

www.ecaudubon.org

East Cascades Audubon Society

2013 Annual Report

Our mission: The East Cascades Audubon Society is organized for the charitable, educational, and scientific purpose of bird study and conservation through engaging the public in volunteer field studies, through educational programs, and by supporting projects that further the knowledge and appreciation of birds and their habitats.

This passion for birds and birding fuels the East Cascades Audubon Society to take action, inspire others and engage in projects that promote a better understanding of the natural world. We believe that our actions and activities can make a difference in our community and our world.

To all East Cascades Audubon Society Members and our friends:

This is the fourth Annual Report written about the organization. It is intended as a useful document for our members and any others who are interested in the ECAS projects or would like to delve deeper into the data or activities that have been generated during the past year. It is done in a spirit of transparency and reflection.

2013 saw changes in the Board membership. After many years of service in ECBC and ECAS, John and Anne Gerke retired. At the Annual Business meeting in November new members Cathy Beck and Karen Gentry were elected. Jan Rising and Sherrie Pierce were re-elected and Tom Crabtree, Ken Hashagen, Jon Putnam, and Kevin Smith remained in their Board positions. The Finance Committee continued its meticulous work compiling the budget and overseeing fiduciary matters. A copy of the final Profit and Loss Statement can be found at the end of this document. A Policy regarding the Laughrige bequest disbursements was adopted by the Board in August, paving the way for a grant request procedure to be developed in 2014. A copy of these documents can be found on the website.

Thanks go to the many people who contributed time and energy - making this past year one of success and completion. The Executive Committee: Ken Hashagen - Vice-president, Sherrie Pierce - Secretary and Jan Rising - Treasurer anticipate a year of continued ECAS advocacy, being a strong voice for birds and birders in Central Oregon and our region.

Focus on the Mission

The Strategic Plan continued to provide guidance for the year 2013. A copy of the plan can be found on the ECAS website. Members and supporters contributed time, energy and enthusiasm towards fulfilling our goals of engaging in science-based projects, supporting educational activities, and working on habitat enhancement projects. The standing committees of Conservation, Education and Science provided leadership, research and outreach, advising the Board on many issues and spearheading projects.

Jon Putnam developed a Communications and Publicity Plan while Mary Oppenheimer oversaw the publishing of the quarterly newsletter, *The Calliope*. A monthly bulletin, *The Chatter*, was also utilized to keep the membership notified of current happenings.

Membership in our local chapter of ECAS exceeds 400 individuals. Recruitment of new local membership is ongoing through contact in the community, publicity, and partnerships throughout the region. The membership committee continued to streamline the renewal procedures through on-line contacts and personal outreach. They are to be commended for their diligence.

Approximately 10,000 volunteer hours and 70,000 miles were logged in 2013. With large numbers of folks on the Spring and Fall North American Migration Counts (NAMCs) and the Winter Raptor Surveys, **over 500 volunteers** reported time spent on event and program support, conducting bird surveys, leading field trips, monitoring nest boxes, improving habitat and delivering educational programs to youth and adults. Individuals made a difference through their commitment to conservation and by sharing a passion for birding with others in the community. ECAS members also support a Green Policy of recycling, carpooling and reducing paper waste. Thanks to Kevin Smith for compiling the volunteer data and for all of the volunteers who submitted their information to him.

Science and Conservation Projects

- **Lewis's Woodpecker Nest Boxes** – This summer marked the eleventh year of this innovative project using nest boxes designed and built by ECAS volunteers. Project Leader Diane Kook reported that ten volunteers monitored seven project sites and tracked the nesting success of the birds. Numbers were down this year at approximately half of the results in previous years. Kevin Black-Tanski has input data from prior years into the Geodatabase project and that exercise has generated some interesting, albeit tentative, hypotheses about Lewis's Woodpeckers (LEWO) nesting behavior.
- **Winter Raptor Surveys** – After completing its ninth year of collecting data, over 225 routes now exist covered by 160 volunteers surveying 15,000 transected miles in Oregon and Idaho. Four new routes were added to the Oregon portion and the Idaho effort grew from 21 routes the first winter to 66 by the end of last winter. Co-ordinated by Jeff Fleischer, this is one of the oldest and largest raptor surveys in the country. Oregon State University Professor Doug Robinson is working with Jeff to integrate the Survey data into a Project 2020 database.
- **Green Ridge Raptor Migration** – The 2013 migration count continued to be a cooperative effort between ECAS and the High Desert Museum. Project leader Kim Boddie reported that the site experienced



much better weather in past years. The final count was 1,736 raptors from 15 species. This was an increase of 198 Raptors over last year that included 3 more days of observation. This is the eighth year of the project.

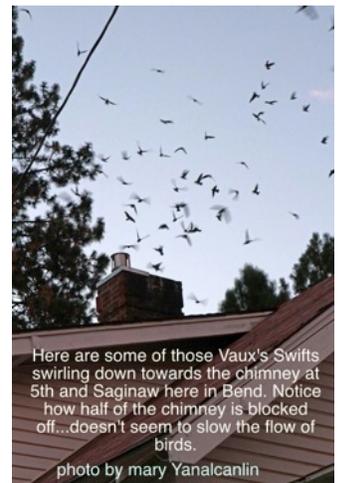
- **Camp Polk Meadow Survey** – Volunteers continued to conduct avian surveys for Deschutes Land Trust in their restoration project. With the re-meandering of Wychus Creek complete, bird data will still be collected throughout the year, with a special emphasis on nesting and migration seasons.
- **North American Migration Count (NAMC)** – This year marked the last of these counts coordinated for twenty years by project leader Chuck Gates. Chuck requested retirement of the project, long a favorite of ECAS volunteers, citing the lack of scientifically useful data gathered. It was felt that the historical records kept would still be of interest in the future.
- **Kestrel Nest Boxes** – 2013 marked a new high with 61 active Kestrel boxes; the prior high was 55 in 2008. With the 128 boxes in service, we had an occupancy rate of 48%, slightly above the long-term average of 44%. Several boxes will be moved to new locations for 2014, as they have not been used in the past three years. Banded Kestrel nestlings were also at a new high of 184. In addition, ten nestlings were banded from boxes erected by others, including five from a box that is part of team member Diane Kook's LEWO project. The cumulative total of Kestrels fledged for the 15-year life of the project is now slightly in excess of 2,000. Adding to the successful season was our first box of Northern Saw-whet Owls. A box on Wilt Road contained six owlets, which were also banded. Nesting data will be entered into the database of the Peregrine Fund's Kestrel Partnership at the World Center for Birds of Prey in Boise. This is the second year of their long-term study of the slow, but persistent decline of Kestrel populations of the past 30 years.



Marjie Tipton

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- **Bluebird Nest Boxes** – Project leaders Ken Hashagen and Karen Gentry, with help of other volunteers, monitored the Sisters area bluebird boxes. In both areas nest construction started around April 22. Nesting lasted until the first week of August, when the last fledglings left. Weather was normal except for 1 week of cold weather, which did not seem to affect the nestlings or eggs. Complete data can be found on the www.ecaudubon.org website. The data is submitted to Cornell University.
- **Oregon Vaux's Swift Survey** – Bob Johnson and Mary Ann Kruse assisted by Mary Yanalcanlin led the local effort to count Vaux Swifts and report this data to the larger research project coordinated by National Audubon. Vaux's (rhymes with foxes) Swifts, a Pacific Coast bird, commonly seen during summer, migrate through Bend both spring and fall. In spring they're seen migrating north from approximately mid April (around tax day) into early June. Three chimneys in Bend are currently known roosting sites for the Vaux's Swift. These are: Christmas Presence on Harriman Street; Old Bend Library; Boys & Girls Club; and 5th and Saginaw. We are always interested in having people scout for other chimneys in the area that are being used by roosting swifts.



- **Summer Lake Shorebird and Other Waterbird Survey** – The fifth annual survey of these birds was held in June, coordinated by project leader Steve Dougill and on-site partner Marty St. Louis, Refuge Manager. Twenty-five volunteers counted thirty-three species in this important effort used by the Refuge to maintain and regulate water levels and plan conservation strategies.
- **Lake Abert IBA Coalition** – Starting in 2011, ECAS undertook a partnership to monitor the bird count at this unique inland salt-lake ecosystem that is critical migratory bird habitat. This ecosystem had no protection, no guaranteed fresh water in-flow, no monitoring of the

bird's main food source (micro invertebrates), and no monitoring of the migratory birds themselves. In 2013 Steve Dougill continued to lead this ECAS partnership program to survey and gather data on bird migration and populations related to this unique ecosystem; thus meeting the goals of the initial project. However, the water levels continue to be the deciding factor. With the continuing drought and lack of political will to change the situation, other avenues of protection and intervention are being pursued.

- **GIS/Geodatabase Project** - In the second year of this project, several exciting things happened. Project Leader Kevin Black-Tanski arranged for National Audubon Geospatial Information Officer Doreen Whitley to come to Bend in October to present a workshop on ArcGis Online. This program is now available to all National Audubon members and their partners. Follow-up training salons were held with several ECAS members learning how to



Kevin Black-Tanski & Kevin Smith

produce maps and documents with data from ECAS projects. In addition, training on the use of camera and GPS equipment was provided. The technology this program provides is a way forward that can open up the information collected by our volunteers to the larger community.

- **Cabin Lake**, one of the oldest and most popular birding areas in our region, underwent a crisis during the mid-summer when cattle invaded the habitat and wreaked havoc on the ponds. A group of volunteers led by Tom Lawler and John Reuland came to the rescue and replaced the liners. A meeting with the Forest Service resulted in a quick response by them with a Youth Conservation Corps work crew activated to repair the fence. Additional restoration is being explored.
- An updated bird checklist for **Hatfield sewer ponds** is being done. A committee is working to complete it.

- As a memorial to the late **Dean Hale**, the **Summer Lake bird blind** was finished on the inside and a plaque commemorating his love of birds and dedication to conservation was placed there in June 2013 during the Summer Lake Shorebird Survey.



Dean Hale

Education and Events

Enjoyment and education are two key components for introducing birds and conservation to a wider audience. A variety of field trips, educational programs and community events continue to be part of the ECAS offerings to members and the general public. A number of volunteers make these programs possible.

Field trips include:

- **Wednesday Morning Birders** – mid-week outing led by Howard Horvath and Judy Meredith.
- **Birding by Ear** – springtime walks in Sawyer Park led by Dave Tracy.
- **Seasonal full day trips** to surrounding areas led by ECAS bird experts.



solitary birder Cindy Zalanardo

- *****New Project ***** Old Mill Bird Walks – started in 2013 in partnership with the Old Mill District. Binoculars and a scope are available at the ticket kiosk as is a checklist of area birds.

Educational programs:

- **Birding for Preschoolers** – Monday morning in Drake Park led by Mary Yanalcanlin and usually one or two other volunteers. Fifty-two outings were held and 408 children attended from July 2012 through June 2013.
- **Fledgling Fun** – once a month after school program for K-6th graders. Eight programs were presented during the 2012/2013 school year. One hundred and thirty-six youth and eighty-three adults attended.
- ***** New Project ***** Young Birders of Central Oregon – a new group formed in 2013 for youth 12-18. They are pursuing fundraising projects, outings and activities focused on birding and gaining skill through fun.
- **School and community organizations** – Programs were requested by five schools and two organizations and attended by 546 students.
- **School Feeder Programs** – feeder installations were added at Powell Butte Charter School and Gilchrist Elementary.
- ECAS volunteers also led **Deschutes Land Trust** bird walks for children and presented two programs at the **Cove Palisades State Park**.
- **Birder's Night** – held the Third Thursday monthly as a regular ECAS business meeting with a program for all interested in birds.
- **Senior Citizen Outreach** – Kevin Smith presented birding programs at several retirement centers.

Community Events:

- **Eagle Watch** – Yurt staffed with materials and activities for the two-day event at Lake Billy Chinook overlook.



Tony Kutzen & Kevin Smith with visitors

- **Earth Day** – Booth of fun and information part of the April community celebration.

ECAS maintains a **Facebook** page and invites those interested to become a “friend”. There is a link on the website,
[www. ecaudubon.org](http://www.ecaudubon.org).

Also on the website visitors can link to a variety of resources and information, most notably the **BIRDING TRAILS OF OREGON** computer site developed and maintained by ECAS member Chuck Gates. Available at various community outlets, **CENTRAL OREGON BIRD CHECKLISTS** are available from ECAS.

Other Notables:

- **Oregon Audubon Council** members met in Portland in November to discuss conservation issues. Board members Jan Rising and Kevin Smith attended.
- **The National Audubon Society Convention** was held in Stevenson, Washington in July 2013. Board member Kevin Smith attended.



Guides Peter Low, Sherrie Pierce & Tony Kutzen

The 3rd annual ECAS-sponsored **Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival** was held June 13-16, 2013. Eighty-seven people attended and went on fifteen trips. A popular countdown party at The Belfry was added to the activities. All but one of the eleven resident woodpecker species was seen. Many volunteers spent many hours scouting, organizing, and leading the tours making this event a rousing success. Although not a primary fund-raiser, this event cleared over \$3000.

The always popular **ANNUAL EVENT AND FUNDRAISER** took place November 9th. Serving as the ECAS yearly business meeting and election of officers, over 200 people attended. They enjoyed food and drink, entertainment by Kevin and Debby Black-Tanski and a great slide show "It's A Jungle Out There" by artist Rod Frederick. The silent auction and raffle were very successful and brought in almost \$6000.



Raffle ticket seller Jon Putnam

Thanks again to all of the members and volunteers that make East Cascades Audubon a great organization.

For the Birds!!

11:19 AM
02/25/14
Cash Basis

ECAS Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through December 2013

	Jan - Dec 13	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
40000 · Contributed Support				
40100 · Donations - Individuals	1,100	1,550	(450)	71%
40200 · Donations - Corporate	1,835	1,185	650	155%
42100 · Grants & Awards	1,600	1,420	180	113%
43000 · Donated Goods & Services	0	1,800	(1,800)	0%
44000 · Dean Hale Memorial Fund	0	200	(200)	0%
Total 40000 · Contributed Support	4,535	6,155	(1,620)	74%
51000 · Program Income				
51300 · Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival	4,075	4,500	(425)	91%
51400 · Lewis's Woodpecker Donations	0	100	(100)	0%
Total 51000 · Program Income	4,075	4,600	(525)	89%
52000 · Membership Dues				
52100 · Membership Dues - Chapter	7,626	5,400	2,226	141%
Total 52000 · Membership Dues	7,626	5,400	2,226	141%
53000 · Interest Income				
53200 · Interest Income - BOTC	14	30	(16)	45%
53230 · Interest & Dividends - Calvert	1,584	600	984	264%
53240 · Calv Inves Realized Cap Gains	4,099	0	4,099	100%
53260 · Interest Income - COEC A	854	850	4	100%
Total 53000 · Interest Income	6,551	1,480	5,071	443%
54000 · Other Income				
54100 · Sales Income-ECAS T-shirts/hats	456	300	156	152%
54200 · DHWF T-shirt sales	1,360	0	1,360	100%
54210 · DHWF 2013 art blocks	15	0	15	100%
54450 · Cost of Inventory Sold	(1,084)	(100)	(984)	1,084%
Total 54000 · Other Income	747	200	547	374%
55000 · Fundraising Income				
55100 · Annual Event	5,833	5,000	833	117%
55200 · Bird-A-Fun	0	750	(750)	0%
Total 55000 · Fundraising Income	5,833	5,750	83	101%
Total Income	29,367	23,585	5,782	125%
Gross Profit	29,367	23,585	5,782	125%
Expense				
70000 · Administration				
70210 · Accounting Fees & Expenses	840	800	40	105%
70310 · Office Supplies & Equipment	167	250	(83)	67%
70350 · Postage & Mailing	240	250	(10)	96%
70370 · Printing	518	850	(332)	61%
70415 · Storage Unit	660	500	160	132%
70630 · Board Expense	450	1,100	(651)	41%
70632 · Board Development & Meetings	497	0	497	100%
70710 · Insurance	1,250	1,254	(4)	100%
70730 · Memberships & Dues	150	150	0	100%
70750 · Software, Web & Email Host	143	300	(157)	48%
70760 · Newsletter	0	200	(200)	0%
70765 · membership renewals	186	0	186	100%
70810 · Misc. & Other Expenses	140	490	(350)	29%
70830 · Taxes	94	200	(107)	47%
Total 70000 · Administration	5,334	6,344	(1,010)	84%

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02/25/14

Cash Basis

ECAS
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 January through December 2013

	Jan - Dec 13	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
72000 · Fund Raising				
72350 · Postage & Mailing	353	700	(347)	50%
72370 · Printing	168	225	(57)	75%
72610 · Annual Meeting	2,137	3,425	(1,288)	62%
72615 · Bird-A-Fun	0	25	(25)	0%
72810 · Misc. & Other Expenses	0	110	(110)	0%
Total 72000 · Fund Raising	2,657	4,485	(1,828)	59%
74000 · Programs - Conservation				
74810 · Misc. & Other Expenses	404	1,628	(1,224)	25%
74920 · Partnerships	1,000	4,000	(3,000)	25%
74930 · Hatfield Kiosk	77	0	77	100%
Total 74000 · Programs - Conservation	1,481	5,628	(4,147)	26%
76000 · Programs - Education, Adult				
76810 · Misc. & Other Expenses	27	60	(34)	44%
76910 · Birder's Night	648	925	(277)	70%
76911 · Birder's Night - Travel	0	350	(350)	0%
76912 · Birder's Night - Stipend	150	150	0	100%
76920 · Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival	1,211	900	311	135%
76930 · Checklists	78	200	(122)	39%
76940 · Field Trips	94	100	(6)	94%
76941 · Dean Hale Memorial Project	0	100	(100)	0%
76950 · Adult Program, Other	678	150	528	452%
76960 · HDM-Cavity Nesters Project	0	1,000	(1,000)	0%
Total 76000 · Programs - Education, Adult	2,885	3,935	(1,050)	73%
78000 · Programs - Education, Youth				
78310 · Office Supplies & Equipment	227	100	127	227%
78500 · Travel	27	200	(173)	13%
78670 · Volunteer Expense	595	595	0	100%
78810 · Misc. & Other Expenses	88	620	(532)	14%
78910 · Fledgling Fun	1,015	650	365	156%
78920 · Middle/High School Program	543	1,775	(1,232)	31%
78930 · School Feeder Program	402	575	(173)	70%
Total 78000 · Programs - Education, Youth	2,898	4,515	(1,617)	64%
80000 · Programs - Science				
80100 · Awards & Grants	600	0	600	100%
80410 · Occupancy	30	0	30	100%
80810 · Misc. & Other Expenses	192	550	(358)	35%
80910 · Lewis's Woodpeckers	249	400	(151)	62%
80920 · Winter Raptor	3,189	5,325	(2,136)	60%
80930 · Green Ridge	0	150	(150)	0%
80940 · NAMC	0	500	(500)	0%
80950 · Summer Lake	250	375	(125)	67%
80970 · Lake Abert	294	1,600	(1,306)	18%
80980 · Geographic Information System	1,862	2,120	(258)	88%
Total 80000 · Programs - Science	6,666	11,020	(4,354)	60%
Total Expense	21,922	35,927	(14,005)	61%
Net Ordinary Income	7,445	(12,342)	19,787	(60)%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
90600 · Unrealized Gains and Losses	8,402	0	8,402	100%
Total Other Income	8,402	0	8,402	100%
Net Other Income	8,402	0	8,402	100%
Net Income	15,847	(12,342)	28,189	(128)%