

Black-chinned Hummingbird ; Photo by Scott Baxter



GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

MAY 16-19, 2024

www.GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com



REGISTRATION

March 25, 10am MT

← Scan to Register

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE 2024

THURSDAY • MAY 16

Landscaping for Birds with Sheriden Hansen*	6:00 PM to 7:30 PM
---	--------------------

FRIDAY • MAY 17

Owl Pellet Dissection*	4:30 PM to 5:30 PM
Opening Night Social, Art Viewing, and Refreshments	4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Live Bird Encounters with Nick Harris from Long Wing Inc.**	4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Student Art Awards & GSL Bird Race Awards	6:00 PM to 6:20 PM
Feathers & Ink: Crafting Birds in Comic Art with Colleen Palmer	6:30 PM to 7:45 PM

SATURDAY • MAY 18

Family Day Activities including arts & crafts, guided nature walks, bird feeders, and free face painting^.	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Partner Booths & Festival Merchandise	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Introduction to Bird Photography: Getting Started and Finding the Artist Inside You	9:00 AM to 9:50 AM
Owl Pellet Dissection*	9:00 AM to 9:45 AM
Mist Netting and Bird Banding	9:00 AM to 10:30 AM
Drawing Raptors from Life**	10:00 AM to 10:50 AM
Bald and Beautiful**	10:00 AM to 10:50 AM
Parade of Raptors**	11:00 AM to 11:50 AM
Before You Buy A Bird	11:00 AM to 11:50 AM
Owl Pellet Dissection*	12:00 PM to 12:45 PM
Falconry's Influences on Modern-day Conservation, Culture and Politics	12:00 PM to 12:50 PM
Falconer Q&A**	1:00 PM to 1:50 PM
Beginning Birding	1:00 PM to 1:50 PM
Keynote Dinner & Speaker: Diego Calderon-Franco*	6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Free festival activities are open to the public at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center.

*Registration Required

**Includes Live Birds

^ Free Face Painting from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

2024 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

We are pleased to offer our free in-person educational workshops at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center. Workshops do not require pre-registration unless noted. Visit the website for additional information on festival offerings happening in conjunction with the workshops and come and join in on the fun!

WORKSHOPS • FRIDAY • MAY 17

OWL PELLET DISSECTION*

Presenter(s): HawkWatch International

Time: 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Embrace your inner scientist with this fun family activity. Owls often eat their prey whole. After digesting the soft tissues, they cough up compact pellets of fur and bones. Dissect a real (sanitized) owl pellet to discover what the owls have been dining on!

*Registration required.

WORKSHOPS • SATURDAY • MAY 18

INTRODUCTION TO BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTING STARTED AND FINDING THE ARTIST INSIDE YOU

Presenter(s): Tom Mathewson

Time: 9:00 am – 9:50 am

This is a quick introduction to taking great bird pictures. We'll cover basic theory as well as the best camera settings and saving your pictures. Then we'll look at shooting techniques for bird photography, and finally examine how to tap your own artistic vision to capture those great bird scenes.

OWL PELLET DISSECTION*

Presenter(s): HawkWatch International

Time: 9:00 am – 9:45 am

Embrace your inner scientist with this fun family activity. Owls often eat their prey whole. After digesting the soft tissues, they cough up compact pellets of fur and bones. Dissect a real (sanitized) owl pellet to discover what the owls have been dining on!

*Registration required.

DRAWING RAPTORS FROM LIFE**

Presenter(s): Natalia Wilkins-Tyler

Time: 10:00 am – 10:50 am

Join a scientific illustrator to learn some tips and tricks for drawing birds from life. We'll focus on the "three sharps" that distinguish raptors from other birds and practice by using a live bird as a model. Bring your sketchbook and pencils and get ready to draw! Supplies will be provided if you don't have your own or are just getting started.

**Includes live birds.

Fold Here

BALD AND BEAUTIFUL****Presenter(s):** Sarah Lambson, Ogden Nature Center**Time:** 10:00 am – 10:50 am

Winter months in Utah are brightened by one of the most majestic birds in North America! Bald Eagles (named after the old English word "balde" meaning white) love to migrate down from the frigid north to the milder temperatures of Utah to go fishing. Fortunately, even though winter is over, you can learn all about these beautiful birds and where to find them next time the snow flies in Utah as you meet Ogden Nature Center's Bald Eagle, Des Ta Te.

***Includes live birds.*

PARADE OF RAPTORS****Presenter(s):** HawkWatch International**Time:** 11:00 am – 11:50 am

All raptors share a set of three important features, but did you know that these features can vary between types of raptors? Meet three live Raptor Ambassadors from HawkWatch International and learn how different raptors have evolved to use different hunting strategies and survive in all kinds of environments.

***Includes live birds.*

BEFORE YOU BUY A BIRD**Presenter(s):** Chris Roybal, Wasatch Avian Education Society**Time:** 11:00 am – 11:50 am

With viral videos of people cuddling parrots, they may seem like an ideal family pet. While birds can be wonderful companions, they have special needs that many people don't understand before bringing home a new feathered friend. Join the Wasatch Avian Education Society to learn what it takes to be a forever home for a pet bird.

OWL PELLET DISSECTION***Presenter(s):** HawkWatch International, Eccles Wildlife Education Center**Time:** 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm

Embrace your inner scientist with this fun family activity. Owls often eat their prey whole. After digesting the soft tissues, they cough up compact pellets of fur and bones. Dissect a real (sanitized) owl pellet to discover what the owls have been dining on!

**Registration required.*

FALCONRY'S INFLUENCES ON MODERN-DAY CONSERVATION, CULTURE AND POLITICS**Presenter(s):** Krista Edwards**Time:** 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm

This is certain: your life has been affected by falconry. Falconry is an ancient sport dating back 5,000 years ago, with its origins being traced in Asia, spreading to the Middle East, Europe, and eventually the Americas. In some way, shape, or form, our lives have been affected by falconers and falconry. Discover the role of falconers in conservation, the role of falconry in culture, and how falconry has shaped the political landscape in this interactive workshop led by Vice President of the Utah Falconer's Association.

FALCONER Q&A****Presenter(s):** Utah Falconers Association**Time:** 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

The sport of falconry has been practiced for thousands of years, and modern falconers continue to refine it as science provides more information about birds and their needs. If you have always been interested in falconry, or just want to learn a little more about it, please join us for this moderated panel discussion where local falconers will take questions from audience members.

***Includes live birds.*

BEGINNING BIRDING**Presenter(s):** Dallin Henderson & Max Malmquist**Time:** 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

Enjoy this free workshop for beginners and families. We will discuss bird identification and the common backyard birds in the Farmington area.

**Pre-registration required for Beginning Birding: Farmington Bay field trip that takes place immediately following the workshop. Workshop open to all.*



GREAT SALT LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL

2024 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

PRE-FESTIVAL TRIPS

UTAH HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

Date: May 13th – May 16th **Guide(s):** Tim Avery

While some of the best high elevation sites are still inaccessible, many of the low elevation locations more than make up for birds with migrants! This tour will cover the entire western half of the state, starting at the Great Salt Lake, and then spending 3 days discovering the incredible birding anchored around the southwest corner of the state, Zion National Park and the Mojave Desert.

Visit *Pitta Tours* at pittatours.com to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.

Spots: 7

MARATHON SCOUTING

Date: May 15th **Guide(s):** Mike Hearell and Quinn Diaz

Join our guides on an exciting birding adventure! We'll explore the beautiful areas surrounding the Great Salt Lake, including its shores and wetlands, as well as the stunning canyons and mountains of the Wasatch front. Our goal is to spot up to 150 species and help our team plan for our faster paced Marathon Tour later in the week. Get ready for an unforgettable birding experience!

Visit *Pitta Tours* at pittatours.com to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.

Spots: 14

POST-FESTIVAL TRIP

POST-FESTIVAL OWLING

Date: May 21st **Guide(s):** Tim Avery, Taylor Abbott, and José Castaño

The mountains just outside of Salt Lake City, Utah provide some of the closest and easiest to access nesting habitat for Flammulated Owls, and by far the best opportunity to see these birds anywhere in the world. Often one of the last North American owls for ABA listers, Utah has become the go-to location to see this bird! Once dark (usually about 15–30 minutes after sunset), we will use our time-tested techniques to elicit a response from an owl. Once we've found a responsive individual we'll attempt to track the bird down, and briefly shine our low-temp LED spotlight near the bird, and use a laser pointer to provide directions to see the tiny owl. Oftentimes other nocturnal birds show up on this tour. Common Poorwill is encountered with some frequency, while Northern Saw-whet Owl and Ruffed Grouse show up from time to time as well.

Visit *Pitta Tours* at pittatours.com for additional details and to register for this trip.

Spots: 13

Activity Level Key

Accessible: Fully accessible for festival-goers in wheelchairs or limited mobility

Easy: 0.5 miles or less walking on flat or paved surfaces

Moderate: Up to 2 miles walking with less than 250 feet elevation change on well-maintained trails or surfaces

Active: 2–3 miles walking or hiking with 250–500 feet of elevation gain on trails OR involving cycling or kayaking

Visit the Meeting Locations page at GreatSaltLakeBirdFest.com for detailed information on where to meet your guide.

THURSDAY • MAY 16

1. BIKING AND BIRDING ALONG THE WEST DAVIS TRAIL



Time: 6:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$40

Guide(s): Colin Maguire

As the sun rises over the Wasatch mountains, discover the scenery of the West Davis Highway as it winds along the eastern shoreline of the Great Salt Lake, offering more than 10 miles of trails and connections. Let's seize the moment and hop on our bikes for an adventure of birdwatching and exploration! This trip requires participants to provide their own bike and helmet. As we pedal, we'll keep our eyes peeled for captivating sights, pausing intermittently for closer inspection or to admire points of interest. Starting from the Eccles Wildlife Education Center, our journey will take us up to 2.5 hours before we loop back. This leisurely-paced birding trip ensures plenty of time for enjoyment and bird identification, so please pack ample water and provisions for a lunch along the way.

**Trip participants are required to provide their own bike and helmet.*

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes

Spots: 6

2. MINDFUL BIRDING BY KAYAK AT BOUNTIFUL POND



Time: 7:00 – 9:00 AM or 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$60

Guide(s): Heidi Hoven and Aly DeNittis

Join us to experience birding in a peaceful way, while taking in the surroundings and activities of birds in a sensory way. This is a calm journey where we stop at different habitat settings and use visual and auditory clues to learn about the birds we see. This is a great opportunity for beginning birders, where identifying a bird is not our first priority.

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7:00 AM or 10:00 AM during registration. *Weather permitting. *Ticket includes kayak and life jacket rental.*

Meeting Location: Bountiful Pond

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Beginning Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, secretive marsh birds

Spots: 6 participants per start time

Fold Here

THURSDAY • MAY 16 • CONTINUED

3. JORDANELLE WETLANDS AND HEBER FIELDS

Time: 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$35

Guide(s): Janae Radke and Kirk Parkinson

The riparian areas below the Jordanelle Reservoir dam are an Audubon Important Bird Area (IBA) that offers excellent birding. Possible species include swallows, hummingbirds, American Dippers, Warbling Vireos, Common Yellowthroats, Black-headed Grosbeaks, and Bullock's Orioles. We will also look for Bobolinks in the fields near Heber.

Meeting Location: Kimball Junction Walmart Supercenter

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: songbirds, shorebirds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, waterfowl, raptors

Spots: 15

4. BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD REFUGE - GUIDED AUTO TOUR AND WALK BEHIND THE GATES

Time: 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$75

Guide(s): Jennifer Wright and Amanda Holland

Spend a day with expert birders on a birding adventure at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. You will soon learn and see why this area has been protected over the last 75 years. It is considered one of the top ten birding spots in the nation and one of Utah's premier birding hotspots. Its 78,000 acres provide a vast wetland habitat for a phenomenal number of migrants including waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, White-faced Ibis, several species of blackbirds, gulls, terns, swallows, marsh wrens, and more. This is a great field trip for all levels of birders. *If there are many birds actively nesting on the road, access behind the gates will be limited.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, raptors, corvids

Spots: 35

5. INLAND SEA SHOREBIRD RESERVE

Time: 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM **Transportation:** Van(s) **Cost:** \$100

Guide(s): Max Malmquist, Quinn Diaz, and José Castaño

Experience Rio Tinto Kennecott's Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve that is not open to the general public. Visit over 8,000 acres of private land managed just for shorebirds on the edge of Great Salt Lake. Shallow ponds or playas invite avocets, Black-necked Stilts, willets, migrating 'peeps' and one of the few places to consistently see Snowy Plovers. Prairie type sparrows, larks, pipits, shrike, hawks and falcons are possible. Access to some areas may be limited with wet weather. Depending on time and conditions access to bird Gillmor Sanctuary may be possible. This trip includes light walking with probable muddy conditions. It is recommended to bring an extra spotting scope if possible and pack a sack lunch and/or snacks and water.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Intermediate Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, songbirds

Spots: 20

6. BIRDING ROCKPORT BY CANOE

Time: 7:45 AM to 2:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$70

Guide(s): Vivian Schneggenburger and Kathy Donnell

Rockport Reservoir's nearby springs host many ducks, grebes, herons, and raptors (including nesting Osprey) with the smaller birds occupying the adjacent trees and shrubs. You will have a grand birding experience at the reservoir using canoes. Participants will be required to row. Canoeing can be difficult if there is wind and waves. Please arrive by 7:45 am for instructions. Allow for travel time.

*Weather permitting. *Ticket includes park entry, canoe, and life jacket rental.*

Meeting Location: Rockport Reservoir main boat ramp

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, corvids, songbirds, galliformes, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes

Spots: 12

7. PHOTOGRAPHY AT FARMINGTON BAY

Time: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$30

Guide(s): Tom Mathewson

This is a guided self-drive tour of specific spots at Farmington Bay, with an emphasis on serious bird photography. We'll have hands-on sessions at each stop for photographing birds with a tripod as well as hand-held shooting and shooting from a car. We will cover equipment tips, camera settings and shooting techniques for getting the best pictures possible in nearly any conditions.

Recommend bringing a camera with tripod, binoculars, insect repellent, hat, and clothing for hot sun or cold rain as needed.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Accessible

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: corvids, raptors, wading birds, shorebirds, waterfowl, songbirds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes

Spots: 20

Fold Here

THURSDAY • MAY 16 • CONTINUED

8. AMERICAN KESTREL

Time: 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$65

Guide(s): Jesse Watson and Jess Taylor

Learn about the American Kestrel from Hawkwatch International. They have been monitoring kestrels for a decade as part of their Cavity Adopting Raptor Ecology Study (CARES). You will go out with the biologists that run the study to visit active nest sites while observing North America's smallest falcon.

Participants may see technicians handle live birds for scientific purposes. All birds handled as part of this experience are authorized by federal and state permits for scientific research. Participants may be asked not to photograph birds while they are being handled.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: raptors

Spots: 15

9. GSL ECOSYSTEM BOAT TOUR

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM or 1:00 – 3:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$60

Guide(s): John Luft, Kyle Stone, and Jim Van Leeuwen

This is not a bird tour. In fact, very few birds will be seen on the open waters of Great Salt Lake. This tour is focused on the management of the brine shrimp fishery on the lake and will be guided by GSL Ecosystem Program Biologists. They will answer questions about the ecosystem and management of the lake. This trip will be contingent on weather for the day. Winds predicted to exceed 10 mph will be cause for cancellation. Sunscreen and water are recommended.

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 10:00 AM or 1:00 PM during registration.

**Trip is weather and water level dependent. Weather date, Sunday, May 19, 2023.*

Meeting Location: Great Salt Lake State Park Marina

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders

Target Species: Eared Grebes and gulls

Spots: 8

10. BURROWING OWLS OF ANTELOPE ISLAND

Time: 2:30 PM to 5:30 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$65

Guide(s): Jesse Watson and Jess Taylor

Think you know everything about owls? Well not these little hoots. Come see the underground-dwelling, awake in the day, sentinels of the grasslands – Burrowing Owls. This is a field trip to Antelope Island State Park to look for Burrowing Owl sites.

**Ticket includes head net.*

Meeting Location: Antelope Island State Park Entrance Booth Parking Lot

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: wading birds, raptors, shorebirds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

Spots: 20

11. EXPLORE MUELLER PARK'S NEW HIKING TRAILS & BIRDWATCHING BLISS!



Time: 5:00 PM to 11:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$40

Guide(s): Colin Maguire

Embark on an adventure through Mueller Park's newly opened hiking trails, where miles of unexplored terrain await your discovery! Lace up your hiking boots and prepare to explore some of Davis County's most stunning hiking trails. Mueller's rich riparian habitats offer a unique birding experience as we listen for the melodious songs of hidden birds within the foliage and underbrush. Our trek will lead us to a high ridge, overlooking sweeping vistas of the valley and the Great Salt Lake, where we'll watch the sunset over Antelope Island. With several thousand feet in elevation gain, be sure to pack plenty of water and snacks to fuel our adventure. Get ready to immerse yourself in the beauty of Mueller Park and enjoy the company of numerous birds along the way. The hike down the canyon will be after sunset, headlamps with extra batteries are required. Flashlights and insect repellent are encouraged.

**Participants are required to provide own headlamp.*

Meeting Location: Mueller Park

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: raptors, woodpeckers, songbirds, possible owls

Spots: 8

12. ANTELOPE ISLAND OWL PROWL

Time: 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$65

Guide(s): Melissa Halvorsen and Laura Cleveland

Who, Who should go? Owl lovers, that's WHO! Antelope Island is prime habitat for several species of owl: Great Horned, Barn, Burrowing, Long-eared, and Short-eared Owls have all been spotted in the park. This is a great opportunity to see other wildlife as well including bison, coyotes, and porcupine. Picturesque views of the lake and timing of this evening trip will be great for photographing the island's famous sunsets.

**Ticket includes head net.*

Meeting Location: Antelope Island State Park Entrance Booth Parking Lot

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, songbirds

Spots: 25

13. MOUNTAIN OWLS

Time: 8:00 pm – Midnight **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$70

Guide(s): Mike Hearell, Taylor Abbott, and **Keynote Speaker:** Diego Calderón-Franco

When birders think about owls, Utah probably isn't near the top of their list of places to look. But 14 of the 19 regularly occurring species found in North America have been seen in Utah. The mountains along the Wasatch Front provide a great deal of habitat for many of these species, and this tour will provide an opportunity to look for several. The main target bird will be the Flammulated Owl, but others including the Northern Saw-whet Owl, Western Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Northern Pygmy-Owl may be seen. Other possible species we may encounter at dusk or while owling, include Common Poorwill and Hermit Thrush.

Visit Pitta Tours at pittatours.com to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.

Spots: 13

Fold Here

FRIDAY • MAY 17

14. MINDFUL BIRDING BY KAYAK AT BOUNTIFUL POND

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 AM or 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$60
Guide(s): Heidi Hoven and Aly DeNittis

Join us to experience birding in a peaceful way, while taking in the surroundings and activities of birds in a sensory way. This is a calm journey where we stop at different habitat settings and use visual and auditory clues to learn about the birds we see. This is a great opportunity for beginning birders, where identifying a bird is not our first priority.

*Weather permitting. *Ticket includes kayak and life jacket rental.*

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7:00 AM or 10:00 AM during registration.

Meeting Location: Bountiful Pond
Activity Level: Active
Good For: Beginning Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, secretive marsh birds
Spots: 6 participants per start time

15. MIST NETTING & BIRD BANDING AT FARMINGTON CREEK

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 AM or 9:00 – 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$25
Guide(s): Jace Taylor and Russ Lawrence

Participants will learn how and why biologists use fine “mist” nets for trapping small birds, proper safety and handling of birds, and how birds are measured, weighed, and banded. They will also learn how the data is used for bird conservation. Participants will have the opportunity to assist in handling and photo ops with the birds before they are released back into the wild. Best Management Practices will be in place to assure the safety and well-being of both the bird and the participants.

Two trip opportunities are available. Please select your start time of 7:00 AM or 9:00 AM during registration.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Accessible
Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, woodpeckers, and anything else willing to fly between trees and get caught in our nets.
Spots: 20 participants per start time

16. BUFFALO RANCHES POND NEAR FARMINGTON BAY

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$30
Guide(s): Ben Johnson and Colin Maguire

Join us on a walk to Buffalo Ranches Ponds for a great assortment of birds! Wear sunscreen and a hat, and bring water and snacks. Beginners to experts welcome.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, sparrows
Spots: 15

17. SWANER PRESERVE & ECOCENTER, SANDHILL CRANES, & MORE!

Time: 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$45
Guide(s): Rhea Cone and Vivian Schneggenburger

Come visit high altitude wet meadows, marshes, and riparian areas of the Swaner Preserve in search of Sandhill Cranes. Cranes have successfully nested and reared their young in the Preserve in years past and are typically very visible during the spring. Surrounded by a scenic backdrop of the Wasatch Mountains, walk along trails normally closed to the public. These high altitude wetlands and adjacent uplands are home to more than 170 species of birds, including Mountain Bluebirds, Yellow-headed and Red-winged Blackbirds, swallows, various raptors and Yellow Warblers.

Meeting Location: Swaner EcoCenter
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Intermediate Birders
Target Species: songbirds, raptors, shorebirds, waterfowl
Spots: 20

18. JORDANELLE WETLANDS AND HEBER FIELDS

Time: 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$35
Guide(s): Janae Radke and Chris Reisinger

The riparian areas below the Jordanelle Reservoir dam are an Audubon Important Bird Area (IBA) that offers excellent birding. Possible species include swallows, hummingbirds, American Dippers, Warbling Vireos, Common Yellowthroats, Black-headed Grosbeaks, and Bullock’s Orioles. We will also look for Bobolinks in the fields near Heber.

Meeting Location: Kimball Junction Walmart Supercenter
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: songbirds, shorebirds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, waterfowl, raptors
Spots: 15

19. BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD REFUGE – GUIDED AUTO TOUR AND WALK BEHIND THE GATES

Time: 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$75
Guide(s): Jennifer Wright and Amanda Holland

Spend a day with expert birders on a birding adventure at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. You will soon learn and see why this area has been protected over the last 75 years. It is considered one of the top ten birding spots in the nation and one of Utah’s premier birding hotspots. Its 78,000 acres provide a vast wetland habitat for a phenomenal number of migrants including waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, White-faced Ibis, several species of blackbirds, gulls, terns, swallows, marsh wrens, and more. This is a great field trip for all levels of birders. *If there are many birds actively nesting on the road, access behind the gates will be limited.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, raptors, corvids
Spots: 35

Fold Here

FRIDAY • MAY 17 • CONTINUED

20. UTAH COUNTY PINYON JUNIPER SPECIALTIES

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$40
Guide(s): KC Childs and Esther Sumner

We will be birding the area around Soldiers Pass in Utah County in the pinyon juniper forests, along with the sage and upland grassland habitats. Participants will be expected to bring a vehicle that can drive on a dirt road, sedans should be okay. Participants will need to do some walking on uneven ground, but for the most part, we will drive, park, get out, look, listen, walk around, and repeat. Carpooling and bringing a 2-way radio is encouraged.

Meeting Location: Saratoga Springs
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds
Spots: 16

21. BIRDING DIAMOND FORK CANYON

Time: 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$40
Guide(s): Keeli Marvel and Connie Misket

Diamond Fork Canyon encompasses a wide diversity of habitats including montane forest, sagebrush, scrub oak, juniper forest, wetland marsh, river, and redrock cliff habitat in which a wide diversity of bird species may be found. Possible bird sightings include: Western Tanager, Lazuli Bunting, Mountain Bluebird, Belted Kingfisher, Woodhouse's Scrub-jay, Plumbeous Vireos, MacGillivray's, Orange-crowned, and Yellow Warblers, Golden Eagle (possibly on a nest), Canyon, Marsh, and House Wrens, and White-throated Swifts. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, and lunch.

Meeting Location: Springville Walmart Parking Lot
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds
Spots: 15

22. FIELD TRIP: DIGISCOPING AT WILLARD BAY STATE PARK

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$85
Guide(s): Max Malmquist, Bryant Olsen, José Castaño, and **Keynote Speaker:** Diego Calderón-Franco

"Digiscoping" is a method of telephoto photography, often used by placing the lens of a digital camera (such as a cell phone) to the eyepiece of a spotting scope or binoculars to take photos. Join professional bird guides José Castaño and Diego Calderón-Franco on this in-the-field workshop to practice digiscoping techniques. PhoneSkoPe products will be demonstrated on this trip to show you just how easy it is to enhance your outdoor photography experience. Participants will experience Willard Bay State Park, a well known hotspot for migratory songbirds, to practice digiscoping as a way to capture photos and videos of birds.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Easy
Good For: Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, songbird, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, woodpeckers
Spots: 20

23. SAGE-STEPPE BIRDING AT PROMONTORY POINT

Time: 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$75
Guide(s): Adam Brewerton and Jim Parrish

This trip will have stops from the wetlands and riparian areas from Bear River Bay and travel through the uplands as we focus on the sagebrush and upland communities of the Promontory Peninsula. We will see birds associated with each habitat as we move from the lower wetlands at the edge of the lake up to the slopes and ridges of the mountains. Highlights are seeing the different communities for different habitats, and typically find grassland, upland, and sagebrush associated birds, like Long-Billed Curlews and Sage Thrashers. We will also have a chance at many of northern Utah's raptors. We will also be near some non-bird points of interest like Golden Spike National Historic Park, where the transcontinental railroad was finished.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Easy
Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, sparrows
Spots: 25

24. BIRDING AT KAYSVILLE PONDS

Time: 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$25
Guide(s): Sharee Harrison and Jen Hitt

Located off I-15, Kaysville Ponds are home to a network of family friendly walking trails in a beautiful wetland environment. This trip involves walking around the pond and down the walkway through the trees. The pond provides a stopover area for many gulls and waterfowl, and the surrounding trees and fields homes for many songbirds, owls, and other birds with close viewing opportunities.

Meeting Location: Kaysville Ponds
Activity Level: Easy
Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, songbirds, galliformes, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, kingfishers
Spots: 20

25. MORGAN BACKYARD BIRDING

Time: 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$40
Guide(s): Weston Smith and Arnold Smith

Some of the best birding in Morgan County is found in the backyards of the houses in the quaint small towns of Morgan and Croydon in Weber Canyon. Cavity-nesting Tree Swallows, House Wrens, and American Kestrel will be target birds. Bird feeders will be attracting Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles, Cassin's Finches, Lazuli Buntings, and hummingbirds. This trip has averaged approximately 65 species per year and surprises are always possible. We will also bird along the Weber River in Henefer looking for large nesting birds such as raptors and herons. There may be periods of standing, short mostly flat land walking, and watching bird feeders.

Meeting Location: Riverside Park, Morgan
Activity Level: Easy
Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds
Spots: 15

Fold Here

FRIDAY • MAY 17 • CONTINUED

26. BIRDING BY E-BIKE

Time: 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$95

Guide(s): Tori Sohm and Sammy Riccio

Join us for an easy 5-mile ride on e-bikes (electric bikes) along the Jordan River Parkway. This is one of the best places to find birds and other wildlife in the city, and all the energy you'll save by pedaling less can be spent on looking for birds. We'll stop for plenty of birding breaks along the way. Please note that although using e-bikes is less strenuous than riding traditional bikes, participants should be in good health and able to walk 2-3 miles at a brisk pace without difficulty.

**Ticket includes electric bike and helmet rental.*

Meeting Location: East Riverfront Park, South Jordan

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, corvids, songbirds, galliformes

Spots: 15

27. PHOTOGRAPHY AT FARMINGTON BAY

Time: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$30

Guide(s): Tom Mathewson

This is a guided self-drive tour of specific spots at Farmington Bay, with an emphasis on serious bird photography. We'll have hands-on sessions at each stop for photographing birds with a tripod as well as hand-held shooting and shooting from a car. We will cover equipment tips, camera settings and shooting techniques for getting the best pictures possible in nearly any conditions.

Recommend bringing a camera with tripod, binoculars, insect repellent, hat, and clothing for hot sun or cold rain as needed.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Accessible

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: corvids, raptors, wading birds, shorebirds, waterfowl, songbirds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes

Spots: 20

28. BIRDING WITH BOOKS

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** Free

Guide(s): Quinn Diaz and Ali Bell

We'll begin at the City Library for a quick discussion about birding. We'll talk through the free resources available through the library, the internet, and other programs in the area, learn how to use field guides to identify and find birds and other wildlife, and how to use eBird and iNaturalist. After our workshop, we'll head out and identify the birds commonly seen in the area and practice using our free resources and library books to enhance our appreciation of wildlife and the outdoors. Kids and families are encouraged to join!

Meeting Location: Day-Riverside Branch of the City Library

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

Spots: 30

29. BURROWING OWLS OF ANTELOPE ISLAND

Time: 2:30 PM to 5:30 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$65

Guide(s): Renata Vazquez and Chris Butler

Think you know everything about owls? Well not these little hoots. Come see the underground-dwelling, awake in the day, sentinels of the grasslands – Burrowing Owls. This is a field trip to Antelope Island State Park to look for Burrowing Owl sites.

**Ticket includes head net.*

Meeting Location: Antelope Island State Park Entrance Booth Parking Lot

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: shorebirds, waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, songbirds

Spots: 25

30. EXPLORE MUELLER PARK'S NEW HIKING TRAILS & BIRDWATCHING BLISS!

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 5:00 PM to 11:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$40

Guide(s): Colin Maguire

Embark on an adventure through Mueller Park's newly opened hiking trails, where miles of unexplored terrain await your discovery! Mueller's rich riparian habitats offer a unique birding experience as we listen for the melodious songs of hidden birds within the foliage and underbrush. Our trek will lead us to a high ridge, overlooking sweeping vistas of the valley and the Great Salt Lake, where we'll watch the sunset over Antelope Island. With several thousand feet in elevation gain, be sure to pack plenty of water and snacks to fuel our adventure. Get ready to immerse yourself in the beauty of Mueller Park and enjoy the company of numerous birds along the way. The hike down the canyon will be after sunset, headlamps with extra batteries are required. Flashlights and insect repellent are encouraged.

**Participants are required to provide own headlamp.*

Meeting Location: Mueller Park

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: raptors, woodpeckers, songbirds, possible owls

Spots: 8

31. ANTELOPE ISLAND OWL PROWL

Time: 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$65

Guide(s): Renata Vazquez, Chris Butler, José Castaño, and **Keynote Speaker:** Diego Calderón-Franco

Who, Who should go? Owl lovers, that's WHO! Antelope Island is prime habitat for several species of owl: Great Horned, Barn, Burrowing, Long-eared, and Short-eared Owls have all been spotted in the park. This is a great opportunity to see other wildlife as well including bison, coyotes, and porcupine. Picturesque views of the lake and timing of this evening trip will be great for photographing the island's famous sunsets.

**Ticket includes head net.*

Meeting Location: Antelope Island State Park Entrance Booth Parking Lot

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, songbirds

Spots: 25

Fold Here

FRIDAY • MAY 17 • CONTINUED

32. E-BIKE AT FARMINGTON BAY

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$75
Guide(s): Adam Blundell and Marzena Blundell

Join us for an e-bike ride at Farmington Bay with access down the dike road. This trip is for the adventurer, who wants an easy biking tour of Farmington Bay. Experience sunset at one of the best birding spots in the state. Use of e-bikes will allow participants to easily cover a lot of ground, while also causing minimal disturbance to the nesting birds and protected habitats. Guides will lead participants from the Eccles Wildlife Education Center into Farmington Bay WMA as we stop-and-go our way down the road behind the closed gates in search of migrating birds.

**Ticket includes electric bike and helmet rental.*

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Active
Good For: Beginning Birders
Target Species: shorebirds
Spots: 20

SATURDAY • MAY 18

33. YOUNG BIRDERS AT ANTELOPE ISLAND

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 6:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Mid-size Bus **Cost:** \$65
Guide(s): Connor Johnson and Miles Gilmore

A trip exclusive to birders aged 13–21. Get ready for an excellent morning of birding with two radical youngsters and birding experts, Connor and Miles, as you hit up all the major birding hotspots on the island. Make sure to bring your binoculars, bug spray, and snacks.

**Ticket includes park entry and head net.*

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Easy
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, galliformes
Spots: 20

34. CACHE VALLEY BIRDING ADVENTURE

Time: 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM **Transportation:** Bus **Cost:** \$95
Guide(s): Adam Brewerton, Jim Parrish, Jennifer Wright, and Candice Burke

Cache Valley is one of the lesser known birding hotspots in the West. Our trip will reveal the area's great diversity and wealth of birds and other wildlife secrets. The trip will visit a variety of habitats and microclimates, ranging from sub-alpine forest to fast-flowing trout streams and semi-desert savanna to wetlands. We will also see The Barrens, a Bridgerland Audubon Chapter sanctuary project. Participants should bring a packed lunch and water.

Meeting Location: Davis County Admin Building Parking Lot, Farmington
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds
Spots: 50

35. MIST NETTING & BIRD BANDING AT FARMINGTON CREEK

Time: 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$25
Guide(s): Jace Taylor and Russ Lawrence

Participants will learn how and why biologists use fine "mist" nets for trapping small birds, proper safety and handling of birds, and how birds are measured, weighed, and banded. They will also learn how the data is used for bird conservation. Participants will have the opportunity to assist in handling and photo ops with the birds before they are released back into the wild. Best Management Practices will be in place to assure the safety and well-being of both the bird and the participants.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Accessible
Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, woodpeckers, and anything else willing to fly between trees and get caught in our nets.
Spots: 20

36. BUFFALO RANCHES POND NEAR FARMINGTON BAY

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$30
Guide(s): Ben Johnson and Colin Maguire

Join us on a walk to Buffalo Ranches Ponds for a great assortment of birds! Wear sunscreen and a hat, and bring water and snacks. Beginners to experts welcome.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, sparrows
Spots: 15

37. BEHIND THE GATES AT LEGACY NATURE PRESERVE

Time: 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Van **Cost:** \$75
Guide(s): Andrea Nelson

This is a rare opportunity to go behind the gates at Legacy Nature Preserve. You will be guided along remnant oxbow features of the Jordan River to view migrant and resident waterfowl and shorebirds. You may also be treated to views of one of only four, known, active Bald Eagle nests in northern Utah. Rubber boots are advised.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Easy
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, galliformes
Spots: 12

Fold Here

SATURDAY • MAY 18 • CONTINUED

38. UTAH COUNTY BIRDING

Time: 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$45

Guide(s): Joshua Kreitzer

We will begin our trip in the Genola Goshen Canyon area. We hope to see Blue Grosbeak, Yellow-breasted Chat, Sora, Virginia Rails, Canyon Wren and some waterfowl and shorebirds. Looking out for Short-eared, Great-horned, and Barn Owls. We will continue along Elberta Slant Rd. looking for Long-billed Curlew, Burrowing Owl and Gray Vireo. Lunch break in Eureka. Then we will explore the East Tintic Mountains for Juniper Titmouse, flycatchers, vireos and warblers.

Meeting Location: Payson

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

Spots: 25

39. BOUNTIFUL POND

Time: 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$25

Guide(s): Ian Batterman

Located on the outskirts of Farmington Bay WMA, Bountiful Pond is a lovely oasis for all kinds of birds. This trip involves walking around the pond, about a mile long loop. The large pond provides a stopover area for many gulls and waterfowl, and the surrounding trees and fields hide many songbirds, owls, and other birds with close viewing opportunities. During migration, Bountiful Pond can often house rare vagrants like Eastern Wood Warblers.

Meeting Location: Bountiful Pond

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

Spots: 25

40. MORGAN BACKYARD BIRDING

Time: 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$40

Guide(s): Weston Smith and Arnold Smith

Some of the best birding in Morgan County is found in the backyards of the houses in the quaint small towns of Morgan and Croydon in Weber Canyon. Cavity-nesting Tree Swallows, House Wrens, and American Kestrel will be target birds. Bird feeders will be attracting Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles, Cassin's Finches, Lazuli Buntings, and hummingbirds. This trip has averaged approximately 65 species per year and surprises are always possible. We will also bird along the Weber River in Henefer looking for large nesting birds such as raptors and herons. There may be periods of standing, short mostly flat land walking, and watching bird feeders.

Meeting Location: Riverside Park, Morgan

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

Spots: 15

41. URBAN BIRDING AT OGDEN NATURE CENTER



Time: 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$15

Guide(s): Heidi Christensen and Alexa West

Come to Ogden Nature Center to meet Blue, one of our western screech owls! Learn about his adaptations and the basics of birding, then take to the trails to try and spot warblers, waterfowl and more. A nature center naturalist educator will lead beginners through the steps of using binoculars and scopes and take you on a relaxing walk through the nature center to practice your new skills on wild birds. After you park, follow signs to our birdhouse trail and walk the path to meet at the visitor center. This is a perfect activity for families and those interested in getting into the exciting hobby of birding!

Meeting Location: Ogden Nature Center Visitor Center

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, songbirds

Spots: 20

42. BIRDING FOR FAMILIES AT RED BUTTE GARDEN

Time: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$15

Guide(s): Tori Sohm and Dallin Henderson

If you've been looking for a way to get the whole family into birding, this field trip is the perfect opportunity. Participants will get the chance to meet a live raptor ambassador from HawkWatch International, explore the features that attract birds to the environment, learn how to use binoculars and field guides, and look for wild birds at Red Butte Gardens, one of Salt Lake's most accessible birding hotspots. This program is designed for families with children ages five and up.

Meeting Location: Red Butte Garden Visitor Center

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, songbirds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes

Spots: 15

43. BEGINNING BIRDING: FARMINGTON BAY

Time: 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive

Cost: \$20 (kids under 10 free, registration required)

Guide(s): Max Malmquist and Dallin Henderson

We will walk to explore the area and wetlands around the Eccles Wildlife Education Center and practice new birding skills.

**You are invited to join us in the classroom at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center for a free one hour workshop for beginners and families starting at 1:00 pm just prior to the field trip. We will discuss bird identification and the common backyard birds in the Farmington area.*

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

Spots: 20

Fold Here

SATURDAY • MAY 18 • CONTINUED

44. ANTELOPE ISLAND CAMPOUT AND BIRDING ADVENTURE

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: Saturday, May 18 at 3:00 PM to Sunday, May 19 at 11:00 AM
Transportation: Self-Drive **Cost:** \$90 **Guide(s):** Colin Maguire

Calling all outdoor enthusiasts! Join us for an unforgettable weekend of camping and birding on Antelope Island – a true gem of Utah. We'll be pitching tents at the picturesque Bridger Bay campsite, embarking on scenic hikes around Buffalo Point on Saturday evening, and exploring the stunning Lady Finger Point on Sunday morning. As the sun sets, we'll gather around the campfire for an evening of grilling and indulging in s'mores, and enjoying bird-themed short stories and poetry. Whether you prefer an RV or a tent, come prepared for May bugs (only downside) and immerse yourself in the beauty of Antelope Island's natural wonders. Please be advised, no-see-ums, midges, and other small flying insects are very prevalent on the island in May. It is strongly recommended for attendees to camp with bug suits/jackets.

**Ticket includes Bridger Bay campsite and head net. Participants are required to provide all of their own supplies for overnight camping (tent/RV, food, etc.).*

Meeting Location: Antelope Island State Park, Bridger Bay Campground
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Families with Children
Target Species: shorebirds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, poorwills
Spots: 5 groups with up to 3 people per group, limit of two vehicles per campsite

45. YOUNG BIRDERS OWLING TRIP

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 PM to Midnight **Transportation:** Van **Cost:** \$80
Guide(s): Connor Johnson and Miles Gilmore

A trip exclusive to birders aged 13-21. Join the dynamic duo of experts, Connor and Miles, on an epic adventure scouring the mountains for the elusive wise old owl! On our quest we will hunt for Western Screech-Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Flammulated Owl. We may also run into some cool high elevation birds. It will be a HOOT!

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: owls, nightjars, high elevation birds
Spots: 10

Fold Here

SUNDAY • MAY 19

46. MOUNTAINS IN MAY

Time: 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM **Cost:** \$79
Guide(s): Quinn Diaz and **Keynote Speaker:** Diego Calderón-Franco

Join us for a day exploring the Wasatch Mountains and the incredible birds that inhabit the west fringe of the Rocky Mountains. This brand new tour for 2024 will take us to a variety of montane locations and habitats to show not only the incredible variety of birds these mountains call home, but also the diversity in habitats from 4,500' in the foothills to over 10,000' at the tree line. Depending on snow pack conditions, and recent scouting trips, the actual itinerary for the day will be determined by the guides in the days leading up to the event. Birding in mixed-oak woodlands, along montane riparian corridors, working our way to mid-elevations, and eventually mixed aspen and pine forests, each unique ecosystem has a variety of birds tied to the habitats and in many cases elevations.

Visit Pitta Tours at pittatours.com to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.

Spots: 7

47. BIRD THE WEST DESERT & PONY EXPRESS TRAIL

Time: 6:00 AM to 4:00 PM **Transportation:** Van **Cost:** \$120
Guide(s): Keeli Marvel

Bird the West Desert and the Pony Express Trail. Experience the birds of the West Desert and the ruggedness of the Pony Express Trail firsthand. We'll bird a loop starting at Stockton in Tooele County traveling to Clover Springs CG in Johnson Pass, then we will loop around to the Pony Express Trail and head back over Lookout Pass. If time allows we will finish up with a stop at Fitzgerald WMA.

Participants are advised to bring insect repellent, sunscreen, a packed lunch, and plenty of water. Once birding along the loop, there is only one stop that has restroom facilities.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Moderate
Good For: Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds
Spots: 10

48. BIRDS OF GREAT SALT LAKE

Time: 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM **Transportation:** Van **Cost:** \$140
Guide(s): Bryant Olsen and José Castaño

Join Tracy Aviary's Conservation Ecologist, Bryant Olsen, as you explore the different habitats at Great Salt Lake from freshwater wetlands, playas and mudflats to open saltwater as well as upland steppe of the lake's islands and peninsulas to understand the numbers and diversity of birds that make this an internationally significant ecosystem and a great place to go birding.

**Ticket includes head net.*

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center
Activity Level: Easy
Good For: Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders
Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, galliformes, songbirds
Spots: 11

SUNDAY • MAY 19 • CONTINUED

49. MARATHON BIRDING

Time: 6:00 AM to Midnight **Cost:** \$179

Guide(s): Tim Avery, Mike Hearrell, Taylor Abbott, and Kenny Frisch

What happens when four experienced birding guides come together for an amazing adventure in northern Utah during migration? Marathon Birding!!! This tour has become a beloved tradition of the Great Salt Lake Bird Festival since 2008. It's a unique opportunity to witness the incredible spectacle of bird migration at its peak, all condensed into an action-packed 18-hour timeframe. Our goal is to spot more than 150 different bird species in a thrilling, fast-paced day of bird-filled excitement. Over the past 15 years, we've managed to average just over 150 species per day, and our highest record so far is 170 species in 2015.

Visit *Pitta Tours* at pittatours.com to see options, pricing, and register for this trip.

Spots: 12

50. PARLEY'S MITIGATION AREA AND LITTLE DELL RESERVOIR

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM **Transportation:** Van **Cost:** \$90

Guide(s): Mike Malmquist and Felicia Alvarez

On this field trip we will bird in the Parleys Creek, Alexander Creek and Dell Creek drainages in the mountains east of Salt Lake City, on lands set aside as mitigation for construction of the Little Dell Dam and Reservoir in the 1990s. We will also scope the Reservoir itself. Likely species include Fox Sparrow, Spotted and Green-tailed Towhee, Black-billed Magpie, Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Gray Catbird, goldfinches, various warblers, Golden Eagle, flycatchers and other species in the scrub oak, sage and riparian habitat. Reservoir species could include Western and Clark's Grebes, various ducks, Osprey, shorebirds and possibly a late-migrating loon. Participants should wear hiking boots, bring plenty of water, lunch and/or snacks.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Intermediate Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, corvids

Spots: 10

51. BOUNTIFUL POND

Time: 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$25

Guide(s): Ian Batterman

Located on the outskirts of Farmington Bay WMA, Bountiful Pond is a lovely oasis for all kinds of birds. This trip involves walking around the pond, about a mile long loop. The large pond provides a stopover area for many gulls and waterfowl, and the surrounding trees and fields hide many songbirds, owls, and other birds with close viewing opportunities. During migration, Bountiful Pond can often house rare vagrants like Eastern Wood Warblers.

Meeting Location: Bountiful Pond

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds

Spots: 25

52. BIRDING AT FORT BUENAVENTURA

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$25

Guide(s): Sharee Harrison and Will Harrod

Located on the outskirts of west Ogden off of 24th Street, Fort Buenaventura is a lovely location near Weber River for all kinds of birds on its 84 acres. The fort was the first permanent Anglo settlement in the Great Basin and provides well-established lawns and trees. This trip involves walking around the pond and birding along paths near the river. The large pond provides a stopover area for many gulls and waterfowl, and the surrounding trees and fields support many songbirds, owls, and other birds with close viewing opportunities.

Meeting Location: Fort Buenaventura Visitor Center Parking Lot

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, galliformes, passerines and seasonal varieties

Spots: 20

53. MANTUA RESERVOIR AND SURROUNDING AREA

Time: 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM **Transportation:** Van **Cost:** \$65

Guide(s): Adam Brewerton

Mantua Reservoir is located in Box Elder canyon at the edge of the small town of Mantua. The reservoir sits at an elevation of 5,000 feet and is lined with Cottonwood trees that are great for finding birds. We will do some walking and driving as we explore around the reservoir and surrounding fields looking for waterfowl, waterbirds, tweety birds, and a nesting Bald Eagle family.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, songbirds, galliformes, woodpeckers, Bald Eagles

Spots: 12

54. ANDY ADAM'S RESERVOIR BY PADDLEBOARD & KAYAK

Time: 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$50

Guide(s): Adam Blundell and Marzena Blundell

Enjoy a gentle paddle across and around the reservoir. While trying to not flush waterfowl, we'll head out on the water to gain a better view. Adam's Reservoir is easily accessible to the parking lot, however the reservoir is very difficult to bird with a lack of trails and impassable terrain. Using paddleboards and kayaks will allow visitors to gain greater access to the far shores and interior lake.

*Weather permitting. *Ticket includes paddleboard or kayak and life jacket rental.*

Meeting Location: Adam's Reservoir

Activity Level: Active

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, songbirds

Spots: 20

Fold Here

SUNDAY • MAY 19 • CONTINUED

55. SPRINGHILL GEOLOGIC PARK – BIRDS OF THE FOOTHILLS

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$30

Guide(s): Stephanie Greenwood

Learn about and see the unique species and habitats of our foothills and benches along the Wasatch front. See an abandoned Bank Swallow colony, discuss habitat loss in our communities, and hike the area where nature had the opportunity to reclaim itself and learn the history of this unique park. Likely species would include Lazuli Bunting, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Black-headed Grosbeak, Bullock's Oriole, Chukar, California Quail, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Chipping Sparrow, Spotted Towhee and other migrants.

Meeting Location: Springhill Geologic Park Lower Trailhead Parking

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes, songbirds, galliformes

Spots: 15

56. SPIRAL JETTY ADVENTURE

Time: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM **Transportation:** Bus **Cost:** \$85

Guide(s): Max Malmquist and Jaimi Butler

Spiral Jetty, one of the world's most iconic examples of land art, is also a birders paradise! Located in the remote North Arm of Great Salt Lake there are many opportunities to spot different birds. On the long drive through the grassland and sagebrush landscape, we will surely see many raptors including Ferruginous Hawks, Swainson's Hawks and Golden Eagles. Once at Spiral Jetty, amidst the hypersaline (and very pink) waters we will encounter American White Pelicans that breed on the remote Gunnison Island, flying overhead in their daily search for fish in the lake's eastern freshwater wetlands. National Audubon's Max Malmquist will help us try to find Black-throated Sparrows, Long-billed Curlews and Snowy Plovers.

Participants should wear hiking boots, bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks for a full day trip.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders, Advanced Birders

Target Species: shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, songbirds

Spots: 20

57. BIRDING FOR FAMILIES AT RED BUTTE GARDEN

Time: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$15

Guide(s): Chris Butler

If you've been looking for a way to get the whole family into birding, this field trip is the perfect opportunity. Participants will get the chance to meet a live raptor ambassador from HawkWatch International, explore the features that attract birds to the environment, learn how to use binoculars and field guides, and look for wild birds at Red Butte Gardens, one of Salt Lake's most accessible birding hotspots. This program is designed for families with children ages five and up.

Meeting Location: Red Butte Garden Visitor Center

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Families with Children

Target Species: raptors, corvids, woodpeckers, songbirds, flycatchers, vireos, swallows, shrikes

Spots: 15

58. EMPID? WHAT'S THAT?: INTRODUCTION TO BIRD CLASSIFICATION AND NATURAL HISTORY

NEW!
FOR 2024

Time: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$20

Guide(s): Ivan Richardson

We'll be delving into the world of bird classification and taxonomy while also talking about avian natural history to gain a greater appreciation for the bird biodiversity we see. After the workshop we'll bird around the Eccles Wildlife Education Center working to identify the birds we see using tools such as genus, and traits associated with different bird groups. Please bring your binoculars and be ready to learn.

Meeting Location: Eccles Wildlife Education Center

Activity Level: Easy

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, songbirds

Spots: 20

59. KAYSVILLE EAST MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS PARK

Time: 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM **Transportation:** Self-Drive **Cost:** \$25

Guide(s): Adam Blundell and Marzena Blundell

The Kaysville East Mountain Wilderness Park is an easily accessible park with a parking lot and trails following the Bonneville Shoreline area. This wilderness park features scrub oak patches and several small creeks. While good for birding year round, our target species will be the Lazuli Buntings! If you are looking for a chance to see these beautiful little blue birds, this field trip is one of your best chances, with an ideal habitat.

Meeting Location: Kaysville East Mountain Wilderness Park

Activity Level: Moderate

Good For: Beginning Birders, Intermediate Birders

Target Species: songbirds, Lazuli Buntings

Spots: 20

Fold Here

SAVE THE DATE



27th Annual
Great Salt Lake
Bird Festival

May 15-18, 2025

2024 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY • MAY 16		
1	Biking and Birding Along the West Davis Trail	6:00 AM to 12:00 PM
2	Mindful Birding by Kayak at Bountiful Pond	7:00 AM or 10:00 AM
3	Jordanelle Wetlands and Heber Fields	7:00 AM to 12:00 PM
4	Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge – Guided Auto Tour and Walk Behind the Gates	7:00 AM to 1:00 PM
5	Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve	7:00 AM to 1:00 PM
6	Birding Rockport by Canoe	7:45 AM to 2:00 PM
7	Photography at Farmington Bay	8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
8	American Kestrel	8:30 AM to 12:30 PM
9	GSL Ecosystem Boat Tour	10:00 AM or 1:00 PM
10	Burrowing Owls of Antelope Island	2:30 PM to 5:30 PM
11	Explore Mueller Park’s New Hiking Trails & Birdwatching Bliss!	5:00 PM to 11:00 PM
12	Antelope Island Owl Prowl	6:00 PM to 9:30 PM
13	Mountain Owls	8:00 PM to Midnight

FRIDAY • MAY 17		
14	Mindful Birding by Kayak at Bountiful Pond	7:00 AM or 10:00 AM
15	Mist Netting & Bird Banding at Farmington Creek	7:00 AM or 9:00 AM
16	Buffalo Ranches Pond near Farmington Bay	7:00 AM to 11:00 AM
17	Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter, Sandhill Cranes, and More!	7:00 AM to 11:00 AM
18	Jordanelle Wetlands and Heber Fields	7:00 AM to 12:00 PM
19	Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge – Guided Auto Tour and Walk Behind the Gates	7:00 AM to 1:00 PM
20	Utah County Pinyon Juniper Specialties	7:00 AM to 1:00 PM
21	Birding Diamond Fork Canyon	7:00 AM to 2:00 PM
22	Digiscoping at Willard Bay State Park	7:00 AM to 2:00 PM
23	Sage–Steppe Birding at Promontory Point	7:00 AM to 2:00 PM
24	Birding at Kaysville Ponds	7:30 AM to 10:00 AM
25	Morgan Backyard Birding	7:30 AM to 2:00 PM
26	Birding by E–Bike	8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
27	Photography at Farmington Bay	8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
28	Birding With Books	12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
29	Burrowing Owls of Antelope Island	2:30 PM to 5:30 PM
30	Explore Mueller Park’s New Hiking Trails & Birdwatching Bliss!	5:00 PM to 11:00 PM
31	Antelope Island Owl Prowl	6:00 PM to 9:30 PM
32	E–Bike at Farmington Bay	7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

SATURDAY • MAY 18		
33	Young Birders at Antelope Island	6:00 AM to 11:00 AM
34	Cache Valley Birding Adventure	6:30 AM to 4:30 PM
35	Mist Netting & Bird Banding at Farmington Creek	7:00 AM to 9:00 AM
36	Buffalo Ranches Pond near Farmington Bay	7:00 AM to 11:00 AM
37	Behind the Gates at Legacy Nature Preserve	7:00 AM to 12:00 PM
38	Utah County Birding	7:00 AM to 3:00 PM
39	Bountiful Pond	7:30 AM to 10:00 AM
40	Morgan Backyard Birding	7:30 AM to 2:00 PM
41	Urban Birding at Ogden Nature Center	8:30 AM to 10:30 AM
42	Birding for Families at Red Butte Garden	9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
43	Beginning Birding: Farmington Bay	2:00 PM to 5:00 PM
44	Antelope Island Campout and Birding Adventure	3:00 PM to 11:00 AM
45	Young Birders Owling Trip	7:00 PM to Midnight

SUNDAY • MAY 19		
46	Mountains in May	6:00 AM to 2:00 PM
47	Bird the West Desert & Pony Express Trail	6:00 AM to 4:00 PM
48	Birds of Great Salt Lake	6:00 AM to 8:00 PM
49	Marathon Birding	6:00 AM to Midnight
50	Parley’s Mitigation Area and Little Dell Reservoir	7:00 AM to 2:00 PM
51	Bountiful Pond	7:30 AM to 10:00 AM
52	Birding at Fort Buenaventura	7:30 AM to 10:00 AM
53	Mantua Reservoir and Surrounding Area	7:30 AM to 11:30 AM
54	Andy Adam’s Reservoir by Paddleboard and Kayak	8:00 AM to 10:00 AM
55	Springhill Geologic Park – Birds of the Foothills	8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
56	Spiral Jetty Adventure	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
57	Birding for Families at Red Butte Garden	9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
58	Empid? What’s that?: Introduction to Bird Classification and Natural History	9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
59	Kaysville East Mountain Wilderness Park	6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Fold Here