



Tropical Audubon Bulletin

The Voice of Conservation in South Florida...



5530 Sunset Drive; Miami, Florida 33143

(305) 667-7337

Sept/Oct 2008

Birds and Beasts of the Great Parks

June 14-22, 2008

Brian Rapoza,
TAS Field Trip Coordinator

Ten birders joined Paul Bithorn and me for Tropical Audubon's nine-day trip to the stunningly beautiful states of Montana and Wyoming. From start to finish, we enjoyed perfect weather, with clear skies and comfortable daytime temperatures. During our visit to three national parks and a number of other birding locations, we tallied 152 species of birds, including one unexpected species, seen only by Paul, and spotted 22 different mammals, plus untold numbers of wildflowers, butterflies and other critters!

Our adventure began and ended in Billings, Montana; our first and last bird of the trip was Black-billed Magpie, which we found around the Billings airport, and just about everywhere else we visited. After a late-afternoon arrival, we headed to short-grass prairie habitat near the town of Molt, west of Billings, where we found Pronghorns and Black-tailed Prairie Dogs. Birds seen here or en route included Cinnamon Teal, Gray

Partridge, Ring-necked Pheasant, Prairie Falcon, Marbled Godwit, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, White-throated Swift, Say's Phoebe, Western and Eastern Kingbird, Common Raven, Horned Lark, Brewer's, Vesper and Lark Sparrow, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Western Meadowlark and Yellow-headed and Brewer's Blackbird. Before heading south to our motel in Laurel, we birded a short stretch of Canyon Creek Road, located between Molt and Laurel, hoping to find Pinyon Jays. We had no luck with the jays, but we did see the first of many Mule Deer.

The next morning we returned to Canyon Creek Road; this time we heard, but failed to see the Pinyon Jays. Also found here were Wild Turkey, White-throated Swift, Hairy Woodpecker, Cliff Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee and Lark Sparrow. We then headed south to Red Lodge; a stop at a rest area along the way produced our first Red-naped Sapsucker, Western Wood-Pewee, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow Warbler and House Finch. In Red Lodge, we visited the home of local Audubon member Barbara Jaquith, hoping to

see Black Rosy Finch. This species is usually seen during summer only at the highest elevations, but fortunately for us, recent snows extended their stay in the lowlands. Her backyard feeders were still attracting a flock of about 200 rosy-finches! Also seen at her feeders were Cassin's Finch, Calliope Hummingbird, and Pine Siskin.

Our intention was to enter Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park via the spectacular Beartooth Highway. Unfortunately, the road was closed due to a recent avalanche and snowstorm, so we had to detour via the equally scenic Chief Joseph Highway. Birds seen en route included Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, Warbling Vireo, Mountain Bluebird and Townsend's Solitaire. Our first Moose was sighted in a marshy area along this road. Soon after entering Yellowstone, we found our first Gray Jays and spotted a stunning pair of Harlequin Ducks on Soda Butte Creek. We searched for American Dipper along Pebble Creek, but instead found Spotted Sandpiper and Western Tanager. In the Lamar Valley we witnessed an aerial battle

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NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT

The North American Migration Count (NAMC), sponsored in Florida by the Florida Ornithological Society, with the assistance of local Audubon chapters, bird clubs and other interested organizations, is a semi-annual snapshot of the progress and shape of bird migration.

On Saturday, September 20, birders from around the country will be collecting information on the abundance and distribution of both migrant and resident birds. If you

can find and identify birds and would like to participate in the count in either Miami-Dade or Monroe County, email us at fieldtrips@tropicalaudubon.org. We'll send you NAMC instructions and a checklist. We'll also let you know which areas need coverage (or, you can let us know which area you wish to cover; it could be your own backyard, neighborhood, a local park or other natural area). It is important that there is no overlap or duplication of coverage areas, so please contact us before September 20.

Birds and Beasts of the Great Parks

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between a Bald Eagle and Prairie Falcon, and found our first Elk and Bison. On the road between Tower Junction and Mammoth Springs, we ran into our first bear-jam, as tourists (and attendant park rangers) lined the road to view a pair of Black Bears. Also seen along this road were Gadwall, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck and Sandhill Crane, the latter with chick. At Lava Creek, just before Mammoth Springs, we found an American Dipper on nest! Everyone in the group was able to study its unique feeding behavior as it dove into the rushing torrent and carried captured insects to its hungry nestling.

The following morning at Mammoth Springs, we began with a hike on the Beaver Ponds Trail, where we spotted a pair of Williamson's Sapsuckers, plus Violet-green and Cliff Swallow, Mountain Chickadee, Mountain Bluebird, Western Tanager, Lazuli Bunting, White-crowned and Chipping Sparrow and Pine Siskin. We also paid a quick visit to the unique thermal features that make Mammoth Springs famous. In trees near the springs, Paul found both Plumbeous and Red-eyed Vireo. After breakfast, we headed south to the Old Faithful area. Along the way, we found our first Barrow's Goldeneye and drove through an area being used by a large herd of Bison, including many calves. At Old Faithful, the famous geyser erupted right on schedule. Leaving Yellowstone, Paul's van spotted a brown-morph Black Bear along the road. We continued south into Grand Teton National Park, where at the northern end of Lake Jackson, we sighted Common Merganser,

Common Loon, Western Grebe, our first California Gulls and an unidentified Empidonax flycatcher. At Oxbow Bend, near Lake Jackson's southern end, we added Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican and Beaver. Black-headed Grosbeak and Lincoln's Sparrow were found in surrounding willows. That evening, after we checked into our lodge in Jackson, Paul met with Jimmy Farmer, a childhood friend now living in the Jackson area, who had inside information on the whereabouts of a resident Great Gray Owl. After considerable searching, they located the owl and immediately planned a return engagement with the entire group for the following night.

The next day began with an early morning visit to Jackson airport, a well-known location for Greater Sage Grouse. During the drive to the airport, we spotted a pair of Trumpeter Swans on a pond just north of Jackson. At the airport, the group scoured adjacent sagebrush habitat, but failed to produce a Sage Grouse. Several Brewer's Sparrows were flushed and a Sage Thrasher was heard. After breakfast at Bubba's Barbeque in Jackson, where the group was introduced to Paul's friend Jimmy, the rest of the morning was spent in Grand Teton National Park, on trails near Jenny Lake. We began on the Valley Trail at Lupine Meadows, south of Lake Jenny, and then moved on to the Hidden Falls Trail at the lake's northern end. At Lupine Meadows, the group saw Northern Goshawk, Williamson's Sapsucker, Least Flycatcher, Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglet, Western Tanager,

Chipping Sparrow and Dark-eyed Junco, not to mention a dazzling array of wildflowers. In a burn area along the Hidden Falls Trail, we found a nesting Black-backed Woodpecker, as well as Calliope and Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Williamson's Sapsucker, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pewee, Clark's Nutcracker, Mountain Bluebird, Swainson's Thrush and MacGillivray's Warbler. An American Dipper was spotted in a stream that flowed into Jenny Lake. Jimmy led us to a pair of Yellow-bellied Marmots playing on rocks alongside the trail.

After enjoying lunch and spectacular views of the Tetons at Dornan's in Moose Junction, we headed to Gros Ventre Campground, located east of the national park. Empidonax flycatchers were abundant here. Cordilleran Flycatcher was identified by call; Dusky Flycatchers were almost certainly present, but none could be reliably identified. Also present were Swainson's Hawk, Common Nighthawk, Western Wood-Pewee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Yellow Warbler and Cassin's Finch. After covering the campground, the group split up, with half returning to the lodge for a late-afternoon break. The other half joined me for a short hike on the trail to Death Canyon, located off Moose-Wilson Road in the southern end of the national park. Our highlight here was a Hammond's Flycatcher, which was seen and heard by everyone. Farther down Moose-Wilson Road, a female moose feeding right along the road provided excellent photo opportunities. Also feeding on a roadside tree was a Three-toed Woodpecker, but the bird

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Tropical Audubon Society (TAS) is a group of dedicated citizens who care about the quality of South Florida's environment. Established in 1947, we are a chapter of National Audubon Society and Florida Audubon Society. Our headquarters, the Doc Thomas House, is a Dade County Historic site on three subtropical acres of native habitat in South Miami.

Tropical Audubon's purposes are:

- 1) Conservation: to work toward protection of the natural world and to promote wise stewardship of natural resources, especially native plants and animals and their habitat.
- 2) Education: to promote, among members and the public of all ages, an understanding and appreciation of nature, the environment, and ecological relationships.

3) Enjoyment: as a society of members with compatible interests, to enjoy together the study and protection of nature. We believe in the wisdom of nature's design. We seek to foster and promote ecological conscientiousness in our community.

Editor: Jen Lindsley
Desk Top Publishing: Steven Mumford

Tropical Audubon Bulletin, the official newsletter of the Tropical Audubon Society, is published bimonthly by the Tropical Audubon Society, a non-profit, 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization. Throughout this newsletter, "TAS" refers to the Tropical Audubon Society, while "DTH" refers to the Doc Thomas House, the site of our office located at 5530 Sunset

Drive; Miami, Florida 33143. The phone number is (305) 667-7337. Membership rate, \$20 per year. Please make your checks payable to Tropical Audubon Society, and mail to our office (address above). Articles, news of events, original drawings, and letters to the Editor are welcomed, and should be submitted to the TAS office 4 weeks prior to each by-monthly publication. It would be preferable if your copy were submitted via the internet. See the "About TAS" section of our website for more information.

Visit Tropical Audubon on the internet at:

tropicalaudubon.org

Birds and Beasts of the Great Parks

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disappeared before everyone in the van could view it.

After dinner south of Teton Village, the group was graciously invited to Jimmy's house to view the Calliope Hummingbirds coming to his feeders, and to wait for darkness to fall. At the appointed time, we all headed to the spot where the Great Gray Owl was seen the previous night. No owl was present when we first arrived, so we drove farther down the road to give the owl more time. Sure enough, the owl was there when we returned, perched on a phone wire ahead of us. Just when we thought that our views would be limited to silhouettes, the owl took off and flew towards us, landing on a fence right alongside the vans! With a nearly full moon in the background, we enjoyed crippling

views of this magnificent bird before it finally moved on. What a memorable ending to an incredible day!

Our first stop during our last day in the Tetons was at Signal Mountain, a reliable spot for Dusky Grouse. On previous visits here, I've found grouse feeding along the road close to the summit. On this visit, we had to wait until we reached the overlook beyond the summit parking area, where a male grouse was obligingly perched on a fence. The bird then flew into an adjacent spruce, allowing us to observe it at close range. Other birds seen at the summit included Gray Jay, Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Green-tailed Towhee and Dark-eyed Junco. After breakfast at the Signal Mountain Lodge, we continued north, pausing briefly at Lake Jackson Dam and Christian Pond, our last stops in Grand Teton National Park. A Red-naped Sapsucker was seen near the dam, while Willow Flycatchers were easily found around the pond.

After re-entering Yellowstone National Park, we headed to the park's east side. Our route took us past Yellowstone Lake and through the Hayden Valley to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, where we stopped briefly to view the upper falls. We continued north towards Dunraven Pass, Mt. Washburn and Tower Falls, but heavy snow prevented us from exploring much along this stretch. As a result, we saw only a few birds, including Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Townsend's Solitaire, Gray Catbird, Western Tanager and Dark-eyed Junco. We also experienced our second bear-jam, where another Black Bear was entertaining the tourists. At Tower Junction, we headed west towards our night's lodging at Mammoth Springs. A short hike at Petrified Tree, just west of Tower Junction, produced our last sightings of Williamson's Sapsucker, but the first for Paul. We also experienced our only rain shower of the trip on the drive to Mammoth Springs.

A herd of Elk greeted us as we left Yellowstone National Park the next morning and headed north to Montana and Interstate 90. A Black-headed Grosbeak was spotted across the road from our breakfast stop in Livingston. Red-naped Sapsucker, Western Wood-Pewee, House Wren, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow Warbler and Northern Waterthrush were found at a rest area on I-90, west of Deer Lodge. We also stopped briefly at the University of Montana in Missoula, but were unable to locate any of the Evening Grosbeak that allegedly summer on campus. From Missoula we headed north to National Bison Range, part of the National Wildlife Refuge system. After a brief stop at the visitor center, we explored the refuge via the Red Sleep Mountain Drive, which includes a 2000-foot change in elevation along the 19-mile route. We saw a handful of Bison, along with Pronghorn, Mule and

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Tropical Audubon General Meetings

Membership meetings are open to the public and held at the Doc Thomas House, 5530 Sunset Drive, near Red Road. The doors open at 7:30pm and the program begins at 8pm. Call (305) 667-7337 for more information.

Wed. Sept. 10
Laura Reynolds
Alaska

Laura Reynolds recaps her two field seasons spent in Alaska, complete with tundra plant ID, birding summary, science and where to go if you visit.

Wed. Oct. 8
T.J. Marshall
Protecting Florida's Coasts

T.J. Marshall from the Florida Coastal Ocean Coalition and the National Resources Defense Council will speak to us about the battles that lie ahead for protecting Florida's coastal areas and some recent victories.

Tropical Audubon WorkDays

Want to learn about native plants, help Tropical maintain our native landscape at the Doc Thomas House and get your hands dirty? We need you! Show up anytime between 8:30-noon and you will find a host of hard workers. This is a great opportunity for students to earn community service hours. For more information call 305-667-7337 or e-mail volunteer@tropicalaudubon.org

Workdays will be held on

**September 20
& October 18**

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White-tailed Deer, as well as a pair of Columbian Ground Squirrels whose burrow was in the middle of the road. The birding here was exceptional; gorgeous Lazuli Buntings were singing everywhere we looked! Another highlight was the Lewis' Woodpecker we found along a high elevation section of the drive; still another was the Willow Flycatcher that landed on the open door of Paul's van! Other birds seen include Ring-necked Pheasant, Bald and Golden Eagle, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, Western and Eastern Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Clark's Nutcracker, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Mountain Bluebird, Spotted Towhee, Vesper and Savannah Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird and Bullock's Oriole.

From our motel in Kalispell, we headed north the next morning to the West Glacier entrance of Glacier National Park. Our first stop was at Fish Creek Picnic Area, on the north side of Lake McDonald, where we saw Spotted Sandpiper, Winter Wren and Townsend's Warbler. Stops along Camas Road produced sightings of Swainson's Thrush, MacGillivray's Warbler, Western Tanager and White-tailed Deer. Along Going-to-the-Sun Road, we first visited Sprague Creek Picnic Area, on the south side of the lake, where we found Willow Flycatcher, Cedar Waxwing and American Redstart. At Trail of the Cedars in the Avalanche Creek Campground, we had up-close looks as a Varied Thrush gathered food for its fledgling offspring. Black and Vaux's Swift fluttered over Avalanche Creek; a distant Mountain Goat was spotted high above us on the cliff face opposite the creek. Due to heavy snow at the highest elevations of Going-to-the-Sun Road, the road was closed beyond Avalanche Creek, so we had to backtrack to West Glacier, then drive around the southern end of the park to our lodging in Rising Sun, near St Mary at the east end of Going-to-the-Sun Road.

On US-2, just north of the Goat Lick Overlook at the southern tip of the park, Paul spotted, on a power pole along the road, the only unexpected bird for the trip, a White-headed Woodpecker. They backtracked to try to relocate and possibly photograph the bird, but unfortunately, it had disappeared. White-headed Woodpeckers are normally found in the mountains of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and California. According to Jeff Marks, secretary for the Montana Bird Records Committee, there are only seven accepted records for this species in Montana! Only Paul could find such a rarity on his first visit to the state! At the Goat Lick Overlook, we found several Mountain Goats, including young. We then headed to Two Medicine campground, in the southeast corner of the park, where Paul's woodpecker luck continued. As we walked through the campground, Paul spotted a Three-toed Woodpecker; we eventually found its favorite snag, allowing everyone in the group to add that bird to their life lists. Also seen here were Bald Eagle and Fox Sparrow. We tried desperately to find a Steller's Jay, which we were told were common in the picnic area, and should have been seen long before this point in the trip, but were once again unsuccessful.

On our last full day, we began with a visit to the Many Glacier area; it would be our closest approach to the Canadian border. Hooded Mergansers were seen on a beaver pond at the beginning of Many Glacier Road, near the town of Babb. A cooperative Common Loon on Swiftcurrent Lake provided excellent looks. Before breakfast at the Swiftcurrent Motor Lodge, we hiked a portion of the Iceberg Lake Trail, where we saw Warbling Vireo, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Dark-eyed Junco and Pine Siskin. We also found fresh bear scat along the trail, possibly Grizzly, and spotted Bighorn Sheep on the cliffs overlooking the lodge. We stopped at

the beaver pond again on our way out; Cedar Waxwing and Yellow Warbler were seen and Wilson's Warblers were heard. We then began the long drive back to Billings. On US-89 south of St. Mary, we encountered a Ruffed Grouse hen with young, standing in the road. Fortunately, the grouse did not stray far from the road, allowing satisfying looks for all participants. After lunch in Choteau, we drove through Freezeout Lake Wildlife Management Area (US-89 bisects the refuge), pausing to admire the nesting American Avocets, as well as Cinnamon and Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Eared Grebe (in breeding plumage), Black-necked Stilt and Forster's Tern. Ring-necked Pheasant and Swainson's (on nest), Red-tailed and Ferruginous Hawks were also spotted along US-89 before we reached Interstate-15, just north of Great Falls.

From Great Falls, we continued to Billings via back roads, first US-87, then US 191 to US-12. Late in the afternoon, we stopped in Two Dot,

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Tropical Audubon Conservation Committee Meetings

TAS members and guests are invited to attend this and other Conservation Committee meetings at 7:30 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Meetings are held at the Doc Thomas House, 5530 Sunset Dr., Miami, 33143. Call 305-667-7337 for more information.

Wed. Sept. 24

Our first Conservation Meeting of the fall will be a panel discussion on the FPL power plant expansion.

Wed. Oct. 22

This month's meeting features a panel on Climate Change and the Everglades.

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a barely-on-the-map location I had visited in 2003 with Robin Diaz, Stefan Schlick and Leo Miller. During that previous visit, we found two target birds, Mountain Plover and McCown's Longspur. Driving into short-grass prairie habitat on Haymaker Road, north of US-12, we soon spotted McCown's Longspurs, many performing their aerial mating displays. Also seen were Northern Harrier, Horned Lark, Vesper Sparrow, Chestnut-collared Longspur and Western Meadowlark. In spite of a thorough search of the first few miles of Haymaker Road, we failed to find a Mountain Plover. Running out of daylight, we proceeded to our motel in Billings, to prepare for our early-morning flights back to south Florida.

ABRIDGED BIRD LIST

Trumpeter Swan
Harlequin Duck
Common Goldeneye
Barrow's Goldeneye
Common Merganser
Gray Partridge
Ring-necked Pheasant

Dusky Grouse
Ruffed Grouse
Western Grebe
Clark's Grebe
Northern Goshawk
Ferruginous Hawk
Golden Eagle
Prairie Falcon
Long-billed Curlew
California Gull
Great Gray Owl
Black Swift
Vaux's Swift
White-throated Swift
Calliope Hummingbird
Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Lewis' Woodpecker
Red-naped Sapsucker
Williamson's Sapsucker
Three-toed Woodpecker
White-headed Woodpecker
Black-backed Woodpecker
Western Wood-Pewee
Hammond's Flycatcher
Cordilleran Flycatcher
Say's Phoebe
Plumbeous Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Gray Jay
Pinyon Jay (heard only)
Clark's Nutcracker
Black-billed Magpie
Common Raven

Horned Lark
Violet-green Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Mountain Chickadee
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Winter Wren
American Dipper
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Mountain Bluebird
Townsend's Solitaire
Varied Thrush
Sage Thrasher
(heard only)
Townsend's Warbler
MacGillivray's Warbler
Western Tanager
Black-headed Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting
Green-tailed Towhee
Spotted Towhee
Brewer's Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
McCown's Longspur
Western Meadowlark
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Bullock's Oriole
Black Rosy-Finch
Cassin's Finch
Pine Siskin

What Our Friends Are Doing

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

The Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society meets at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road (South entrance) on 4th Tuesdays at 7:30. Meetings are free and open to the public, with refreshments starting at 7:15, plant raffle and discussion of the raffle plants (lots of neat, hard-to-get stuff!). For more information about all activities, call 305-255-6404 or see dade.fnpschapters.org.

September 23 program:

Rob Hopper, Landscape Architect -
"Environmental Art and Green Architecture." These fields embrace innovative environmental components. Rob will explore the positive opportunities they offer to restore our environment and why we need more of both in South Florida.

October 28 program:

Dr. Joyce Maschinski, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden -
"Fairchild's Pine Rockland Corridor Program"

A complete list of the birds and mammals seen during our Great Parks adventure is available on the TAS website at www.tropicalaudubon.org

Tour Participants:

Brian Rapoza, Paul Bithorn, Susana Barciela and Dan Zuckerman; Kathy Burkhart, Nancy Freedman, Linda McCandless, Maria Rodriguez, Lorena Siqueira, Arthur and Susan Sissman and Jeff Weber

Special guest:

Jimmy Farmer
(Thanks for that owl!)

TAS CALENDAR

CALENDAR OF WALKS, WORKDAYS, FESTIVALS, SALES, CLASSES - EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO DO WITH TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
The specifics for Tropical's ongoing activities are indicated below. In some cases, the trip leader has included his email address and phone number for direct contact.
Otherwise, please call TAS at 305 667 PEEP (7337) or email fieldtrips@tropicalaudubon.org, or see our web page <http://tropicalaudubon.org> for more information.

Sat. Sept. 6 — Matheson Hammock / Fairchild Tropical Garden Bird Walk John Boyd will lead birders through Matheson Hammock and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. The group meets at 7:30am in the parking area on the left inside the Matheson north entrance. Entry to Fairchild is at 10:00am. The Fairchild entrance fee will be waived for TAS members. Return is at approximately 11:30am.

Sun. Sept. 7 — Cutler Bay Birding Roberto Torres will lead this tour of Cutler Bay birding locations. Meet at Bill Sadowski Park, 17555 SW 79 Ave., at 7:30am. Other stops may include Black Point, Dump Marsh and Cutler Wetlands. Bring lunch. Walkie-talkies are recommended.

Sat. Sept. 13 — Bill Baggs Cape Florida Bird Walk Brian Rapoza will lead birders through Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park on Key Biscayne. The park opens at 8:00 AM. Participants should meet at No Name Harbor (from the entrance station, take your first right and drive west to the parking area). The walk will begin by 8:15 AM. Costs include an entrance fee to the park and the Rickenbacker Causeway toll.

Sun. Sept. 14 — A.D. Barnes Park Bird Walk Bill Boeringer will lead birders through A.D. Barnes Park. Enter on SW 72nd Ave. just north of Bird Rd. (SW 40th St.), turn left at the T intersection and park in spaces on either side of the road. Meet at 7:30am, returning at approximately 11:00am.

Sun. Sept. 21 — Matheson Hammock Bird Walk Joe Barros will lead birders through Matheson Hammock on Old Cutler Rd. immediately north of Fairchild Gardens. The group meets in the parking area on the left inside the north park entrance at 7:30am. Return is at approximately 11:00am.

Sat. Sept. 27 — Greynold's Park Bird Walk Jim King, Chief Naturalist for Miami-Dade Parks, will lead birders through Greynold's Park, 17530 West Dixie Highway in North Miami Beach. Meet at the park boathouse at 7:30am. Parking is available near the playground and the elevated mound opposite the boathouse. Return is at approximately 11:00am.

Sun., Sept. 28 — Kendall Indian Hammocks Bird Walk Jeff Weber will lead birders through Kendall Indian Hammock Park, 11395 SW 79 St. (entrance is on SW 107 Ave.) Meet at 7:30 AM at the parking area near the ballfields, returning at approximately 11:00am.

Sun. Oct 4 — A.D. Barnes Park Bird Walk Gigi Pardo will lead birders through A.D. Barnes Park. Enter on SW 72nd Ave. just north of Bird Rd. (SW 40th St.), turn left at the T intersection and park in spaces on either side of the road. Meet at 7:30am, returning at approximately 11:00am.

Sun. Oct. 5 — Bill Baggs Cape Florida Bird Walk Paul Bithorn will lead birders through Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park on Key Biscayne. The park opens at 8:00 AM. Participants should meet at No Name Harbor (from the entrance station, take your first right and drive west to the parking area). The walk will begin by 8:15 AM. Costs include an entrance fee to the park and the Rickenbacker Causeway toll.

Sat. Oct. 11 — Corkscrew Swamp / Ft. Myers Beach Birding Brian Rapoza will lead an all day carpool trip to Collier and Lee Counties. Meet at 6:00am at the east gate (on SW 55th Ave.) of the Doc Thomas property (5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami). There is an admission fee for Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary (discount for Audubon members). Bring lunch and wading shoes. Walkie-talkies are recommended.

Sun. Oct. 12 — Matheson Hammock Bird Walk Raul Urgelles will lead birders through Matheson Hammock on Old Cutler Rd. immediately north of Fairchild Gardens. The group meets in the parking area on the left inside the park entrance at 7:30am. Return is at approximately 11:00am.

Sat. Oct. 18 — South Dade Birding John Boyd will lead this all day carpool trip, which may include stops at Lucky Hammock, Castellow Hammock and Dump Marsh. Meet at 7:00am in the parking lot of the Burger King on US 1 in Florida City (just after the end of the turnpike). This is an all day trip. Bring lunch.

Sun. Oct. 19 — Biscayne Bay Kayaking Join Laura Reynolds and Art Grassia for a kayak trip from C-100 canal near Deering Estate to explore Biscayne Bay. Mileage is dependant on group experience and weather conditions. Bring a lunch and a sense of humor and adventure. Trip requires a \$20 donation with your own gear and \$45 donation if you require a kayak and gear. Trip space will be limited. Please email Laura to make a reservation at director@tropicalaudubon.org.

Sat. Oct. 25 — Shark Valley / Loop Road Birding Paul Bithorn will lead this carpool trip. Meet at 7:00am at the east gate (SW 55th Ave.) of the Doc Thomas property (5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami). Bring lunch.

Tropical Audubon Society
5530 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143

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