



## Birdathon 2021



Help BRAC meet its goal of \$8,000 for environmental conservation by supporting the 2021 Birdathon. Donate to a team of your choice and choose either a “per species seen” pledge or simply send a check in now with your donation.

**Please check the Birdathon team you wish to support:**

**The Beaver Lake Bluebirds** *(led by Tom Tribble)*

**The Peregrines** *(led by Simon Thompson)*    **The Not-So-Common Loons** *(led by Jay Wherley)*

I pledge \_\_\_\_\_ for each species seen. (25¢, 50¢, \$1, \$2, etc.)

Instead of a pledge, I have enclosed a donation of: \$25 \_\_ \$50 \_\_ \$75 \_\_ Other \_\_

***We are counting on your help to reach our goal!***

Donate online via PayPal at [blueridgeaudubon.org](http://blueridgeaudubon.org) and select Birdathon.

Or make out a check payable to BRAC and mail by May 31.

*All contributions are tax deductible.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Blue Ridge Audubon, P.O. Box 18711, Asheville NC, 28814



# Everyone Can Birdathon 2021



Blue Ridge Audubon Chapter has two worthy goals for the donations raised from our 2021 Birdathon. Locally, a \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded to a UNCA Asheville Environmental Studies student. Globally, but connected to our mountains, we will support an American Bird Conservancy (ABC) program that benefits neo-tropical migrants nesting in Western North Carolina. ABC's mission is to conserve native birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. Their goals are to halt extinctions, protect habitats, eliminate threats, and build capacity for bird conservation. One of ABC's newest initiatives is BirdScape, a program dedicated to ensuring that priority species have the habitat they require at all stages of their life-cycles: breeding,

wintering, and stopover on migration. Launched in 2017, BirdScape will define large, priority landscapes throughout the Americas that support populations of migratory birds of highest conservation concern.

One area that the BirdScape program is taking shape is in the Central Andes of Colombia particularly in the Rio Chinchina watershed. This area of Columbia is extremely important for 74 neotropical migratory bird species, including Golden-winged, Cerulean, and Blackburnian Warblers. ABC started an effort to plant native trees throughout the Río Chinchiná watershed in the western portion of the BirdScape to restore migratory bird habitat and to help protect water resources. The pandemic slowed their goal of planting 100,000 trees, but their partners have grown 19,317 trees of over 50 native tree species. These are currently being planted throughout the Rio Chinchina watershed. ABC plans to ramp up tree-planting this year through gearing up the existing tree nurseries and establishing new ones. They also will fund the hiring of two new Forestry Technicians to conduct site visits and do landowner engagement one-on-one or in very small groups.

Our May 2019 Birdathon program featured Holly Robertson of ABC who spoke to us about this project. We're excited to be a part of it and hope you will be too!

***Please join our Birdathon participants and teams in supporting this program to help our locally nesting migratory species on their wintering grounds.***