



On The Wing

Volume 39, Number 1

Boulder County Audubon Society Newsletter

Jan-Feb 2009

Boulder County Audubon Launches Burrowing Owl Monitoring Project



Over the past 30 years, volunteers have informally monitored the status of burrowing owls across Boulder County. According to the Monthly Wildlife Inventories maintained by BCAS, sightings were fairly consistent throughout the 1980's but over the past 20 years sightings have declined quite dramatically. It was starting to appear the burrowing owl had all but disappeared from Boulder County.

Then last summer seven different burrowing owl nest sites were found through the efforts of staff from Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks and Boulder County Parks and Open Space.

Have we been overlooking this unique small owl? Is it more prevalent than we have been assuming over the past several years? Is its breeding success rate sufficient to sustain its long-term survival in the county?

To answer these questions, this spring we will be initiating a county-wide project to locate burrowing owls and also determine their breeding success. The project will involve monitoring prairie dog colonies on Boulder County Parks and Open Space lands. We are hoping to recruit 40-50 volunteers to help with this project. Each volunteer will monitor 3-4 prairie dog colonies at least 5 times over the period from April 15 to July 31. The majority of the project will consist of roadside surveys but some of the sites will require minimal hiking to survey points.

A project orientation meeting will be held March 22 to acquaint volunteers with the project scope and protocol. The meeting will be held at the Boulder Library – Meadows Branch from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Meadows library is located behind the Safeway at Foothills Parkway and Baseline Road. If you are interested in helping with this project please contact Chris Abrahamson at cabrahamson@hotmail.com or at 303-565-9742.

BCAS 4th Tuesday Program Series January 27, 7:30 p.m.

Peru's Amazonian Eden, Manu National Park

Gary Graham

Gary Graham, Executive Director of Audubon Colorado, will present slides on the birds and other biodiversity found in the Manu Biosphere Reserve in Southeast Peru. Manu is the largest tropical rainforest biosphere reserve on earth. It extends from the upper reaches of the Amazon into the Andes. Manu also is one of the most biological diverse places on earth with more than 1,000 species of birds and 13 species of monkeys. Some of the more noteworthy animals to be shown are Cock of the Rock, several mountain tanagers, manakins, Giant River Otters, and Black Caiman.

Gary Graham has been director of Audubon Colorado for four years. His previous administrative experience includes managing the Texas Watchable Wildlife program and directing the endangered resources branch of the Texas Department of Wildlife. Gary lived and studied in Peru for two years, where he helped discover several new species of birds and bats for science and for the country.



**Gary Graham
in the
elfin forest
Manu, Peru**

February 24 Program on Cranes — see page 3

Refreshments and Socializing at 7 PM Program at 7:30

Meetings are held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Boulder, 5001 Pennsylvania Ave. (west off 55th St. between Arapahoe and Baseline)

January-March Field Trips

Saturday, January 31, 7:45am-mid afternoon (bring lunch). *Winter Gulls Trip*; meet at Niwot Park and ride. Join gull expert John Vanderpoel for this trip, to look for rare gulls, and other water birds. We will go where the water is open and conditions are good – anywhere from Larimer County to Denver, depending on the conditions. Leader: John Vanderpoel (303-652-2731)

Saturday, February 14, 9am – noon. *Raptor Search*; meet at Lagerman Reservoir. This trip will explore northern Boulder County and potentially nearby areas to search for winter raptors, including Bald Eagle, Rough-legged Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, and different subspecies and varieties of Red-tailed Hawk. This trip will be primarily a driving trip, with stops at various locations. Spotting scopes will be useful. Leader: Sue Sponsor (s.ponsor@comcast.net)

Saturday, February 21, 8:30-11 a.m. *Annual Boulder County Audubon visit to the Valmont Reservoir Important Bird Area to observe wintering waterbirds and raptors.* Meet leaders Dave Madonna, Andy Cowell, and Steve Jones (303-494-2468; stephen.jones@earthlink.net) at the Xcel Energy plant visitors entrance, off N. 66th St just north of Arapahoe, at 8:30. Dress warmly, and bring scopes and binoculars.

Saturday, February 28, 8 a.m.-noon. Boulder Bird Club trip to observe mountain feeder birds. Meet at 8 a.m. in the parking lot of Boulder Justice Center at 6th and Canyon. Visit mountain feeder spots to try for rosy finches, grosbeaks, woodpeckers, and crossbills. Leader: Bill Kaempfer (kaempfer@colorado.edu or 303-954-8998).

Sunday, March 1, 7:30am - noon. *Spring Bluebird Search* at Rabbit Mountain Open Space. Join Scott Severs (303-684-6430 or rostrhamus@aol.com) for a hike at Rabbit Mountain Open Space near Lyons for the possibility of early returning bluebirds. We'll also look for hawks, finches, and jays, as well as elk and deer. To reach Rabbit Mountain take 53rd St, north from Hwy 66 about a mile to the park entrance on the right.

Saturday, March 14, 7-10:30 am. *Annual Springtime-welcoming Breakfast Hike, Sawhill Ponds.* Leader: Steve Jones (303-494-2468 or stephen.jones@earthlink.net) Bring portable finger food (something warm, sweet, exotic, or passionate) to share, and meet at the Sawhill Ponds parking area, west of 75th St between Valmont and Jay roads. We'll walk about 2 miles, enjoying the ducks, raptors, and other spring wildlife.

Friday-Sunday, March 27-29. *North Platte River and Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge.* Leaders: Steve Jones and Joyce Gellhorn.

Steve Jones and Joyce Gellhorn will lead this spring pilgrimage to Nebraska's Clear Creek Wildlife Area, on the banks of the North Platte River near Lewellen. This is one of the largest protected wetlands on the Great Plains and home during early spring to flocks of sandhill cranes and snow geese, as well as bald eagles, wild turkeys, several owl species, and river otters. We'll also visit celebrated Ash Hollow Spring and Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Participants will have the option of dispersed camping or rustic moteling and will need to bring food for picnic breakfasts and dinners. Boulder County Audubon's \$0.12/mile per passenger carpooling reimbursement rate will apply for this 600-mile trip. Limited to eight participants. To sign up, contact Steve at 303-494-2468; stephen.jones@earthlink.net.

Boulder County Audubon Society

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Alex and Gillian Brown (303)494-3042

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On the Wing — five issues annually: Jan, March, May, Sept,
and Nov. To contact the editor, use the link in
www.boulderaudubon.org/newsletter.htm

Next issue deadline: (Mar 2009 issue) Mon., Feb 16.

BCAS 4th Tuesday Program Series February 24, 7:30 p.m.

Crane River Crossroads: Saving Water and Birds on the Platte

Ken Strom

Ken Strom will look at the past, present and future of the Platte River, using images of the spectacular wildlife and scenery of the river, including the breathtaking flights of Sandhill Cranes on their spring migration. The gathering of Sandhill Cranes each spring along the central Platte in Nebraska is the largest gathering of any species of crane in the world – a truly world-class spectacle. But the Platte is also an essential habitat for Bald Eagles, Interior Least Terns, Piping Plovers and other wildlife, whose fate is linked to the fate of the river. Ken's talk will focus on the changes that have occurred along the river as a result of water diversions that began over a century ago and then the more recent work of conservationists to restore river habitats and establish refuges and protections for the river's flows. Ken's pointers on crane behavior and how best to observe these birds will add to the enjoyment of the trips you should be planning to see the cranes at Rowe Sanctuary or other locations in Nebraska this March and April. For early planning and information on making your reservations for field trips to Rowe Sanctuary's crane viewing blinds, visit their website at:

<http://www.rowsanctuary.org/> .
Make your reservations early!

Ken Strom was the manager of Audubon's Lillian Annette Rowe Sanctuary from 1983 to 1994. The sanctuary protects critical habitat for Sandhill Cranes and other migratory birds that depend on the Nebraska habitats of the central Platte River for their survival. A graduate of Cornell University, Ken is an ecologist who has specialized in the management and restoration of wetland habitats for waterbirds and other wildlife. He is currently the Director of Bird Conservation & Public Policy for Audubon Colorado, where his responsibilities include administering the Colorado Important Bird Areas Program. Prior to his current duties, Ken directed Audubon's Population and Habitat Program and the Sharing the Earth Project, which fostered international partnerships for the conservation of river habitats for cranes and other waterbirds of Asia.



Cranes fly out at sunrise — Steve Jones

Boulder County Nature Association Winter Field Classes

For complete descriptions of these and other classes, visit www.bcna.org

Ducks: Steve Jones

Do ducks really sleep with their eyes half open? How do they keep their feet warm while floating in icy ponds? What is their future in North America as wetlands disappear and the climate warms? We'll observe and photograph waterfowl at Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Lower Latham Reservoir, and other regional hotspots. An evening session will focus on identification, behavior, and conservation.

Thursday, February 19, 7-9 p.m., indoor class

Saturday, February 21, 7-11 a.m., Wheat Ridge Greenbelt

Saturday, April 11, 7 a.m.-noon, Lower Latham Reservoir

Tuition: \$85 (\$75 for BCNA members).

To register contact Steve at 303-494-2468 or stephen.jones@earthlink.net

Ptarmigan: Joyce Gellhorn and Calvin Whitehall

Have you ever seen a ghost? Elusive white-tailed ptarmigan--ghosts of the alpine--are snow-white in winter except for their black beak and black eyes. They blend into their environment and are often difficult to find. The evening program focuses on adaptations of white-tailed ptarmigan to their alpine home. In the field, we join Division of Wildlife researchers to survey birds on Guanella Pass.

Tuesday, March 3, 7-9 p.m., indoor class

Saturday, March 7, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., field class at Guanella Pass

Tuition: \$70 (\$60 for BCNA members).

To register, contact Joyce at 303-442-8123 or jgellhorn@mac.com

BOULDER COUNTY WILDLIFE INVENTORY, JUNE - JULY 2008

Gillian and Alex Brown, 4560 Darley Avenue, Boulder, CO 80305.

June and July 2007 were very dry months although it did not turn really hot until the start of July. Birders were much more active in the foothills and mountains than in the plains causing some birds such as **Pied-billed Grebe**, **American Coot** and **Ring-billed Gull** to be missed. In fact the only gulls reported were a solitary **Franklin's Gull** in June and a single **California Gull** in July. It was exciting to see the return of the adult male **Scarlet Tanager** to Gregory Canyon; this bird delighted many birders both this year and last.

A few shorebirds were reported both months. Early June often sees a few late stragglers from spring migration. Such was the case with the six **White-rumped Sandpipers** reported at Walden Ponds during the first few days of June. This species was last observed in Boulder County in 2006. Reports of **Marbled Godwit** were unusual for mid-June and early July. Towards the end of July the start of the fall shorebird migration was well under way. Less usual shorebirds included **Stilt Sandpiper** and **Red-necked Phalarope**. **Baird's Sandpipers** are always more common during fall migration than during the spring and the observation of fifty of these birds at Ish Reservoir at the end of July bears this out. Last year it was suggested that many small birds such as sparrows may start migrating much earlier than previously supposed. Many of these small migrants move at night and it is often only by identifying their flight calls that their presence can be recognized. However, this year there were several reports of **Chipping Sparrows** on the plains in early July supporting this theory.

Both **Calliope** and **Black-chinned Hummingbirds** have become much more common in Boulder County, particularly as they start their migration south in July and August. However, the discovery of a **Black-chinned Hummingbird** nesting in the plains was a new nesting record for the county. Another bird that successfully nested this year was **Burrowing Owl** with at least three known nesting sites successfully producing owlets. This bird has historically nested in the county but became marginal when previous nesting sites were destroyed by development. Finally **Eastern Bluebirds** also successfully nested; this bird is another marginal breeder for the county. By June only breeding warblers are expected in the county. However a **Chestnut-sided Warbler** and an **Ovenbird** were both seen in the middle of the month in the foothills; both these are marginal breeders. A **Hooded Warbler** has consistently been singing in the foothills in the southern part of the county since May, but there is no evidence that it has successfully bred. The fact that it was calling probably meant that it was still looking for a mate. Another **Hooded Warbler** was seen in the east of the county. Other unusual sightings were two **Short-eared Owls**, a **Bell's Vireo**, an **Orchard Oriole**, and a group of **White-winged Crossbills** seen on the Indian Peaks Breeding Bird Count (IP).

Altogether 177 bird species were seen in June and 166 species in July. This made June 2008 a record month surpassing the 171 bird species seen in 1998. The number of species seen in July was also higher than usual.

Contributors to June and July Inventories

Eric Albright, Linda Andes-Georges, Bev Baker, Alan Bell, J.D. Birchmeier, Kristin Brinkmann, Alex & Gillian Brown, Bob Bucknam, Kathy Byrne, Diane Carter, Mark Chavez, George Coffee, Cathy Comstock, Ann Cooper, Linda Czarny, Kathy Mim Dunning, Jim Fisher, Ted Floyd, Mike Freiberg, Lonny Frye, Peter Gent, Bryan Guarente, Paula Hansley, Steve Jones, Ellen Klaver, Steve Larson, Sandra Laursen, Dave Leatherman, Tony Leukering, Roger Linfield, Carolyn Mahakian, Marcia Marvin, Mark Miller, Gene & Lynn Monroe, Susie Mot-tashed, Sharon Norfleet, Christian Nunes, Marti Oetzel, Sue A Olmsted, Laura Osborn, Scot Pipkin, Peter Plage, Jeff Romain, Bill Schmoker, Susan Spaulding, Andrew Spencer, Walt Szeliga, Ann Tagawa, Joyce Takamine, John Vanderpoel, Ton VanZandt, Knut Waagan, David J. Waltman, Wild Bird Center, Tony Wilk, George Young.

For a complete listing of sighted species please go to www.boulderaudubon.org/inventory.htm

Contributors to August Inventory

Linda Andes-Georges, Ellie Baker, J D Birchmeier, Alex & Gillian Brown, Marlene Bruning, Todd Deininger, Ted Floyd, Steve Frye, Martin Gerra, Madeline Goldhawk, Peggy Gonder, Bryan Guarente, Paula Hansley, Ann Hicks, Steve Jones, Carolyn Mahakian, Gene and Lynn Monroe, Sharon Norfleet, Christian Nunes, Peter Plage, Jeff Romain, Tim Smart, Walter Szeliga, John Tuma-sonis, David J. Waltman, Steph Wilson, Wild Bird Center.

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BOULDER COUNTY WILDLIFE INVENTORY, AUGUST 2008

Gillian and Alex Brown, 4560 Darley Avenue
Boulder, CO 80305.

A lot of birders seem to avoid birding in the heat of summer. However, August can be a very rewarding month for those who do venture out as fall migration is well under way. The huge storm on August 16-17 dropped 2.56 inches of much needed rain* and dramatically changed the bird population with an influx of new shorebirds, and the disappearance of such species as **Violet-green Swallow**. Shorebirds reported during the month included six species of "peeps" – **Semipalmated, Western, Least, Baird's, Pectoral** and **Stilt** Sandpipers. **Marbled Godwit** is a species occasionally reported in August but more normally seen during the spring. **Common Tern** was a new sighting for the year, and **Least Tern**, although already reported in May, is one of our more unusual tern sightings. It is interesting to note that just one **Forster's Tern** was reported as opposed to twenty **Black Terns**. It seems that the relevant abundance of these two species has changed with **Black Tern** becoming the more abundant species, whereas historically **Forster's Tern** was much the commoner.

A single **Black Swift** brought in by the big storm was a new sighting for the year. This is a species that used to breed in the Wild Basin area of Rocky Mountain Park, but is now just occasionally seen, mainly at lower elevations. Another new species for the year was **Loggerhead Shrike**. This is another species which has become increasingly hard to find. However, this month there were three different sightings in three different areas, as opposed to the single sighting seen in 2007. Warblers were poorly reported with the most unusual sighting being a **Blackpoll Warbler**. It is pleasing to report that **Burrowing Owls** continued to do well with at least seven different nest sites having successfully produced young. **Barn Owls** have also successfully nested at several different locations. **Barn Owls** have always been unusual sightings, and at one time were thought to be in danger of disappearing from the county altogether, so it is good to see them increasing.

Ducks were beginning to appear by the end of the month, but were generally poorly reported. Several common mountain and foothill birds were not reported such as **Brown Creeper** and **American Dipper**. In other areas reporting was also spotty with a few favored areas receiving the bulk of the reports. This left August 2008 with 152 reported bird species; this is a very similar total to that of the last three years but nowhere close to the record of 177 species in 2002. This is a month where more intensive birding of the county could pay dividends.

* Callahan, Bill "Boulder Weather Log" Boulder Daily Camera, 5 September 2008.

Wind Energy—20% by 2030?

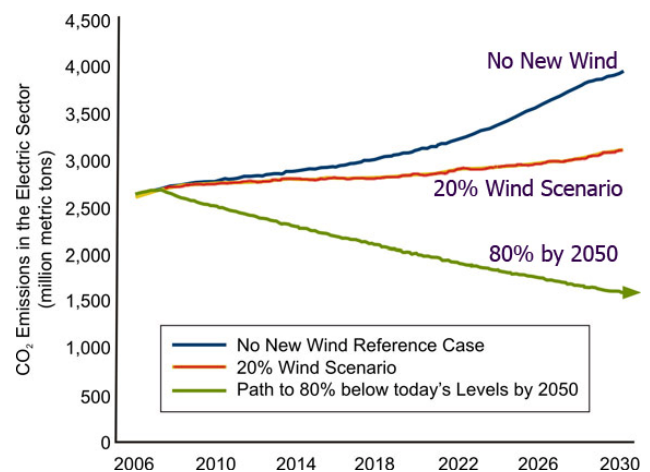
A major goal of the new Obama administration will be to increase the use of renewable energy, both to enhance U.S. energy security and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses (GHG). A 250-page DOE report* presents an example scenario for achieving 20% of U.S. electric energy from wind by 2030.

Assumptions include an increase of electricity demand of 39% by 2030 and that there will be no other improvements (including conservation). As wind currently supplies about 1% of U.S. generating capacity, the 20% goal requires nearly a 30-fold increase. ($1.39 \times 20 = 28$)

The scenario describes the mix of wind resources that would need to be captured, the geographic distribution of wind power installations, estimated land needs, the required utility and transmission infrastructure, manufacturing requirements, and the pace of growth that would be necessary. In each of these areas, the challenges are substantial, but they are considered realizable. The scenario postulates that about 1/6 of the new capacity would be located offshore, partly because of the large demand located near the coasts. Major improvements to the transmission grid will also be required—many windy areas are far from population centers.

In addition to the savings in fossil-fuel consumption, energy consumption for fuel extraction and transport will be saved, as will the environmentally damaging emissions and water usage that accompany typical power generation today. The jobs required for installation of wind capacity will also serve as a significant economic stimulus.

The chart below shows that generating 20% of U.S. electric power with wind is not a "silver bullet" for mitigating the climate change-threat. Rather, it is one element in the "wedge" strategy for achieving 80% GHG reduction by 2050.



* www.20percentwind.org/20percent_wind_energy_report_05-11-08_wk.pdf

Report from the 2008 Rio Grande Birdfest

November 5-9 2008

J.D. "Birch" Birchmeier

Our daughters decided to do the Susan Komen 60 mile Walk for the Cure in Dallas, so Nancy and I went to Texas to support them. Nancy cheered them on, while I discovered that the RG Birdfest was on the same weekend in Harlingen – practically next door, Texas-wise (500 miles...). I had never been to southern Texas and was looking forward to adding a batch of life birds. We saw Harris's Hawk and the Crested Caracara from the car on the way to Harlingen, so it looked pretty promising. Birdfest was a good deal – had a suite in the Country Inn for \$68/night, and the field trips added up to a bit over a hundred bucks. The hotel catered to birders, with a decent breakfast starting at 4 A.M. and a free shuttle to the municipal auditorium for the field trips.

Friday early, we went to Laguna Atacosta Wildlife Refuge on the Gulf. I added 17 lifers and the bus got 109 species total, some of which I missed, of course. This was my first viewing of the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, and I really enjoyed its antics. Perched on the top of a shrub, it hawked an insect 20 feet up, then looked like a parachute descending back to its perch. Green Jays were the usual bullies of the area. We saw a nice flight of about 50 Sandhill Cranes circling a pond to land, and a small flight of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks doing the same, with their vivid black and white wing patterns. A large group of Black-necked Stilts on the lagoon edge nervously eyed an 8 foot gator nearby.

Friday afternoon, we toured Harlingen in search of Red-crowned Parrots and Green Parakeets. We went to a few likely spots and saw some of the local resident birds. The trip leader had a scout car full of his buddies roaming around town in search of the parrot flock, and they reported in after an hour with the location – off we went, and everyone got a good look at 40 or so noisily occupying a small tree in a residential neighborhood. Then off to watch the parakeets in front of the Holiday Inn – only a half dozen this time, as the hurricane had dispersed/killed a few this summer. They are accepted by the ABA, but the trip leader personally thinks that they are releases, since he recalls people wading across the Rio Grande in simpler times and selling them door to door.

Saturday morning, up early again to visit the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge. Santa Ana is about 400 acres of typical scrubland, with a couple of small lakes on the property. I got 10 life birds before we got out of the parking lot, and that was with missing two (temporarily)! It really helps to have 30 pairs of eyes and ears. Got another 10 lifers during the next three hours, including the two I missed in the parking lot. Santa Ana had a lookout tower above the tree canopy – make sure you take your spotting scope up there. We split into two groups to cover more ground, and wound up with 96 species total, including 9 raptors. My personal highlight was a family of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks in one of the ponds – the 2 adults had red bills, and they were lined up nicely on a log to show their pink feet.

We missed the scarce Aplomado Falcon both days, and the local trip leaders said they average a view about once out of three field trips. I missed both of the local kingfishers, but the other group saw them. There were three species heard but not seen, and my personal rules don't count those. Both refuges were loaded with butterflies, if you're into those; the leaders knew those, too. Trip leaders were experienced and good with teaching the field marks, and the participants were the usual mix of medium to very experienced birders.

There was a nice exhibition area with a lot of optics to fawn over. If you ask nicely you can borrow some bins to try on a field trip. Snacks every afternoon, with some wine tasting. Friendly town with the usual mix of chain restaurants, though all the good restaurants were Mexican. Surprisingly, there are no microbreweries in town for beer lovers.

On the way back to Dallas, I wanted to try for Whooping Cranes in the Aransas Wildlife Refuge, so after talking my way past the Border Patrol (yes, they stop EVERY car), I went onto Padre Island off the shore of Corpus Christi on the way. Stop at Port Aransas Bird Watching area (right next to the smelly sewage plant, of course). Nice colony of spoonbills 50 feet from the boardwalk, lots of pelicans and gulls, and the Neotropic Cormorants that I wanted. Free ferry across the channel, then a short 75 mile drive to the entrance of Aransas NWF on the far eastern end. Place was covered in runty white tail deer (several near misses), but the whoopers were not seen.



Green Jay, Texas – G. Oetzel

Next Rio Grande Birdfest — Nov. 9-15, 2009

Why Local Chapter Membership?

If you're a member of the National Audubon Society (NAS), you get all the benefits of membership in the Boulder County Audubon Society (BCAS) as well. So, why should you donate \$20 to support the local chapter? The answer is that very little of the dues that about 1100 local NAS members send to NAS is available to support the BCAS operating expenses.

NAS returns a small portion of local membership dues to BCAS. However, we are asked to contribute most of that to support Audubon Colorado. While that is a worthwhile contribution, what remains to support BCAS activities each year is about \$0.62 per NAS member. Printing and mailing *On the Wing* costs about \$5 per member each year, and we have other expenses as well.

Memberships and other donations are important sources of support. The other major ones are grocery coupons, other sales (such as with the October monthly program), and an SCFD grant of \$2500 to support the monthly programs and educational activities.

Local memberships are based on the calendar year, so now is the best time to join or renew, if you haven't already done so.

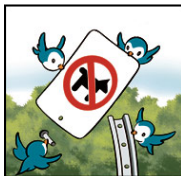
Dog Walking and Birds

Dog walking is among the Boulder area's most popular recreational activities. Worldwide, it attracts millions of people to natural areas each year with diverse benefits to human and canine health. The subject of banning dogs from selected Open Space areas has consistently attracted passionate arguments on both sides. Now there is at least one scientific study that quantifies the effects on birds of dogs on trails.*

Peter B. Banks and Jessica V. Bryant of the University of New South Wales surveyed birds along woodland trails near Sydney shortly after dogs were walked on them or after people walked alone. All kinds of dogs were involved, big and small, purebred and mutt. As a control, they also surveyed birds on trails that no one, human or canine, had recently walked on.

The researchers chose trails in areas where dogs were banned and others where dog walking was common. They expected that birds might get used to dogs where dog walking was common, but that's not what they found. Regardless of the type of area, dog walking led to a 35 percent reduction in the number of bird species and a 41 percent reduction in overall bird numbers, compared with the control. People walking alone caused less than half the disturbance caused by people with dogs.

* *Biology Letters*, Vol. 3, Number 6, Dec. 22, 2007



GROCERY COUPONS SUPPORT BCAS

Every time you buy food (or wine or beer), you could be supporting this chapter and its goals of backyard habitat creation, schoolroom programs for kids, and protection of important bird areas in our own county.

Cards and certificates are used exactly like cash. You are whisked through the check-out line as though you were handing over greenbacks. Every \$100 you spend puts \$5 or \$10 into the BCAS piggybank for our local chapter needs at no cost to you.

Our friendly coupon sales contacts :
 Maureen Lawry, tel. 303 499 3833, Bev Sears, tel. 303 499 4751, or Linda Andes-Georges, tel. 303 772 3239

Coupons are always available at chapter meetings, the fourth Tues. of each month. Bring your checkbook!

If you would like to receive your coupons or cards through the mail, we will double-enclose them and post them after receiving your check. A number of people are now doing this regularly. Use the order form below.

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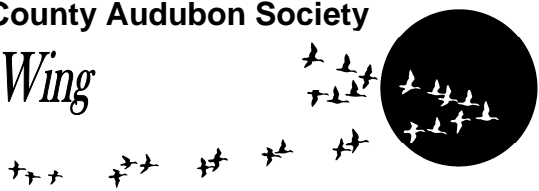
Make checks payable to Boulder County Audubon Society and mail to BCAS Coupons, 2385 Vassar Dr, Boulder, CO 80305-5726



March 3, 2008 - The winter ice had melted at Boulder Reservoir and the water was ice-free. The night of March 2nd was cold and still, so that the water froze as clear as glass. While I walked along the south shore a muskrat appeared, running on the ice near the shore. Two exposures show the muskrat rambling with its' fore-paws tucked-in while running on its hind legs and balancing with the tail, then leaping to land.—Don Glen

Boulder County Audubon Society

On The Wing



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Platte

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Join Your Local Chapter! (or Renew Membership)

Local memberships are an important part of the support that makes this newsletter and our other activities possible. We get very little return from national memberships. (NAS membership is not required for membership in the local chapter.) **Local memberships are for calendar year. — It's time to renew!**

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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To join or renew both BCAS and NAS, please duplicate the form and send separately.

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