

Field Notes

September 2022



Greetings Friends!

Thank you for making Summer 2022 at Creamer's Field such a great success! We hosted a full schedule of summer events for the first time since 2019. That could not happen without you. Thank you!

The changing season brings bright red and orange leaves, cool mornings, and more FREE community events.

Creepy Critters: Bears of Alaska will be taking place on October 22nd from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. outside the Farmhouse Visitor Center. Stop by and enjoy bear displays, crafts, and bear safety demonstrations.

See you on the Refuge!

Grace & Melanie
Friends of Creamer's Field Staff

Photo: A pair of swans on the seasonal wetland pond. Photo by Melanie Graeff.

New Farmhouse Hours - Effective Immediately

Farmhouse Visitor Center Hours

Monday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuesday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Thursday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Sunday CLOSED



Boreal Buzz

Research on the Refuge: Fall Migration



Waterfowl banding occurs all throughout North America and is a useful tool in the monitoring of waterfowl species. As fall migration was getting underway, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) conducted waterfowl banding throughout Alaska with a statewide goal of banding 6,000 Mallard ducks. Typically, the Interior banding effort is performed at a banding station on Big Minto Lake.

However, due to high water levels, wildfires in the Interior, and equipment availability, the 2022 fall banding operation occurred at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

The operation at the refuge was headed by ADFG Wildlife Technician Nate LaShomb, along with other banders and volunteers from ADFG, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the

Read more about the project at the link below:

Photo: ADFG Technician Nate LaShomb holds a drake mallard. Photo by Melanie Graeff.

Field Sketch

Presented by ADFG Biologist, Mark D. Ross



Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge
Field Sketches!
Visit at 1300 College Rd. back by the big barns.

Such was the case of few days ago, when on my indoor speaker, I heard what I describe as a "fast, happy chatter". The short, quiet song was reminiscent of the Winter Wren, which is not resident in the middle Tanana River Valley; the closest location is coastal southcentral Alaska.

I ventured in search of the singer and did get a glimpse of a greenish-yellow, smallish songbird among the willow leaves; a bit bigger than a kinglet, it was a warbler- but what species? I did get a glimpse of what looked to be a white line near the eye.

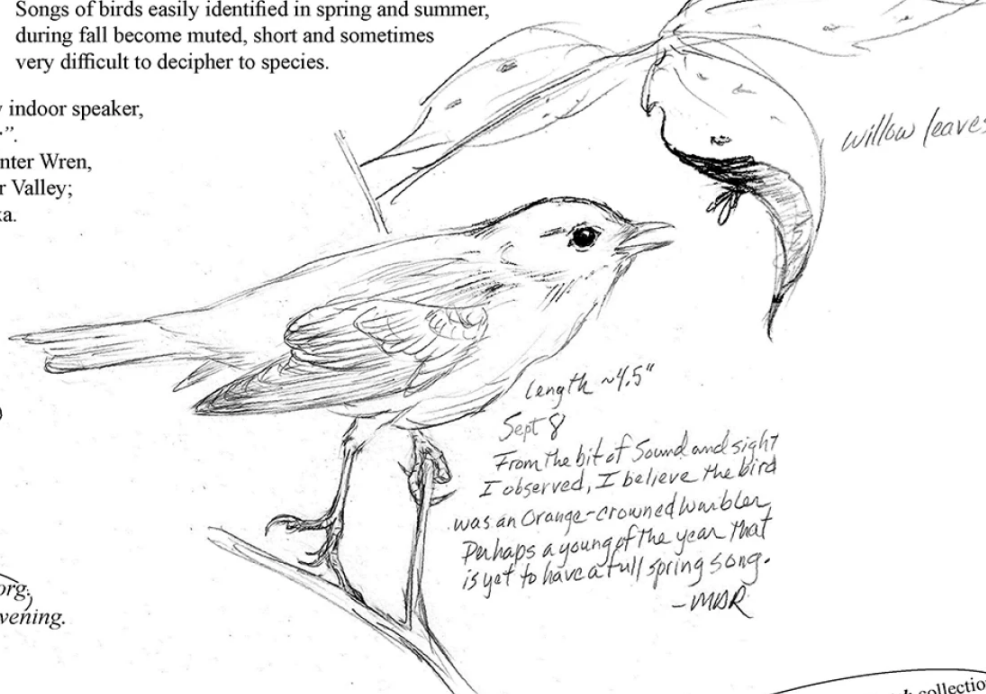
Orange-crowned warbler?

Hear the "Happy Chatter" of this unidentified warbler at fm.kuac.org, airing this Monday morning and evening.

MDR

Mysterious Bird Sound of Fall

Songs of birds easily identified in spring and summer, during fall become muted, short and sometimes very difficult to decipher to species.



Get the entire Field Sketch collection, 205 sketches of nature - 459-7301

Enjoy the Trails and Wildlife at Creamer's Refuge: Please leash pets; respect wildlife and other folks too.

Mark D. Ross
459-7301

Friends of Creamer's Field Online Store

Check out the new items available on our online store!



Upcoming Event: Creepy Critters



Join us for our annual
Creepy Critters Program



Treats & Sweets

Prizes

Crafts

Bear Displays

Bear Safety

Hot Drinks

Saturday, October 22
12:00 - 3:00 pm

Creamer's Field Farmhouse
Visitor's Center

Call (907) 978-8457 or visit
www.friendsofcreamersfield.org for more information.



Thank you for being a Friend!

In addition to allowing us to provide our Refuge programs and events at no charge, your donations have allowed us to do much more! Additional projects include year-round clearing to enable four outhouses to remain open year-round, dairy roof painting, and trail repair. With your help, we have so much more planned for 2023!



Our Contact Information

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Mission Statement

"Inspiring environmental stewardship and lifelong learning through experience, awareness, appreciation and conservation of the natural and historic resources of Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge."

