

Chirp & Chatter



Friends of Grand Lake Audubon Society

“Building a birding community one feather at a time”



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Issue 2

Tragedy strikes the Pensacola Eagle Nest Site

This past Saturday, our chapter gathered for our second annual Eagle Nest Watch at Pensacola Dam in Langley. What began as a morning of anticipation quickly turned somber. The night before, the nest we have been carefully monitoring all season — along with the entire tree supporting it — had come down.

At first, we scanned the familiar treeline, puzzled as we searched for the massive structure that had become such a fixture in our weekly visits. Slowly, it became clear: the nest was gone.

Several members crossed the water to reach the fallen site and check for any survivors while authorities were contacted. Dustin Browning, GRDA biologist, responded immediately and dispatched a team to assess the situation. Tragically, one chick — possibly the only remaining youngster in the nest — did not survive.

In those first moments, as the weight of what had happened settled in, our group shifted quickly from observation to action. If it felt a bit chaotic, it was only because everyone understood the seriousness of the situation and wanted to help. GRDA later expressed appreciation for our chapter's consistent monitoring efforts and for promptly reporting the incident.

For those who attended, this experience underscores why nest monitoring matters. We can never assume that someone else has noticed when something is wrong. Timely observation and communication truly make a difference.

While we cannot control nature's course, we can continue to show up — to witness, to learn, and to support conservation efforts where we are able. I hope participants were also able to spend some time appreciating the other birds in the area and connecting with fellow members. Even on difficult days, our shared commitment to stewardship and community remains strong.

Stepping Up for the Future of Our Chapter

Leadership in our chapter doesn't require you to be the most experienced birder, only a willingness to support our mission and help guide our efforts. Our board collaborates to plan programs and field trips, support conservation initiatives, manage chapter business, and ensure the continued strength of our chapter. Fresh ideas and new perspectives keep us vibrant and growing.

Whether you've been a member for since our beginnings or joined recently, your voice and talents matter. If you have organizational skills, event planning experience, communication strengths, financial knowledge, or simply a desire to contribute more meaningfully, there is a place for you. We will be collecting names throughout March in preparation for April elections and appointments or you can email us directly at grandlakebirders@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

March Monthly Meeting

Sat March 14th 10:30-11:30

Grove Community Center

104 W. 3rd St Grove

“Bats and the ecosystem”

Speaker: Alec Davis

April Monthly Meeting

Sat April 11th 10:30-11:30

Grove Community Center

104 W. 3rd St Grove

“A tour of tropical birds”

Speaker: David Haas

Bird Walks

As we monitor weather conditions,

we will be adding bird walk meet ups. Follow our facebook for dates as they are added