



PRESERVING & PROTECTING
THE SAX-ZIM BOG FOR
FUTURE GENERATIONS OF
BIRDS & BIRDERS

Great Gray Owl
(*Strix nebulosa*)
by Sandy Hokanson

SAX-ZIM BOG 2021

SAX-ZIM IS YOUR BOG!



IN PERSON AGAIN!

Ahhh...This is the Sax-Zim Bog I love...fresh air, boreal birds, orchids... and seeing our “bog buddies” back in-person! After last winter’s Covid-induced closing of the Welcome Center and the cancellation of all field trips, we happily resumed in-person field trips in May and had the Welcome Center staffed June through August. We still limited participant numbers and all had to drive along in their own vehicles, but we were face-to-face again!

And the best part is **the Welcome Center will be open this winter!** Of course your safety (and ours) is first priority. So there will be some guidelines in place, and this is what we are thinking as of October 2021:

- Masks are mandatory in the Welcome Center
- Only six guests inside the Welcome Center at any one time.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon!

ARMCHAIR BIRDING

If Covid has taught us all one thing it is that we can connect with places and people virtually with great ease. It may not be our first choice, but it can be a great way to stay in touch and learn from the comfort of our living room.

Since March of 2020 we have posted 29 videos. You have joined me on twenty “Virtually Live” field trips in Sax-Zim, and followed along on nine outings with Clinton as he explored our “non-feathered” fauna and flora.

And here’s the exciting part...We are not going to stop! You all have given us such positive feedback that we will continue making videos and producing online webinars that highlight the best of Sax-Zim. In the works are Clinton’s Critters episodes on Hawk Owls and the Weasel family.

BARRIERS TO ENJOYING SAX-ZIM

We at Friends of Sax-Zim Bog are increasingly aware of the barriers and accessibility challenges that prevent folks from enjoying the Bog. And we want to improve that situation.

The number one “Barrier to enjoying Sax-Zim” in our survey was “Distance from my Home.” Other top responses were “Too many people in the Bog,” “Fear of non-birder friendly local residents,” “Mosquitoes, Ticks & Flies,” “Winter Weather/Cold/Stuck in Ditch” and “Lack of information on where to bird/where to stay” (this is on our website). These certainly are barriers, but unfortunately we can’t do much about most of them.

On the other hand, accessibility issues, though small in number, are items we need to take a look at: “Lack of accessible bathrooms” (19%) (Though the outhouse at the Welcome Center is accessible, it is the only one in the Bog in winter), “Lack of accessible lodging” (12%), “Lack of bathrooms with flush toilets/running water” (10%), “Mobility issues” (6%), “Lack of

accessible trails/boardwalks” (5%) (but actually two of our boardwalks are wheelchair accessible), “Safety due to my gender” (5%) and “Safety due to my skin color” (1%).

So what are we doing? Step one was putting **accessibility info for four of our sites on Audubon’s birdability.org website** so folks with ability limits can know where to go in Sax-Zim. We are also trying to find volunteers to shovel the boardwalks in winter since many of you commented on how treacherous they can be.

WHAT YOU DON’T LIKE ABOUT THE BOG (& DO LIKE)

Our mega-survey (29 questions!) in spring 2021 was an eye-opener to our members’ perspective on the Sax-Zim Bog and Friends of Sax-Zim Bog. **We thank all 339 of you for your very honest feedback on how you believe we can make the Bog a better place for humans and wildlife.**

56% visit mainly in the winter while 25% try to visit in all seasons (11% only in spring/summer). 16% visit more than 5 times per year, 28% visit 2-4 times per year, 28% visit only once per year, and 19% are only able to make it to Sax-Zim every few years.

33% come to the Bog mainly to see and photograph Great Gray Owls (Really? Seems like this would be higher).

27% of you consider yourself primarily a “serious birder/lister” (19% as “beginning/intermediate birder”), while 30% have more general interests (“general nature enthusiast” or “naturalist”). Surprising to me, only 20% of you thought of yourself as principally a bird/wildlife photographer. I see LOTS of big lenses in the Bog! But in question 17 nearly 60% of you said that you had participated in bird/wildlife photography in the last couple years.

Combining the responses “Very Important to me” and “Somewhat Important,” the top four **Most Important FOSZB Outreach Items** were 69% “Videos by Sparky and Clinton,” 70% “Speaking to a Naturalist in person at the Welcome Center,” 76% “e-Newsletter,” and a whopping 96% “Birding Map.”

66% of you have watched at least one video or webinar online.

DOWN THE BOG TRAIL...

What’s next for Friends of Sax-Zim Bog? The most exciting thing is **closing on over 4,200 acres of land in the next 10 months!** These mega land preservation projects have been a long time coming but will permanently protect a big chunk of our Owls & Warblers Critical Corridor (see details in this annual report).

And we’ll surprise you with some other exciting projects coming soon.

—Sparky Stensaas, Executive Director



Watching a Great Gray Owl on our “Things that Go Buzz, Croak, Hoot & Bump in the Night” field trip.



Auggie’s Owls have a new home thanks to board member Rubin!

The “Loo-vre,” the world’s only outhouse/art gallery is open now at the Welcome Center!

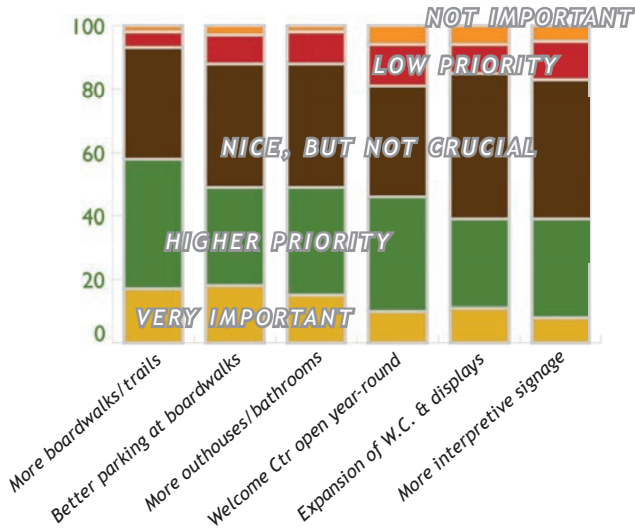


2021 MEMBER SURVEY

YOU TOLD US!

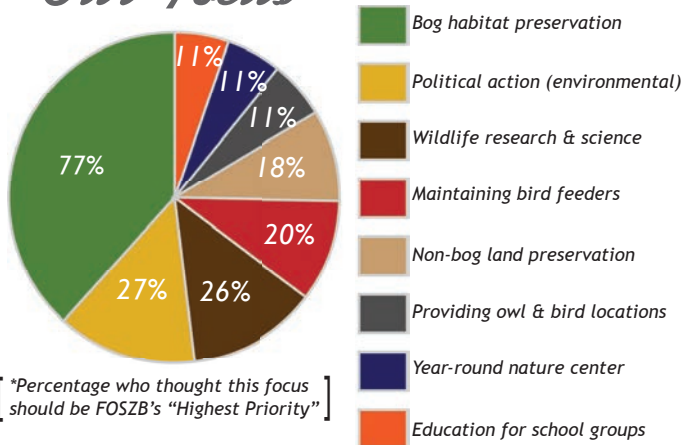
Thank you to all 339 of you that filled out our 2021 Survey!

The Wishlist



Your Wishlist for us! Using a weighted average, "More Bog Boardwalks" came out on top, followed by "Better Parking areas," "More outhouses," "Longer Welcome Center hours/year-round" and "Expanded Welcome Center and displays." Lowest priorities (not shown) were "Heated bathrooms with running water," "Picnic Tables/shelters" and "Food/drink at Welcome Center."

Our Focus



*Percentage who thought this focus should be FOSZB's "Highest Priority"

Highest priorities for Friends of Sax-Zim Bog? You overwhelmingly thought bog habitat preservation should be our number one priority. Interestingly, political action came in second. That is a field we have not really entered yet. But certainly if legislation threatened the Sax-Zim Bog we would jump in to the fray.

Two items that did not even make the "Highest Priority" chart scored very well due to many choosing the "Important" and "Nice, but Not Critical" options were Creating more Boardwalks/Trails and Virtual Education via Sparky and Clinton's videos.

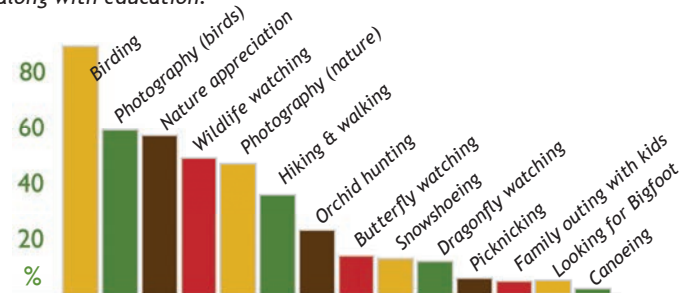
We did not list items that less than 10% of you thought should be a high priority. These included: Bringing more visitors to Sax-Zim, Putting on multi-day Festivals, and Policing behavior of photographers.



Land preservation organization
Birding organization
Tourism/visitor organization
Other

Our Mission

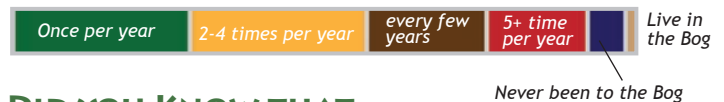
We were thrilled that most of you knew that FOSZB is primarily a Land Preservation organization! That is our primary goal, along with education.



What you do in the Bog

Birding is of course the core reason many of you come to Sax-Zim. It also was obvious that you often engage in multiple activities. Interest in "non-bird" species is increasing and we hope to put out some maps/guides to wildflowers and other groups by next spring. And last but not least...only 4% of you admitted that you'd spent time "Looking for Bigfoot" in Sax-Zim in the last couple years. C'mon! I know it's higher than that.

Visitation



Never been to the Bog

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

...FOSZB has a Good Neighbor Grant for local projects? (28% were aware)

...Our phone line (218-209-2266) has loads of info (only 16% did)

...Birding Guides are listed under the "Birding the Bog" tab on our website? (50% did). Lodging info too! (46% did not realize this).

...Visiting birders/photographers bring in over a MILLION dollars to the regional economy each winter (84% had no idea of this impact)

...Suggested etiquette for birders & photographers can be found on our birding map and website (68% did!)

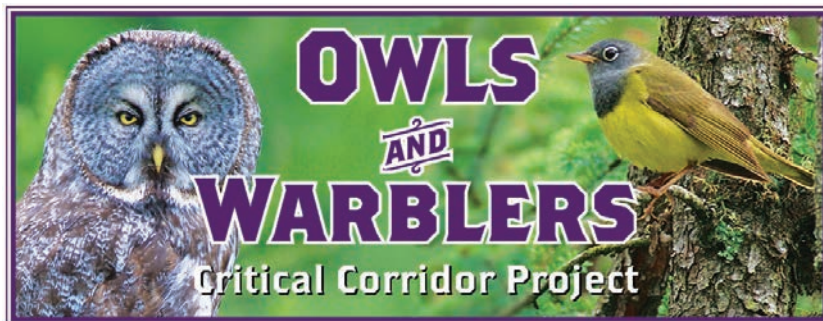
...Friends of Sax-Zim Bog can accept gifts of stock (71% did not).

You can see the complete survey results (all 29 questions!) by scanning here or going to www.saxzim.org and clicking the link on the homepage.



FOREVER HOME FOR GREAT GRAY OWLS

OVER 4,000 ACRES TO BE ADDED TO OUR CRITICAL CORRIDOR PROJECT IN NEXT 10 MONTHS
THANKS TO OUR "BOG BUDDY" DONORS LIKE YOU!



HAVEN for BOREAL CRITTERS in Sax-Zim

Friends of Sax-Zim Bog has an incredible opportunity in 2021-2022 to
ADD OVER 4,000 ACRES *to our protected lands in Sax-Zim.*

- ✎ Almost ALL of the best birding corridors along **Admiral & McDavitt Roads** would be forever **protected** including the "Miracle Mile"!
- ✎ Vast majority is **mature Black Spruce & Tamarack bog**
- ✎ **60 acres** around the **Welcome Center** would be included in the 2022 purchase
- ✎ Prime **habitat for the Great Gray Owl & declining Connecticut Warbler** would be protected
- ✎ **Donations of \$1,000** and over can include your name (or honorarium/memorial) on 1-acre of bog

*2021 purchase is currently under a permanent conservation easement **18% of donations goes to land maintenance & management

CPL Grant: \$400,000

Donations from our Bog Buddies: \$448,000

GOAL: \$887,000

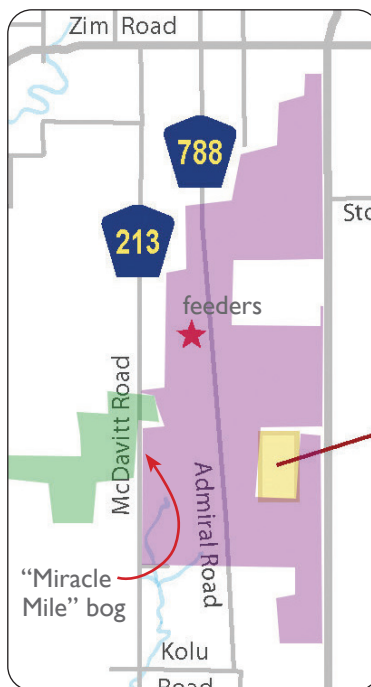
HERE ARE THE LANDS BEING PRESERVED

Friends of Sax-Zim Bog has been working on these deals for several years and we can finally reveal the locations of these important parcels to be preserved.

The parcels in purple are currently part of the Lake Superior Wetland Bank but the owner is selling off the land. Since it is currently in the federal wetland bank program, it is under a permanent conservation easement. This means that it cannot be developed or altered in any way; no logging, no mining (we would own the mineral rights as well), no construction, no roads or trails. But we may be able to get permission to put in boardwalks.

In green are parcels that are part of a complicated trade with St. Louis County. The green parcel west of McDavitt is especially crucial since it is not only the entire west stretch of the "Miracle Mile" birding bog, but also, farther west, is the site of the most dense population of Connecticut Warblers remaining in Sax-Zim (that we know of).

This purchase will also include the prime Black Spruce/Tamarack bog along Owl Avenue and 60 acres surrounding the Welcome Center where we can add another boardwalk.



Leave your Legacy in Land!
*contact Sparky for opportunities

Fall 2021 purchase—3,200 acres

Summer 2022 purchase—1,010 acres

BACK TOGETHER FOR BIOBLITZ IX

RECORD 65 PARTICIPANTS & OVER 700 SPECIES DOCUMENTED ON 11 FIELD TRIPS!

On July 17, 2021 the 9th Annual Sax-Zim Bog BioBlitz was the best attended yet, with a record 65 participants! With our amazing field trip leaders we were able to offer 11 different field trips throughout the day. Two new field trips were added this year: Bumblebees and allies, as well as Galls, Rusts, Brooms and Non-metazoan Plant Diseases. After the field trips we all convened at the Welcome Center for a time of sharing.



We documented a grand total of 725 species of which 114 were new to the Master Species list! These impressive totals are the second highest ever for our BioBlitz and contained some truly amazing species. Of the 114 new species to the species list, 53 additions came from the Galls, Rusts, and Brooms field trip, 21 new species from the Moths field trip, and 19 new additions from both of the Flora field trips.

Some good finds included Frigid Bumble Bee, Striped Jumping Spider, Black-billed Cuckoo, Great Plains Goldenrod, Black Sandshell, Rose Hooktip moth, Dion Skipper and Swift River Cruiser.

Special thanks to our field trip leaders this year: Tony Ernst, Chad Heins, Kim & Cindy Risen, Jerry McCormick, Jason Heinen, Jason Husveth, Kelly Beaster and Clinton & Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus.

Bog BioBlitz X tentatively set for Aug 6, 2022



Scan to watch the wrap-up video of the BioBlitz, or link via our website!



CALLING ALL ARTISTS! TINY BIRD ART AUCTION

AUCTION WILL BE ONLINE BEGINNING JANUARY 27, 2022

HOW?: You create an original piece of bird art that measures 6x6" or smaller (No exceptions!). Any medium except photography. This is a fun and profitable fundraiser for us. See ALL art online!

WHAT?: All we ask is that the artist create an original piece of bird art...It should be a species that is found in northern Minnesota, but we are flexible. OWLS are always popular (Great Gray, Hawk Owl, Boreal Owl, Saw-whet Owl), but any boreal bird is great. Art does not need to be framed...But it may fetch a higher price if it is. ****ANY MEDIUM IS OKAY! ...Oils, Watercolor, Pencil, collage, whatever! No Photography please.**

WHEN?: Please get to us by no later than January 10, 2022

Thank you in advance! **MORE DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE**



WORLD'S COLDEST BIRDATHON

JANUARY 7 & 8, 2022

1-day or 2-day events [Details on our Website]



BOG BIOBLITZ IX

TINY BIRD ART/BRRRRDATHON

DONORS APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021 *(fiscal year)*

\$20,000 and over

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Scott & Nan Wisherd

\$500-\$999

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*We could not survive
without all of you...
Our Bog Buddies!*

Merrie Healy
Jim Heflich & Patty Kellner
In honor of Paula Lozano
Bill & Nancy Henke
In appreciation for Bob Russell's mentorship to other birders, most notably Kim Eckert, who has served as a mentor to many.
Diane Herman
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Ruth Stearns & Mike Mattson
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Eldean & Gus Ward
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Gail Welle
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In memory of Bob Russell
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Linda & Robert Whyte
Paul & Jan Wicklund
Lawrence Wiesner
David Williams
Jude & Jim Williams
Mary Williams
Steve Wilson & Mary Shedd
Janet Woehrl
Chris Wood
In memory of Bob Russell, a great friend to all of us
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(continued...)

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*We could not survive
without all of you...
Our Bog Buddies!*

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Bonnie Sample
Thank you to all the bog
buddies, and especially
Sparky, for creating such
extraordinary support for
a very special habitat that
will endure.
Elizabeth Sanders
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Kenyon Saylor
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**THANK YOU ALL!
WE ARE HUMBLLED BY
YOUR GIFTS**



Scan to donate



CLINTON'S CORNER



Clinton prepares a local school group for an outing looking for animal signs and tracks.

Though winter in-person programs were limited by Covid, we created an array of virtual education. Sparky continued Virtually Live Birding videos and I added Webinars that were very well attended. We were also able to have a few outreach programs to Lake County Illinois Audubon, Indiana Audubon and the North Star Ski Club! All these virtual programs combined have had over 14,500 views!

For the spring and summer education season we were able to ease in to in-person programs. We set limits to the number of attendees, wore masks and social distanced. We were able to fill nearly every program offered! Welcome Center Naturalist Jason Heinen added his expertise and led a few field trips and two photography workshops.

It was wonderful to be able to explore the Bog with groups again. Thank you for those who have attended our virtual education, to those who attended our in-person education, and those who continue to support education efforts in the Sax-Zim Bog!

Until next time, we will see you in the Bog!



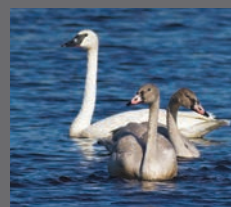
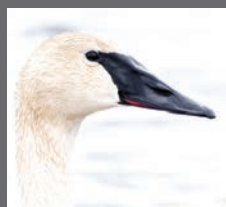
Kids have lots of nature questions ...and stories!

A donation of \$500 will support a week of naturalist education



WEBINARS & VIDEOS ONLINE

NINE online episodes of Clinton's Bog-ventures. Come along with me on these mini-field trips! You can find all videos and webinars at saxzim.org under the "Videos of Sax-Zim" tab. You can also search YouTube for "Clinton's Bog-ventures."



NEW!...BIODIVERSITY THURSDAYS

I have started a weekly Facebook & Instagram post that highlights some of our most fascinating groups of flora and fauna in the Sax-Zim Bog.

Latest Biodiversity Thursday was about the largest bird in the Sax-Zim Bog—Trumpeter Swan! New posts every Thursday on Facebook & Instagram.

SHOP THE SAX-ZIMPORIUM!

2022 BOG WILD CALENDAR, NEW TS & HATS: SEE "SHOP" TAB ON OUR WEBSITE

Our popular calendar is hot off the press! Over 90 stunning photos and all taken in the Bog in the last 12 months!

Calendar Only...\$15; Calendar + Membership...\$40



EXCITING KESTREL RESEARCH IN SAX-ZIM

The 6th season of monitoring American Kestrel nest boxes in Sax-Zim brought some new faces, new boxes, new research opportunities and unexpected results. An additional 14 boxes were added to the landscape of the greater Sax-Zim Bog area, increasing our total to 52 boxes! Six new volunteers were added to our team and we are thankful for their efforts.

Research efforts were expanded this season. We have begun to color band nestlings! Color bands will allow for quick identification of birds that have been banded in the Sax-Zim Bog (see photo below).

The most exciting development in research is thanks to a new partnership with the Minnesota DNR. With the help of Frank Nicoletti, Mark Martell, Kristin Hall and volunteers, we were able to place small backpack transmitters on nesting American Kestrels. These transmitters will utilize the MOTUS Tower network (like the MOTUS Tower at the Welcome Center) to track migration movements across a broad landscape. Twelve birds from Sax-Zim currently have transmitters and we can't wait to see where they may travel!

What was unexpected about the season? Adverse weather conditions, including drought and extreme fluctuations in temperature early in the nesting season may have had an impact including a record number of nesting failures (6). We also had a very early arrival of kestrels, but fairly late nesting. They arrived roughly two weeks early and we did not see any

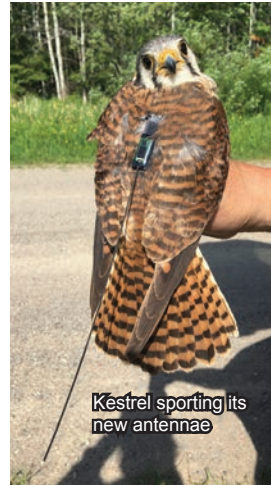
eggs or box occupancy until May 18. Usually, kestrels begin laying eggs around May 10 here. We also had the latest occupancy observed so far during this project, June 19th. To put this in perspective, last year we had already banded the first round of nestlings by this date!

From a project high of 48 nest boxes, we had a record number of boxes occupied (23), record number of successful nests (17) and record number of chicks produced (67). Especially exciting was the occupancy of 9 of the 14 newly placed boxes. Nesting success, however, was below average with 4.4 eggs/nest and 3.9 chicks/nest; these numbers are below the project's average of 4.7 eggs/nest with 4.4 chicks/nest.

We could not have the continued success of this project to support these beautiful raptors without the help of our volunteers! I would like to thank Sarah Beaster, Mary Gabrys, Jean Elton Turbes, Brian Scott, Jeri Schwerin, Hannah Toutonghi, Jessica Phoenix, Dawn Shold, Gregg Severson and Kellie Hoyt for their efforts this season! Project Leader and master bander Frank Nicoletti is invaluable to this research. Special thanks to the Simek Family for allowing us to place 3 boxes on their property. We could not have started this research without our Bog Buddies who constructed ALL the nest boxes (!) and provided financial support of our Science & Research Fund. Thank you!

You can donate to our Science & Research Fund

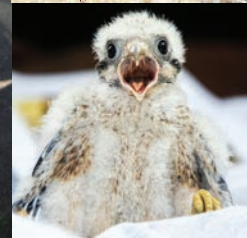
WATCH KESTREL BANDING IN VIRTUALLY LIVE 19



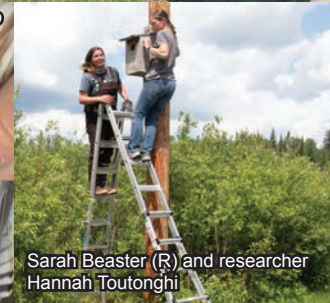
Kestrel sporting its new antennae



Crowded nest box!



Color bands will help ID Sax-Zim Kestrels



Sarah Beaster (R) and researcher Hannah Toutonghi



We don't conduct research in a bubble! All our Kestrel data goes to the American Kestrel Partnership. Visit at kestrel.peregrinefund.org



KESTREL NEST BOX PROGRAM

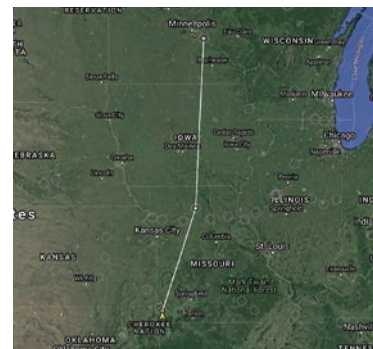
FOOTLOOSE FALCON ... 334 MILES IN ONE DAY!

NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH MN DNR & MOTUS TOWER NETWORK

We have an exciting update on one of the adult female American Kestrels we banded and fitted with a transmitter in Sax-Zim this summer!

Kristin Hall with the Minnesota DNR shared that this kestrel (#33676) was detected from three different MOTUS Towers during her September migration! She pinged off a MOTUS tower in southwest Missouri near the town of Neosho, which is 716 miles south of the Sax-Zim Bog!

Most impressive about #33676's migration so far is that almost half of this migration distance was completed in one day! She was detected by Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center's MOTUS Tower on September 22nd and on the same day was detected at a MOTUS Tower near Grantsville, Missouri... 334 miles in ONE day!



BY THE NUMBERS

2,770

folks walked the Bob Russell Bogwalk between Dec. 4, 2020 & Feb. 19, 2021

...an average of **36** visitors per day during the **77** days of counting. **ZERO** on Christmas Eve, but **90+** on several Saturdays in January!



Give to the Max Day is Nov 18, 2021
Donate online at saxzim.org

2020



Thanks to a wonderful matching gift of **\$20,000** from **Sue & Bruce Henke**

you helped us raise a good portion of our operating expenses and land protection funds during Give to the Max Day 2020.

\$93,095

given during GTMD period by...

447 DONORS



1400+ **EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH** **60,030**

folks attended Clinton's webinars. You can see these webinars online under our "videos" tab.



views on YouTube of all of Sparky & Clinton's field trip videos & webinars.

\$516,466

donated by all of you to...

ACRES FOR OWLS

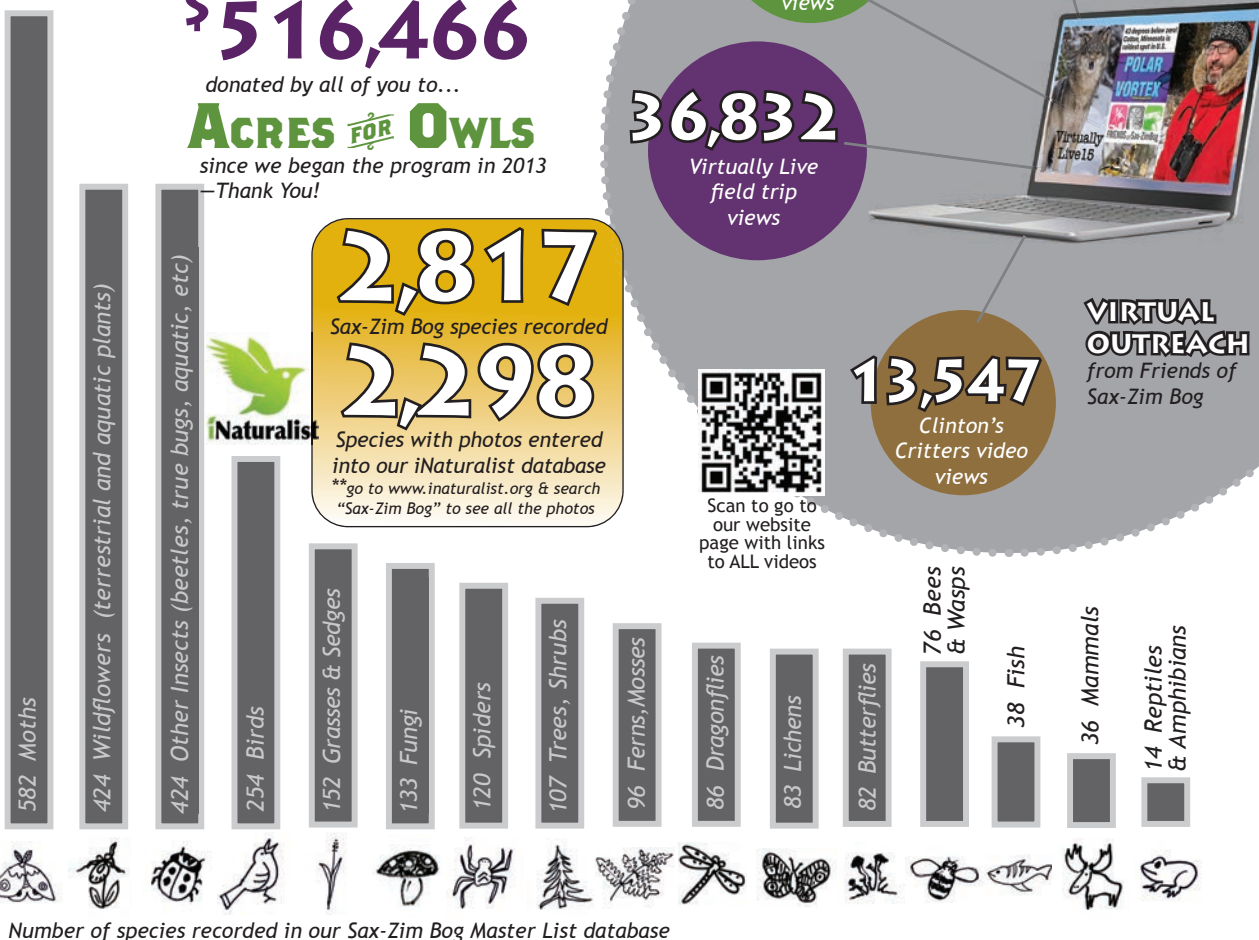
since we began the program in 2013
—Thank You!

2,817

Sax-Zim Bog species recorded

2,298

Species with photos entered into our iNaturalist database
**go to www.inaturalist.org & search "Sax-Zim Bog" to see all the photos



Number of species recorded in our Sax-Zim Bog Master List database

4,171
Clinton's Bog-ventures video views

5,480
Webinar & online program views

36,832
Virtually Live field trip views



13,547
Clinton's Critters video views
VIRTUAL OUTREACH
from Friends of Sax-Zim Bog



Scan to go to our website page with links to ALL videos

BOG BUDDIES AT WORK & PLAY 2020-21



Kim Eckert spearheaded fundraising for the Bob Russell Bogwalk. Kim and Bob were lifelong friends. Many of Bob's friends and work associates attended the ceremony. Kim cuts the "ribbon" with the golden loppers to open the boardwalk at Winterberry Bog in November 2020.



Here is the next generation of "Bog Buddies" enjoying Sax-Zim. They will be our future leaders.

Iris Freeman and Warren Woessner out looking for warblers in May.

Here is proof that our annual Bog BioBlitzes are a ton of fun!



Board Member Julie finds a wig (!) during our bi-annual litter clean up along Hwy 133.

Sparky looking for Black-backed Woodpeckers during the filming of Virtually Live 13.

Kestrel bander Hannah Toutonghi with her little friend.



Johannes and Chris Nelson searching for LeConte's Sparrows along Arkola Road.

Sarah Beaster and Kelly Beaster plant our new native wildflower garden at the Welcome Center.

Naturalist Jason Heinen helps Elena identify her find at Bog BioBlitz IX.



Operations Director Sarah Beaster with the "GoPro on a pole" checking Kestrel boxes.

Board Chair Lori getting ready for our Gratitude Gathering.

Head Naturalist Clinton searching for six- and eight-legged critters in Zim WMA.

BOG BUDDIES AT WORK & PLAY



Twice-stabbed Stinkbugs



White morph Showy Ladyslipper (Ben Yokel)



Immature Bald Eagle



Mecaphesa sp Crab Spider (Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus)

Together we have documented over 1600 species in the Sax-Zim Bog but some of our favorites are (Kristina) Columbia Slikmoth, Trailing Arbutus, Cuckoo-flower, Three-banded Ladybug, Barn Owl (our 10th owl species for the Bog!), Wolves and (Clinton) Blue-spotted Salamander, Northern Redbelly Dace, Hoary Bat, Elfin Skimmer, Northern Sedge Locust, Jutta Arctic, LeConte's Tiger Beetle. We would both love to find a Moose in the Bog!

The Sax-Zim Bog is such a unique ecosystem that supports such an immense range of biodiversity and for us, it is worthwhile to support an organization that is working to conserve and educate. We are both strong advocates for underdog species and ecosystems, so it makes sense to support (and work for) an organization that is trying to do just that.

STAFF PROFILE

Clinton & Kristina

You mean we haven't profiled our star Naturalist?! Clinton has now been with us for 6 years. Kristina is also a wonderful naturalist & helps during our events. She even films Clinton for his videos!



Greater Fringed Gentian at Fringed Gentian Bog (Rubin Stenseng)



Porcupine (Jason Heinen)



Rushes at Nichols Lake



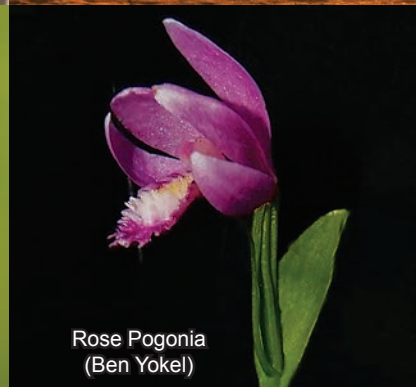
Pine Grosbeak (Jason Heinen)



Brown Elfin (Jason Heinen)



Two-marked Treehopper (Jason Heinen)



Rose Pogonia (Ben Yokel)



VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Rick Schroeder

Rick put in many hours working (and sweating in the crazy August humidity) on the construction of the Bob Russell Memorial Bogwalk. Thanks Rick!

Discovering six Great Gray Owls just 50 feet away from us in a nest on a Big Day back in the 1990s was truly one of my greatest experiences in Sax-Zim. Four babies (bigger than their parents!) and an adult all crowded in their nest; then the other adult silently swooped in and passed off a big rodent to the nearest open beak.

I'd love to see the Fringed Gentian in the Bog. But I wouldn't say no to a Blue-spotted Salamander or a Virginia Rail!

"Who will hold the skies up now that the big trees are down?" Those are lyrics written by Doug Wood regarding who must take over when people like Sigurd Olson and Rachel Carson are no longer with us. Friends of Sax-Zim Bog is helping take on that roll.



DONOR PROFILE

Lance & Lisa Novak

You may not know this, but Lance & Lisa's very generous donation is helping make our upcoming land purchase a reality! Lisa is also a wonderful nature photographer!

Spending a finger-and-toe-freezing morning alone with a hunting Snowy Owl was definitely my most memorable Sax-Zim memory (Lisa). For Lance it was seeing the Boreal Owl in 2020. Such a small creature that brought so much excitement for me and visitors from around the world.

The bird we have not seen yet, and would love to find in Sax-Zim, is the Northern Saw-whet Owl!

Every time we visit an amazing natural area we are so grateful for the people who had the foresight to preserve these habitats so our precious wildlife can thrive. FOSZB offers us a way to be a part of protecting the Sax-Zim Bog into the future. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to build that legacy right here in Minnesota and we are excited to offer our support.

Striped
Coralroot
orchid
(Ben Yokel)



Short-eared Owl along
Stone Lake Road



Blue-spotted Salamander
(Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus)



Timber Wolf
along Arkola

While seeing any owl is thrilling, the Barn Owl I saw in Sax-Zim during January 2020 comes to my mind as a highlight. It was a life bird for me! Someday I would like to see a Connecticut Warbler in Sax-Zim's spruce bogs...and I'd love to find more orchid species.

Boardwalks draw me to visiting the bog. They provide a place for a quiet walk into valuable habitat important for boreal birds and mammals. Recently I enjoyed seeing Canada Jays and a Pine Marten at the Warren Woessner Bog Boardwalk at the Warren Nelson Bog.

I support Friends of Sax-Zim Bog to protect, preserve and manage valuable green space in its natural state. Educating through field trips and online videos, they expose the wonders of the Bog to a large audience.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Eileen Schantz Hansen

Not many folks would eagerly participate in our bi-annual roadside trash clean-ups...but Eileen does!

She is also a regular field trip participant & donor!



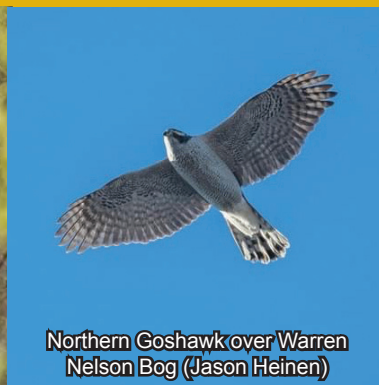
Evening Grosbeaks at Welcome
Center feeders



Great Gray Owl on McDavitt during
our Dusk/Night field trip



Northern Goshawk over Warren
Nelson Bog (Jason Heinen)



Mink along Stone Lake Road



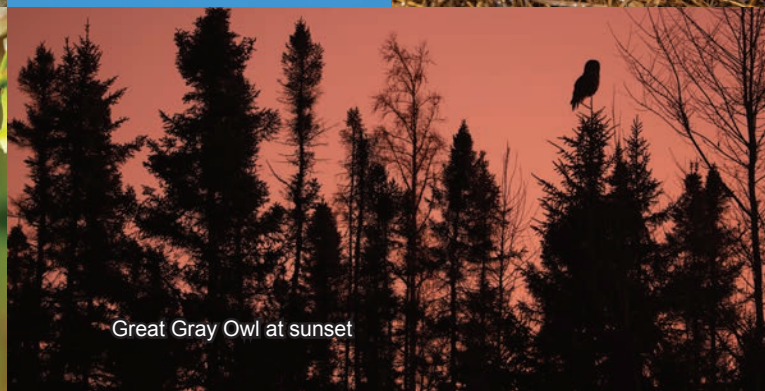
Short-tailed Weasel
(Clinton
Dexter-Nienhaus)



Pink-edged Sulphur on
Intermediate Dogbane



Great Gray Owl at sunset



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021

REVENUE	FY 20-21	
Individual Gifts	\$451,575	82%
Foundation Grants	\$62,750	11%
Merchandise Sales	\$22,420	4%
Events & Programs	\$7,672	2%
Corporate Matches	\$5,524	1%
TOTAL	\$549,942	

EXPENSES		
Program	\$148,693	69%
Administration	\$56,097	26%
Fundraising	\$9,659	5%
TOTAL	\$214,449	
SURPLUS	\$335,493	

BALANCE SHEET

March 31, 2021

ASSETS	3-31-2021
Cash (incl. liquid assets)	\$582,837
Other Current Assets	\$8,732
Fixed Assets	\$648,448
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,240,017
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	\$4,047
Restricted Net Assets	\$407,499
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$828,471
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$1,240,017



Sarah Beaster
Operations Director



Lori Williams
Board Chair



Rubin Stenseng
Board Member



Heather-Marie Bloom
Welcome Center Naturalist



Jason Heinen
Welcome Center Naturalist



Ben Yokel
Board Member



Julie Ollila
Board Member-Secretary



Sparky Stensaas
Executive Director



Gene Ollila
Board Member



Mark Dudek Johnson
Welcome Center Naturalist



Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus
Head Naturalist



Dave Steinger
Board Member-Treasurer



Scan to go right to our website

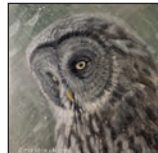
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Cover art by Sandy
Hokanson (hokansonart.com)

Each talented, hard-working member of this team is integral to carrying out our Mission. We are committed to sustaining and appreciating the biodiversity of the Sax-Zim Bog.

Thank you for your incredible show of support for our work.

—Lori Williams, Board Chair

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