

# Burrowing Owl

## Central New Mexico



## Audubon Society

September - November 2013 Vol. 42, No. 4

**Welcome to the Central New Mexico Audubon Society!**

**A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.**

**Come join us. All our meetings and field trips are open to the public.**

**[cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org](http://cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org)**

### September 19 – 7pm

#### “Gold In Our Valley” - Jennifer Owen-White

Join us at our September meeting to welcome Jennifer Owen-White as refuge manager of the new Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque, which itself claims a first: Valle de Oro is the (so far) only urban refuge in the Southwest. At the site of the former Price’s Dairy, it really is Albuquerque’s own, located on Second Street south of Rio Bravo.

Before taking the position at Valle de Oro, Jennifer was the Refuge Manager at the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, a world-renowned birding hotspot. She also served as the Visitor Service manager in charge of all birding and other nature programs and activities at the South Texas Refuge Complex. Come join us in giving a warm “Bienvenidos a Nuevo Mexico” to Jennifer and counting yourself among the amigos of this refuge that will reach out to urban audiences and connect them to the important habitats and wildlife that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service protects.



*American Kestrel - Judy Liddell*

### October 17 – 7pm

#### “Todys, Trogons, Mojitos, and Ropa Vieja!”

#### - Janet Ruth

Janet Ruth will give a slideshow presentation about the New Mexico Ornithological Society (NMOS) trip to Cuba in November 2012. Fourteen participants traveled to 10 of Cuba’s 15 provinces to bird and to collect avian data to share with Cuban ornithologists. Janet will talk about Cuban ornithology, the birds they saw, and the Cuban culture they enjoyed. There will be fabulous photos of Cuban birds by Dave Krueper and other excellent photographers among the participants.

Janet Ruth is a research ornithologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, based in New Mexico. She received her Ph.D from George Mason University and has conducted research on eastern riparian birds, Rocky Mountain warblers, desert grassland birds, and bird migration in the US-Mexico borderlands. She is the Partners in Flight Coordinator for USGS and a board member of the New Mexico Ornithological Society. She has birded on four continents and will go almost anywhere to see a sparrow.



*Toco toucan - Dave Krueper*

### November 14 – 7pm

#### Birds of Northern Ecuador – Bill West

Come learn and be inspired by the myriad of birds, habitats and conservation efforts in Northern Ecuador. Photos will be of species from all elevations of both slopes of the Andes as well as the paramo (tundra) and the Amazonian lowlands. Bill, owner of WingsWest Birding Tours and resident of New Mexico for 33 years, has been birding since the fourth grade. He started his tour company in 1996 and guides all over New Mexico, west and northwest Mexico (including the Copper Canyon), and northern and southern Ecuador. He has guided for Massachusetts Audubon, Smithsonian Institute, Elderhostel, Santa Fe Newcomers Club, Sangre de Cristo Audubon and Recursos of Santa Fe. In addition, he has taught classes for UNM/ Los Alamos and ENMU in Ruidoso.

## NEW MEETING PLACE

Starting with our September program, CNMAS will be holding our program meetings in the Community Room at the Adelante Development Center, 3900 Osuna Road NE.



The meeting room is accessed right off of their paved and well-lighted parking lot along Osuna. Your board felt that the parking would be more accessible and is conveniently located not far from I-25. Come early for refreshments at 7:00 p.m., announcements and program at 7:15 p.m.

### In This Issue

<i>Birdathon, Cats &amp; Dogs</i>	2	<i>Duck Stamp, SW Women in Conservation</i>	3	<i>Valle de Oro NWR event, Autumn Festivals</i>	6
<i>Save Our Bosque!</i>	2	<i>Thursday Birders &amp; Belen Marsh Day 4-5</i>	5	<i>Birds and Beers, Silhouette Challenge</i>	7
<i>eOwl, Education Opportunities</i>	3	<i>Conservation Committee Report</i>	5	<i>CNMAS Directory</i>	8



## Birdathon 2013 Donations

We thank all of YOU, the contributors to CNMAS Birdathon Teams 2013, Thursday Birders and EarthBeat. What an outstanding year! What generous contributors! Oh, the memories!

### Thursday Birder Contributors:

John Arnold, Dianne C. Cress, Rebecca Gracey, Beth Hurst-Waitz, Barbara Hussey, Kay Jackson, La Luz Community, Flo Laird, Judy Liddell, Bonnie Long, Marj & Dwayne Longenbaugh, Tanya McCue, Janice Micali, Susan & David Piatt, Lou Prime, Tony Prosser, Ellen Raimer, Donna Royer, Joe Schelling, Tova Shifburg, Michael Shoop, Sei Tokuda, Ron Waitz

### EarthBeat Contributors:

Jonathan Batkin, Celestyn Brozek, Ken Cole, Sara Jayne Cole, Steve & Nancy Cox, Alan Craig, Diane Cress & Jon McCorkell, Mary Pat Day, Eagle Optics LLC, Joe Fitzgibbon, Pat Folsom, Chuck Hayes, Earl Hilchey, Susan Hilchey, Lee Hopwood, Beth Hurst-Waitz, Laurel Ladwig, Dwayne & Marj Longenbough, Mike Means, Robert Munro, Bob Nieman, Jerry Oldenettel, Bruce Panowski, John Parmeter, Kathy Pritkin, Carol Richards, Donna Royer, Christopher Rustay, Lynn Schuler, Judy Emerson, Raymond Van-Buskirk's Family, Sondra Williamson, Blair Wolf, Louise Zemaitis

## Cats, Dogs & Wildlife

from Montana Audubon article by David Cronenwett  
<http://mtaudubon.org/birds/birdofmonth.html>

For many years, birders have understood the negative impact of cats on the feathered. But lest dog owners begin to feel smug, the hounds are not off the hook either. A growing body of literature is beginning to illuminate the many unseen ecological effects of dogs. Wildlife advocates should be especially concerned with this issue because while cats tend to stick closer to human settlement, dogs are frequently brought into wildland-urban interface zones and backcountry areas as companion animals. Research in Colorado, Montana and Utah has demonstrated significant wildlife displacement due to pervasive scent marking by dogs as well as outright wildlife harassment. Different seasons in the northern Rockies present different problems; Fido in ungulate winter range can severely stress deer, elk and moose when they (unlike your dog) have no calories to spare. In spring and early summer, newborn creatures from ground nesting birds to elk calves are little more than playthings for an enthusiastic dog. Also, there are known instances of domestic dogs transmitting diseases to and from wildlife and dogs are now considered to be effective vectors for the spread of noxious weeds.

We are beginning to understand how our pets can adversely affect native habitats and wildlife. Because of long entangled histories and the personal relationships we develop with cats and dogs, there is a tendency to sometimes deny or ignore their ecological impacts. Better pet management will certainly result in more abundant wildlife. Many communities in the US -- including Albuquerque -- already have ordinances restricting cats entirely indoors or leashed outdoors. It may also be time to examine if some especially sensitive habitats should be designated as domestic dog-exclusion areas. Though a challenging issue to address, more responsible pet ownership would go a long way towards furthering the conservation of native wildlife.

# PROTECT OUR BOSQUE!

## Bosque Plan CNMAS Resolution

*We, the Central New Mexico Audubon Society, hereby resolve that we **DO NOT** support the Rio Grande Vision in its current form. The bosque is a natural riparian cottonwood forest within the heart of Albuquerque that is a portion of the largest continuous cottonwood gallery forest in the world. This utterly unique and specialized habitat was acknowledged by the 1993 document adopted by the City of Albuquerque called The Bosque Action Plan, which has at its heart the preservation and conservation of this portion of the bosque. The primary goal of the Bosque Action Plan is "... to protect and enhance the natural resources of the Rio Grande Valley State Park." We note that the primary goal of ABQ The Plan: The Rio Grande Vision appears to be to "Connect, Protect and Excite" and while The Rio Grande Vision contains the word "protect" there is scant attention paid to how it will protect or monitor bosque health, or mitigate any effects on wildlife damaged by projects such as widening trails, creating boardwalks, installing viewing platforms and the like. Most ideas presented in The Rio Grande Vision are geared towards creating an urban park rather than maintaining a natural area. We will support any "re-visioning" of the Rio Grande bosque if it is completely consistent with the Bosque Action Plan, but only after all monitoring activities outlined in the Bosque Action Plan are completely planned and funded in perpetuity and any negative trends in birds, fish, mammals and other wildlife are fully and completely mitigated with portions of any "re-visioning" project funds appropriated.*

**Make your voice heard at the upcoming Community Town Hall meeting: Wednesday, September 4th at the Albuquerque Museum from 6:00-8:00 pm.**

**Check <http://abqtheplan.cabq.gov/> for upcoming public meetings and help us protect our bosque!**



## CNMAS Education Opportunities

### CNMAS Educator Resource Grant

The Educator Resource Grant is available to all educators in New Mexico. The grant is available for purchase of resources to the classroom/lessons that school or personal budgets do not cover. The supplies must be used for a natural history/science lesson(s), project or experience.

This grant is open to all educators of students age 18 and under. At the end of the school year, grantees must supply CNMAS with a short report on how the money was used and an itemized budget with receipts. A short article will be placed in the Burrowing Owl Newsletter for our members, written by the educator and students involved.

**Amount available:** up to \$250

**Application deadline:** December 28th (for money awarded by spring semester 2014).

**Application process:** Download an application from the CNMAS website <http://newmexicoaudubon.org/cnmas/> or email the CNMAS Education Committee at the email address below for an electronic copy. The application can be completed by hand or can be typed but must be submitted by email as a Word or pdf file. Send completed applications and questions you may have to the CNMAS Education Committee at: [cnmasgrants@gmail.com](mailto:cnmasgrants@gmail.com). Title the email 'CNMAS Educator Resource Grant'.

### Youth Education and Teacher Professional Development Opportunity *The Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Education Fund*

This is the seventh year CNMAS is able to accept applications for the Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Education Fund. The fund provides scholarships for youth between the ages of 13 and 20, or educators of youth, to attend a specific program, camp or course, pertaining to the candidate's interest in the natural sciences.



For more information about applications and for a copy of the application, please contact the CNMAS Education Committee at [cnmasgrants@gmail.com](mailto:cnmasgrants@gmail.com) or visit <http://newmexicoaudubon.org/cnmas/> where you can follow links to the application form and instructions. Applications are taken on an on-going basis but early applications are encouraged as they are taken on a first-come-first-considered basis. The grant will be awarded by April 30th 2013.

*Ryan Beaulieu was a young ornithologist, environmentalist and conservationist who filled his life with the joy of exploration and discovery of nature. This scholarship fund was established to give testimony to the living legacy of what Ryan gave to all of us as family, friends and community. CNMAS wishes to thank the Lannan Foundation for its generous support of the fund, as well as the family and friends of Ryan.*

## Get your 2013 Federal Duck Stamp!

Birders interested in conservation and habitat protection can do no better than to participate in the Federal Duck Stamp program. The Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp program is a project of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The \$15 stamps feature exquisitely detailed waterfowl, and while they are not valid for postage, non-hunters can enjoy the stamps as your pass for free admission into National Wildlife Refuges for hiking, birding and other activities. New stamps are issued annually and are valid from July 1 through June 30. Approximately \$.98 from every dollar spent on Duck Stamps goes directly toward purchasing habitat to expand the National Wildlife Refuge system, making the program one of the most efficient conservation programs in history.



## Audubon New Mexico Presents: Southwest Women in Conservation 2013

Save the Date! Friday, September 27th, 10 am - 1 pm

### *A Conversation with Sandra Postel and Amanda Cooper*

Sandra Postel, director of the Global Water Policy Project and National Geographic Freshwater Hero, promotes the preservation and sustainable use of the world's freshwater.

Amanda Cooper, campaign expert for progressive leaders and daughter of Senator Tom Udall, brings a personal and political perspective to conservation in the region. Amanda will help guide the conversation as we discover more about Sandra and her work, her personal motivations, and how we address today's critical and timely water issues.

Conversations will be followed by a gourmet lunch, at the Randall Davey Audubon Center & Sanctuary. Join us as we work to motivate all generations to value, protect and restore the health of our environment.

<http://nm.audubon.org/southwest-women-conservation-2013>

Please contact Maryam Miller ([mmiller@audubon.org](mailto:mmiller@audubon.org)) if you have any questions, or if you'd like to make a contribution.



## Burrowing Owl Digital Edition

**EXTRA!!  
EXTRA!!**

We now have an extra-special digital edition of the Burrowing Owl, so that YOU, Dear Reader, will be tempted, cajoled, influenced, and otherwise persuaded to switch to on-line delivery. Besides having all the "extras" delivered to your inbox, you'll be helping us to save trees (good for birds) and money (also good for birds, because then we'll have more to spend on conservation projects which preserve bird habitat!)

Check out our new digital edition for more articles, including...

- Color artwork! (who doesn't want to see more colorful birds?)
- Many extra pages of news (that's like adding more species to your day's checklist!)
- Rio Grande Bird Research's Fall Banding Schedule (a bird in the hand ...)
- Letters supporting land acquisition for Valle de Oro NWR (citizen activism right in your own backyard!)
- A printable poster for CNMAS Fall Programs (for your fridge, your library, your neighbor, your parakeet!)
- And more! (Aren't you tempted yet??)

Contact Membership Chair Ed Dover at [whitecliffs@comcast.net](mailto:whitecliffs@comcast.net) or 242-5427 to say, "Yes, Please switch my subscription to paperless, on-line delivery!" You'll be glad you did! ('Cause the NEXT issue will have lots of extras, too!)



## AUDUBON THURSDAY BIRDERS SCHEDULE

### For Autumn 2013

#### SEPTEMBER 5

Walk around the Tingley bosque ponds with Rebecca Gracey: 505-242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Tingley Ponds main parking lot, the first turn off Tingley Drive. Tingley is a south turn from Central Avenue SW. The walk will end before noon.

#### SEPTEMBER 12

Visit the Jemez Mountain cabin of the Feltz family near La Cueva with Lou Feltz: 505-856-1322, lvfeltz@comcast.net. Many bird species may be seen from the deck and nearby meadows. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the center of the parking lot in the Far North Shopping Center located on the east side of San Mateo and the north side of Academy. Bring Lunch. The trip will end in the early afternoon. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$7 at five cents per mile.

#### SEPTEMBER 19

View the Belen Marsh then visit the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area with Linda Heinze: 505-565-1441, manzanogal@gmail.com. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the parking lot behind the Hawthorne Suites on Gibson and University Boulevard or 8:00 at the marsh. To reach the marsh, take Exit 195 to Belen from I-25. Drive east one mile to the Taco Bell parking lot on the south. The hike at WWCA is an easy 1.5 mile walk. Lunch will be at El Rancho de Valencia in Los Lunas on NM 6 near the intersection with NM 314. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$4 at five cents per mile.

#### SEPTEMBER 26

Drive to Cochiti Lake with Judy Liddell: 505-271-0912, jliddell@msn.com. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the center of the parking lot in the Far North Shopping Center located on the west side of San Mateo and the north side of Academy. The group will access the lake from NM 16 in order to take the Tetilla Peak Road on the east side of the lake. People can meet the group on NM 16 at the turn off to Tetilla Peak at 8:30. Bring lunch. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$5 at five cents per mile. The group should be back in Albuquerque in the mid afternoon.



#### OCTOBER 3

Visit Capilla Peak, the fall hawk-watch site for Hawk Watch International, in the Manzano Mountains with Bonnie Long: 505-379-1985, cantrade\_1@yahoo.com. SPACE IS LIMITED TO TEN PEOPLE as required in a wilderness area. CALL BONNIE TO RESERVE ONE OF THE TEN SPOTS. Please let her know if you have a change of plans so that someone else may attend. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the west side of the Four Hills Shopping Village on Central Avenue between Juan Tabo and Tramway. High clearance vehicles will be needed for car-pooling because of the deeply rutted forest road leading to the site. To reach the site take NM 337 south out of Tijeras until it intersects with NM 55. The group will meet Bonnie at this junction at 9:50 a.m. Turn west on NM 55. In the town of Manzano take FR 245 to Capilla

Peak. Once in the parking area, there is a walk of .2 of a mile over a rocky path that can be best facilitated with a walking stick and hiking boots. It can be cold and windy on the side of the mountain where the hawks fly by. Bring lunch and a monetary donation to Hawk Watch International. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$4 at five cents per mile. The trip will end in mid afternoon.

#### OCTOBER 10

Travel to the Randall Davey Audubon Center in Santa Fe with Lefty Arnold: 505-514-9398, wanderingtattlerja@yahoo.com. Meet at 8:17 for an 8:27 departure from the center of the parking lot in the Far North Shopping Center located on the east side of San Mateo and the north side of Academy. Bring lunch. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$6 at five cents per mile. The group should be back in Albuquerque in the mid afternoon.

#### OCTOBER 17

Walk in the Alameda Open Space with Gale Owings: 505-255-8333. Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the Open Space parking lot on the south side of Alameda Boulevard, just east of the Rio Grande River. The one-mile walk will end before noon.

#### OCTOBER 24

Walk around the Albuquerque Open Space Visitor Center and nearby bosque with Maurice Mackey: moemackey@comcast.net, 505-897-0415.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the center's parking lot on the east side of Coors Boulevard. The entrance road is located north of Montano Road and south of Paseo del Norte. It will be an easy 1 1/2 mile walk. If time allows the group will also go to nearby Los Poblanos Fields Open Space on Montano. The trip will end before noon.

#### OCTOBER 31

Walk around the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park with Leah Henzler: 505-293-0191, lfcairns@gmail.com. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Candelaria Wetland Blind near the parking lot. A \$3 parking fee, State Parks Pass, or Friends of the RGNC Pass is required per car. Both passes may be purchased inside the Visitor Center after 10:00. The walk will end before noon.

#### NOVEMBER 7

Hike the Open Space at the east end of Copper in the foothills of the Sandias with Jeane Dugan: 505-296-0702, jeanedugan@gmail.com. Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking areas along Copper for an easy 1.5 mile walk ending before noon.

#### NOVEMBER 14

Visit the Durand Open Space in the South Valley with Lannois Neely: 505-890-7881, lfneely@aol.com. Meet at 8:20 a.m. for an 8:30 departure from the back parking lot of the Hawthorne Suites on Gibson, just west of University Boulevard. The Open Space is located at 4736 Isleta SW, two miles south of Rio Bravo SW. The walk will end before noon.

#### NOVEMBER 21

No Trip – Enjoy the Festival of the Cranes at the Bosque del Apache NWR.  
[www.friendsofthebosque.org](http://www.friendsofthebosque.org)

#### NOVEMBER 28

No Trip – Thanksgiving



NM Rare Bird Alert [www.nmbirds.org](http://www.nmbirds.org)  
 Rare Bird Alert for all states [www.birdingonthe.net](http://www.birdingonthe.net)  
 To report NM rare birds contact Matt Baumann at  
[mb687@yahoo.com](mailto:mb687@yahoo.com), 505-264-1052

## Other Birding Opportunities

### Rio Grande Nature Center State Park Bird Walks

Join Saturday and Sunday morning bird walks at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park located at the far west end of Candelaria. The walks start at 8:30 a.m. during the months of September, October, and November, and 9:00 a.m. in the winter. There is a \$3 day-use fee without a State Parks Pass or Friends of the Rio Grande Nature Center Pass. Both may be purchased in the visitor's center after 10:00 a.m.

### Sandia Mountain Bird Walks

During September and the first week in October there are Tuesday morning bird walks in the Sandia Mountains sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service. Meet at the Sandia Ranger Station at 8:00 a.m. to begin each trip. The ranger station may be reached from I-40 by taking exit 175. Drive south one half mile on NM 337 to the ranger station on the east. From there the group will visit different locations in the mountains.

**!! See page 6 for Autumn Festivals !!**

## National Public Lands Day at Valle De Oro National Wildlife Refuge

**Saturday, September 28, 2013 10:00am - 3:00pm**

Great news!! The New Mexico Outdoors Coalition has selected Valle de Oro NWR as the site for this year's National Public Lands Day! The event will be held at the refuge on Saturday, September 28 and instead of the typical service project of a trail building or litter pick-up, we will have the community support the refuge by sharing their vision for the future development of the refuge. The day will consist of planning workshops that are fun and incorporate creativity and art! Join us as together we plan for the future of YOUR public lands!

This community event will be packed with information, activities and fun for the entire family - bring your ideas and be a part of the planning for YOUR new urban wildlife refuge!

**Valle de Oro NWR, 7851 2nd Street SW ABQ, NM 87105**

10:00am - 12:00pm: Activities that Inform  
 1:00 - 3:00pm: Collective Visioning

Lunch provided by the Friends of Valle de Oro NWR for full day participants who commit to attending both sessions from 10-3. Please RSVP by Sept. 20th with the number of people in your party: [info@newmexicooutdoorscoalition.org](mailto:info@newmexicooutdoorscoalition.org)

**See page 13 for more information!**

**Central New Mexico Audubon Society** assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending society sponsored activities and will not be held liable for such accidents.  
*You attend at your own risk.*

## CNMAS Weekend Field Trips

Check our website for Fall field trips!

**[cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org/](http://cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org/)**

Contact Field Trip Chairperson Cole Wolf [colejwolf@gmail.com](mailto:colejwolf@gmail.com) if you would like to lead one!

### Belen Marsh Clean-up Day

The Belen Marsh Committee plans their Belen, Don Felipe Road clean up activity to take place on from 9-11a.m. on Saturday, October 19. Volunteers will be provided with vests, gloves, trash bags and water. Volunteers usually pick up trash on both the east and west side of the road for approximately one mile starting at the Taco Bell. Don Felipe road runs parallel on the west side of the Belen Marsh. Contact Eileen Beaulieu [dulcebeaulieu@comcast.net](mailto:dulcebeaulieu@comcast.net) with any questions.

### The Conservation Committee Wants You!

Did you know the CNMAS Conservation Committee has been busy these last few months? Conservation is a main focus for Audubon, and CNMAS has really ramped up their conservation game! In the last year committee members have started conservation and wildlife monitoring projects in Albuquerque, Los Lunas, Belen, and Eastern New Mexico. We've developed a team dedicated to our Cats Indoors Campaign, helped to create the South Valley's first Birding Festival, and are actively involved with the Southwest's first Urban National Wildlife Refuge! We've attended public meetings, gone to events, written letters, talked to local and federal representatives, etc, etc, etc!

What? You hadn't heard about all these projects? We're pretty excited about all this recent action and we think you should be too! That's why the Conservation Committee will be presenting regular, short updates on our projects at ALL CNMAS talks and events! Additionally, the CNMAS website now has a dedicated conservation page with the latest updates on these projects and more! Check it out!

But there's still one thing missing. YOU! If you're reading this newsletter, that means you're probably a CNMAS member and these accomplishments belong to you as well. We need your input, ideas, skills and energy! Whether you just want to know more, want to get involved in an existing project, or have a fabulous new project in mind, we want you to join us!

And so the CNMAS Conservation Committee will be holding a meeting/discussion open to any and everyone.

**September 23rd, 7pm** at Newton's Cradle Office Space (in the same building as O'Niell's Pub on Central, entrance on the west side of the building). We'll give updates on current projects, discuss what still needs to be done and generate new ideas! Please RSVP to Michael Hilchey [cnmasconservation@gmail.com](mailto:cnmasconservation@gmail.com) or (505) 228-7439 if you'd like to attend. Again, anyone is welcome whether you just want to know more about what is being done, or you want to jump right in and get involved!

The Conservation Committee plans on meeting four times a year to keep organized, generate new ideas, and get things done. So keep an eye out, you'll be seeing a lot more Conservation News in the coming months!



## Dragonfly Festival 2013 Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge



The 2013 Dragonfly Festival will take place on September 7. THE FESTIVAL IS A FREE EVENT! Remember, you must reserve space to take part in the Dragonfly Tours. Reservations now open at 575-625-4011. Check here for event updates: [www.friendsofbitterlake.com](http://www.friendsofbitterlake.com)

## Bosque del Apache Festival of the Cranes November 19-24



It's the YEAR OF PHOTOGRAPHY! Dozens of new photo workshops and lecture opportunities in addition to some great new birding expeditions! The schedule will be online soon!! [www.festivalofthecranes.com](http://www.festivalofthecranes.com)

And we invite YOU to be volunteers for CNMAS, as well. Contact Jeff Myers, [jmyers@peacocklaw.com](mailto:jmyers@peacocklaw.com), to volunteer for shifts

helping visitors find birds on either Saturday or Sunday. CNMAS does Saturday 9-11, Saturday 11-1, Saturday 1-3, Saturday 3-5, Sunday 9-11, and Sunday 11-1. But if even hours work better for you, you can represent CNMAS at the Audubon Council site on Saturday 8-10, Saturday 10-12, Saturday 12-2, Saturday 2-4, Sunday 8-10, or Sunday 10-12. We stagger the shifts because of substantial overlap in membership and interest in doing multiple locations on the same day. Tentatively CNMAS is assigned to the Eagle Scout deck and Audubon Council to the Marsh deck. These may change based on where Friends of B del A needs us, where they expect high visitor traffic, and WHERE THE BIRDS ARE!, depending on current water and food conditions. But wherever our assignments are, we hope YOU will join us. If you haven't done it before, you can't imagine the fun of greeting and sharing with the diverse and enthusiastic crowds who come to Festival -- both people AND birds! See you at the Festival!

## NM Volunteers For the Outdoors Bosque del Apache Work Day - October 19, 2013

If Bosque del Apache NWR is your favorite refuge and you want to help out, here's another way: Sign up at New Mexico Volunteers For the Outdoors [www.nmvfo.org/projects](http://www.nmvfo.org/projects) for their workday and tell them you're from Central New Mexico Audubon. Work during the day and go birding in the evening!

## HawkWatch International

Capilla Peak Campground and the Manzano HawkWatch are once again open to the public. The HawkWatch International Research Site is in a wilderness area; so, please limit the size of your group to about ten people. Visitors are welcome, and we ask you to check in with the interpreter when you arrive. Call Bobbie (255-7622) to schedule a field trip. Find more information and directions at [www.hawkwatch.org](http://www.hawkwatch.org). Banding and observation of raptors migrating south for the winter will take place daily, weather permitting, until early in November. The HawkWatch International Frontline Science project will take place on the weekends in September and the first two weekends in October. For information about these weekends working with the HWI crew, contact Nikki at (801) 484-6808 or [nwayment@hawkwatch.org](mailto:nwayment@hawkwatch.org).

## 9th Annual Gila River Festival *The Gila River is in Our Hands!* September 19 - 22, 2013

One of the Southwest's premier nature festivals, the Gila River Festival attracts an audience of nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts eager to learn about and experience the Gila's natural wonders. Festival attendees will enjoy a variety of expert-guided field trips in the Gila National Forest and along the Gila River, a keynote talk by author and environmentalist Kenneth Brower, presentation by Dr. Tom Swetnam of the Laboratory of Tree Ring Research at the University of Arizona, panel discussions, workshops, kayaking, films about New Mexico rivers, Gala for the Gila and Silent Auction with music by the Roadrunners, a downtown art walk and more. The full festival schedule and registration are available at [www.gilaconservation.org](http://www.gilaconservation.org). For more information, contact the Gila Conservation Coalition at 575.538.8078 or [info@gilaconservation.org](mailto:info@gilaconservation.org)



## Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge Fall Flight Festival in November See page 10 for details



Sandhill Crane - Laurel Ladwig

## Sevilleta Open House Celebrate the National Wildlife Refuge System! October 5, 2013

In celebration of our 40th Anniversary as a National Wildlife Refuge, join us at Sevilleta NWR for a variety of family fun activities. Exciting presentations and tours, poster contest awards ceremony, live animals and much more! Reservations are required for ALL tours. Please call 505/864-4021 to reserve your space today!

For more information visit us on the web: <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/newmex/sevilleta/index.html> or visit our friends group on the web, The Amigos de la Sevilleta <http://amigosdelasevilleta.com/>

Approximately 230,000 acres in size, the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is a vast landscape in the heart of New Mexico. Coming together within the Refuge boundaries are the Chihuahuan desert, shortgrass prairie, pinon-juniper woodlands, Colorado Plateau shrubsteppe and Rio Grande riparian woodlands. These varied habitats provide homes to a diversity of wildlife and plants, many existing at the edge of their traditional home range. Central New Mexico Audubon Society is proud to be an exhibitor, together with HawkWatch International--you're invited!

The Burrowing Owl newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December by Central New Mexico Audubon Society, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002. Subscription is free to National Audubon Society members, \$15 to nonmembers.



**!!BIRDS and BEERS!!**

Birds and Beers! events continue, and if YOU'RE interested in birds and birding in the Albuquerque area, then YOU'RE invited!

**WHO?** Anyone who is interested in birds and birding

**WHAT? Birds and Beers** - Informal gathering sponsored by New Mexico Ornithological Society and CNMAS. Bring bird photos on a jump drive if you have some to share; be prepared to share with your peers; be ready for fun (like bird I.D. quizzes and contests); come hungry and thirsty!

**WHERE? O'Niell's - Event Space**, 4310 Central SE (Nob Hill) Albuquerque, NM 87108 <http://oniells.com/> (park around back off of Washington St.)

**WHEN?** The last Tuesday of the month 5:00 p.m. - ??? (any planned activities will start at 6:00)

**FROM:** Dave Krueper & Janet Ruth, NMOS; Raymond Van-Buskirk, CNMAS; Robert Munro, CNMAS and O'Niell's

**Whom to Contact**

National Audubon Society  
 Membership Hotline (800) 274-4201,  
[chadd@audubon.org](mailto:chadd@audubon.org)  
 Activist Hotline (800) 659-2622  
 Audubon Take Action  
[www.audubonaction.org/audubon/](http://www.audubonaction.org/audubon/)  
 New Mexico Audubon Office  
 Randall Davey Audubon Center  
 P.O. Box 9314 Santa Fe, NM 87504  
 (505) 983-4609 <http://nm.audubon.org>  
[newmexico@audubon.org](mailto:newmexico@audubon.org)  
 The President  
 The White House  
 Washington, DC 20500  
 (202) 456-1111  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)  
 Department of the Interior  
 1849 C Street, NW  
 Washington, DC 20240  
 (202) 208-3100, [www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)  
 Senator Tom Udall  
 B40D Dirksen Senate Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20510  
 505-346-6791 [tomudall.senate.gov](mailto:tomudall.senate.gov)  
 Senator Martin Heinrich  
 B40D Dirksen Senate Office Bldg  
 Washington, D.C. 20510  
 Phone Number: (202) 224-5521  
<http://www.heinrich.senate.gov>  
 Congressman Steve Pearce  
[www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) (202) 224-3121

Congressman Ben R. Lujan  
 (202) 225-6190  
[Congressman Michelle Lujan Grisham](mailto:CongressmanMichelleLujanGrisham@lujangrisham.house.gov)  
[lujangrisham.house.gov](mailto:lujangrisham.house.gov)  
 Governor Susana Martinez  
 State Capitol, Room 400  
 Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 476-2200  
 US Fish and Wildlife Service  
 500 Gold Avenue, SW, ABQ, NM  
 87102 External Affairs Office  
 (505) 248-6911  
 New Mexico Dept. of Game & Fish  
 P.O. Box 25112 Santa Fe, NM 87504  
 (505)476-8000  
[www.wildlife.state.nm.us](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us)  
 Sandia Ranger District  
 US Forest Service  
 11776 Highway 337  
 Tijeras, NM 87059 (505) 281-3304  
 Bosque del Apache NWR  
 (575) 838-2120  
 Friends of the Bosque del Apache  
 (575) 835-1828  
[www.friendsofthebosque.org](http://www.friendsofthebosque.org)  
 Rio Grande Nature Center State Park  
 (505) 344-7240  
[www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/riograndenaturecenterstatepark.html](http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/riograndenaturecenterstatepark.html)  
 Friends of RGNC  
[friends@rgnc.org](mailto:friends@rgnc.org), [www.rgnc.org](http://www.rgnc.org)  
 Wildlife Rescue (505)344-2500  
<http://www.wrinm.org/>

**Contacting National Audubon**

For questions regarding magazines, national mailings, premiums (calendars, tote bags, etc), address changes for national mailing, requests for removals from mailing lists, or any other membership issues, please contact Audubon's Customer Service Partner, Palm Coast Data (PCD) at (800) 274-4201 or [audubon@emailcustomerservice.com](mailto:audubon@emailcustomerservice.com). Audubon is now providing service six days a week (Mondays-Fridays 8a.m.-9p.m., Saturdays 9a.m.-6p.m. Eastern Standard Time) through PCD.



**Audubon**

Fridays 8a.m.-9p.m.,  
 Saturdays 9a.m.-6p.m.  
 Eastern Standard  
 Time) through PCD.

Central New Mexico Audubon Society Application  
 Form For **New National Members Only**



Make checks payable to the **National Audubon Society, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002.** FOR NEW NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS ONLY. Your National Audubon membership RENEWAL cannot be processed by the Chapter; it must be sent directly to National Audubon.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (with Area Code) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The following rates include the *National Audubon Magazine* and the CNMAS Newsletter the *Burrowing Owl*. Please check your preference.

- \$20 New Member, *special introductory rate for one year.*
- \$30 New Member, *special introductory rate for two years.*

As part of our commitment to protecting our natural environment we are encouraging members to opt to receive their copies of the Burrowing Owl online, where they can read it on their computers or print it out at home. This will significantly reduce the amount of paper generated by mailing hard copies. We will, of course, honor those requests from members who wish to continue receiving the hard copies through the mail. Please indicate your preference below.

- I would like to receive the Burrowing Owl online. Be sure to enter your e-mail address on the address section above.
- I would prefer to receive the Burrowing Owl via printed copy by regular mail.

**For the Burrowing Owl Only**

For annual subscription to the Burrowing Owl within our Chapter area or outside of it:

- \$15.00 (Check delivery choice above.)

For this subscription make checks payable to **CNMAS, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002.**

*Thanks to the Typo Wranglers, Beth Hurst-Waitz and Melissa Howard, from the Production Wrangler. Any errors that remain are my own.*



**Silhouette Challenge!**

Email the name of the species in silhouette on page 4 to [BUROWLnm@gmail.com](mailto:BUROWLnm@gmail.com) by December 5, 2013. Winners announced in the Winter issue!

**Burrowing Owl Deadline**

Information and articles to be included in the Winter 2013 issue of the *Burrowing Owl* must be received by December 5, 2013.

Contact Laurel Ladwig at 505-362-6871 or [BUROWLnm@gmail.com](mailto:BUROWLnm@gmail.com).



*photo by Laurel Ladwig*

## Central New Mexico Audubon Society

Post Office Box 30002  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87190-0002  
NAS Chapter C1ZQ510Z

**Return Service Requested**

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 43  
Albuquerque, NM



Central New Mexico Audubon is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit chapter of  
the National Audubon Society, Inc.

*Our missions: "To appreciate, experience, and conserve birds, other wildlife and their habitats;  
and to encourage and support environmental education in New Mexico."*

### CNMA S DIRECTORY

CNMA S Phone (505)255-7622 Email [jmyers@peacocklaw.com](mailto:jmyers@peacocklaw.com)  
Webpage <http://cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org/>  
CNMA S, P.O. Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002

#### PRESIDENT

Raymond VanBuskirk [newmexicobirder@gmail.com](mailto:newmexicobirder@gmail.com)

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Judy Liddell (505)271-0912 [jliddell@msn.com](mailto:jliddell@msn.com)

#### TREASURER

Lee Hopwood [PLHopwood@gmail.com](mailto:PLHopwood@gmail.com)

#### RECORDING SECRETARY

Cole Wolf [colejwolf@gmail.com](mailto:colejwolf@gmail.com)

#### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Beth Hurst-Waitz (505)508-4942 cell: (505)259-0709 [brave\\_e@juno.com](mailto:brave_e@juno.com)

#### CONSERVATION CO-CHAIRPERSONS

Michael Hilchey (505) 358-0075 [leucosticte@gmail.com](mailto:leucosticte@gmail.com)

Jeffrey Myers work (505)998-1502 [jmyers@peacocklaw.com](mailto:jmyers@peacocklaw.com)

#### CATS INDOORS CAMPAIGN

Sara Jayne Cole [saracole6813@comcast.net](mailto:saracole6813@comcast.net)

Mikal Deese [mikaldeese@aol.com](mailto:mikaldeese@aol.com)

#### BURROWING OWL

##### PRODUCTION WRANGLER

Laurel Ladwig [BUROWLnm@gmail.com](mailto:BUROWLnm@gmail.com)

##### CONTENT WRANGLER

Beth Hurst-Waitz (505)508-4942 cell: (505)259-0709 [brave\\_e@juno.com](mailto:brave_e@juno.com)

#### EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE

Lynn Lorrain Schuler [cnmasgrants@gmail.com](mailto:cnmasgrants@gmail.com)

Eileen Beaulieu [dulcebeaulieu@comcast.net](mailto:dulcebeaulieu@comcast.net)

Helen Haskell PO Box 36741, Alb. 87176-6741 [cnmasgrants@gmail.com](mailto:cnmasgrants@gmail.com)

#### FIELD TRIP CHAIRPERSON

Cole Wolf [colejwolf@gmail.com](mailto:colejwolf@gmail.com)

#### MEMBERSHIP DATABASE CHAIRPERSON (for change of address only)

Ed Dover 1421 San Carlos SW, Alb. 87104-1040 (505)242-5427  
[whitecliffs@comcast.net](mailto:whitecliffs@comcast.net)

#### NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Lynn Lorrain Schuler [onthepulse@msn.com](mailto:onthepulse@msn.com)

Lee Hopwood [PLHopwood@gmail.com](mailto:PLHopwood@gmail.com)

#### PUBLICITY CHAIRPERSON

Adrienne Warner [birdinginfo@gmail.com](mailto:birdinginfo@gmail.com)

#### WEBSITE UPDATES

Judy Liddell (505)271-0912 [jliddell@msn.com](mailto:jliddell@msn.com)

Cole Wolf [colejwolf@gmail.com](mailto:colejwolf@gmail.com)

#### DIRECTORS

Robert Munro (505)730-7762 [robert.munro@earthlink.net](mailto:robert.munro@earthlink.net)

Jason Kitting (505)379-6075 [jrkitting@yahoo.com](mailto:jrkitting@yahoo.com)

Adrienne Warner [birdinginfo@gmail.com](mailto:birdinginfo@gmail.com)

#### NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL

President - Judy Liddell (505)271-0912 [jliddell@msn.com](mailto:jliddell@msn.com)

#### Bat in Trouble? (Talking Talons)

Call before you intervene: 281-1133 or 281-1515

#### New Mexico Rare Bird Alert

Compiler: Matt J. Baumann 505-264-1052, [mb687@yahoo.com](mailto:mb687@yahoo.com)  
<http://www.nmbirds.org/>

#### Rosy-Finch Project

Alan Mickelson (505)281-3471 [gonefishin820@earthlink.net](mailto:gonefishin820@earthlink.net)  
<http://www.rosyfinch.com/>

#### Wildlife Rescue

If you find a sick or injured bird, call 344-2500



**Welcome to the digital edition of the Burrowing Owl with extra pages of content and a printable poster of upcoming CNMAS programs.**

**Digital Extras**

<i>RGBR banding at RGNC</i>	9	<i>National Wildlife Refuge Benefits</i>	11	<i>Valle de Oro NWR letter campaign</i>	13
<i>Fundraising Committee</i>	9	<i>SW Women in Conservation</i>	12	<i>VdO letters to print, sign and mail...</i>	14-16
<i>Las Vegas NWR Fall Flight Festival</i>	10	<i>Valle de Oro NWR event</i>	13	<i>CNMA Fall Program Poster</i>	last page



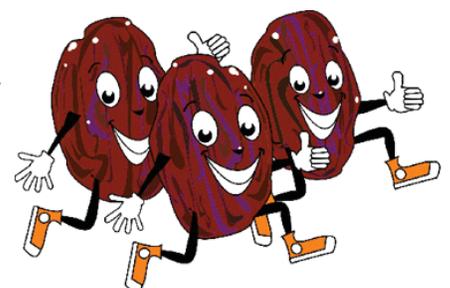
**RIO GRANDE BIRD RESEARCH, INC.  
RIO GRANDE NATURE CENTER  
2013 FALL BANDING SCHEDULE**

Rio Grande Bird Research, Inc. is banding at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park again this Fall. If you're serious about birding and want to observe licensed banders at work, or gain some experience yourself with recording, protocols and scientific data collection, consider joining them one morning. To get a glimpse of the ongoing work, join one of the weekend morning bird walks at RGNC (see page 5). The bird walk route goes past the banding station and can provide an excellent introduction to RBGR's work.

August	Gate opens/closes (a.m.)	Open Nets (a.m.)	Sunrise (a.m.)
3	8:00	--	6:20
4	5:45/6:00	6:00	6:21
10	5:45/6:00	6:00	6:26
11	5:45/6:00	6:00	6:26
17	6:00/6:15	6:10	6:31
18	6:00/6:15	6:10	6:32
24	6:00/6:15	6:15	6:36
25	6:00/6:15	6:15	6:37
31	6:00/6:15	6:20	6:41
<b>September</b>			
1	6:00/6:15	6:20	6:42
7	6:15/6:30	6:30	6:46
8	6:15/6:30	6:30	6:47
14	6:15/6:30	6:30	6:51
15	6:15/6:30	6:30	6:52
21	6:30/6:45	6:40	6:57
22	6:30/6:45	6:40	6:57
28	6:30/6:45	6:40	7:02
29	6:30/6:45	6:40	7:02
<b>October</b>			
5	6:30/6:45	6:45	7:08
6	6:30/6:45	6:45	7:08
12	6:30/6:45	6:50	7:13
13	6:30/6:45	6:50	7:14

**FUN RAISIN COMMITTEE CNMAS**

A fundraising committee has fledged at CNMAS! We are spreading our wings to work on building our chapter membership, planning and conducting events that will raise money for conservation and education projects as well as a major focus on the Ryan Beaulieu memorial Fund which is designed to provide scholarships to young birders and educators through annual grants. We are planning our first 'brain storming' meeting on October 22th at 6:00 pm; location to be announced. Please contact Lee Hopwood at 259-0581 or email at plhopwood@gmail.com to attend this meeting.





# Fall Flight Festival at Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge Each November Sunday

The visitor center will be open each Sunday in November from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the Traditional Annual Fall Flight Festival featuring a 4.5-mile self-guided auto drive. This tour allows visitors to enjoy the vast spaciousness of the short-grass prairie in areas of the refuge not open for general public use the rest of the year. Visitors can observe directly the impact of current drought conditions on ponds, lakes, marshes and fields. Migrating waterfowl will be limited, but there will be grassland birds along with wintering raptors. Additionally, there are free interpretive talks each Sunday in November at 12 noon and at 1:30 pm.

Nov. 3: Santa Fe Raptor Center: Live raptor presentation

Nov. 10: The Role of Wildfires in Southwestern Landscapes, Dr. Kent Reid, New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute

Nov. 17: Bison Ecology and Management at the Rio Mora NWR, Dr. Brian Miller, Denver Zoo

Nov. 24: Drought and the Ecology of Southwestern Shortgrass Prairies, Mollie Walton, Quivira Coalition

## Valle De Oro National Wildlife Refuge -- National Public Lands Day - see page 13 for details

# Save the Date!

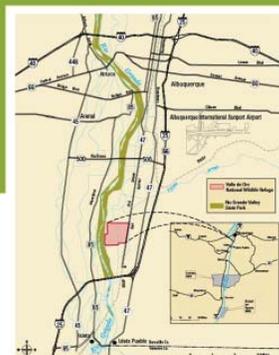
Saturday, September 28, 2013

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge invites you to join us for National Public Lands Day as together we plan for the future of **YOUR** public lands!

This community event will be packed with information, activities and fun for the entire family - bring your ideas and be a part of planning for **YOUR** new urban wildlife refuge!

### Join Us!

7851 2nd Street SW  
Albuquerque, NM 87105



### Itinerary

10:00 - 12:00: Activities that Inform

1:00 - 3:00: Collective Visioning

Lunch provided by the Friends of Valle de Oro NWR for full day participants who commit to attending both sessions from 10-3. Please RSVP by Sept. 20th with the number of people in your party to reserve your space:  
[info@newmexicooutdoorscoalition.org](mailto:info@newmexicooutdoorscoalition.org)



National Public Lands Day





## Soldiers, Cowboys, and Pilots: Report Finds that National Wildlife Refuges Deliver Surprising Benefits to People

### *Coalition Warns that Slashing Funds Will Be Rude Awakening for Americans*

Washington, DC – As Congress wrestles with next year's budget, the Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (CARE) warns that proposed funding cuts to the nation's federal conservation lands will have big impacts for more than just wildlife. While the National Wildlife Refuge System is charged with conserving wildlife and providing recreational opportunities to the public, a report released by CARE today describes some of the unlikely benefits that the nation's 561 wildlife refuges add to the health, safety, and economic well-being of the American people. The broad coalition is urging Congress to provide the Refuge System with sufficient funds to allow these benefits to continue.

Among the most surprising benefits described in America's Wildlife Refuges 2013:

#### *Delivering the Unexpected:*

Eighty percent of the nation's 561 wildlife refuges provide natural buffers against urbanization and other development pressures, thereby preserving undeveloped lands and airspace that enable military units to execute their vital training missions.

Conservation easements on nearly 3.5 million acres of refuge lands allow many private landowners to keep their ranches and farms in production.

Henderson Airfield on the remote Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, one of only a handful of emergency landing sites available for transpacific flights, has been estimated to save commercial airlines at least \$28 million annually and, in 2012 alone, was used by nearly 50 private and military flights for emergency or refueling purposes.

Wildlife refuges generate more than \$32.3 billion each year in natural goods and services, such as buffering coastal communities from storm surges, filtering pollutants from municipal water supplies, and pollinating food crops.

Refuge employees often double as first responders to natural disasters and other emergencies in their local communities.

The more than 47 million hunters, anglers, wildlife watchers, and other recreationists who visit wildlife refuges generate between \$2.1 and \$4.2 billion in sales to local communities each year.

According to the report, the National Wildlife Refuge System needs at least \$900 million annually to carry out its conser-

vation mission, but at its highest funding level in FY 2010, it received only \$503 million. Since then, Congress has not only failed to provide the \$8 million annual increase needed to cover rising costs, but has steadily cut the Refuge System's budget. With Congress poised to slash federal spending, the System could see its funding drop to \$389 million in FY 2014 – a 23% cut from FY 2010 that would leave an average of only \$2.59 to manage each of its 150 million acres.

"The National Wildlife Refuge System continues to remind us that conserving nature is essential to our own well-being," said David Houghton, president of the National Wildlife Refuge Association and chair of the CARE coalition. "If we ignore those reminders and fail to invest in our national wildlife refuges, everyone loses."

The report calls on Congress to provide at least \$499 million for the System's operations and maintenance accounts to prevent wildlife refuges from reaching a tipping point that would not only eliminate many of the benefits they provide to the public, but also prevent them from carrying out even the most basic functions central to their conservation mission. CARE is also urging lawmakers to pass legislation authorizing the U.S. Postal Service to issue a special "semipostal" stamp, which would offer the public a voluntary way to support national wildlife refuges. Offered at a slightly higher rate than first-class stamps, proceeds from the semipostal stamp would be used to complete refuge projects that have been backlogged due to chronic funding shortfalls.

For CARE's full report and additional information, please visit [www.FundRefuges.org](http://www.FundRefuges.org).

Quotes from CARE's member organizations are available at [www.FundRefuges.org/care/2013-CARE-Member-Quotes.pdf](http://www.FundRefuges.org/care/2013-CARE-Member-Quotes.pdf).

The Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (CARE) is a national coalition of 22 wildlife, sporting, conservation, and scientific organizations representing a constituency numbering more than 16 million Americans. CARE has been working since 1995 to educate Congress, the Administration, and the public about America's magnificent National Wildlife Refuge.



*Lesser Prairie-Chicken - Laurel Ladwig*



Save  
the Date!



Audubon NEW MEXICO PRESENTS



## Southwest Women in Conservation 2013

*engage with conservation leaders  
establish new relationships  
motivate the next generation*

Friday, September 27th,  
10 am - 1 pm

*Conversations, followed by a gourmet lunch, at the  
Randall Davey Audubon Center & Sanctuary, Santa Fe*

## A Conversation with Sandra Postel and Amanda Cooper

Sandra Postel, director of the Global Water Policy Project and National Geographic Freshwater Hero, promotes the preservation and sustainable use of the world's freshwater.

Amanda Cooper, campaign expert for progressive leaders and daughter of Senator Tom Udall, brings a personal and political perspective to conservation in the region.

Amanda will help guide the conversation as we discover more about Sandra and her work, her personal motivations, and how we address today's critical and timely water issues.

## Please Save the Date!

**Mission Statement:** *Women are vital to the success of conservation in the Southwest.*

*Audubon New Mexico is holding its third annual event to recognize and honor the diversity of work being done by women engaged in conservation in our region and beyond. Inspired by on-the-ground efforts, "Women in Conservation" provides the opportunity for women and men to share their interests and establish relationships.*

*Join us as we work to motivate all generations to value, protect and restore the health of our environment.*

Invitations to the event will be sent out in August. Please contact Maryam Miller if you have any questions, or if you'd like to make a contribution and support Southwest Women in Conservation, at (505) 983-4609, ext. 24, or [mmiller@audubon.org](mailto:mmiller@audubon.org). Thank you!



## Valle De Oro National Wildlife Refuge -- National Public Lands Day

One of every three acres of land in the United States-nearly 600 million acres-belongs to you, the public. These lands are the country's special, one-of-a-kind natural resources. These are the wildlife refuges, forests, national parks, monuments, grasslands, coastal sanctuaries, lakes and reservoirs that all of us use to hike, bike, climb, swim, explore, picnic and just simply relax.



September 28, 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of National Public Lands Day. Thousands of volunteers across the country will visit their favorite public places for a day-long, coast-to-coast effort to preserve and improve the lands they love as part of the national effort.

In celebration of National Public Lands Day, Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), the Friends of Valle de Oro NWR, the New Mexico Outdoors Coalition, the Mountain View Neighborhood Association and representatives from many of New Mexico's environmental groups will be hosting a community planning event. On Saturday, September 28th, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (7851 2nd Street SW), you'll have the opportunity to give input into the future of your public lands.

This event will provide informational activities for the entire family, and will include a community visioning session for the future of the Refuge. The Friends of Valle de Oro NWR will be providing lunch for those who commit to attending both sessions from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Please RSVP to [info@newmexicooutdoorscoalition.org](mailto:info@newmexicooutdoorscoalition.org) to reserve your space.

Located in South Valley Albuquerque, Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge was established in 2012 and is the first urban national wildlife refuge in the Southwest. With continued support from state and federal representatives, environmental groups and area residents, Valle de Oro aims to provide close-to-home outdoor recreation and environmental education opportunities for New Mexico residents and beyond.

With 431 of 570 acres purchased and under US Fish & Wildlife Service protection, the planning stages are underway. Jennifer Owen-White, the Refuge manager, is working hard to bring the community together around this resource, preserving its history and promoting its future. This event will kick off a monthly, public access day until the Refuge is able to be open to the public full time. Please join us as together we plan for the future of your public lands!

For more information, visit the New Mexico Outdoors Coalition website at <http://www.newmexicooutdoorscoalition.wordpress.com> or follow the Refuge on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ValleDeOro-NationalWildlifeRefuge>.

## Valle de Oro NWR land acquisition letter-writing campaign

Please print and sign the letters that follow to urge our U.S. Senators and Representative to support the purchase of the remaining acres for Valle de Oro NWR, or grab the text to use in your own letter. We've been asked to FAX the letters, not mail them. Ed Dover has offered to fax letters for those who do not have access to a fax machine. Scan your signed letters and send them to Ed at [whitecliffs@comcast.net](mailto:whitecliffs@comcast.net). Alternatively, mail your signed letters to CNMAS, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002, and we will fax them for you. Thank you!

The Honorable Martin Heinrich  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
Fax: 202-228-2841

Dear Senator Heinrich:

I am writing in support of the continued acquisition of the 570-acre Price's Dairy property at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge. This project has received funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in FY 2012 and FY 2013. Thank you for your ongoing support for this project, and for full and dedicated funding for LWCF. As you know, this is a very important conservation program for New Mexico and we now have a chance to finish this project.

Available in FY 2014 at the Valle de Oro refuge is the third and final phase of the project which will protect an additional 97 acres of the total tract as well as associated senior water rights. The FY 2014 President's Budget request for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service includes funding for this project through National Historic/National Scenic Trails System interagency collaborative proposal.

Over the years, various attempts were made to preserve this property with strong support from the residents of the South Valley, who have no readily accessible parks or other public open space nearby. The community has witnessed the subdivision and development of other large-acreage properties along the river, with vital water rights sold and transferred to support development in other areas. The acquisition of the Price's Dairy property by the US Fish and Wildlife Service offers a final opportunity to create a community greenspace and protect and restore this section of the Rio Grande. The opportunity exists now to protect this part of the river, engage the next generation through environmental education and outreach, and support economic development on the south side of the city.

I urge you to continue your support of funding for the Price's Dairy project and for the Land and Water Conservation Fund this year. As you know, LWCF is the primary federal conservation program that sustains economic growth in gateway communities, ensures recreational access, and protects wildlife habitat and water resources.

I am thankful for your cosponsorship of legislation in the Senate that would ensure steady and reliable funding to LWCF and for signing a letter to your Senate colleagues urging strong funding for LWCF in the FY 2014 appropriations process. Your support of the President's Budget request of \$600 million for LWCF in FY 2014 will help ensure that this critical New Mexico conservation priority will receive the necessary funds.

Thank you for your continued support of protecting New Mexico's natural resources.

The Honorable Tom Udall  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
Fax: 202-228-3261

Dear Senator Udall:

I am writing in support of the continued acquisition of the 570-acre Price's Dairy property at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge. This project has received funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in FY 2012 and FY 2013. Thank you for your ongoing support for this project, and for full and dedicated funding for LWCF. As you know, this is a very important conservation program for New Mexico and we now have a chance to finish this project.

Available in FY 2014 at the Valle de Oro refuge is the third and final phase of the project which will protect an additional 97 acres of the total tract as well as associated senior water rights. The FY 2014 President's Budget request for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service includes funding for this project through National Historic/National Scenic Trails System interagency collaborative proposal.

Over the years, various attempts were made to preserve this property with strong support from the residents of the South Valley, who have no readily accessible parks or other public open space nearby. The community has witnessed the subdivision and development of other large-acreage properties along the river, with vital water rights sold and transferred to support development in other areas. The acquisition of the Price's Dairy property by the US Fish and Wildlife Service offers a final opportunity to create a community greenspace and protect and restore this section of the Rio Grande. The opportunity exists now to protect this part of the river, engage the next generation through environmental education and outreach, and support economic development on the south side of the city.

I urge you to continue your support of funding for the Price's Dairy project and for the Land and Water Conservation Fund this year. As you know, LWCF is the primary federal conservation program that sustains economic growth in gateway communities, ensures recreational access, and protects wildlife habitat and water resources.

I am thankful for your cosponsorship of legislation in the Senate that would ensure steady and reliable funding to LWCF and for signing a letter to your Senate colleagues urging strong funding for LWCF in the FY 2014 appropriations process. Your support of the President's Budget request of \$600 million for LWCF in FY 2014 will help ensure that this critical New Mexico conservation priority will receive the necessary funds.

Thank you for your continued support of protecting New Mexico's natural resources.

The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
Fax: 202-225-4975

Dear Congresswoman Lujan Grisham:

I am writing in support of the continued acquisition of the 570-acre Price's Dairy property at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge. This project has received funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in FY 2012 and FY 2013. As you know, this is a very important conservation program for New Mexico and we now have a chance to finish this project.

Available in FY 2014 at the Valle de Oro refuge is the third and final phase of the project which will protect an additional 97 acres of the total tract as well as associated senior water rights. The FY 2014 President's Budget request for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service includes funding for this project through National Historic/National Scenic Trails System interagency collaborative proposal.

Over the years, various attempts were made to preserve this property with strong support from the residents of the South Valley, who have no readily accessible parks or other public open space nearby. The community has witnessed the subdivision and development of other large-acreage properties along the river, with vital water rights sold and transferred to support development in other areas. The acquisition of the Price's Dairy property by the US Fish and Wildlife Service offers a final opportunity to create a community greenspace and protect and restore this section of the Rio Grande. The opportunity exists now to protect this part of the river, engage the next generation through environmental education and outreach, and support economic development on the south side of the city.

I urge you to continue your support of funding for the Price's Dairy project and for the Land and Water Conservation Fund this year. LWCF is the primary federal conservation program that sustains economic growth in gateway communities, ensures recreational access, and protects wildlife habitat and water resources.

I am thankful for you signing a letter to your House colleagues urging strong funding for LWCF in the FY 2014 appropriations process. Your support of the President's Budget request of \$600 million for LWCF in FY 2014 will help ensure that this critical New Mexico conservation priority will receive the necessary funds.

Thank you for your continued support of protecting New Mexico's natural resources.

# Central New Mexico Audubon Society

## Fall Programs



**September 19 – 7pm**

### “Gold In Our Valley” - Jennifer Owen-White

Join us at our September meeting to welcome Jennifer Owen-White as refuge manager of the new Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque, the only urban refuge in the Southwest. Before taking the position at Valle de Oro, Jennifer was the Refuge Manager at the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, a world-renowned birding hotspot. Come learn about the plans for the new refuge.

**October 17 – 7pm**

### “Todys, Trogons, Mojitos, and Ropa Vieja!” - Janet Ruth

The presentation will include a slideshow presentation about the New Mexico Ornithological Society trip to Cuba in November 2012 to bird and to collect avian data to share with Cuban ornithologists. Janet will talk about Cuban ornithology, the birds they saw, and the Cuban culture they enjoyed and the fabulous photos of Cuban birds by Dave Krueper and other excellent photographers among the participants.



**November 14 – 7pm**

### Birds of Northern Ecuador – Bill West

Come learn and be inspired by the myriad of birds, habitats and conservation efforts in Northern Ecuador. Photos will be of species from all elevations of both slopes of the Andes as well as the paramo (tundra) and the Amazonian lowlands. Bill, a resident of New Mexico for 33 years, is owner of WingsWest Birding Tours and guides groups to Ecuador, among other locations.

These FREE events will be held in the Community Room at the **Adelante Development Center, 3900 Osuna Road NE.**

The meeting room is accessed right off of their paved and well-lighted parking lot along Osuna. Come early for refreshments at 7:00 p.m., announcements and program at 7:15 p.m.

Visit our website or email [birdinginfo@gmail.com](mailto:birdinginfo@gmail.com) for more details.

**[cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org](http://cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org)**

# Central New Mexico



## Audubon Society

