



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

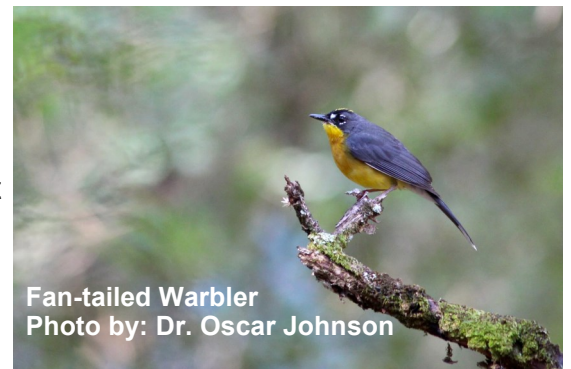


**General Meetings
Centennial Museum at UTEP
500 W. University Ave El Paso, Texas**

**October 16, 2023 7:00pm
in person & via Zoom**

Macroevolution of Suboscine Birds and Explorations in Southern Mexico

Dr. Oscar Johnson will talk about his research on macroevolution in the suboscine birds, which combines data from phylogenetics, citizen science, natural history, and museum collections to answer questions about how new species form. He will also talk about recent field work in southern Mexico to gather data for this kind of research.



Fan-tailed Warbler
Photo by: Dr. Oscar Johnson

Bio: Oscar Johnson is a postdoctoral fellow at UTEP, where he studies macroevolution, phylogenetics, and taxonomy of birds, with a focus on tropical regions. His research combines exploratory field work and modern genetic analyses with museum collections and citizen science. He serves on the North American Classification Committee, which maintains the taxonomy and checklist of North American birds, and is actively involved in the eBird project as a volunteer reviewer. Click here to register for Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91187118711>

The doors open by 6:45 at the museum, and by 6:55 for the virtual meeting. Parking is available in the lot behind the museum, UN2. Our meetings are open to everyone, whether you are an Audubon or Sierra Club member or not. If you are not currently a member, we encourage you to join the national Audubon by clicking <https://act.audubon.org/a/member-today>.

Support the El Paso Chapter of the Sierra Club by donating here <https://www.riograndesierraclub.org/donate/>

Field Trips

Current list of upcoming field trips at <http://www.trans-pecos-audubon.com/>

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.

2023 Birdathon

Birdathon was the weekend of October 7 & 8.

Counters found almost 140 species across the region.

This is our main fundraiser, and we distribute funds across several local organizations that share our mission to conserve birds.

**Still want to make a donation?
Please send it on in!!**

General Meetings

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

**November 20, 2023 7:00pm
in person & via Zoom
Birds of the Galapagos Islands**

Scott Cutler will present photos and stories from his recent trip to the Galapagos Islands.
Be sure to attend this one!!

**December 9th, 2023
Holiday program. TBA.**

Conservation Organizations

Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition
<http://www.chihuahuandesert.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

Franklin Mt. Wilderness Coalition
www.franklinmountains.org/

Celebration of Our Mountains
www.celebmtns.org

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

AT FEATHER LAKE

When Feather Lake is fully flooded, it is usually the result of runoff from significant storm events. Such events have been essentially absent this year, but 2023 has continued to be a good year for intermittent deliveries of excess irrigation water.

In late September, when the water depth at our inlet gauge peaked at 9 inches, most of the basin was flooded. With the consistent periodic flooding, the lake and surrounding uplands are the greenest they have been in over a decade.

Ducks, shorebirds and wading birds found these conditions to their liking. Now, the irrigation season is winding down, and we can expect another long dry season to begin.

Upcoming workdays at Feather Lake will be **Sun., October 15** and **Sat., December 16**, both 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

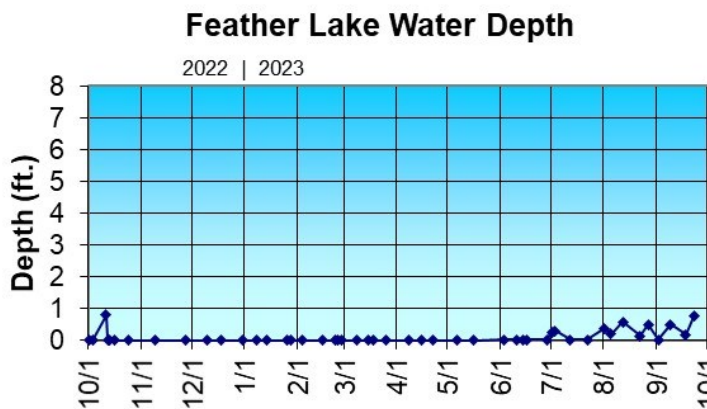


Passing migrants continue to visit the park, and winter residents are starting to arrive. Of special note was Rio Bosque's first Tropical Kingbird, found by Lois Balin and Roger Clark on September 12. In addition to the tours listed below, there is another reason to visit Rio Bosque in December. The City of El Paso acquired the land for the original park on December 14, 1973, making it 50 years old this year. On Saturday, December 9, from 9 a.m. to noon, a 50th anniversary celebration will take place at Rio Bosque!

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

- 9 a.m., Sun., Oct 15 (Introductory tour)**
- 4 p.m., Sat., Oct 28 (Birding tour)**
- 3:30 p.m., Sun., Nov 19 (Introductory tour)**
- 8 a.m., Sat., Nov 25 (Birding tour)**
- 3 p.m., Sat., Dec 2 (Introductory tour)**
- 9 a.m. – noon, Sat. Dec 9**
(50th anniversary celebration)
- 8 a.m., Sun., Dec 10 (Birding tour)**

The meeting place for the tours 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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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 9: **Board Meeting**
Sun 15: **Feather Lake
Workday**
15 & 28: **Rio Bosque**
Mon 16: **General Meeting**
Sat 21: **Hueco Tanks
Community Fair**

November

Mon 13: **Board Meeting**
Mon 20: **General Meeting**
19 & 25: **Rio Bosque**

December

Mon 4: **Board Meeting**
Sat 9: **Happy 50th Rio Bosque**
Sat 16: **Feather Lake Workday**
2, 9 & 10: **Rio Bosque**
Mon 11: **Holiday 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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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