



CHIRP-N-CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Shasta Birding Society

**Chapter of the National Audubon Society serving Shasta
and eastern portions of Trinity County, California**

SEPTEMBER 2024



Larry Jordan has been enthralled with birds since he spotted a Burrowing Owl in his Oak Run driveway on the way home one evening over 30 years ago. He didn't know what the bird was so he bought his first field guide and opened up a whole new world of wonder. Since that evening he has been involved in several endeavors to protect birds and advance the joy of birding. He started his own birding blog in 2007 and also posted to the well known 10000 Birds blog. Larry joined Wintu Audubon Society, became the webmaster for the organization, and began photographing birds in 2008. There are 85 species of cavity-nesting birds in North America (excluding Mexico) and 72 of them occur in the western United States. So, please join our webmaster as he discusses the joys of monitoring cavity nesting birds. He will discuss nest box design and highlight some of his favorite cavity nesting bird photos and videos from the last fifteen years.

Shasta Birding Society is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Cavity Nesting Birds and Nestbox Monitoring

Time: Sep 11, 2024 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84112964959>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

We changed local membership fees from dues to donations awhile back. This gives members greater flexibility in supporting the chapter, and simplifies our book-keeping. We invite all members to make a local donation when you become a member, at the beginning of our fall season, and/or anytime during the year.

Suggested donation is \$20-\$30.

Donations can be made either through our [PayPal link](#) or by check at Shasta Birding, PO Box 994533, Redding, CA 96099-4533

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

Note: All participants, ages 5 and older, must provide proof that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours and sign a waiver prior to all field trips.

Anderson River Park - Saturday, September 7th @ 7:30 am



Location of where we will meet: Parking area southeast of Kiddyland to the far right near the picnic area. Walking distance estimated at 2.5-3 miles (4-5 km). Welcome back to Shasta Birding Society's 2024-25 Season and active calendar of events. Grab your favorite optics and come join us for this no fee event. This first Saturday in September we are kicking off the season with a bird walk of Anderson River Park. This 440-acre recreational facilities managed by the City of Anderson has a vast network of trails and diverse riparian habitat. On trail conditions you

should expect fairly level areas for walking variation of paved, dirt, and gravel surfaces. At times we might be sharing the trail with runners, bicyclists, pet walkers, and in specific areas horseback riders. All these trails will offer scenery of the Sacramento River, various ponds, open fields, and heavily wooded areas of natural flora with a mix of evasive plant species as well. It is recommend that you bring comfortable footwear, plenty of water, snacks, and insect repellent. Trip Leader: Dan Bye, contact me by danbye56@gmail.com for more information.

Biodiversity Day StoryWalk at William B. Ide Adobe SHP -

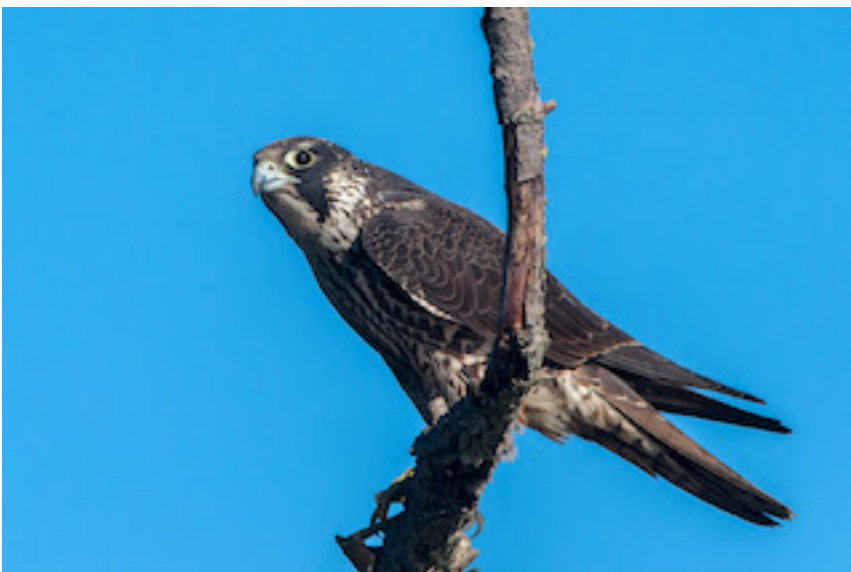
**Saturday, September 7th @
10:00 am to 1:00 pm**



Come celebrate Biodiversity Day at William B. Ide Adobe SHP. Learn to use iNaturalist and eBird to identify the nature you see in the park. Join us along the water on the Cottonwood Trail at 12 pm for a guided nature walk where you'll discover diverse native

species unique to this part of California. Learn about the birds you might see in the park with the help of the Shasta Birding Society. Learn about California's diverse species and meet live animals with Shasta Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation. Get creative and sculpt animals out of clay. Enjoy the StoryWalk® featuring *Because of an Acorn* by Adam Schaefer and Lola M Schaefer. As a bonus, we will be giving away native fiddleneck seeds and puppet bags provided by First 5 Tehama. The event and parking are free. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson. California State Parks supports equal access. Before arrival, visitors with disabilities who need assistance should contact Parks Staff at 530-529-8599. Facebook Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/518406080581723/> iNaturalist Bioblitz: California Biodiversity Day 2024-William B. Ide Adobe SHP · iNaturalist

John Reginato River Trail - Saturday, September 14th @ 7:30 am



Join us for a walk in the shade of the big oaks along this Sacramento River trail. This is a great place to see a large variety of the year round resident birds like wrens and towhees in the dense, shrubby vegetation, various woodpeckers in the oaks, and birds of prey on the open river - eagles, osprey, and if we're lucky, maybe a Peregrine

Falcon. This time of year we expect migrating warblers as well. Meet at 7:30 am Saturday morning, September 14th, at the canoe, kayak and raft launch at the John Reginato River Access at 3810 South Bonnyview Road. This area is also known as the South Bonnyview boat ramp. We will spend about two hours walking less than two miles on a rocky path with river cobblestones. Hiking boots are recommended. There is a port-a-potty at the boat ramp. Contact trip leader Larry Jordan at webmaster@shastabirdingsociety.org for more information.

Sacramento River Trail Walk - Saturday, September 21st @ 7:30 am



Come out to bird with us along the Sacramento River Trail in Redding! This will be along a 3.5-mile stretch of the upper Sacramento River between Lake Redding (Diestelhorst Bridge) and Keswick Dam. The trail begins at the center of town, making its way through shaded residential areas, and eventually through the wilder,

rocky canyon below the dam. Along the way, we will encounter many types of birds singing their morning chorus in the dappled shade of mature river oaks. As the day warms up, surprises await us on the water, and in the open sky above.

Water birds keep cool in the rushing river, waders lurk in the shadows, predators keep watch overhead, and many small wonders flit between leaf and branch. This is intended to be a one-way walk, so we will shuttle 2 parties of vehicles between both ends of the trail. However, you are welcome to walk (or bike!) the whole way back to the beginning on the opposite side of the river, or turn back at any point. **Meet at the Keswick Dam Trailhead at 7:30 am.** The parking lot is on the North side of Keswick Dam Road, about ¼ mile West of Keswick Dam. The entire trail is flat, paved, bike-friendly, and wheelchair accessible. There are bathrooms at both ends of the trail and another in the middle. GoogleMaps link: [Keswick Dam Trailhead](#)

Red Bluff Recreation Area, US-MNF - Saturday, September 28th at 7:30 am



Location of where we will meet: [1000 Sale Lane, Red Bluff, CA](#). at the upper-level parking lot. South end of Sale Lane next to the Sacramento River Discovery Center. Walking distance estimated at 2-2.5 miles (3-4 km). Please join us on a journey with many trails at this very diverse public land with no fees. Sacramento River bisects 488 acres, at this

Recreation Area of riparian forest, flowering grasslands, wetlands, and oak woodlands providing very diverse natural viewing experiences. This location is Tehama Region's number one eBird's hotspot. Ideal spot for migratory species in the fall and spring seasons. Also, a great home for many varieties of Sparrows, Warblers, Wrens, Woodpeckers, Waterfowl, and Wading Birds. Both the Acorn and Nuttall's Woodpecker, California and Spotted Towhee, House and Bewick's Wren, Yellow-billed Magpies and Phainopeplas are often found here year-round. Recommend that you bring comfortable rugged footwear, plenty of water, snacks, and insect repellent. Trip Leader: Dan Bye, contact me by danbye56@gmail.com for more information.

THE CONSERVATION CORNER

**from Bruce Webb & Rebeca Ladrón de Guevara
Conservation Co-Chairs**

Many of you will have seen our emailed alert several days ago urging you to take the Redding Riverfront Plan Survey. The deadline for submitting your survey has passed as of September 3rd, but the City's website still has much information on their process for the Riverfront Plan. By learning about the City's Plan process, we can be better prepared for the next milestone to influence the outcome of the Plan. Read the City's materials here: <https://www.reddingriverfront.org/about-the-project> Your Conservation Co-Chairs are continuing to monitor the Plan process and we intend to continue to advocate for protection of the incomparable habitats and bird and wildlife diversity along the river.

A Redding City Council Candidates forum is planned for September 30th. Shasta Birding Society will assist Shasta Environmental Alliance (SEA) to co-sponsor the forum and provide volunteers to assist. The date is September 30th at 6pm at First United Methodist Church, 1825 East St.. Come to learn about the views and intentions of your Redding City Council candidates!

Bruce Webb
Conservation Co-Chair"

TRIP REPORTS

McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park and Baum Lake - Saturday, June 1st



Our last field trip of the season on June 1st, certainly awarded the Five Birders who showed up for this two-venue event. Burney Falls' Rim Trail provided us a great chance to see a high number Black Swifts to the park. It was one huge spectacle of large swift with their long-pointed wings soaring across the sky which was in motion the moment we arrived. As the morning progressed, we saw nesting individuals like Osprey, Great Blue Heron, and Red-breasted Nuthatch actively feeding their young. We had some quality observations of Bald Eagle, Red-breasted Sapsucker,

Western Wood-Pewee, Western Flycatcher, Cassin's Vireo, Brown Creeper, Yellow Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Western Tanager, and Black-headed Grosbeak. Our total count for this first location of two, brought in 33 species. Baum Lake provided us with a few water birds like Canada Goose, Cinnamon Teal, Mallard, Pied-billed Grebe, Killdeer, and American White Pelican. Other notable species were Tree Swallow, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Orange-Crowned Warbler, and American Kestrel. Our total count for this second location of two, brought in 29 species. In keeping with tradition, we had our season finale at Burney Falls and added Baum Lake which ended well. We tabulated 46 species for our overall grand total. Keep on birding!

Annual Picnic at the Tower House Historic District June 12th



Ten overheated birders met on a scorching 103 degree evening at Whiskeytown for a record-breaking hot annual picnic. We probably should have done a bird sit while relaxing in the creek, but we toughed it out and walked the Camden Water Ditch Trail around the historic district, finding a surprising 29 species. Best in show were the three Bullock's Orioles and the mama Common Merganser with

her extremely cute entourage of eleven little ones.

Lassen Volcanic National Park Lost Creek Group Campground - July 19th



Fifteen birders from Altacal Audubon and Shasta Birding Society found 36 avian species on our early morning Manzanita Lake walk. It began with a flurry of juvenile Dark-eyed Juncos that we had a difficult time identifying. Walking down to the creek we found a juvenile American Dipper and several Yellow-rumped and Hermit Warblers. A single Bald Eagle was sighted flying over the lake and an Osprey put on quite a show. To my delight we found two Pygmy Nuthatches frolicking right above our head on the front half of

the trail, and an adult Hairy Woodpecker teaching its fledgling near the end of the trail. After lunch, a smaller group of ten hiked around Summit Lake where we found 18 species including Clark's Nutcrackers, a Western Tanager and a Chipping Sparrow!

PEREGRINE FALCON AT DELEVAN NWR

youtube.com/watch?feature=shared&v=KZOF5f9EnZQ

