

Nature Calgary's Speaker Series

Tues Sep 20: Wolf and Coyote Predation in NE Alberta, presented by Dr Gilbert Proulx.

Dr Gilbert Proulx will discuss Wolf and Coyote predation on livestock in Northeast Alberta, how to increase producers' understanding of wildlife depredation, and preventive practices. Dr Proulx works in wildlife ecology and management, specializing in mammalogy. He has studied populations and habitats of ungulates, rodents and carnivores in North America and tracked mammals in Africa and South America. He has written textbooks, papers, field guides, and educational material for the public and wildlife professionals.

*Speaker meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from September to May, at 7:30pm, at **Cardel Theatre** (180 Quarry Park Blvd SE), and are open to all.*

To suggest a speaker contact John McFaul at 403-289-9517 or info@naturecalgary.com.

The Theatre is made available to non-profit organizations at very low cost by Cardel Foundations. Please show your appreciation by bringing donations of non-perishable food for the Calgary Food Bank.

Directions: On Deerfoot Tr, take the EAST Glenmore Tr exit. After you cross the Bow River, take the next exit (18 St. SE) and head south. At the 5th intersection, turn left onto Quarry Park Blvd SE, and then left again into the parking lot for CARDEL. Cardel Theatre map at <http://cardeltheatre.com>



Coyote ©Anne K. Elliott

Issues, Events and Updates

School Grants: If you know of a school in Calgary who could use financial assistance for a field trip that takes the students into the natural environment, please direct it to the [Nature Calgary Grants page](http://www.naturecalgary.com/get-involved/grants/), <http://www.naturecalgary.com/get-involved/grants/>.

Community Natural Foods (6120 1A Street SW) chose Nature Calgary to receive funds through their reusable bag credit program during July 2016. Thanks to CNF for a grant of \$741!

TD Friends of the Environment has provided Nature Calgary with a grant of \$2500 to purchase educational items for our childrens' nature exhibits and displays. Many thanks!

Nature Calgary has been invited to discussions and public engagement with City of Calgary Parks and other departments on various topics. For more information, please contact Andrew Hart (president@naturecalgary.com), Sue Konopnicki (secretary@naturecalgary.com), or Ian Ross (fieldtrips@naturecalgary.com).

May 2016 Species Count: Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who participated in the May Species Count on May 28-29. With these wonderful birders, we are able to gather results and look for trends and special species. Below are some notable sightings from the Count. Some of these species are known in these areas, but were not reported last year for the count. If you require more information on the event, or would like to see the report, please contact Melanie Seneviratne (see p.2).

Rare or Uncommonly Reported Species, May 2016:

Langdon Slough:	Arctic Tern
Votier's Flats:	Le Conte's Sparrow, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Turkey Vulture (count wk.)
Nose Hill Park:	Long-eared Owl, Brown Thrasher
Edworthy Park:	Broad-winged Hawk
Springbank:	Baird's Sparrow
Priddis:	Black-headed Grosbeak



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**Annual Fall Banquet:
Saturday, Nov 5:
please see p.4**



Indian Paintbrush on Many Springs trail ©Stephen Spring

For latest sightings, check
Albertabird

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Albertabird>

BirdTrax

<https://sites.google.com/site/birdtrax/birdyyc/>

Rare Bird Alert:
Report rare bird reports to
Bird Alert Compiler,
Terry Korolyk at
403-254-1878



LeConte's Sparrow
©Andrew Hart

Nature Calgary is run
entirely by volunteers!

Opportunities:

[Get Involved page](#)

Thanks:

[Volunteer Recognition page](#)



Water Valley:

25 White-winged Crossbills (none last year), Broad-winged Hawk, 2 Wood Ducks (haven't seen them in 10 years), Great Grey Owls, Sandhill Cranes, Yellow Rail, Upland Sandpiper, Sedge Wren

Millarville:

Bobolinks, Sandhill Cranes (both 1st time in this area for the count)

Mt Lorette/Kananaskis:

7 Clark's Nutcrackers, MacGillivray's Warbler, no reported raptors

Bow Valley PP:

Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Red Crossbill

Longview:

Sharp-Tailed Grouse

North Strathmore:

16 Black-bellied Plovers

S. Strathmore/Marsland:

Snow Goose, Sabine's Gull

South Glenmore Park:

Scarlet Tanager (count week)

Nature Calgary Bird Study Group

Sep 7: Sharing the Skies: presented by Gary Kindrat. Gary will talk about the Calgary International Airport's Wildlife Management Program, and he'll discuss the regulatory requirements, players involved, plan development, and implementation of control techniques. Gary Kindrat is the Calgary Airport Authority's Wildlife Program Manager, and has 30 years experience in the environmental field, mostly in waterfowl research and management.

Oct 5: Birding Colombia's Central and Santa Marta regions, presented by Mark Rubensohn.

Mark will take you on a birdwatching tour through a myriad of habitats and elevations, and share some of the excitement and travails of traveling in this exotic destination, from Bogota to the top of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, to the Riohaca lagoons. Mark grew up in South Africa where he developed a checklist of over 700 local species. He graduated as a veterinarian and worked in Namibia, Australia, Israel, South Africa, Calgary and Okotoks. He has birded in North America, Israel, Mexico, Cuba, Peru, and Europe, and most recently, Colombia. After the presentation Mark will be happy to discuss recommendations for travel to Colombia.

Bird Study Group meets 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm, in Room 211, Biosciences Bldg, U of C. Contact, Andrew Hart 403-279-5209 or birdstudy@naturecalgary.com.

Birds & Beers: starting again at the Royal Canadian Legion, 9202 Horton Rd SW, 6:00-9:00pm. **Dates are Oct 28, Nov 18.** Events will be in the private room at the back, past the food counter. All are welcome including accompanied minors. [More information.](#)

Volunteer News and Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities: contact volunteers*@naturecalgary.com for general inquiries; and Melanie Seneviratne (melaniesene*@gmail.com or 403-815-1275) for the following:

- Nature Calgary will once again have a presence at the **FCPP Fall Star Night on October 8** at Shannon Terrace. In past years our volunteers have had an enjoyable experience, not only interacting with the public, but attending presentations and using the telescopes. Nature Calgary has some new items added to our displays, and this will be their first exposure.
- **Website Coordinator:** A replacement for this role will be needed by **Dec 2016**. The main tools used are WordPress and MailChimp, but we dabble in Dropbox, HTML, Flickr, Google Maps, PayPal, Facebook, and HTML, and work with a contractor/web-host. This role could provide experience for an IT person between jobs or recently retired.
- **Annual Banquet:** The annual banquet will be **Nov 5** at Lakeview Community Hall. Assistance is required in setting up the room and with taking down tables and chairs following the evening. If you are attending the banquet and can spare an hour before the event or a half hour following, please contact Melanie (above) or Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.

Nature Calgary Field Trips

Please contact Ian at fieldtrips*@naturecalgary.com if you can suggest or lead a trip. You don't have to be an expert, just know of a good place to bird or botanize, and be willing to coordinate.

Tues Aug 30, 6:30pm: Bird Carburn Park: Carburn Park is S from Glenmore Tr at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs to Carburn Park. Meet in parking lot. Leader Sue Konopnicki, 403-918-6637.

Field trips are free and open to all.

Highlighted trips require pre-registration.

Want to suggest or lead a trip? Contact Ian at fieldtrips*@naturecalgary.com

New trips and updates:

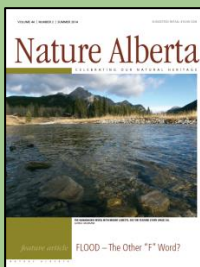
<http://naturecalgary.com/field-trips/>. **Check often!**

Note: Remove the *s in email addresses. They are used to discourage spam.

Leaders of Field Trips:

1) The new waiver form has a column for eBird users. Please **download the new waiver form** for all future trips, and share the list of birds seen after you input your list on **eBird**.

2) Please turn in signed **waiver forms** to Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M Calgary, AB, T2P 2K4, or at General and Bird Study meeting welcome tables.



Nature Calgary members can subscribe to Nature Alberta (quarterly magazine) for a reduced rate.

Thu Sep 1, 7:30am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Sat Sep 3, 9:30am: Fungi 101. Fungus forest foray for everything you always wanted to know about mushrooms. Meet at West Bragg Creek Trail Recreation Area parking lot. To get there, start at Bragg Creek shopping centre, turn right onto Balsam Ave., cross the bridge and at the T intersection turn left. Then follow the road straight to the parking lot at the end. Leader Karel Bergmann, ph. 403-285-2380 or email lacerta*@shaw.ca

Sat Sep 10, 9:00am: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is located at 2425 - 9 Ave. SE. From Deerfoot Tr, take the Blackfoot Tr westbound exit to 19 St. SE, turn left onto 9 Ave. SE. & drive approx. 1 km east, turn right into parking area. Meet in the parking lot. Leader Janet Gill, 403-831-7828. **Beginners Welcome.**

Sat Sep 24, 9:00am: Bird North Glenmore Park. Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Penny Smith, 403 249-5997.

Sat Sep 24, 8:00am: Birding at the Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area (ASCCA). Go 1.6 km. west of the City limit on Hwy 22X, then turn left onto 160 St for another 1.6 km. Meet at the parking lot. \$2 at sign-in is required. Register in advance, contacting Grant Brydle at 403-720-4957 or jamesbrydle*@shaw.ca. Bring water, snacks, binoculars, camera, **and rain gear.**

Sun Sep 25, 8:00am: Birding East of Calgary. Meet at Carburn Park parking lot. Drive south from Glenmore Trail on 18th Street SE to second stop light, then turn right and follow signs to Carburn Park. Bring lunch. Leader Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Sat Oct 1, 8:00am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours. Call leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Sat Oct 8, 9:30am: Cold weather birding! Meet at Parking Lot C in North Glenmore Park. Chances for Loons, Scoters, Swans, White-fronted, Snow, and Ross's Geese; Rough-legged Hawks, late fall shorebirds, gulls from the north, migrating songbirds. Trip will go until approximately 4:00pm. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.

Mon Oct 10, Thanksgiving, 8:30am: Birding at the Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area (ASCCA). Go 1.6 km. west of the City limit on Hwy 22X, then turn left onto 160 St for another 1.6 km. Meet at the parking lot. \$2 at sign-in is required. Register in advance, contacting Grant Brydle at 403-720-4957 or jamesbrydle*@shaw.ca. Bring water, snacks, binoculars, camera, **and rain gear.**

Sat Oct 22, 8:00am: Bird East of Calgary. Meet Carburn Park car park. Drive south from Glenmore Trail at 18th Street SE, to second stop-light, then turn right and follow signs to Carburn Park. Bring lunch. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Sat Oct 29, 9:00am: Bird North Glenmore Park. Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Penny Smith, 403 249-5997.

General Interest

Friends of Fish Creek Prov Park Autumn Birding Course: starts **Aug 29.** **Speaker Program Sep 22, 7:00pm** at Shannon Terrace: Geology on your Doorstep by Jon Noad.

Non-motorized recreation survey: Provide your time and expenditure data to this U of C survey. Birding could be entered under "Other" activity. [More info and Survey link.](#)

Global Shorebird Counting Program goes Sep 2-6, and is part of World Shorebirds Day. Register your location [here](#) and enter your shorebird sightings on eBird. The goal is to raise awareness about the need to protect shorebirds and habitats, both in decline, and bolster that with regular monitoring and counting.



Golden Eagle © RMERF

Pronghorn Corridor Enhancement Project (Antelope Fencing): Volunteers organized by Alberta Fish & Game Assoc will be modifying fences **Sep 24-25** near Milk River to allow pronghorns to pass easily on their migrations. Pronghorns don't jump fences like deer do! If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact T.J. Schwanky at tj-afga*@shaw.ca or 403-932-3585. It's a great opportunity to have some fun, meet some new friends and to really make a difference for pronghorn in Alberta. [More information](#)

Eagle Migration Count Assistant Observers: the annual fall migration count of Golden Eagles and other raptors will take place at Mt Lorette in Kananaskis, **Sep 20-Nov 15, 2016**. Join or volunteer to aid experienced observers from the Rocky Mountain Eagle Research Foundation who are at the site sunrise to sunset daily. Binoculars and telescope equipment will be available. All dedicated and amateur bird watchers are invited to come watch or act as spotters or "skysweepers". Check www.eaglewatch.ca for the updated daily Golden Eagle and overall raptor counts, and the Mt Lorette location. Enjoy a family-friendly and educational outing! Please contact Cliff Hansen via the [RMERF website's Contact page](#) if you are interested in going to the observing site.

Nature Alberta Photo Contest 2016: free, great prizes. Deadline **Sep 30**.

Nature Calgary members receive a 10% discount (with membership card) at **The Wild Bird Store** D3-8330 Macleod Tr S 403-640-2632
Fairplay Stores 2604 Kensington Road Northwest 403-283-2117



Nature Calgary Fall Banquet 2016

Join us on Saturday, November 5

Lakeview Community Hall
6110 – 34 Street SW

Time: 6 - 7 pm: Cash Bar

7 pm: Three course buffet dinner (*choice of prime rib roast or vegetarian selection*)

8 pm: Guest Speaker

Our Guest Speaker, John Acorn, the "Nature Nut" is a well-known Albertan who has shared his love for entomology and natural history with the world. Acorn is an internationally known scientist, author and broadcaster whose career has been marked with creativity and a passion for science. As a best-selling author he has had a huge impact on amateur entomology, and his field guides have earned him numerous awards. As research associate at the Royal Tyrrell Museum and the E.H. Strickland Entomology Museum, Acorn continually goes beyond his professional commitments and generously gives his time to promote the field. He has received many awards for his promotion of science and nature.

John will talk to us about **Some Favourite Alberta Birding Spots**.

Price: TBA.

Online payment available after Sep 2 on [NC's Banquet page](#), or **Pay in person** at the Sep 20 or Oct 18 Nature Calgary meetings, or **Send cheques** (payable to Nature Calgary) to:

Nature Calgary, PO Box 981, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4. **Please write "Banquet"** on the envelope and include your contact information and meal selection – beef/vegetarian.

Free parking -- Door prizes -- Art Sale

Free book exchange: please bring unwanted nature books to share.

To donate prizes, please call Penny Smith, 403-283-9260.

If you are attending the banquet and can spare an hour before the event or a half hour following to help, please contact Melanie at melaniesene*@gmail.com or Penny Smith, 403-283-9260.

Memberships

Individual \$20.00/yr.

Family \$25.00/yr.

Contact Val 403-288-7441 or membership@naturecalgary.com

Join or renew online

<http://naturecalgary.com>

Nature Calgary publishes

Nature News 8 times per year.

Send copy to:

[newsletter@](mailto:newsletter@naturecalgary.com)

naturecalgary.com or phone 403-239-9434.

Mailing address: Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M Calgary, AB, T2P 2K4

Deadline for the next Nature News issue is Oct 1, 2016