Birding

Chapter Meetings: Our monthly chapter meetings, on the 2nd Monday of each month from September through May, feature presentations by experts on wildlife species, habitats, and/or their conservation. Programs are free and open to the public.

Field Activities: We invite people of all ages and experience levels to participate in group outings led by experienced birders, where you can enjoy observing wildlife while improving your bird identification skills. Check our newsletter and website for field trip schedules.

Newsletter: We publish the *Birding Observer* September through June to inform members of chapter events and current issues concerning wildlife, habitat, and conservation. Membership dues include a subscription to the newsletter.

Christmas Bird Count: Each December birders of all experience levels gather in small groups to count bird species and their numbers in the Missoula area. The data are tallied and stories shared at a potluck supper.

Birdathon: This annual event raises funds to support our research awards, conservation and environmental education projects. Teams of birders, from novice to expert, compete to find the greatest number of species within 24-hours. Team sponsors pledge contributions on the number of species tallied.

Education

Birding Classes: We offer instruction in beginning, intermediate, and advanced birding in the classroom and the field. Topics include birds found in various habitats, field marks for identification, bird behavior, songs, anatomy, migration, and conservation, as well as use of field guides, birding optics, and birding ethics.

Audubon Adventures: An environmental education program for teachers and children in grades 3 to 6 developed by the National Audubon Society. The materials present facts about wildlife, habitats, and ecology that teachers can use to help students appreciate, understand, and gain a sense of stewardship for the natural world. Our chapter funds the kits and distributes them each fall to interested teachers in local schools.

Community Naturalist Program: An education program to connect people with nature. Our naturalists offer field trips and classroom lessons to schools and the public. Programs focus on birds within themes of natural history and ecology

Philip L. Wright Research Awards: To encourage younger students to get involved in research, we award small grants to university and high school students for research projects that can be completed in a few months. Grant recipients present their findings at chapter meetings.

Conservation

Bird Surveys: We conduct bird surveys to determine bird and habitat protection needs and support conservation actions. We support and promote efforts to restore wetland and grassland habitats. We also work with land owners and community planners to secure the protection of important bird habitats in Missoula County.

Public Policy: We are advocates for local and national programs aimed at protecting birds and other wildlife. We respond to conservation issues by urging lawmakers and public officials to protect our natural heritage.

Important Bird Area: We protect habitat and promote conservation in the Clark Fork River--Grass Valley IBA.

Membership

We extend a warm welcome and invite you to become a member of the the Five Valleys Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society, receive our newsletter, and participate in all our chapter activities. Those who would also like to receive *Audubon* magazine should instead join at the national level to receive both national and chapter benefits.

Visit our website for more information about chapter activities: www.fvamissoula.org

Join Five Valleys Audubon Society

Please enroll me as a Chapter Only member of the Five Valleys Audubon Society. I will receive the *Birding Observer* and may participate in all local chapter activities. I understand that my dues remain entirely with the chapter.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Email (optional) _____

( ) $15 is enclosed for chapter-only membership

( ) An additional sum of _____ is included to support Five Valleys Audubon Society.

Please make check payable to the Five Valleys Audubon Society, PO Box 8425, Missoula, MT 59807

Join National Audubon Society and Five Valleys Audubon Society

Please enroll me as both a member of the National Audubon Society and my local Chapter. I will receive the *Audubon* magazine and the *Birding Observer*, as well as participate in all local chapter activities. I understand my dues are shared between NAS and my local chapter.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

( ) $20 for a 1 year individual/family membership

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.
Mail to: Membership data center, PO Box 422250,
Palm Coast, FL 32142-225 CIZ N53 OZ

NON-PROFIT
ORG.US
POSTAGE
PAID
MISSOULA, MT
59807
PERMIT NO.
490

Five Valleys Audubon Society
PO Box 8425
Missoula, MT 59807
www.fvamissoula.org

Five Valleys Audubon Society

We are a Chapter of the National Audubon Society, serving the Missoula area. Our Chapter formed in 1977 and is one of nine National Audubon Society Chapters in Montana.

Five Valleys Audubon Society

PO Box 8425

Missoula, Mt 59807

Visit us at:

www.fvamissoula.org

We're for the Birds and Beyond…

We promote the conservation of natural resources through our birding, conservation and education activities. We are committed to:

- Encouraging the enjoyment of wildlife and our natural heritage
- Educating others about wildlife and the need to live in harmony with nature
- Advocating actions that favor wildlife and environmentally sensitive uses of resources
- Supporting research on wildlife and the environment
- Sharing and supporting the values and objectives of the National Audubon Society and Montana Audubon while focusing on local issues and projects

Birding

Education

Conservation