Newsletter of the Bridgerland Audubon Society

P.O. Box 3501 Logan, Utah 84323-3501 Email: stiltnews@hotmail.com Visit our website: http: www.bridgerlandaudubon.org

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The Stilt

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Sanctuary Lands IWJV Grant



"We're moving forward with planting test crops on a small patch of ground to see which bird-friendly plants will grow the best."

ots to report on the Sanctuary, all good!

Many thanks to Jim Cane. Alice Lindahl, Ron Ryel and, especially, Saundra Schimmelpfennig for keeping the Sanctuary work moving forward during the summer.

First, donations continue to come in from members and friends. At last tally, we had received around \$10,000 in response to the brochure, not counting the \$2,000 donated in memory of Mellie Washington. There's another \$8-10,000 that came in from other donations, making our total over \$20,000! Alice's fundraising brochure last May will have to go down in history as our biggest fundraising a grant. success ever. (Until our next project, that is. But more on that later.)

Second, Saundra Schimmelpfennig and the UCC have finished the dump cleanup, fencing along the road on the north boundary, and planting almost 100 boundary posts. They are giving us another crew-

week in late October, so we're moving forward with North American Waterfowl planting test crops on a small patch of ground to see which bird-friendly plants will grow the best.

Then, on September 28, Wayne Martinson informed us that The Intermountain West Joint Venture (IWJV) fully funded our grant application! Wahoo!!! As you'll recall, we could afford the first 76-acre parcel, but we also wanted to purchase another parcel to the south so our property would span both sides of Clay Slough from the paved road between Smithfield and Newton to the gravel road across the • Barrens. We couldn't afford the second parcel, so we applied to IWJV for

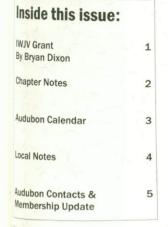
is a public/private partner- • ship dedicated to the conservation of bird habitat in selected portions of the 11 western states stretching from Canada to Mexico. It is one of ten such joint ventures. Founded in 1994, it seeks to implement the habitat conser-

The IWJV (

vation objectives of the Management Plan (NAWMP), Partners in Flight (PIF), the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan (USSCP), and the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan (NAWCP). Our proposal's total budget came in at \$62,786 including acquisition of both parcels of land. The request to IWJV was for \$24,760: \$21,000 for land acquisition, \$500 for appraisals and surveys, and \$3,260 for fencing materials, signs, etc. The steps in securing and using this funding are:

- Complete a NEPA determination. Our project may receive a Categorical Exclusion because it's land acquisition only.
- Do a contaminants survey. This essentially means documenting the dump cleanup we've done so far, and taking walks around the property to make sure there aren't any other dumps.

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BAS Chapter Notes

Sanctuary Work Moves Ahead With the Help of UCC



The UCC (Utah Conservation Corps) worked for a week out at the Barrens in early September.

During that time they constructed a barbless wire fence (perhaps the only one in the valley) stretching just under ½ mile along the roadway. We also removed a very old and dilapidated fence, filling a pick up truck with rusty barbwire. Finally, we installed boundary markers every 100 feet around the perimeter of the property.

Next up is a little habitat work. The UCC will be out at the Barrens again October 21-23 to harvest and plant native sunflower seeds as well as try out coyote willow cuttings.

-Saundra Schimmelpfennig

Still curious about the plants you saw on the Tony Grove field trip?

The field trip to Tony Grove Lake in July, led capably by Reinhart Jockel, was a bloomin' success, with more than 25 enthusiastic attendees.

Some dandy birds showed themselves to our group, including purple martin, Williamson's sapsucker, Lincoln sparrow, Clark's nutcracker and more. But our primary objective was flowers, and they were there in diversity and profusion.

For those of you valiantly jotting down names, here are some of the plant genera

that you saw: Achillea, monkshood, Aquilegia, Aster, cow parsnip, Delphinium, Gilia, Helianthella, lupine, Penstemon, Potentilla, Veratrum, snowberry, elephantshead, geranium, blue flax, figwort, Jacob's ladder, honeysuckle, fireweed, and bog candle orchid.

A good place to see and read about these genera is in Richard Shaw's small field guide: "Utah Wildflowers: A field guide to northern and central mountains and valleys."

-Jim Cane

Audubon Calendar

November 2002

BAS Board of Trustees Meeting. The BAS Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 6 at Bio-Resources, 135 East Center, Logan. Please note that our regular meeting date has changed to the first Wednesday of the month, at least through May 2003. All interested in attending are welcome.

Visit Logan's Wonderful Sewage Lagoons. It may seem odd to some but the Logan Sewage lagoons are one of the real hot spots in our area for both late migrating and overwintering waterfowl. The birds are safe from hunters and have a nice, ice-free place to lounge. Please join us for a trip with Dr. Keith Archibald, one of the state's premier birders. Meet at 9 a.m. at the parking lot between the Logan Fire Station and Café Ibis (50 E. 150 North). Bring binoculars and dress appropriately for the season. A cold wind often blows through the lagoons. Beginning birders are welcome. Carpooling will be available. We will be finished by noon or before. For more information, call Keith Archibald, 752-8258.

BAS General Meeting: Adam Kozlowski on the Past, Present, and Questionable Future for Bobolink and Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Northern Utah. Two bird species are really feeling the pressure of shrinking riparian or lowland habitats. Adam Kozlowski, sensitive species biologist for the Northern Region of Utah Division of Wildlife Resources will discuss the bobolink's dependency on wet meadows and the yellow-billed cuckoo's riparian requirements within the broader scope of habitat loss in Utah. The present and historical status of both species and their habitats will be discussed. Current and future research and conservation efforts, as well as gaps in our knowledge, will be addressed. Please join Adam to learn and share ideas about what can be done to make bobolink and cuckoo populations in Utah more sustainable. The talk will follow our general meeting at 7 p.m. in the Logan City Meeting Room, 255 N. Main St.

Fall Birding in Southern Cache Valley. Spend the morning looking for migrating waterfowl, hawks, and other birds with Bryan Dixon, another of the state's premier birders. Probable stops will include Hyrum Reservoir for late season ducks (maybe long-tailed duck or a surf scoter), Hyrum and Paradise fields for hawks, and roadsides and brush for sparrows, etc. Beginning birders are welcome. Carpooling will be available. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the parking lot between the Logan Fire Station and Café Ibis (50 E. 150 North). Bring binoculars and dress for the season. We will be back by early afternoon. For more information call Bryan Dixon, 752-6830.

Birding in Southern Box Elder County. Bird southern Box Elder County with Dick Hurren. We'll hit spots like Willard Bay and the Salt Creek Wildlife Management Area. In past years, we've seen such unusual things as a northern parula warbler and Bonaparte's gulls. A few bald eagles will probably be here by this time. Meet at 8 a.m. at the parking lot between the Logan Fire Station and Café Ibis (50 E. 150 North). Bring binoculars and dress appropriately for the season. Carpooling will be available. Beginning birders are welcome. Bring something to munch on, we will not be back until early afternoon. For more information call Dick Hurren (435) 734-2653.

How to Feed and Attract Winter Birds. See the various types of feeders, seeds, and water devices in use locally. Bring binoculars and dress for the season. Most of the observing will be done outdoors. Leave at 9 a.m. from the parking lot between the Logan Fire Station and Café Ibis (50 E. 150 North). Carpooling will be available. Beginning birders are most welcome. We will be finished by noon. For more information call Dick Hurren (435) 734-2653.



If you'd like to come along on a field trip but do not have binoculars, call Dick Hurren (435) 734-2653. He'll find a pair for you to use.

Local Notes

Holiday Cards with a Cause

Common Ground Outdoor Adventures announces its 3rd Annual 'Holiday Cards with a Cause' featuring local artist Jerry Fuhriman. The cards are a fundraiser for Common Ground, a nonprofit organization that provides recreational opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities.

Cache Valley artist, Jerry Fuhriman, known for his watercolor and oil paintings of Cache Valley landscapes has donated six paintings; three winter scenes and three other seasons to be

reproduced as holiday greeting cards. These high-quality color prints are printed on glossy, recycled paper. With personalized imprinting you can customize your business or personal holiday card with the perfect greeting. All proceeds from the project directly provide recreational opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities in Cache Valley.

For more information, call Common Ground at (435) 713-0288.

Sanctuary Grant Continued from p. 1

- Get the land appraised.
- Survey the second parcel. We'll try to use the same surveyor who did the first parcel so the cost may be a little lower than otherwise.
- Enter into an agreement with Ducks Unlimited, which is the subcontracting entity for the IWJV and which handles some of the administrative work. We have a draft agreement from other projects.
- Request a payment in advance for the land acquisition.

 Arrange a closing with PacifiCorp and Val Grant.

Not too bad. We may be able to pull this off by the end of the calendar year.

Now it's time to start thinking about all that monitoring work we want to do, and arrange for work parties to be able to post the second parcel. We'll be organizing another planning meeting in early November. If you aren't getting our emails but want to be involved, just let me know:

or 752-6830.

Thanks for everyone's support so far. Our little Sanctuary is getting some notice from National Audubon as well as private landowners in the area. I have a feeling this is only the beginning!

- Bryan Dixon

For Sale

Bausch & Lomb Elite binoculars 10x42; excellent condition \$500. Call Jean at 752-6830.

Welcome to BAS

New Members

Gardiner Stiles

The Stilt

Karen Beard & Andrew Kulmatiski Jeff Allen Hoffmann & Jennifer Hoffmann Ilona Jappinen Isabel Katana Joyce McMullin **Emily Speth**

Renewing Members

Jerry Burn Renee Chi Brian Creutzburg James Gessamen Justin & Angela Henney Tim & Jacquelyn Henney J A Hoffmann Wally S. MacFarlane Mrs. Meredith Matlack

Sylvia Niehuis Lana Powell Pam Riley Kazuko Toelken Robert R Trowbridge

Transfers into Chapter

William Bagley Sandra M Padron

Trustees

2000-2003 Mae Coover, 752-8871; Ron Goede, 752-9650 Teri Peery, 753-3249 2001-2004 Merr Lundahl, 753-1707; Dave Drown, 752-3797; Jack Greene, 563-6816

2002-2005 Jim Cane, 713-4668; Joyce McMullin, 713-4399; Dick Hurren 435/734-2653; Jamie McEvoy, 753-

Bridgerland Audubon Contacts

Val Grant, 752-7572, biores@mtwest.net Bill Masslich, 753-1759, bmasslich@pcu.net Vice Pres. Dick Hurren, 435/734-2653, hurrens@aol.com Outings Suzanne Pratt, 713-0197, suzap@cc.usu.edu Secretary Susan Drown, 752-3797, drown6@attbi.com Treasurer Alice Lindahl, 753-7744, alindahl@bridgernet.com Wetlands Forest Issues Kathy Gilbert, 752-0946, gilbert@mtwest.net Jack Greene, 563-6816, jgreene@lhs.logan.k12.ut.us Miriam Hugentobler, 752-8237, stiltnews@hotmail.com Newsletter Susan Durham, 752-5637, sdurham@cc.usu.edu Circulation Allen & Gail Christensen, 258-5018, gaichr@pdp.usu.edu Hospitality Nancy Williams, 753-6268, nanwill@cc.usu.edu Hotline Chris Wilson, 753-3769, cwilson@sisna.com Webmaster

Membership in the Bridgerland Audubon Society includes a Subscription to The Stilt, as well as Audubon magazine. The editor of The Stilt invites submissions, due on the 15th of each month. Send to stiltnews@hotmail.com.

National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Application

Yes, I'd like to contribute to Audubon and receive the Bridgerland Audubon newsletter, The Stilt, and the

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Please make all checks payable to National Audubon Society and send with this card to: National Audubon Society Membership Data Center PO Box 51001 Boulder, CO 80322-1001 W-52 Local Chapter Code: 7XCHA

Note to new National Audubon members: To get on The Stilt newsletter mailing list without the usual 8 week delay, contact Susan Durham, 753-5637, sdurham@cc.usu.edu.

Prefer the local newsletter only? Send \$20 and this form to: Bridgerland Audubon Society, PO Box 3501, Logan, UT 84323-3501 for a subscription to The Stilt.

National Audubon occasionally makes its membership list available to selected organizations. To have your name omitted from this, please check this box.