



# 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](mailto: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](http://www.trans-pecos-audubon.com)



## No General Meetings until September

### BIRDATHON 2019 UPDATE



Congratulations to all on a good Birdathon again this year. We especially thank our sponsors and counters without whom the Birdathon would not be possible. We appreciate

your participation and support for our conservation and education endeavors. Thanks, too, for our hard-working members who handle the details--Jane Fowler who handles the mailings.

It appears that our total receipts and pledges will be about \$4,300. There may still be a few checks yet to come in this year. The money will go to chapter operations, Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, Audubon Texas, Second Chance Wildlife Rescue, Stick House Sanctuary, and the El Paso Zoo Raptor Rehabilitation Program.

Species seen by at least one counter were tallied. A total of 166 species were seen, compared to 155 last year and 155 in 2017.

The winners for the highest number of species seen by an individual or party were again John Kiseda and Richard Hermosillo with 126. Very good!

The prize for the most money raised went to John Sproul.

The most unusual bird this year was a Hermit Warbler found by Kevin Floyd and Victoria Milne.

Runner-up was a Rose-breasted Grosbeak seen by Eddie Chew and Susie Schneider at her house.



**A big THANK YOU to all of our participants and sponsors!**

## 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:** Mark Perkins 637-3521  
**Hospitality:** vacant  
**Membership:** Elizabeth Chase, 539-1191  
**Newsletter Editor:** Kathleen Whelen, 820-1895  
**Programs:** Susie Schneider, 542-3041  
**Publications:** Jane Fowler, 598-2448  
**Publicity:** vacant  
**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

### Join us on Facebook!

There is now an El Paso Audubon Society group on Facebook. Our aim is to provide a space for people around El Paso to share pictures, sightings, and other information about birds and conservation.



All levels of pictures are welcome. If you are looking for help with identification, please include the location and date of the picture, as both are important with narrowing the possibilities.

**Watch LIVE As a Wild California Condor Chick Grows Up**  
*now streaming*



To watch the Condor Cam, visit:  
[www.allaboutbirds.org/condors](http://www.allaboutbirds.org/condors)

Additional video clips are on the Cornell Lab YouTube channel

For answers to frequently asked questions about the nest cam, the parents, and the chick, visit:  
<https://www.fws.gov/cno/es/CalCondor/CondorCam.html>

### Conservation Organizations

**Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition**  
[www.chihuahuandesert.org](http://www.chihuahuandesert.org)

**Second Chance Wildlife Rescue**  
[www.secondchancewildliferescue.org](http://www.secondchancewildliferescue.org)  
Josie Karam (915) 920-7867

**El Paso Zoo** (915) 212-0966  
[www.elpasozoo.org](http://www.elpasozoo.org)

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

**Keystone Heritage Park** 581-7920  
[www.keystoneheritagepark.com](http://www.keystoneheritagepark.com)

**Asombro Institute**  
(Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park)  
(575) 524-3334 [www.asombro.org](http://www.asombro.org)

**Friends of Rio Bosque** 747-8663  
[www.riobosque.org](http://www.riobosque.org)

**Southwest Environmental Center**  
(575) 522-5552  
[www.wildmesquite.org](http://www.wildmesquite.org)

**Franklin Mt. Wilderness Coalition**  
[www.franklinmountains.org/](http://www.franklinmountains.org/)

**Celebration of Our Mountains**  
[www.celebmtns.org](http://www.celebmtns.org)

## AT FEATHER LAKE

So far in 2019, Feather Lake has been completely dry. It is the longest dry spell to start the year since the infamous 2011, the year Feather Lake abruptly shifted from being wet most of the time to dry most of the time. In 2011, the lake basin was dry for 7.5 months before a mid-August storm delivered some runoff. With the irrigation season beginning in June, will we see the current streak end?

On May 25, Boy Scouts from Troop 4 were hard at work clearing the trail along the east side of Feather Lake. This project will continue with 2 more work sessions in June, led by Eagle Scout candidate Nathan Perez.

Our next workday will be **Sat., June 8**, starting at **8 a.m.** Want to give the Feather Lake brush mower a spin? Here's your chance.

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



Water deliveries to the park from the adjacent Roberto Bustamante Wastewater Treatment Plant resumed May 1.

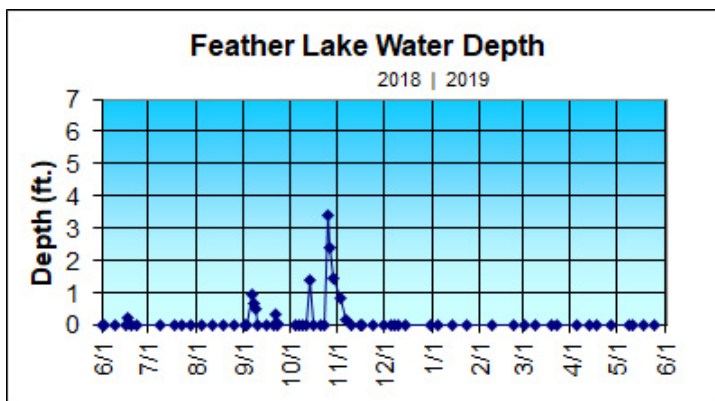
Most of that water went into the old river channel and only a little into the park's wetland cells. The start of the irrigation season in June will make additional water available and provide a boost to the wetland cells. Birds now being seen at the park include a White-tailed Kite, Northern Cardinals and Painted Buntings. For up-to-date information on Rio Bosque's birds and water conditions, check [www.riobosque.org](http://www.riobosque.org). Upcoming free walking tours:

**8 a.m., Sun., June 9 (Introductory tour)**  
**6:30 a.m., Sat., June 22 (Birding tour)**

**7 a.m., Sat., July 6 (Birding tour)**  
**8 a.m., Sun., July 21 (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>



## Field Trips

### Saturday, June 8, 2019 Rattlesnake Springs

Rattlesnake Springs is part of Carlsbad Caverns National Park. It is an Important Bird Area (IBA) and an outstanding stopover site for land birds. It is a long drive and because of the heat, we will depart Evergreen Cemetery, 12400 E. Montana, promptly at 6:00 a.m.

Bring a lunch and plenty of water and sunscreen. Nonmembers and beginners are welcome. Contact Mark Perkins at 915-637-3521 for more information

### Saturday, July 6, 2019 Cloudcroft & Mescalero Fish Hatchery

Join us for a day trip in the tall, cool pines. We will travel to Cloudcroft, NM and some of the spots we will bird include the Mescalero Fish Hatchery, the town of Cloudcroft and Bluff Springs and others.

Meet at 6:00 a.m. at the Lowe's Parking Lot at 4521 Transmountain Rd. behind Taco Bell in Northeast El Paso. We will carpool from there. Bring a lunch. Beginners and nonmembers are welcome. Contact Mark Perkins at 915-637-3521 for more information.

### 2019 DAVIS MOUNTAINS HUMMINGBIRD CELEBRATION



The WFO conference is not the only event luring bird enthusiasts to our region August 21-25.

The 2019 Davis Mountains Hummingbird Celebration also takes place **August 22-25**, including pre-celebration special events August 21. Sponsored by the Fort Davis Chamber of Commerce and numerous partners, the Celebration offers multiple great field trips, informative workshops, banding demonstrations, knowledgeable speakers and more. It's all focused on the remarkable diversity of hummingbirds found in the Davis Mountains.

Texas birding legend **Victor Emanuel**, founder of Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, will give the keynote address on "The World of Birding."

Registration must be done online and closes **July 31**. To view the full Celebration schedule and to register, visit [www.fortdavis.com](http://www.fortdavis.com).

### Red River and Enchanted Circle, NM Tentative dates are August 23-26, 2019

More information coming soon, but you can let Mark, 915-637-3521, know as soon as possible if you are interested. Think Three-toed!



**44th Annual WFO Conference**  
Albuquerque, New Mexico · August 21-25, 2019

### WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Registration is now open for the annual conference of the Western Field Ornithologists (WFO). Last day to register is **August 15**. The conference takes place **August 21-25** in Albuquerque, NM. Conference headquarters will be the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Workshops, science sessions, and field trips (lots of field trips) are on the schedule. Visit the WFO website to register and to view the schedule and full details:

[www.westernfieldornithologists.org](http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org)

### Art Contest Winners Awarded

Congratulations to all the art contest participants! The talent displayed by our youth is simply amazing. The El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society awarded a special prize to artists who featured birds.



**1st Place**  
**Alejandra Windell**  
**Eastlake High School**  
**12th Grade**



**2nd place**  
**Alexia Segoviano**  
**Salvador Sanchez Middle**  
**7th Grade**



**3rd Place**  
**Athan Rodriguez**  
**Mission Ridge Elementary**  
**2nd Grade**



**Honorable Mention**  
**Lauren Oaxaca**  
**Jane Hambric Elementary**  
**Kindergarten**

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 Call Mark Perkins for details 637-3521**

June

Sat 8: **Feather Lake Workday**  
**Rattlesnake Springs**  
Mon 10: **Board Meeting**  
**No General Meeting**  
9 & 22: **Rio Bosque**

July

Mon 8: **Board Meeting**  
6 & 21: **Rio Bosque**  
**No General Meeting**

August

Mon 12: **Board Meeting**  
**No General Meeting**  
21 & 25: **WFO Conference**  
22-25: **Davis Mountains**  
**Hummingbird Celebration**  
23-26: **Red River, NM**

[www.trans-pecos-audubon.com](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**