



# Sacajawea Audubon News

*Sacajawea Audubon Society builds on an interest in birds to promote the conservation of our natural environment through enjoyment, education, and action.*

*Monday, January 9th, 2023, at 6:30 PM, Hope Lutheran Church:*

## **"Saving Bozeman's Great Gray Owls"** with Kyle Dudgeon, *Bozeman nature photographer, storyteller, and naturalist guide*



*Kyle Dudgeon*

**D**espite being the largest owl by length in North America, the Great Gray Owl is one of the most difficult to find. However, the forests of the Bozeman area have long been known for holding some of the best habitat for great grays in Montana.

Nearly five years ago, photographer and avian enthusiast Kyle Dudgeon set out to locate these owls on his own. After months of searching

he was able to find a nesting territory on the east side of the Bridger Mountains and document two chicks growing up in the forest with the help of an adult male.

The story took a turn shortly after discovering the birds, as the Forest Service had plans to soon log the trees in which the owls lived. After countless phone calls and emails to contacts at the Gallatin National Forest, Kyle and some friends managed to halt logging operations until the young owls were capable of leaving the area. The story repeated itself the following year in a different nesting territory. It was then that Kyle landed on the idea of creating a film to tell the story. That film is called: *The Trees With Orange Rings*.

Kyle Dudgeon is a 25-year-old nature photographer, storyteller, and naturalist guide based in Bozeman, Montana. With his photographs and written words, Kyle strives to share the power and emotion that the natural world possesses, in hopes of encouraging conservation of species and environments at risk.

While pursuing his undergraduate degree in his home state of New York, Kyle found himself in Montana for an avian point-count technician position in the summer of 2018. He fell in love with the intermountain west as a result, and soon called it home after graduating the following year. Kyle strives to pursue stories that benefit the natural environments of the greater Bozeman area and beyond.



*Great Gray Owl photo by Kyle Dudgeon, courtesy of the photographer.*

You may attend the January program in person or virtually. The in-person meeting will be held Monday, January 9th, at Hope Lutheran Church, 2152 West Graf (off S. 19th). A social begins at 6:30 PM; the program begins at 7:00 PM. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own reusable cups.

If you wish to attend the program virtually, please register ahead of time at: [attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1554504260616628054](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1554504260616628054). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Attendees—whether in person or virtual—are encouraged to share their bird sightings at this and every monthly program. Share the program on social media using the hashtags #sasbirds #sacaaudubon #conservation and #owls.

SAS monthly programs are free and open to the public, featuring a special guest speaker the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May. For more information, contact Kyle Moon at [programs@sacajaweaudubon.org](mailto:programs@sacajaweaudubon.org).



*A Sharp-shinned Hawk sits in a tree waiting for the small birds to show up at a backyard feeder. Photo by Becky Saleeby.*

## A MESSAGE FROM SAS PRESIDENT CHRIS NIXON

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and welcomed the new year with family and friends. I'm pleased that so many of you made time within your busy holiday schedules to join us for our December program at the Ellen Theatre with Denver Holt. The program was well attended both online and at the theatre.

A HUGE THANKS to all of you who renewed your membership with Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS) for 2023! All the wonderful informative programs by monthly speakers, birding trips, native bird-friendly demonstration gardens, bird feeding stations, annual Bridger Raptor Count, and the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP) would not be possible without your continued support and involvement.

If you have not yet renewed your membership for this year, I encourage you to do so. We don't want to miss seeing you at SAS events and we don't want you to miss out on all the birding and wildlife related opportunities that SAS provides.

There will be improvements this year on numerous fronts as to what SAS offers. Stay tuned throughout the coming months on updates on the IAWP, raptor count, informative classes, morning bird walks, and more.

## SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Officers

President	Chris Nixon <a href="mailto:pres@sacajaweaaudubon.org">pres@sacajaweaaudubon.org</a>
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Treasurer (acting)	Loreene Reid <a href="mailto:treas@sacajaweaaudubon.org">treas@sacajaweaaudubon.org</a>
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### Board Members

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Education Chair	Travis Kidd <a href="mailto:education@sacajaweaaudubon.org">education@sacajaweaaudubon.org</a>
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THE WETLAND PRESERVATION PROJECT (WPP) was initiated to accomplish Sacajawea Audubon Society's mission to protect and restore increasingly rare wetland and riparian habitats in our region, and to provide educational opportunities and enjoyment for generations to come. The IAWP is the first of our wetland protection projects.

Article and photos by Frank Marchak



Unidentified buteo.

Winter has moved into the wetland. The beaver deceiver and lodge are both frozen in place, with the deceiver completely submerged. Beavers will spend all of winter in the lodge, where—despite the plunging temperatures—the temperature inside can reach the high 80s F. They will sometimes allow muskrats to share their lodge, likely because it adds more heat. As shown in the photo at right,

heat from the lodge melts the snow on top.

The entrance to the lodge is under water, so the beavers can swim under the ice to reach food. They spend the fall gathering branches and twigs that they stash just outside the lodge for easy access. Their thick fur and waterproof coats allow them to function normally in the cold waters and not hibernate.



Heat from the beaver lodge melts the snow on top.

The beavers are not the only remaining occupants. Deer seem to be in, around, and through the wetland, which is frozen enough to support their weight, so it's a bit of deer-vana. Magpies and chickadees stick around, and we have visiting raptors.

The path along the berm is clear, as are the benches. Stop by and enjoy this different insight into life at the wetland.

Keep your eyes open for exciting updates about the Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve (IAWP). Your donations for the IAWP are much needed and appreciated for the upcoming restoration. Visit [Bozemanwetlands.org](http://Bozemanwetlands.org) to learn more and make a donation to this exciting undertaking by Sacajawea Audubon Society and other partner organizations right here in Bozeman. Or, simply add a bit extra to your 2023 membership renewal using the form in this newsletter. The resident beaver and other wildlife thank you!





# BIRD NOTES

by John Parker

The most noteworthy spectacle of the fall was the huge fallout of **Trumpeter Swans**, **Tundra Swans**, and especially, **Snow Geese** across a line from Livingston to Three Forks. Typically, the first major Arctic air mass of the season is the impetus that pushes the birds off of their high Arctic breeding grounds.

In western Montana, this movement can occur anywhere from the third week of October until the fourth week of November, but the period from October 28 to November 10 is when these huge flights are most likely to occur. Most years, the peak flight of waterfowl doesn't coincide with a storm, and the birds move overhead unnoticed during clear nights. The convergence of weather and the waterfowl migration that can cause these localized fallouts only happens every several years.

A major winter storm settled into this area as the peak of the swan and goose migration was moving over the area. The peak of this storm and the waterfowl grounding was from November 7–8, with the geese numbers trailing off over the next two days. Judging by the various reports from around the Gallatin Valley, there were well over 10,000 Snow Geese and hundreds of swans waiting out the storm the night of November 7–8. At our house south of Bozeman, while shoveling out from the storm the morning of the 8th, I counted more than 3,000 Snow Geese flying overhead, primarily moving to the southwest.

Along with the post storm morning flight of swans and geese, other high-latitude breeding birds such as **Lapland Longspurs** and **Snow Buntings** were also on the move flying through the lifting clouds.

This storm event brought several more surprises. The biggest surprise was a female **Northern Cardinal**, which was first seen November 7th at Joe Stylos's house in the foothills south of Bozeman. Joe had just put out the feeders, after not feeding for a couple of months due to bear activity. Within minutes the cardinal was at the feeder eating its favorite black oil sunflower seeds. For the next three weeks the cardinal was a regular at the feeder. This is the first record for Northern Cardinal anywhere in the southwestern part of Montana, and only about the seventh record for anywhere in the state.

A **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** turned up at Reder Daughenbough's yard south of Bozeman on November 6th. On November 10th, a **Spotted Towhee** was seen by Eric Christopherson and William Burkert along Sixteen Mile Road, in the northern reaches of Gallatin County.

Later in November, two *Catharus* thrushes made late-season



*Snow Geese photo by Ed Harper.*

appearances. While birding at the Sunset Hills Cemetery in Bozeman on November 20th, Lou Ann Harris discovered a **Swainson's Thrush**. It's extremely rare to find a Swainson's Thrush anywhere in North America after October, and this sighting was the second-latest ever for Montana. Hardier than the Swainson's Thrush, the **Hermit Thrush** is still a nice bird to find during the winter, so the Hermit Thrush first found along the Sourdough Nature Trail in Bozeman by David Benes on November 25th was notable. The same or another Hermit Thrush was still being seen at the north end of the trail, in Graf Park, until at least December 11th.

I'm not sure you can call it a flurry, but two different **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were seen in the Gallatin Valley early in December. The first was seen poking around the spruce trees at Andrew Guttenberg's Belgrade home on December 4th. The second briefly appeared December 6th in Dorrie Green's west Bozeman yard. I was surprised to learn that these are only the second and third sightings for Yellow-rumped Warbler in this area during December. Locally, there are two late-winter records for Yellow-rumped Warbler, both occurring in late February.

Judy Tsiang had a male **Lesser Goldfinch** visit her south Bozeman feeder on December 6th. Lesser Goldfinch have been expanding their range in Montana during the past decade, but are still infrequently seen in southwestern Montana.

Remember to keep looking for those surprises among your regular feeder birds, because you never know!



## YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!!

### Friday, January 6, at 7 PM at the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture “Nature’s Best Hope: Sustaining Plants and Animals that Sustain Us” with Doug Tallamy

By Lou Ann Harris

Doug Tallamy photo by Rob Cardillo



**G**allatin Valley Earth Day—in partnership with Sacajawea Audubon Society and Montana Native Plant Society’s Valley of the Flowers Chapter—presents: “Nature’s Best Hope” with Douglas Tallamy on Friday, January 6, at 7 PM, both live streaming and in person at the Emerson Center’s Crawford Theater.

“We are at a critical point of losing so many species from local ecosystems that their ability to produce the oxygen, clean water, flood control, pollination, pest control, carbon storage, etc., that is, the ecosystem services that sustain us, will become seriously compromised.” ~ Doug Tallamy

Mr. Tallamy brings a new approach to conservation that starts in our own yards. By landscaping with native plant communities that sustain food webs and biodiversity, we can enhance local ecosystems rather than degrade them. If we

do this in half of the area in America that is currently mowed lawns, we can create a new “Homegrown National Park”—a 20-million-acre network of viable habitats that will provide vital corridors connecting the few natural areas that remain. This approach to conservation empowers each of us to play a significant role in the future of the natural world.

Doug is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has authored 104 research articles and publications and has taught insect-related courses for 40 years. His latest books are the *New York Times* bestseller *Nature’s Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard* and *The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Tree*. His book *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens* (2007) was awarded the 2008 silver medal by the Garden Writers’ Association. Tallamy was awarded the Garden Club of America Margaret Douglas Medal for Conservation and the Tom Dodd Jr. Award of Excellence in 2013.

**To register to attend the event online, please visit [gallatinvalleyearthday.org](http://gallatinvalleyearthday.org). Once registered, you will receive a link to the event shortly before January 6th.**



*Pine Siskin feeding on Rudbeckia laciniata. Photo by Lou Ann Harris.*



# CITIZEN SCIENTISTS NEEDED *for* ROSY-FINCH FEEDER SURVEYS

By Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon



**D**o you feed birds during the cold winter months, or know of a friend or family member who does? If so, we at Montana Audubon encourage you to join us and contribute to a large Rosy-Finch study spanning at least eight western states!

This coming winter, Montana Audubon is once again partnering with Utah's Sageland Collaborative on the multi-state **Rosy-Finch Project** in an effort to better understand Rosy-Finches' population status, distribution, survival rates, demography, and migratory tendencies, all of which are poorly understood. Rosy-Finches breed around cliffs and snowfields in our highest elevations, and are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

That is why Montana Audubon and the Sageland Collaborative are members of the Rosy-Finch Working Group, which was created in order to foster collaboration among Rosy-Finch researchers, managers, and other interested

parties, with the ultimate goal of developing conservation strategies for Rosy-Finches and their habitat. Before devising effective conservation strategies for these remarkable, hardy little birds, we first need to better understand their life-history, population status, and distribution.

## THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

While population studies of Rosy-Finches in their remote, difficult-to-access summer breeding habitat are extremely challenging, these birds move to lower elevations when the snow flies, and regularly visit bird feeders in many parts of western and central Montana. We are looking for birdwatchers who are interested in helping with our Rosy-Finch conservation efforts by doing as little as watching their—or a friend's—feeder for 20 minutes, only once a month, from December to April, and reporting their observations. Even if you rarely or never see Rosy-Finches at your feeder, your contribution will be valued!

While time commitment for this important project is fairly minimal, we are asking interested individuals to review an hour-long training webinar that is recorded at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVHZJjwn6Kw>

For more information and to get started, contact our Avian Specialist Bo Crees at [bcrees@mtaudubon.org](mailto:bcrees@mtaudubon.org) or Volunteer Coordinator Cassidy Dinkel at [cassidy@mtaudubon.org](mailto:cassidy@mtaudubon.org). We hope to hear from you soon!



*Logo by Frances Ngo.  
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches  
photo by Terri Narotzky.*





*Evening Grosbeaks and House Finch at the Story Mill feeding station. Photo by Lou Ann Harris.*

## **UPDATE: Story Mill Community Park Feeding Station**

*By Lou Ann Harris*



**T**he feeders continue to be a popular stop at the bird blind in Story Mill Community Park! Sacajawea Audubon Society volunteers are keeping the feeders filled for hungry birds, whether they are migrating through or are year-round residents. Stop by and see the fun variety of birds that are visiting our feeding station. The latest notable guests in the nature preserve were a White-breasted Nuthatch and a Northern Saw-whet Owl! However, our bird seed fund is running low. On average, we spend \$1,000 on bird feed each year.

We encourage and appreciate donations to keep the feeders filled and the birds and park visitors happy! You can donate online where the “Story Mill Park Bird Feeding Station” is listed as one of our special campaigns (<https://sacajaweaudubon.org/donate>). Or simply add a little extra amount earmarked for the feeding station as you renew your membership this month (<https://sacajaweaudubon.org/join-sas/>). Regardless of how you donate, the Story Mill Park birds—and bird watchers—thank you for your support!

Thanks to all our volunteers who keep the feeders filled: Lucy Bikulcs, Brian Cassell, Paulette Epple, Andy Epple, John Harris, Lou Ann Harris, Beth Kaeding, Lynn Kaeding, Mark Lusch, Mary Maj, Adam Makhuf, Becky Ward, and Kevin Ward.

*SAS Volunteer John Harris lowers a feeder for refilling.  
Photo by Lou Ann Harris.*





# WINTER BIRDING CLASSES *with* ASHLEY MARTENS

## **\*NEW\*** Sacajawea Audubon Society Introduction to Birding Classes

Curious about birding but not sure if you're ready to commit to our 3-week Beginning Birding Session in springtime? Want to learn some common birds without the overwhelm of spring migrants? This class is for you! We begin with a classroom session to learn some basics and then venture out for a field trip.

**Classroom:** Thurs., Feb. 23rd, at Wild Birds Unlimited.

**Field Trip:** Sat., Feb. 25th, or Sat., March 4th (we'll choose based on weather), at Story Mill and Cherry River Parks.

**Cost:** \$45 for Sacajawea Audubon Society members; \$55 for non-members. **Maximum 8 students.** Supply lists will be provided upon registration. Binoculars available to borrow.

Register at: [https://secure.lglforms.com/form\\_engine/s/3U9FGQ4-5-vMoit2a3a0rg](https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/3U9FGQ4-5-vMoit2a3a0rg)

## WOW! Wonders of Winter: Bird/Plant Relationships

Explore the ecology and whimsy of three of our fascinating winter birds and their relationships to native plants. Learn how to identify each species, discover its unique lifestyle, and engage in mindful activities for deeper connection.



*Bohemian Waxwing photo by Jerry Taylor*



**Townsend's Solitaire & Juniper:** Fri., Feb. 3rd, 2–4 PM at the "M."

**Bohemian Waxwing & Mountain Ash:** Fri., March 3rd, at Gardner Park.

**Canada Jay & Engelmann Spruce:** Fri., March 31st, 2–4PM, in the Bridgers on snowshoes.

**Cost:** \$30 each for SAS members; \$40 for non-members.

Register at: [https://secure.lglforms.com/form\\_engine/s/hwNcDJQ3f163a9BHGg0maQ](https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/hwNcDJQ3f163a9BHGg0maQ)

## Good Company : Trees

Explore the ecology and wonder of three of our native trees. Learn how to identify each species, discover its unique lifestyle, and engage in mindful activities for deeper connection.

**Douglas-Fir:** Fri., Jan. 27th, 2–4 PM, at Triple Tree.

**Limber Pine:** Fri., Feb. 24th, 2–4 PM, at Drinking Horse.

**Englemann Spruce:** Fri., March 24th, 2–4 PM, in the Bridgers on snowshoes.

**Cost:** \$30 each for SAS members; \$40 for non-members.

Register at: [https://secure.lglforms.com/form\\_engine/s/hwNcDJQ3f163a9BHGg0maQ](https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/hwNcDJQ3f163a9BHGg0maQ)

*Left: Douglas Fir photo by Ashley Martens.*



# SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY BLUEBIRD TRAIL HISTORY

*This is the third installment in a series by Lou Ann Harris on the rich history of the Sacajawea Audubon Society Bluebird Trail Project.*

## Audubon Society Bluebird Trails Report: 1988

*(from a report by Louis Moos)*

“1988 was a successful year for the bluebird trail program. The number one problem was securing help with the increased number of visits made to each nesting box this season.

“Five trips were made to each box on both Pass Creek and Trail Creek. Checking boxes, keeping records for the nesting card program, and banding young and adult birds was time consuming. It took about eight hours, using three people to do the Pass Creek Trail during the peak of the nesting season.

“A large number of miles were clocked. About 900 miles were driven during the May through July trips. Credit for assistance this year goes to Fred and Pam Boettcher, Jim and Jeanne Waldo, Harry Cockrum, Jean Thorson, and Mrs. Fogelson and her daughter. The Fogelsons assisted with the Trail Creek project.

“More bluebirds than ever were banded this year. The 40 bluebird boxes placed in the Willow Creek area by Jim and Jeanne Waldo were very successful. There is room for at least 50–75 additional boxes in both the Pass Creek and Trail Creek areas.

“The birds banded in 1988 do not represent all of the birds produced. We tried to visit each box in time to catch all of the young before they fledged. However, we missed some of the young that left between visits.

NUMBERS OF BIRDS Banded IN 1988	
Mountain Bluebird	588
Tree Swallow	149
House Wren	22
Mountain Chickadee	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>769</b>

“Nesting cards have been prepared for all nesting boxes and forwarded to the Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, New York, New York. The Sacajawea Audubon Society had credit for over 4,000 nesting cards before this season’s report. Banding records are all filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC. This agency also supplies all of the bands. We have no band returns to indicate where the bluebirds spend the winter.

“Nests are often disturbed or destroyed with no apparent explanation. Occasionally, both tree swallow and bluebird eggs are found in the same nest. Apparently, tree swallows can take over a bluebird nest.



*Mountain Bluebird with an insect. Photo by Lou Ann Harris.*

“We had one unusual record of a bluebird nest which contained one house sparrow egg along with the bluebird eggs. On the nest visit, there were two bluebird eggs and two house sparrow eggs. Both of the adult bluebirds were found dead in the nest.

“Some observations from the 1988 nesting cards:

- Bluebirds do return to the same area where they were hatched. Some returned the first year and some the second.
- Some boxes produce two broods per year.
- One box had two broods produced by the same female (we don’t know if the male was the same).
- One female nested in the same box two years in a row.
- The normal number of eggs for bluebirds is 5 or 6.
- Mountain Chickadees have 8 or 9 eggs, and house wrens may have up to 8 eggs.
- Most boxes are used by bluebirds. Tree Swallows use some, and one box has had Mountain Chickadees every year.
- House Wrens use boxes located close to trees and shrubs.”

## Sedan Trail: 1992

**T**he Sedan Bluebird Trail was established by Ethel Fogelson and Mary Ahlers in 1992. They used money donated to SAS in memory of Louis Moos to create the trail in his honor. Located along the eastern foot of the Bridger Mountains in the Flathead Creek area, a total of 61 nest boxes were installed. Sixteen additional boxes were added at the end of the first season. One hundred eighty-seven bluebirds fledged with very little failure. Eighty-five tree swallows and one brood of four mountain chickadees rounded out that first season. The Sedan Trail is still monitored, currently by Markie Nathan and Ginny Havens, after long-time monitor Tove Hunter passed away in 2020.

*To be continued in a future newsletter...*



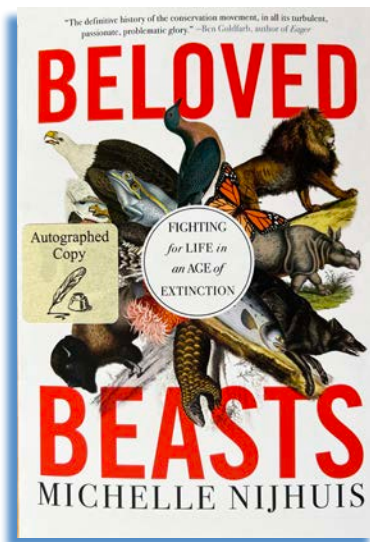
# Sacajawea Audubon Society Book Club News

Our next book club meeting will be held **January 18th** at **Hope Lutheran Church** from **6:30 to 7:45 PM**. We hope you can join us in person or virtually for a discussion of *Beloved Beasts: Fighting for Life in an Age of Extinction* by Michelle Nijhuis (2021).

New photographs of Earth taken at the end of 2022 from NASA spacecraft Orion while orbiting the Moon—from a distance of 270,000 miles—remind us of the incredible beauty and vulnerability of Earth. After splashdown last month the head of NASA spoke about the role of Orion, a human-rated spacecraft, in global efforts to revisit the Moon, Mars, and “untouched cosmic shores.”

While space exploration provides a wealth of knowledge and allows us to dream about a future for humanity beyond the confines of Earth, our January selection, *Beloved Beasts*, reels us back to the worthy fight to conserve all life forms on Planet Earth. *Beloved Beasts* is a history of the conservation movement starting with Linnaeus, who described, named, and brought to public awareness the diversity of living things known in the 1700s. Linnaeus was one of the first prominent scientists to voice the possibility of species extinction. In the 300 years intervening, the conservation movement has ranged from a focus on sustaining game and forests for human use, to

protecting species and landscapes from human interference, to the environmental movement’s emphasis on global issues like air and water pollution and climate change, and to the animal welfare movement’s focus on improving the lives of domesticated animals. In *Beloved Beasts*, author Michelle Nijhuis writes about the history and future of conservation efforts to ensure the persistence of animal species—ranging from Plains Bison to eagles and Whooping Cranes—and the complex habitats that sustain each. Readers of this book will walk away with a deeper understanding of the wildlife and birds featured therein; of the lives and ideas of the scientists, public servants, and activists who led the battles on their behalf; and winning conservation strategies begging to be adapted today in our local communities.



## BOOK AWARDS

Winner of the Sierra Club’s 2021 Rachel Carson Award; One of *Chicago Tribune’s* Ten Best Books of 2021; Named a Top Ten Best Science Book of 2021 by *Smithsonian Magazine*.

If you would like to be included in monthly email reminders or to attend the meeting virtually, please email Elisabeth Swanson at [elsswa@gmail.com](mailto:elsswa@gmail.com) or call her at (406) 570-8325. For other questions, you can email our other leader, Hilary Johnson, at [ralphhilary@gmail.com](mailto:ralphhilary@gmail.com), or call her at (406) 599-1446.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RAFFLE WINNERS!

Thank you to all who supported the **Bridger Raptor Survey** by purchasing raffle tickets.

The drawing was held December 12th at the close of the special presentation with Denver Holt at The Ellen Theatre. Congratulations to **Cara Priem** and **John Winnie**, who each won a **Bridger Bowl Season Pass**, generously donated once again by **Bridger Bowl**.



*Bridger Bowl photo by Justin Kiner.*



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2023!

## RENEW YOUR SAS ANNUAL LOCAL MEMBERSHIP TODAY

**S**acajawea Audubon Society (SAS) encourages all of you who enjoy our field trips and monthly programs or support our conservation work to join/renew your local chapter membership. 100% of your local membership dues will **directly** support SAS educational and conservation programs.

Even if you belong to the National Audubon Society (NAS), we need your support through a local SAS membership. As an SAS member, you'll enjoy the benefits of membership while knowing that your annual dues are used locally for conservation right here in your own neighborhood. Please help us ensure a secure future for what remains of the wildlife and wildlands in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem of Montana by joining our flock as we fly high together.

### SAS Members Are ...

- Protecting working lands for birds and other wildlife.
- Preserving and protecting bird species and their habitats.
- Supporting bird-friendly communities in Montana with our bird-friendly landscape program.
- Contributing to environmental education programs for all ages and abilities on birds, wildlife, and habitat.
- Partnering with other environmental groups, citizens, and local governments to protect community health.
- Advocating for environmental issues locally and regionally.

### SAS Members Enjoy ...

- Opportunities to meet new people and become part of a friendly group with shared interests.
- Free monthly programs with keynote speakers.
- Free "Birding Hotspots of Gallatin Valley" guide to birding around the Gallatin Valley & beyond.
- Free monthly member e-newsletter (9 per year).
- Member-only discounts on educational courses, programs, and special events.
- Savings on purchases and access to member-only sales.
- Participation in many citizen science projects.
- Free guided birding field trips.

Sacajawea Audubon Society is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with its own board of directors, membership, budget, and programs. SAS membership does not include membership in the National Audubon Society, although we are a NAS chapter and fully value and support their work and advocacy. Why not become a member of both!

Join or renew online: <https://sacajaweaudubon.org/give>

### Thank You!

*Sacajawea Audubon Society's Board of Directors*

## SACAJAWEA AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP 2023

*Individual or Family | January–December 2023*

**Basic Membership** ..... \$25

**Supporting Membership** ..... \$50

*(Supporting local conservation & education projects)*

**Thank You for Considering an Additional Donation \$** \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridger Raptor Study                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland Campaign      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Projects                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Story Mill Park<br>Bird Feeding Station | <input type="checkbox"/> Wherever is Needed    |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

*(Street or PO Box)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(City) (State) (Zip)*

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Sacajawea Audubon Society Newsletter is sent by email.  I would like a paper newsletter mailed to me.

*We do not share your information except with National Audubon Society, so your contact information is safe with us.*

*Please check this box  if you do **NOT** want your information shared with the National Audubon Society.*

**YES! I have included another \$20 to join National Audubon Society**

**Mail this form and your check to:** Sacajawea Audubon Society, Attn: Membership  
PO Box 1711, Bozeman, MT 59771-1711

*Thank you for your membership and donation. We look forward to birding with you!*

JAN 23 newsletter

January 2023



**Sacajawea Audubon Society**  
P.O. Box 1711  
Bozeman, MT 59771-1771  
*Change Service Requested*

**Sacajawea Audubon Society**, affiliated with the National Audubon Society, meets on the second Monday of each month, September through May.

**Sacajawea Audubon Society's Monthly Newsletter** is available electronically to all Sacajawea Audubon Society members, September through May.

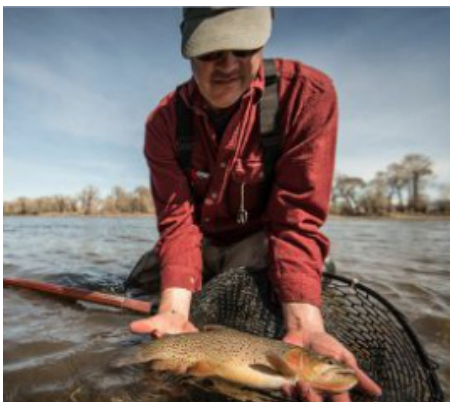
Deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month preceding the month the articles will appear. Send articles electronically to [newsletter@sacajaweaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@sacajaweaudubon.org).

**Change of Address:** If you have a change of address or are away, please notify [membership@sacajaweaudubon.org](mailto:membership@sacajaweaudubon.org). Undeliverable mailed newsletters are returned to us for an extra fee.

Find more at the **Sacajawea Audubon Society website** at [sacajaweaudubon.org](http://sacajaweaudubon.org)



*Doug Smith (above) and Pat Byroth (below).*



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS FREE EVENT!!**

## **“Night of the Wolves”**

**Tues., January 10th, 2023, at The Ellen Theatre**

**M**ountain Journal (MoJo) is thrilled to invite you to an evening of fun, information, and entertainment in honor of Doug Smith and Pat Byroth stepping down from their current positions. “Night of the Wolves,” hosted by MoJo at The Ellen Theatre in downtown Bozeman on Jan. 10th, will focus on the careers and accomplishments of Smith, who served for more than 30 years as senior wolf biologist for Yellowstone National Park, and Byroth, longtime biologist with the state and a Montana Fish and Wildlife Commissioner.

MoJo founder Todd Wilkinson will lead this riveting conversation, which begins at 7 PM on Tuesday Jan. 10th. The event is free and we hope you’ll join us in honoring these two legends in the science and conservation world.

**MOUNTAIN JOURNAL**  
OUR SUMMIT IS TRUTH.