

March 2014
Newsletter



PRAIRIE FALCON

Missouri Breaks Audubon Chapter Newsletter

Thursday

March 20th

**First United Methodist
Church**

Media Center

117 N. Central Ave

Board Meeting

6:30 pm

Regular Meeting

7:30 pm

Presenter:

Nancy Drilling

**"Owl banding in western
Dakotas"**

Chapter Website:

www.missouribreaksaudubon.org/

THIS MONTH:

Bald Eagle Awareness Days



Bald Eagle Awareness Days were held across the state from February 12-22, 2014. Programs by the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota were held at the Outdoor Campus East in Sioux Falls on February 20th, Lower Brule Schools on February 21st, and the KCCR Farm, Home and Sports show in Pierre on February 22nd. They were also held by the Black Hills Raptor Center at the Raptor Open House at the Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City on February 22nd. Along with these programs, a statewide bookmark contest was also conducted with winning bookmarks being printed and distributed to public libraries. More event pictures and winning bookmarks can be seen in the Bald Eagle Awareness Days newsletter located on the chapter website.

MISSOURI BREAKS
AUDUBON CHAPTER

National Audubon Society
Box 832, Pierre, SD 57501
Established 1978

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Dave Ode, *Program Chair*

Doug Backlund, *Christmas Count*

Dave Johnson, *Membership*

Doug Backlund, *Field Trip*

Endangered Species Act turns 40!!!

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 was signed into law by President Richard Nixon on December 28, 1973. It was designed to protect critically imperiled species from extinction as a "consequence of economic growth and development untempered by adequate concern and conservation."

Hear are some facts from the National Wildlife Federation website:

-According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 99% of the species ever listed under the law remain on the planet.

-Of the listed species whose conditions are known, 68% are stable or improving.

-A study published in the Annual Review of Ecological Systematics identified 172 species that may have went extinct without the protection of the ESA.

-A study published in *Science* magazine reported the median number of surviving individuals at the time of listing is 1,000 for animals and 100 for plants!

-In 2005, Congress gave \$143 million to implement the ESA, about the same price as approximately 18 miles of a four-lane federal highway! This represents an average cost of \$0.48 per American per year.

Sandhill Crane Migration

K.C. Jensen from SDSU wants sandhill crane sightings in SD that occur before or on March 25th. He wants a count, location, date and time. Send information to kent.jensen@sdsu.edu

Upcoming Events

- South Dakota Birding Festival @ Fort Randall: May 2-4, 2014
- SDOU Spring Meeting @ Lantern Motel, Milbank, SD: May 23-25, 2014
- 3rd Annual Outdoor Purple Martin Festival, Grand Forks, ND: June 7, 2014