



CALENDAR

JANUARY

10 Wednesday 8:30/9:30am Bird Walk

Fort Buenaventura Park: Meet at Moore's Family Restaurant (3558 Wall Ave) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the entrance to the park at 9:30am.

16 Tuesday 7:00pm WAS Meeting

Dr. John Mull, Weber State University's "Ant Man": Western Harvester Ant and its effects on the ecosystem. He researched birds when he earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Pittsburgh. He earned his doctorate's degree in biology/ecology from Utah State University, where he turned his interest to ants, because his adviser "wasn't interested in having a student work on birds." Mull's three options were spiders, grasshoppers or ants.

17 Wednesday 8:30/9:00am Bird Walk

Little Mountain Railroad Trail: Meet at McDonald's (1838 W 2700 N, Farr West just east of I-15, exit 349) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the trailhead (west on 4000 N from Smith and Edward's) at 9:00am.

20 Saturday 10:00am Field Trip

Gull Identification Field Trip: Grab your scopes and join WAS as we visit some of Northern Utah's best gull destinations. We will depart from Denny's (1172 W 21st St) at 10:00 am and be gone until late afternoon. Bring a snack, drink, and warm clothes. Location of trip will depend on the gulls and is TBD. Contact Mike Hearrell @ utmarshrat@yahoo.com or (801) 529-8693, if you have questions.

24 Wednesday 8:30/9:30am Bird Walk

Kays Creek Parkway: Meet at Village Inn (1765 Skyline Drive, South Ogden) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the Parkway parking lot at 9:30am.

31 Wednesday 8:30/9:00am Bird Walk

Riverdale Trail (south): Meet at McDonald's (900 W Riverdale Rd) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the trailhead parking lot (from Riverdale Rd., south on 700 W for one block, then left on 4600 S to lot on right at end of the road) at 9:00am.

January/February 2018

FEBRUARY

6 Tuesday 7:00pm WAS Board Meeting

Ogden Nature Center: All members are welcome to attend. 966 West 12th Street, Ogden.

7 Wednesday 8:30/9:30am Bird Walk

Beus Pond and Glasmann Pond: Meet at Village Inn (1765 E Skyline Drive, South Ogden) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the Beus parking lot at 9:30am.

10 Saturday 10:00am/3:00pm DWR Eagle Day

Eagle Day at Salt Creek Waterfowl Management Area: This is a **TENTATIVE** date. We were unable to confirm the date prior to publication. The Area is located 4 miles west of Corinne on UT-83. Take 6800 West and follow signs to the landfill. Wasatch Audubon members will provide scopes and talk to visitors about eagles, other local birds, and conservation. Check our Facebook page or website for details as we receive more information. Just go to <http://wasatchaudubon.org/> and click on: Find us on Facebook. You can also call Keith Evans at 801-476-0232 for information.

14 Wednesday 8:30/9:30am Bird Walk

Antelope Island: Meet at Warren's (1778 S 1000 W, Syracuse) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the entrance lot to Antelope Island SP at 9:30am. Remember this is a fee area.

20 Tuesday 7:00pm WAS Meeting

Breathe Utah: The non-profit organization works to increase air quality awareness and engagement among youth and adults, creates projects to directly improve air quality, and promotes sound policies. Learn more about how we all are affected by, and can help improve, the quality of the air we breathe along the Wasatch Front.

21 Wednesday 8:30/9:45am Bird Walk

Mantua Reservoir Area: Meet at Rusted Spoon (2645 US 89, Perry) for breakfast at 8:30am or at 9:45am at the parking lot on the east side of Mantua Reservoir.

FEBRUARY (cont.)

24 Saturday 7:30am Field Trip

Annual Morgan County Bald Eagle Trip: Meet at the DWR office (515 E. 5300 S. in South Ogden) at 7:30am. We'll carpool from there. We will have breakfast at Larry's Spring Chicken Inn in Morgan. This is an all day trip. We usually don't finish until 4:00pm, so bring a lunch and drinks.

28 Wednesday 8:30/9:30am Bird Walk

South Ogden Nature Park: Meet at Village Inn (1765 E Skyline Drive, South Ogden) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the parking lot for the Nature Park at 9:30am.

MARCH

7 Wednesday 8:30/9:30am Bird Walk

Jefferson Hunt Campground Trail (note: trail starts on the West side of the campground): Meet at Dylan's (981 12th St) for breakfast at 8:30am or at the Smith's Parking lot (12th and Harrison) to carpool at 9:30am.

Contact Persons for WAS Outings Wednesday

Walks - Paul Lombardi pslombard@gmail.com

Saturday Field Trips (the Saturday after the WAS Tuesday Meeting) Mike Hearrell 801-529-8693

Upcoming events at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

January 13, 2018 Owl Day
February 10, 2018 Eagle Day
March 10, 2018 Swan Day

Check out the Refuge's website for more info: http://fws.gov/refuge/bear_river_migratory_bird_refuge/

November Field Trip Report

by Dan Johnston

What a great way to start our Saturday Field Trip to East Canyon: breakfast at Larry's Spring Chicken Inn. Eight birders ate breakfast and started out looking for the birds. Our group that Saturday was Nancy Arnett, Lynn Carroll, Dan and Laura Johnston, Paul Lombardi, George Muller, Sharen Perry and Les Talbot. We traveled up East Canyon to the State Park and on up the canyon to Large Springs, stopping many times along the way to check out the birds and scenery. We spotted 31 species. The highlights were White-winged Scoter, Pacific Loon, American Dipper, Townsend's Solitaire, Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Wild Turkey, and Pine Grosbeak.

Nest Box Cleanout

by Nancy Arnett

A small group of Wasatch Audubon members met on the morning of Saturday, Sept 23rd, for the annual nest box cleanout. We split into groups and set out on the routes on the Monte Cristo highway. Most of the approximately 100-120 boxes were still in place. A few had fallen down so we hung them up again on trees or fence posts. Several boxes needed minor repairs and some were simply missing altogether.

Most boxes had been used, with the majority by house wrens. Bluebirds and tree swallows had used fewer boxes and some boxes were empty. Each species has its own unique style of nest building, material and design.

One special experience Lynn Carroll, John Bellmon and I had, while walking along a fence line, was coming upon a flock of two-three dozen bluebirds. There were adults and juveniles congregating to get ready to head south for the winter. They were very vocal. We like to think they were saying "thank you" and "see you again next year." The beautiful experience validated the whole purpose of cleaning and maintaining the boxes to support such a population and future generations.

Thank you to all of those who helped including Brian Nosker. Also, thank you to Arnold and Weston Smith who helped on an earlier date on a different route.