



January 2012 Field Trips

January 7 No trip scheduled.

Sunday January 8 Red Rocks Park

Leader: Tom Bush, 303-904-4576 . Time: Meet at 9am at the Red Rocks Trading Post for a half day of foothills birding. We'll spend some time checking out all the activity at the feeders - possible rosy finches, golden crowned sparrow (?), jays, chickadees. We'll do some walking looking for the prairie falcon and other raptors. Bring water, snack and lunch. To reach Red Rocks Trading Post go west out of Morrison on Hwy 74. Only about ¼ mile out of Morrison you'll turn right on Red Rocks Park Road. Stay right at the first fork. Continue on Red Rocks Road approximately a mile to the Trading Post.

Saturday January 14 Annual Rosy Finch trip to Fawn Brook Inn

Leaders: Niña Routh and Mike Serruto Meet the leaders at the Wagon Road Park N Ride at I-25 and 120th Ave at 8:30am. This will be a ¾ day trip returning at 3-ish. We will check out the feeders at the Fawn Brook Inn in Allenspark for the various rosy finches and other winter birds. After the morning in the mountains we'll go back to Lyons for lunch at Oscar Blue's (and associated birding near Oscar's). Then we will bird around the Lyons area into the afternoon. People and autos should be prepared to be out in mountain winter weather (i.e. be prepared for anything). If questions call leader (Nina) at 303.987.8687. Directions to Wagon Road Park N Ride: Exit I-25 on 120th and go west about 2 blocks. Turn South at Wendy's (Melody Drive). Park N Ride is right there in the 1st block S of 120th.

Sunday January 15 Silverthorne Area

Leader: Norm Erthal. Meet leader at 8:30am in the parking lot on the NW quadrant of I-70 and US 40 intersection. Going west on I-70 use exit 259. Parking lot on NW corner of this intersection. This is approximately a ¾ day trip returning at 2-3pm. Another chance for rosy finches and any winter mountain birds. Bring warm clothes, radios if you have them. If questions or questionable weather call or e-mail leader: nerthal@comcast.net 303.917.2596

Saturday January 21 Rocky Mountain Arsenal

Leader: Urling Kingery Meet the leader at 8:3am at the new visitor center at the Arsenal. Take I-70 to Quebec Street. Follow north on Quebec Street approx 2.8 miles to Prairie Parkway (64th turns into Prairie Parkway). Turn right at Prairie Parkway and travel .6 miles to Gateway Road. Turn left at Gateway Road; continue on Gateway Road until you pass through the Refuge Entrance and the Visitor Center will be on the crest of the hill. We'll be hoping for wonderful winter raptors and we'll have a chance to view the new visitor center. This trip has limits on the number of participants, so please register early to assure yourself a spot. Please call Urling to register 303.814.2723.

Sunday January 22

Cherry Creek State Park

Leader: Karen vonSaltza Meet leader at 8:30am at the west marina for a half day trip. Marina is inside the park's west entrance. Entrance is across from Cherry Creek HS. From Belleview and Yosemite go east on Belleview un-til you reach the park entrance. Birding until about noon. We'll start on the west side scoping the birds on the res-ervoir, look for raptors within the park, and move around to the east side for another view of the reservoir and birding in the treed area. There is always the possibility for some exciting rarities here. Bring warm clothes, scopes if you have them, water, a snack. If questions or questionable weather, please call the leader the night before 303.368.9961

Saturday January 28

Belmar Park

Leader: Karleen Schofield. This is a half day trip. Kountze Lake in Belmar Park often has open water in January. We'll check out the waterfowl on the lake, search for raptors over the fields and see what other birds may be found on a winter's day. Meet for a 9am start on the west side of the Irongate office building. Belmar Historic Park is at 800 S Wadsworth Blvd in Lakewood. From Alameda and Wadsworth go South on Wadsworth , turn west at light on West Ohio Avenue. Drive a short two blocks to the parking lot. Bring water, layered clothing, sun block, scopes. If questions or questionable weather, please call the leader the night before 303.936.8661.

Tuesday, January 31

Birding Canon City Area

Leader: Charles Thornton-Kolbe. Meet ten minutes before 6am at the Park 'n Ride off of I-25 at Yale Ave. (from I-25 from the north and heading south take the Yale Exit and turn right at Yale, then an immediate right turn into the parking lot). We will form carpools at the Park ,n Ride in the parking lot area farthest from Yale Avenue.

Please get there by 5:50am.

We will stop on the way to Canon City for a good spot for Lewis' Woodpecker and then continue on to Canon City. Our first stop is usually Tunnel Drive (perhaps Rufous-crowned Sparrow, but likely a few goodies here), then to River Walk for the rest of the morning (we usually find a rarity here, but usually other nice birds). After lunch, we head to some Pinyon-Juniper habitat where we usually find Juniper Titmouse, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, 1 or 2 species of Thrasher, and 2 or 3 species of Bluebird. We finish off for a good spot for Canon Towhee, Bewick's Wren and Scaled-Quail.

This is always a very fun and productive winter birding day, and this is always one of my favorite DFO birding trips. In years past, we have found some very cool birds including Golden-crowned Sparrow (rare), Harris' Sparrow (seldom), Pine Warbler (once), White-throated Sparrow (once). This trip has never missed a rarity (which is never guaranteed), but we always have a productive and fun day. Bring: Layers of clothing and coats (including rain gear), binoculars, scope (if you have one), lunch, snack, beverages. Bring breakfast if you have not eaten before leaving. Also two way radio and cell phones can be helpful to support car-to-car communication. Bring about \$15.00 to 25.00 for your gas share. If bad weather, come to parking lot, and we will go for it or find an alter-native plans. No need to RSVP!