



**FORT COLLINS AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
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Promoting the appreciation, conservation, and restoration of ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife, through education, participation, stewardship, and advocacy.

### **Adoption of Fossil Creek Important Bird Area**

WHEREAS, The Colorado Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program has initiated the Colorado Adopt-An-IBA Program to encourage conservation efforts at IBAs throughout Colorado (see attached document); and

WHEREAS, The Fort Collins Audubon Society (FCAS) in 1999 nominated Fossil Creek IBA, an area that includes the Larimer County Fossil Creek Reservoir Regional Open Space (FCRROS) and the City of Fort Collins Fossil Creek Wetlands Natural Area (FCWNA); and

WHEREAS, FCAS has been conducting monthly bird surveys at FCRROS since 2001; and

WHEREAS, FCAS has created a bird checklist specifically for FCCROS and has donated thousands of copies for visitors; and

WHEREAS, FCAS provides two delegates to the FCCROS Resource Improvement Plan Scoping Committee; and

WHEREAS, FCAS has officially adopted FCWNA as part of the City of Fort Collins Natural Area Program's Adopt-A Natural-Area Program, and has provided volunteers to pick up litter on a regular basis since 1999; and

WHEREAS, FCAS wishes to continue to support ongoing activities of scientific research, habitat restoration and improvement, environmental education, stewardship, and advocacy relating to the properties included in Fossil Creek IBA; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the Fort Collins Audubon Society hereby officially adopts Fossil Creek IBA in accordance with the Colorado Adopt-An-IBA Program and commits to making continual progress toward implementation of the stated goals of the adoption; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Fort Collins Audubon Society appoints a contact person for the Adoption of Fossil Creek Reservoir to facilitate progress on adoption goals and to communicate with Colorado IBA and Fossil Creek IBA land managers.

Approved and adopted the 3rd day of November, 2005. I, the undersigned, hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Fort Collins Audubon Society following roll call vote:

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Absent: 7

William H. Miller (acting for Scott Cobble)  
Fort Collins Audubon Society Secretary

November 3, 2005  
Date

# Colorado Adopt-An-IBA Program

## Purpose

The Colorado Adopt-An-IBA Program is a collaborative activity of the Colorado Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program and Audubon chapters and other citizen groups in Colorado. Its purpose is to encourage conservation efforts at IBAs throughout Colorado by (1) fostering the establishment and successful functioning of citizen groups that are committed to the long-term environmental health and protection of those sites and (2) supporting and recognizing the efforts and accomplishments of such citizen groups.

## Adoption Procedures/Expectations for Audubon Chapters

1. By an action of the Chapter leadership/board, the chapter declares that it is adopting a specific IBA within its territory. The chapter's intention should be for a long-term commitment (at least 2 years) to this effort.
2. The Chapter assigns a person to be the lead individual in organizing the Adopt-An-IBA activities, as well as the contact person for Audubon Colorado. It is advisable to establish a committee within the Chapter structure for carrying out this work.
3. The Chapter will work cooperatively with the site owners/managers and with Audubon Colorado staff to carry out activities that enhance the IBA habitats for the birds that depend on them.

## Potential Adopt-An-IBA Activities

Citizen Science: Develop on-site bird inventory/monitoring efforts. Collect data to help document the occurrence, relative abundance, breeding status, long-term changes in populations, and/or habitat relationships for birds inhabiting the site. Monitor the environmental health of IBA habitats.

Citizen Stewardship: Establish a positive working relationship with the landowner(s)/manager(s) of the IBA, working collaboratively with them and the local community to safeguard and enhance avian habitats on the site. Work closely with them and Audubon Colorado to develop a conservation/management plan for the IBA, as needed. If plans already exist, work together to strengthen these plans to ensure the long-term viability of the target birds and their habitats on the site.

Habitat Restoration & Management: Assist the IBA owners/managers with on-the-ground resource management programs at the IBA. These may include trash clean-up, birdhouse construction/installation, exotic plant or pest control, habitat restoration, and native plantings.

Environmental Education: Conduct educational outreach to foster community support for the IBA.

Advocacy: Monitor threats to the IBA's birds and habitats, and work with Audubon Colorado to counter those threats and achieve positive protection for the health and integrity of the site.

## Audubon Colorado's Responsibilities

1. Provide technical and staff support for the chapter's Adopt-An-IBA efforts, as needed.
2. Coordinate planning between the chapter and the site owners/managers, as needed.
3. Work with the chapter to establish research/monitoring methodology, as needed.
4. Help provide any needed training in data collection/analysis and habitat restoration.
5. Provide technical support and advice in developing IBA conservation/management plans.
6. Help coordinate communications with state/federal resource agencies, as warranted.
7. Direct Audubon's state and national resources to help protect the IBA from any threats.
8. Pursue funding opportunities to help secure needed financial resources for IBA activities.
9. Provide publicity and recognition for the chapter's Adopt-An-IBA efforts and accomplishments.