

# Boulder County Nature Association



*"Our mission: To educate, inform, and inspire for the purpose of conserving and promoting resilient natural ecosystems in our region."*

Volume 34, Number 1  
Winter 2016

## 24th Annual Boulder County Ecosystem Symposium Saturday, March 12th, 2016

### SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Megan Bowes

We are excited to announce this spring's Ecosystem Symposium focusing on the connections between Boulder County's natural and agricultural resources. Boulder County has a rich agricultural heritage in addition to its diverse native plant and wildlife populations. While the early days of supplying mining camps with food provisions have morphed into modern wheat farms, beet fields, cattle production and hay crops, Boulder County's agricultural practices have done much to affect plant and wildlife populations--for the good and otherwise. Join us on Saturday, March 12 to learn more about how these two seemingly distinct resources interact with each other.

For the last 11 years, I've had the opportunity to work for Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks department. During that time, I've witnessed firsthand how traditional agricultural practices have replaced or otherwise enhanced natural disturbance regimes like flooding, fire and grazing. While streams have been channelized and damned, floodplains built upon, fire suppressed and many native ungulates extirpated, ranchers, ditch riders and other agricultural operators inadvertently fill some of those rolls. On the other hand, some agricultural practices are indeed in conflict with natural resource conservation. And then there's this thing called climate change and the unknowns it will bring in the short and long term future.

We hope you will join us on March 12th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm for the 24th annual Boulder County Ecosystem Symposium. The symposium is free and open to the public and will be held at Boulder County Parks and Open Space offices, 5201 Saint Vrain Road in Longmont.

Look for additional information about the conference in future issues of the BCNA Buzz and on our website and Facebook page. We gratefully thank our program sponsors: Boulder County Audubon, Boulder County Parks and Open Space, Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks and the Boulder chapter of the Colorado Native Plant Society. If you would like to help with additional planning and organization, please contact Megan Bowes (303-561-4883 or [orbowesm@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:orbowesm@bouldercolorado.gov)).

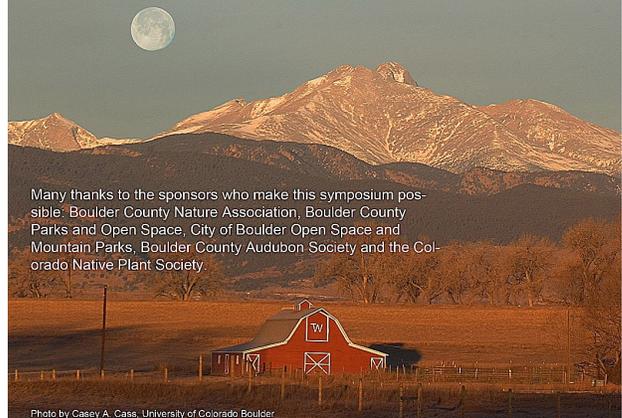
## Sustainable Agriculture: Food for Thought

### 24th Annual Boulder County Ecosystem Symposium

Saturday, March 12, 2016  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Boulder County Parks and Open Space, Prairie Rooms  
(5201 Saint Vrain Rd, Longmont)

The Symposium is free and open to the public.

Donations will be accepted for the Boulder County Nature Association's Research Grants program. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Don't forget to bring your reusable plate, cup, and utensils for a complimentary lunch.



Many thanks to the sponsors who make this symposium possible: Boulder County Nature Association, Boulder County Parks and Open Space, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks, Boulder County Audubon Society and the Colorado Native Plant Society.

Photo by Casey A. Cass, University of Colorado Boulder

**Letter from the President**  
Sue Cass

Isn't it fascinating how quickly time passes as we enter our so called "Golden Years"? For the second time, I find myself "term limited" on the BCNA Board of Directors (BOD), though it seems like only yesterday I rejoined the Board after an obligatory year off. This time is different and, for the first time in my years of service, the BCNA Board finds itself in a bit of a quandary! We have a group of exceptional individuals currently serving on the BOD, each of whom has answered the call to serve in support of BCNA and its "mission" and each of whom has found his or her "niche", contributing in invaluable ways that sustain BCNA and move the organization, its membership and our community forward. And our quandary? This is a young Board in terms of years of service and not one is comfortable taking on the position of "president" with the time commitment and knowledge of organizational history they perceive is required to do the job. I'd put my money on any one of them!

With this scenario in mind, the BOD and Nominating Committee determined our best solution was to consult with past Board members to see if one of them would be willing to step back onto the Board in the position of "president" and we knew this was asking a lot! Fortunately, those we approached were dear friends and fellow environmentalists who didn't laugh and dismiss us out of hand and one, after some time to think it over, said yes! Former Board member, treasurer and, most importantly, "president" of BCNA Michael Delaney has graciously agreed to run for the position of "president" which I will sadly vacate, again, in February! Of course, all Board vacancies are open to anyone and everyone who wishes to step up to the plate and this year's ballot will call for nominees for a total of six positions. They are, in addition to president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and two at-large positions. It's interesting that, though the "By-laws" were designed to stagger vacancies, we find ourselves in the position of needing to elect every officer on the Board to new terms, mostly the result of the unforeseen midterm resignation of our current secretary. Thank you so much, Shirley! Our vice-president Megan Bowes and treasurer Howard Witkin will run for the consecutive terms for which the "By-laws" indicate they are eligible, as will at-large members Kerrie Bryan and Mary Stuber and, remember, this is an "election"! We encourage you to take the helm of this great organization to help steer it toward a bright future, if not on the Board of Directors, then on any one of BCNA's vital committees--Research Grants, Education, Publications, Ecosymposium, Ecosystem Stewardship, Membership and more--so many noble opportunities! You can do it!

**BCNA Board of Directors and Committee Appointments!**

If you are interested in serving on the BCNA Board of Directors or have a particular talent or expertise that supports the important work of BCNA's active committees, contact Nominating Committee members Howard Witkin, [hwitkin@comcast.net](mailto:hwitkin@comcast.net) or Mary Stuber, [canoemary@comcast.net](mailto:canoemary@comcast.net) to discuss the many opportunities BCNA provides for service to our community and "Mother Nature"!

**Call for BCNA Grant Proposals**  
**Deadline March 5, 2016**

Peter Kleinman, Chair, BCNA Grants Committee

Boulder County Nature Association (BCNA) is a private, non-profit membership organization committed to preserving the natural history and environment of the Boulder County Region through research, documentation, and public education. This year, we are again pleased to offer research funding by providing small grants for projects consistent with our mission. Grants are available in two categories: (1) the Ken Iverson Memorial Grant provides up to \$400 specifically for research on our native cats (mountain lion, lynx, and bobcat). One grant is awarded each calendar year, and (2) General BCNA individual grants up to \$1000 to \$2000 are available to fund projects which will add to our understanding of the natural history of Boulder County and environs or will augment the existing documentation of our local ecosystems. Past projects have included a scientific survey of butterflies, of bat species, of pika populations and ecosystems, and a comparison of fauna and flora adjacent to trails comparing those trails that allow dogs and those that don't. There have been many other projects as well. BCNA is proud to support solid research. We currently have up to \$4000 to support such grants.

Proposals should include a detailed methodology, timeline, and a complete budget including all funding sources. The application should be limited to five pages. No institutional overhead is allowed. Individuals at institutions requiring overhead can apply as independent scholars. Successful applicants will sign a contract specifying they will complete the project in the current year, will share the results with BCNA and will allow BCNA to share written reports of results on the web. You may be asked to make a presentation at the Annual Meeting.

Applications should be submitted not later than March 5, 2016 either to the BCNA post office address at P.O. Box 493, Boulder, Co 80306 or to [peterk218@gmail.com](mailto:peterk218@gmail.com).

## 2016 BCNA Classes and Registration Dates Announced

Mary Stuber, Education Chair

In 2015 we expanded the number of our ecological field classes to eight, and they all filled quickly. Demand for our classes remains high due to our relationships with and selection of the best professionals and leaders in their fields who serve as our instructors. Our format of offering an introductory indoor evening presentation, followed by one or more field sessions to observe and demonstrate the subject, gives ample opportunity for in-depth, hands-on study with plenty of time for questions. Classes are limited to a small number of participants to ensure that each person receives individual attention and can closely observe what is being shown. It's a winning formula.

For 2016 we've added a ninth class, and it's a dynamite line-up! You asked and we listened. Once again, Steve Jones will offer his popular *Bird Song* class. Learning how to identify birds by the sounds they make, as well as by visual cues, will exponentially expand your understanding of what's around you, and increase the likelihood that you'll see it. Perry Conway is back with two classes – *Bears*, concentrating on Colorado's own black bears, and *Falcons*, featuring a close-up look at live birds of this raptor family. Rick Adams returns with his incredible hands-on *Bats* class and David Leatherman builds on last year's session with *Birding Under the Influence (of Habitat)*, exploring food webs, nesting requirements, and more. Scott Severs will help us learn to identify insects, including common ones not covered in his recent classes, in *What's Bugging You?* And Virginia Scott will lead us into the world of the *Humble bee, Bumble bee*. Did you know our state has 24 species of bumblebees? Megan Bowes will unravel the age-old mysteries that make many throw their hands up with her new class, *Bad Asters – An Intro to the Confusing World of Composites*. Finally, professional photographer, Bob Maynard, will lead a hardy group to Rocky Mountain National Park in his class, *Shoot like a Pro!*



Singing Vesper Sparrow  
by Bill Schmoker

In this newsletter you'll find a schedule of our 2016 Field Ecology Classes with complete descriptions and their dates/times that you can pull out and take with you for reference. You can also find it on our website, [www.bcna.org](http://www.bcna.org), under Activities/Classes.

### How to sign up for classes:

We are offering BCNA members a two week advantage to sign up first, by date now rather than from newsletter arrival, which varies. Members will be able to begin signing up for classes at [bcnaclassereg@gmail.com](mailto:bcnaclassereg@gmail.com) on **January 18th**. Attempts received prior to this date will **not** be honored. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, and your spot in the class is guaranteed once we receive your payment. A waiting list for each full class is kept in case of cancellations. (See our website for the refund policy and other information). Please, if you do sign up successfully and then find you cannot make a class, let us know as soon as possible so that we may offer it to someone else.

Non-members can register for any remaining spaces two weeks later, starting on **January 25th**. But please know that, because we keep our classes small, they often fill up quickly. If you'd like an early registration advantage as well, please join us at [bcna.org](http://bcna.org). Members also receive a discount on the cost of classes. And besides, BCNA is a great organization to be part of and to support.

We continue to offer free nature hikes and activities throughout the year. Watch the BCNA Buzz (if you're a member) and the website for details. The next event will be a *Snowshoe Hike to Look for White-Tailed Ptarmigan (and Decipher Animal Tracks)* sometime in January or February. If you'd like to be contacted about this event, please email me at [canoemary@comcast.net](mailto:canoemary@comcast.net). We are also working on proposals for some state-wide "behind the scenes" trips with special access – as well as an out-of-state idea. We hope to offer at least one of these trips in the coming year.

If you would like to help with planning or administering our classes and activities next year, please get in touch. You can reach me at my email address above or call 303-664-9773. Current Education Committee Members include: Mary Stuber (Committee Chair), Kerrie Bryan (Instructor Liaison), Megan Bowes, Shirley Jin, Cindy Maynard, and Claudia Van Wie.

Thanks so much to everyone who had a hand in making our 2015 season such a success: instructors, committee and board members, and especially each of you who attended one of our classes. We appreciate your enthusiastic interest, suggestions, and participation so much. Thank you.

## Returning Endangered Black-Footed Ferrets to the Colorado Prairie

Lauren Kurtz

Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge (RMANWR) is many things. It's a tongue-twisting designation, for one. It's a former EPA Superfund site. It's the largest Urban Wildlife Refuge in the country. And it's also the place where I'm serving as a Student Conservation Association Environmental Education Intern. It's part of Colorado's eastern plains. It is a safe haven for many species, including bison, bald eagles, burrowing owls, and most recently one of the most endangered mammals in North America, the Black-Footed Ferret (BFF).

"Ferret Exhibit Opening and Release Day" was set for October 5th 2015. This date was marked on my calendar weeks before I grasped the significance of the line "Ferret Release @ 1pm". Dan Ashe, the Director of the entire U.S. Fish and Wildlife service, would be attending, so I knew the occasion would be momentous, but the day's true magnitude didn't really set in until I was standing over a Prairie Dog burrow, coaxing a disgruntled Black-Footed Ferret out of a box and into a hole in the ground. There was a small wooden rod in my hand that I was supposed to use to direct the ferret from the animal carrier into its new home. I was wearing one Kevlar glove and an apprehensive attitude. What if the ferret didn't go into the hole? What if instead he turned around and chomped down on my ungloved hand with his bone crunching teeth?

Before we reached the hole my ferret would soon call home, ten other ferrets were set free. Those released before mine were eager to dash into the wild. Male Ferret SB-7184, however, was hesitant to leave the confines of the carrier that I was cautiously tipping forward towards the burrow. The bumbling situation was only made worse by the crowd of onlookers watching my every move, excitedly waiting for him to slink into freedom. Maybe he sensed my uneasiness and hesitated before leaping into the unknown. Eventually, without looking back, he plunged down the hole, thanking me with a loud chattering noise that sounded weirdly similar to the noise the Ghosts make on Super Mario for Nintendo 64.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal has been planning for the release of Black-Footed Ferrets for nearly two years. Things really picked up this summer, and since I started in May ferrets have been a routine topic of conversation. For months, the staff meetings leading up to the release were jam-packed with phrases like "prairie dog transects" and "ferret box". A Black-Footed Ferret's diet consists almost entirely of Prairie Dogs and they use abandoned burrows for their shelter. The optimal location for RMA's ferret release was specially selected after several months of surveying Prairie Dog towns this summer and last. Surveyors walked 107 miles through Prairie Dog habitat to get approximate Prairie Dog density per square mile and to find towns with ideal burrow distribution for the ferrets eventual reproduction and dispersal. I was able to assist with these surveys, walking transects and counting holes, alongside Wildlife Biologist Mindy Hetrick, Seasonal Biotech Scott Quigley, and a handful of volunteers. On one of those swelteringly hot August days, my pedometer clocked me at having walked eleven miles. From all this trekking through the prairie, I hold the summer 2015 record for rattlesnake sightings, seven in total. Second place belongs to Scott at five. No bites.

Several weeks after the release, I was able to ride along on an overnight ferret survey that took place one Monday night in November from 8:00 pm until 5:00 am. The temperature high for the night was a whopping 15° F. Three pairs of two drove around the refuge in UTV's, spotlighting the prairie landscape, seeking out the emerald eye shine of the nocturnal Black-Footed Ferrets. I was on a team with Refuge Manager, David Lucas. Around 2:00 am we saw two little green eyes reflecting in the distance. We shared a moment of jubilation, as we sat freezing in the dark night, under the soft light of a waxing gibbous moon. We placed a microchip reader around the entrance of the burrow to identify the individual we spotted. The survey lasted three nights and 15 ferrets were located, which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife considers a success for the first post-release survey!



(Continued on page 5)

(Ferrets, continued from page 4)

The "Ferret Box" endlessly referred to during staff meetings is a massive concrete structure with indoor and outdoor areas where two post-reproductive Black-Footed Ferrets now romp around for public viewing and education purposes. I get to be the primary caretaker of the ferret pair alongside fellow SCA Chelsea Wilson, and it seems that Louise and Seabiscuit have settled into their new home quite nicely. Having the opportunity to take care of these endangered weasels is extraordinary. I will be educating the public about hardships facing the Black-Footed Ferret, such as habitat loss, with the hope that such knowledge will inspire environmental stewardship and encourage local and global conservation efforts. What started as an Environmental Educator position focused on Monarch Butterflies has been expanded into a ferret-releasing, poop-scooping, carnivore-feeding situation that I couldn't be happier about.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge is many things. It's one of 25 Black-Footed Ferret Reintroduction sites. It's a place that one of the most endangered mammals in North America can once again call home. It's where I learned how to 'Wildlife Refuge' from the most passionate and dedicated individuals the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has to offer. It's where I learned how to drive a stick shift. It's a place I will never forget and will be forever grateful for.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL SEASON**

The BCNA membership year is January 1 to December 31. Whether you are a new member or a renewing member, there are two ways to pay your annual dues:

**By check:** Please make checks payable to "Boulder County Nature Association" or "BCNA" and mail to: Boulder County Nature Association, P.O. Box 493, Boulder, CO 80306

**Online:** Go to <http://bcna.org/member.html> You can then pay for your membership online using a credit card or PayPal.

For additional information, see the renewal form on the last page of the newsletter or the website. Please let me know whether you prefer to receive an electronic or a paper copy of the newsletter Cindy Maynard, [cmaynardre@gmail.com](mailto:cmaynardre@gmail.com)

**Connect with nature:  
nature-net-subscribe@yahoogroups.com**

**BCNA Board of Directors**

- President Sue Cass 720-684-6922
- Vice-President Megan Bowes 303-561-4883
- Treasurer Howard Witkin 303-789-4950
- Secretary Shirley Jin 303-499-1574
- Kerrie Bryan 303-834-8151
- Dot Fears 720-204-0010
- Peter Kleinman 303-554-5320
- Cindy Maynard 720-203-8211
- Mary Stuber 303-644-9773
- Claudia Van Wie 303-494-2250

**Committees and Contacts**

- *Avian Species of Special Concern*  
Dave Hallock [dheldora@rmi.net](mailto:dheldora@rmi.net)  
Steve Jones [curlewsj@comcast.net](mailto:curlewsj@comcast.net)
- *Conservation*  
Chair Position Open
- *Ecosystem Stewardship*  
Steve Jones 303-494-2468
- *Education*  
Mary Stuber, Chair, 303-644-9773  
Kerrie Bryan, Instructor Liaison, 303-834-8151
- *Indian Peaks Bird Counts*  
Dave Hallock 303-258-3672  
Bill Kaempfer 303-954-8998
- *Membership*  
Cindy Maynard 720-203-8211
- *Newsletter*  
Dianne Andrews, content editor 303-823-6779  
Carol McCasland, layout 303-635-6433
- *Publications*  
Sue Cass 720-684-6922
- *Research Grants*  
Peter Kleinman 303-554-5320
- *State and Regional Wildlife Issues*  
Gerry Kelly 720-839-5210
- *Wintering Raptor Survey*  
Sue Cass 720-684-6922
- *Nature Net Moderator*  
Scott Severs [scottesevers@gmail.com](mailto:scottesevers@gmail.com)
- *Website and Support for Newsletter*  
Claudia Van Wie 303-494-2250,  
[webmaster@bcna.org](mailto:webmaster@bcna.org)  
George Oetzel 303-543-3712
- *Facebook Page and BCNA Buzz*  
Cindy Maynard 720-203-8211,  
[cmaynardre@gmail.com](mailto:cmaynardre@gmail.com)

**Allegra Collister Nature Preserve  
2015 Banding Report**  
Maggie Boswell

We had another average year with 203 individuals of 38 species banded in spring and 322 of 39 species banded this fall. Once again we had no foreign captures and have gotten no reports of our birds being captured elsewhere.

This spring we added Cliff Swallow to the list of species we have banded and released a Black-chinned Hummingbird that got caught in the nets as another new species to the gulch. A species we would rather not catch is Shadow Darner. We successfully extricated three from the nets this year. Thanks to Ann Cooper for ID help.

This fall we had no new species but a high count of 5 for Brown Creepers. Usually we are pleased to capture one. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were well represented at 16 banded and we banded our 8<sup>th</sup> Townsend's Warbler. On the other hand, we caught no American Robins, compared to 13 last fall and a high count of 75 in the fall of 2003. Gray Catbirds were also scarce. The grape crop was poor this year.

We had a few interesting returning birds: a Blue Jay banded in 2007, an Orange-crown Warbler banded in fall 2008, and a Black-capped Chickadee banded in fall 2010.

The biggest surprise of the year was the evident flood damage this fall. A neighbor reported a monster rain storm in June when they had three purple cells over their place inside three hours and got 4.5" of rain -- so much worse than the 2013 flood, but it was only over a one square mile area. Last spring we only had to find the bridges and drag them back into place. This fall Tyler Walcheff rebuilt or replaced many of them and has pulled them to high ground for the winter.

The cows were getting in again, but I suspect they were jumping the fence as it seems in good repair. We never caught them in the act, but their presence was abundantly clear and unwelcome. At least they did not destroy any nets.

In addition to the usual crew of Virginia Dionigi, Joel Such, Renee Haip, Nelda Gamble with Dave Such doing the mowing, Tyler Walcheff, Sue Bonfield, Cassy Bohnet, all experienced banders, came out to help. Carlos Lerma, Shanti Colo and Carol Dozier rounded out the crew. Eleven of us put in 570 hours.

**Butterfly Specialties in Boulder County 2015**  
Janet Chu

The earliest butterfly reported to me on February 2, 2015 was the Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*) by Bay Roberts in Eldorado Springs. These big brownish butterflies do come out when the sun shines and warms the old cottonwood bark under which they hide.



The first Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*) reported by Christian

Nunes was seen Mourning Cloak, by John Barr

near the Old Kiln Trail, off Lee Hill Drive on April 13. This seems quite early because we know this Monarch began its migration northward from Michoacán, Mexico.

A Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*) was found on April 25 near McCaslin and Highway 128 by Larry Crowley. These have become quite scarce around Boulder County since the European Paper Wasp attacks many of their caterpillars.

One uncommon Small Checkered-skipper (*Pyrgus scriptura*) was caught in the Heil Ranch Open Space on April 28. This is so tiny it's almost impossible to see it in the dry gray grass and similarly-colored prairie soil.

One Pygmy Blue was noted in 2014 by Pam Piombino at her home on St Vrain Road, Longmont. No other butterfly-watchers around here saw one last



Pygmy Blue by Dan Fosco  
(size 1/2 to 5/8 inch wingspan)

year that we know. However, in 2015, a number were found, especially in the Walden Pond parking area. Russian thistle and lambsquarters are their host plants. Do you suppose they've moved into our area because we have plenty of both these weeds?

An Arizona Sister (*Adelpha bredowii*) was the special find in 2015 on August 18, in the garden of Linda Boley, Martin Acres, S. 35th Street, Boulder. This butterfly lives along the Rio Grande. Did a gust of wind swirl this butterfly into Boulder?

**WINTER CALENDAR****Boulder Creek Floodplain Restoration Efforts**

Colorado Native Plant Society  
Boulder Chapter Meeting

January 14, 2016, OSMP Annex, 7315 Red Deer Drive, 6:30 to 8:00 pm  
Marianne Giolitto, Wetland and Riparian Ecologist, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks and Francesca Tordonato, Senior Biologist, Colorado Department of Transportation

Boulder Creek and its riparian corridor and floodplain have been heavily impacted by historic land use. The City of Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks has been working with various partners to restore Boulder Creek's riparian corridor and floodplain. A partnership between the City of Boulder and the Colorado Department of Transportation is transforming a highly disturbed 24-acre site on the edge of Boulder's city limits into a mosaic of wetland, riparian, and upland habitat. The speakers will share details of the restoration project touching on the site's history, the project's planning process and current status, and the anticipated future of this site.

**Our Open Space Lands: The Next Fifty Years**

Environmental Studies Program  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Community Colloquium Series  
free and open to the public

January 20, 2016, 5:30 to 7:00 pm. 5:30-6:00 pm, reception with light refreshments; 6:00-7:00 pm lecture and Q&A

Fifty years ago, our community leaders had a vision for a system of open space lands. Now with over 100,000 acres of land and more than 260 miles of trails in our City and County Open Space systems, we need to think about our vision for the next 50 years. What will this area be like? How many people will live and recreate here? What kinds of recreational experiences will they be able to have? What are the implications for the native ecosystems and the wildlife?

Presenters: Luis Guillermo Benitez, Director of the Colorado Outdoor Recreation Industry Office, and David Theobald, PhD, Senior Scientist, Conservation Science Partners

Place: The new Sustainability, Energy, and Environment Complex (SEEC), East Campus, NW corner of Foothills Park-way and Colorado Ave., parking around north side of building; Stampede bus service.

We invite you to report your sightings  
to  
[www.coloradofrontrangebutterflies.com](http://www.coloradofrontrangebutterflies.com)

**Boulder Audubon Field Trips and Programs****Winter Ducks**

January 23, 2016 07:30 am - 11:30 am, free, no limit  
Clear Creek Trail, Wheat Ridge Greenbelt  
Leader, **Steve Jones**: In winter, the hike/bike trail along Clear Creek east of Golden offers a unique opportunity to see native duck species in their winter habitats (thanks to the Coors Brewing Company and the productive citizens of Golden). Bring your binoculars and/or cameras and meet at the Eldorado Springs "park and ride" (the gravel parking lot on the northeast corner of the South Broadway and Eldorado Springs Drive intersection) at 7:30 a.m. Dress warmly, as it can be foggy and frigid along the creek.  
Reservations: Steve, [curlewsj@comcast.net](mailto:curlewsj@comcast.net); 303-579-3620

**Experience Mongolia with Karen Hollweg**

January 26, 2016, 7:15 pm – 9:00 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church of Boulder, 5001 Pennsylvania Ave. Socializing begins at 6:45 pm with the program following at 7:15 pm.

Karen Hollweg spent the month of August 2014 exploring Mongolia's diverse natural areas, learning about the lives of herders and other citizens, and discovering one of the world's last intact grassland ecosystems. Karen will present a slide-illustrated talk to familiarize you with the vast landscapes, picturesque wildlife, fascinating petroglyphs, rich history, and colorful cultures of this beautiful country.

**BCNA Annual Meeting 2016**

BCNA's Annual Meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Saturday, **February 13<sup>th</sup>** at the Arapahoe Ridge HOA Clubhouse, 1750 Powell Street in Erie, where we have gathered in recent years. Our speaker for the annual meeting will be BCNA Research Grant recipient Janet Chu, who will share her findings from her butterfly inventories in areas on Boulder County Parks and Open Space properties devastated by the historic 2013 flood.

A potluck supper will be followed by announcements and elections to the Board of Directors. Please bring your own drinks and a main dish, side dish, salad or dessert to share and your own table service and serving utensils. To reach the Arapahoe Ridge HOA Clubhouse drive east on Arapahoe Road to North 111th Street (the first light east of US HWY 287), turn left (north) on 111th Street to your first right at Morris Court then immediately left on Hughs Drive to Powell Street (second stop sign). Turn left on Powell (you will see a large park, pool and the clubhouse on the left) a short distance to the clubhouse entrance on the left. Drop offs may be made at the entrance, but no parking is allowed in the circular drive. All are welcome!

## Support the Boulder County Nature Association

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and/or E-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:

_____ Student/Senior (65 or over)	\$15
_____ General Member	\$20
_____ Family or Household	\$30
_____ Supporter	\$40
_____ Founder	\$100
_____ Life Member	\$300
_____ Corporate	\$500
_____ Donation to General Research Grants	
_____ Donation to Evenson Big Cat Research Grants	
_____ Donation to General Research Fund	

The membership year is January 1 to December 31. Those who join after October 1 are considered members in good standing through the following year. All members receive this quarterly newsletter. Supporter-level members and higher also receive a complimentary copy of each BCNA publication.

Please make checks payable to "Boulder County Nature Association" or "BCNA" and mail to:  
P.O. Box 493, Boulder, CO 80306.

Boulder County Nature Association  
P.O. Box 493  
Boulder, CO 80306