

Audubon News June 2024

Prairie Hills Audubon Society's June Meeting

Date: **Monday, June 10th**, 2024, 6:30 pm MT

Location: by Zoom

Speaker: Erik Molvar, Executive Director,
Western Watersheds Project

Topic: **"Sage grouse planning, here we go again"**

The Biden administration is joining previous administrations & once again offering amendments to the BLM Resource Management Plans for greater sage grouse in 10 western states, including SD. The BLM had engaged in revising its' greater sage grouse management in 2015 (under Obama) & in 2019 (under Trump), however sage grouse populations continue to drop, losing nearly 80% of acreage between 1968 & 2023. Learn what the Biden Administration is doing or not doing to rectify the situation.

To protect the greater sage grouse Prairie Hills Audubon Society, Western Watersheds Project, Center for Biological Diversity and WildEarth Guardians sued in 2016 in federal court to force better and more protective management on the BLM lands. The litigation is on hold, waiting while Biden administrations rewrites its' management plans.

As a result of this litigation:

1) Trump amendments were enjoined, 2) 10 million acres of critical sage grouse habitat temporarily protected from mining, 3) the Biden Administration was forced to rewrite the previous administrations' greater sage grouse management plans. Visit:

<https://phas-wsd.org/sage-ecosystem-campaign/>

Biden administration proposed new management rules are presented in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement. There is an **opportunity to comment ending Thursday June 13th, 2024 & we hope you will comment**. Come & learn about the issues from Erik and/or go to our web site's page on sage ecosystem campaign or events/deadline calendar on June 13th to learn about issues & send an original or pre-fab form letter:

<https://phas-wsd.org/event/deadline-to-comment-on-blms-greater-sage-grouse-rmp-amendments-deis/>

To join our Zoom Meetings for members, we use this account:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85433920233?pwd=QmxYUDMvMGRrNW9yRmVON3VPU0dRZz09>

Meeting ID: **854 3392 0233**

Passcode: **534620**

One tap mobile **+16694449171,,85433920233#,,,534620# US**

Dial by phone: • **+1 669 444 9171 US** or **+1 669 900 6833 US**
+1 253 205 0468 US

Visit our web site's calendar for 6/10 or Facebook pages to copy

Zoom links: <https://phas-wsd.org/events-alerts/month/>

• Prairie Hills Audubon Society's (PHAS's) meetings are normally by Zoom in the last week of the month, but can occasionally occur in the first week(s) of the next month. **Other future meetings:**

We may have a meeting in late July or early August on mountain lions, as the NEGP & SDGFP may be changing the hunting seasons this summer/fall. Watch our web & Facebook pages.

Our events are announced on our web site & Facebook pages & sent out by e-mail to members we have e-mails for. You can click on meeting's Zoom links when on-line at our web site or Facebook pages. Due to the cost of the newsletter mailing, we don't mail out physical newsletters to announce all events. If you are not receiving e-mails from us about events, please send us your e-mail - send it to phas.wsd@rapidnet.com.

Prairie Hills Audubon Society (PHAS) is a chapter of the National Audubon Society; our territory is much of West River SD. Nancy Hilding - President, phas.wsd@rapidnet.com, 605-787-6466 or 2806 (cell), Jim Petersen - Vice-president/Treasurer, nfearndesire@gmail.com, 605-939-4995 cell, Helen McGinnis - Secretary, hissyhelen38@gmail.com, 304-227-4166, Doris Respects Nothing - Board Member, drn.6501@gmail.com, 605 454-2069, Jediah Beadle - Board Member & Field Trip Chair, jediahbeadle@gmail.com, 605-510-7989 (cell),

<http://phas-wsd.org/> — <https://www.facebook.com/phas.wsd>. Our e-mail address - phas.wsd@rapidnet.com

Prairie Hills Audubon Society

P.O. Box 788

Black Hawk, SD 57718

**Monday, June 10th,
Prairie Hills Audubon Society Meeting
on Greater Sage Grouse by Zoom**

PRESORTED

STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

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PERMIT NO. 618

