

The



Cardinal

OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2014 • WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG • SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

OCTOBER MEMBER MEETING

'Crex Meadows Wildlife Area History and Management'

with **Kristi Pupak**

Wisconsin DNR Crex Meadows Wildlife Area
Conservation Educator

Thursday, October 9, 2014

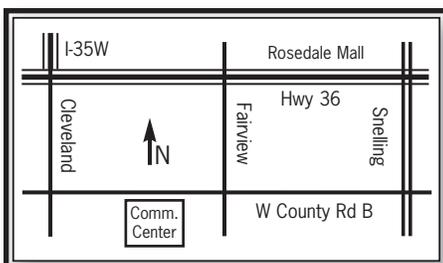
Crex Meadows is located just north of Grantsburg, Wisconsin, about 1.5 hours from the Twin Cities. Crex Meadows is a beautiful 30,000-acre wildlife area containing wetlands, forests and



"THE 'EXPANSE' OF CREX MEADOWS" PHOTO BY B. GOODSPEED

brush prairies. It is a part of the Northwest Wisconsin Pine Barrens. Established in 1947 by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Crex Meadows Wildlife Area is managed to provide opportunities for public hunting, trapping, and other outdoor recreation while protecting the qualities of unique native plant communities and associated species.

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Arrive at 6:45 for social time or 7:00 PM for the program; held at the Fairview Community Center 1910 W. Cty Rd B, Roseville.
Free and open to the public.
Free parking available. *Bring a friend!*

NOVEMBER MEMBER MEETING

'The Effects of Oil and Gas Development on Birds: From Behavior to Populations'

with **Hannah Specht**

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Global demand for energy is projected to increase 40% in the next 20 years with up to 60% of the supply expected to come from oil and gas. The ongoing development of hydrocarbon resources to meet this demand has presented novel impacts to wildlife species in North America across boreal, sage-steppe, grassland and deciduous forest ecosystems.

While the impacts of oil and gas development are becoming well documented, the development of wildlife-related mitigation and policy measures has lagged behind. Hannah will provide an overview of impacts that oil and gas development has on different guilds of birds, ranging from behavioral to population-scale effects. She will provide some examples of how this information is being used in regulation and mitigation in some areas and prompts particular concerns for others.

As the nature of oil and gas development demands collaboration to succeed in conserving wildlife, Ms. Specht will highlight opportunities to support science and regulation to conserve habitat for some of these species.

Hannah grew up on a small family farm in rural New England, enjoying the outdoors and fascinated by the local natural history from a young age. She first developed an interest in both grasslands and birds while attending Carleton College in MN. Her broad interest in multiple use landscapes is informed by her

Birds and Oil Development, continued on p. 3

BOARD MEETINGS

Saint Paul Audubon's Board Meetings are held at the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed Office at 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada. Exit 35-E at Little Canada Rd, go east to Noel. Meetings are held from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

Upcoming dates: **October 6, November 3.**

Chapter President's Message

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer. It seems we've been lucky, with enough rain and not too much heat. Hope the birds did well, too.

This week, there have been many reminders of the 100th anniversary of the death of Martha, the last known Passenger Pigeon, who had been in the Cincinnati Zoo for decades. The extinction of her species, which had probably numbered in the billions early in the previous century, should be a lesson to us all of the impact that modern humans can have on our environment. Martha's demise also gave impetus to the growth of the Audubon Society, which had been founded not long before.

Conservation and Environmentalism have grown and matured in the last hundred years. This month St. Paul Audubon members are expressing our concern about the threat to migrating birds posed by the glass expanse on the new Vikings Football Stadium in Minneapolis.

We are also involved in the proposed expansion of the Canadian Pacific railyard adjacent to Pig's Eye Lake in St. Paul. Expanding the yard would involve the loss of wetlands and woodlands at crucial Mississippi River habitat near Bald Eagles' nests and the Pig's Eye heron rookery. All of you as individuals could certainly add

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	www.mn.audubon.org

ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

Founded in 1945 as the 'St. Paul Bird Club' with twelve members, the Saint Paul Audubon Society now serves the entire East Metro region of the Twin Cities, and has around 2,700 members. Our Member Meetings are held from Sept. to May. For more info please contact leaders at left, or visit our website at www.saintpaulaudubon.org

ABOUT THE CARDINAL Published 6 times a year; articles are due on the 5th of January, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov. Submissions may be edited. Send to hpbirdscouter@msn.com

Members may also receive the newsletter by downloading a PDF from the website.

LOCAL SUPPORT Audubon members who don't live in the Metro Area who wish to receive *The Cardinal* may send \$15 for a 1 year's subscription to **Saint Paul Audubon Society**, PO Box 7275, St. Paul MN 55107

CHAPTER PHONE: MESSAGE ONLY For more info or questions about bird ID, please call 651-291-2596. Leave a message and we will return your call.

ADDRESS CHANGES Call **1-800-274-4201** or NAS website at www.audubon.org to notify the National Audubon Society of a change of address, to continue to receive *Audubon Magazine* and *The Cardinal*.

your voices and your concerns to the Governor about the Stadium and to the St. Paul mayor and city council regarding the rail yard expansion. Do it for Martha.

I hope to see you at a field trip or at our chapter meetings on the 2ND Thursday of every month. We have some interesting speakers to look forward to and more opportunities ahead to get involved in efforts to keep other species from going extinct on our watch. See you around.

Barbara Lindeke

Crex Meadows, from p. 1

In order to understand the landscape history of any particular region, one must study the history of the geology, geography, climate, vegetation, and wildlife. Kristi Pupak will share these topics as they relate to Crex Meadows.

Kristi Pupak is the Crex Meadows Wildlife Conservation Educator. She works at the Crex Meadows Wildlife Education and Visitors Center. She oversees the wildlife conservation education program, in addition to assisting with special events throughout the State.

To find out more about Crex Meadows Wildlife Area, please visit the following website:

<http://www.crexmeadows.org>

Birds and Oil Development, from p. 1

upbringing in struggling rural communities, and the accompanying understanding that conservation that doesn't work for people won't work well for wildlife either. Her graduate work at the University of Minnesota in the Conservation Biology Graduate Program is aimed at understanding the use (and non-use) of anthropogenic landscapes by grassland and wetland dependent birds.

To learn more about this topic, visit these websites and/or read these articles:

19 July 2014, **New York Times**. "Frack Quietly Please: Sage Grouse is Nesting" While many species are affected by landscape changes brought on by oil and gas development, sage grouse have become the umbrella species for balancing the needs of sage-brush species and development in the west.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/20/business/energy-environment/disparate-interests-unite-to-protect-greater-sage-grouse.html>

9 July 2012, **EnergyWire**. "Animals often get lost in the shuffle of permitting, drilling in the Bakken"

While a few years old and not specifically focused on birds, this article highlights the complexity of protecting wildlife in North Dakota's oil & gas boom given the pace of development and the many stakeholders involved.

<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1059966927>

SPAS ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Greetings! TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL FUND DRIVE!

This is the only time of year that we seek your support for the great work done by the Saint Paul Audubon Society. You will not receive a phone call or a postal mail solicitation. You will NOT receive another request for a donation tucked in with our Thank You note. All you need to do is submit a check for your contribution in the remittance envelope provided with this issue of *The Cardinal*. (If there is no envelope, you may use the box on this page.) If you prefer, you may also donate on-line at www.saintpaulaudubon.org.

SPAS is a volunteer driven organization. None of the board members, field trip leaders or committee members are paid, but there are still expenses that must be covered and this Annual Fund Drive is our largest source of income. Our expenses include producing and mailing *The Cardinal* newsletter, speaker honoraria, and meeting space rental fees. We maintain a website and a dedicated phone line to help answer your questions. There are expenses related to an array of educational programs for people of all ages from presentations at schools to a birding class for adults offered through the Maplewood Nature Center. SPAS has also provided grants to organizations which support our mission, such as purchasing binoculars for field trips at nature centers, wood for birdhouses, education programs for youth, and restoration of natural areas including buckthorn removal. Our Conservation committee is active in restoration activities at Como park, educational presentations, environmental initiatives, and the installation of kestrel nesting boxes. St. Paul Audubon sponsors numerous birding trips in the metro area.

Our mission is to keep common birds common, and to protect species that are in decline. That mission is especially important in an era when development regularly destroys bird habitat and climate change threatens unknowable consequences. When you consider what Saint Paul Audubon has done this year to promote our mission, I am confident you will pledge support for our continuing effort in the year to come.

Donors (unless they wish to remain anonymous) are recognized in the April issue of *The Cardinal* at the Egret (under \$50), Bluebird (\$50 - \$99), or Cardinal (\$100 and above) levels. On behalf of the Board of Directors I sincerely thank you for your support.

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE CHAIR
DEAN DOERING

Saint Paul Audubon Society

Annual Fund Drive Donation

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution for the Saint Paul Audubon Society to be used for:

\$_____ Annual Operating Fund

\$_____ Endowment Fund

\$_____ Habitat Protection

\$_____ Wherever Needed

This gift is given:

___ in memory of _____

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Thank You Very Much for Your Support
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If your contribution is given in memory of or in honor of someone, we will gladly send an acknowledgement card to be sent to:

Name _____

Address _____

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TO: Dean Doering,
1901 North Victoria Street, Roseville, MN
55113, or, you may go to the SPAS Website
at <http://saintpaulaudubon.org> > "Support Us"

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

PO Box 7275, St Paul, MN 55107-7275

WWW.SAINTPAULAUDUBON.ORG

October November 2014

Next Deadline 11/5/2014

Welcome... To the Saint Paul Audubon Society. We're a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and Earth's biological diversity.

CALENDAR

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SPAS Members: Please Check our Website for Calendar Updates!

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December 20, 2014

The Christmas Bird Count will be held on Saturday, December 20. Area Leaders, get on board early! Solicit your previous years' Team Members, and plan for walking, driving, and feederwatching!! No matter the weather, this is one of the most fun days on our annual calendar!!

Contact CBC Coordinator Bill Stjern at norskestar@comcast.net or 651-470-3112 to sign up today for early a.m. owling and day-long adventure, followed by our traditional Pot Luck Tally Party.

State of the Birds 2014

Bird science and conservation groups and federal agencies have come together to publish the most comprehensive review of long-term trend data for U.S. birds ever conducted. The full report can be found at stateofthebirds.org

The groups assessed population trends in seven key habitats and found bird populations declining in arid lands (deserts and sagebrush), grasslands, and forests.

A new Watch List is included, at http://stateofthebirds.org/extinctions/watchlist.pdf.

230 species of North American birds are currently endangered or at risk of becoming endangered without significant conservation. Loss of habitat, climate change, and uncontrolled hunting in South and Central America are some reasons given in the report.



Watch Bird Banders
Carpenter Nature Center, Washington Co., 4TH Fridays, 8 - noon. For info and directions, call 651-437-4359.

Springbrook Nature Center, Fridley, Anoka Co.; for dates and times to www.springbrooknaturecenter.org
You may be allowed to release birds.
Dress for the weather!