

# Turnbull Wildlife Refuge



Summer 2014 2nd Quarter

Friends of Turnbull N.W.R. Quarterly Report

Volume 17 Issue 2

## 3rd Annual Floods, Flowers & Feathers Festival by Sandy Rancourt

Turnbull hosted its 3rd Annual Floods, Flowers and Feathers Festival on Saturday, May 31st. Despite some very stiff competition from other festivals, well over 500 attendees came out to the refuge on a very beautiful spring day. Feedback from participants during the festival and as they left for the day was overwhelmingly positive.

Over 30 partners from numerous agencies, private organizations and individuals participated or contributed in other ways to make this another successful event. In addition to hosting informative and interactive booths, partners assisted with planning, advertising and logistics, led activities, lent equipment, provided photographs, and completed trail restoration. The booths and activities were very well designed and executed. The information tent contained numerous booths on many subject areas including weed management, waterfowl habitat protection, endangered species, Ice Age Floods, Spokane parks, birds, beavers, land protection, native plants, and bees. Children and adults enjoyed the many hands-on activities. Some beautiful duck decoys were given a life of their own at the Ducks Unlimited booth by some very creative children who painted and went home with their very own decoy. Eagle Scout candidate Peter Erwin from Troop 325 brought kits for participants to build their own bluebird nest box at the festival, and 65 happy individuals walked away with their very own nest box. Some unique and creative bookmarks were made at the Cheney Library table. Spokane Clean Air had kids build their own air pollution catcher and displayed photos of the dust storm that occurred in September of 2013. Individuals also made their own animal tracks out of Plaster-of-Paris at one of Turnbull's booths. This activity went well with the one provided by Exploring Families about the clues animals leave behind

including scat. Staff from the Friends of Little Pend Oreille brought owl pellets for people to dissect and get a glimpse of the diet of a great-horned owl. Inland Northwest Wildlife Council had a very informative touch table with numerous skulls, furs, and antlers for participants to examine. Eastern Washington University hosted a "Sounds of the Night" booth which demonstrated spectrograms and waveforms generated by different animal species common to the refuge. There were even some live animal booths to go with all those animal signs, sounds and skulls. West Valley Outdoor Learning Center brought 3 beautiful raptors. You could hear the kestrel announcing his presence from some distance away. EWU and Turnbull hosted a live animal booth with two different species of snakes, salamanders, and frogs. Mobius Science Center wowed people with their nefarious bed of nails and electricity generated by their Vander Graaf generator. Ice Age Floods Institute brought an impressive interactive display related to the floods, including modelling a glacier and investigating the Spokane-Rathdrum aquifer. Interactive fire and federal law enforcement booths

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were also a very big hit. Attendees got a chance not only to learn about fire management and protection of communities, they also got a chance to handle fire suppression equipment. There were a lot of children squirting down cones with a fire hose. The federal law enforcement booth was impressive with several vehicles and equipment used daily to protect the public and natural resources. There were several animated wildlife decoys that children could touch and operate including deer and a black bear.

Other activities provided throughout the day included a songbird banding demonstration, an aquatic invertebrate study, a soil activity, a bird scavenger hunt, refuge management and Ice Age Floods tours and presentation, and bird watching, nature, photography and wildflowers walks. Each activity was led by energetic and very knowledgeable partners and staff.

Local photographers Tom Munson and Robert Griffith provided their amazing photos to use for advertising. Eastern Washington University Transportation Department lent all the tables and chairs which really lightened the load for our partners and saved the refuge a great expense. Our deepest gratitude and many thanks to the following partners for their contributions without which this event would not have been possible:

- Boy Scouts of America
- BLM
- Channeled Scablands Cooperative  
Weed Management Area
- Cheney Library
- Cheney Merchant Association
- Cheney Parks and Recreation
- Ducks Unlimited
- Eastern Washington University Biology Department
- Eastern Washington University Transportation Dept.
- Ecological Services
- Exploring Families
- Friends of Little Pend Oreille
- Friends of Turnbull
- Ice Age Floods Institute,  
Cheney-Spokane Chapter
- Inland Northwest Land Trust
- Inland Northwest Wildlife Council
- Master Hunter Program

- Mobius Science Center
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- REI
- Spokane Audubon Society
- Spokane Clean Air
- Spokane Conservation District
- Spokane Parks Foundation
- Spokane Valley Camera Club
- The Lands Council
- Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge :  
(Biology, Environmental Education, Fire, &  
Law Enforcement Programs)
- Upper Columbia Academy
- US Fish and Wildlife Service–Federal Wildlife  
Officers
- Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife –  
Private Lands Program
- Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife–  
Community Relations and Public Affairs
- Washington Native Plant Society, NE Chapter
- West Plains Beekeepers Association
- West Valley Outdoor Learning Center

Individuals

- Robert Griffith
- Tom Munson
- Ken Swedberg
- John C. Kerkering
- Brian Maebius

**West Plains Learning Center's  
rescue birds: Alberta, Sadie  
and Kiwi**

**Joyce Alonso answering questions  
at the Audubon booth (SR)**



## Friends of Turnbull Bookstore & Gift Shop Report

Marian Frobe

We are close to making a profit for the year, though we find that some things sell out that we didn't expect, so have had to do a few reorders. We are only about \$250.00 down at the end of June, so should be in profit territory by the end of July.

The Flowers, Feathers and Floods Festival brought us a very good sales weekend. There was a new T-shirt design done for this year's festival. It was a Rufous Hummingbird photo done by the late Bob Griffith and is beautiful on a white T-shirt. By the time you read this, we will have put the rest of the Festival T-shirts away for the season and will put them out for sale again at next year's Festival. So if you missed getting one, come next year.

We have been selling more of the Pocket Naturalist folders this year, so had to reorder those. We also added Dennis Paulsen's book, Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West, to our inventory, as he will be coming here for a program on our dragonflies and damselflies in August. See the list of activities for sign-up instructions for this program.

If you would like to volunteer to help out at the store, please call MaryJane Booth at 235-4466 or me, Marian Frobe, at 328-0621 or at [rrfrobe@msn.com](mailto:rrfrobe@msn.com). Or check the "I want to volunteer" box on your membership form and we will contact you. Thanks to those who have responded and are now helping us out.

## Summer Activities

**August 2 – Dragonflies on the Refuge** with Dennis Paulsen, in cooperation with Inland Northwest Land Trust, will present a program and also lead a walk in dragonfly habitats. 1:00 - 4:00 pm.

Get your tickets for the program and walk with nationally recognized dragonfly expert, Dennis Paulson for August 2, 2014, from 1 - 4 pm. Go to [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com) to purchase tickets (\$10,) limited number available. This program is presented in cooperation with the Inland Northwest Land Trust

August – Take a Sunday Drive in the Inland Northwest beginning or ending at Turnbull NWR

**August 19 – Friends of Turnbull NWR Annual Meeting. Tuesday, 6 p.m.** Catered dinner from Hungry Hound Barbeque. RSVP is necessary so they will know how much food to prepare. Please call 509-993-6505. See next page for details.

**October 4 - Community Work Party.** See details on page 6.

**Membership: Just a reminder to renew your membership. We depend on your support to continue our important work with the Environmental Education program at Turnbull.**

**If you would like to receive your newsletter through your email, please let us know. Email [jcorder@hughes.net](mailto:jcorder@hughes.net).**

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Vice President: Katherine Ryf [FriendsofTurnbull@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofTurnbull@gmail.com)  
Treasurer: .....Robert Liepold [rliepold@aol.com](mailto:rliepold@aol.com)  
Secretary: .....Position open

Board Members:

John Barber ..... [pattianjohnbarber@hotmail.com](mailto:pattianjohnbarber@hotmail.com)  
Lorna Kropp..... [lkropp@cet.org](mailto:lkropp@cet.org)  
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**Visit our great website!  
[www.fotnwr.org](http://www.fotnwr.org)**



As a thank-you to our wonderful MEMBERS, dedicated VOLUNTEERS and many SUPPORTERS the FOT Board is planning a special night on the refuge in your honor.

Join us as we partake in an amazing meal offered by Cody Kulm, Dustin “Stone” Micheals and Mark Thorne of Hungry Hound Barbeque followed by an introduction by our president Molly Zammit of the slate of candidates for our upcoming elections and general reports from the Board. An interesting and educational program will round out the evening with guest speakers from Eastern Washington University Biology and Natural Resource Departments.

The bookstore will be open; be sure to stop in and check out our new merchandise and consignment items.



**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

■ start something big

6:00 pm Dinner & Poster Presentation  
 7:00 pm FOT General Meeting  
 7:20 pm Round table by EWU faculty, staff and students to showcase the various research projects at Turnbull that are ongoing, starting new for the 2014-2015 school year or have recently concluded.



# DRAGONFLY DAY

with DENNIS PAULSON

author of *Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2014**

**11:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**TURNBULL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**



Learn about the birdwatchers' insect with a Powerpoint presentation about the different types of dragonflies we will expect to see, break for lunch, and explore Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge with Dennis as we search for dragonflies to identify and understand their behavior.

Dennis Paulson is the leading American expert on dragonflies, zoologist, author and photographer. Expect to bring a camera, binoculars, sack lunch, and wonderment! Thank you Friends of Turnbull for their support with the event!



**\$10**

**SPACE IS LIMITED - Sign up at [bnicholson@inlandnwlandtrust.org](mailto:bnicholson@inlandnwlandtrust.org)**

**Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation and payment instructions.**

**"Birds have Audubon and dragonflies have Paulson." - SEATTLE TIMES**

**Inland Northwest Land Trust**  
35 W. Main Ave., Ste. 210, Spokane, WA 99201  
509.328.2939 [www.inlandnwlandtrust.org](http://www.inlandnwlandtrust.org)



*Inland Northwest  
Land Trust*



**FRIENDS OF TURNBULL  
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**  
CERNEY, WASHINGTON

# ***Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week***



*with a Community Work Day  
at Turnbull National  
Wildlife Refuge!*



Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, Spokane Audubon Society and Friends of Turnbull will host a community work party on Saturday, October 04, 2014. This is part of an on going community effort to restore native riparian habitat to benefit birds and other wildlife species. We have hundreds of native saplings to plant and fencing to erect to protect the trees from deer, elk and moose browsing.

**Attention Groups:** Please **call in advance to register**. It helps us in our planning if we know how many are coming. The Refuge will also host a “potluck” lunch. Please feel free to bring your favorite dish. Ask for Sandy (509) 235-4723 ext. 228.

**Planting Time:** 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**When:** Saturday, October 4, 2014

**Lunch:** Potluck 12 p.m. (Friends of Turnbull will supply the hamburgers)

**Where:** Turnbull NWR Headquarters, 5 miles south of Cheney on Cheney-Plaza Road: turn left on Smith Road and drive 2 miles on gravel road to headquarters.

**Clothing:** Long-sleeved shirt, work pants, gloves, sturdy boots or shoes.

**Equipment:** (If you can) shovels and pliers.

*Everyone is Welcome!*



# Refuge Happenings

by Sandy Rancourt  
Visitor Services Manager

It was a very busy spring at the Refuge. Numerous wildlife surveys were conducted for the biological program, classes came out daily to participate in the refuge Environmental Education program, and Turnbull hosted 2 major events including its 3rd Annual Floods, Flowers and Feathers Festival and the spring community planting event.



SCA intern Brittany Moore talks about the Bittern's adaptations during the classroom portion of the Field Trip. (SR)



SAS & FOT volunteer Joyce Alonso leading a class on a nature walk. (SR)

## **EE & Outreach**

Since April, over 3,000 students participated in Turnbull's Environmental Education Program. In mid-April, we wrapped up our Winter Outreach Program that we provide for local schools off refuge and then jumped right into our Field Trip Program which is offered on site. We had tremendous help from all our volunteers including AmeriCorps intern Erin Liden, Student Conservation Association (SCA) intern Brittany Moore, and long term refuge volunteers Joyce Alonso, Fran Haywood, Jan Reynolds, Chuck Kerkering, and Linda Long. FOT Activities Director Lorna Kropp did a great job coordinating with Spokane Audubon Society to lead FOT hosted beginning bird walks at the refuge on the first Saturday of the month during the spring. This has proven to be a very popular activity. Bird Field Trip leaders included Joyce Alonso, Fran Haywood, Lindell Haggin and Donna Burt with the assistance of Lorna Kropp. Marian Frobe also led bird walks for Friends of Turnbull during the spring.

## TEARIN' IT UP FOR TURNBULL --snyamncut EVENT

This past year snyamncut, an EWU residential hall, adopted Turnbull. On May 29th, students from snyamncut hosted a Tearin' it up for Turnbull event in support of the refuge. We were very impressed with this fundraising event. The large amount of time and effort the students put into this event was apparent. It was very well planned. There were a lot of fun activities for the students to participate in including several inflatable activities and a dunking booth. They also provided refreshments and a very fine band to entertain attendees. The young adults who led the different activities were enthusiastic and very pleasant, and they each donned a t-shirt made just for this event. It was very uplifting not only to see such support for the Refuge, but also this level of involvement from young adults as well.



**EWU snyamncut student residents sponsored a great fundraising event in support of the Refuge (SR)**

### Earth Day Spokane

The Refuge participated in several Earth Day activities two of which were events. We had an information booth staffed by Pathways Intern Paul Reilly and AmeriCorps member Nathan Fall at EWU's Earth Day Fair. Turnbull and Friends of Turnbull also hosted information and interactive booths at Earth Day Spokane. Children made their own animal track out of Plaster of Paris. An estimate of over 500 individuals visited our booths. FOT board member Lorna Kropp, EE Contractor Kylie Gaard, Paul Reilly, Erin, Nathan, and Brittany staffed the very popular booths.

### Mead Outdoor School

The refuge participated for the first time in a camp at Bear Lake County Park geared for 5th grade students. Brittany and Erin facilitated our aquatics program for over 159 students over a 2-day period. The students netted aquatic invertebrates, identified them, and learned about their importance in the ecosystem.

### Connecting People with Nature (CPWN) Grant

A CPWN grant in the amount of \$1,000 was recently awarded to the refuge to purchase scopes for our aquatic wetland studies which is part of our Field Trip Program. Our scopes are used by students when they visit the refuge. Considering we average a few thousand students annually in the Field Trip Program, the scopes get a great deal of use. Many scopes are simply beyond repair or too expensive to fix. This grant allowed us to purchase 10 student scopes that will be put to good use next field trip season.

### **Volunteer Program**

#### Spring Community Planting Event

We held our biannual community planting on May 10th. Fortunately, the weather was a lot warmer than what we have been experiencing in June. Over 115 individuals planted well over 100 native saplings on a beautiful spring day. Girl and Boy Scouts, Friends of Turnbull, EWU snyamncut, EWU Environmental Ethics Class, EWU Premed/Predental Society, EWU

Health and Fitness, EWU Sigma NU, Veteran Conservation Corps, Spokane Audubon Society, Master Hunters, AmeriCorps, Inland Northwest Wildlife Council, numerous individuals and refuge staff worked in unison to get all those trees planted. Master Hunters erected protective cages around our larger aspen and willow trees to protect them from our industrious beavers. We had coffee and plenty of delicious donuts thanks to Cheney Trading Company's donation of 10 dozen donuts! Virgil Bowen is still lending a hand by procuring those great donations for our community planting events. Friends of Turnbull supplied the burgers, hotdogs and condiments for all the volunteers. FOT President, Molly Zammit brought her grill and cooked all the meat. Volunteers also brought potluck dishes. All in all, it made for an exceptional day.



**Friends of Turnbull volunteer in many aspects of the refuge as demonstrated here by board member Lorna Kropp (SR)**

### Center for Cultural Interchange Greenheart

For many years, Greenheart representative Merle Barr has annually brought international students to the refuge to work on a refuge project. Six students from Russia, Philippines, Germany, Azerbaijan and their host parents planted 15 native aspen trees at the Collin Leach Memorial Grove during Earth Day week in April. Merle procured a grant from Greenheart to pay for the aspen for this project. Throughout the years, refuge staff has been working with several volunteer groups including CCI to restore this area. Our efforts are being paid off. The site is exploding with lush vegetation, and nesting birds are now using the mature trees.



**Merle Barr & international students making protective cages. (SR)**

### Trail Restoration Project

High School Students from Upper Columbia Academy joined refuge staff and other volunteers to improve the new Bluebird Trail in time for the FFF Festival. The trail was put in last year, and it needed a great deal of work to meet safety standards. Rocks were dug out and chips were applied throughout most of the trail. We were particularly impressed with how well everyone worked together on this project. Working on any trail project requires a lot of hard work, and everyone contributed significantly to its improvement. The students, as usual, were a great group of young adults who made the day so much more enjoyable.



**It's been a hard day's night & I should be sleeping like a log... (SR)**

## Potting Project

WSC AmeriCorps members Erin Liden and Nathan Fall recruited 9 Brownies and their parents from Girl Scout Troop 3672 to help pot some of our bare stock seedlings for the refuge restoration projects. This project involved training the scouts and their parents on how to mix soil and other materials in the right amounts and transplanting the native bare root seedlings to the pots. The project went very smoothly, and the scouts potted over 130 saplings.

## Master Hunter Program

### *Outreach & Riparian Restoration*

Two individuals in the Master Hunter Program assisted Spokane Audubon Society (SAS) by making bird silhouettes for their “Can You Find that Bird Program?” Master Hunters Derek Tate and Casey Thomas procured the materials and completed the project in time for the FFF Festival where SAS members used the silhouettes in their very successful bird activity. The Master Hunters cut the silhouettes out of durable, lightweight plastic which should last a long time.

Another individual in the Master Hunter Program, Bruce Lockrem, provided great assistance with our riparian restoration project. Bruce upgraded (extended) our native plant nursery to house saplings to be used in future plantings. His work was exceptional. He went the extra mile in completing this project.

### Mead High School & Mt. Spokane Woodworking Clubs

Andy Arnold, a teacher from Mead High School, had his and Mt. Spokane’s woodworking clubs, built 35 bluebird nest boxes for Turnbull. These are wonderful boxes, made of cedar and built to last. Many of the students added their own artistic touch with an engraving on the box.

**Andy Arnold (middle) from Mead High School and coworkers display their beautiful bluebird nest boxes. (SR)**



**AmeriCorps members Erin and Nathan potting bare stock seedlings with the Brownies. (SR)**



**Master Hunter Bruce Lockrem put in a great deal of time expanding our native plant nursery (SR)**



## Eagle Scout Projects

Peter Erwin from BSA Troop 325 tackled 2 refuge projects as part of his Eagle Scout requirements. Peter organized and led a group of volunteers in April who potted 1,000 native aspen seedlings. He also made 65 bluebird nest box kits which he used at the Floods, Flowers and Feathers Festival for his 2nd project which was a bluebird nest box building workshop. Peter led a crew of scouts who worked with Festival participants to build a nest box and provide information on where best to mount them. This was a very successful project. All 65 kits were built by festival participants.

## CPR/1st Aid Training

Jeff Anderson from the Cheney Fire Department provided CPR/1st Aid and Blood Borne Pathogen certification training for several staff and long term refuge volunteers on April 16th. Volunteers who participated in the training included AmeriCorps members Erin Liden and Nathan Fall, SCA intern Brittany Moore and volunteer Joyce Alonso.

## ***Welcome Aboard!***

## RV Volunteer

We recently recruited a new Visitor Service Volunteer, Bob Michels to help us with the many tasks around HQ and the Visitor Use Area. Bob hooked up his rig at the new RV pad at refuge headquarters and former Visitor Service Volunteer, Virgil Bowen, spent part of a day showing him the ropes. Bob has only been with us for a short time, but he is proven to be a big help in keeping the refuge clean by maintaining all the public use sites. He tackled the public restrooms, and they are finally sparkling once again. He also picks up litter around the tour route, recycles, refills brochure boxes, mows, and assists with closing the Friends bookstore.



Virgil Bowen and Bob Michels (SR)

Summer 2014

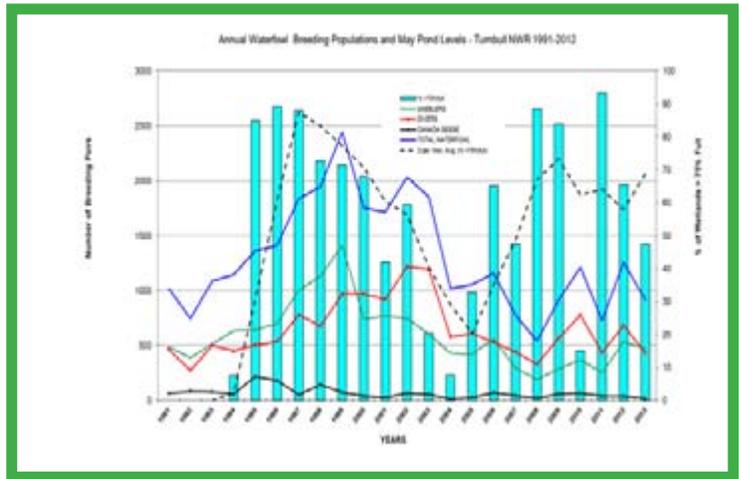
## **Biological Program (by Mike Rule)**

The Biological Program added 2 additional personnel to our summer field crew, Roy Brazzle who returns for a second year as our biological technician and Derek Entz, our 2014, SCA intern. With these additions we plan for a busy field season. So far this spring and early summer we have completed several important wildlife and habitat surveys. Water levels in refuge wetlands were measured biweekly throughout the spring by Nathan Fall, Roy, and Derek. Roy, Nathan and Marian and Russ Frobe completed our call response surveys for secretive marsh birds in May. Our 21st year of point count surveys were completed in June with the able assistance of Sandy Rancourt, Marian and Russell Frobe, Kim Thorburn, Nancy Curry, Lisa Langelier, Tim O'Brien, and Brad and Fran Haywood. Several volunteers have also been monitoring our 137 bluebird nest boxes many of which have been in place for over 30 years. Our bluebird volunteers include, Don and Cathy Richter, Charmaine Gural, Jerry Hickman, Jan and Grace Pochis, Nicole Simon, Stacey, Jared, Samuel and Audrey Trawick, students from the Riverday School, Leonard Parks, Nathan Fall, and Derek Entz. The refuge's long-term waterfowl breeding pair surveys were also completed this spring with the help of Sandy, Roy, Nate, Marian and Russ Frobe and David Joyner. Roy, Nate and Derek have been running transects of bee bowls in prescribed burned and thinned pine forest to look at the effect of these activities on the abundance of native bees. The EWU Mammalogy Class, Roy and Nathan completed running 28 pitfall arrays to continue monitoring of the effects of forest restoration activities on small mammal, reptile and amphibian populations. We began our 20th year of songbird banding at our MAPS station on June 5th with the valued assistance of Russell and Marian Frobe. Captures have been above normal with a high percentage of recaptures from previous years. Our seasonal field crew has recently begun pre-baiting duck traps for our summer mallard banding program, and the sometimes tedious but very important forest monitoring transects have been set-up in last year's commercial thinning unit near Cheever Lake. Soon we will be starting our 3rd year of wetland bathymetry surveying and our GPS-based weed surveys. If you would like to help with the weed surveys or forest transects please contact the refuge biologist at 509-235-4723 ext. 226 or by email: [mike\\_rule@fws.gov](mailto:mike_rule@fws.gov).

# Spring Wildlife Observations

by Mike Rule

We made it through the busy spring field season completing several annual surveys some of which have been in place for several decades. These surveys provide us with important information on the condition of refuge habitats and wildlife population trends and species response to refuge management programs. Volunteers play a critical role in the continuity of these surveys the value of which is greatly increased when there are no data gaps - missed years. Wildlife surveys we have been conducting annually include; waterfowl migration and breeding pair surveys, landbird point count surveys in pine and aspen, marshbird call/response surveys, bluebird and wood duck nest box monitoring, and duck and landbird banding. Small mammal and amphibian surveys are conducted on a biannual basis. Habitat surveys include water level monitoring, forest tree/snag and understory transects, weed surveys, and elk browse surveys. Although data for most of the surveys conducted in 2014 have yet to be analyzed the following are a few highlights from last year's surveys.



Northern Pintails - Dabblers

## Waterfowl pair surveys

Following a significant drought period in the first decade of the new millennium, waterfowl breeding populations have been slow to recover as wetter conditions returned. The lack of recovery could be the result of the more variable conditions we have experienced this past decade compared to the previous ten year period when waterfowl numbers reached an all-time high. Wetland conditions in 2014 indicate a moderate drought with only 28% of the wetland surveyed being classified as more than 75% full in May. This could result in another poor production year hampering recovery of our breeding population

## Marshbird Surveys

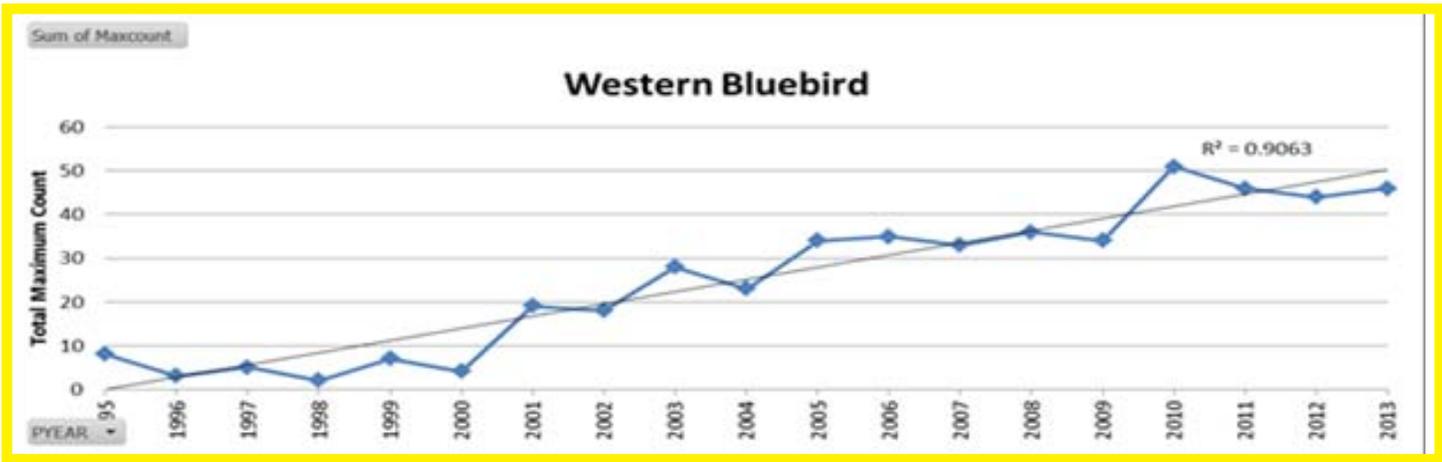
Yellow-headed blackbirds and pied-billed grebes in surveyed wetlands have been declining but American bittern and Virginia rail have been increasing.



American Bittern



Virginia Rail



Western Bluebird family

### Point Count Surveys

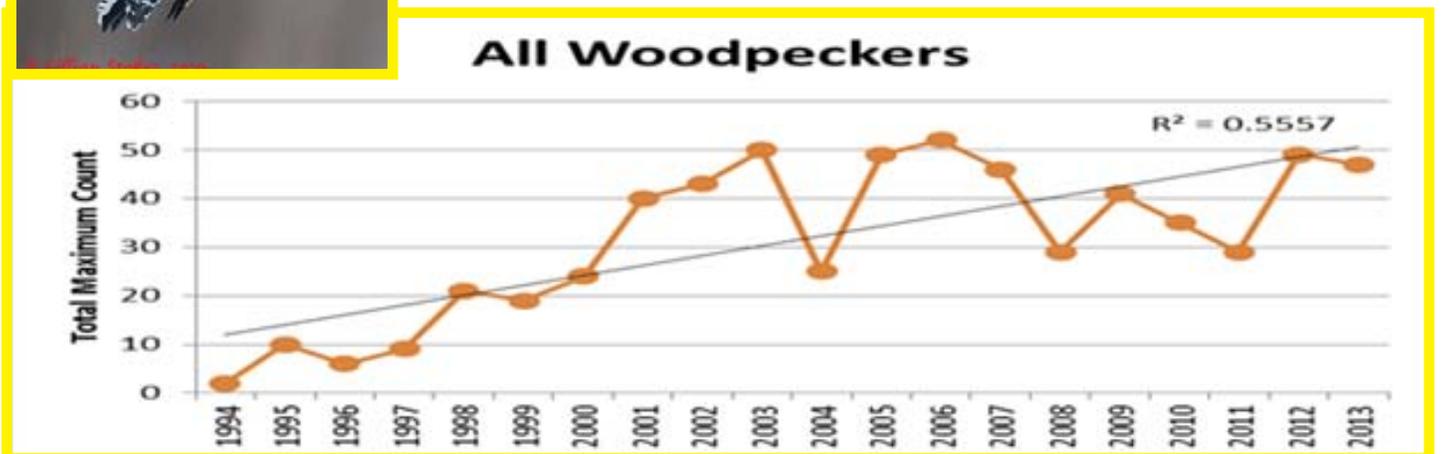
Both yellow warblers and song sparrows have experienced significant increasing trends in surveyed aspen stands, but red-napped sapsucker and American robin abundance have declined. Yellow warblers are an important indicator species for shrub and tree canopy volume in aspen as are red-napped sapsuckers for cavity habitat.

In refuge monitored pine stands all cavity nesting birds especially woodpeckers, pygmy nuthatches, house wrens and western blue birds have exhibited increasing trends. The understory nesting species, American goldfinch and chipping sparrow, have also increased. These increasing trends correlate with increased thinning and prescribed burning. Only 2 species have exhibited decreasing trends, the Townsend's solitaire and red-breasted nuthatch.

Further analysis to determine correlations with changes in habitat is forthcoming.



Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers



## Songbird banding

Since 1994 we have captured 2,583 birds representing 65 species. Twenty species have made up more than 80% of the captures.

Species	# of Individuals Caught
House Wren	341
Song Sparrow	221
Wilson's Warbler	203
Willow Flycatcher	202
Black - capped Chickadee	199
Western Wood Pewee	195
Yellow Warbler	104
American Robin	98
Red-naped Sapsucker	70
Downy Woodpecker	68
Black-headed Grosbeak	65
MacGillivray's Warbler	62
Red-breasted Nuthatch	56
Warbling Vireo	55
American Goldfinch	51
Red Crossbill	39
Eastern Kingbird	37
Common Yellowthroat	36
Bewick's Wren	31
Nashville Warbler	30



Nashville Warbler



McGillivrey's Warbler



Swans on Blackhorse Lake.  
Carlene Hardt

We have completed 4 banding days so far this year with 66 birds from 16 species captured since June 5. This number is well above average for this time period. Most captures have been of birds in the top ten list. Uncommon species captured include a Swainson's thrush, black-chinned hummingbird, McGillivray's warbler, and red-breasted nuthatch.

## Swan update

It has been an interesting spring and early summer for our trumpeter swans. We have observed them in many different wetlands and in different sized groups throughout what is typically the nest building and incubating period. When they finally settled in, we had a

pair in Cheever Lake and another in Blackhorse Lake. Recently we have been observing another pair (?) in Upper Turnbull. Only the pair in Blackhorse appeared to be using a nest site. We checked the suspected Blackhorse Lake island swan nest site on 7/10. No developed nest was found nor any evidence of eggs. Two theories for this lack of nesting are repeated disturbance of the nesting territories by non-breeding swans or a difficult winter season putting the breeding pairs, especially the pens, in poor nutritional status.

Friends of Turnbull NWR  
P.O. Box 294  
Cheney, WA 99004



*The Friends of Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, a nonprofit organization, supports the mandate of the refuge to protect and enhance wildlife and their habitats through education, research, habitat preservation and restoration.*

Got email? Add it to your membership form for quick activity updates!

### Membership Application

YES! I want to support the Friends of Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge and its programs with my membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership: (Circle one)

Individual \$15

Family \$25

Business/Group \$35

Patron \$100

Benefactor \$500

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Endowment Fund Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

Bookstore \_\_\_\_\_

Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Environmental Education \_\_\_\_\_

Where needed \_\_\_\_\_

My check is enclosed payable to

Friends of Turnbull N.W.R.

P.O. Box 294

Cheney WA 99004