

Introduction

What is the Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project?

The Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to the recovery, restoration, and enhancement of the western bluebird in the northern Willamette Valley of Oregon. It was named after Hubert Prescott, a devoted bluebird enthusiast, who put up the first nest boxes in the 1970's. The data collected by monitors are important to successful conservation. Monitors work with banders who try to mark all adult and nestling bluebirds individually with numbered leg bands. The project is governed by a Steering Committee consisting of the officers and banders.

Why do western bluebirds need help?

In the early 1900's bluebirds were common in the Willamette Valley. However, the population declined dramatically by 1940, probably due to changing land-use patterns. Extensive forests were converted to agriculture, and as a result, nesting sites were destroyed. Bluebirds faced increased competition from non-native species like house sparrows and European starlings, increased predation from cats and raccoons, and increased exposure to pesticides. Thanks to the dedicated volunteers of the Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project, the species is making a comeback, but the western bluebird is still listed by the state government as a sensitive species in the Willamette Valley.

What does the project do?

Perhaps the Western Bluebird could be returned to the Willamette River Valley if every possible advantage, no matter how small, could be weighted in favor of the bluebird. -Hubert Prescott, 1985

Our primary goal is to create high quality nesting conditions for bluebirds by monitoring nest boxes, encouraging habitat preservation, and controlling competitors and predators. The data collected by our banders and monitors is made available to the North American Bluebird Society (NABS), the Western Bird Banding Association, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. We are active in educational outreach with brochures, press releases, and events. Prescott banders and monitors play an important role in educating homeowners about bluebird biology and conservation.

How does the project help bluebirds?

Training and supervising volunteer monitors is the key to our success. The information in this manual is designed to guide our monitors in proper recovery and conservation methods. It contains information about nest box placement, monitoring activities, predator and competitor management, and bluebird behavior and development. The manual is designed for easy updating annually or whenever Prescott policies and practices change.

Our work is conducted under the provisions of the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. A federally licensed master bander supervises the activities of our licensed banders. Only licensed banders (or those acting under their direct supervision) are authorized to handle native bird species, such as bluebirds, chickadees, wrens, nuthatches, and swallows. Our attempts to control house sparrows and starlings are legal because these are not native species.

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Steering Committee Members

The following positions compose the Steering Committee. The president, treasurer, and secretary are elected for two-year terms and the past president serves as an ongoing advisor.

President

Past president

Secretary

Treasurer

Finance Coordinator

Newletter Editor

Founding Member

Master Bander

Database Coordinator

Public Relations Coor.

Events Coordinator

Speakers/Presenters Coor.

Webmaster

Nest Box Coordinator

All Licensed Banders

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North American Bluebird Society Membership Form

All PBRP volunteers are encouraged to become members of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS) and to visit their web site at www.nabluebirdsociety.org. Members receive copies of the quarterly journal, *Bluebird*, which contains valuable information about bluebird conservation. Please complete the following membership form and send it with your fee and contribution to:

**North American Bluebird Society
P. O. Box 244
Wilmot, Ohio 44689**

NABS Membership Form

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Gift subscription for:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____ FAX No. _____

Email Address _____

Credit cards accepted: VISA MC

Card No. _____ Expires _____

Signature _____

NABS Membership Levels:

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (over 60)	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Years–Reg.	\$55	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Years–Senior	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Under 21	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributor	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Years–Student	\$40	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$30	<input type="checkbox"/> Donor	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$50		

Auto-Renewal Authorization

I authorize NABS to charge my credit card automatically to renew my membership.

NABS Endowment Fund Contribution

I wish to make an additional tax-deductible contribution to the endowment fund.