



The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

**February 21, 2022 at 7 pm, only via Zoom
Raptors at the El Paso Zoo
Heather Rivera**

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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



Heather Rivera, Education Specialist at the El Paso Zoo, has been working with Birds of Prey since 2010. During that time, she has worked with Golden Eagles, Harris’s Hawks, Swainson’s Hawks, Great Horned Owls and Burrowing Owls.

She will be discussing the work that she does at the El Paso Zoo with Birds of Prey. She will also show one of the Zoo’s live education birds during this meeting.

Registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEscO6vqTloH92uKhpkHyoFOKTdLsoRp0T6>

**March 21, 2022 7:00pm
U.T.E.P Centennial Museum & via Zoom
Birding Costa Rica's Varied Habitats
Ad Konings**

Costa Rica boasts a little over 900 bird species and although it is a relatively small country it has a great variety of bird habitats. Ad’s trip lasted 10 days (mid to late January 2022) and covered four main habitats: high mountains (up to 10,000 ft), middle elevation (around 3-4000 ft), lower elevation Atlantic, and lower elevation Pacific side. He encountered several Resplendent Quetzals and Sunbitterns, which were on their wish list, but was also able to photograph 179 more species of birds. The best photo opportunities were always at the feeding stations of the various hotels and restaurants.

Ad Konings studies cichlid fish in Africa, cacti in the southwestern US, and birds around the world. His excellent photography has been seen in several books.

Sign up for our email list for updates for this program.
Sign up for our emails: <http://eepurl.com/gmtvRz>

Registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlduyrqjsiHdHXJVcHFROpFTLS0KKFy9mW>

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

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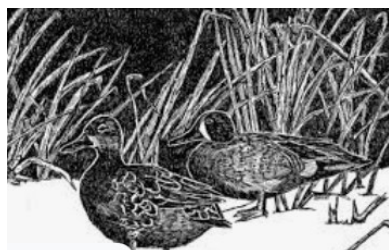


Field Trip Ascarate Lake Saturday, February 26th 8:00am

Star Posada will be leading this field trip around Ascarate Park. You can hope to see various water birds such as American Wigeon, Common Mergansers, Buffle-head, Wood Ducks, Neotropic Cormorants, Eared Grebes and Ring-billed Gulls. There may be a few other non water species feeding in the grassy park areas.

There is a \$2.00 entrance fee to enter the park (cash only). We will be meeting by the bathrooms in the big parking lot which is to the right as you drive in.

We hope you are able to join us. Remember to bring plenty of water, sunscreen and maybe even a few snacks.



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
 (Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park)
 (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

Franklin Mt. Wilderness Coalition
www.franklinmountains.org/

Celebration of Our Mountains
www.celebmtns.org

AT FEATHER LAKE

After record-breaking water depths following storms last July and August, the Feather Lake basin has been dry for 5 months now. Slowly but surely, we are removing the trash that washed in with those storms, but the task is not yet done. Fortunately, our next workday is fast approaching.

It takes place **Sat., February 5**, starting at **9 a.m.** We'll be working on that trash and on removing a dead tree at the sanctuary entrance.

Feather Lake is located at 9500 North Loop at Bordeaux in El Paso, 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave.

American Bird Conservancy Bird of the Week January 28, 2022 Snowcap

At 2.5 inches long, the Snowcap is one of the of the world's smallest hummingbirds — only a quarter of an inch longer than the tiny Bee Hummingbird of Cuba, generally considered to be the world's most diminutive bird. Also, the Snowcap weighs less than a penny. In fact, it is so small that it's often mistaken for a bumblebee, moth, or other large insect.

To learn more and see video of this striking bird, visit:

abcbirds.org/bird/snowcap/

Each week, a different bird is featured on the American Bird Conservancy website. These articles include photos, facts and songs.

Audubon at

Rio Bosque
Wetlands Park



Rio Bosque's wetland cells remain fully flooded. In some years, flows to the park have ended in early February; this year they will likely extend longer, with a briefer dry period until flows resume May 1. Avian highlights this winter have included a **White Ibis** (3rd El Paso-area record) seen Dec 27, a continuing **Lewis's Woodpecker** present since Nov 10, and a flurry of **Rusty Blackbird** sightings beginning Jan 16.

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

- 8 a.m., Sun., February 6 (Bird tour)**
- 3 p.m., Sat., February 12 (Introductory tour)**
- 3 p.m., Sun., March 6 (Bird tour)**
- 9 a.m., Sat., March 12 (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
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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

February

Sat 5: **Feather Lake Workday**
6 & 12: **Rio Bosque**
Mon 14: **Board Meeting**
Mon 21: **General Meeting**
Sat 26: **Ascarate Lake**

March

Mon 14: **Board Meeting**
Mon 21: **General Meeting**
6 & 12: **Rio Bosque**

April

Mon 11: **Board Meeting**
Mon 18: **General Meeting**

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
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