildflower group. He has given several classes on the botany and ecology of wildflowers for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Southern Oregon University. His most recent course, Plants on the Rocks, reflected his current interest in the alpine and subalpine flowers in our region. Alex was field trip coordinator for the local NPSO chapter for four years and program chair for two years. He took time out from his botanical pursuits to serve as president of the Rogue Valley Audubon Society for three years and currently is the program chair.

KLAMATH BASIN TOP TO BOTTOM:

6:15 AM – 5:00 PM

This all day trip will focus on species that can be seen on the eastside of the Cascades Mountains, but will also include the incredible variety of bird species that can be found in the Klamath Basin. During the day, with some walking at times, we will encounter over 100 species while visiting a variety of habitats from wetlands to forests, to low sage-juniper uplands, from south of Klamath Falls to around the Upper Klamath Lake. Please bring a lunch and snacks, water, sunscreen, hat, binoculars, guide, and a scope (optional). We hope to view: Prairie Falcon, Golden Eagle, Swainson's Hawk, rushing Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Black Tern, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Tricolored Blackbird, Black-necked Stilt, Sandhill Crane, Black-billed Magpie, and others.

Field Trip Leader: Kevin Spencer

Kevin has been an elementary school teacher, as well as a junior/senior high school teacher, for 25 years. Birding for over 35 years, he has conducted Breeding Bird Surveys for USFWS and point count bird surveys for almost 20 years. Kevin has been the compiler for Klamath Falls Christmas Bird Count for nearly 25 years and was involved in the creation of species accounts for the book *Birds of Oregon: A General Reference*. While birding at any free moment, Kevin has visited the Klamath Basin locations mentioned in “A Birder's Guide to the Klamath Basin” countless times. He has seen or heard 314 different species in the Klamath Basin. A day bird watching in the Klamath Basin is hard to beat.

DRAGONFLIES IN ROGUE RIVER VALLEY:

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring water, lunch, and sunblock. Wading shoes, nets, and binoculars are also welcome. There will be some walking at low elevations around White City, and we'll try to see a variety of native dragonflies. Targets include three species of Forktails, California and Blue-eyed Darner, Spiny Baskettail, and others. We might even see birds.

Field Trip Leader: Norm Barrett

It started with Wood Ducks and Monarch butterflies at age five. Sixty years later Norm still chases birds with a passion (or obsession according to some). His initial interest led to a Botany/Zoology degree from Butler University and a Wildlife Biology degree at Oregon State University. Twenty-five years as a U.S. Forest Service biologist included Spotted Owl and Mardon Skipper surveys in western Oregon, Flammulated and Boreal Owl surveys along the Colorado River, and a fascination with anything with wings. Five years ago this fascination took a new turn: dragonflies. Limiting most of his study to the Jackson County area, Norm has located and photographed most of the species expected to be found in the county, as well as discovering two species that were well out of range. 2013 found him expanding his efforts coast to coast and into Canada.

CASCADE WILDERNESS:

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM

We'll be driving the rough roads of the Cascade foothills. This is a rip for forest bird lovers. We hope to find Hermit Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Dusky Flycatcher, Western Wood-pewee, Green-tailed Towhee and White-headed Woodpecker. If the birding gods are pleased we may find Mountain Quail, Sooty or Ruffed Grouse, Mountain Bluebird. The trip will begin north of Medford and head east into Cascades getting up to 4800' elevation. Bring water, lunch, sun block.

Field Trip Leader: Jeff Tufts

Although he was born in southern California and lived most of his life there, Jeff got his first serious introduction to birding while a pre-teenager living in a semi-rural area north of New York City.

Birding took a backseat to golf during high school and college years in southern California, but he never stopped noticing birds while working or recreating outside.

Jeff was a member of the Pasadena Audubon Society for several years and participated in field trips for both the Pasadena and Los Angeles chapters of NAS.

After retirement in 2009, Jeff moved to southwestern Oregon where he was able to devote considerably more time to birding, and he has led field trips for both the Rogue Valley Audubon Society and Klamath Bird Observatory.

Jeff is a resident of Medford, and serves as webmaster for RVAS.

MT. ASHLAND AND PILOT ROCK:

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Bring lunch, water, and sunscreen. This is an all-day trip, most of it will be at elevations over 4000'. We will do some uphill walking. We will bird Mt. Ashland and Pilot Rock Roads. Some of the trails are above 5000' elevation. This area is also noted for a variety of wildflowers and butterflies. Some of our birding will be in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and along the Pacific Crest Trail. Species we may find include: White-headed Woodpecker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Quail, Sooty Grouse, Dusky Flycatcher, Mountain Quail, Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Mountain Chickadee, Hermit Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow, Green-tailed Towhee, and Lazuli Bunting.

Field Trip Leader: Frank Lospalluto

Frank Lospalluto is a field biologist who has worked closely with Klamath Bird Observatory for over 10 years doing both spring breeding bird and fall migration surveys throughout the Klamath-Siskiyou Region. He's an avid birder who also has a keen interest in regional plants and animals. Frank lives with his dog, Chloe, near the Siskiyou Summit where he has actively birded for over 20 years.

SANDHILL CRANES AND NESTING TERRITORY:

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM

This trip includes the state of California's Shasta Valley Wildlife Area and the extensive, privately-owned Hart Ranch in Little Shasta Valley. Habitat types include lakes, freshwater marsh, sagebrush, grasslands and pastureland. Our main goal is to find Sandhill Cranes with their colts if the 2015 spring is wet enough for nesting. Birds we are likely to find are Yellow-headed Blackbird, Black-billed Magpies, possible Prairie Falcon. We will then head up Willow Creek Mountain looking for mountain birds such as Gray Jay, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Williamson's Sapsucker, Mountain Bluebird.

Field Trip Leader: Jim Flett, KBO Board Member, and Mary Anne Flett

Jim Flett moved to rural Siskiyou County in northern California over 35 years ago to be close to the rivers and extensive mountains of the area. He is still enjoying them today. He loves hiking and walking in the mountains and floating the rivers. He lives in the Shasta Valley with its grand views of Mt. Shasta and the ancient volcanos that surround it.

Jim is an active member of Mt. Shasta Area Audubon. He organizes the field trips for the chapter and often leads them. He is responsible for conducting an ongoing winter raptor survey in nearby Butte Valley. Jim is proud to be an active board member of Klamath Bird Observatory.

Mary Anne has been birding for more than 30 years. She and her brother, Jim, share a mutual love of birds and have enjoyed many trips together spotting and enjoying birds in varied locations and habitats throughout the western United States. She especially likes to identify birds by their songs and calls and tunes into them to locate local species, find unexpected avian visitors, and to gain clues to their behavior. It makes her incredibly happy to hear birds sing and to be outside in nature with her brother.

Sunday Trips

GREAT GRAY OWL NEST:

7:00 AM – 4:00 PM

The Great Gray Owl is North America's tallest owl and a scarce breeding species in some isolated pockets of the Sierra and Cascades. At this time of year the female owl should be on the nest with nestlings and although prey delivery to the young is rare, there is the potential to observe this behavior. We will spend most of the day above 4500' elevation and off-road hiking will be required. To preserve the secrecy of the nest site, participants will be blind-folded in the van when we get close to the nest site! We will spend plenty of time at the nest to ensure everyone gets good looks through a spotting scope, but will balance that with brevity in order to minimize disturbance. In addition to viewing the Great Gray Owl, we will spend time in other montane habitats as time permits, including mixed-conifer forest, meadows, and riparian.

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ASHLAND TOWN:

6:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Bring water and sunblock. We will lunch in town, though you are responsible for purchasing your own lunch. There will be moderate walking at 2000-3500' elevation. We will visit some of the most popular birding locations in and around the town of Ashland, including Ashland Pond, North Mountain Park, and Tolman Creek Road.

Species we expect include: American Dipper, Western Screech-Owl, Calliope Hummingbird, Acorn Woodpecker granary tree, Yellow-breasted Chat, Vaux's Swift, Nashville Warbler.

Field Trip Leader: Kate Cleland-Sipfle

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SISKIYOU COUNTY AND SHASTA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA:

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Most of this day will be spent in elevations from 2500-3500 feet. Bring lunch, water and sunblock. We will bird along the Klamath River and then visit Shasta Valley with great views of nearby Mt. Shasta. We will bird in riparian, sagebrush steppe, and freshwater wetlands. Species we hope to see: Northern Harrier on breeding territory, Lewis's Woodpecker, Bullock's Oriole, Sandhill Cranes, Wilson's Snipe, Cinnamon Teal, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, and Rock Wren. We will look for Tricolored Blackbird and Canyon Wren as well.

Field Trip Leader: Terence Philippe

I discovered birding shortly after moving to Ashland and taking my current position at the Northwest Nature Shop. The challenge and excitement of discovering birding fit with my extensive experience in outdoor activities which have included hiking, climbing, and skiing throughout the world. These activities also spawned an early interest in all things concerned with natural history!

CALLIOPE AND ITS NEIGHBORS:

7:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Half day trip birding lower slopes of the Siskiyou Mountains. We will encounter the male Calliope Hummingbird. He often displays more aggression per milligram than any other vertebrate in North America. The Calliope is also our smallest breeding bird species on the continent. They are so small you could mail ten of them for a single first class stamp. A Bushtit weighs almost twice as much. Other species we may encounter include Lazuli Bunting, Nashville Warbler, Band-tailed Pigeon, Western Tanager, Spotted Towhee, Western Wood-Pewee, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, and we'll listen for Hermit Thrushes under the dark cover of conifers. Bring water and snacks.

Field Trip Leader: Vince Zauskey

Vince is a long-time resident of the Rogue Valley and has been a member of the Rogue Valley Audubon Society since 1971. He has also been a member of the Klamath Bird Observatory for several years. Vince has led many local and regional birding field trips and has been a volunteer at North Mountain Park in Ashland for many years, completing yearly park surveys, photographing birds in the park, leading bird walks, and participating in the Feeder Watch program.

In the early 1980s, Vince did contract work for the US Forest Service. Working out of the Klamath National Forest office in Yreka, CA, he monitored Northern Spotted Owl habitat use and made recordings of birds seen in his study area. From 1990-1991, through the Bureau of Land Management office in Medford, OR, he researched owl habitat use and banded Northern Spotted Owls in the Butte Falls Resource Area. He was also tasked to identify other raptors in the resource area and locate active raptor nest sites.

AFTER THE DAM IS GONE:

7:00 AM – 4:00 PM

This trip is entirely below 2000' elevation however, it will include rafting and off-trail hiking, with a short stretch passing through a ravine that may have flowing water and is very thick with willows. Field trip is strenuous and participants should be in excellent physical condition. You should wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots and be prepared to have wet feet. You must carry water and lunch with you. There are no facilities beyond the rafting put-in.

In 2010, the Gold-Ray Dam was removed from the Rogue River in Jackson County, OR, producing a real-life experiment in habitat restoration. Klamath Bird Observatory is monitoring the effects of dam removal on vegetation and birds upstream of the historic dam site, contributing to a comprehensive set of studies that will help us understand the restorative potential of dam removal in the Pacific Northwest. We will get a look at what man and nature have done influencing riparian habitat along one of the most beautiful rivers in America and visit an interpretive display about the historic dam site. Species we may find include: Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Belted Kingfisher, Brown Creeper, Great Blue Heron, Swainson's Thrush, Wrentit, and Yellow-breasted Chat.

Field Trip Leader: Jaime Stephens, KBO Science Director

Jaime is the Science Director at Klamath Bird Observatory. She has been exploring the diverse ecosystems of southern Oregon and northern California for over 15 years, much of that time spent studying birds. Most recently, her work has focused on songbirds in oak woodlands, riparian, and mixed conifer habitats, collaborating with partners to guide on-the-ground restoration and evaluate ecological change. Jaime resides in an oak woodland in Sam's Valley north of Medford. She spends most weekends hiking or skiing in the nearby hills and paddling the lakes and rivers. She also enjoys travelling abroad and has spent time in ten countries, learning something new from each of those experiences. Jaime received her Master's degree in Biology from Southern Oregon University and her B.S. in Zoology and Conservation Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

CASCADE MOUNTAIN LAKES:

6:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring water, lunch, and sunblock. Most of the birding will be above 4500' elevation. There will be modest hiking. We will bird grasslands, lakeshore, conifer forests, and mid-level oak scrub. Species we may see include: Lazuli Bunting, Western & Mountain Bluebirds, Green-Tailed Towhee, Mountain Quail, Williamson's Sapsucker, Cassin's Vireo, Sandhill Cranes, Osprey Nest, Pileated & White-headed Woodpecker, Bald Eagle, Vesper Sparrow, Dipper, MacGillivray's Warbler, Gray Jay.

Field Trip Leader: John Bullock

John began birding seriously in the early 1970's in Santa Barbara County when there were fewer than 20 California Condors, and the Peregrine Falcon and Brown Pelican were endangered. He served on the board of the Santa Barbara Audubon Chapter and was an active participant in their field trips and renowned Christmas Bird Count, rubbing elbows with some of the best birders on the West coast. Retirement brought him to Ashland, where he is active in the local birding community, leading field trips for KBO, and helping to resurrect the Ashland CBC. He has traveled to bird in Ecuador, Australia, New Zealand, Arizona, Texas, Nebraska, Vermont, Maine and New York.

LITTLE HYATT RESERVOIR AND KEENE CREEK IN THE CASCADES:

7:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Bring water, snacks, and sunblock. There will be mostly level hiking at 4500' elevation. Some of this trip is along the Pacific Crest Trail. We will bird high altitude meadows, a riparian corridor, conifer forest and around a small reservoir. Birds we hope to see include American Dipper, Pileated Woodpecker, MacGillivray's and other spring Warblers, Western Wood-Pewee, Mountain Bluebird. As we bird by ear we could find Lazuli Bunting, Western Tanager, and Warbling Vireo.

Field Trip Leader: Shannon Rio, KBO Board Member

40 years ago when I was living in Santa Barbara, I took a birding class and discovered the wonder of seeing birds through binoculars. At that time, I was discovering in myself, as a young adult, that I loved nature and since then, this discovery of love of plants and birds and all things outside has only deepened. Time with friends and with my husband outside and looking at birds is a big part of my life. It is a grand joy, that wherever we go, we can set up chairs or walk and look at the birds and feel FULL in a satisfying way. My relationship with birding is based on having curiosity about the connections within nature: What are the birds eating? Where are they going? How can I be still and be curious so that I can learn of the life of birds? I was invited onto the board of Klamath Bird Observatory and am grateful for the chance to be with other board and staff and to be connected to an organization that uses science to protect the wild places I so love. I have taught classes on common backyard birds at North Mountain Park. I often wear my binoculars and love to show anyone who is interested, the close up view that binoculars give into this magical world. I have dedicated this year, 2014, to a more in depth study of the birds of our area with the intent to teach anyone interested in the fun facts and stories of the birds who live around us.

MT. ASHLAND AND PILOT ROCK:

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Bring lunch, water, and sunscreen. This is an all-day trip, most of it will be at elevations over 4000'. We will do some uphill walking. We will bird Mt. Ashland and Pilot Rock Roads. Some of the trails are above 5000' elevation. This area is also noted for a variety of wildflowers and butterflies. Some of our birding will be in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and along the Pacific Crest Trail. Species we may find include: White-headed Woodpecker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Mountain Quail, Sooty Grouse, Dusky Flycatcher, Mountain Quail, Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Mountain Chickadee, Hermit Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow, Green-tailed Towhee, and Lazuli Bunting.

Field Trip Leader: Frank Lospalluto

Frank Lospalluto is a field biologist who has worked closely with Klamath Bird Observatory for over 10 years doing both spring breeding bird and fall migration surveys throughout the Klamath-Siskiyou Region. He's an avid birder who also has a keen interest in regional plants and animals. Frank lives with his dog, Chloe, near the Siskiyou Summit where he has actively birded for over 20 years.

WILDLIFE IMAGES & BANDING STATION:

7:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring lunch, drinking water. Most of this trip will be below 1500' elevation and involve short, easy walking. This trip will travel north of Grants Pass (about an hour by car) where we'll get a tour of Wildlife Images, which is a non-profit animal rescue center that has mountain lion, wolves, badger and a variety of raptors in residence. We will also visit a KBO banding station in an oak-madrone forest. This will be a chance to see spring migrants at close range. In the afternoon we will visit Whitehorse County Park on the Rogue River where Pileated Woodpecker, Bullock's Oriole, and other riparian species breed. Both Wildlife Images and Whitehorse have rich riparian forest.

Field Trip Leader: Dennis Vroman

Dennis grew up in Jefferson County, New York, at the eastern end of Lake Ontario. There, the natural world was his biggest attraction. He became familiar with the native plants and wildlife of the area. This interest remains with him to this day. Dennis worked for 25 years with the U.S Forest Service and is now retired. He was a licensed bird bander for 20 years and the President of the Western Bird Banding Association for one term. Dennis conducted U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Surveys, and point counts and breeding bird surveys on the Rogue River - Siskiyou National Forest over many years. Barbara Massey and Dennis co-authored the book "Guide to the Birds of the Rogue Valley." Dennis has birded in Alaska, Arizona, California, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Texas, Virginia and Alberta, Canada. Currently, Dennis enjoys just being afield locally watching what birds are up to.

KLAMATH BASIN TOP TO BOTTOM:

6:15 AM – 5:00 PM

This all day trip will focus on species that can be seen on the eastside of the Cascades Mountains, but will also include the incredible variety of bird species that can be found in the Klamath Basin. During the day, with some walking at times, we will encounter over 100 species while visiting a variety of habitats from wetlands to forests, to low sage-juniper uplands, from south of Klamath Falls to around the Upper Klamath Lake. Please bring a lunch and snacks, water, sunscreen, hat, binoculars, guide, and a scope (optional). We hope to view: Prairie Falcon, Golden Eagle, Swainson's Hawk, rushing Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Black Tern, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Tricolored Blackbird, Black-necked Stilt, Sandhill Crane, Black-billed Magpie, and others.

Field Trip Leader: Kevin Spencer

Kevin has been an elementary school teacher, as well as a junior/senior high school teacher, for 25 years. Birding for over 35 years, he has conducted Breeding Bird Surveys for USFWS and point count bird surveys for almost 20 years. Kevin has been the compiler for Klamath Falls Christmas Bird Count for nearly 25 years and was involved in the creation of species accounts for the book *Birds of Oregon: A General Reference*. While birding at any free moment, Kevin has visited the Klamath Basin locations mentioned in “A Birder's Guide to the Klamath Basin” countless times. He has seen or heard 314 different species in the Klamath Basin. A day bird watching in the Klamath Basin is hard to beat.

SHASTA VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA & BUTTE VALLEY GRASSLANDS, CALIFORNIA

6:15 AM – 7:00 PM

This is a long day field trip starting with the Shasta Valley Wildlife area in the morning then heading out to the Butte Valley Grasslands where we will visit Meiss Lake and surrounding environs. Stops will include Grass Lake and Butte Valley Wildlife Area. Possible birds will be American Bittern, Bald and Golden Eagles, Sandhill Cranes, assorted shorebirds including Greater Yellowlegs, possible Semi-palmated Plover, Dunlin, Spotted, Least and Western Sandpipers, Caspian, Forster's, and Black Tern, Acorn and Lewis Woodpecker, a variety of Flycatchers (Grey, Western Kingbird, Ash-throated, Black and Says Phoebe), Rock Wren, Marsh Wren, Chipping, Vesper, Lark, Savannah and Lincoln's Sparrows, Red-winged and Yellow-headed Blackbirds. This is only a partial list of course as this rich sagebrush steppe with surrounding Juniper and Pine forest holds some of the most diverse variety of species in the Pacific Northwest and we will be experiencing these areas during some of the busiest times of the year, migration and breeding!

Field Trip Leader: Joey Russell

Joey Russell is a long time Siskiyou County resident who has birded these areas for many years. She has a Bachelor's degree in Biology from SOU (Southern Oregon State College) and worked for the Klamath National Forest (Oak Knoll Ranger District) for many years before deciding to start a small local business which her and her husband have run for over 25 years. Some of her varied interests include wildlife art, horseback riding and gardening.

WILDFLOWERS IN THE SISKIYOU:

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring water, lunch and sunblock. There will be walking at elevations above 4300'. We will take the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) from Pilot Rock Road up to the ridge, and then work our way down the old quarry. This loop trip will be about 3 miles, including 500 feet of elevation gain and loss, and the descent will be more rapid. We should see lots of neat plants, both along the PCT and on the rocks. We will walk back along the road from the bottom of the quarry to our cars. We can expect to see some mountain bird species along the way as well.

Field Trip Leader: Alex Maksymowicz

Alex has been identifying, photographing, and just enjoying wildflowers in the Pacific Coast states as well as other parts of the world for 35 years. He has spent the last 12 years roaming the Siskiyou and Cascade Mountains in southwest Oregon and the adjoining part of California to check out the plants, and leading field trips for the local chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon (NPSO) and his own wildflower group. He has given several classes on the botany and ecology of wildflowers for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Southern Oregon University. His most recent course, Plants on the Rocks, reflected his current interest in the alpine and subalpine flowers in our region. Alex was field trip coordinator for the local NPSO chapter for four years and program chair for two years. He took time out from his botanical pursuits to serve as president of the Rogue Valley Audubon Society for three years and currently is the program chair.

KLAMATH LAKE NORTH:

6:30 AM – 4:00 PM

This trip will include birding at a private ranch near Rocky Point as well as birding at the Rocky Point location on Upper Klamath Lake. Also, we will bird at Eagle Ridge and Odessa Campground. This trip will visit dense evergreen forest, open lake habitat, freshwater marsh, and agricultural lands all above 4000’.

Species we may find include: Redhead, Ferruginous and Swainson's Hawk, Black Tern, Mountain Quail, Chukar, White-Headed Woodpecker, Bald Eagle Nest along Westside Road, Yellow-Headed Blackbird, Dancing Western Grebe (Eagle Ridge), White-Faced Ibis, Tri-colored Blackbird.

Field Trip Leader: Russ Namitz

Russ has only been birding for 17 years, but those years have been intense and purposeful. Complementing a nomadic 12 years of seasonal wildlife biology work, Russ has traveled extensively throughout North America in search of birds. Though he has experience birding the continents of Asia, South America and Australia, most of his international birding experience comes from over a dozen trips to Central America. He enjoys hard-to-identify groups like gulls, shorebirds and seabirds. Russ has guided for Oregon’s only pelagic birding company, The Bird Guide, Inc. for the last 5 years. He is an active member in the Oregon birding community and currently holds the Oregon Big Year record of 381 species. After almost a decade of teaching high school Biology and Oceanography, Russ now divides his time teaching part-time at Rogue Community College and wildlife consulting.

SISKIYOU COUNTY & KLAMATH RIVER:

6:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Bring sunblock, lunch, snacks, and drinking water. There will be some hiking from 2500-3500' in elevation. You will rendezvous with your trip leader at 7:30am at Collier Rest Stop on the Klamath River. The trip will also visit Tree of Heaven Campground on the river and then go to Shasta Valley Wildlife Area. Species we hope to find include Lewis's Woodpecker, California Thrasher, Black-billed Magpie, nesting Osprey, Sandhill Cranes, and possibly Canyon and Rock Wren.

Field Trip Leader: Bob Claypool

My parents instilled in me a love of the outdoors and as a boy I'd collect snakes, lizards, and salamanders. My brothers and I would venture into the Las Trampas Hills to dig fossils or marvel at California Pipevine flowers. In 1963 a peculiar bird crawling up a tree trunk attracted our attention. This bird seemed so odd that it sparked our curiosity and we soon had our hands on "A Field Guide to Western Birds" by Roger Tory Peterson. The bird turned out to be a Brown Creeper and in that book there were lots of other fascinating birds to figure out.....I was hooked!

In 1975 I left northern California and moved to the Klamath River, Siskiyou County in the "State of Jefferson." My folks now owned Beaver Creek Lodge and employed me as one of their steelhead driftboat guides. I also spent summers on western rivers as a whitewater guide for ARTA and Orange Torpedo Trips. During my sojourn I've participated in Christmas Counts, breeding bird surveys, International Migratory Bird Day field trips, presented slide shows about the bio-region to local Audubon chapters, and helped with school programs.

All the while I kept bird records along the Klamath River leading, in 2004, to my book "Klamath River Bird Finder" by Living Gold Press. The book is packed with tours, species accounts, a birding calendar and bar graphs for the Klamath River. Currently I work summers as a fire lookout on the Klamath National Forest. In 2013 Patti and I moved about twenty-five miles east into an entirely new habitat to discover. Staying connected with nature remains my goal.

WORLD'S BEST BOAT RAMP:

6:30 AM – 1:00 PM

We will make a trip to Rocky Point on upper Klamath Lake. It is possible to see three dozen species here in a brief stop. We will bird this spot with access to Klamath Lake and its extensive marsh system. We will also visit nearby forests. Expect Black Tern, Yellow-headed Blackbird, House Wren, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Yellow Warbler. Likely woodpeckers include White-headed plus both Williamson's and Red-breasted Sapsucker. Bring water, lunch, insect repellent.

Field Trip Leader: Kaitlin Clark, KBO Banding Crew Leader

Kaitlin started interning for KBO during summer 2014 as a part of the bird banding project. She worked throughout the winter as KBO's Science Communications and Outreach Intern, and has returned to the bird banding project for the summer 2015 season. She loves anything outdoors, especially birding, hiking, and biking, and is enchanted by the beauty of southern Oregon and northern California. She is currently a student at Michigan State University studying Wildlife Biology and Spanish. She would like to gain a variety of field and communications experiences before starting long-term bird monitoring on agricultural lands managed holistically and conventionally, and hopes to work with farmers to achieve greater production and thriving wildlife and plant communities.

SANDHILL CRANES AND NESTING TERRITORY:

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM

This trip includes the state of California's Shasta Valley Wildlife Area and the extensive, privately-owned Hart Ranch in Little Shasta Valley. Habitat types include lakes, freshwater marsh, sagebrush, grasslands and pastureland. Our main goal is to find Sandhill Cranes with their colts if the 2015 spring is wet enough for nesting. Birds we are likely to find are Yellow-headed Blackbird, Black-billed Magpies, possible Prairie Falcon. We will then head up Willow Creek Mountain looking for mountain birds such as Gray Jay, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Williamson's Sapsucker, Mountain Bluebird.

Field Trip Leader: Jim Flett, KBO Board Member, and Mary Anne Flett

Jim Flett moved to rural Siskiyou County in northern California over 35 years ago to be close to the rivers and extensive mountains of the area. He is still enjoying them today. He loves hiking and walking in the mountains and floating the rivers. He lives in the Shasta Valley with its grand views of Mt. Shasta and the ancient volcanos that surround it.

Jim is an active member of Mt. Shasta Area Audubon. He organizes the field trips for the chapter and often leads them. He is responsible for conducting an ongoing winter raptor survey in nearby Butte Valley. Jim is proud to be an active board member of Klamath Bird Observatory.

Mary Anne has been birding for more than 30 years. She and her brother, Jim, share a mutual love of birds and have enjoyed many trips together spotting and enjoying birds in varied locations and habitats throughout the western United States. She especially likes to identify birds by their songs and calls and tunes into them to locate local species, find unexpected avian visitors, and to gain clues to their behavior. It makes her incredibly happy to hear birds sing and to be outside in nature with her brother.