



[Rufous Hummingbird](#)
Selasphorus rufus

June Articles

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There's an App for That:

[Audubon Birds Pro](#)

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Audubon Rockies
105 W. Mountain Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80524
(970) 416-6931

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WRAN Environmental and Recreational Rivers Champion Workshop

June 28 Workshop in Golden, Colorado

Become a Champion – meet others who care about our rivers at this free workshop! Come learn about what issues effect our rivers and how our everyday actions can make a difference.

Bringing together experts from: **National Audubon, American Whitewater, American Rivers, Western Resource Advocates,** and the **Rocky Mountain Climate Organization,** and more.

Space is limited. Please RSVP by **Wednesday, June 25** to Abby Burk, WRAN Colorado Coordinator, at aburk@audubon.org to attend. This is an event not to miss!

Where: Lookout Mountain Nature Center, 910 Colorow Rd, Golden, CO 80401

When: June 28, 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM. Lunch will be provided, please indicate any special dietary needs in your RSVP.

WRAN Photo Contest

We know you shutterbugs are always looking for that perfect shot of a bird, a gorgeous landscape (especially a beautiful winding river bend), and those photographs that truly capture the moment. That's why we are thrilled to announce a photo contest made just for you. We invite you to email photos of western rivers and the birds and wildlife that depend on them to wranphotos@audubon.org for a chance to have your image featured in our newsletter, on the website, and as the cover photo on the Audubon Facebook page! Send your landscape and wildlife photos (up to four) to wranphotos@audubon.org until **Tuesday, June 10th** at 12:00 p.m. ET with your name and the description of the photo attached. Submitters will then receive a release form and instructions about how to enter the photo contest. See [link to complete rules](#).

Good News from the Director

Hello! I hope that the warm weather is thawing your bones and bringing birds back to your landscapes! It has been said that spring is the time for change. As the season transitioned from winter to spring, Audubon Rockies experienced a few transitions as well. Brian Rutledge has been promoted to the Central Flyway Policy and Conservation Advisor and I am excited to have recently taken the helm as Executive Director of Audubon Rockies. Both Brian and I are poised to take on our new roles and bring a refreshed outlook to the Audubon Rockies efforts, in many respects.

This coming year will be full of exciting programs and projects and I look forward to working hard to connect people with nature through education and conservation programs, to protect wildlife and wild lands. I also welcome your input as part of the Audubon family. Please feel free to reach out to me anytime with questions, concerns, and ideas! I look forward to working with you all!

Take care,

Alison Holloran

Hummingbirds at Home 2014

Spring migration is well underway!

Audubon is launching [Hummingbirds at Home 2014](#), our updated citizen science program. There are lots of improvements this year – from new types of surveys and improved identification functions to online mapping of hummingbird sightings in near real time.

Hummingbirds at Home is Audubon's first all-digital, mobile citizen science program. It leverages existing technology with ground-breaking innovation to crowd source rigorous science. Using a mobile-optimized [web portal](#) and smart phones apps for [iPhone](#) and [Android](#) devices, people from across the United States can report their hummingbird sightings. The data collected will help us understand how climate change, flowering patterns and feeding by people are impacting hummingbirds. The combined observations from Hummingbirds at Home will enable Audubon to make specific, regional recommendations for people who want to enhance the value of their yards and gardens for hummingbirds.

And, we hope you'll help us spread the word about this valuable program. With today's technology anyone can become a citizen scientist. Joining Audubon's Hummingbirds at Home to help crowd source rigorous data can uncover how hummingbirds are affected by climate change and provide the information necessary to help them.

Regional Director's Challenge

A generous anonymous donor on the Audubon National Board has issued a challenge to all the Audubon regional directors to raise new or increased funding for Audubon. The donor has offered to match up to a total of \$100,000 for qualifying donations.

Please help us today.

A gift that meets the requirements below will be matched with an equal payment that will go to the Central Flyway, for so long as the matching funds last.

1. Gifts from donors new to Audubon, or donors who did not give in the last calendar year.
2. Gifts or portions of gifts from current Audubon donors that represent an increase above the amount given by that donor in the last calendar year.

We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to double the effects of your giving to support our work on these key strategies in the Central Flyway.

[Please use the convenience of our secure website for your donation!](#)

Colorado Water Plan Process Update

July Deadline is Fast Approaching!

The nine basin roundtables and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) are working at a heated pace to complete their draft chapters of the Colorado Water Plan (CWP). First drafts of all Basin Implementation Plans (BIPs) are due to the CWCB by end of July 2014. BIPs are how basins intend to manage their rivers and water supply into the future.

Have you submitted your comments and input to the coloradowaterplan.com website? Time is passing fast, if you have not gotten your input in on protecting and restoring river flows—NOW is the time! Stay tuned for an alert; or, if you prefer to submit your feedback directly to the website, we have provided some sample comments below. You can also read draft chapters of the Colorado Water Plan at the site through the Resources menu, by selecting Framework Documents and Draft Chapters.

[Please click here to join the Western Rivers Action Network TODAY!](#)

Scientists Reach Out to U.S. Department of the Interior

Greater Sage-grouse are a candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act, with a final decision being court mandated to be made by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service by Sept. 2015. To improve management for the species, BLM has been updating Resource Management Plan across 47 million acres (10 states). On June 3, Audubon Rockies joined leading scientists (many from WY and CO!) in a letter to Secretary Jewell at the Department of Interior, expressing concerns about the current state of the draft RMPs. [Read](#) the letter.

Powerful Tool for Local and Regional Conservation

Audubon is proud to be partnering with Esri, the world's leading provider of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software, to make mapping tools available to all in the Audubon network. **Why are we doing this?** *It goes back to the saying that pictures are worth a thousand words!* ArcGIS Online is Esri's collaborative, cloud-based platform that lets members create, share, and access maps, applications, and data – which can be used to tell a story, help decide a strategy, and ultimately result in conservation success! Audubon has hired Connor Bailey to provide GIS technical assistance to Audubon members in the Central and Pacific Flyways.

Visit our [Mapping website](#) to setup your free ArcGIS Online account. You will have access to many online resources including Important Bird Areas, Chapter boundaries, Citizen Scientists Projects and much more. Also available on the website are training videos and other resources to help you navigate the cloud environment. We are very excited to have Connor on the Audubon Enterprise GIS Team, he has many years working for the conservation community in the Southern Rockies region and knows the area well. Please don't hesitate to contact Connor at cbailey@audubon.org if you have an idea for a GIS project or if you have GIS questions.

5K Wells Proposed in Converse County

In mid-May, the BLM announced it will review a proposal to drill 5,000 oil and gas wells from 1,500 pads across 1.5 million acres in east-central Wyoming. This plan was put forward by Anadarko Petroleum Co., Chesapeake Energy Corp., RKI Exploration and Production LLC, Samson Resources and SM Energy. According to the [Casper Star-Tribune](#), in 2013 alone, the county's 1,582 producing wells pumped 7.2 million barrels of oil, or roughly 13% of WY's total. That represented a 36% increase over 2012 levels.

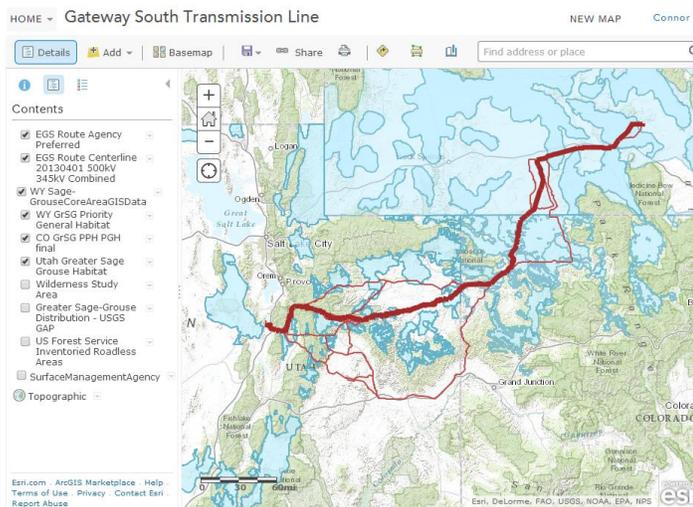
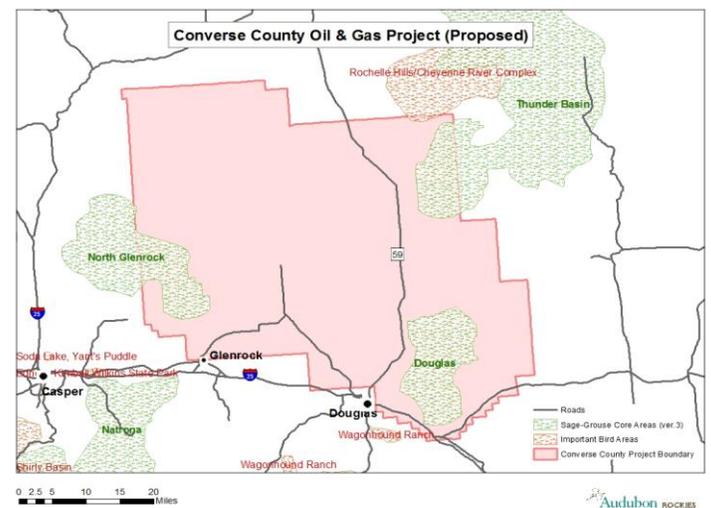
The drilling project would occur on a complex mix of lands with BLM managing 2/3 of the subsurface minerals and BLM/Forest Service managing a combined 10% of the surface lands. The remaining are state and private lands. The area has historically been used for livestock grazing, oil and gas development, wildlife habitat, and recreation. It overlaps 3 Sage-grouse Core Areas and 1 Important Bird Area (Rochelle Hills/Cheyenne River Complex) – see map.

What you can do:

BLM is hosting 3 [public meetings](#) (5:30-7:30 pm):

- June 10 in Douglas – Clarion Inn
- June 11 in Casper – Best Western Ramkota
- June 12 in Glenrock – Recreation Center

BLM is taking public comments until **June 30**. Check out the [BLM website](#) for more details.



[Visit the Audubon Rockies Newsroom!](#)

