



## FALL CONFERENCE

August 28 – 30, 2009

University of Utah – Salt Lake City, Utah

Nathan Darnall, Conference Chairman

**Sponsored by the University of Utah's Biology Department**

### **\*\*\* SCHEDULE OF EVENTS \*\*\***

#### **Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>**

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Field trips – Times are approximate   |
| 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Registration and check-in at the Aline Skaggs Biology Building  |
| 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | Social with light dinner and beverages  |
| 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Panel discussion – Climate changes and how they affect birds and other wildlife in various parts of North America, especially in Utah |

#### **Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>**

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.   | Check-in and continental breakfast at Aline Skaggs Biology Building |
| 8:50 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.   | Welcome and introduction  |
| 9:00 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.  | Paper presentations   |
| 11:40 a.m. – 12:00 noon | General membership meeting  |
| 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.  | Lunch on your own   |
| 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.   | Paper presentations continue  |
| Evening                 | Dinner and birding on your own                                      |

#### **Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**

- |                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Field trips – Times are approximate |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|

### **\*\*\* FACILITIES (See Map on page 6) \*\*\***

**University of Utah, Department of Biology** is located at Aline Skaggs Biology Building (ASB), 259 South 1400 East, Room 210 (Auditorium). ASB is immediately west of the bookstore, in the center of the lower campus. All on-campus events will be held in the Biology Building.

**Parking** - Begin at 1300 East and 400 South in Salt Lake City. Go east to University Street (1/2 block) where 400 South becomes South Campus Drive. Continue east to 1500 East (1-1/2 block), then turn left (north) across the Trax tracks. Take the first street left (1/4 block) and head west. One A-lot is immediately to the left; the one most attendees will use is straight ahead on this street (1/8 block), immediately north of the Field House. These 2 lots are free after 6 p.m. on Friday and all day Saturday. The ASB is north of the parking lot, about a 2-minute walk past the Marriott Center for Dance building. Enter the ASB from the east side. Do not park in the large parking lot with the toll booth entrance. You will be charged on Friday night and possibly Saturday.

**Accommodations** - There are plenty of nearby motels/hotels for those who wish to overnight in Salt Lake City and many eating establishments close to the University.



### **\*\*\* FIELD TRIPS \*\*\***

The two field trips scheduled for Friday will repeat on Sunday.

1 - Behind the gates at Farmington Bay with Steve Coleman and Deedee O'Brien. August is good shorebird migration time. Steve and Deedee will take us behind some of the gates to areas not generally accessible to the public. There will be minimal walking on level dikes, and midges are not usually much of a problem then. However, you might bring insect repellent, snacks, water, and a hat.

2 – Particulars of the second field trip have not been finalized. Watch for details!

All transportation is by car caravan with meeting times and locations to be announced at a later date.

### **\*\*\* FRIDAY EVENING SOCIAL \*\*\***

The Earth's climate has experienced many changes since the planet's formation, and even within the last 10,000 years, ice sheets covered much of North America. It is also true that species have adapted to ever-changing conditions---or gone extinct. Today, the speed of climate change may exceed that of the past and may challenge species' ability to adapt. In addition, the pressures exerted by human activities create additional stress on ecosystems, perhaps limiting species' ability to adjust to changing conditions. For example, the seaside sparrow's grassy tidal marshes may become inundated with rising ocean levels, and suitable habitat might not be available elsewhere since much of the land has already been occupied by humans.

Species in Utah may fare much better than coastal species. Models suggest a warmer and slightly drier climate in Utah, though the most substantial change may be to the timing and duration of runoff. Water is crucial to the dry, Intermountain West, and humans and wildlife are likely to feel the impacts of altered flow regimes. However, some species, such as animals inhabiting mountain habitats, may be vulnerable to a warming climate. Avian responses to climate change may be as varied as there are species. For example, some may move northward--perhaps a birder's delight when trying to increase one's state life list--while others may be concentrated around fewer wetlands.

Regardless, human activities, notably habitat loss and alteration, will continue to have profound impacts on the future of Utah's wildlife. The interaction of a changing climate and impacts associated with human activities increases the complexity of conserving habitat, suggesting we must be more strategic in where and how land and water is preserved and restored. The panel will briefly discuss climate models, including temperature and precipitation in Utah, potential affects of a warmer climate on mammals such as the American pika, and possible impacts and responses of birds to climate change.



**\* \* \* SATURDAY RESEARCH PAPER SESSION \* \* \***  
**AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

8:50 a.m. – Welcome and Announcements

9:00 a.m. – **Christine Pontarolo** - Milford Wind Corridor and effects on birds

9:20 a.m. – **Chris Cline** – Mercury studies around the Great Salt Lake

9:40 a.m. – **Robert Knight** - Golden Eagles and an Army Test Structure in the Utah West Desert

10:10 a.m. – **Morning Break**

10:20 a.m. – **David Dahlgren** - Sage-Grouse in Utah: An Increased Research Effect for last decade

10:40 a.m. - **Lucas Hall** - Comparative study of methods used to trap nesting Snowy Plovers

11:00 a.m. – **Lisa Allred** – Sexual Dimorphism of Syringeal Muscle Fibers in Male and Female Songbirds

11:20 a.m. —**Sarah Ahmad** - Effects of Androgens and Denervation on Zebra Finch Syrinx Morphology

11:40 a.m.—**UOS General Business Meeting**

12:00 p.m. – **Lunch** (90 minutes)

1:30 p.m. - **Jen Hajj** - Identifying Western Migrant Buteos

1:55 p.m. – **Presentation of Student Award**

2:00 p.m.—**Eric McCulley** - Migratory and Resident Birds on the Legacy Nature Preserve Research

2:20 p.m. – **Russ Norvell** – Population Trends of Utah’s Riparian Birds: 1992 to the present

2:43 p.m.—**Mary Cheney** - Legacy Highway Noise Reduction Program

3:00 p.m.—**Keith Evans** - *Utah’s Featured Birds*, Review of Need for and Production of this Book

3:30 p.m. – Conclude



**\*\*\* REGISTRATION \*\*\***

The \$20 member registration fee includes the Friday evening social and breakfast on Saturday morning.

The cost for non-members is \$25 for Friday AND Saturday or \$12.50 for Friday ONLY or Saturday ONLY. As an alternative, you can join UOS for the remainder of 2009 for \$10. This will entitle you to the member rate at the conference and one issue of Utah Birds.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Because of increasing liability concerns due to accidents of various kinds that may occur on field trips and in and around parking lots and buildings, ALL conference participants will now be required to sign a waiver releasing the UOS and its officers and board of directors from any responsibility that may result from an unforeseen incident.

If you wish to attend the conference, please print and complete the registration and waiver forms shown below, make your check payable to UOS and mail to:

Pomera Frounce at 2118 East 4850 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84117

**THE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup>**  
**(On-site Registrations will be accepted at the door on August 28th and 29th)**

**\*\*\* QUESTIONS \*\*\***

Contact Pomera Frounce at 801-272-2755 or pinkstring@xmission.com.



**\*\*\* REGISTRATION FORM \*\*\***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number registering for Friday AND Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20 or \$25 (non-members) each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number registering for Friday ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 or \$12.50 (non-members) each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number registering for Saturday ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 or \$12.50 (non-members) each =  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

UOS membership for remainder of 2009 @ \$10.00 (NEW MEMBERS ONLY) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release and Indemnity

As a registrant for and participant in an activity, outing, or field trip ("Activity") conducted or arranged by the Utah Ornithological Society ("UOS"), I expressly acknowledge that I am aware that such events involve certain risks and dangers that include, but are not limited to, the hazards of vehicular travel, foot travel over difficult terrain, and hazardous weather conditions. I may also encounter poisonous plants, dangerous wildlife, and/or disease-carrying insects. In the event of injury, I understand there is a possibility that an accident or illness could occur in remote places without access to immediate or timely medical treatment or facilities, injuries, forces of nature, and travel.

With knowledge of the foregoing dangers, hazards, and risks of such activities, and in consideration of being permitted to participate in UOS Activities, I assume all of such risks to me and any of my property, and in consideration of being permitted to participate in any UOS Activity, on behalf of myself, my family, heirs, personal representatives, and assigns, I have and do hereby release and hold harmless UOS, its agents, trustees, instructors, officers, directors, employees, volunteers, and any contractors or sub-contractors hired in connection with such an UOS Activity from any and all liability, actions, causes of actions, debts, claims, damages, costs, losses, and disputes on account of, or in any way arising out of, personal injury, loss of life, loss or damage to property, illness, and any consequences thereof, directly or indirectly, resulting from, incident to, in connection with or arising out of the event. I further covenant and agree to indemnify, save, and hold harmless UOS, its agents, trustees, instructors, officers, directors, volunteers, employees, and any contractors or sub-contractors hired in connection with an UOS Activity, from and against any injury, damage, loss, or cost caused by any act or omission by me, negligent or otherwise, including any costs and attorney's fees incurred thereby, arising out of, or resulting from, the UOS Activity, and including any claims made by or on behalf of myself at any time as a result of any claimed injury or damage suffered during, or on account of, the UOS Activity, and I further covenant not to bring any action or make any claim UOS, its agents, employees, trustees, instructors, officers, directors, volunteers and any contractors or sub-contractors hired in connection with an UOS Activity.

I warrant and represent that I am in good health and am able to participate in UOS Activities related thereto.

I understand and agree that the original of this Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release, and Indemnity will be kept on file by UOS and binds me in connection with any and all UOS Activities in which I participate, unless specifically revoked by me in writing. I further acknowledge by signing that I understand fully and completely the contents hereof and sign under no compulsion.

I have read and understand this Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release, and Indemnity, which contains the entire and final agreement related to the subject matter hereof. The terms of this document are contractual and not mere recitals.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency, contact:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return the original copy of this form at the time you register for a UOS Activity. The original copy of your signed Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release, and Indemnity will be kept on file and will apply to any and all UOS Activities in which you participate.

Map of Lower University of Utah Campus

