

The Mountain Chickadee

Newsletter of the Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society
Volume 47 Number 1, March, 2018



Photograph by Tom Taylor

Upcoming Activities Mark your Calendar

Illustrated Evening Programs

Wednesday, March 14

Postfire Watershed Restoration

Steve Vrooman

Wednesday, April 11

Los Alamos Breeding Bird Atlas

Mouser Williams

**Note the location at the Randall Davey
Audubon Center and time: 6:30 PM.**

Field Trips

**Details inside. Remember to check the
Sangre [Website](#) for information.**

Sunday, March 31

Maxwell National Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, April 21

Dusky Grouse: Los Alamos Ski Area

Saturday, May 19

Rio Mora

Saturday, May 26

Bandelier : Frijoles Canyon

Sunday, June 10

Orilla Verde

No Proof that Predator Culls Save Livestock, Study Claims

New analysis calls for more rigorous studies

On 5 August, biologists from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife ascended in a helicopter to shoot two members of the Profanity Peak wolf pack, which had been preying on cattle in the state's northeast corner. After the cull failed to end predation, the state removed four more members of the 11-wolf pack. Some conservationists were outraged, but the logic behind such lethal control seems airtight: Remove livestock-killing wolves, coyotes, bears, and other predators, and you'll protect farmers and ranchers from future losses.

A new study, however, claims that much of the research underpinning that common sense notion is flawed—and that predator control needs a methodological overhaul. Adrian Treves, a conservation biologist at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and his colleagues examined more than 100 peer-reviewed studies, searching for ones that randomized study sites, intervening on some by removing or deterring predators while leaving others untouched. Not a single experiment in which predators were killed has ever successfully applied this randomized controlled design, they report in *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. "Lethal control methods need to be subjected to the same gold standard of science as anything else," Treves says. He argues that policymakers should suspend predator management programs that aren't backed by rigorous evidence.

Treves says he was inspired to look at the science behind predator control by a book unrelated to wild carnivores, a history of cancer. As Treves paged through it, he says, "a light bulb went off in my head." He suspected that predator management was plagued by the same methodological problems that had once led cancer researchers to promote ineffective cures— particularly a dearth of randomized controlled trials. Although removing carnivores to ease livestock loss makes intuitive sense, Treves and other scientists were skeptical: For instance, some research suggests that coyote populations subject to culling have higher pup survival rates, and that male cougars expand their ranges in response to hunting.

What Treves found when he and his co-authors delved into the literature confirmed his suspicions. Only 12 studies came close to Treves's gold standard or even a lesser "silver" standard, in which livestock losses before and after predator management were monitored, or analyzed in retrospect. Many other studies had flaws that he says make it impossible to draw reliable inferences. Others failed to properly randomize intervention and control sites or described their methods inadequately, making replication impossible.

"There are so many ways that these studies could have been improved," says Robert Crabtree, a carnivore ecologist and founder of the Yellowstone Ecological Research Center in Bozeman, Montana. "Not by spending more money, but by paying careful attention to standardization protocols, transparency, and replication."

Science, 9 September, 2017

Audubon Activities

Illustrated Evening Programs

Wednesday, March 14

Postfire Watershed Restoration

Steve Vrooman

Steve Vrooman is president and owner of Keystone Restoration Ecology Inc. (KRE). KRE specializes in the environmental restoration of natural and man-made landscapes using the sciences of ecology and geomorphology. KRE has performed wetland and stream restoration in New Mexico, Colorado, and Arizona. Steve has worked in the Valles Caldera National Preserve to restore watersheds damaged by grazing, roads, and fire. Steve will present the results of a 3 year study of restoration on San Antonio Creek and Sulphur Creek in the VCNP.

Wednesday, April 11

Los Alamos Breeding Bird Atlas

Mouser Williams

The Atlas of Breeding Birds of Los Alamos County was published in 1992 and was based on fieldwork from the late 1980's. A second edition of the atlas is now being produced--the second of five years of fieldwork is just beginning. This talk will cover the basics of how BBA fieldwork is performed, a behind-the-scenes look at how data for the atlas are handled, and an overview of the results from the first year of field observations.

Meetings with illustrated talks on bird conservation and other topics concerning the natural world are held on the second Wednesday of February, March, and April at 6:30 PM in the Education building at the Randall Davey Audubon Center and Sanctuary at the end of Upper Canyon Rd. in Santa Fe. Abundant parking is available. Everyone is welcome. There is no charge and the building is wheelchair accessible. A short update of environmental issues and chapter activities precedes the program.

Field Trips

Every Saturday

Randall Davey Audubon Center

Every Saturday, 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 welcome. For information, call: 983-4609.

Sunday, March 31

Maxwell National Wildlife Refuge

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

This long all-day trip should have interesting shorebirds, waterfowl and raptors. Contact the leaders for meeting time and place.



Saturday, April 21

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. Contact leader for trip status.

Saturday, May 12

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 19

Rio Mora

Leader: Will Jaremko-Wright, 972-800-3950,
wjaremkowright@gmail.com

This field trip will focus on breeding & late-migrant birds at Rio Mora National Wildlife Refuge - a restricted access NWR site managed in conjunction with the Denver Zoo Foundation. We will be exploring breeding birds in Riparian, Grassland, Ponderosa forest and Pinon-Juniper woodland ecosystems - more than 60 species are possible. A discussion about the resident Bison herd (and hopefully some viewing) will also take place. This will be a largely a hiking field trip, with about 3 miles covered on relatively well maintained game-trails. This field trip will last until about 2:00pm, so bring a lunch. Please also bring water, sunscreen and a hat. Meet at Exit 364 for Watrous/Golondrinas, NM on I-25 at 7:00 AM

Continued on Next Page

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. Field trips are free and open to the public. Some area entry fees are required and driving costs are shared. Participants are expected to carpool whenever possible. On all field trips, wear walking shoes and clothing appropriate for the weather. Bring water, lunch, and binoculars. No pets, please. Always call the trip leader before the trip. Trips may be cancelled for a variety of reasons.

Saturday, May 26
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 10
Orilla Verde

Leader: Jerry Friedman
505-753-1946, 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.

For Details go to the
[SdCAS Website](#)

Announcing the 13th
Annual Gila River Festival

"Gathering the Gila"

September 21 – 24, 2017,
Silver City, New Mexico

The 13th annual festival, Gathering the Gila will engage participants in an exploration of the bountiful native foods, plants, and medicines found throughout the Gila River and its watershed. Presented by the Gila Conservation Coalition, the Festival will feature dynamic presentations and hands-on activities designed to foster a deeper intimacy with the Gila River, including river outings, field trips, workshops, storytelling, cooking, and foraging. **Full schedule and on-line registration available at www.gilariverfestival.org**

Audubon New Mexico
Randall Davey Audubon Center and Sanctuary

The grounds at the Randall Davey Audubon Center are open Monday to Saturday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, closed Sundays (and in January). Stroll the gardens as birds visit the birdfeeders, or walk the trails and enjoy the natural beauty and serenity of the 135-acre wildlife sanctuary. Additionally, the Davey Center is an environmental education center and offers a variety of educational events. Please check the [website](#) for details. The Center is located at the end of Upper Canyon Road on the far east side of Santa Fe.



Historic House Tours

Step back in time as you stroll through the old Santa Fe style home (originally a lumber mill built in 1847 by the U.S. Army) of the artist Randall Davey (1887-1964). This docent-led tour will give you an opportunity to view some of Davey's most spectacular works of art, as well as a beautiful collection of Spanish Colonial and European antiques. Tours are held each Friday at 2:00 PM. Reservations are recommended. Cost is \$5 per person. For information call 505-983-4609.

Randall Davey Center Activities

Call 983-4609 for more information on these Events

Wednesday, March 21- Nature at Night

6:00-8:00pm, Randall Davey Audubon Center

Come learn about some of New Mexico's nocturnal nature, including owls, nocturnal animal adaptations, and more! Special visit from NM Wildlife Center animals! Visit Audubon NM website or facebook for more details. \$5 suggested donation per participant.

Thursday, April 12- Nature at Night

6:00-8:00pm, Randall Davey Audubon Center See above without the animals.

Saturday, April 14 & Sunday, April 15- Wilderness First Aid (REI and NOLS)

8:00am-5:00pm, both days, Randall Davey Audubon Center

Sponsored by REI and NOLS. Please visit [REI website](#) for registration and more information.

Saturday, April 21- Earth Day with Audubon NM

At Randall Davey Audubon Center

Celebrate and help conserve our natural environment! Join Audubon NM for hands-on science activities at RDAC, recyclable art, and trail cleanup opportunities! Check Audubon NM's website and facebook as details are released later this spring.

Saturday, April 21: 10:00am-2:00pm, Earth Day at The Railyard, Santa Fe

Audubon NM will be leading fun conservation activities for the public at the Railyard's Earth Day Festival from 10:00-2:00pm. We are also looking for volunteers to help man the table alongside ANM staff. Volunteers should contact Desiree, dloggins@audubon.org, for more information and to sign up.

Friday, April 27- Nature at Night: Full Moon Hike

6:00-8:00pm, Randall Davey Audubon Center

Join us for a special night as we explore the night sky, then go on a Full Moon hike out on the trails! Visit Audubon NM website or facebook for more details. \$5 suggested donation per participant.

Environment News

Española Christmas Count

The Española count produced 79 species this year, about average for the last decade. The early winter preceding the count was historically dry and warm. There was a bit of a low temperature spell in the week before the count, leaving the ponds about half frozen over. But these conditions meant that waterfowl populations were low. Despite that, we obtained the first Snow Geese ever – a group of 5 juveniles that had stayed put since November. (It's odd that this common wintering goose for southern NM had never been recorded on this count.) One White-fronted Goose that accompanied them was the third ever on the count. But we managed only a single Common Merganser, and small numbers of some other ducks.

A startling find was a hardy Gray Catbird in Jacona. This was the second time in 4 count years, part of a statewide winter trend for this breeding species. A Winter Wren put up a nice display in a marshy area, calling vigorously to help discriminate it from the look-alike Pacific Wren. This is the second count for this species. The Rio Grande was productive for species other than waterfowl: we found a Myrtle Warbler foraging with Audubon's, one Black Phoebe, Say's Phoebes in three different areas, and one Spotted Sandpiper. Three Virginia Rails were braving frozen marshes. Six Lewis's Woodpeckers was a reasonable number given recent years, but still far below the historical average. Williamson's Sapsuckers maintained their trend of wintering in the area. A pair of Am. Tree Sparrows was also in the willows beside the Rio Grande. Steller's Jays staged a lowland invasion in parts of the state this year, and we found 9 in two parts of the count circle.

We missed Sandhill Cranes for the first time in a dozen years, but we did not cover one area where they are normally found. Wilson's Snipe did not make an appearance. Mountain Bluebirds were low, and neither Shrike was found, continuing a 4-year trend. American Dipper has now eluded us for 5 straight counts, despite the fact that they have been present further south along the Rio Grande.

Bernie Foy

Santa Fe Christmas Count

The Santa Fe count saw 72 species, again about average, but far less than our wildly successful 86 species last year. We counted 5083 individuals, and there were 58 people participating - from fledgling birders to experts. There were lots of folks counting their feeders and neighborhoods. Unusual observations included a Chipping Sparrow, three (!) American Dippers in the watershed, and two Western Screech-owls in nest boxes.

Lonnie Howard

China to Protect Wetlands

China plans to dramatically curb commercial development of coastal wetlands, habitat that is crucial for almost 500 species of migratory birds. "It is massive good news," says Nicola Crockford of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, based in Sandy, U.K. Over the past 5 decades, building of sea walls and construction on reclaimed wetlands have destroyed more than half of the tidal mudflats in China. To help stop the losses, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) announced on 17 January that authorities will halt unauthorized projects and tear down illegal structures. SOA will approve coastal wetland development only if it is important for a few specific purposes, such as national defense. Although scientists and conservationists would like additional protections, including national legislation with tough penalties, they note that the central government has been cracking down on offenders and designating new reserves.

Science 2 February, 2018

Native vs. Nonnative Plants in Pollinator Gardens

It seems these days that questions about butterfly and pollinator gardens have moved on from "why?" to "what shall we plant?"—with the conversation often turning to whether or not it is better to plant native species than nonnative ones. Led by Andrew Salisbury of the Royal Horticultural Society, a team of researchers in Britain undertook a four-year study to try to provide an answer. Their work was published in May in the journal *Biodiversity Conservation*.

The research was done using a series of study plots, each three meters square, the typical size of a flower border in a United Kingdom garden. The plots were planted with a collection of species that were categorized as "native" (naturally occurring in the British Isles), "near native" (from the Northern Hemisphere), or "exotic" (from the Southern Hemisphere). Over the course of the study, above-ground invertebrates were sampled in each plot and a number of variables were measured for the plants, including vegetation density and canopy cover.

Overall, the abundance of invertebrates was higher on the plots with native plants, and increased with canopy cover in all three plot categories, although neither was consistently true for all species. Invertebrates such as spiders, which are less specially reliant on particular plants, were equally abundant across the plots irrespective of plant origin, while all herbivores were more abundant on plots of native plants.

The authors conclude: "We therefore advise gardeners and managers of cultivated green spaces who wish to provide maximum resources for invertebrate abundance to select plantings biased towards native and near-native plants, managed to provide dense vegetation cover."

Xerces Society

Environment News

A Demanding Lifestyle

Polar bears appear to be well adapted to the extreme conditions of their Arctic habitat. Now researchers have shown that the energy balance in this harsh environment is narrower than we might expect. They monitored the behavior and metabolic rates of nine free-ranging polar bears over 2 years. They found that high energy demands required consumption of high-fat prey, such as seals, which are easy to come by on sea ice but nearly unavailable in ice-free conditions. Thus, as sea ice becomes increasingly short-lived annually, polar bears are likely to experience increasingly stressful conditions and higher mortality rates. Read more [here](#).

Science 2 February, 2018



VERY LOW NUMBERS OF MONARCHS

Overwintering in California May Reflect an Unusual Fall

The [Western Monarch Thanksgiving Count](#) (WMTC) tracks the population of monarch butterflies that overwinter along the Pacific Coast in California and Baja California. This year's WMTC tallied a total of 192,629 monarchs. This is the lowest number counted since 2012, despite volunteers visiting nearly twice as many sites as they did that year. The total represents less than one-sixth of the 1.2 million monarchs recorded in 1997, the first year of the WMTC, and is part of a long-term downward trend in the population of monarchs overwintering in California.

Fall of 2017 seems to have been a very unusual year for overwintering monarchs. We have had many reports of unseasonably warm temperatures, late season mating, and late occurrence of eggs and caterpillars. We do not yet know how the wildfires and associated smoke in many parts of California affected migrating or late breeding monarchs, nor whether the drenching rain and devastating mudslides that occurred soon after had an impact. It is difficult to know if the overwintering population experienced as sharp a decline as the WMTC numbers suggest or if it was partly that the butterflies were simply late clustering in this late, warm fall (which may be increasingly common with climate change).

Xerces Society

Artificial Intelligence to Help Save Birds From Turbines

At a Wyoming wind farm, an energy company will install a new kind of sensor that shuts down turbines when eagles are flying near to prevent collisions, the company announced last week. Wind farms each year kill thousands of birds of many species, including federally protected ones. The fatalities have aroused public opposition to the spread of this renewable energy source. Duke Energy, based in Charlotte, North Carolina, acted after pleading guilty in 2013 to criminal charges that turbines at two of its Wyoming wind farms killed more than 150 migratory birds of various species. Duke will deploy 24 bird detection devices at one of those farms, which has 110 turbines. The bird detection devices, made by Identiflight, based in Louisville, Colorado, use pole-mounted cameras and artificial intelligence to identify eagles and monitor their flight paths. When an eagle flies too close to a turbine, the networked devices will cause it to shut down within about 30 seconds.

Science 2 February, 2018

Good News for Bats

When bats meet wind turbines, it's invariably the bats that lose. According to one study, U.S. wind power killed more than 600,000 bats in 2012. Since then, the world's wind-generating capacity has doubled. Curtailing wind turbines during periods of peak bat activity does reduce fatalities, but it also cuts into an operator's revenues. This year, NRG Systems, based in Hinesburg, Vt., will release a commercial version of its ultrasonic bat-deterrent system, which requires no curtailment. The equipment sits on the turbine's nacelle and emits ultrasonic sound between 20 and 50 kilohertz—the same frequencies North American bats use for echolocation. A bat nearing the turbine will immediately change direction, thereby avoiding its date with destiny.

IEEE Spectrum, January, 2018

First Ship Crosses Arctic in Winter Without an Icebreaker

A ship has made a winter crossing of the Arctic without an icebreaker for the first time as global warming causes the region's ice sheets to melt. The tanker, containing liquefied natural gas, is the first commercial vessel to make such a crossing alone during the winter months. [Read the Full Article on \[www.independent.co.uk\]\(http://www.independent.co.uk\)](#)





President's Column

Tom Jervis

Spring is upon us! The House Finches are already singing vigorously even though our winter Juncos are still around. But it is in the air.

The outburst of birdsong and colorful migrants passing through and then settling in for another breeding season happens every year, though perhaps sooner than it used to due to a warming climate. As it does for the birds that are getting ready to perpetuate themselves, the season should reawaken in all of us an appreciation for the world around us and hope for the future.

It is a time when hope seems a far-fetched concept. The climate is warming with consequences for both the natural world and for our own society—I suspect that not too many folks in SE Texas think climate change is fake and though due to many factors, our own drought is frighteningly palpable. Our government seems incapable of even the least controversial actions and some agency heads are openly scornful of the laws they are sworn to uphold and promote. It is not a good time.

But it is Spring and the birds are singing. How can we not feel good about it? Soon Audubon's Warblers, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Hepatic and Western Tanagers will be arriving and setting up territories.

We can use the glory of the birds to inspire ourselves to keep at the hard work of conservation. Advocating with our elected officials for policies and legislation that protect birds and habitat; working with land-management agencies like the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management to protect the special places we know about from development; telling your friends and acquaintances about the glory of birds and why they matter; and even digging in your own yard and planting natives to provide food and shelter for the birds and the bugs. There is plenty to do, regardless of your proclivities—you CAN make a difference.

You can also just go out and enjoy nature. See our list of field trips, get involved in some citizen science activities, or just go out and sit under a tree or shrub and relax. Nature's peace will flow into you.



Farewell Western Scrub-jay!

We have an important update for those of you living in the Western Scrub-jay's range: this species is being split into two. Perhaps you have noticed differences between the "coastal" form (now the California Scrub-jay) and the "interior" form (now Woodhouse's Scrub-jay); the California Scrub-jay is darker and described as having a more bold personality, while the Woodhouse's Scrub-jay is paler, has a thinner bill, and tends to be more shy and inconspicuous.

The American Ornithologists' Union has been considering this split for several years. The split became official after genetic research demonstrated that the two species rarely interbreed where they come into contact with each other in western Nevada.



Goodbye, Yellow-rump: Will We See a Return to Myrtle and Audubon's Warblers?

For most of the last century the Yellow-rumped Warbler was two species, the Myrtle Warbler of the East (and far north) and the Audubon's Warbler of the West. But in 1973 scientists lumped them based on evidence that the two species routinely hybridize in a narrow zone in western Canada. Now, evidence from more than 37,000 regions of the birds' DNA suggests that Myrtle and Audubon's really are separate species—and so is a third, isolated form known as "Goldman's warbler" that is almost entirely restricted to Guatemala. A fourth form known as the "Black-fronted" warbler lives in the mountains of northern Mexico. There will be no immediate change to birding lists: formally splitting the species requires a decision by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union. They publish an annual set of updates to the official checklist each year in July.

Political Issues

Boost for Migratory Bird Conservation

Bill in Senate

In good news for migratory birds, Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) has endorsed the [Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act](#) (NMBCA), one of the nation's most important bird conservation laws. Now called the Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Act, and co-sponsored by Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH), the bipartisan bill ([S. 1537](#)) [would provide a higher level of funding](#) to help conserve species like Red Knot, Wood Thrush, and other migratory birds, many of which are in rapid decline. This bill will strengthen important conservation efforts to aid beautiful and ecologically important species,

The NMBCA provides a lifeline for bird conservation, encouraging habitat protection, education, research, monitoring, and other work to provide for the long-term protection of neotropical migratory birds. These species breed in the continental United States or Canada and spend the winter in Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Songbirds, landbirds, waterbirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and others all benefit from the NMBCA.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service receives many more requests for high-quality conservation projects than it can fund at current maximum authorization levels, set by Congress at \$3.9 million per year. Under the new version of the NMBCA, that amount could increase to \$6.5 million.

The NMBCA grant program has been a catalyst for bird conservation and partnership development throughout the Western Hemisphere, actively promoting the long-term conservation of neotropical migratory birds and their habitats. Since 2002, NMBCA has supported more than 500 conservation projects in 36 countries, on more than 4.2 million acres of critical bird habitat.

Ready to help migratory birds? Ask your elected officials to cosponsor the Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Act.

See contact information on the next page.



Legislation Introduced to Protect Pollinators

Toxic neonicotinoid pesticides are found in the foods we eat, the pest-control sprays we use in our gardens, and the flea-control products we put on our pets. Yet, they are lethal to birds, as well as the bees we rely on to pollinate our crops. ABC, Friends of the Earth, and other partners hosted a Congressional briefing to discuss neonicotinoid insecticides' devastating impacts on wildlife and people. Growing scientific evidence points to neonics as a leading cause of drastic pollinator population decline. [Click here to watch a video](#) of the congressional briefing.

Representatives John Conyers and Earl Blumenauer have introduced the Saving America's Pollinators Act, H.R. 3040, which would require the EPA to suspend registration of neonicotinoids -- pesticides found in products ranging from garden sprays to pet flea treatments. Please contact your Representative and ask him/her to cosponsor the bill. Act now: <https://abcbirds.org/action/petition-neonics>.

Neonics Also Threaten Clean Water and Aquatic Invertebrates
[ABC submitted comments](#) to EPA on the preliminary aquatic risk assessment for the registration review of the neonic imidacloprid. The assessment found extreme harm to the full range of aquatic insects, with resulting deleterious effects on their predators including fish, birds, bats, and amphibians. The findings are consistent with those of independent researchers and with Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, which is proposing to phase-out all the agricultural and a majority of other outdoor uses of imidacloprid over three to five years. ABC is urging EPA to take similar steps.

American Bird Conservancy

New Blog Presents Wildlife Health Field Stories

A new blog offers firsthand accounts of wildlife health researchers in the field across the globe. Blogs from the Field is published by Wildlife Health Cornell, one of the university's Centers for Excellence, which specializes in wildlife and ecosystem health.

The new blog offers glimpses into work done in far-flung locations and those closer to home, from the search for the Asian wild dog (*Cuon alpinus*) in East Java, Indonesia to snowy owls (*Bubo scandiacus*) in New York state. Check out the blog [here](#).

The Wildlife Society



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

Sangre de Cristo Audubon Board of Directors 2018

Officers:

President	Tom Jervis	988-1708
Vice President	VACANT	
Treasurer	Carlyn Jervis	988-1708
Secretary	VACANT	
Field trips	VACANT	
Membership	VACANT	
Publicity	VACANT	

Committee Chairs:

Conservation	Joanna Hatt	802-318-7181
Newsletter Editor	Tom Jervis	jervidae@cybermesa.com
Program	Joe Fitzgibbon	920-4100
Webmaster	Vacant	

Members at Large: Sheila Gershen 988-3143
Adele Caruthers 984-3279
Mary Ristow 820-0906
Tom Taylor 424-3238

New Mexico Audubon Council Delegates:
Mary Ristow 820-0906
Tom Jervis 988-1708

[Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society on the World-Wide Web](http://www.newmexicoaudubon.org/sdcas/)
<http://www.newmexicoaudubon.org/sdcas/>

WHERE BIRDS THRIVE, PEOPLE PROSPER

New Mexico Rare Bird Alert

is on the Web

[New Mexico Rare Bird Alert](#)

Matt Baumann, Compiler
mbaumann22@gmail.com

Audubon en Español

Audubon ha lanzado su sitio web en español para conectar con las audiencias hispanas y disfrutar juntos de la naturaleza y la protección de las aves y sus hábitats. Visita Audubon en Español (<http://www.audubon.org/es>).

Contact your Congressional Representatives
Let them know that protecting the environment is important to you!

Senator Martin Heinrich
U. S. Senate
840 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202 224-5521 (office)
202-224-2841 (fax)
Toll free 1-800-443-8658
Santa Fé Office 988-6647
www.Heinrich.senate.gov/

Senator Tom Udall
U. S. Senate
110 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202.224.6621 (office)
202.228.3261 (fax)
Santa Fe Office 988.6511
www.TomUdall.senate.gov/

Congressman Ben Ray Lujan
U. S. House of Representatives
502 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-6190 (office)
202-226-1331 (fax)
Santa Fe Office 984-8950
www.Lujan.house.gov/