



Call of the Wild

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Saying Goodbye to a Dear Friend



Colorado's wildlife community lost a champion, hero, and friend with the passing of Birds of Prey Foundation's founder, **Sigrid Noll Ueblacker**. Sigrid's love of animals was fostered by her father in her home country of Austria and she often spoke of how she didn't want to read until someone gave her a book about animals. The Birds of Prey Foundation's story really began in Sigrid's backyard after her daughter brought home an injured poorwill. That first year, Sigrid took in 90 injured birds. Founded in 1984, the Foundation now takes in between 450 and 500 birds a year, totaling about 10,000 birds since their beginning - all of whom felt the gentle touch of our very own "raptor whisperer," Sigrid Ueblacker.

Many of the current and former members of the DOW's Denver area Wildlife Transport Team were shocked and devastated by the news of Sigrid's sudden passing. Dr. Fred Miller stated, "I am deeply saddened...she probably did more for the birds of prey than Mother Nature. At the very least, they were on equal footing." One of the recurring, cherished memories from team members is how Sigrid always took the time to educate and involve them in what

she was doing, how she never expected a volunteer to just drop the bird off and leave. She took the time to know the volunteers, to show them her facility, and allow them to meet many of the patients in her care. Most importantly, she often involved volunteers in the release of healthy birds both she and the volunteer had took part in helping recover.

Sigrid's son Gernot Ueblacker stated, "Her hope would be for her foundation to continue going strong even with her passing. She would want the organization to keep saving birds while educating the community." Sigrid was a mentor, hero, and friend to many of us at the DOW, our Transport Team volunteers, and most importantly, Colorado's wildlife. As volunteer Kyoko Wilson commented, "she flies on the wings of all she saved, and I know I will think of her every time I see a raptor in flight, soaring toward the heavens."

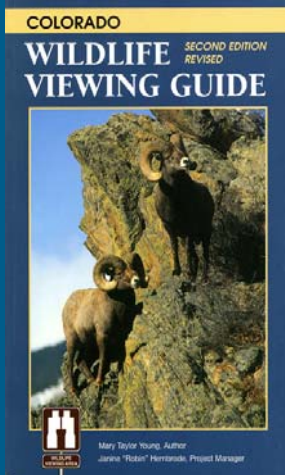
For more information on the Birds of Prey Foundation or to make a donation in Sigrid's memory, please visit <http://www.birds-of-prey.org/>

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Wildlife Viewing Guide

Special price for CDOW volunteers!



Colorado has some of the best wildlife viewing in the U.S. This is your guide to over 200 of the state's premier wildlife viewing locations. Enjoy thousands of acres of public land in a multitude of unique habitats and settings—from urban ponds and reservoirs to deserted prairie canyons and flat-topped mesas.

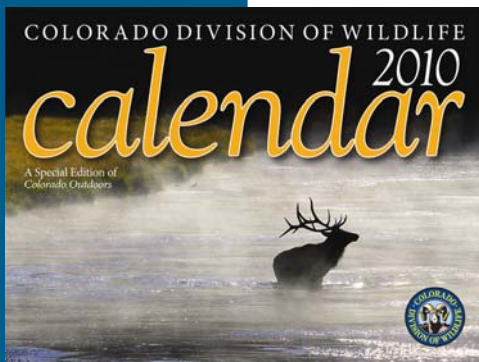
As a CDOW volunteer, you can purchase your own *Colorado Wildlife Viewing Guide* for just \$10.95! (Regular

price \$14.95) Go online to www.wildlife.state.co.us, click on the “shop” button, and enter the promo code of “watch”.

When you're traveling 'round our beautiful state, look for the brown binoculars signs that designate great wildlife viewing areas along roadsides.



New 2010 Wildlife Calendar



Looking for a Christmas gift for the wildlife enthusiast in the family? For the first time ever, Colorado Outdoors is offering for sale a 2010 Wildlife Calendar full of the same level of stunning photography as used in the magazine.

ing and fishing season information, as well as detailed descriptions on watchable wildlife happenings and festivals around the state.

Calendars are available online (<http://wildlife.state.co.us/wildlifestore>) or in some of the local Division of Wildlife offices. And at \$6.95, they are a steal. Limited numbers available. Get them while they last.

You will also find valuable hunt-

Two Firsts by Huntmaster George Sievers



Huntmaster George Sievers

It's been said "you always remember your first". That was definitely true on the recent Youth Hunt at the Old Fort Lewis property south of Hesperus, Colorado. The doe deer hunt is organized and run by the Colorado Division of Wildlife with the assistance of volunteers. The State owned property encompasses roughly 7,000 acres of mixed gambles oak, pinyon, and juniper. There are several fields under cultivation with hay as well. Through an agreement with other state agencies, the Division of Wildlife is able to hold a youth deer hunt annually for about ten youths between the ages of 12 and 16. There is usually a mix of girls and boys but this year only boys attended the hunt.

Volunteers are placed with the youths for the hunt after a briefing on safety, regulations, and the outline of the hunt. The first day, Friday, there is a weapons sight in. This event is greatly facilitated by members of the Durango Gun Club. They bring targets, tables, chairs and .22 rifles for the youth to use. The idea being that prior to the large caliber weapons used for hunting, the smaller .22's will give the kids chance to sharpen their accuracy skills. Afterwards the guns that they will use are checked for safe functioning, proper ammunition, and accuracy. After sighting in, all the youth and their parent or guardian are taken out to view the property that will be hunted and are assigned pre-selected zones for separation and safety. After another short meeting back at the facilities headquarters, everyone is released to meet again the next day, about an hour before first light.

This year's first day of the hunt was cool and clear and the property was literally teeming with deer. I was paired with a youth and his adult brother. We saw

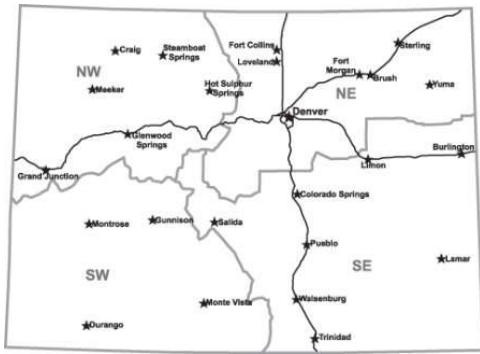
many deer but the opportunity for a "clean shot" did not present itself and hopes for the second day of the hunt ended the first try. That same afternoon I was paired with another youth, 14 year old Jacob. We set off west on foot, hoping to keep the wind in our faces and our scent from reaching the nostrils of the deer. After taking a stand in the shade of some oaks we spotted a buck and doe coming towards us. They were a bit too far and somewhat obscured by brush. Moving from our position we spotted another small group of deer, again too far off, so we decided to close the distance by stalking through the oaks in their direction. When it looked like they would pass out of our view I placed my shooting sticks for Jacob to support his rifle on and after checking with binoculars to insure his target was in fact a doe, I asked him if he felt confident he could make the shot. Replying with a firm "yes I can", I told him to take his time, be steady, and remember to just squeeze the trigger. At the crack of the shot the small group bounded away, including the target animal. Jacob, with some voiced disappointment, and I descended the hill and took up their trail. After searching 75 yards in the direction they fled I told him we should return to where they were when he made his shot and start our search over. As we returned to that point, there she was, partly hidden by some brush. With a beaming smile and an equal exclamation, Jacob and I began the process of field dressing the deer.

Through the process of moving his first deer back to the headquarters it was evident that this "first" for him, and me, was something we would always remember.

To learn more about the Huntmaster program, visit www.wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/HunterOutreach/VolunteersAndHuntmasters/



Jacob on his first deer hunt.



Where do I look for projects?

The map on the left has four regional designations. Projects within those regions are listed in the Opportunities by project type, under the region name. For example, if you are interested in projects in Yuma, look under Northeast opportunities. If you have questions or need assistance, call your regional coordinator.

Statewide Opportunities

To sign-up for opportunities in this section, or for more information, please call the person in the Contact section.

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Terrestrial				
Winter Lynx Tracking Surveys	Statewide, above 9,000 ft	Are you an avid winter outdoor enthusiast? If you will be recreating in the high country this winter, be ready to document any Lynx tracks you might see. Lynx are reclusive high altitude residents rarely seen by man. Winter is the best time to find evidence of their presence. Download an information packet to learn how to identify Lynx tracks and adequately record what you see for our Lynx researchers. You must be signed up as a volunteer to participate.	Nov.-May, based on snowfall	www.wildlife.state.co.us/volunteer . Click on Opportunities and then Lynx Tracking Volunteer Packet Jennifer Kleffner 970-375-6704

International Sportsmen Expo

It's that time of year again where sportsmen fill the downtown convention center to take advantage of everything there is to offer at the International Sportsmen Exposition. And each year, it gets bigger and better.

Set-up: 6 volunteer/staff each day

- Jan 5th 9am - 5pm
- 9am-noon DOW HQ loading trucks
- 1-5pm Unloading at Convention Center
- Jan 6th 8am-5pm Meet at Convention Center

Expo Shifts:

- Thurs, Jan 7th: 11:30-4:30pm, 4:30-9:30pm
- Fri, Jan 8th: 11:30am - 4:30pm, 4:30pm-9:30pm
- Sat, Jan 9th: 9:30am - 3pm, 3pm-8:30pm
- Sun, Jan 10th: 9:30am - 3pm, 3pm-7pm Take-down 5-7pm

Once again, the DOW is looking for your help to staff booths, computers, and the popular fishing tank. Help answer questions on hunting, fishing, and watchable wildlife and/or assist with set-up and unloading. Contact Lori Morgan at 303-291-7159 to sign-up.

Unload at DOW Office:

Mon, Jan 11th: 8-11am

Number of Workers Needed

- Set-up 6 volunteer/staff for each day
- DOW Hunting Booth 2-3 volunteer/staff for each shift
- DOW Fishing Booth 2 volunteer/staff for each shift
- Mascots (Elbert & Bear) 2 volunteer/staff for each shift
- Unloading 3-4 volunteer/staff

Northeast Opportunities

To sign-up for opportunities in this section, or for more information, please call the person in the Contact section.

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Aquatic				
Aquatic Lab Assistants	Aquatic Animal Health Lab 122 E Edison Brush Service Center	Work with biologists in a lab to process samples, enter and file whirling disease data, and perform general lab procedures such as disinfection, maintenance of water baths, weighing chemicals, and fixing lab equipment.	Ongoing, Weekdays, flexible hours	Vicki Milano 970-842-6308
Hatchery Assistance	Bellvue Fish Hatchery, west of Fort Collins	Assist in fish culture activities: feeding, sorting, loading fish, cleaning ponds and raceways, and maintaining buildings and grounds.	Weekdays, min. 4 hour shift per week	Brad Neuschwanger or Steve Hokansson 970-482-1659
Terrestrial				
Winter Waterfowl Count	Various lakes along the front range Ft. Collins to Littleton	Volunteers needed to drive to assigned lake(s) before sunrise, set up, and use spotting scopes to count number of geese and ducks on lakes. Must provide own vehicle and binoculars or spotting scope. Ability to distinguish species types is preferred.	January 5, Pre-dawn to approx. 9am	Mary McCormac 303-291-7369 mary.mccormac@state.co.us
Wildlife Transport Team	Denver metro area and Boulder/Louisville areas	Approximately 10 volunteers need to be added to existing team, particularly on weekdays. Respond to injured/sick wildlife reports; transport small wildlife to rehabilitators. Possibly long driving distances; must have dependable transportation. Equipment is provided; mileage is NOT reimbursed. This is a very independent project. One year commitment is required. <i>You must be available weekdays, able to go anywhere from Castle Rock to Longmont, foothills to plains, and be reliable.</i>	2-3 weekdays a month for a 24 hour on-call day (midnight-midnight) Tentative Mandatory training date for new members, March 13, 10am-4pm	Mary McCormac 303-291-7369 mary.mccormac@state.co.us
Public Information & Education				
International Sportman's Exposition (ISE)	Colorado Convention Center, Denver	Take a look at the article in the newsletter to see when and how we will be staffing volunteers. Call to sign up early—everyone wants to help on this one!	<i>Setup:</i> January 5-6 <i>Staffing:</i> January 7-10 <i>Unloading:</i> January 11	Lori Morgan 303-291-7159 or lori.morgan@state.co.us

Northeast Opportunities (continued)

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Public Information & Education (continued)				
Fishing Tank at the International Sportsman's Expo (ISE)	Colorado Convention Center, Denver	Help kids fish at the large, indoor fishing tank. 6 volunteers/staff for each shift	<i>Thurs/Fri:</i> 11:30am-4:30pm, 4:30-9:30pm <i>Saturday:</i> 9:30am-3pm, 3-8:30pm <i>Sunday:</i> 9:30am-3pm, 3-7pm	Scott Gilmore 303-291-7512
Junior Wildlife Officer Area at ISE	Colorado Convention Center, Denver	5-6 Volunteers needed per shift to help guide kids at the ISE through various stations to earn their JWO badge! Stations include skins and skulls, animal tracks, wildlife viewing, and stamping bandanas.	See description above	Mary McCormac 303-291-7369 mary.mccormac@state.co.us
From Our Lands to Your Hands Expo	Boulder City Fairgrounds, Longmont	The Boulder Valley and Longmont Conservation Districts and the Longmont Natural Resources Conservation Office are sponsoring the "From Our Lands to Your Hands" Exposition. The CDOW will be participating as an educational vendor and will have a booth focusing on wildlife identification, habitat, management, etc. Looking for 2-3 volunteers to assist at this event.	February 11, 10am-2pm	Mary McCormac 303-291-7369 mary.mccormac@state.co.us
Coyote Crew	Denver metro	If you are passionate about wildlife and enjoy educating others about living with wildlife, then this is the job for you! Join our Coyote Crew and be a voice for wildlife. Crew members assist officers with contacting neighborhoods after a coyote conflict; visit vet clinics, pet stores, etc. to disseminate educational materials; assist with education/information booths at various events; talk with people at parks about protecting their pets from coyotes; and more. Must be self-directed, have good communication skills, and represent the DOW's policies concerning wildlife issues. <i>Minimum of 4 hours/month time commitment required.</i>	On-going Training required, Tentative date January 9, 9am-3pm	Mary McCormac 303-291-7369 mary.mccormac@state.co.us

The Colorado Division of Wildlife is the state agency responsible for protecting and managing wildlife and habitat, and providing wildlife related recreation. Our public outreach programs promote appreciation, understanding, and stewardship of Colorado's wildlife.

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Support Services				
Marketing Program Assistance	Denver Headquarters 6060 Broadway	Get a behind the scenes look at the DOW Marketing Program. Assist the Marketing Director with administrative duties, such as database work, filing, organizing, and more! Marketing experience helpful but not required.	On-going	Debbie Lininger 303-291-7160 debbie.lininger@state.co.us
Property Development/Maintenance				
Big Thompson River Disabled Fishing access Rebuild	Hwy 34, Big Thompson Canyon, west of Drake	Disabled accessible ramp is in disrepair and needs TLC	Winter 2009	Dallas Mauer 970-669-7729
Volunteer Orientations & Other Learning Opportunities				
		<i>Due to staff and program changes, the Northeast Region Volunteer Program cannot accept new volunteer applicants at this time. This change in program status is temporary so please keep your eye out on our website and/or the newsletter for when the region will begin accepting new applicants again.</i>		



This stunning peregrine falcon made a very special but delicate trip thanks to many miles driven by DOW wildlife transporters **Bob Woolley** of Pueblo and **Phil & Cheryl Cable** of Colorado Springs. Bob, Phil and Cheryl stepped up to the plate and drove this bird long distance across Colorado to get her to her new home in Nebraska. It was a special DOW circumstance and all parties involved are extremely grateful for the great transport assistance that kept her calm and stress-free during her long ride. In her new home at Raptor Recovery Nebraska, she will entertain and educate adults and children alike about raptors and wildlife conservation. Great job everybody!

A few hearty souls joined Watchable Wildlife Coordinator John Koshak at Dome Rock State Wildlife Area for trail improvements in October. Thanks goes out to **Joyce Seaman, Su DiVittorio, the Lair's, and Jamie Coleman** for getting Koshak up and off the mountain safely!



Southeast Opportunities

To sign-up for opportunities in this section, or for more information, please call the person in the Contact section.

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Terrestrial				
Bluebird Project	Colorado Springs & Salida	Bluebird Project Workday for volunteers to learn how to correctly build bluebird boxes and make some holiday backyard bird treats. Boxes may need to be installed and/or maintained before spring nesting season.	Colorado Springs Dec. 12, 10am-1pm Salida Dec. 21, 2-5pm at AHRA State Park	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204
Wildlife Transport/ Arkansas Valley	Training in Pueblo – transports along Arkansas River	Respond to injured wildlife calls as needed; volunteers capture and transport small mammals and birds to rehabilitators around Pueblo, or help with relays, as needed. Must be 18 and have reliable transportation. Training mandatory.	Feb. 13, 9am Location TBA	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204
Wildlife Transport/ Colorado Springs Area	El Paso, Teller Counties	See description above.	Feb. 20, 9am – 1pm	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204
Public Information & Education				
Lion Aware Training	Colorado Springs	Come learn about mountain lion behavior and biology. After attending class, volunteers may post signs and distribute information in neighborhoods where lion sightings occur.	Dec. 9, 6-8pm. Please RSVP	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204
Wildlife Festival Orientation	Colorado Springs	Learn everything you ever wanted to know about volunteering at a DOW wildlife festival but were afraid to ask, including upcoming festival dates, commonly asked questions, and general festival responsibilities.	Jan. 21, 5:30pm	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204
Eagle Day	Lake Pueblo	Assist DOW in various areas during Saturday festival at both indoor and outdoor stations. Help staff DOW booth, staff spotting scopes and give out general festival information.	Feb. 6, 9am-4pm	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204
Snow Goose Festival	Lamar	4-6 volunteers needed to help with festival operations including staff DOW booth, help coordinate bus tours, and general duties.	Feb. 26-28	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204
Volunteer Orientations & Other Learning Opportunities				
Volunteer Orientation	Colorado Springs	General session includes overview of DOW Volunteer Program including types of projects throughout the year and volunteer expectations. We'll also cover the new volunteer tracking system.	Jan. 9 10am– noon	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Volunteer Orientations & Other Learning Opportunities (continued)				
Volunteer Orientation/ Bluebird Meeting	Canon City	Volunteers in the Canon City area can hear about upcoming local projects for 2010 and get involved in local lake cleanups and bluebird monitoring.	Time/date TBA	Jena Sanchez 719-227-5204



Mid-October hosted a picture perfect day for a volunteer work day to make improvements at the Pueblo Bighorn Archery Range just west of Pueblo. A Big Thanks to the folks who came out and helped set up new targets, pull weeds, and pick up trash.



A child tries her hand at "Painting a Puma" at the opening of the Fort Lewis College Center for Southwest Studies "Mountain Lion!" exhibit. Volunteers helped kids compare themselves with Mountain Lions during the Mountain Lion Olympics. To learn all about this elusive Colorado predator, visit the exhibit, which DOW helped to design. The exhibit will run through September 2010, in Durango.



Holiday Greetings to All DOW Volunteers & Staff, and Warm Wishes to you and your Family this Winter Season.

-From the DOW Regional Volunteer Coordinators



Coming to a mailbox near you! The new database is up and running, and will soon be linked to the DOW website. Look for a postcard in the mail explaining how to log on.

Northwest Opportunities

To sign-up for opportunities in this section, or for more information, please call the person in the Contact section.

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Aquatic				
Williams Fork/Granby Kokanee Salmon Spawn	Williams Fork/Granby Reservoirs	Assist with spawning operations for Kokanee Salmon. Fish are gathered by electroshocking and netting. Fish are spawned on site. Volunteers needed for different phases of operation. No experience is necessary, but should be comfortable working in and around water. Be prepared for cold conditions. Waders recommended	Spawning is 2x a week late Sept. to mid-Dec. on set days. Dates TBA 4-6 volunteers each spawn occasion	Jon Ewert 970-725-6214
Terrestrial				
Desert Bighorn Sheep	Various trailhead locations in the Grand Valley	Volunteers needed to stand at trailheads and provide information and fliers to recreationists regarding the Desert Bighorn Sheep capture taking place.	Beginning of December	Stephanie Duckett 970-255-6183
Cedar Ridge Deer Count	Cedar Ridge	10+ volunteers to assist counting deer on a one-day survey. Survey goal is to get a total count of deer population. Survey is conducted on foot and in vehicles. Some walking may be required. Training is provided onsite the morning of the survey.	Date and location TBA in Feb. in local papers	Hot Sulphur Springs Office 970-725-6200
CWD Head Collection/ Mandatory Bobcat/Lion Inspections	Grand Junction Regional Service Center	1-2 volunteers daily to assist with deer and elk head submissions for CWD testing and perform mandatory inspections of bobcat and lion hides/skulls. Equipment and training are provided. Accuracy and attention to detail necessary. Map reading and PDA experience very helpful. Five-day (continuous or non-continuous) commitment preferred.	Nov. 16 – Mar. 5 Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm	Derek Lovoi 970-858-3200
Wildlife Rescue Team	Grand Valley, including Grand Junction, Clifton, Palisade, Fruita, Mack, Gateway, Parachute, Collbran, Grand Mesa	Respond to injured, orphaned, and nuisance wildlife calls from the public. Provide wildlife education and solutions to the public. Transport wildlife to veterinarians and rehabilitators. May require some capture. Must be 18 years or older, have a very flexible schedule, and be willing to drive long distances in your personal vehicle. Good public skills and maturity are essential. Training on capture and DOW policies provided. Orientation/interviews and training required.	Orientation/ interviews Feb. 17, 7-8:30 pm, NW Hunter Ed. Classroom Training date and location TBA in local papers Feb/Mar.	Judy Johnston 970-255-6145

Northwest Opportunities (continued)

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Public Information & Education				
Bear/Lion Aware	Grand Valley, including Grand Junction, Clifton, Palisade, Fruita, Mack, Gateway, Collbran, Grand Mesa	Come learn about bears and help us to reduce the number of bear/lion people conflicts this summer. We're looking for volunteers with excellent people skills to distribute information on bears/lions to the public in your community. Main duties include putting up signs and distributing bear/lion brochures. Volunteers will work closely with wildlife officers. Training provided and required.	Training dates TBA in local papers Feb/Mar/Apr. Project starts in spring and ends in the fall	Judy Johnston 970-255-6145
Hunter Education Assistance	Glenwood Springs Service Center	2-4 volunteers needed to organize, fill/process orders for upcoming hunter education programs. Available on an on-call basis to come into office to help.	Variable schedule	Kasi Rishel 970-947-2930
Mesa County Safety Fair	Mesa Mall, Grand Junction	3+ volunteer needed to staff a Hunter Safety Booth at the annual Safety Fair. This is a non-formal education to children and adults, informing and educating the public on reducing wildlife conflict, increasing their knowledge, which includes wildlife appreciation and awareness and also awareness of wildlife viewing opportunities. Training will be provided.	Dates and times TBA in Feb. in local papers	Elissa Knox 970-255-6156
Hunter Outreach Youth Hunts and Women Afield Helpers	Northwestern Colorado	4 volunteers needed per hunt for one day or weekend to assist DOW employees with elk, deer, pheasant, turkey, and duck hunts designed for women and youth in Northwest Colorado. Need hunt photographers, cooks, guides, and camp helpers.	Dec. 2009-Jan. 2010	Kathleen Tadvick 970-255-6181 kathleen.tadvick@state.co.us
Youth Hunt-Mentors	Grand County, Summit County	5-12 volunteers needed as youth mentors. Must be 18 years of age or older and have good communication skills. Must be experienced with big game hunting and have a working knowledge of Middle Park. Must be able to educate, demonstrate, and mentor youths on safe and ethical hunting practices and firearm use.	December, Fri.-Sun., 8am-3pm,	Kirk Oldham 970-725-6203
Support Services				
Customer Service Assistance	Glenwood Springs Service Center	Provide customer service at front desk and on phone, and possibly assist with various administrative duties.	4+ hours a week on a regular basis	Kasi Rishel 970-947-2930

Northwest Opportunities (continued)

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Support Services (continued)				
Customer Service Assistance	Hot Sulphur Springs Service Center	Provide administrative assistance to office: filing, typing, answering phones, making copies and various other duties. Training provided.	Hours vary based on work load	Kris Holinka 970-725-6211
Property Development/Maintenance				
Herold Range Clean Up	Herold Range near Yampa	1-3 volunteers needed to help keep range clean of trash and debris. Assistance with range maintenance and enhancement efforts when available.	Ongoing	Libbie Miller 970-736-8359
SWA Assistance	Garfield Creek SWA near New Castle; Plateau Creek SWA near Collbran; West Rifle Creek SWA near Rifle	Lead volunteer for each SWA to work closely with property technician and officers on maintenance tasks and other projects on the SWA. Duties include removing trash, repairing damaged fence and assisting with habitat improvement projects as needed and specific projects for the SWA.	Ongoing Training on site	Buddy McNeel 970-984-9872
SWA Assistance-Mesa County	Horsethief Canyon SWA, Fruita	See description above	See description above	Tom Sanderson 970-858-3200
SWA Assistance-Eagle County	Gypsum Ponds SWA	Volunteers needed to assist with maintenance tasks and other projects on SWA's. Duties include removing trash, fence building and removal, and working with property technician on specific projects for the SWA. 1-6 volunteers needed.	See description above	Brian Wodrich 970-947-2970
SWA Assistance-Steamboat Springs	Chuck Lewis SWA, Adams SWA, Yampa SWA, Sarvis Creek SWA, Hayden Gun Range	See description above.	See description above.	Steve Baumgartner 970-846-0904
SWA Assistance-Mesa Co.	Plateau Creek State Wildlife Area Shooting Range	2-10 volunteers to assist with trash removal on and around SWA working with property technician.	Ongoing	Derek Lovoi 970-858-3200

This program receives Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, age or sex (in educational programs.) If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or you desire further information please write to : The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office for

To sign-up for opportunities in this section, or for more information, please call the person in the Contact section.

NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHEN	CONTACT
Public Information & Education				
27th Annual Monte Vista Crane Festival	Monte Vista	Help staff DOW booth at festival, educate children and families during a fun hands-on bird migration workshop, and assist people at the refuge with bird ID. Lodging stipend included. Call early. This one fills up fast!	March 12-14	Jennifer Kleffner 970-375-6704
Volunteer Orientations & Other Learning Opportunities				
New Database Orientation	Durango & Montrose (other locations upon request)	Help us move further into the digital age by attending an introductory session on the new DOW on-line database. Learn how to update your own demographic data, enter your hours, and see what projects you have signed up for.	Late winter/early spring TBA	Jennifer Kleffner 970-375-6704

Did you know...

Did you know that there are over 240 State Wildlife Areas in the state, ranging from a few to thousands of acres? Colorado's State Wildlife Areas are managed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife to maintain and enhance wildlife and their habitat, and to provide wildlife viewing, angling, and hunting opportunities. You can find maps and specific property regulations on the DOW website. Click on the maps link at the top of the main page and then click on SWA maps. Property maps show parking areas, roads, and public facilities as well as special restrictions

or dates: www.wildlife.state.co.us/maps.

State Trust Lands (STLs) are state school lands managed by the Colorado State Land Board. Some STLs have been opened up for public hunting and fishing through a special leasing agreement to increase opportunities for sportsmen and women in Colorado, for certain times of the year. To find out specific property information, check out the STL booklet at any DOW office or go to the map link above and click on State Trust Lands.

Call of the Wild is written, edited, and published quarterly by volunteer program coordinators and distributed free of charge to active volunteers of the Colorado Division of Wildlife and other interested persons. If you would like to receive a copy, please write or call. Articles appearing in *Call of the Wild* may be reproduced freely. Please give proper credit.

Remembering Sigrid continued

"I can't think of anyone more giving and caring than Sigrid was. I have many pictures of her tender hands providing hope and love to injured raptors. She will be greatly missed." – Dan Mower



"On a very cold morning in January, Joe and I set out on a long journey to the small town of Kremmling. There we would meet with a Wildlife Rehabilitator to pick up a badly injured Golden Eagle and transport her to Sigrid for care and rehabilitation.

One very important rule of Sigrid's was to never, ever listen to the radio while transporting one of her birds.

On a normal Sunday not listening to the radio would not have been a problem, but on this particular Sunday the Denver Broncos were playing in the Super Bowl.

Being our first transport since joining the team we wanted, and needed to do everything right; after all, we were carrying precious cargo: a beautiful, majestic Golden Eagle. She had to remain as stress free as possible to insure a safe arrival, a chance at healing, and the possibility of being released back to the wild someday.

Each time we stopped at a gas station, I called Sigrid with an update on the eagle and Joe asked the attendant what the status of the game was.

I don't know who I was more excited over...being in the presence of a Golden Eagle or being able to meet Sigrid. I had never been in the presence of either one before that day. Joe and I both felt so honored to have been chosen for this transport. It was a great day!

After 10 hours of driving in a blizzard, we arrived at the Birds of Prey ICU, Sigrid was waiting for us, a beautiful smile on her face, and a very kind "Hello, I am Sigrid, do you have my eagle?"

Joe and I felt like we were in our own home, warm and inviting. Sigrid had everything ready for our injured eagle. He carefully brought her in and set the kennel down on the table. Sigrid reached in and brought out the raptor, Joe quietly placed the kennel on the floor. Our eyes grew big as we saw the entire bird, resting peacefully on Sigrid's arm. That eagle was so big, and her talons and beak were huge.

Sigrid thoughtfully asked me to glove up and take the bird so she could examine the badly injured wing. A sudden rush of adrenaline almost brought me to my knees... I was about to hold this incredible bird in my hands! I felt so honored, and so blessed. That day was the first day of a wonderful, heartwarming, friendship.

I miss you, my wonderful, kind, gifted, and patient friend... I will miss our long talks... and your heartfelt advice. Thank you so much for welcoming me into your life, for teaching me, for your advice, guidance, and most of all for being my friend. I will always hold your memories in my heart.

I Love You, Sigrid! Good Bye." – Peggy and Joe Wrabetz

"This is extremely sad news, not only to us as friends but to the magnificent birds she helped to rehabilitate. The few times I took birds to her as a member of the volunteer transport team, she was always cordial, helpful, and a giver of education with the experience. Several times she escorted me around the facility to see and explain "her" birds, their condition, their anticipated recovery time, or if there was no hope of re-release, what comfort she and staff were providing. Her warmth, humor, and true gentleness in life will be remembered by me for a long time to come." – Jim Philips

“Well, it's taken me sometime to fathom this sad piece of news and I feel a need to express my (our) loss...who will stand up for wildlife with Sigrid gone? She did so much for her birds and inspired everyone who came in contact with her unselfishness, she will be missed.” – Thom Butcher

“I am devastated. She was a true angel and my hero. I will miss her more than words can express”. – Kathy O'Connor

“While transporting several birds for the DOW to various rehabilitators, including a golden eagle, a cormorant, and a noisy fledged finch, I stopped at Birds of Prey first. The eagle was in a cardboard box loosely taped with duct tape and the previous “taxi driver” had warned me it was trying to get out and she had been driving on I25 with one hand on the box and the other on the wheel. Nervously, I mentally went through all the bird handling protocol I had been taught until I finally pulled up to Sigrid's. I had called ahead to confirm she could meet us. She walked out to the car, pulled open the box, stated “Oooh, it IS a Golden; I didn't think you knew what you had!” in her thick accent. She then obliterated my list of protocol, put her face down to the bird, lifted him out, held him against her chest in a hug, gently laying her cheek on his head. His sagging head lifted and his dull eyes started to spark. She brought him into her lab and slowly laid him on his back on a sheepskin. She gently spread out each wing to check for breaks then went nose to beak and asked him, “What happened to you!? Where are your parents? You should still be hunting with them. Not going to say? Ok.” She rotated her head to look at me and said, “You treat them like this, they never forget.” Thank you, Sigrid, I have never forgotten.” – Diane Bergstrom



“Sigrid had such a magical way with the birds, and I would always tell the birds I was transporting that I was taking them to see Mama Sigrid and that she would take good care of them....and when we reached the ICU, she would take them under “her wings” and the birds always seemed to relax and become calm - it was such a wonderful thing to witness... she was truly a bird whisperer and I, along with so many others, will miss her dearly. I'd like to think that now the birds are taking her under their wings and giving her the same wonderful welcoming care that she gave them....Mama Sigrid extraordinaire!” – Carol Harang

“Back in September I rescued an injured poorwill and after examining it, she took me to the other building and said in her accent, “Come here, you bring one in, we let two go” Then she opens the cage and just hands one to me-I had no gloves or a towel and didn't know what to expect. I asked her if they bite and she goes “yes, they love fingers and they growl” and the poorwill actually growled at me.

Do you remember when she mentioned in our meeting about only letting people that she trusted to hold the raptors down when she examined them? It felt so good to know that because she let me do it on my first drop-off and every time after that. It was such a powerful experience to be holding an owl's talons with no gloves. I told all my friends and family b/c it meant so much to me.

Another time I was there she told me again in her accent (which I obviously misunderstood) what I thought she said was “I have a needle coming today” and I am like why is she telling me about a needle? :) Then, a golden eagle arrived. When she opened the cage, she petted the eagle's head like a dog-rubbing it and saying to everyone in the room that it is good luck to become friends with an eagle. Then she just quietly took it out of the crate and held it. The whole room was quiet and one person called her the Eagle Whisperer. I asked her if I could help her out and she let me take the injured wing and spread it out. It was amazing-how long that wing was and how calm the eagle was with her.

She was an amazing woman and no one will be like her, so calm and yet powerful-like a raptor in flight.” – Jen Jones



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