



Malheur Musings - August 2017



We've got exciting news! The refuge is dedicating a much larger space for the Friends' Nature Store, which gives us the opportunity to develop a Nature Center alongside our store to provide environmental education and information about the refuge as an expanded service to refuge visitors. The new Nature Center will be in the house east of the museum at Malheur HQ.

It is our goal that the Nature Center be a point of contact for visitors of the refuge, providing up-to-date wildlife sightings as well as a space for multimedia presentations and environmental education programs. Stay tuned to our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for updates!



Introducing Peter Pearsall, Executive Director of FOMR

Greetings, everyone! I'm Peter Pearsall, the new Executive Director of Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. All my life I've been an advocate for natural places and their inherent values, and it is truly an honor to channel this lifelong

passion into the duties and responsibilities of my new role at Malheur...[Read more here](#)

Carp Derby 2017

On Saturday, August 5, FOMR and Refuge staff hosted the annual Carp Fishing Derby at Malheur HQ. This event, which began in 2010 and has been held nearly every year since, serves to kick off a week-long carp fishing season at the Refuge. It's an opportunity for visitors to come to the refuge and participate in a good-natured fishing competition, as well as learn more about common carp and the management issues they pose to Refuge staff...[Read more here](#)



Meet Joseph Barnett, MNWR Fishery Biologist

Joe grew up on a small ranch at the Oklahoma/Texas border near Lake Texoma, where from an early age he enjoyed hunting and fishing in the area. His childhood passion for the outdoors grew into a desire to protect natural resources as a profession...[Read more here](#)



Benton County Big Sit

The 2nd annual Benton County Big Sit will be held September 24 at William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge, located south of Corvallis in Benton County, OR. Organized by young birders Kai Frueh, Ben Frueh and Isaac Denzer, this charitable event raises money for local and national bird conservation organizations...[Read more here](#)



Spotted Sandpiper
Photo by Peter Pearsall

Fall Birding at Malheur

by Alan Contreras

Any article titled "Malheur in Fall" should really be called "Malheur and Steens Mountain in Fall" because access to the mountain is the biggest difference between spring migration birding and the experience of autumn. In spring, we gaze longingly at the 9000-foot snowy ridge of

the massif; in fall we get to go there. But before we make the 25-mile uphill rumble on the gravel road to the summit, there are major differences to be seen in the Blitzen Valley birding sites as well...[Read more here](#)

We appreciate our Members!

I want to personally thank our members who have renewed memberships or made donations to us so far this year and I encourage those of you who haven't joined us to do so. If you haven't yet renewed, please do so and stay with us. There are increasing political threats to the welfare of our public lands which make our efforts to protect Malheur even more important. We, Friends of Malheur, are letting our voices be heard in the public lands debates. Your continued support will help us support Malheur Refuge and in our political struggle to support refuges and public lands.

Thank you all!

Sincerely,

Gary Ivey, President
Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

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