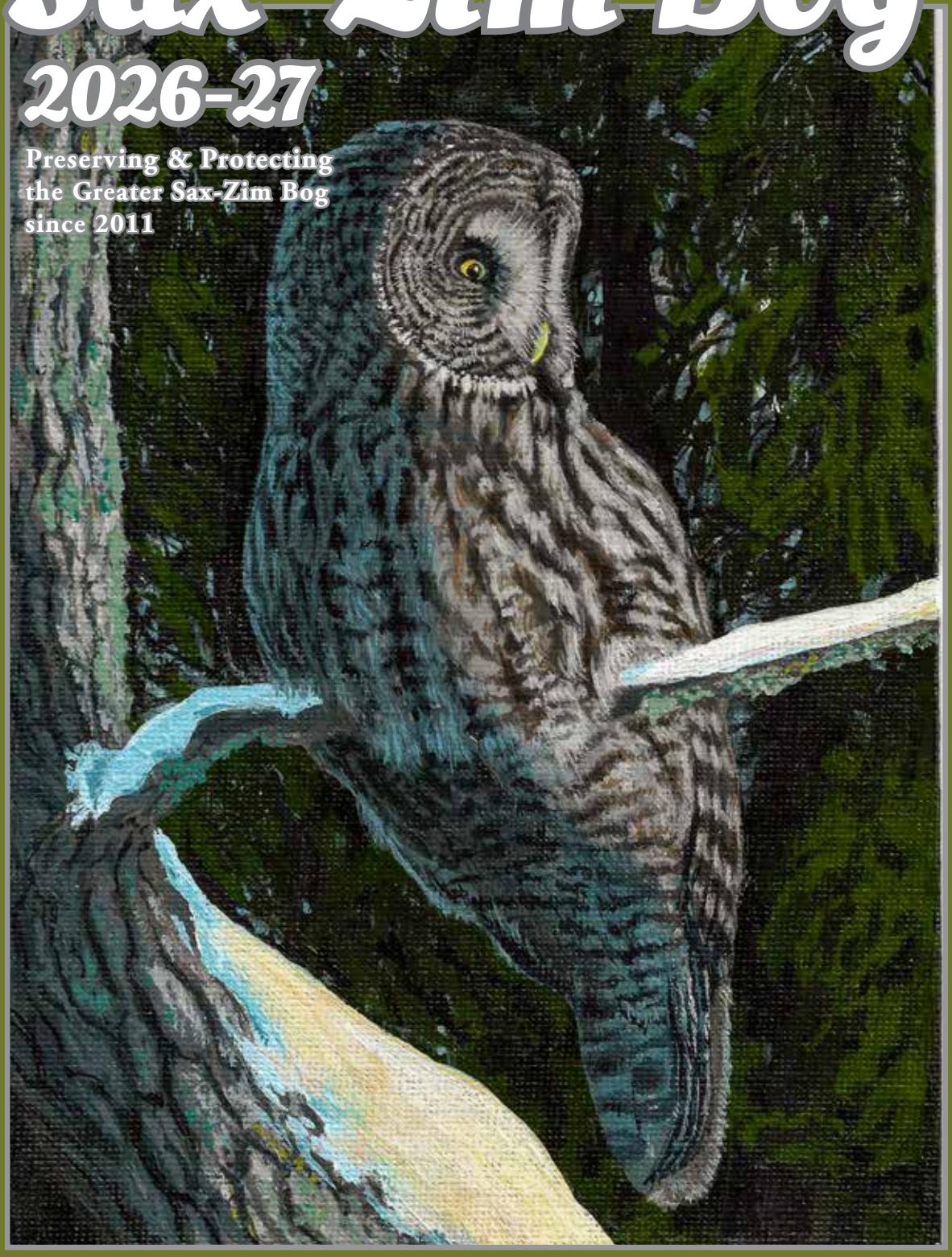
Sax-Zim Bog 2026-27

Preserving & Protecting the Greater Sax-Zim Bog since 2011



Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) by Daniel Coffin (submitted to our 2026 Tiny Bird Art fundraiser)

THE Great Gray Gazette

Sax-Zim is YOUR Bog!


Sparky Stensaas
Founder & Executive Director

Celebrating 15 years! *In 2010 I sat down with two friends (Dave Benson, Kim Eckert) to wrestle with the conundrum of Sax-Zim Bog. Black Spruce logging was rampant, destroying for decades thousands of acres of habitat for our beloved boreal birds. The result of that meeting was our shared goal to form a 501c3 non-profit, create a gateway experience for visiting birders, and start protecting land. We used Kim Eckert's extensive "Rolodex" of names, Dave Benson's organization skills, and my time and motivation (i.e. no job, a wife and two babies!). We got our IRS status in 2011 and we were off to the races!*

Fast forward 15 years and true to our Mission we have Preserved and Protected over 25,000 acres of prime bog as a Forever Home for all boreal critters. But here's the important part; the "we" in that last sentence is ***all of you!...our Bog Buddies. Thank you so much for supporting us so generously over this last decade and a half.***


You made this happen! Our goal is to be NET ZERO at the Welcome Center and this new 6kW solar array will allow us to do that.

Expansion of Winterberry

Friends of Sax-Zim Bog is a land preservation organization, and in that vein we purchased and protected another 80 acres adjacent to Winterberry Bog, growing that parcel to 160 acres. The money for this purchase came from generous friends of one of Friends of Sax-Zim Bog's founders, Kim Eckert (see next page).

Shaggy Top

The new Norwegian-style sod roof will keep the Welcome Center cooler in summer and warmer in winter. It is part of our goal to have as light of a footprint on this planet as possible. Sod roofs like this will also help prevent the Welcome Center from igniting during a forest fire.

Welcome Pat & George!

How do you make your organization more effective, efficient, and energetic? You add high-quality people to your Board! Welcome Pat Collins of Duluth and George Soule of Minneapolis! We will be putting their bio info on our website soon. We look forward to working with you both!

—Sparky Stensaas, Executive Director


George Soule


Pat Collins


Gray Jay Way


Auggie's Bogwalk extension at Fringed Gentian Bog


Magnificent Mile feeders

Infrastructure! We added new observation platforms and benches to Gray Jay Way, Taiga Boardwalk, and Magnificent Mile feeder trail. Auggie's Bogwalk was extended by 800 feet! Thanks to our hardy volunteers and former Host/Naturalist Mark Dudek Johnson, who spearheaded these projects.





In early March Sparky, Clinton, and I met with the MN DNR wildlife team from Northern MN to discuss projects we have been working on, our dreams for the future, and ways we could collaborate. In the process they learned that FOSZB has an amazing group of volunteers. As a result, they asked if our volunteers would help them plant fruit-bearing shrubs to improve habitat for Sharp-tailed Grouse on a local WMA. We said yes! And on a blustery May morning we all spent several hours planting. It was a ***win-win-win*** *with the DNR getting the help they needed, our staff and volunteers doing what they love, and the native birds benefiting!*

We deeply appreciate our relationships with the greater community and our volunteers! *If you are interested in volunteering, see the bottom of page 6.*

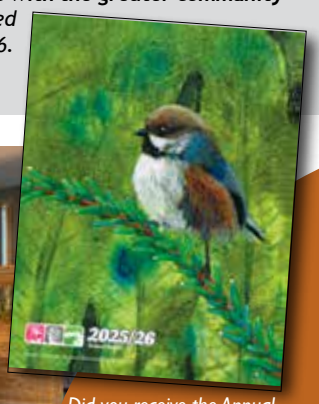
—Sara Blanck, Associate Director


Check out the website refresh!


Thanks to the fearless sod roof reboot crew! L-R: Birk & Bjorn Stensaas, Luke Rumpca-Sweeney, Kallin Pyatetskiy, Judd Brink, Pat & Tambrey Collins.


Shaggy! August 2026


Artist-in-Residence Art Show and new locally-made cabinets



The roof is seeded with a big variety of native wildflowers including Wild Bergamot, Goldenrod, Swamp Milkweed, Black-eyed Susan, Harebell, Wild Columbine, and native grasses. The bees, butterflies, and other pollinators will love it as well.

Did you receive the Annual Report this summer? This is where we now print all our donors' names from the last fiscal year. You can find it on our website as well.



Kim Eckert Land Fund saves *80 acres*
& Doubles size of Winterberry Bog

Thank you to 120 friends of Kim Eckert who donated the amazing total of ***$64,717*** to Friends of SaxZim Bog in honor of his 40 years of running the wildly popular Minnesota Birding Weekends/Birding Weeks field trips. Did you know Kim was one of the three founders of Friends of Sax-Zim Bog?

With this gift, FOSZB purchased an 80 acre tract between the existing Indian Pipe Bog and Winterberry Bog (site of the Bob Russell Bog Boardwalk, a project that was spearheaded by Kim in memory of his good friend).

This parcel not only connects two of FOSZB's existing parcels, but protects a thriving beaver pond and some nice Tamarack forest. It will be a FOREVER HOME for all boreal critters and plants. Thank you all!

Anonymous
Barb Akre
Karin Akre
Brian & Susan Anderson
Caleb Ashling
Parker Backstrom & Holly Weston
Carla Bates & Susan Pollock
Al Batt
Susan & Gene Bauer Charitable Fund
Kathrynne & Paul Baumtrog
Cory Bedeaux
Mary Beer
Tom Bell
Betsy Beneke
Dave & Pam Benson
Jean Beyer
David Blaney & Sherry Gray
Suzanne Born & Carol Cummins
Suzanne & Hans Borstad
Bob Bossert
Dick & Mary Brainerd
Jane Braun
Jean Brislance
Mary Brown
Paul & Mariann Budde
Julie Calligure
Keith Camburn
Phil Chu & Jeannie Leigh Chu
Judy Chucker
Mark Citsay & Connie Osbeck
Joel Claus
Friends of Wolsfeld Woods
Mariann Cyr & Jim Tchobanoff
Alyssa DeRubeis
Joanne Dial
Steve Dietz & Janet Malotky
Herbert Dingmann
Carol & Jerry Dirks
Ellen Doll
Sara Donaldson
Robert Doster
Robert Dunlap
Chris & Cindy Edwardson
Sue Egan
Paul Egeland
Claudia Egelhoff
Ronald Erpelding
Julie Faulhaber
Emily & Chris Feigal
Deborah Fellows
Maura Fitzgerald
Andrew Forbes
Frank Forsberg
Mary Gabrys
Jill Genaw
Angela Gerend
Esther Gesick & William Marengo
Richard Gibson
Lynn Glesne
Juliann Grahn
Janet & John Green
Charlie Greenman & Bonnie Mulligan
Bill & Sally Hague
Anne Hanley & George Skinner
Mary Hemshrot
Bill & Nancy Henke
Jodi Henricks
Anthony Hertzel
Ruth Hiland
Pete Hoeger
Gerald Hoekstra
Pat Hoglund
Lonnie Howard
Fran Howard
Ann Inouye
Allison & Jeff Jensen
Judy Johnson
Katherine Kelly
Fern Keniston
Don Kienholz
Douglas Kieser
Naoko Koyano & Yasushi Nakagawa
Jan & Larry Kraemer
Robin LaFortune
Val Landwehr
Lynn & Stephen Lewis
Jim & Sharon Lind
Mark Lystig
Linda McGouirk
Diane & Steve Midthune
Molly Misfeldt
Marsha Moreen
Mark Mueller
Bruce Munson
Charlene & James Nelson
Katie O'Brien
Kevin O'Connor
Heidi Pazlar
Lee Pfannmuller
Darcy Pinotti
Laurie Polesak
Beth Potter
Jerry Pruett
RBC - Matching Gift
Kim & Cindy Risen
Stephanie Russell
Virginia Russell
Michael Sack
John Schladweiler
Diane Schroepfer
Rose Shea
Mary Shedd & Steve Wilson
Brian & Risa Smith
Tony Smith
Sarah Sobiech
Sharon Sobiech
Scott Somershoe
Linda Sparling
Jeff Stephenson
Dana Sterner
Peder Svingen
Jeanne & Steve Tanamachi
Dan & Sandy Thimgan
Margaret Tillery
Howard Towle
George & Josie Vania
Charlotte Wenger



All Friends of Sax-Zim Bog parcels become

Forever Homes for Owls & Warblers



Leave your Legacy in Land!
*contact us for opportunities

OPPORTUNITY TO PROTECT 440 ACRES

We are raising funds now for this important protection opportunity. ***These new parcels would expand two of our existing tracts****. But these are sensitive deals so we cannot reveal the locations at this time.*

URGENT NEED!

GOAL *$250,000* *towards 440 acre bog purchase*

With your help these 440 acres could be a FOREVER HOME for all boreal critters!

Some MATCH still available

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION!
MATCHING GIFTS AVAILABLE
Paul Cherry will match up to $5,000
Judd Brink up to $10,000
George Soule up to $5,000
Steven C. Leuthold Family Foundation up to $30,000



Seasons of Sax-Zim coffee-table book coming this fall! EVERY BOG WILD CALENDAR PHOTO It will be for sale online & at the Welcome Center

FREE copy of *Seasons of Sax-Zim* book with $3,000+ gift

**Must be donation given before Dec. 1, 2026*
***Books ship in December*

It All Adds Up

5,714

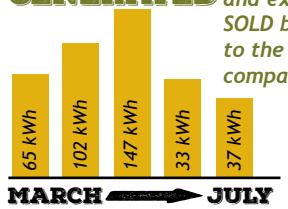
visitors from 41 states came through the Welcome Center in the winter of 2025-26; New Zealand, Singapore & Mexico too! And 2,044 more folks stopped by from June through September 2025.





SOLAR POWER GENERATED

and excess SOLD back to the power company!



WE NOW ARE STEWARDS OF 25,000 ACRES, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO...

- About the size of the world's 5 smallest countries combined
- 16,667 Little League baseball fields
- 75% the size of St. Paul
- 194 Malls of America
- 1,136 Ruffed Grouse territories

GTMD 2025

You helped us raise this much during Give to the Max Day.

Scan to donate via GiveMN anytime

$30,973 given by... **231 Donors**

NEXT Give to the Max Day November 19, 2026



FOSZB 2025-26 REVENUE

84% (!!) Donations from individuals like you ...our Bog Buddies!

Sales 12%

$1.41 Million

donated by all of you for land preservation since 2013. Wow! 25,000 acres preserved.



9,614

Clinton's Bog-ventures video views

2,055

Webinar & online program views

274,397

Virtually Live field trip views



VIRTUAL OUTREACH

24,202

Clinton's Critters video views

Scan for links to ALL videos

Scan for post on our Bogdiversity

iNaturalist

4,252

Sax-Zim Bog species recorded

3,913 *1,514 observers, 41,038 observations*

Species with photos entered into our iNaturalist database

***Go to www.inaturalist.org & search "Sax-Zim Bog" to see all the photos.*

What you think FOSZB should prioritizing...

MOST Important

Bog habitat preservation

Supporting research projects on bog critters

Political action in regards to peatlands

Non-bog land preservation

bird feeding stations

School group education

Boardwalks

Videos

Adult ed

Policing SZ

LEAST Important

**Data from FOSZB Survey of members*

*Number of species on the Greater Sax-Zim Bog Ecosystem Species List through Aug. 2026 (**some categories not graphed)*

Bog Buddies at Work & Play 2025-26



New Winterberry sign! Thanks to Rick Schroeder (L) and Craig Simon for getting it straight and level!



Many hands make light work! Spring work day.



Sod roof install day! Placing straw over the wildflower/native grass seeds.



Blake searching for Boreal Chickadees on December's Christmas Bird Count.



Boardwalks don't build themselves! Tim Wallace (L) and Rick Schroeder.



Our "can do" guy Steve Horvath enjoying a well-deserved ice cream break.



Volunteer Brian Hawkins



Who knew that litter clean up could be so fun? Our hard-working Board (and Sara) did the job.



Land Steward Kelly Beaster (L) interpreting a fen for visiting peatland specialists.



Welcome Center Host/Naturalist Luke Rumpca-Sweeney answering owl questions.



No age limit to enjoying Sax-Zim Bog! We are one of the most accessible birding sites in the country.



Jon Jaronson of Michigan made us these super-sized Auggie's Owls.



Wildlife photographer Kirsten Kepler shares "behind-the-scene" stories of her amazing Bog photos.



Blake made this really cool Great Gray sculpture. PS Nice hat Blake!



Warbler Wednesdays at Wood Thrush Woods on the Whiteface River are wonderful!



Thanks Al for shoveling the Magnificent Mile platform!



Rubin Stenseng makes all our wood trail signs.

Closer Look at...WINTERBERRY BOG

Thanks to a very generous donation by Judy & Tim Walker in 2016, we were able to purchase and protect this 40 acres of beautiful Black Spruce-Tamarack bog as the Walker-Dahlquist Memorial Winterberry Bog. And thanks to the generosity of others (see photos below) we have been able to quadruple this parcel's size to 120 acres over the last few years.

***ACTIVITIES AT SITE**: 1200-foot Bob Russell Boardwalk, birding, orchid-peeping.*

***NAMESAKE**: Winterberry bush (see sidebar)*

***FLORA & FAUNA**: Winterberry is a great place to search for Black-backed Woodpecker (and rarely American Three-toed Woodpecker), Canada Jay, Brown Creeper, Plnk Ladyslippers. Pine Grosbeaks in winter.*

***LOCATION**: Intersection of CR52/Arkola & Murphy Rd. Parking; Year-round Porta-potty; Little Free Library*

Hollow-stemmed Suillus in the deep sphagnum moss of Winterberry Bog

Enter your Winterberry Bog sightings in iNaturalist!



American Three-toed Woodpecker



Fisher



Pink Ladyslipper



Carabid Ground Beetle

The NAMESAKE

*The shrub **Winterberry** grows here along the margin between bog and more open areas. The red berries are a winter food source for Evening Grosbeaks.*

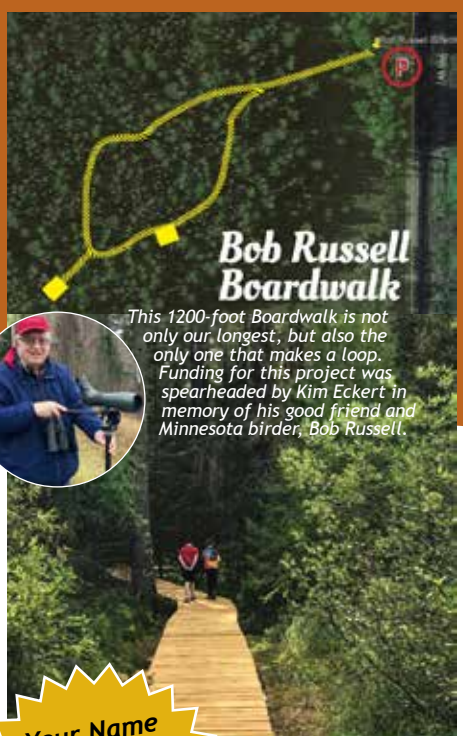




Winterberry (Ilex verticillata)



Winterberry is a great place to search for Black-backed Woodpecker. They seek out the grubs of the Eastern Larch Beetle.



This 1200-foot Boardwalk is not only our longest, but also the only one that makes a loop. Funding for this project was spearheaded by Kim Eckert in memory of his good friend and Minnesota birder, Bob Russell.

"Our constant observation of the destruction of habitat drove our decision to help Friends of Sax-Zim Bog purchase forty acres. The purchase of this land will preserve habitat and serve as a memorial Bog for our families. We thank Friends of Sax-Zim Bog for this opportunity."

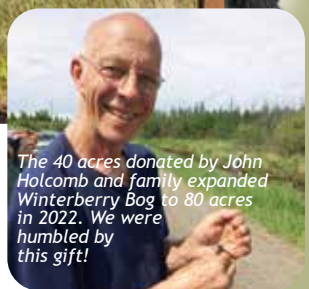
—Tim & Judy Walker, 2016
New Hope, Minnesota





Little Free Library at Winterberry

See also pg. 2 for details on the latest expansion of Winterberry Bog thanks to the Kim Eckert Land Fund.



The 40 acres donated by John Holcomb and family expanded Winterberry Bog to 80 acres in 2022. We were humbled by this gift!

Your Name on an Acre?
FREE with $999+ Gift

We are Donor supported

SHOP THE SAX-ZIMPORIUM

2027 Bog Wild Calendar, New Shirt Design: See "Shop" Tab on our website



WORLD'S COLDEST BIRDATHON



BRRRRDATHON

January 8 & 9, 2027

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

Calling All Artists! Tiny Bird Art Auction

Auction will be online beginning January 21, 2027

Scan for details

*HOW?: Create an **original** piece of bird art that measures 6x6", 5x7" or smaller (No exceptions). Must be 2-dimensional. Any medium except photography. **UPLOAD art details and photos ONLINE**.*

WHAT?: 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 northern bird is great.

*WHEN?: Please UPLOAD INFO and send art to us **no later than January 12, 2027***

***This is a fun and profitable fundraiser...and we LOVE to see all the amazing art from our talented Bog Buddies!**. Details at saxzim.org > events > tiny bird art*





Volunteers are the cornerstone of any organization... and we have a super strong foundation thanks to ours!

Volunteers!

*Our **volunteers are crucial and precious to us**! We are indebted to our Welcome Center hosts and feeder-fillers: Lynelle Hanson, Steve Kirkhorn, Susan Garrett, Mark Hoff, Rich Hoeg, Al Cottingham, Jim Sims, Amy Loiselle, and Tim Wallace. Our efficient Boardwalk & Trail Crew includes Craig Simon, Paul Cherry, Rick Schroeder, Brian Hawkins, Rubin Stenseng, Allie Aufderheide & Isaac Mathison-Bowie, Steve Kirkhorn, Larry Mishkar, and Adam Heikkila. Also a big shout out to volunteers Ron Funes, Michele Burlew, Jeri Schwerin, Viki Krikorian, and Eileen Schantz-Hansen.*
(More volunteers are listed on the Clinton's Corner page & the Bog BioBlitz pages.)

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please email Sara at info@saxzim.org
Our primary needs are trail maintenance & hosting at the welcome Center in winter.

Spotlight on Bogdiversity

BOG BIOBLITZ XIV JUNE 27, 2026

70 NEW species recorded for the Bog!

10 Reptiles & Amphibians

15 Dragonflies

18 Beetles [8 new]

40 Spiders [14 new]

45 Grasses & Sedges [7 new]

87 Bird species [16 species of warblers!]

107 Flora species [3 new]

219 Moth species [30 new]

Species found during Bog BioBlitz XIV


Baltimore Checkerspot


Thistle-stem Gall Fly (*Urophora cardui*)




Plant Bug (*Metriorrhynchomiris dislocatus*)

The 14th Annual Sax-Zim Bog BioBlitz was held June 26-27, 2026 with some excellent weather, great field trips, and lots of biodiversity documented! We have not had a BioBlitz in June since Sax-Zim Bog BioBlitz III. Our nearly 20 leaders were able to offer 14 field trips for our 67 participants, including a new caddisfly outing.

What did we find? We documented a total of 743 species, with 70(!!) of those species being new to the Greater Sax-Zim Bog Ecosystem. Check the graphic on this page to see who our "bogdiversity champions" were. Exciting results included 3 new State Record spiders, a likely new state record Gold-capped Moss Eater moth, finding 75% of the total herps in the area!, and all three bog-adapted dace fish species—Northern Redbelly, Finescale, and Northern Pearl.

This was also the 8th consecutive BioBlitz that we have utilized iNaturalist as a way to engage with and document species in the Bog during the BioBlitz. So far, we have had 1327 observations by 16 folks, observing 504 species! This is the highest number of total observations on a BioBlitz iNat project ever and for the second year in a row we have broken 500 species documented via the project!

The expertise and enthusiasm of our leaders is what makes this event a success. A HUGE thank you to Kyle Johnson, Clinton and Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus, Ryan Tomasin, Trevor Zook and Phoebe Jackson, Robin Thomson, Ralph Holzenthal, Alister Bergstedt, Christian Beza-Beza, Daniel Edwards, Kelly Beaster, Ethan Perry, Greg Cleary, Ezra Hosch, Collin Nienhaus, Sparky Stensaas, Colin Schuller, and Kelly Rundell.

We cannot wait for next year's milestone 15th Annual Sax-Zim Bog BioBlitz! There are lots of surprises in store for next year. We can't wait to see you August 7-8, 2027!







Bog BioBlitz XV set for Aug 7 & 8, 2027

TWO DAYS of field trips!

A Sax-Zim Bogdiversity Quiz

A. Carnivorous butterfly?! This tiny "flutter-by" originates from a meat-eating caterpillar.

B. Name the TWO species of snakes that regularly occur in Sax-Zim Bog.

C. Lincoln's Sparrow is named in honor of our 16th president, Abe Lincoln. True or False?

Answers on back cover



Finding a huge Luna Moth is always a treat...but being able to share it with many in person is what our Bog BioBlitzes are all about!

HEAD NATURALIST REPORT

Clinton's Corner

YEAR 11 of Kestrel Conservation in Sax-Zim

For our 11th season of monitoring American Kestrels we downsized to 38 nest boxes, removing about a dozen that had never been used. This is a much more manageable number of boxes for our volunteers.

Not only did we have a flying squirrel leap out of a box when we were checking it, but we also were lucky to have a Northern Saw-whet Owl actively nesting in one of the boxes! Unfortunately, the box was later abandoned.

Through the season we had 26 occupied boxes, with 22 of those boxes fledging chicks! We had 4 nest failures, which is the lowest number of nest failures since 2021. We were able to band 92 chicks (3rd highest total) of the 98 chicks produced. We have now banded 715 nestling American Kestrels in the Sax-Zim Bog! Our boxes averaged 4.4 chicks per nesting attempt, which is the 3rd highest ever and the best average since 2019.

One interesting tidbit from this season was the high numbers of male kestrels! Our long-term average was 46% male kestrels produced, but this year 62% of banded kestrels were male! Was that a fluke? Why were there this many males hatched this year? We don't know but data is passed on to Cornell's NestWatch for analysis.

We are so grateful to our volunteers that do all of the nest checks and data entry! Special thanks to Jean Elton-Turbes, Susan Anderson, Sue Wilmes, Rubin Stenseng, Brian Scott, Jessica Phoenix, Dawn Shold, Kelly Rundell, Josef Hagen, and Jeri Schwerin. Without their time and effort we would not be able to study these amazing birds!



Head Naturalist Clinton and American Kestrel

Scan to see more info on our Kestrel Monitoring program.

A Hearty "Thank You!"

to our 2025-2026 Friday speakers

Mike North
Chris Lenhart
Emily Stone
Hope Flanagan
Erik Bruhnke
Melissa Koelsch
Josh Kolasch



Tune in to our LIVE Feeder Cam! It streams our Welcome Center feeders daily through the winter. Comment and let us know when something cool shows up! Starts Dec. 1.



New bird skull display

New Educational Displays!

Stop by the Lois King Education Center to check out our new "Wentzscope" and multiple new wildlife mounts.



Thanks to a gift from longtime donors Kelly Larson & Carl Newman, we were able to purchase a "Wentzscope." This unique microscope is very easy for kids to see through, AND the magnified subject can be projected onto the big screen for group learning!



Night exploration! Things that Go Buzz, Croak, Hoot & Bump in the Night field trip in early May.



Gettin' boggy! Field trip to the Alborn Fen.



Donate to our **Good Neighbor Fund** to help school groups join us
GOAL: $5,000

Head Naturalist Clinton sharing tracking knowledge on a winter field trip.


Bog Laurel flower buds


Large Gray Dagger caterpillar


Pine Warbler—Norway Ridge Rd


Eastern Pine Elfin

Boreal Chickadee is one of my favorite Bog species. Seeing a Boreal Owl in 2025 was a unique experience.

The species I would like to see in the bog would be the Canada Lynx. That would also be a Minnesota first for me.

It's important to support the FOSZB not only because of the land they are preserving, but because of the work they do to educate on the importance of this fragile yet so important ecosystem. Besides all the scientific reasons I think it is also important to simply have wild places free of human development.

DONOR & VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Paul Cherry



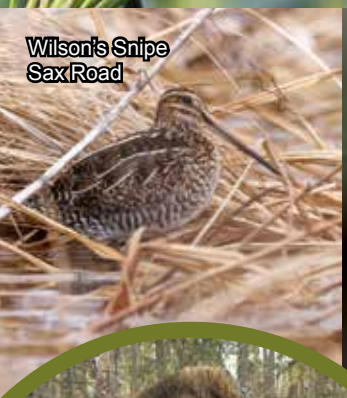
Paul has not only been generous with his money, but has also donated his time building benches and on other construction projects.


Blackburnian Warbler along St. Louis River


River Otter—Stone Lake


Leatherleaf


Purple Fringed Orchid


Wilson's Snipe Sax Road


Naked Miterwort


Common Merganser—Stone Lake


Bay Polypore fungus at Wood Thrush Woods



VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Brian Hawkins

A tree doesn't fall in the forest without Brian knowing about it! He is usually "first on the scene" to clear windfall from our boardwalks. Thanks Brian!

My favorite wildlife encounter in Sax-Zim was when I witnessed a male Great Gray Owl present a vole to a female Great Gray. She then flew off and fed it to one of their young. Fortunately I had my camera with and got some photos.

I love Gray Foxes! While I have seen them, I have not been able to get a photo of one...yet!

Supporting Friends of Sax-Zim Bog helps to further preserve vital bog land and its diverse species.


Amelia & Cole

STAFF PROFILE

Amelia Chapman

Amelia is one of our Welcome Center Host/Naturalists. She has also led one of our most popular Workshops.

This 2025 winter season I saw my first in-person Snowy Owl, so beautiful! I am also obsessed with and love all the abundant ancient clubmosses we have.

Of the mammals I most want to see in the Bog, the elusive Pine Marten is top of my list. A close second is the Ermine, our white winter-coated weasel.

Friends of Sax-Zim Bog is full of the most caring and genuine individuals I have ever had the pleasure of working with. They take their mission of protecting and educating on the bog habitat to heart. In my eyes it is so important that we care for the earth and land as deeply as she cares for us.


Round-leaved Sundew


Connecticut Warbler—Owl Avenue


Baltimore Checkerspot


Yellow Ladyslipper

Boreal Chickadee is my favorite Sax-Zim bird. They may not be the most spectacular species in the Bog, but I always get excited when I hear them or spot one.

I would love to see a Lynx! I've never seen one in the wild, only tracks and scat. As far as birds go, I think it would be awesome to see a nesting Boreal Owl.

Supporting FOSZB leads directly to protecting peatland habitat. High quality, intact peatlands are crucial to protect for all sorts of reasons, including their role in providing habitat for plants and animals, carbon sequestration, protecting water quality and quantity, and more. FOSZB protects this habitat and helps people understand its importance!

BOARD PROFILE

Pat Collins

Pat joined the FOSZB board in 2026. He brings a wealth of land conservation knowledge from his time with Minnesota Land Trust and the MN DNR.


Tambrey & Pat


Michigan Lily


Polyphemus Moth—Bog BioBlitz


Northern Flicker
Stone Lake
Public Landing


Singa keyserlingi
Yellow-bellied Bog


Sedge Wren along Stone Lake


Fisher at Beaver Pond
FOSZB Trail Cam


Silver-bordered Fritillary
McDavitt Road

Friends of Sax-Zim Bog
PO Box 3585
Duluth, MN 55803

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SUSTAINED GIVING helps us budget



Shout out to our most consistent givers!

*[**Complete Donor List is now printed in the spring Annual Report, which is available as a link on our website under "About Friends"]*

17 consecutive years
Dave & Pam Benson

16 consecutive years
Jean Beyer
Paul Johnson
Donald & Jean Kaddatz
Kate & Frank Nicoletti
Eileen Schantz-Hansen

15 consecutive years
John Arthur & Pamela Deerwood
Janet & John Green
Larry Leonard
Jerry & Bonnie Niemi
Gene & Julie Ollila

14 consecutive years
Beck Family Fund
Phyllis Bofferding
Susan Carlson
Judith Ann Collopy
Deborah Freedman
Ruth Hiland
David Larson
Leuthold Family Fund
Kari Meyer
Myron & Holly Peterson
Paul Sitz/Erika Sitz Charitable Fund
Rubin Stenseng & Sue Wilmes
Jeanne & SteveTanamachi
Paul & Deborah Trunk
Uri Yokel & Kathy Rodriguez

13 consecutive years
Barbara Becker
Anne Bier
Les Conrad
Jeff & Michelle Fischer
Nancy & Jim Fisher
Ron & Peg Funes
Mary Gabrys
Charles Gessert
Dr. Lynn Glesne
Nancy & Bill Henke
Kathy MacKnight
Barbara & Tom Meyer
Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter
Scott Slocum
Ruth Stearns
Pamela Stevenson
Matt Stratmoen
Butch Ukura
Jen Vieth
Lori Williams & Dave Steininger


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Preserving & Protecting the Greater Sax-Zim Bog for Future Generations of Birds & Birders

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Answers to the Bogdiversity Quiz: A. Harvester butterfly. B. Eastern Garter Snake and Red-bellied Snake. C. False. The Lincoln's Sparrow was named for Audubon's friend Thomas.

A Long Ways in A Lot of Ways

So many examples of our tremendous growth over 15 years
Land and Boardwalks...Tributes and Donations
Welcome Center and Hospitality...Education
Outreach and Media...Beautiful Bogs and Waterways
Relationship Building and Trust

Thank you for accompanying us on this journey.
We have come a long ways in upholding our Mission with your support.
We are Grateful.
See you in the Bog,
Lori