

Basin & Range Weekend Seminar

June 7-9, 2024 — East Canyon State Park, Utah

Fee for Basin & Range participation

- \$40 for attendees 13+
- \$35 for attendees 65+
- \$5 for attendees 12 and younger

Saturday evening program—7:15-8:15 PM

Presenter: Tully Frain

Presentation: Implementation of the Motus Wildlife Tracking System Around Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake

Description: The Motus Wildlife Tracking System is a radio technology using tags to track moving birds. The Tracy Aviary and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources have partnered to deploy a Motus Network across the Salt Lake Valley. With the installation of 20 tracking stations during Fall 2023, this project aims to revolutionize our understanding of bird migration patterns. Insights will be provided into the challenges faced in developing this network, Tracy Aviary's Motus tagging projects, and how we plan to expand the network.

GSLA Fledglings Club at Basin & Range

Children 5-11 years of age are invited to participate in Saturday morning and evening programs designed just for them. Story time, fun crafts, a scavenger hunt, nocturnal birding, and bird-inspired snacks are planned for our young birders. Please use the registration form to let us know you are coming.

Additional information

- If you choose not to camp with the group, you are responsible for making your own overnight arrangements. Nearby lodging is available at the East Canyon Resort; reserve 21 days in advance. See <https://www.eastcanyon.com/rentals>.

Questions: Please contact:

Jeanne Le Ber, B&R Coordinator

Phone: 801.532.7384; 801.230.4373 (talk & text)

Email: jeanne.leber@utah.edu

Nancy Lombardo, B&R Coordinator

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUED

Session description: Session focuses on native reptiles and amphibians of northern Utah. Explore nearby habitats and learn about the ecology, physiology, and life histories of various herp species that call the Wasatch home. Learn what makes reptiles and amphibians so unique.

Brian K. Jones is a Consulting Geologist, with degrees from Stanford University, and the University of Alaska–Fairbanks. He has authored over 15 articles on geology, 20 articles on fly-fishing and five novels. Brian was awarded best article of 2020 by the Rocky Mountain Association of Geologist: Geology, and the Skiing Experience.

Session description: The Wasatch Mountains are the east edge of the Great Basin, which extends westward to the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Over the past 30 million years, tectonic forces have spread this area apart. The result is a series of north-trending mountain ranges and valleys. Along the Nevada-Utah border the mountains rise to elevations over 13,000 feet. These are the spectacular Island Mountains of the Great Basin, isolated ecosystems that are jewels within a sea of sagebrush.

John Middleton has been an observer and aficionado of birds all his life. He has led field trips for Great Salt Lake Audubon and has volunteered for Tracy Aviary Conservation Department's Breeding Season Surveys for over a decade. He currently is the Field Trip Coordinator for GSLA.

Session description: Participants will do a bird walk and learn about birding apps that help with bird identification and keep a record of birds seen. We will learn how to misidentify birds faster and with confidence. A good birder has misidentified more birds than a beginner.

Weston Smith has been birding with his family since he was an infant. With all this early exposure it was natural for him to become a good bird identifier, both visual and audio. Along with his father Arnold, he has participated in conducting bird tours for The Great Salt Lake Bird Festival from its inception.

Session description: Participants walk the dirt road on west side of the reservoir from River's Edge campground. Weston talks about the birds that breed in the various habitats. This is about a mile walk each way on slight up and downgrades. There are a dozen bluebird boxes, with luck you may get close views of birds using them.



Cover art by M.H. Roberts © 2024
Osprey by Klaus Bielefeldt © 2024

Great Salt Lake Audubon
Invites You to Our 40th Annual

Basin & Range Weekend Seminar

June 7-9, 2024



River's Edge Group Campground
East Canyon State Park

Co-hosts:

Great Salt Lake Audubon
East Canyon State Park

<http://greatsaltlakeaudubon.org/>
<https://stateparks.utah.gov/parks/east-canyon/>
Online registration: <https://tinyurl.com/49x2ztk>

Basin & Range Seminar 2024

THIS SEMINAR brings together students of nature, lay people, and professionals for field studies in East Canyon State Park, at the River’s Edge Group Campground.

OUR PURPOSE is to provide participants with an opportunity to understand the unique environment that sustains us. We seek to illuminate relationships among plant life, animals, humans, and the physical characteristics of mountains, deserts, and water.

PARTICIPANTS accompany instructors for three classes in any of six sessions: Saturday morning and afternoon, and Sunday morning. Saturday morning sessions begin at 9:00; Saturday afternoon sessions begin at 1:00; and the Sunday morning sessions begin at 8:00. Saturday evening program on motus technology follows potluck dinner. Parents are required to supervise their children.

THE SITE: East Canyon State Park is located on the east side of the Wasatch Mountains along the shores of East Canyon Reservoir. The area offers various outdoor activities including birding, fishing, and wildlife viewing. Attendees gather at the River’s Edge Group Campground on the south end of the reservoir at an elevation of ~ 5,700 feet. Vault toilets are provided. The site has two covered pavilions and grills, but NO potable water. There are no hookups for RVs. Registrants will receive directions to the campground by email after registering. From Salt Lake City the commute is less than 30 miles and takes under an hour.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Primitive camping. Bring everything you will need. Nearby East Canyon Resort offers condominiums rentals.

MEALS: The Saturday evening meal is a combination of potluck and grilled menu; please provide an appetizer, salad, or dessert. GSLA will provide a grilling option (hamburger, veggie burger, hotdogs, or veggie kabob) and soft drinks for the Saturday evening meal. Otherwise, participants should bring all their own meals.

TUITION for the seminar is \$40; \$35 for seniors 65 and older.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is **Wednesday, May 29, 2024**. Class choices are honored on a **first come first served** basis. Notice confirming your registration and a detailed map to the campground will be sent via email. Cancellations must be received by Wednesday, May 29 to receive a refund.

Register early for best class choices. Event limited to 50 attendees. Class sizes are limited, and registrants may be re-assigned if needed. Registration opens Wednesday, May 1 and closes May 29, 2024.

CLASSES OFFERED

Title

Birding by Ear
Flower Power: Plants of the Great Basin
Reptiles & Amphibians of Northern Utah
Geology of the Great Basin & Wasatch Mountains
Birding with Apps
Birding East Canyon State Park

INSTRUCTOR

Who

Ian Batterman
Lynn Bohs
Chris Frauenhofer
Brian K. Jones
John Middleton
Weston Smith

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES AND SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Ian Batterman has been an avid birder for 30 years. Ian is the Volunteer Education Specialist at Loveland Living Planet Aquarium and has 18 years of education experience.

Session description: Breeding birds return to Utah in the spring. With all the foliage, it is often hard to see them. That is why birding by ear is a vital skill. With this bird walk, we will focus on what to listen for and how to identify species of birds in the cacophony of sound that is the breeding bird chorus.

Lynn Bohs is a botanist in the Biology Department at the University of Utah. She has taught hundreds of students how to identify plants in her field classes. Her research concentrates on the nightshade family (Solanaceae) that includes potatoes, tomatoes, and chili peppers.

Session description: Participants learn many of the common trees, shrubs, and herbs of the region by getting up close to observe their secrets. No prior botany knowledge needed. Please bring a hand lens if you have one. Lynn provides a species lists, participant provides a clipboard and pen/pencil. Session involves easy walking.

Tully Frain joined the Tracy Aviary as a Conservation Ecologist in the Spring of 2023. Tully runs both Motus and bird banding programs. He is on a mission to learn about bird migration and how to conserve the birds around Great Salt Lake. Tully is a New York native and has worked as a biologist in Wisconsin, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania building Motus Stations and running bird banding programs.

Session description: see Saturday evening program.

Chris Frauenhofer is the wildlife biologist for the Utah National Guard, conducting wildlife management and research across the state on DOD owned lands working with a verity of species and habitats. Chris is particularly passionate and versed with reptile and amphibian conservation. His current research focuses on movement patterns, habitat selection, and conservation of snakes.

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Mail-in Class Registration Form below
Online registration: <https://tinyurl.com/49x2ztk5>

Online registration is linked on GSLA website. To pay by check, fill out one form per registrant (below or print online form) and mail to:
Jeanne Le Ber—Basin & Range
550 South 400 East #3407
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Please make check payable to:
Great Salt Lake Audubon; please print clearly!

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Circle one class for each session.

SESSION I SATURDAY—9:00—NOON
Batterman—Birding by Ear
Bohs—Plants
Middleton—Birding Apps
Smith—Birding East Canyon State Park

SESSION II SATURDAY—1:00—4:00
Bohs—Plants
Frauenhofer—Reptiles
Jones—Geology
Middleton—Birding apps

SESSION III SUNDAY—8:00—11:00
Batterman—Birding by Ear
Frauenhofer—Reptiles
Jones—Geology
Smith—Birding East Canyon State Park

Great Salt Lake Audubon Fledglings (ages 5-11)
 Yes (one registration per child needed)

Select one food option:

- Hamburger
- Hot Dog
- Veggie burger
- Veggie Kabob