



The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

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The e-Roadrunner

The Roadrunner is now also available electronically as a PDF file. If you would like to receive our newsletter in this way via e-mail, just send a note to John Sproul at jsproul@utep.edu.

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Website!

Updated information about upcoming field trips, calendar of upcoming events, and recent bird sightings.
www.trans-pecos-audubon.com



General Meetings
 Centennial Museum at UTEP
 500 W. University Ave
 El Paso, Texas

December Holiday Photo Sharing Monday, December 9, 2019 7:00pm

The museum will be open at 6:30, and we will begin the meeting at 7 pm. Note that this is a week earlier than our usual meeting times to allow for everyone's busy holiday schedule.

We are continuing the ever-popular photo sharing event at our December meeting. After a year's worth of bird watching and travel, we invite you to share some of your favorite images with the group.

Here are the guidelines.

- Subjects: birds; other animals; landscape; plants; humorous
- Number of images: up to 15 per person
- Format: all images must be in digital format.

Send photos by e-mail to Scott Cutler at scottmcutler@sbcglobal.net. He will assemble the images into a PowerPoint presentation.

If you cannot e-mail the images, contact Scott at 915-494-2193 to see about making other arrangements.



Please consider bringing a snack to share with the group

Save the Date: Annual Award Dinner

Saturday, February 15, 2020 6:00pm

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Officers

President: Scott Cutler, 581- 6071
Vice President: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Secretary/Treasurer: Eddie Chew, 587-9589

Committees

Conservation: Kevin Floyd, 613-6354
Education: Kathleen Whelen, 820-1895
Field Trips: vacant
Hospitality: vacant
Membership: Elizabeth Chase, 539-1191
Newsletter Editor: Kathleen Whelen, 820-1895
Programs: Susie Schneider, 542-3041
Publications: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Publicity: Heather Rivera, 212-2825
Sanctuary: John Sproul, 545-5157
Website: vacant
Facebook: Kevin Floyd, 613-6354

The Audubon
Foundation of
Texas



represents Texas
Audubon chapters in the Earth Share of Texas
payroll deduction plan for charitable giving.

January Meeting

Monday, January 20, 2020 7:00pm
Centennial Museum at UTEP
500 W. University Ave
El Paso, Texas

Respect Big Bend **Destiny Locke**

Engagement Coordinator, Borderlands
Research Institute, Sul Ross State University

The Borderlands Research Institute is one of many partners involved in an initiative called Respect Big Bend (RBB), funded by the Cynthia & George Mitchell Foundation. It is driven by local stakeholders in Brewster, Presidio, and Jeff Davis counties.

RBB's mission is to inspire and empower all stakeholders to conserve the unique resources and protect the iconic communities of the Big Bend Region of Texas while developing energy responsibly.

RBB desires to engage and inform the communities and organizations in the area about what this initiative is, who it is comprised of, the process being used called "Development by Design", and encourage any thoughts, concerns, or questions they might have. A link to the initiative:

<https://respectbigbend.org/>

Conservation Organizations

Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition
www.chihuahuandesert.org

Second Chance Wildlife Rescue
www.secondchancewildliferescue.org
Josie Karam (915) 920-7867

El Paso Zoo (915) 212-0966
www.elpasozoo.org

Stick House Sanctuary
<https://www.facebook.com/epwildliferescue>
(915) 219-2365

Keystone Heritage Park 581-7920
www.keystoneheritagepark.com

Asombro Institute
(Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park)
(575) 524-3334 www.asombro.org

Friends of Rio Bosque 747-8663
www.riobosque.org

Southwest Environmental Center
(575) 522-5552
www.wildmesquite.org

Franklin Mt. Wilderness Coalition
www.franklinmountains.org/

Celebration of Our Mountains
www.celebmtns.org

AT FEATHER LAKE

So far during 2019, El Paso has experienced 4 storm events large enough to partly flood the Feather Lake basin. The most recent was Nov 19. The water from that storm lasted all of one day before soaking into the lakebed. In October, though, a series of storms kept some water in the basin for over half the month. It was the first time in 2 years for water to stay that long in the basin.

At the basin's inlet, the peak water depth so far this year was 1.9 feet on June 11. That is the lowest peak for any year since we began tracking water depth in 2000. Previous lows were 1.96 feet in 2015 and 1.97 feet in 2011.

It has been another very dry year at the "lake." On the bright side, the drier conditions are not inhibiting our resident gray foxes. Esther Alcantar observed a family group of 4 outside the Alcantar's trailer on Nov 9.

The water in October kept us from removing trash within the basin during our most recent workday. Will we have a dry basin for our next work session? Join us to find out. It takes place **Sat., December 7**, starting at **2 p.m.** Feather Lake is located at 9500 North Loop at Bordeaux in El Paso, 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave.

Audubon at

Rio Bosque Wetlands Park



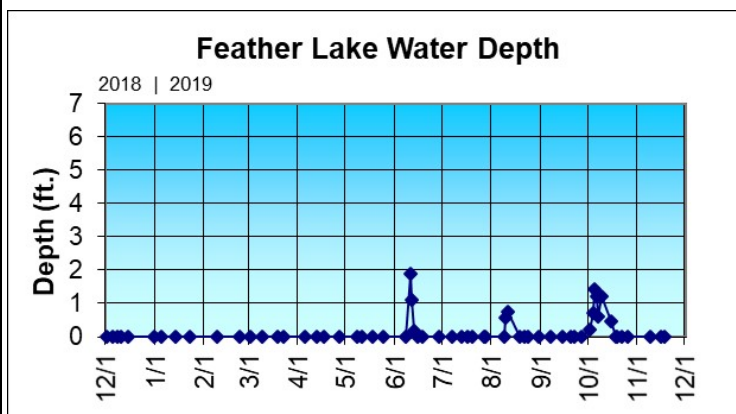
The park's wetland cells are gradually filling but are not yet fully flooded. As we move into December, we should start seeing more water and more birds. For up-to-date information, check www.riobosque.org.

Upcoming free walking tours:

- 3 p.m., Sun., December 1 (Introductory tour)**
- 8 a.m., Sat., December 14 (Birding tour)**
- 8 a.m., Sat., January 11 (Birding tour)**
- 3 p.m., Sun., January 19 (Introductory tour)**

The meeting place is a bridge crossing the Riverside Canal. To get there from I-10, take Americas Ave. (Loop 375) to Pan American Drive, turn left onto Pan American and travel 1.5 miles.

Information: 747-8663.



El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society
<http://www.trans-pecos-audubon.com>

El Paso/Trans-Pecos
Audubon Society
P.O. Box 972441
El Paso, Texas 79997

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**National Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Application.**

Yes, I'd like to join. Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Chapter.

Send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to address below.

Check for \$20.00 enclosed payable to National Audubon Society

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____

**National Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Data Center
PO Box 97194
Washington, DC 20090-7194**

Local Chapter Code C1ZW100Z

Dates to Remember

December

Mon 2: **Board Meeting**
Sat 7: **Feather Lake Workday**
Mon 9: **Holiday Meeting**
1 & 14: **Rio Bosque**



January

Mon 13: **Board Meeting**
Mon 20: **General Meeting**
11 & 19: **Rio Bosque**

February

Mon 10: **Board Meeting**
Sat 15: **Awards Dinner**

www.trans-pecos-audubon.com

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Local **Chapter Only Membership** Your \$15.00 will help support chapter activities & you'll receive

The Roadrunner delivered to your mailbox.

Make checks payable to the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail to: EPTP Audubon P.O. Box 972441 El Paso, Texas 79997