



ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIRD OBSERVATORY

Conserving birds and their habitats

NEWS

January 4, 2012

Contact: Kacie Ehrenberger, director of education, 303-659-4348 ext. 16; kacie.ehrenberger@rmbo.org

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory seeks citizen science & education volunteers

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory is recruiting volunteers in Colorado to count birds, collect migration and nesting data, run education programs and more. Citizen scientists are needed for the following four programs:

ColonyWatch: Monitor colonial waterbirds to gather information about colony size and locations to help resource managers with long-term conservation. Volunteers are needed March through August at various locations across Colorado. Requires the ability to recognize the 15 species RMBO monitors and to follow a simple monitoring protocol. The necessary skills are easy to acquire; technical support is always available from the project coordinator. Contact: Jason Beason, RMBO Special Monitoring Projects Coordinator, 970-310-5117 or jason.beason@rmbo.org.

HawkWatch: Collect information about raptor migration, which is stored in an online database and contributes to the understanding of raptor movements across North America. Training is the week of February 20, and official counts start March 1 and end May 7 at Dinosaur Ridge in the Dakota Hogback Natural Area, Morrison, Colo. Experienced volunteers are paired with those wanting to learn identification and data collection skills. Contact: Jeff Birek, HawkWatch Coordinator, 970-482-1707 ext. 25 or jeff.birek@rmbo.org (preferably before February 20).

Bald Eagle Watch: Monitor and collect data on nesting behavior and productivity and report any disturbances that may affect nesting eagles. The data helps wildlife managers ensure continued healthy populations of Bald Eagles. Monitoring takes place February into July from Brighton to Fort Collins, Colo. Volunteers must attend orientation on January 21 at RMBO's Old Stone House at Barr Lake State Park in Brighton. Volunteers monitor designated nests weekly for a minimum of one hour, fill out data sheets and enter data into an online reporting system. They must have transportation to nest sites and a spotting scope or binoculars, and enjoy monitoring either alone or with another person. Contact: Kacie Ehrenberger, 303-659-4348 ext. 16 or kacie.ehrenberger@rmbo.org (preferably by January 11).

Volunteer Naturalists: Teach citizens of all ages the importance of bird and habitat conservation through in-class programs, field trips and educational outreach events in the Denver Metro area. Volunteers are given 40 hours of training in March (basic ecology, ornithology, teaching techniques, public speaking) and provide at least 40 hours of service in a year following training. Passion about education and the outdoors, but no experience in environmental education or ornithology, is necessary. Contact: Kacie Ehrenberger, Director of Outreach and Education, 303-659-4348 ext. 16 or kacie.ehrenberger@rmbo.org

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory is a Colorado-based nonprofit that works to conserve birds and their habitats from Montana into Mexico through science, education and stewardship.

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