

Snow Goose Festival



PHOTO BY STEVEN R. EMMONS



6TH ANNUAL

2005
January 28-30

welcome

to the 6th Annual Snow Goose Festival



PHOTO BY STEVEN R. EMMONS

We hope you'll spend the weekend with us as we fulfill our mission to increase public awareness, understanding, appreciation and conservation of the diverse wildlife and unique habitats of the northern Sacramento Valley. We believe you will find that we've provided a weekend full of fun, adventure and learning for all ages, with field trips throughout the North Valley, complimented by a series of presentations and workshops available to all.

Registration:

Please peruse our schedule of events (evening programs, field trips and workshops). To register, fill out the registration form. Once completed, please mail or fax the registration form back to us with your total payment by Tuesday, January 25, 2005. If you have access to the Internet, you can e-mail your registration and payment online at www.snowgoosefestival.org. If you fax in your registration form, you will need to pay by credit card and please don't forget to fax **front** and **back** of the registration form. Confirmation will be made in the timeliest manner possible, with your complete program packet available for pick-up at the Masonic Center or Sacramento River Discovery Center after 6:30 am on Saturday, January 29th. No refunds after Friday, January 14th, 2005.

A special note about Field Trips

Carpooling is encouraged. Please arrive at the location indicated 15 minutes prior to your scheduled event, in order to check-in. We ask that you follow your field trip leader from the meeting location to the final destination. Anyone arriving after the field trip leader has left may not be able to join the group. All field trips will be limited to

the first 20 reservations, with a waiting list after that. Walk-in registration may be available for some events during the weekend of the Festival, but cannot be guaranteed.

Weather may change a trip's itinerary, but most trips will be conducted rain or shine. The weather in the valley during January is variable. It is generally cold and sometimes rainy, with daytime highs ranging from 50°-65° F.

Be sure to bring the following on your field trips: Rain gear, waterproof footwear, layered clothing, binoculars, camera, water, field identification guide, and snack or lunch as needed.

Contact information:

(530) 345-1865 or (800) 852-8570 ext. 313

P.O. Box 1063

Chico, CA 95927-1063

email: info@snowgoosefestival.org

www.snowgoosefestival.org

live animals, games,

Fun for the whole family

2

Live Reptiles!

Saturday, January 29th, 10:00 am to noon

Touch a snake! Get close to a lizard!

Join Department of Fish and Game's Steve

Brightwell as he shares very interesting facts about some of Butte County's most amazing reptiles.

Birds of Prey!

Saturday, January 29th, 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Live hawks! Falconer Randy Landis will share some fascinating facts, unique habits and curious myths about these beautiful birds of prey!

Special Free Attractions at the Chico Masonic Center

nature crafts

Meet Smokey the Bear and the Blue Goose!

Smokey the Bear and the National Wildlife Refuge's Blue Goose will be visiting various times from the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge.

Build Your Own Bat Box!

Sunday, January 30th, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

After attending Saturday's All About Bats workshop you'll definitely want to build your own bat house for these amazing creatures. Come learn the best location to place your newly constructed box.

(\$5 materials fee – limited to 20 boxes)

Junior Naturalist Activities

**Saturday & Sunday, January 29th & 30th,
10:00am – 3:00 pm**

Naturalists of all ages are invited to learn bird identification, make a bird call, construct a bird feeder and much more! Games, nature crafts, and other special activities will be taking place throughout the weekend!

“Gathering

Sierra Nevada Brewery - Big Room

4



ILLUSTRATION BY JACKSON SHEDD

Featured Speaker

Robert McLandress, Ph.D.

President of the California

Waterfowl Association

Dinner by Sierra Nevada Brewery

Beer and Wine (No Host)

Cost per Person: \$29.00

of Wings”

Banquet & Silent Auction

Robert McLandress, Ph.D., will share his extensive knowledge of the ecology of geese in discussion of “Pattern in the Snows, the History and Origins of California’s White Geese”. The “snow” geese in North America come in three distinct sizes and a range in body colors from all white to dark grey. These variations originated from isolation of breeding stocks during ancient times when glaciers dominated the mid-continent land mass. Today, the “white” geese are so numerous that there is extensive overlap in the diversity of their forms. But, the future forecasts a population crash and a possible return to the small isolated flocks that give rise to patterns in the snows.

Silent Auction

At 6 pm, the Silent Auction returns! Many quality items and works of art generously donated will be available to the highest bidder. Come and view the various items to help support the Snow Goose Festival’s future.

“Celebrating Wildlife”

Experience a unique sound-slide show of photos and recorded sounds of animals from the wild, complemented by original music. Production staff includes Kathy Turco (recordings), Dustin Denega (music) and Michael Denega (photographs). This special showing will precede the keynote speaker.

EVENING EVENTS

Friday, January 28th

“Wine & Wildlife” Welcome Reception and Art Show

Fri. 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

C.A.R.D. Community Center

545 Vallombrosa Avenue, Chico

Cost \$5 per person

Enjoy the wonderful wildlife and nature artwork of several local and regional artists. Stroll through surrealistic photographic and illustrated landscapes, including lifelike waterfowl drawings and carvings. Meet and greet fellow festival participants, presenters and field trip leaders. This is a rare opportunity to view and purchase meaningful works of art from many of our talented contributors such as field trip leaders Rex Burress and Jackson Shedd. Hors d'oeuvres will be provided. No host bar.

Owl Prowl

Fri. 7 pm – 8:30 pm

(Meet at the Chico Creek Nature Center)

This family-g geared field trip offers a unique glimpse into the amazing nocturnal world of owls. Scott Toricelli has been leading the ever-popular Owl Prowls into Bidwell Park for the Chico Creek Nature Center since 1986. The Prowl, consisting of a leisurely hike into Bidwell Park, will start and end at the Chico Creek Nature Center, and will surely leave you with a night to remember!

Field Trip Leader: Scott Toricelli

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, January 29th

Chico to Gray Lodge Wildlife Area

Sat. 7 am - 2 pm

Enjoy great birding opportunities as you travel the back-roads from Chico to the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. Jay has made this trip many times and knows some of the great stopping places including the viewing platforms at the Llano Seco Unit of the Sacramento River NWR. At Gray Lodge you will drive along a three-mile auto tour loop and take a short walk (.3 miles) to a viewing platform where a spotting scope is available for enhanced viewing. Along with identifying numerous avian species Jay will give an overview of wetland ecology and management in the Central Valley. Viewing opportunities include a wide variety of waterfowl (including snow geese) raptors and many other wetland species.

Field Trip Leader: Jay Bogiatto

Refuge to Refuge

Sat. 7 am - 5 pm

Visit two premier Sacramento Valley wildlife refuges. Our first destination will be the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Sacramento NWR near Willows. Next, we will travel to the CA Dept. of Fish & Game Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. Plan to see huge flocks of snow geese, American wigeon, northern pintail, mallard, green

winged teal and perhaps a blue winged teal and Eurasian wigeon. We should also see white-faced ibis, sandhill cranes and a variety of raptors. A "honker meal" including sandwich, chips, cookie, and drink can be purchased for \$5.00 the morning of this tour.

Field Trip Leader: Skip Augur

Birding Lake Red Bluff Recreation Area and Environs

Sat. 7:45 am - 3 pm

(Meet at Sacramento River Discovery Center in Red Bluff)

The Sacramento River Discovery Center will be the take off point for this exciting birding adventure. This trip is designed for the intermediate to advanced birder (beginning birders are welcome) as this is an ideal place to see a large variety of species. We will bird the recreation area's oak woodlands, riparian and upland habitats before venturing off towards the eastern foothills. Last year's trip revealed a roadrunner, several golden eagles and a host of other species. One of the target birds for this trip is the beautiful Lewis's Woodpecker. Over 120 different species of birds have been sighted in this area throughout the year. Please bring your own sack lunch and beverage.

Field Trip Leader: David Dahnke

USFWS Llano Seco & Beginning Birding

Sat 8 am - noon

The Llano Seco Unit of the Sacramento River NWR offers sensational views from an elevated viewing platform. This trip is designed for the beginning to intermediate birder (advanced birders are also welcome) as this is an ideal location for viewing a large variety of species. Learn interesting facts about the birds as well as helpful hints on identification. You can expect to see a variety of wintering waterfowl, sandhill cranes, raptors (last year several bald eagles were seen), and many other species. Just a short drive outside of Chico, this is definitely a birding hot spot!

Field Trip Leader: Shelly Kirn

Dye Creek Preserve

Sat. 8 am - noon

Visit the rugged, expansive Dye Creek Preserve in the Lassen Foothills region of eastern Tehama County. We will discuss land management efforts by the Nature Conservancy and tour the scenic Dye Creek Canyon or a streamside restoration site along the lower flood plain, depending on weather conditions. You can expect to see birds common to oak woodland such as the acorn woodpecker, oak titmouse and California quail.

Field Trip Leader: Brett Ochs

Tehama Wildlife Area

Sat. 8 am – noon

(Meet at Sacramento River Discovery Center in Red Bluff)

California Department of Fish Game's Tehama Wildlife Area encompasses 46,903 acres located in the foothills of eastern Tehama County. The Area provides critical wintering habitat for the largest migratory black-tailed deer herd in California. Learn about the habitat needs of the eastern Tehama deer herd and how Fish and Game manages the area not only to meet these needs but also to provide compatible recreational opportunities.

Field Trip Leader: Jim Chakarun

Vina Plains to Pine Creek & The River

Sat. 8 am - 12:30 pm

Visit The Nature Conservancy's Vina Plains Preserve and learn about the rare plants and animals of California's vernal pool ecosystems; you will also discover why vernal pool landscapes are so important to migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. Next, travel to the Pine Creek Unit of Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge where you will see riparian habitat restoration and learn why it is important for the survival of Chinook salmon, migratory songbirds, and endangered species.

Field Trip Leaders: Joe Silveira and Dawit Zeleke

Sutter Buttes - Dean Ranch

Sat. 8 am - 4 pm

We'll drive almost into the center of the Buttes to see the historic Dean Ranch. A three mile gentle hillside walk will reveal the Buttes' volcanic origins, Native American artifacts, and a hundred year old working cattle ranch. Enjoy a leisurely trip back into a time gone by. Bring lunch and water.

Field Trip Leaders: Middle Mountain Foundation

Sutter Buttes - Peace Valley

Sat. 8 am - 4 pm

Explore California State Park's newly acquired property, Peace Valley, in the Sutter Buttes. It will be like stepping back in time as you learn about the Valley's natural and cultural history. We will visit a Native American site used for grinding acorns. As we traverse this incredible Valley we will learn the interesting geological processes that formed it. This is an undeveloped area, wear comfortable walking shoes or boots and bring a sack lunch and beverage.

Field Trip Leaders: State Parks Rangers

Tim Davis and Dave Garcia

Feather River Region & Nature Trail

Sat. 8:30 am – noon

The trip begins with a caravan to the Old Bath House Nature Center in Oroville near Table Mountain Bridge at Montgomery and Bridge Streets. We'll leave our vehicles here and begin the hike. As we meander along the banks of the Feather River keep a keen eye out for some of the area's abundant wildlife which may include mergansers, goldeneye, bufflehead, osprey, eagle, river otter and even lingering salmon.

Field Trip Leader: Rex Burress

Explore the Red Bluff Recreation Area

Sat. 9 am – 11:30 am

(Meet at Sacramento River Discovery Center in Red Bluff)

Managed by the Mendocino National Forest, the Red Bluff Recreation Area offers opportunities to explore a variety of habitat types. We will first visit the Sacramento River Discovery Center which offers numerous educational programs, maintains a native plant garden and hosts a visitor center with hands-on interpretive displays. We'll then venture outside to view the Red Bluff Diversion Dam and stroll into oak woodlands, wetlands, riparian, and grassland habitats. By keeping a watchful eye open during these explorations we hope to see an assortment of birds and other wildlife that call this area home.

Field Trip Leader: Ben Hughes

Book Family Farm

Sat. 9 am - noon

The Book Family Farm is nestled in-between hundreds of acres of rice fields and has a lovely meandering creek running along side it. With the rice fields, the creek and the crops that Keith Book grows, the Book Family Farm has become a sanctuary to a large number of wildlife. Sandhill Cranes are frequent winter visitors and beaver enjoy living in the creek.

Field Trip Leader: Keith Book

Sustainable Working Landscapes

Sat. 9 am - 3 pm

(Meet at Sacramento River Discovery Center in Red Bluff)

Find out how we have moved from debt in the ranching business to developing profitability, maintaining quality of life, and most important, improving biodiversity and increasing biological capital at the same time. You will experience and participate in a project showing how 65 of our neighbors, representing 40,000 acres, are moving to a long-term sustainable solution to manage our "catastrophic fire" problem in brush and timber land. You will be exposed to a decision-making model based on quality of life, profitability, and environmental enhancement.

Field Trip Leader: Bill Burrows

Sacramento River Management Area

Sat. 10 am - 2 pm

(Meet at Sacramento River Discovery Center in Red Bluff)

The federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is offering a hiking tour of lands under its protection in a special management unit known as the Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Located to the northeast of Red Bluff, this area is currently under discussion in Congress as the potential Sacramento River National Conservation Area. We'll see a variety of upland habitats as well as spectacular scenic vistas of the Sacramento River and surrounding watershed lands. Wildlife viewing opportunities include wetland, upland and neo-tropical birds as well as deer and other mammals. This will be an easy to moderate hike. Please bring a sack lunch and beverage.

Field Trip Leader: Kelly Williams.

Owling in Upper Bidwell Park

Sat. 10am - 2pm

Owls in the daytime? Join Jackson as he pursues the Northern-Pygmy Owl in the dense woodlands of the foothills. This tiny owl is chiefly diurnal (active during the day). We'll listen for scolding birds to help locate this special owl. You'll have a chance to see and hear many of the other unique birds in this beautiful and wild setting. This hike will require some exer-

cise, as we go down a slope and climb back up. Be sure to bring your binoculars, a sack lunch, and water.

Field Trip Leader: Jackson Shedd

Birds of Bidwell Park: 100 Years of Sanctuary

Sat. 1 pm – 2:30 pm

(Meet at the Chico Creek Nature Center)

Surrounded by giant Valley Oak, towering Sycamore and aromatic Bay Laurel this hike focuses on the birds of Lower Bidwell Park. The 100 Year Anniversary of this beautiful park is upon us and what better way to celebrate this amazing landmark than a birding walk through its magnificent interior. Brown creepers, red-breasted nuthatches, and beautiful ruby-crowned kinglets are a few of the many intriguing winter residents we will see.

Field Trip Leader: Randy Palmer

Lundberg Family Farms

Sat. 1 pm - 4 pm

Tour the farm famous for its specialty rice products and for attracting wildlife to its organic fields. Witness first-hand how valley farm practices, and ecological farming in particular can benefit migratory and non-migratory bird populations of the Pacific Flyway.

Field Trip Leader: Jessica Lundberg

Genetic Resource Center

Sat. 1 pm - 4 pm

This well kept secret is one of Chico's birding hot spots. The U.S. Forest service arboretum offers outstanding wildlife viewing as well as a unique collection of trees and plants from around the world. Over 200 species of birds can be found here. Gary Norcross, Orchard Manager, will cover the history of the Center, the tree nursery, and birds and animals found at this site. Enjoy birding on a short walk along a creek, among the many trees, that make up this unique Center.

Field Trip Leaders: Gaylord Grams and Gary Norcross

Esquon Ranch Road to Butte College Refuge

Sat. 1 pm - 4:30 pm

Just a short drive outside of Durham, along the roadways bordering the Esquon Ranch, snow geese, white-fronted geese and sandhill cranes can be seen in great numbers right from your vehicle! Bald eagles are occasionally spotted perched in the snags along the agricultural wetlands. Many more birds and wintering wildlife will be seen during your visit to the sanctuary of Butte College.

Field Trip Leaders: Albin Bills, Herman Gray and Bob Guzman

P R E S E N T A T I O N S / W O R K S H O P S

Saturday, January 29th

All About Bats

Sat. 9 am - 10:30 am

They are one of the most beneficial, yet most misunderstood animals in the world. Learn more about the habits, habitats and species of bats that reside within the unique ecosystems of California's valleys and forests.

Presenter: Linda Angerer

Beginning Birdwatching with Field Trip

Sat. 9 am – 11:30 am

It's been said, "The best birdwatcher is another bird." Learn the how's and why's of birdwatching. Whether it's watching hummingbirds in your own back yard or penguins in Antarctica, birdwatching is your lifetime ticket to the theater of nature. This presentation is a combination of classroom study and field work - making it a must for anyone wanting to learn more about birding. Roger will teach us some basic birding skills and take us to Lower Bidwell Park's One Mile to use our newly acquired skills. Bring binoculars if you have them!

Presenter: Roger Lederer

Children's Raptor Program

Sat. 10:30 am - noon

(Meet at the Chico Creek Nature Center)

Kids! This exciting raptor program will begin at the Chico Creek Nature Center's non-releasable living animal museum, located in Bidwell Park. Learn exactly what a raptor is and other fun facts about raptors that are residing at the Nature Center and Bidwell Park. The program will include a short hike into the Park where we will look for evidence of raptor activity. Kids will also build and paint a wooden birdhouse (snap-together kit) that they can take home! Small children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult.

Presenter: Randy Palmer

Why Migrate?

Sat. 11 am - 12:30 pm

Come learn some fascinating facts on the phenomenon of migration in the animal kingdom. What is the purpose of migration? What distances are covered? What are the costs and benefits? What other animals, besides birds, engage in these annual round-trip journeys? How do they find their way? These are some of the questions we will answer as we discuss one of nature's most fascinating topics.

Presenter: David Vanicek

Basic Nature & Wildlife Photography Workshop

Sat. 1 pm - 2:30 pm

This workshop is an introduction to nature and wildlife photography particularly bird photography. Topics include equipment recommendations including 35 mm film and digital cameras, lenses and associated accessories, in addition to discussions on exposure, lighting, composition techniques, the use of photography blinds and the ethics of nature photography. Recommended photography locations will also be presented during a slide show. A myriad of equipment will be on display including film and digital cameras, photography blinds, camera support devices, flash projection setups and remote control units. This workshop compliments Steve's Photography Field Trip on Sunday at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. (See page 14 for details)

Presenter: Steve Emmons

Armchair Tour of Black Butte Lake

Sat. 1 pm - 2:30 pm

Situated on the west side of the upper Sacramento Valley in an oak woodland savannah, Black Butte Lake is surrounded by beautiful dark volcanic buttes. Relax and take in a slide show of the lake's 40 miles of shoreline, 3 nature trails and striking landscape. See and touch natural artifacts and evidence of the area's wildlife including snake skins, bobcat and mountain lion skulls, and beaver and otter pelts.

Presenter: Mary Ann Deeming

Shasta Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation

Sat. 1 pm - 2:30 pm

(Meet at Sacramento River Discovery Center in Red Bluff)

Bring the family for a fascinating presentation on wildlife rehabilitation. You will have the opportunity to see several species of wildlife up close as you discover fun facts about them. Learn what you can do when you find an orphaned or injured animal. These wildlife rehabilitators have amazing stories to tell!

**Presenters: Shasta Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation
Volunteers**

Armchair Tour of Sutter Buttes

Sat. 3 pm - 4:30 pm

Here's an opportunity to glimpse into the mysterious Sutter Buttes. Travel through the Buttes without leaving your chair as you enjoy this fascinating slide presentation on the many facets and wonders of the remarkable landscape that make up the Sutter Buttes.

Presenter: Mike Hubbartt

The Importance of Wetlands to Migratory Waterbirds

Sat. 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Enjoy many colorful slides of waterfowl and other waterbirds as you discover the important role the Central Valley plays in the Pacific flyway. Learn why North American waterbirds need to migrate. Take a look at historic and current waterfowl numbers. Learn about the various types of wetland habitats in the Sacramento Valley. Receive an historic overview of California's wetland habitat availability. All this and more will be discussed in this exciting presentation!

Presenter: Jay Bogiatto

Gathering of Wings Banquet & Silent Auction

Sat. 6:00 pm- 10:00 pm

Dinner at Sierra Nevada Brewery - Big Room

1075 East 20th Street

Chico, CA

Cost \$29 per person

The always-popular Saturday evening banquet & fabulous silent auction returns ~ this time featuring a presentation by Robert McLandress, president of the California Waterfowl Association. (See pages 4 and 5 for more information.)

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, January 30th

Bird the Shores of Black Butte Lake

Sun. 7:30 am - 2 pm

Situated on the west side of the upper Sacramento Valley, Black Butte Lake is surrounded by beautiful dark volcanic buttes. Come explore the many inlets this lake has to offer and see pied-billed grebes, common mergansers, American wigeon, green-winged teal, Clark's and western grebes. Stop along the roads and see wild turkeys, bluebirds, red-tailed hawks, and turkey vultures. Lewis's woodpeckers, and golden and bald eagle winter in this area, too. Bring a sack lunch and drink.

Field Trip Leader: Phil Johnson

Photography at Sacramento Refuge

Sun. 8 am - noon

(Meet at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge)

Join Assistant Refuge Manager Steve Emmons at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge to practice some of the techniques discussed in his Saturday workshop. Depending on the weather and lighting conditions, we will concentrate on bird, scenic or close-up photography, so come prepared. Various techniques will be demonstrated including finding subjects, getting close, using blinds and long lens techniques. Technical subjects of exposure, lighting considerations, and

flash will also be discussed. Recommended equipment for this field workshop includes a film or digital camera body (with film or digital cards), wide angle, macro and telephoto (minimum 200mm with 1.4X teleconverter) lenses, tripod and flash (not mandatory but advised). Photographers using Nikon camera bodies will be able to use Steve's 500mm f/4 (manual focus) and 80-400mm f/4.5-5.6 vibration reduction (auto focus) lenses, and 1.4X and 2X teleconverters. Limited to 15 people.

Field Trip Leader: Steve Emmons

Feather River's Bedrock Park/ Oroville Wildlife Area

Sun. 8 am - 12:30 pm

The main attraction of this leisurely walk at Bedrock Park is the diving duck population that frequents this stretch of the Feather River. Buffleheads, goldeneyes, ruddy ducks, and common mergansers can be seen doing their courtship and bonding displays. A short drive to the Oroville Wildlife Area offers additional viewing along elevated levee roads. Riparian forests support many species of wintering songbirds and waterfowl as well as beaver, river otter, raccoons, muskrats and wild turkey.

Field Trip Leaders: John Grow and Leroy Hord

Sutter Buttes Hike - Mid Mountain

Sun. 7:15 am – 4 pm

Take a 5 mile hike into the mysterious interior of the Sutter Buttes. Visit secluded locations that reveal the Buttes' geologic formation, Native American presence, old pioneer home sites, and a wild ecology typical of California's past. The mid-mountain hike is moderately brisk. Bring lunch and water.

Field Trip Leaders: Mike Hubbartt and Marty Steidle Mayer

Sutter Buttes Hike - Summit Ascent

Sun. 7:15 am – 4 pm

Take a 5 mile hike into the mysterious interior of the Sutter Buttes. Visit secluded locations that reveal the Buttes' geologic formation, Native American presence, old pioneer home sites, and a wild ecology typical of California's past. The Summit Ascent, with a 1000 ft. elevation gain within a half-mile stretch, is quite strenuous. Bring lunch and water.

Field Trip Leaders: Mike Hubbartt and Marty Steidle Mayer

USFWS Llano Seco & Beginning Birding

Sun. 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

The Llano Seco Unit of the Sacramento River NWR offers sensational views from an elevated viewing platform. This trip is designed for the beginning to intermediate birder (advanced birders are also welcome) as this is an ideal location for viewing a large variety of species. Learn interesting facts about the

birds as well as helpful hints on identification. You can expect to see a variety of wintering waterfowl, sandhill cranes, raptors (last year several bald eagles were seen), and many other species. Just a short drive outside of Chico this is definitely a birding hot spot!

Field Trip Leader: Shelly Kirn

Kayaking the Forebay

Sun. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Cruise the cold waters of Lake Oroville's North Forebay and get up close with the resident and wintering waterfowl. This is a leisurely 3-mile paddle, and you must bring your own canoe or kayak to attend. You must also have a PFD (personal floatation device) for each person on your boat. Bring binoculars and warm clothing.

Field Trip Leader: Dave Garcia

Birding In Paradise!

Sun. 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Head up the hill (weather permitting) and follow Gaylord to some of Paradise's best places to view the birds that winter in this higher elevation. Your stops will include DeSabra Reservoir, a nature trail on property managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and Kunkle Reservoir. Sightings on these reservoirs and trails have included loons, bald eagles, wood ducks, Canada geese, and mergansers.

Field Trip Leaders: Gaylord Grams and Harlin Perryman

Hiking Tour of Riparian Restoration Sites

Sun. 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Join River Partner staff for a walking tour between two riparian restoration sites along the Sacramento River. We will start at the Ord Bend Unit of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and end up at the California Department of Fish and Game's Jacinto Unit. The approximately 3 mile level hike offers great views of the Sacramento River and an opportunity to view winter wildlife. Come learn about river and restoration processes, opportunities for local community involvement, and wildlife benefits as you get a close-up view of the dramatic transformation taking place on these sites. Good walking shoes are a must!

Field Trip Leader: Dan Eiseff

Wing-It to the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge

Sun. 12:30 pm – 5 pm

While at the Refuge, this trip offers excellent viewing without ever having to leave your car! But the "winging-it" part of this trip is where the fun really starts! En route, expect to veer off the beaten path a bit, as your leader gravitates to where the birds are. When you arrive at the Refuge Visitor Center, view the diorama and pick-up a wildlife checklist. Then you are off to a leisurely adventure around the auto tour loop. An informative radio program can be tuned in while on the tour, and you can stop and stretch at two areas for a closer look at the thousands of waterfowl that winter on this refuge.

Field Trip Leader: Michael Denega

Birds, Plants, and Indian Shelter

Sun. 1 pm - 4 pm

Join us for a fun family hike to Upper Bidwell Park! On our way to the Indian shelter, we will pause to appreciate wildlife and Indian uses of the plants we find along the way. Take in the wonderful view of the canyon from the Indian shelter. It is a three-mile round-trip so wear comfortable walking shoes and water.

Field Trip Leader: Jim Dempsey and Wes Dempsey

PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOPS

Sunday, January 30th

Raptor Identification

Sun. 9 am - 10 am

Enjoy a PowerPoint slide presentation featuring raptors of the northern Sacramento Valley. Field identification, characteristics, unique habits, fascinating facts and curious myths about these beautiful birds of prey will be discussed. Learn why birds of prey have been revered in history and folklore for thousands of years.

Presenter: Andy Wahl

The Wide Wonderful World of Birds

Sun. 9 am - 10:30 am

“It is not only fine feathers that make fine birds”, Aesop. Enjoy this introduction to the wide, wonderful world of birds. Roger will examine the characteristics, variety, and behavior of birds and their relationship to humankind.

Presenter: Roger Lederer

Falconry: The World’s Oldest Field Sport

Sun. 10:30 am - noon

Falconry has been a part of history for more than 4,000 years. Beginning as a means of hunting wild game, it has been the sport of kings and the icon of a complex social cast system. Participants will see live birds and the equipment used in modern and historic falconry. View an exciting PowerPoint slide presentation of falconry being practiced in the field.

Presenter: Andy Wahl

Where the Birds Are

Sun. 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

This captivating slide presentation will touch upon the history of wildlife refuges and the important role they play for both wildlife and humans. Because refuges attract so many birds they also attract many people. What is it that is so attractive? Also discover what Lake Merritt, a city-surrounded refuge, and Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, located in the country, both have in common.

Presenter: Rex Burress

Introduction to Slow Foods

Sun. 1 pm – 3 pm

Northern California's unique climate allows the creation of wonderful foods that, far too often, are overlooked. A group of local farmers and ranchers have formed a Slow Food Group to celebrate and promote the unique and wonderful food that our area produces. Three speakers from the Slow Food Group will discuss how their individual operations evoke the uniqueness of our climate into their products. They understand that the health of the landscape directly affects the health of wildlife and humans. Big Bluff Ranch in Red Bluff produces grass-fed beef and lamb. Pacific Sun Olive Oil in Gerber produces a distinct northern California olive oil. Pedrozo Dairy in Orland produces handcrafted grass-fed cheese.

Presenters: Tyler Dawley, Brian Kenny and Tim Pedrozo

Biography of Leaders and Presenters

Linda Angerer is a U.S. Forest Service Wildlife Biologist and currently the Bat Coordinator for California's National Forests.

Skip Augur is editor of the White-Tailed Kite, the local Altacal Audubon Society's newsletter. He also serves as their publicity director.

Albin Bills is a field biology instructor and Butte College Wildlife Area Faculty Advisor for over twenty-five years.

Jay Bogiatto is Station Manager at CSU Chico's Eagle Lake Field Station, Director of the Biology Department's Vertebrate Museum and teaches ornithology, waterfowl biology and zoology at CSU Chico.

Keith Book is an avid farm and wildlife enthusiast. He is an owner and operator of the Book Family Farm in Chico.

Steve Brightwell is Assistant Manager at the California Department of Fish and Game Feather River Fish Hatchery.

Rex Burress, a long time naturalist, wildlife artist, outdoor photographer and nature writer is retired from the Lake Merritt Refuge in Oakland.

Bill Burrows is a Rancher, Certified Educator for Holistic Management, Coordinator for Sunflower Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP). California ranching has been a "way of life" for the Burrows' family since 1848.

Jim Chakarun is Habitat Supervisor for the Department of Fish and Game's Tehama Wildlife Area.

David Dahnke has been a birding enthusiast for over twenty years. He has sighted over 450 species of birds.

Tim Davis has worked as a California State Park ranger for several years and his current assignment is at Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park in Chico.

Tyler Dawley of Big Bluff Ranch grew up on the family ranch where it was understood that the health of the landscape directly affects the health of humans. Big Bluff Ranch's grass-fed meat is the translation of a healthy landscape into healthy food.

Mary Ann Deeming works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. She has been a Park Ranger at Black Butte Lake for over twenty years.

Jim Dempsey works in resource management for California State Parks and is an active member of the California Native Plant Society.

Wes Dempsey is an Emeritus Professor of Biology at California State University, Chico. Wes has led hikes in the area for many years.

Michael Denega is a dynamic biology instructor at Folsom Lake College and the Independent Learning Center. Mike has spent considerable time as a researcher and wildlife photographer in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge with the Federal Migratory Bird Program.

Dan Efseaff is a Restoration Ecologist for River Partners whose main focus is on the implementation of river conservation projects.

Steve Emmons is an Assistant Refuge Manager for the Sacramento and Delevan National Wildlife Refuges (Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Willows, CA) since 1996.

Dave Garcia has worked as a State Park Ranger at Lake Oroville for twenty years. Dave enjoys the outdoors and birding as both a vocation and a hobby.

Gaylord Grams is an avid local birder and member of the Altacal Chapter of the Audubon Society.

Herman Gray is a retired physician. While traveling the world in his profession, he has enjoyed viewing many bird species. He is also an active Gray Lodge Wildlife Area docent.

John Grow, local birder, is actively involved in the Oroville Wildlife Area Wood Duck Program. John also conducts interpretive programs for the State Parks at Lake Oroville.

Bob Guzman serves on the Snow Goose Festival Steering Committee and is actively involved in the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Wood Duck Program.

Leroy Hord, local birder, is actively involved in the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Wood Duck Program.

Mike Hubbartt is a Middle Mountain Foundation board member actively involved in the preservation of the integrity of the Sutter Buttes for over twenty-three years.

Ben Hughes is a Shasta College history instructor and member of the Sacramento River Discovery Center Board of Directors.

Phil Johnson is a local Altacal Audubon Society member and coordinator of both the Oroville and Chico Christmas Bird Counts.

Brian Kenny of Pacific Sun Olive Oil spent years searching for a way to enter into agriculture in a manner that both honored the land and the producers. His outstanding olive oil celebrates the land and producers and in turn has been honored with a Silver Medal at the Los Angeles County Fair.

Shelly Kirn is a dynamic instructor of field biology and zoology at California State University, Chico.

Randy Land is has been a practicing falconer for 30 years. He has been involved in raptor breeding, rehabilitation and conservation.

Roger Lederer is Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at CSUC. Dr. Lederer has taught ornithology and ecology courses, worked with environmental organizations and schools. Ornithology, the science of birds, is his specialty.

Jessica Lundberg is the manager of the seed nursery for specialty varieties and an owner and operator of Lundberg Family Farms in Richvale, CA. The family rice operation produces healthy, high quality, organic and sustainable rice products, which are grown in harmony with nature.

Gary Norcross is the Orchard Manager of the U.S. Forest Service Genetic Resource Center since 1975.

Brett Ochs is the assistant manager for The Nature Conservancy's 37,540 acre Dye Creek Preserve. He is an outdoorsman that has quite the interesting educational background. Ask him when you take the hike this year.

Randy Palmer is Chico Creek Nature Center's naturalist and bird enthusiast. He teaches environmental education programs at Bidwell Park for K-6 students.

Tim Pedrozo of Pedrozo Dairy has spent years in the dairy business. He left large scale dairying in favor of a small family run, grass based dairy. Along with milk, he and his family produce a variety of grass-fed cheeses.

Harlin Perryman is an avid birder and has traveled all around the country and the world birding. He has been an Audubon member since 1998.

Jackson Shedd is an avid birder and President of the Altacal Audubon Society. Jackson is also a local wildlife artist.

Joe Silveira is a Wildlife Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 1990 and is currently stationed at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

Marty Steidle is a Sutter Buttes landowner and rancher. Marty has an intimate knowledge of the Sutter Buttes landscapes.

Scott Toricelli is an environmental educator for over twenty-five years. He currently teaches for the Chico Unified School District.

David Vanicek has a BS and MS in Fish and Wildlife Biology and his Ph.D. in Wildlife Resources. He taught 35 years at CSU, Sacramento. He retired in 2002 and now resides in Paradise.

Andy Wahl is a Master falconer for thirteen years. Andy currently teaches biology at Chico Junior High.

Kelly Williams is a Natural Resource Specialist for the Bureau of Land Management. Kelly has been in the North Valley area for over twenty years.

Dawit Zeleke is a Project Director for the North Central Valley of The Nature Conservancy. He directs the Sacramento River Project and the Lassen Foothills Project.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Robert McLandress began work with California Waterfowl Association (CWA) as their first biologist (and 4th employee) in 1985. He has been employed as President of CWA since 1998. In 2004, he was directing more than 45 employees and a diversity of programmatic areas including habitat restoration, research, education, public policy and fund-raising. His vast knowledge of the ecology of wetlands and waterfowl ranges from the Arctic to Mexico. Bob has served as a member and/or chair of numerous committees dealing with waterfowl and wetland ecology in California, and as a lecturer in the Department of Wildlife Fish and Conservation Biology at UC Davis. He served as Chair of the Dean's Advisory Council from 1998 to 2002. A prolific writer, especially for CWA's bimonthly magazine, he has also authored dozens of scientific journal papers and technical reports on a broad range of waterfowl and wetland topics. Recently, Bob has rekindled an old interest in wildlife photography and several of his donated images are being used to raise funds at CWA Fundraising events.

2004 bird

22



Grebes

Pied-billed Grebe

Pelicans, Cormorants

Double-crested
Cormorant

Bitterns, Herons, Egrets

American Bittern
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Snowy Egret
Black-crowned Night
Heron

Ibises

White-faced Ibis

Waterfowl

Bufflehead
Ring-necked Duck
Ruddy Duck
Gadwall
Barrow's Goldeneye
Common Goldeneye
Canada Goose
Greater-White-fronted
Goose
Ross's Goose
Snow Goose
Mallard
Common Merganser
Northern Pintail
Northern Shoveler
Tundra Swan
Cinnamon Teal
Green-winged Teal
American Wigeon

Vultures, Eagles, Hawks, Falcons

Bald Eagle
Golden Eagle
Prairie Falcon
Northern Harrier
Cooper's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
American Kestrel
White-tailed Kite
Osprey
Turkey Vulture

Gallinaceous Birds

Ring-necked Pheasant
California Quail

Wild Turkeys

Rails

American Coot
Common Moorhen

Cuckoos, Roadrunners

Greater Roadrunner

Pigeons, Doves

Rock Dove
Mourning Dove

Shorebirds, Snipe, Phalaropes

American Avocet
Long-billed Curlew
Long-billed Dowitcher
Killdeer
Spotted Sandpiper
Black-necked Stilt
Greater Yellowlegs

list

Gulls, Terns

Herring Gull
Ring-billed gull
Glaucous-winged Gull

Cranes

Greater Sandhill Crane
Lesser Sandhill Crane

Owls

Barn Owls

Kingfishers

Belted Kingfisher

Woodpeckers

Northern Flicker
Red-breasted
Sapsucker
Acorn Woodpecker
Downey Woodpecker
Nuttall's Woodpecker

Flycatchers

Black Phoebe

Swallows

Tree Swallow

Jays, Magpies, Crows,

Ravens

American Crow
Western Scrub Jay
Yellow-billed Magpie
Raven

Titmice, Bushtits

Bushtit
Oak Titmouse

Nuthatches, Creepers

White-breasted
Nuthatch

Wrens

Bewick's Wren
Marsh Wren

Kinglets, Gnatcatchers

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Thrushes

Western Bluebird
American Robin
Hermit Thrush

Mockingbirds,

Thrashers

Northern Mockingbird

Larks, Pipits

American Pipit

Silky Flycatchers

Phainopella

Shrikes

Northern Shrike

Starlings

European Starling

Warblers

Orange-crowned
Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler

Blackbirds, Orioles

Brewer's Blackbird
Red-winged Blackbird
Western Meadowlark

Finches

House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch

Towhees, Sparrows

Dark-eyed Junco
Fox Sparrow
Golden-crowned
Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Song Sparrow
White-crowned
Sparrow
California Towhee
Spotted Towhee

thank you to

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Snow Goose \$1,000+

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Chico News & Review
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Tundra Swan \$250+

The Nature Conservancy

Snowy Egret \$100+

Birkenstock's of Chico
Butte Community Bank
Lyon Books

kudos

Snow Goose Festival Steering Committee

Debbie Chakarun, Program

Ellen Clark, Silent Auction

Denise Dachner, Program

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Jennifer Patten, Festival Coordinator

Shar Plowman, Volunteers

Robert Villarrial, Website Master

Sharon Wallace, Outreach

Tiffany Yost, Registration & Website

In addition to the above, many individuals have helped to plan and create this year's Festival. The Steering Committee would like to sincerely thank all those who have had a hand in this year's programming and events, especially our many field trip and workshop leaders.

Special Thank you to:

Ed's Printing

Pageant Theater

Pete's Coffeehouse

Rich Nelson Design

Stash Distributing/Calistoga

Spring Water

Location Directions: Unless otherwise noted in program descriptions, all field trip and workshops of the Snow Goose Festival begin at the Chico Masonic Family Center at 1110 W. East Avenue.

Directions: From U.S. Hwy. 99, take the East Avenue exit. (This is two exits north of the East 1st Avenue exit.) Turn west on East Avenue. The Chico Family Masonic Center is approximately 1.5 miles from the Hwy. 99 exit, on the right (north) side of East Avenue.

If coming from Nord Avenue/Hwy. 32, turn east at the W. East Avenue stoplight. The Chico Masonic Family Center is on the left, approximately .2 miles from the Hwy. 32 & East Avenue intersection.

Sacramento River Discovery Center 1000 Sale Lane, Red Bluff

Directions: North on U.S. Hwy 99 to Red Bluff turns into Antelope Blvd. (Hwy 36). Follow road for 2.2 miles and turn left on Sale Lane. Continue to the end of the road.

From Interstate 5 take Antelope Blvd. exit and turn east. Then turn right on Sale Lane and continue down the road. Call (530) 527-1196 for more information.



Lined writing area with horizontal lines.

Altacal Audubon Society

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