



The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

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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

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.



General Meetings

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

In a last-minute change that updates what you will see in the print version of this newsletter, the **October** meeting will be a Zoom meeting **only**. November and December will be hybrid meetings, with the in-person meeting taking place at the Centennial Museum at UTEP. Doors will open at 6:45. Parking is available in the lot behind the museum.

For all three meetings, the online part will open about 10 minutes before 7 pm for people to get logged in (links below) and chat with each other.

October 21, 2024

Sustainability in the Chihuahuan Desert
Josh Simmons from Eco El Paso

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsf-CoqDgjGNG505ohALsxt76Xh4NY4Jbw>

November 18, 2024

Identifying Winter Birds in El Paso by Kevin Floyd

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAudu2sqDgtHt2DXRKmPAv44Ue5oWdpBOiS>

December 9, 2024 7:00pm

Holiday Photo Share

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlstd-uspjltGdxRvaVwEyHR1RU-aqD5jwg9>

Our December meeting is the always-popular photo share. If you want to share some of your own photos, select up to 10 of your favorites and send them to elpasoaudubon@gmail.com. **The deadline to submit photos is Sunday, Dec 1st.** If you want them in a particular order, please include the order with the email or rename your files with the number first (i.e., 1-burrowingowl, 2-redwinged blackbird, etc.). Email us with any questions or to arrange an alternative method for getting your picture to us.

The pictures can be from anywhere, not just El Paso, and can include scenery, people (with their permission of course!), or non-bird animals. Please send them by Sunday, December 1st.

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Officers

President: Scott Cutler, 494-2193
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: Star Posada, 407-6442
Hospitality: vacant
Membership: vacant
Newsletter Editor: Kathleen Whelen, 820-1895
Programs: vacant
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.

Volunteer and Support Second Chance Wildlife Rescue

For decades, Second Chance Wildlife Rescue has provided superlative care for injured birds and other wildlife. Whenever people have located an abandoned nestling or young mammal, Second Chance has been the organization that everyone calls. This service has been provided by an extremely dedicated group of volunteers who help care for the animals.

This is time consuming work and many people are needed to assist with the care of the animals from feeding, cleaning cages to monitoring the health of the patients. Second Chance needs volunteers to help with these duties in order to continue providing this vital service to our community. Please consider helping. For more information about supporting them, check out their website at

www.secondchancewildliferescue.org. Click on the "Volunteer" tab to access their volunteer application form. Your help as a volunteer will keep this important wildlife rescue organization going strong.

Want to get involved in the organization?

We are looking for new board members, field trip leaders, and help with outreach events.

This is a great opportunity to share your love of birds with the rest of El Paso! Please email us at elpasoaudubon@gmail.com for more information.

We are looking for ideas for more presentations. If you have someone in mind, please email us at elpasoaudubon@gmail.com.

Conservation Organizations

Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition
<http://www.chihuahuadesert.org>

Second Chance Wildlife Rescue
<https://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
 (575) 524-3334 www.asombro.org

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

Wildlife for All
 (formerly SW Environmental Center)
 (575) 522-5552
www.wildmesquite.org

Celebration of Our Mountains
www.celebmtns.org

Frontera Land Alliance (915) 351-8352
www.fronteralandalliance.org

**2024 Fall Birdathon
El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon
October 12-13, 2024**

With Fall migration now upon us, EPTPAS is planning to hold its fall Birdathon fundraiser. This is the perfect way to support your local Audubon group and all the local conservation organizations we contribute to with the money raised. Birdathon is this chapter's fundraising event and is essential to our organization's funding of local education and conservation programs. Over 95% of Birdathon income goes to these projects. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. This fall Birdathon's donations will benefit the following:

- **Rio Bosque Wetland Park – each year this site along the Rio Grande becomes more valuable as a site for birds and wildlife and conservation education**
- **Second Chance Wildlife - our local wildlife rehabilitation facility caring for injured birds and other wildlife for release to the wild.**
- **El Paso Zoo Raptor Rehabilitation – this program is solely funded by donations and is the only facility in our area caring for injured raptors.**
- **Audubon Texas – a highly effective voice for birds, wildlife and habitat conservation**
- **El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society chapter operations.**

For those of you not familiar with our Birdathon, here's how it works: counters go out for a 24-hour period and find as many species of birds as possible. Donors choose to support one or more counters by pledging to either pay a dollar amount for each species seen by their counter(s) or pay a fixed amount. Each counter typically sees from 50 to 100 birds.

This year, our counters will be Jim Paton, John Kiseda, John Groves, Eddie Chew, Lucretia Chew, Susie Schneider, Kevin Floyd, Joe Cancellare, Star Posada, Richard Hermosillo, John Sproul and Scott Cutler. **You can use the form below to mail in your sponsorship.**

Thank you for helping our local Audubon group provide you with great outings and support for the local and state organizations that work so hard to protect and assist our wildlife.

.....
El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society Birdathon 2024
Sponsorship/Pledge Form

YES! I'll sponsor _____
For \$ _____ per species for each species seen Name _____

YES! I'll sponsor _____ Address _____
For the amount of \$ _____

I will add a bonus of \$ _____ if my Birdathon _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Counter sees a _____

Mail completed form to:

**Eddie Chew
390 Flemish Circle
El Paso, TX 79912**

My gift of \$ _____ is enclosed
(Make checks payable to **El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon**)

AT FEATHER LAKE

On September 7, the water level at Feather Lake’s inlet hit 0.28 feet (just over 3 inches). That might not seem like much, but it was the highest level the basin has experienced since September 23, 2023. Periodic discharges of irrigation water helped promote plant growth within the basin this year, but there have been no storm events capable of fully flooding the basin. The lack of rain also led to parched conditions in the upland areas surrounding the basin. The irrigation season ended in late September, so expect the dry times to continue until at least next spring.

Our next workdays at Feather Lake will be **Sat., October 26** starting at **8 a.m.** and **Sat. December 21** starting at **2 p.m.** Join us. 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 two White-tailed Kites that appeared at Rio Bosque in late May continue to be present, but they have shown no signs of nesting. Maybe next year. The park’s resident beaver also continues to be present, but, by all indications, there is still just one individual.

Water conditions at Rio Bosque have been favorable throughout the spring and summer. That could change in October. The gates are set to close at Caballo Reservoir on approximately September 28. El Paso County Water Improvement District No.1 plans to rely on treated wastewater to make late-season deliveries to lower-valley irrigators through October 24. It is possible no treated wastewater will be available to the park during most of October.

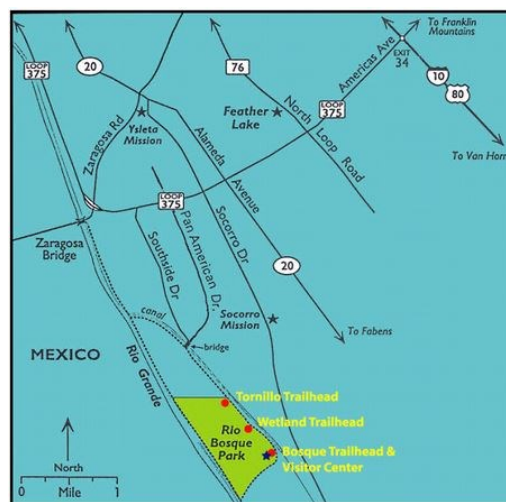
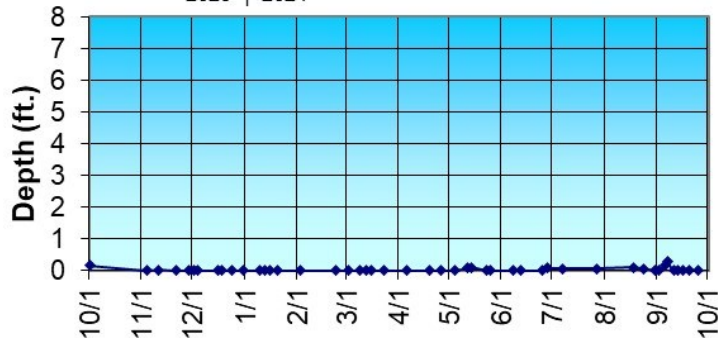
For up-to-date information on birds and water conditions at Rio Bosque, check www.riobosque.org. Upcoming tours at the park:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8 a.m. | Sun., Oct 20 (Birding tour) |
| 4 p.m. | Sun., Oct 27 (Introductory tour) |
| 3:30 p.m. | Sun., Nov 17 (Introductory tour) |
| 8 a.m. | Sat., Nov 23 (Birding tour) |
| 3 p.m. | Sat., Dec 7 (Introductory tour) |
| 8 a.m. | Sun., Dec 15 (Birding 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: 747-5766.

Feather Lake Water Depth

2023 | 2024



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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**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

October

Mon 14: **Board Meeting**
Mon 21: **General Meeting**
20 & 27: **Rio Bosque**
Sat 26: **Feather Lake Workday**

November

Mon 11: **Board Meeting**
Mon 18: **General Meeting**
17 & 23: **Rio Bosque**

December

Mon 2: **Board Meeting**
7 & 15: **Rio Bosque**
Mon 9: **Holiday Meeting**
Sat 21: **Feather Lake Workday**

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society
<http://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

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