



THE PRIMARY SOURCE

Our mission is to conserve birds of the Rocky Mountains, Great Plains, and Intermountain West and the habitats on which they depend through research, monitoring, education, and outreach.

RMBO Researchers Explore Nebraska Playa Mysteries

By Alison Cariveau, Research Division Director

The oversized 1980s van with several surfboards strapped on top looked out of place as it pulled up to a ramshackle house in the small western Nebraska farming town of Imperial. Cliff Cordy unfolded his thin, six-foot four-inch frame from the driver's side and was greeted by Derek Hill, a transplant from Texas. Contacted by RMBO just a couple of weeks before, Cliff had traveled from Oregon for a project to monitor shorebird and waterfowl use of playa wetlands during migration. With a Ph.D. in mathematics, Cliff hung up the numbers game awhile back and has been traveling the country studying his passion: birds and why they do what they do.

Derek, who had been conducting point counts for RMBO earlier in the summer, was called to western Nebraska on equally short notice. On the heels of an early August downpour, the two skilled birders were summoned to implement a research plan that had been waiting like a dormant seed for the right conditions.

Long-known to be important stopover points for migratory waterfowl and shorebirds, playas are little understood. These ephemeral wetlands are dry much of the year, filled only by infrequent, very heavy rainfalls. In 2005, RMBO's Research Division developed a plan to unravel some of the mysteries surrounding the response of playas to heavy rainfall. The plan was developed in partnership with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC), Playa Lakes Joint Venture, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Funding was lined up through a Nebraska State Wildlife Grant and from Conoco-Phillips through the Joint Venture.

Sprinkled throughout prime farm land in the southern Great Plains, playas make unusually good stopover habitats for waterfowl and shorebirds for two main reasons. The dry-wet cycling produces huge pulses of insects upon inundation and promotes the growth of annual plants, which produce copious amounts of seeds to capitalize on episodic growing opportunities. These seeds are particularly nutritious for birds.



Photo: Ted LaGrange, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

RMBO biologists Derek Hill (left) and Cliff Cordy survey wetland plants at a Nebraska playa.

However, a century of farming has loosened ample amounts of topsoil that rushes into these depressions during flooding rain events, filling them up not only with water but also with dirt, diminishing their ability to function as wetlands and ultimately causing their loss. Birds flying over have for centuries revived on these playas en route between their arctic breeding grounds and South American winter spots. Now these wetlands are becoming fewer and farther between. This is the conservation challenge in a nutshell.

RMBO was particularly interested in what kind of rain event fills playas and how long the playas held the water. The research plan was also designed to learn whether unmanipulated (non-excavated) larger playas closer to other wetlands and further from roads provide higher quality habitat for migrating wetland-dependent birds than playa wetlands without these attributes. RMBO and its research partners are also comparing the rate at which playas in native grassland, cropland, and restored cropland (such as



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From the Director Melissa Gardner

Our Brighton office staff and I had the good fortune in May to participate in eaglet banding at Barr Lake State Park. What a treat! It was a thrill to observe and learn about the two very sweet wild eaglets hatched at the park this spring. I am thoroughly impressed with the wonderful work that RMBO volunteer Nelda Gamble has done with the Bald Eagle Watch program. Thank you Nelda for being such a dedicated RMBO volunteer!

Jerry Craig, formerly with Colorado Division of Wildlife and now occasional RMBO employee, assisted with the banding and enlightened us with his vast knowledge of eagles and bird habitats. You will have a chance to learn from Jerry Craig yourself, as he will be speaking at the RMBO picnic on August 18th.

Since I became Executive Director of RMBO on March 2, 2007, I have found it a joy to work with the talented RMBO staff. RMBO is very fortunate to have a wonderful team that is knowledgeable, experienced, and totally dedicated to conserving birds and their habitats.

We are now full swing in our field season, with approximately 55 additional seasonal field staff helping RMBO complete monitoring, research, and outreach on the many projects we have with partner agencies and organizations. Our full time biologists are splitting their time between the office and the field coordinating projects throughout the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains. The cooler weather this spring and summer has cooperated greatly in RMBO's field work.

Back in the RMBO corporate office, we have been extremely busy in the 2nd Quarter of our fiscal year. A majority of my time and effort has been spent analyzing, reviewing, and implementing new administrative systems, policies, and procedures designed to make RMBO more efficient and effective. Some of these improvements have included upgrading our internet to a faster and more dependable line, upgrading our accounting systems and QuickBooks, and outsourcing the RMBO payroll to a payroll services company, resulting in more efficient and accurate payroll reporting. These changes are essential to establishment of a sound foundation for the future growth of RMBO.

RMBO is currently advertising for a full time Accountant which we desperately need! If you know of a good accountant please have them fax a resume to (303) 654-0791. See the ad on the back cover of this edition.

RMBO volunteers are greatly needed this summer and fall! We have all sorts of fun activities we need help with: assisting with educational activities and bird banding at Barr Lake State Park, office help: data entry, filing, inventory, and sorting bulk mailings; manning RMBO booths at various events, and more. Call Amanda Morrison at (303) 659-4348 today to volunteer. Go to www.rmbo.org for more information about volunteering for RMBO.

This summer I'm excited to announce that RMBO will be sponsoring free monthly guided bird watching walks. Discover firsthand the abundant wildlife at beautiful Barr Lake State Park on a guided bird watching walk led by a RMBO biologist. These walks are open to the public, so bring a friend! All ages are invited, but a parent or guardian must accompany children under the age of 14. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water as off-road walking will be involved. Binoculars and field guides will be provided for the walk. If you wish to attend, call in your reservation at least 2 days in advance to Starr Nicely at (303) 659-4348. Sign up now, as reservations will be taken on a first come, first serve basis, and groups will be limited to 20 people. RMBO's free monthly guided bird watching walks will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. on Wednesday July 18, Friday August 24, Friday September 7, and Monday October 15.

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Playa Research

Conservation Reserve Program, CRP) are filled by rainfall and how long they hold water. This directly relates to frequency, duration, and quality of bird habitat these wetlands provide.

The summer of 2006 was dry into the first week of August. Then, a four-inch rain stormed across a swath of Chase and Perkins counties, trapping some folks at their homes while the dirt roads suffered under several feet of moving water. The storm set the study plan into motion.

Seven days later, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pilot took off in a Cessna 172 and using the latest GIS-synchronized video technology, shot color infrared photography of the area to determine how many playas were filled and assess surrounding land use. Supplementing the field work being done by Cliff and Derek, the aerial survey discovered playas that had not shown up in the RMBO data set.

Others that were expected from previous surveys were gone, filled with dirt. Nearly half of the playas mapped by the National Wetlands Inventory in the early 1980s appeared to have been lost from the study area.

On the ground, Cliff and Derek (selected because their expert birding skills matched the challenge of identifying fall-plumage shorebirds) set out to monitor conditions on the playas and patterns of use by birds. The two usually worked independently. On a typical day, Derek would maneuver his SUV down a two-track and stealthily over a rise. Surreptitiously he would set up a spotting scope next to his vehicle and quickly count two Northern Shovelers, two Greater Yellowlegs, and two teal, either Cinnamon or Blue-winged, hard to tell at this time of year. Next he would hop out of the truck, and adorned in hip waders, walk around the playa width to locate all of the birds that might have

been hard to see from his initial count. During this “flush count,” Derek also might locate a Wilson’s Snipe, a Pectoral Sandpiper, and 13 Least Sandpipers that flew in while he was at the other end of the playa

After completing his bird survey, he would align himself with an imaginary grid and systematically slog through the playa recording water depths and vegetation height classes using a bright yellow meter stick. These measurements help profile habitat quality since we know that shorebirds of various heights and bill lengths require different water depths for foraging. In a typical day, Derek and Cliff would each survey birds at half-a-dozen playas along the road, and double-survey birds and profile hydrology at a few playas. At the end of the season, they also identified the vegetation in these playas

to complete our knowledge of habitat characteristics.

In all, RMBO visited a random sample of 56 playas of different sizes and land uses during the fall 2006 migration season. We found high bird diversity and use of playas, documenting 31,532 birds of 107 species, including some rarer species such as Buff-breasted Sandpiper, American Golden-Plover, and Short-eared Owl, as well as a good variety of waterfowl and some Sandhill Cranes. We also documented over 49 species of non-cultivated plants and the length of time different playas held water. RMBO is now analyzing this information to better understand how various attributes of playas make them more or less valuable as migratory bird habitat.

This research supports the work of a cadre of conservation partners who are working to protect and restore playas. Farmers and



Photo: Cliff Condy

One of 56 Nebraska playas surveyed by RMBO biologists in fall 2006.

ranchers that enjoy the wildlife and other benefits of having water on their place are buffering and retiring playas from production. Natural Resources Conservation Service agents are fitting these wetlands into conservation programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Bill. Wildlife enthusiasts and water planners alike promote the role that playas play in communities, providing bird-watching and hunting opportunities and recharging the Ogallala aquifer, the life-blood of the pivot irrigation systems central to many farming communities.

Field work on the study finished at the end of October. In November, Cliff drove his surfboards and mobile office to California, and from there he flew to South Africa. Derek returned to Texas to resume college studies.

Field work began again this spring under the astute care of two young women, Marie-Melissa Kalamaras, of Quebec, and Crystal Bechaver, a Colorado State University graduate from Walden, Colorado. The two just wrapped up a season gathering data on spring bird use and the rate at which playas dry up and rejuvenate with the spring rains. The season kicked off with tens of thousands of Snow, Ross’s, White-fronted, and Canada Geese followed by an assortment of “peeps.” A succession of impressive spring storms provided a perfect study opportunity and a wonderful proliferation of wetland habitat for the birds.



Photo: Emily Steed

Seeds from annual plants, such as these from curly dock, provide highly nutritious forage for migrating waterfowl.

Colorado Birding Trail Arrives!

By Dana Ripper, *Prairie Partners Biologist*

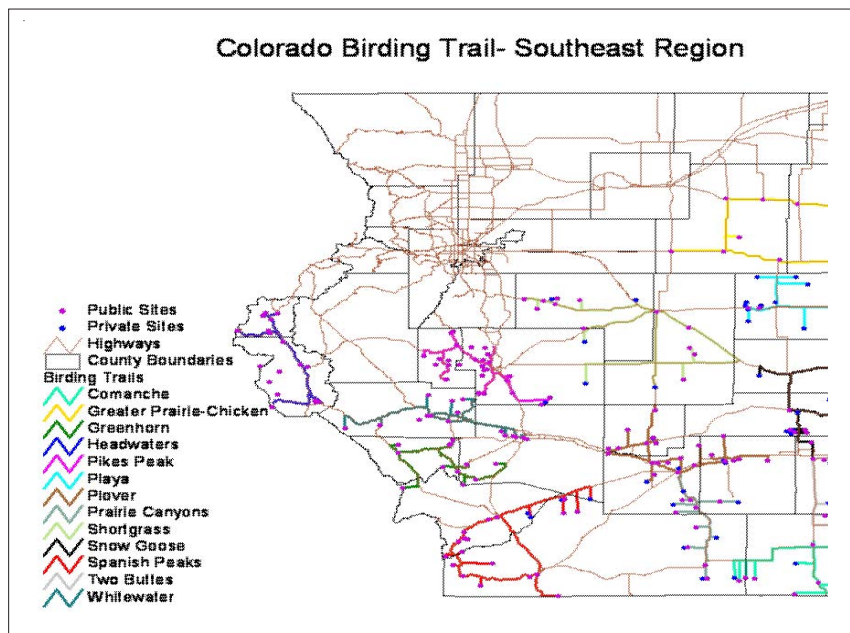
Along the highways of Florida, Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi, and a growing number of other states, travelers are finding road signs bearing pictures of eye-catching birds: in Oklahoma, the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, in Florida, the Swallow-tailed Kite. The signs are indicative of these states cashing in on a steadily growing sector of the tourist economy: birdwatchers. These "trails", marked on maps, on the internet, and by roadside signs, are **birding trails** - driving routes that link outdoor recreation sites into a network of places where visitors can observe birds and other wildlife, often in addition to archaeological and paleontological treasures.

There are currently 38 birding trails in 24 of the lower 48 United States.

The first birding trail was instituted in Texas in 1995, and has been fantastically popular and successful with recreationists. Our great state of Colorado has incredible resources with which we can, and do, attract tourists. We have more wildlife species than any other inland state, unique cultural and historical attractions, and phenomenal scenery and diversity of landscapes. One thing we lack, however, is a cohesive program that directs visitors and residents to these attractions. Enter the **Colorado Birding Trail**.

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory's Prairie Partners program has been involved with the creation of the Colorado Birding Trail (CBT) since 2000. While the CBT is a flashy, colorful, fun way to market Colorado's wildlife resources, it is also a major ecotourism initiative to promote recreation of many kinds, encourage conservation of natural resources by private landowners as well as

on public land. In addition it gives folks from urban/suburban areas access to and information about rural Colorado, and will provide additional income for rural economies. Colorado's Birding Trail is unique in that designated sites are not only



on public lands, such as state, national, and municipal parks, but also on private lands. With funding from the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado State Parks, and Playa Lakes Joint Venture, Prairie Partners has spent the past two years working with private landowners to enroll them in the Colorado Birding Trail. Currently, the CBT encompasses much of eastern Colorado; there are 200 public sites and 50 private sites presently on the Trail.

The inclusion of private sites on the CBT is especially exciting for several reasons. First, 85% of eastern Colorado is privately owned, and the CBT provides access to some of those heretofore inaccessible lands. Second, private sites are often large ranches and farms where visitors can not only see abundant wildlife in relative privacy, but also get an authentic experience with working cattlemen and farmers that are a part of our Colorado heritage. Finally, private sites often offer special services for



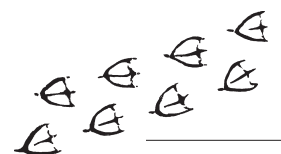
guests, such as bed and breakfast-type accommodations, chuckwagon dinners, or private tours.

The CBT also helps direct visitors to excellent public sites throughout Colorado. The Colorado Field Ornithologists selected the current 200 sites out of a list of over 500, based on their superior excellent bird- and wildlife-watching as well as cultural and historic attractions. No outdoor recreationist, whether state resident or visitor, will ever have to go far for information regarding wildlife-watching opportunities. The Colorado Birding Trail website

(www.coloradobirdingtrail.com) provides maps and detailed descriptions for every site, including habitat type, likely bird species, and amenities and lodging options. This summer we will be producing full-color map booklets which will include the site information from the website; these maps will be provided free to visitors at rest areas, chambers of commerce, and local businesses such as restaurants.

The future of the Colorado Birding Trail includes westward expansion until the Trail encompasses the entire state of Colorado. The southwest quarter of the state will have its portion of the Birding Trail in place by summer of 2008.

For more information, please see our website or contact Dana Ripper or Seth Gallagher at (970)482-1707. See you on the Trail!



Prairie Partners Receives Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund Grant

Seth Gallagher, Outreach Division Deputy Director

This spring the Nebraska Prairie Partners program in partnership with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission was awarded a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund (NETF) which will place a full-time educator in the panhandle of Nebraska. The new educator will focus teaching efforts on the shortgrass prairie and ponderosa pine communities native to western Nebraska and implement a program called Panhandle Eco Extravaganzas about Prairies (PEEP).

PEEP was modeled after a similar program ECO-X developed in Saskatchewan that combines conservation education with fun, interactive outreach and education activities such as games, skits, role-plays, and videos. The NETF funds will also allow the addition of two new banding stations in western Nebraska. The banding stations will be open for five weeks each fall and will allow school groups, special interest clubs, and the general public

access to learn about migration, bird adaptation, behavior, habitat requirements, and conservation issues.

The addition of this position as a resource for the citizens of western Nebraska is critical to raise awareness for the long term viability of at-risk species in the panhandle. The education position will complement the rest of the Nebraska Prairie Partners staff by helping implement landowner workshops and promoting conservation education through schoolyard habitat projects and the development of shortgrass prairie education trunks and demonstration sites at the Riverside Zoo. A series of train the trainer workshops will also be held where the education coordinator will plan and implement classes on teaching Project WILD and Flying WILD as well as lessons on shortgrass and ponderosa ecosystems.

Three Easy Ways to Support Bird Conservation

Chuck Hundertmark, Chair, Board of Directors

I was struck when I read Ron Lieber's March 30 column in the *Wall Street Journal*. After noting that the average American household gave just 2.2% of after tax income to charity in 2005, he proposed putting donations to worthy causes on a monthly schedule like utility bills and other monthly payments.

Since I have a habit of deferring my contributions to bird conservation organizations and other nonprofits, I thought I would try one of Ron's suggestions. I went to the networkforgood.org website to see how easy it would be to automate contributions to RMBO. This website allows you to automate monthly, quarterly, or annual contributions to nonprofit organizations. Donations can be made through a credit card, PayPal or by check. I set up my monthly donation via credit card. Once you initiate the payments, they continue until you return to the site to discontinue them.

I feel particularly good about my membership and donation support for RMBO because I know those contributions are leveraged. Much of the work that RMBO does is accomplished through partnership arrangements with

state and federal agencies. In a partnership, each partner brings something to the table. Your support through dues, donations and volunteer time constitute a major part of what RMBO brings to the table in these agreements.

In addition to automating contributions through networkforgood.org, there are two other ways to support RMBO even more painlessly. One is through **goodsearch.com**. Goodsearch is an alternative to Google for internet searches. Each time you conduct a search via this engine, a small contribution goes to the nonprofit organization you specify. You'll find a link to Goodsearch on the RMBO web site (www.rmbo.org) or you can simply type the address in your browser.

You'll also find a link on the RMBO web site to **FreePledge.com**. If you do your internet shopping through FreePledge, a percentage of your purchase will be donated to a nonprofit of your choice. You can shop major online retail outlets like Amazon.com, Apple, Drugstore.com, Office Depot, and Target through FreePledge. When I have the time, I like to do my book shopping by browsing the Tattered Cover. But when I need a specific book fast, I go to Amazon.com. It

adds just one simple step to make that purchase through the FreePledge site.

One thing that puzzled me about Lieber's column was the relatively low donation rate among American households. The last few decades have produced a spat of research on what brings people happiness and satisfaction. Again and again, the research shows that doing and supporting good work light up the reward centers of the brain. The other thing that lights up the reward centers of my brain is knowing that each of you is dedicated to conserving our diminishing bird populations. I appreciate your support for RMBO's efforts at bird conservation.

THANK YOU!



RMBO would like to thank the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) for their generous support. SCFD support greatly assists RMBO in providing educational outreach programs to the public.

Private Landowners Are Key in Mountain Plover Project

By Amy Hladek, Mountain Plover Program Assistant

Every spring the ghost of the prairie reappears on the plains of eastern Colorado. This of course is not a typical ghost, but rather the Mountain Plover. This relative of the Killdeer is well deserving of its nickname. It can be seen one second

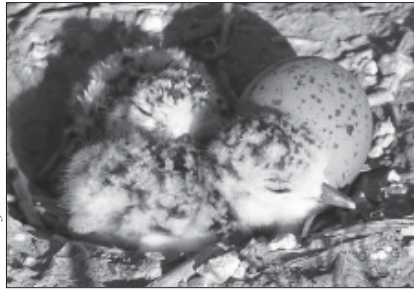


Photo: Danny Martin

Mountain Plover chicks await last egg to hatch.

revealing its white breast, but with a simple turn that exposes its sandy brown back, the Mountain Plover seems to vanish into the prairie. Because this plover is a species of special concern in Colorado, biologists and landowners are taking proactive measures to keep it from vanishing forever.

Like many grassland species, Mountain Plovers nest on the ground, but unlike others, they require bare ground for nesting. Looking for suitable nesting sites, Mountain Plovers are often attracted to agricultural lands. Depending on the timing or farm implements being used to work agricultural lands, nests can be lost or damaged. So, what's a Mountain Plover to do?

Fortunately, a program called the *Mountain Plover Nest Conservation in Cultivated Fields Program* was developed in 2003, by Fritz Knopf, Senior Scientist with U.S. Geological Survey, in

cooperation with Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO) and Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW). Through this program, each summer a crew of RMBO biologists survey enrolled fields and mark nests with brightly colored laths or flags, making the nests more visible during cultivation. Landowners are then provided with a map of the nest locations, so nests can be avoided during cultivation. Since the majority of Mountain Plover nesting habitat occurs on private land, landowner involvement is critical to the success of the project. What is perhaps the most phenomenal aspect of this project is that all landowner involvement is voluntary.

Each year the project continues to grow. When the project began in 2003, six

landowners volunteered to participate in the project, and in 2006, 96 landowners participated. From 2003-2006, a total of



Photo: Danny Martin

Mountain Plover protects egg and nest.

199 nests were marked by RMBO biologists. Currently the 2007 field season is under way. Preliminary data show 84 nests had been marked as of June 1st, with over 70 landowners voluntarily participating in the project. The voluntary efforts of the participating landowners show how non-regulatory efforts can promote species conservation on private lands, and we thank our landowners for their continued support and interest. For more information on this project contact Tammy VerCauteren, Outreach Division Director, at (970)482-1707 or tammy.vercauteren@rmbo.org.

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From the Director

Mark your calendars and save Saturday, August 18, 2007 for the annual RMBO Picnic. I would like to personally invite all birding enthusiasts to join RMBO members, staff, and friends for this fun and educational family-friendly event! It will be held at the Old Stone House in Brighton, Colorado from 7am to 3pm. The RMBO Picnic will feature morning bird walks and bird banding, workshops and demonstrations, speakers, booths, delicious food, fun, music and last but not least - great people!! For more information on the RMBO picnic go to www.rmbo.org. This event will be held rain or shine. In case of seriously bad weather, check our website starting at 6 am on August 18th to be advised of event cancellation.

I look forward to meeting you in person at an RMBO educational program or event this summer or fall! In the meantime, have a great summer...and happy birding!

RMBO Staff Updates

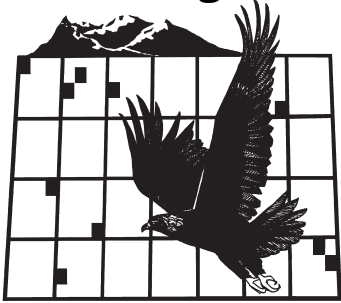
Welcome to a new RMBO baby! Tammy VerCauteren, RMBO Outreach Division Director, (and her husband Kurt) had a baby girl on May 2nd. Baby Grace Lynn was 6 lbs, 4 oz and 19-1/2 inches long at birth. Both baby and mom are healthy and happy.

Best wishes to Kelly Hutton, Assistant Director of Monitoring, who recently left RMBO to take a position with Partners Mentoring Youth. Kelly will be married this August. Thanks Kelly for three years of dedicated service to RMBO.

Thanks and best wishes to Linda Foster, outgoing RMBO Business Manager. Linda is enjoying spending more time with her granddaughters.

RMBO News and Notes...

Atlas Project Gets Off to a Strong Start



The first year of *Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas II* has gotten off to a strong start with volunteers committing to 545 of the 1792 quadrangles in the state as of early June. While atlas volunteers have gotten the jump on field work, the web site for data entry is somewhat behind schedule. Originally scheduled to be available in May, completion of the data entry site was delayed until late June with site testing expected in July. Volunteers can check the RMBO web site periodically for updates on the availability of the data entry link.

In the meantime, atlas volunteers with questions can contact their regional coordinators. Each coordinator is responsible for a region defined by designated pages in the De Lorme© *Colorado Atlas & Gazetteer*™. The atlas project is still seeking four regional coordinators. A list of current coordinators and their email addresses, as well as a list of map pages for which coordinators are still needed can be found at www.rmbo.org/specialproj/atlas2.html.

Raptor Biologist to Keynote Annual Picnic

Retired Colorado Division of Wildlife raptor biologist Jerry Craig will be the keynote speaker at the RMBO Annual Member Picnic. Craig will speak on the state of raptor conservation. The picnic is slated for August 18, 2007, at the Old Stone House at Barr Lake State Park. RMBO members and partners as well as anyone interested in birds is invited to the event which will also feature morning bird walks, visits to the RMBO banding station, and birding workshops.

RMBO's banding station at Barr Lake State Park will be open from 7 to 9:30 in the morning, and field trips led by RMBO birding experts will leave from the Stone House between 7 and 8 a.m.

Concurrent workshop sessions will begin at 10 and 10:50 a.m. Susie Mottashed, author of *Who Lives In Your Backyard? Creating a journal that opens your eyes and heart to nature's nearby wonders*, will be presenting a workshop on field sketching birds (see article next column for details). Bill Schmoker, whose photos are well known to Colorado birders, will present a workshop on digiscoping, and Nathan Pieplow will lead a session on birding by ear.

Check the RMBO web site for updates on additional workshops and be sure to plan to stay for the BBQ picnic lunch prepared and served by the RMBO board and staff.

Add Field Sketches to Your Birding Repertoire

Boulder author-illustrator Susie Mottashed will be presenting a workshop on field sketching birds at the RMBO annual picnic. Susie is the author and illustrator of the award-winning book *Who Lives In Your Backyard? Creating a journal that opens your eyes and heart to nature's nearby wonders*.

Participants will learn how to do quick bird (field) sketches that capture the moment. You will also learn observation techniques for field sketching, and how to sketch while looking through binoculars or a scope. If time permits, we will also discuss adding color to the sketches using watercolor pencils. Birds will be our focus, but the information presented applies to sketching anything in nature. You will experience first hand that it is fun and exciting to sketch out in the field. No prior drawing experience is necessary! Participants need to bring a blank journal, pencils, and binoculars.

To help raise money for RMBO, Susie's book will be available for purchase. 30% of all book sales will be donated to the RMBO. She will also be happy to sign copies of the book after the workshop.



Eaglets Banded at Barr Lake State Park

Nadine Glemba, one of many dedicated Bald Eagle Watch volunteers, sits with two nestling Bald Eagles at Barr Lake State Park. The eaglets were banded May 25. Bald Eagle Watch



Photos: Amanda Morrison

monitors nests around the Front Range. If you would like to volunteer, contact Bald Eagle Watch coordinator Nelda Gamble at nelda.gamble@rmbo.org.

Special Thanks to RMBO Volunteers

Thanks to Stephen Woodruff, who generously volunteers his time to handle grounds maintenance at the Old Stone House. Also thanks to Mark Niemeyer, who has assisted with banding and manned our RMBO booth at summer events.

Thanks! Daz Bog Coffee and All Occasions Catering for *Breakfast With The Birds* refreshments in Fort Collins, and volunteers Terri Hicks-Anderson, Peggy Houchin, and others who helped that day. Also to Kevin Corwin, Nelda Gamble, and Mary Charbonneau who helped with Volunteers for HawkWatch and Bald Eagle Watch this spring and to the Barr Lake State Park volunteers for driving the Eagle Express and helping with the Girl Scout and International Migratory Bird Day event.

Join Us!

Experience the satisfaction of knowing you are helping to protect some of the world's most important, enjoyable, and beautiful creatures!

**Become a ROCKY MOUNTAIN
BIRD OBSERVATORY member today!**

(If you are already a member, please recycle this newsletter by sharing it with a friend and encouraging membership!)

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- Patron.....\$1000
- Steward.....\$500
- Guardian.....\$250
- Sponsor.....\$100
- Dual/Family.....\$60
- Supporter.....\$35
- Student.....\$20
- Other.....\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Amount enclosed _____

New Member Renewal

Please send me information about planned giving.

I am interested in volunteering.

Please make check payable to Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory and mail with this form to:

RMBO

ATTN: Membership

14500 Lark Bunting Lane

Brighton, CO 80603

Or you can join online at www.rmbo.org

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

Call (303)659-4348 or e-mail debbie.dickey@rmbo.org

THANK YOU for supporting Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory and western bird conservation!

Upcoming Events

- July 18:** Birdwalk, 9-10 am, Old Stone House
- August 18:** Annual Picnic, 7am - 3pm, Old Stone House and Barr Lake State Park
- August 24:** Birdwalk, 9-10 am, Old Stone House
- September 7:** Birdwalk, 9-10 am, Old Stone House
- October 15:** Birdwalk, 9-10 am, Old Stone House

Job Announcement

RMBO Seeks Accounting Manager

Coordinate & develop all accounting functions: accounts payable, accounts receivable, budget, audit, and contract management. Develop monthly and year-end close and monthly financial statements. Required skills & education: Accounting degree & 4 yrs experience; QuickBooks and Excel experience. Experience with non-profit & Federal and State grants preferred. This is a full-time position located at RMBO headquarters in Brighton, Colorado. Send resume to rmbo_jobs@yahoo.com (open until filled). No calls please. Refer to www.rmbo.org for more details.

Wish List for the Old Stone House

- Two doorbells purchased and installed
- A programmable thermostat purchased and installed
- A lawn mower (riding if possible!)
- A new fax machine



Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
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Brighton, CO 80603
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www.rmbo.org



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