

Portneuf Valley Audubon Society News

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PVAS website: <http://pvaudubon.org>

Facebook: Portneuf Valley Audubon Society

PO Box 32, Pocatello, ID 83204-0032



North Island Brown Kiwi, *Apteryx mantelli*, 3 months old. (stock image)

Credit: © Eric Isselée / Fotolia

October 18, Thursday, Monthly Meeting

"The Avifauna (Birds) of New Zealand"

Presented by Paul Allen

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Marshall Public Library Community Room.

Avifauna is defined as "the birds of a particular region, habitat, or geological period," and in this case Paul Allen will be talking about them in New Zealand, and be providing slides of some of his sights.

New Zealand, a 1,200-mile-long chain of Islands in the Great Southern and Pacific Oceans, is a spectacular birding destination.

The Kiwi, a flightless bird that is a symbol of New Zealand, is among the birding treasures the Islands offer. They also are home to some of the rarest endangered species in the world.

According to the website Birding New Zealand (<http://www.birdingnz.co.nz/>) "New Zealand has special terrestrial birds including: three endemic bird families, kiwi (five species), NZ wattlebirds (kokako and saddleback) and NZ wrens (rifleman and rock wren); alpine and forest parrots (kea, kaka and kakariki); large flightless rails (weka); honeyeaters (the iridescent tui, NZ bellbird); precious forest species such as yellowhead, whitehead, brown creeper, NZ robin, NZ tomtit, long-tailed cuckoo, shining cuckoo; the curious wrybill plover; and the extremely rare and endangered black stilt and shore plover."

In addition, New Zealand also has the world's most diverse seabird community, "with no fewer than 85 species breeding in the region which includes NZ's Subantarctic Islands, the Chathams Group and the Kermadec Islands. This seabird fauna includes 35 endemic species and 49 endemic taxa."

October 20, Field Trip

American Falls Trout Farm Trail Party

Time: 9 a.m. to noon

We will meet at the Idaho Museum of Natural History Bison Statue at 9 a.m. We plan to fill the bird feeders at the American Falls trout farm and clear the trails.

Please bring gloves and clearing tools. We will look for birds along the trail and on the river. We plan to be home by noon.

This is a very popular trail and an excellent place to birdwatch year-around, but particularly in the winter.

To Carpool: Meet at 9 a.m. in the lower ISU Campus parking lot by the Bison Sculpture behind the Idaho Museum of Natural History Building (5th and Dillon).



Madison Renn photo

President's Letter from the Portneuf Valley Audubon Society President Barb North

Your PVAS Board is interested in creating a pocket guide to our area's birds. We are following suggestions and formats from Terry Rich and the Idaho Bird Conservation Partnership. Their beautiful idea is to create this type of guide to share practical information about local birding to many people.

We are forming a committee to do this locally; we need your help to bring this project forward. If you are interested, or have skills, we would like to talk with you.

Photographs of our selected species are needed for this project. Please share your photos with us for our guide. I will set up an email for this purpose. Others will work on the species list, materials, and marketing.

I'll bring copies of the Boise area and Idaho Falls area pocket guides to show, along with similar guides from the American Falls Family Festival and one of Sagebrush Species.

This should be rewarding and educational. We have lots of options; please offer to help us! You can email or call me to learn more. My contact information is page 3 of this newsletter.

Thanks! --- Barb North

How beavers can save the world from environmental ruin.

The Washington Post recently ran a story about the new book "Eager," subtitled "The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter," written by environmental journalist Ben Goldfarb.

Both the article written about it, by Barbara J. King, and the book are pertinent to Portneuf Audubon Society's work with the local conservation group the Watershed Guardians.

In the article King says, "environmental journalist Ben Goldfarb makes a convincing case that we should change our view of this tumultuous behavior and recognize it for exactly what it is: animal engineering capable of restoring our ailing environment." The article appears online at <https://wapo.st/2OkFBEo>



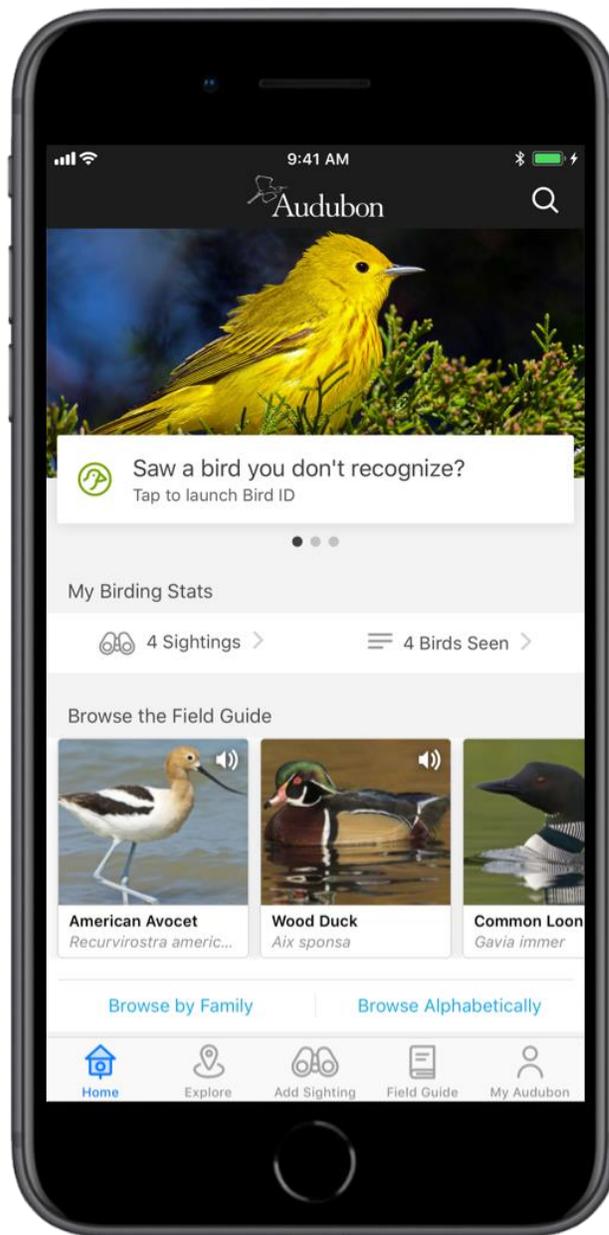
Photo of family being released by Mike Settell.

Audubon's Birds and Climate Change Report: 314 Species on the Brink

Shrinking and shifting ranges could imperil nearly half of U.S. birds within this century.

To read "A Field Guide to a Warmer Future", visit <http://climate.audubon.org/>

The Audubon Bird Guide App The award-winning field guide, completely redesigned



The Audubon Bird Guide is a **free** and complete field guide to over 800 species of North American birds, right in your pocket. Built for all experience levels, it will help you identify the birds around you, keep track of the birds you've seen, and get outside to find new birds near you. With over two million downloads to date, it is one of the best and most trusted field guides for North American birds.

What's New in the Bird Guide?

In a word, everything! We've completely redesigned the app to make it easier and more fun to use for birders of all experience levels. We've heard you loud and clear—you'll now find it easier than ever to access the field guide, keep track of sightings, find birds near you with eBird, share photos—and that's just the beginning. We'll be updating our all-new app much more frequently, adding new features and refinements to make sure it continues to be your trusted guide to the birds you love.

Key Features

All-new: Bird ID

It's now easier than ever to identify a bird you just saw. Enter all you were able to observe—what color was it? How big? What did its tail look like?—and Bird ID will narrow down a list of possible matches for your location and date in real time.

Learn about the birds you love

Our field guide features over 3,000 photos, over eight hours of audio clips of songs and calls, multi-season range maps, and in-depth text by leading North American bird expert Kenn Kaufman.

Keep track of all the birds you see

With our completely redesigned Sightings feature, you can keep a record of every bird you encounter, whether you're hiking, sitting on the porch, or simply catching a glimpse of birds out the window. We'll even keep an updated life list for you.

Explore the birds around you

See where the birds are with nearby birding hotspots and real-time sightings from [eBird](#).

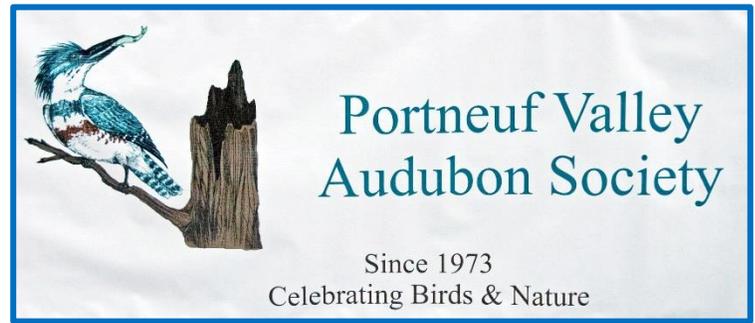
Share photos

Post your photos to the Photo Feed so other Audubon Bird Guide users can see your best bird shots.

Get involved with Audubon

Keep up with the latest news from the world of birds, science, and conservation. Find an Audubon location near you to go birding. Or see where your voice is needed and take action to protect birds and the places they need, right from your app.

To download the app, visit <http://www.audubon.org/app>



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our chapter wishes to thank the people who joined or renewed during September. **National renewal or new national membership includes membership in the Portneuf Valley Audubon Society.**

Our chapter welcomes the support of: **Renewed and new members:** Amy Slack, Nancy and Lee Hendricks, Sharon Sieber, Bruce Baker, Catalina Steckbauer, James Tullis, MaryAnn Kuta, Steve Deeg, Blake Park, Cheri Baker, Michael Duell, Anthony Stocks, Terry and Kathleen Thomas, Susan Swetnam, Josh Duff, Priscilla Beard, and G. Minshall

For membership questions, contact Chair Frank Renn, 233-5638, rennnanc@isu.edu

PVAS Board

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Todd Winters, toddwinters@gmail.com

New or Renewing National Audubon Member: mail form and your \$20.00 check directly to the New York address. This includes membership in PVAS.

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY.

**Attn: Chance Mueleck
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
225 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10014**

PVAS CHAPTER LOCAL MEMBERSHIP ONLY, \$15.00 for one year. Make your check payable to the Portneuf Valley Audubon Society.

Mail form and your check to Frank Renn, Membership Chair, PO Box 32, Pocatello, ID 83204-0032

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