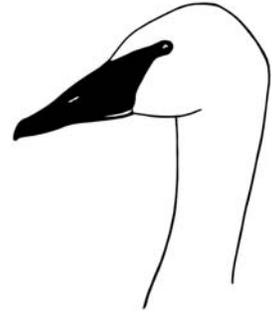




TRUMPETINGS

Voice of The Trumpeter Swan Society

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Since 1968: Assuring the Vitality and Welfare of Wild Trumpeter Swans

Vol. XXI No. 2

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From the Executive Director

Floods, Wetland Drainage, and Trumpeters—

I am sure that there are TTSS members who have been negatively impacted by the record flooding in several regions of North America. Our thoughts are with you as you deal with the aftermath. I keep hearing the floods called “natural disasters” and am extremely disappointed that there is not much more reporting on how wetland destruction is a key factor in the magnitude of modern floods. If Iowa had not lost 90 percent of its natural wetlands, those potholes, sloughs, oxbows, and other wetlands would have captured some of the high water and reduced the severity of the flooding. Trumpeter Swans are ambassadors for healthy wetland systems that reduce flooding, capture pollutants, recharge groundwater, and support the continent’s magnificent production and migration of waterfowl and waterbirds. When you support Trumpeter conservation, you are preserving wetland

habitats for all of their values to wildlife and people.

Welcome to New Board Members—Please join the Directors and staff in greeting new Board members Mary Maj, David Myers, and Rob Morgan. They bring unique, valuable experience and skills to the Society and we are very pleased that they have agreed to serve. There are more details about them on page 2.

Gifts of Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds—A long-time member contacted us last winter with a desire to donate some corporate stock to TTSS. After doing some research on how this might be accomplished, we set up a brokerage account that allowed us to accept the stock as an asset to TTSS and the member was able to take an income tax deduction. If you are interested in donating investments rather than cash, we are now all set up to accept them.

Planned Giving—That brings me to the somewhat related topic of planned giving. This topic is one that we don’t like to think about, but now that I qualify for Medicare, I’m thinking much more about estate planning and planned giving. Most people want to see that family members are cared for when they are no longer there to take care of them in person. In addition, you may leave a legacy for swan conservation into the future by supporting TTSS. The most common ways this is done is through bequests or beneficiary designations. You could name TTSS as a beneficiary to a life insurance policy or to retirement assets such as 401(k)s or IRAs. If you prefer, a bequest may be designated to our endowment, The North American Swan Fund, rather than for general purposes. All estate planning should be undertaken with the counsel of financial and legal advisors.

22nd Conference—Remember that each of you is invited to meet with us at beautiful Flathead Lake, Montana, in October for the 22nd Trumpeter Swan Society Conference (see insert). I’ll see you there!

Kip Ladage, of Iowa, is the featured photographer for this month’s issue of *Trumpetings*, our first color issue to be sent electronically to those that request it – saving trees and mailing expenses. We thank him for supporting Trumpeters and TTSS through sharing his work.

- John Cornely

SOCIETY NEWS – WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

TTSS Board of Directors

Dale Becker, *President, Pablo, MT*
Gary Ivey, *Vice Pres, Bend, OR*
Ruth Shea, *Treasurer, Vale, OR*
Becky Abel, *Madison, WI*
Ron Andrews, *Clear Lake, IA*
Laurence N. Gillette, *Plymouth, MN*
James Hawkings, *Whitehorse, YT*
W. C. "Joe" Johnson, *Augusta, MI*
James G. King, *Juneau, AK*
Harry G. Lumsden, *Aurora, ON*
Mary Maj, *Milwaukee, WI*
Sumner Matteson, *Madison, WI*
Rob Morgan, *Cabin John, MD*
David Myers, *Idaho Falls, ID*
Jerry Serie, *Easton, MD*

PROFILES: NEW BOARD MEMBERS

MARY MAJ, *returning Board Member (1999-2005)*

Mary Maj works as the Eastern Regional Wildlife Biologist for the US Forest Service (USFS) out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She recently transferred from the Gardiner Ranger District of Gallatin National Forest in Montana. Since 1975, she has held positions around the Greater Yellowstone area and in the Northern Regional Office as district and regional wildlife biologist, natural resource staff officer, resource assistant, and district ranger. Her interest in landscape conservation was realized as the stewardship director for the Teton Regional Land Trust, and further developed as the Executive Coordinator of the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee, a multiagency (US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, USFS) cooperative of managers working on shared resource challenges and opportunities. Mary holds a BS and Master's Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

CANADA: Yukon: Jean Kapala - Marsh Lake.

USA:

Alaska: Will Madison - Soldotna;

Arizona:

Marcia Melton - Tempe;

Arkansas:

Clarence Verlon

Abram - Wilburn, Larry Jernigan* (www.larryjernigan.com) - Heber Springs;

California: Chuck Vona - Issaquah;

Florida: Pat Henrie - Niceville; **Idaho:** David & Lynda Myers - Idaho Falls;

Iowa: Kip Ladage* (<http://sites.butler-bremer.com/web/kladage/home.htm>) - Tripoli;

Kansas: Hayley Worth - Wichita;

Michigan: Grandview Elementary School - Livonia, Wayne Shawl - Oscoda;

Minnesota: Mary Scheller - Saint Peter; **Missouri:** Danny Brown* (www.dannybrownphotography.com) - New Haven;

Oregon: Linda Beck - Burns, Tim Bodeen - Princeton;

Pennsylvania: Eugene Gonzalez - Folcroft;

Virginia: Mechanicsville Elementary School - Mechanicsville;

Washington: Gayleen Hays - Sequim, Michael Rule - Cheney, Max Waugh* (www.maxwaugh.com) - Bothell,

Christopher & Cynthia Wolfe - Olympia.

*We thank these new members for use of their photographs in: Photo of the Month (Blog), Sidebar (ENEWS), or featured on the Cover or Mailer of Trumpetings.



DAVID MYERS

David Myers brings significant business and financial experience to our Board along with a passion for the outdoors and Trumpeter Swans. Raised in Oregon, he has lived in Idaho Falls, Idaho, for over a decade. Dave has a degree in accounting and experience as a CPA. He is currently the CEO of 34 Papa Murphy's Take and Bake Pizza franchises in Idaho, Iowa, and Tennessee. A US Coast Guard veteran, Dave received the 2007 "Brightest Star Award" from the Governor of Idaho for developing a family support program for deployed National Guard troops. He is an avid outdoorsman, with fly fishing and white-water boat guiding experience. Dave is dedicated to helping the Society take swan conservation to a new level, particularly in Idaho. We are very fortunate to have him join the Board.

ROBERT M. (Rob) MORGAN

From 1989 until his recent retirement, Rob worked as a lawyer for Perot Systems, an IT services provider in northern Virginia. He also volunteered as a mediator with Maryland and Virginia trial courts. Previously, he worked as an Assistant US Attorney in DC, an associate at Covington & Burling in DC, a clerk to Judge Van Graafeiland on the US Court of Appeals in New York, and a Lieutenant in the Army with service in Vietnam. Rob served as a Director for the National Wildlife Refuge Association for 6 years. He was the NWRA legal counsel and Treasurer. Rob has a JD from the University of Virginia Law School where he was Articles Editor on the Virginia Law Review, an MBA from Harvard Business School, and a BA in history from Yale College. Rob was born in DC, grew up in northern Virginia, and lives in Maryland. His wife, Janice Erich, is a lawyer for Saab Aircraft Leasing. They enjoy reading, running, language, and travel. Their daughter, Erica, is a reporter for the *Calvert* [County, MD] Recorder. TTSS is very pleased to have Rob join our Board.

The BLACKFOOT CHALLENGE - Greg Neudecker

Montana Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Ovando, Montana

Glaciers formed the Blackfoot Valley over 10,000 years ago leaving behind over 30,000 glaciated depressional wetlands. These amazing shallow-water areas offer everything Trumpeter Swans need to survive: open water to land on and fly from, emergent vegetation to build nests in, and plenty of aquatic vegetation for food. All that has been missing from this great valley for the last 100-plus years is the breeding Trumpeters themselves. That is until 2011 when Trumpeter Swans turned the clock back in time in the wilds of the Blackfoot Valley.



In July of 1806, Meriwether Lewis recorded Trumpeter Swans in an area he coined the "prairie of the knobs" in the Blackfoot Valley of western Montana. Unfortunately, by the end of the 20th century, this species had disappeared from the Blackfoot Valley. In the 1800s, market hunters sent thousands of swan skins from North America to Europe where they were fashioned ladies' powder puffs and hats.

Dating back to 2000, a unique partnership began to form around the idea of restoring nesting Trumpeter Swans to the Blackfoot Valley.

The partnership of private, state, and federal entities developed a comprehensive Habitat Suitability Study in 2004. The study assessed over 400 wetlands predicting at least 29 suitable nesting territories in the Blackfoot Valley. Recently, the partnership was part of an arrangement with Canadian wildlife agencies and the Wyoming Wetlands Society (WWS) to collect eggs from Canadian Trumpeter nests and rear them for release in the Blackfoot and elsewhere. Since 2005, 113 Trumpeter Swans have been released on the best known wetlands in the Blackfoot Valley. While the wetlands in the Blackfoot provide ideal summer habitat, the winters force the birds to migrate out of the valley. To date, over 100 people have reported over 800 observations of Blackfoot Valley Trumpeters. Most of these observations have been in the valley during the spring, summer, and fall. However, other observations have been recorded in southwestern Montana and on the Snake and Bear Rivers in southern Idaho.

It's taken some time for the Blackfoot birds to figure out migrations, avoid power lines, select mates, and establish nesting territories. In 2009, we documented our first territory establishment and in 2011, our first nesting. In fact, 2011 despite the cold wet spring was really the turning point for the Blackfoot Program. Four sexually mature pairs set up territories with two successfully pulling off broods with a total of seven cygnets. To see the first cygnets in over 100 years poke their heads out from under their parents' wings while still on the nest is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. To track progress of the Blackfoot Trumpeter Swan Program, log onto: <http://blackfootchallenge.org/SwanProject/>. *Photo: First Nest! Alex Badyeav*

DALE BECKER REPORTS FROM THE FLATHEAD

Tribal Wildlife Program Manager, Salish & Kootenai Tribes, Pablo, Montana

The winter of 2010-2011 in Montana seemed to linger on forever, with numerous snowstorms and record snowfall from November to April. Trumpeter Swans on the Flathead Indian Reservation seemed oblivious to the situation, as most of the local population wintered at their usual locations on the Flathead River, with a few migrating to the Bitterroot Valley, 100 miles south. A mid-winter aerial survey by Tribal Wildlife Biologists recorded 138 Trumpeters on the Reservation. Spring came slowly to the Reservation, but abundant carryover water in wetlands, in addition to snowmelt water, supplied water to most wetland basins, including many that had not held water for more than a decade. Breeding pairs of Trumpeters returned to their territories right on schedule in late March and early April to begin courtship and nesting. Hatching here seems to occur like clockwork over the Memorial Day weekend. As of early July, Tribal Wildlife Biologists recorded 6 successful nests, which produced 30 cygnets. High water levels are also suspected to have possibly caused losses of nests at 3 locations. There is also still a possibility of locating additional successful nests on the Reservation, as well as at other locations in adjacent areas. Since 2004, 104 cygnets have fledged from released swans. Released Trumpeters have been observed summering north of the Reservation near Glacier National Park and elsewhere in northwestern Montana.

Since 2002, 104 captive-reared Trumpeters have been released on the Reservation. June 2011 releases included 5 yearling Trumpeter Swans reared at the Wyoming Wetlands Society facilities in Jackson, Wyoming, as well as 9 yearlings from the Montana Waterfowl Foundation at Ronan, Montana, which were released at Pablo National Wildlife Refuge in June. Those birds have been joined by approximately 10 other Trumpeters that have returned to the area to molt. Overall, the 2011 breeding season for Trumpeter Swans on the Flathead Indian Reservation has been a good one. Even though the goal of ten breeding pairs was not achieved this year, new pairs of sub-adults are present in several areas, and the productivity of the successful breeders was very good.

SAVING YELLOWSTONE'S SWANS

A New Chapter Begins

Ruth Shea, TTSS Board Member

Yellowstone National Park played a crucial role in the 1930s in preventing the extinction of Trumpeter Swans in the lower 48 states. At their peak in the 1970s, over 50 Trumpeters summered in the park and there were about 20 nesting territories. But now, after a decline spanning over 30 years, only a handful of swans still summer there. Only one nesting pair remained in 2010 and this year it appears that for the first time since the 1930s, there may be no Trumpeters nesting. In an effort to examine all possible options for saving Yellowstone's swans, the National Park Service (NPS) convened about 30 swan, waterfowl, and wetlands experts for a 2-day workshop, April 26-27, in Bozeman, Montana.



Having studied Yellowstone's swans for my MS thesis in the 1970s, this issue has long been of great personal interest. I attended the workshop on behalf of TTSS and made the opening presentation summarizing the history of the park's swans. It was wonderful that the NPS brought together so many scientists to contemplate the problems and possible solutions.

While there may be other unknown factors involved in the decline, my research indicates that human disturbance, dating back to the 1930s, has played a major role in damaging nesting success and eliminating nesting swans from preferred habitats in the park. Coupled with the disruption of the swan families' traditional patterns of habitat use, possible genetic problems, and problems with nesting success in areas bordering the park, maintaining nesting Trumpeters in Yellowstone is a difficult challenge.



The NPS will be presenting its workshop results and ideas for future swan management at our 22nd TTSS Conference this October in Polson, Montana. TTSS commends the NPS for its efforts to improve this difficult situation and we look forward to providing all possible assistance.

GREATER YELLOWSTONE INITIATIVE EXPANDS

Our Greater Yellowstone Trumpeter Swan Initiative (GYTSI) expands this year as TTSS works to halt the decline of Trumpeter Swans that nest in the core portion of Greater Yellowstone. During the past decade, GYTSI efforts have focused in Idaho, where TTSS monitors nesting swans in partnership with the US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Idaho Department of Fish and Game. This year, we expand our efforts in two areas, Montana's Centennial Valley and Yellowstone National Park. In the Centennial Valley, we are conducting studies of historic nesting sites on public and private lands west of Red Rock Lakes NWR in partnership with the Centennial Valley Association. Jim Roscoe, a (semi-) retired wildlife biologist, who has worked for agencies in this area for many years, will be leading this research. By our fall conference, for each historic territory, we will have an assessment of past history of swan use and its current strengths and weaknesses. Based on this information, we will work with private and agency managers to develop strategies to improve swan nesting success. In Yellowstone, TTSS will be working to provide support to the National Park Service in their efforts to prevent the loss of the park's nesting swans. We will be assembling and analyzing all available historic information on swan use in the park, creating a comprehensive bibliography of all Greater Yellowstone swan literature, and working with Dr. Oz Garton, University of Idaho.

TRUMPETER SWANS at SENEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - an Interior Population Success Story by Dave Olson*, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, CO

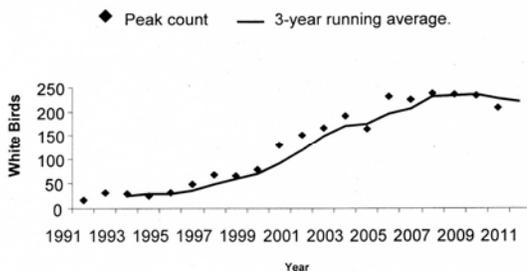
“By the late 1800s, Trumpeter Swans were extirpated from...” is a common phrase regarding the history of swans in the eastern 2/3s of the lower 48 states. The Upper Peninsula of Michigan was no exception. Now, Trumpeter Swans are sharing the same nesting islands with Common Loons at Seney National Wildlife Refuge (Seney or Refuge) and the swans are expanding their range beyond refuge boundaries.

Established in 1935, Seney is located in the east-central portion of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan between Lake Superior and Lake Michigan. The Refuge encompasses 95,238 acres, of which three quarters are classified as wetland habitat. Prior to the existence of the Refuge, there were no named bodies of water in the area that was known as the “Greater Manistique Swamp.” The Refuge’s primary focus was waterfowl management, so open water bodies were needed. Over the next 20 years, the Refuge staff, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and Works Progress Administration Crew (WPA) worked to convert the “Swamp” into a series of pools and dikes to provide habitat. As a result of their efforts, the Refuge now has 27 man-made pools and potholes, beaver ponds, and ditches that account for 7,456 surface acres of impounded water, 7.8 percent of the total acreage.



The Refuge pool system provides critical habitat for the swans. Due to the natural topography, pine islands were formed when the pools were flooded and make excellent nesting areas that provide protection from predators. The average depth in the pools is 4 – 6 feet, so the shallow open water makes submergent vegetation accessible for feeding. Aquatic plant species such as naiad (*Najas quadalupensis*), wild celery (*Vallisneria americana*), waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*), *Chara* spp., and pondweed (*Potamogeton* spp.) are abundant enough to support a growing swan population. Other key attributes that make Seney ideal for swans is that the landscape is mostly ecologically intact and isolated. In addition, the area is unaffected by urban influences (e.g. power lines) and there are no lead shot issues due to a lack of waterfowl hunting history. Both of these have been cited as important causes of mortality for other Interior Population swans.

In 1991, History Program of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), started a program that planned to reintroduce Trumpeter Swans to Michigan. Ten 2-year-old Trumpeters were placed on the pools to begin the program. Over the next 3 years, a total of 44 birds was released. The swans originated from eggs collected in Alaska and subsequently hatched and hand-raised at the Kellogg Bird Sanctuary on the campus of Michigan State University near Battle Creek, Michigan. The success of the program came fast when, in 1992, one of the pairs released in 1991 nested, hatched, and successfully fledged two cygnets. Former refuge manager Mike Tansy (1989-2001), who recognized the potential of Seney in the reintroduction of Trumpeter Swans to the State of Michigan, played a crucial role in getting the program started.



Success continues as the number of white birds and cygnets increases. From 2005 to 2010, an average of 228 adults and subadults used the Refuge (Figure 1). During that period, the Refuge has an average of 32 nesting pairs that hatched an average of 87 cygnets. The swans continue to explore areas beyond the boundaries of the Refuge and establish new territories. Although it took over 100 years, Trumpeter Swans are once again a part of the Upper Peninsula landscape.

Figure 1. Peak counts of white birds at Seney National Wildlife Refuge, Seney, Michigan, 1991-2010.

*Dave Olson has been working with Trumpeter Swans since 2000. He was the biologist at Red Rock Lakes NWR, Montana, from 2000 to 2002 and at Seney NWR, Michigan, from 2005 to 2009. He is currently the Assistant Migratory Game Bird Coordinator for the Mountain-Prairie Region of the FWS where one of his tasks is to coordinate Trumpeter Swan management for the region.

In Tribute: The Passing of Some Very Good Friends

ART HUGHLETT

- by *Dave Weaver*

Charles Arthur Hughlett was born on September 11, 1922, in North Dakota, and died on November 3, 2010, in Virginia.

I first met Art in Martin, South Dakota, where Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) hosted the 3rd Trumpeter Swan Society Conference in September 1973. At the time, he was Deputy Regional Director of the Fish & Wildlife Service's Region 3 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Earlier in his career with the Service, he was the manager of Lacreek NWR when in September 1960 Trumpeter Swans were transferred there from Red Rock Lakes NWR, Montana, for restoration in the sandhills of South Dakota and Nebraska, and to good effect. Following the conference in Martin, Art expressed an interest in and support of The Trumpeter Swan Society.

After his retirement from the Service in 1980, he became a valuable and effective member of the Society's Board of Directors from 1981 to 1995. To me, Art Hughlett was the constant voice of reason on the Board. Perhaps his most memorable contribution to the Society was as chairman of a blue ribbon committee comprised of Harold Burgess, Frank Bellrose, Art Hawkins, and John Kadlec. At the Society's 1984 West Yellowstone conference, this committee reported on its research to identify the causes for the decline of Red Rock Lakes Trumpeters. These gentlemen were all highly accomplished waterfowl biologists and wetlands managers. Their findings helped to formulate future management of Trumpeters at Red Rock Lakes NWR.

Art was a highly decorated member of the U. S. Army, having served in Europe during World War II. He was awarded the Bronze Star, the Silver Star, and two Purple Hearts.

SHEILA LAWRENCE

- by *Madeleine Linck*

The Trumpeter Swans of Minnesota lost a great friend earlier this year. Sheila Lawrence died after a courageous battle with cancer. Sheila spent the past 25 years caring for Trumpeters that congregated on the Mississippi River at Monticello each winter. She has been a member of The Trumpeter Swan Society since 1992.



Sheila first noticed Trumpeter Swans on the Mississippi River in the spring of 1986 when two Hennepin Parks - banded swans stopped by her yard. She fed ducks and geese, and the swans liked her yard. Fifteen swans spent the winter of 1986-1987. Sheila contacted Donna Compton and Larry Gillette at Hennepin Parks' Department of Natural Resources Management to learn more about these majestic birds and a long friendship began. By the mid-1990s, about 200

swans were wintering in Monticello. By the winter of 1998-1999, Sheila was feeding 360 swans. She never dreamed that 10 years later she would be observing more than 1,200.

Sheila saved many swans from entanglement in fishing lures, pop cans, and other trash. She caught swans weak from lead poisoning and alerted park staff to problems. We learned about pair bonds, brood size, and much more from her detailed observations. We learned that swans from Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin began to meet and pair with Minnesota swans. Sheila presented a paper at TTSS's conference in St. Louis in 1997. In 1999, she was honored as a Park District Distinguished Volunteer having contributed over 1,125 hours.

Sheila was very excited when we told her over 5,400 swans were counted in Minnesota during the January 2011 statewide swan survey. Of that number, about 2,000 were wintering on the Mississippi River from Monticello to Elk River. Sheila was well known as the Swan Lady of Monticello and will be missed by many.

HELPING US GROW – ARTISTS FOR CONSERVATION

NEW GIFT FROM ROB DREYER AHEAD OF THE STORM



The Artists for Conservation Foundation (AFC) is a nonprofit international organization dedicated to the celebration and preservation of the natural world. Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, the foundation represents the world's leading collective of artists focused on nature and wildlife, with a membership spanning five continents and 27 countries. The organization's mission is to support wildlife and habitat conservation, biodiversity, sustainability, and environmental education through art that celebrates our natural heritage. Members donate 5 percent or more of wildlife originals or limited edition prints in support of conservation organizations that they select. Visit their website, www.natureartists.com, to learn more.

We are thrilled that Rob Dreyer, of Dreyer Fine Arts, selected TTSS to receive a percentage of the sales of a fabulous Trumpeter Swan art print featured on our Blog and featured in his online AFC gallery. This print, *AHEAD of the STORM*, is an evocative portrait of Trumpeters in flight. We asked him about his work and he shared this:

"I am a lifelong artist and conservationist with a focus on portraits in oil. While I started with human portraits, it was only natural that I extend my abilities into what has always been my natural passion, the marvels of creation found in the animal kingdom. You will notice in my wildlife portrait work, that rather than a landscape with wildlife, I tend to focus almost exclusively on the animal itself, often working life size or larger where possible. My intention is a stunning up-close portrait of the creature, with only a secondary interest in its surroundings. In this way, the viewer's focus is forced toward the beautiful details both in their character and the patterns of their creation. This offers a perception of our

natural world that may not be as noticeable in real life or in a more typical artistic interpretation."

For over 10 years, Rob Dreyer worked as a muralist, painting over 100 works on private residences, government buildings, and private homes. Today, he focuses on portraits of wildlife and humans, striving to bring sweeping scope and luminosity to canvas in the studio. Rob has also generously donated one of this series of fine-art prints to the upcoming SILENT AUCTION at TTSS's 22nd Conference.

▶▶▶ If you are an artist or photographer, we hope you will sign on for the program and designate TTSS to receive a percentage. This is an excellent way to support TTSS and bring visibility to both your work and swan conservation. ◀◀◀



ADOPT A SWAN

*Donations Help Washington's Swans
A Program Coordinated by Martha Jordan*

Since 2005, when we first began the ADOPT A SWAN program, donors have contributed \$10,324 to benefit Trumpeter Swans in Washington State, where lead poisoning has sickened and killed over 2,500 swans. A list of these generous people, including several wonderful grade school classes, can be found on our website.

Every dollar raised through this program goes to benefit the swans through our Lead Poisoning Crisis Response Program. Since 2005, \$8,562 of the donations have been used for: hazing swans away from areas where there is high danger of lead poisoning (\$3,000); supplies and mileage expenses for monitoring of swans and pick up of injured and dead swans (\$2,943); trailer rental for hazing and monitoring crew (\$1,004); satellite transmitter data from radio-marked swans (\$1,000); and swan rehabilitation and necropsies (\$615). We currently have \$1,762 carryover to help us fund next winter's work, and we hope many will renew or begin their sponsorship today.

Lead poisoning has a terrible impact on many wildlife species – Trumpeter Swans are particularly vulnerable. We thank all those who have supported this program. Help us reduce these needless deaths and suffering.



The Trumpeter Swan Society
12615 County Road 9
Plymouth, MN 55441-1248

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Photo: Kip Ladage, Iowa

*Since 1968: Assuring the Vitality
& Welfare of Wild Trumpeter Swans*

THE TRUMPETER SWAN SOCIETY

Assuring the Vitality and Welfare of Wild Trumpeter Swans



TIME TO PACK UP & HEAD TO MONTANA! OCTOBER 10-14, 2011 ♦ 22nd TTSS CONFERENCE *Flathead Lake at Polson, Montana*

Join us to learn about the exciting Trumpeter Swan restoration efforts in western Montana, as well as the challenging issues facing swans in the Pacific Northwest. As this meeting is held in conjunction with the interagency Greater Yellowstone Trumpeter Swan Working Group, there will be special emphasis on restoration of the Rocky Mountain Population US Flocks, particularly those that nest in the Greater Yellowstone area. Speakers will also provide updates on the status and management of Pacific and Interior populations of Trumpeter Swans and their habitats, recent surveys in the US and Canada, research studies, lead poisoning problems in British Columbia and Washington State, and the changing winter and nesting distribution of the populations. October is beautiful in the Rockies and there are many wonderful places within a

day's drive. The conference will include an all-day field trip.

Photo: Kip Ladage, Iowa

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