



Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE March 2019–March 2020

Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society field trips are designed to promote understanding and appreciation of wildlife and their habitats. Our aim is to cultivate awareness of outdoor ethics in an atmosphere of friendly companionship. The field trips are free and open to the public. If there is a limit on trips, there will be a preference given for Chapter members up to a week before. Some area entry fees are required and driving costs are shared. No pets, please. The trip leader should be contacted within a week of the trip as cancellation can occur for a variety of reasons. A lack of interest up to two days before the scheduled time may prompt cancellation. If you are not in contact with the trip leader, expect an e-blast with information about the trip or check our [web site](#) for possible changes.

On all trips, wear walking shoes and layered clothing appropriate for the weather and terrain conditions and bring water, lunch, snacks, and binoculars.

2019 FIELD TRIPS

Every Saturday
**RANDALL DAVEY AUDUBON
CENTER**

Every Saturday (except in January), a naturalist will lead a walk around the RDAC grounds, an Audubon Important Bird Area, at 8:30 AM. Binoculars can be provided. Dress appropriately. All are welcome. *For information, call: 983-4609.*

Saturday & Sunday, March 23-24
Percha & Caballo State Parks

Leaders: Linda Mowbray, 505-989-8295,
BirdingLinda@Yahoo.com
Mary Ristow 505-690-7336,
mristow@newmexico.com.

The Caballo trip is an overnight trip. Our hope is to see early migrants at Percha Dam, Caballo Lake, Elephant Butte Lake and other sites around Truth or Consequences. Participants should make their own lodging reservations and should CONTACT TRIP LEADERS TWO WEEKS before the trip. If the weather is warm enough, there is a possibility of camping.

Saturday, April 13
**Dusky Grouse: Los Alamos
Ski Area**

Leader: Joe Fitzgibbon
505-920-4100
fitzgibbon@newmexico.com

This trip involves a two-mile walk above 8,000 feet from the Pajarito Ski Area to Canada Bonita. Target bird is Dusky Grouse with the possibility of seeing Three-toed Woodpeckers, Red-naped and Williamson's Sapsuckers, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Brown Creepers. Limited to 12 participants. Call or email the leader *no more than two weeks before the trip* to register and discuss details of the trip.



Saturday, May 4
eBird Global Big Day

Last May, more than 30,000 people took to fields and forests around the world, noting **more than 7,000 species in a single day—Global Big Day**. On **4 May**, you can join more than 20,000 others and become a part of Global Big Day. You don't have to commit to birding for 24 hours—an hour or even 10 minutes of watching birds makes you part of the team. Visit your favorite spot or search out someplace new; enjoy a solo walk or get some friends to join in the Global Big Day fun.

Saturday, May 11
**International Migratory Bird
Day Spring Counts**

Leaders:
Santa Fe: Sheila Gershen, 505-988-3143
Los Alamos: Mouser Williams, 505-850-6670
Rio Arriba: Dale Stahlecker, 505-670-2138
San Miguel: Cassidy Ruge, 505-425-2757

This is an event to document and assess the spring migration. Less experienced birders will be placed with more experienced birders. Contact a leader two weeks before the count. Some counts are accompanied by an evening potluck, where participants can meet fellow birders and share the day's experiences.

Saturday, May 25
Bandelier: Frijoles Canyon

Leader: Joe Fitzgibbon
505-920-4100
fitzgibbon@newmexico.com

This half-day trip to Bandelier National Monument starts at the park headquarters in Frijoles Canyon. We will look for tanagers, warblers, vireos, grosbeaks, and hope to identify several empidonax flycatchers through their vocalization. Suitable for all skill levels with easy but appreciable walking. Lunch optional. A National Park Service entrance fee or pass will be required. Contact leader for trip status and information.

Sunday, June 9
Orilla Verde

Leader: Jerry Friedman
505-753-1946, 505-929-6925
jerry_friedman@yahoo.com

On this half-day trip we'll be looking for raptors and a variety of songbirds. Participants can informally gather at DeVargas Mall (in front of Starbucks) at 6:45 AM to arrange car pooling before driving to the Rio Grande Recreation Area Visitor's Center in Pilar for an 8:00 AM departure. Contact leader for trip status.

Saturday, June 22
Caja del Rio

Leader: Mary Ristow 505-690-7336,
mristow@newmexico.com.

This half-day trip requires high-clearance vehicles and will not take place if the roads are muddy. Possible bird species include Black-throated Sparrow, Cactus Wren, Gray Vireo, and Scott's Oriole. Limit of 12 participants. Call or email the leader *no more than two weeks before the trip* to register and discuss details of the trip.

Saturday, July 13
Capulin Spring

Leader: Tom Taylor
505-424-3238, tn21tay@comcast.net

This half-day trip will explore birding opportunities at high altitude on the east side of the Sandias. The group will make an extended stop at Capulin Spring, where a wide variety of western birds congregate at an easily seen distance. Plumbeous Vireos, Hermit Thrushes, Band-tailed Pigeons, Cassin's Finches, and a variety of western warblers are expected. The party will then continue birding on the way to the Crest House. A National Forest entrance fee or pass will be required for each vehicle. Meet at 7:00 AM in the Albertson's parking lot (corner of Zia and St. Francis). Due to the limited viewing area near the springs the trip is limited to 6 participants. Reservations will only be taken by email beginning June 30 and they will be prioritized by the date and time that the email is received.

Sunday, August 18
**Eldorado—Gallina Park
Greenbelt**

Leader: René Laubach 413-358-3363,
renelaubach@gmail.com

Observe piñon-juniper and grassland bird species along the trails of Eldorado's Gallina Park Greenbelt. The walk will encompass 3.7 miles on flat and gently rolling terrain along Eldorado's border with state trust and Rancho Viejo lands. The walk itself will be from 8 a.m. to 10 or 10:30 a.m. Limited to 12 participants. Contact leader for meeting time and place.

Sunday, August 25
Santa Fe Ski Basin

Leader: Tom Taylor, 505-424-3238
tn21tay@comcast.net

This half-day trip is at high altitude with moderate to steep hiking. However, good birding should readily be found due to the mixed flocks found this time of year. Townsend's and Wilson's Warblers, Warbling Vireos, plus both kinglets and Gray Jays are anticipated. Appropriate for all levels of birders. Meet at DeVargas Mall (in front of Starbucks) at 7:00 AM or at the ski basin at 7:45 AM. Contact leader for trip status.

September
Los Luceros

Leader: TBA

Visit the historic hacienda on the Rio Grande for residents and fall migrants. Check the [Sangre website](#) for information later in the year.

Saturday, October 12
**New Mexico Ornithological
Society Meeting**
Rodeo, NM
www.nmbirds.org

Sunday, October 20
**VALLE DE ORO NATIONAL
WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Leader: Joanna Hatt
802-318-7181, joanna.hatt@gmail.com

We will visit this new urban wildlife refuge. Lots of walking on level surfaces seeking *farmland, riparian birds, and some lingering migrants*. Contact trip leader for meeting time and place. Limit of 15 participants. Bring plenty of water *and snacks*. We'll be finished by noon.

Sunday, November 3
**Back Roads of Las Vegas
National Wildlife Refuge**

Leader: Roy Stephenson
505-500-6413, respidear@comcast.net

This half-day trip will focus on the rarely-opened back roads of Las Vegas NWR. Expect to see migrating waterfowl and raptors. Contact leader for meeting time and place.

November 20-23
**Festival of the Cranes :
Bosque del Apache NWR**

The festival offers many tours, classes, exhibits, and even a wildlife art show. The Bosque is an Audubon Important Bird Area. For information call the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge at 575-835-1828 or visit:
<http://www.friendsofthebosque.org>.



December 14, 2019 – January 5, 2020
Christmas Bird Counts

The National Audubon Society began the Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) in 1901. These counts provide important information about wintering bird populations. There are close to 30 counts held in the state of New Mexico and the Sangre de Cristo Chapter participates in 10 counts in its area. The CBCs will be held between mid-December and mid-January. Novices are welcome and will be paired with more experienced birders. For information, check the web sites:

Sangre de Cristo Audubon;
<http://www.SantafeAudubon.org>
Audubon New Mexico;
<http://www.nm.audubon.org>
New Mexico Ornithological Society;
<http://www.nmbirds.org>

Contact the leaders of each count you want to participate in to make count arrangements.

JOIN AUDUBON NOW !

Join Online by going to www.Audubon.org/chapter member and selecting Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society. Or mail the coupon below of the National Audubon Society and the chapter, with full membership benefits and a year of Audubon magazine.

(Please Print)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

A membership is \$20 and includes Audubon magazine six times a year, online access to the *Mountain Chickadee*, and the *Audubon New Mexico Newsletter*.

Please put the chapter code (below) on the check, make it **payable to National Audubon Society**, and send to:

Sangre de Cristo Audubon
P. O. Box 22083
Santa Fé, NM 87502-2083

Chapter Code: Q52

2020 FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, January 26
ROSY FINCHES AT SANDIA CREST

Leader: Tom Jervis, 505-988-1708,
Jervidae@cybermesa.com

A fun trip to Sandia Crest to see Rosy Finches and other winter montane species and watch the banding operation. We'll spend the morning inside the Crest House and if the weather is cooperative, take a walk through the snowy woods to see what may be around. We will car pool from Santa Fe. Contact the leader for meeting time and place.

Saturday, February 7
**Bosque Del Apache/Ladd
Gordon Areas**

Leaders: Linda Mowbray 505-989-8295,
birdinglinda@yahoo.com

On this long one-day trip we should see large numbers of Snow Geese and Sandhill Cranes, plus raptors and other waterfowl. Appropriate for all levels of birders. Spotting scopes are useful. Contact leaders for meeting time and place.

Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society

invites you to attend our meetings. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge. The building is wheelchair-accessible. Meetings consist of a short update of environmental issues and chapter activities, followed by a speaker.

Presentation topics vary, ranging from areas of concern for our environment to tropical trips. For more information about speakers and topics, check the *Mountain Chickadee* or the Sangre de Cristo Audubon web site:

<https://audubonsantafe.org/>

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Randall Davey Audubon Center) at 6:30 PM. Meetings are held September, October, November, February, March, and April.

You can also visit the web site to sign up for free reminders of Field Trips, evening programs, and other information of interest.