

## Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife News

July 22, 2014

### Featured...

#### Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*)

The [Burrowing Owl](#) is found throughout the Tallgrass, Mixedgrass, and Shortgrass Prairies and the Sandhills ecoregions of Nebraska. It is often associated with prairie dog towns where it uses the available burrows. The Burrowing Owl is listed as Endangered, Threatened, or as a Species of Concern in nine states. In Nebraska, the Burrowing Owl is listed as a Tier I At-Risk Species. It is federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and is listed by the USFWS as a National Bird of Conservation Concern in several regions, including the Mountain-Prairie Region.

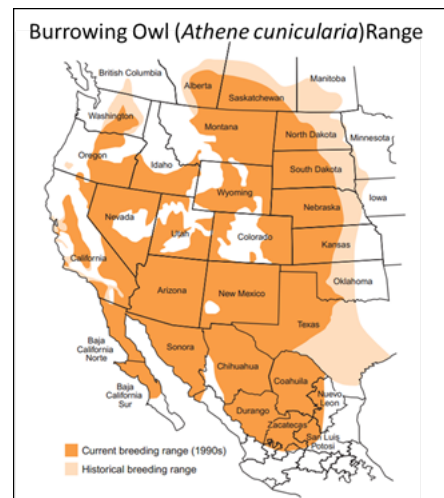
The [Species Conservation Assessment for Burrowing Owl](#) lists threats to Burrowing Owls in Nebraska including: prairie dog control; habitat conversion projects; loss of open grasslands; plague; wind energy development; and insecticide impact on food source.

The impacts of wind energy on Burrowing Owls has been best documented for Altamont Pass Wind Resource Area. In [one study](#), Burrowing Owls experienced the highest mean deaths/MW/year of all of the birds in the study. Modifying grazing practices around wind turbines to prevent accumulations of dung, siting turbines close together and away from canyons, ravines, valleys, and high concentrations of rodents and owl burrows, were [suggested](#) as ways to help minimize mortalities at wind energy developments. Considerations for Burrowing Owls should be made when siting wind turbines and associated infrastructure.

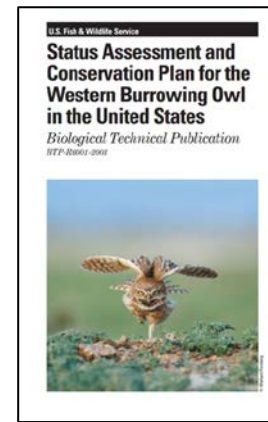


A [video](#) of a Burrowing Owl chick checking out a camera was recently posted by the Department of the interior. The video was recorded in the Rainwater Basin in Nebraska.

For more information about Burrowing Owls, check out these resources: <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/species/birds/wbo/Western%20Burrowing%20Owlrev73003a.pdf>, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/wsb.347/pdf>, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2193/2006-307/pdf>, [http://www.pljv.org/windandwildlife/co/bmp/BMP\\_Burrowing\\_Owl.pdf](http://www.pljv.org/windandwildlife/co/bmp/BMP_Burrowing_Owl.pdf)



To check out the [amazing photo](#) of the Burrowing Owl shown on the front of the [Status Assessment and Conservation Plan](#), go to Michael Forsberg's webpage: <http://shop.michaelforsberg.com/collections/birds/products/51>



## Around Nebraska...

[A Geospatial Approach for Prioritizing Wind Farm Development in Northeast Nebraska, USA](#), Adam Miller and Ruopu Li, International Journal of Geo-Information, July 2014. In this study, a GIS-based multi-criteria approach was developed to identify the areas that are best suited to wind energy development in Northeast Nebraska, USA. Seven criteria were adopted in this method, including distance to roads, closeness to transmission lines, population density, wind potential, land use, distance to cities, slope and exclusionary areas. The suitability of wind farm development was modeled by a weighted overlay of geospatial layers corresponding to these criteria. The results indicate that the model is capable of identifying locations highly suited for wind farm development. The approach could help identify suitable wind farm locations in other areas with a similar geographic background. (<http://www.mdpi.com/2220-9964/3/3/968>).

[Farmers object wind energy project to County Board](#). Vocal, vehement opposition from local farmers and landowners has put a \$300 million Grundy County project on hold. It's known as the Rock Island Clean Line Energy project, and it involves channeling 3,500 megawatts of wind energy from Iowa to Illinois through a series of above-ground transmission lines. (<http://www.morrisdailyherald.com/2014/07/09/farmers-object-wind-energy-project-to-county-board/a3z2uvvg/?page=1>).

[Without state regulation, Iowa counties get tougher on wind projects](#). When wind turbines started popping up in Iowa in the 1990s, they were novelties that added interest to the landscape and put money in farmers' pockets. Now that Iowa now has more than 3,200 wind turbines and ranks No. 1 in the nation for the share of electricity coming from wind energy, counties are getting tougher about where turbines are built, how much noise they make and how much they disturb nature. Some people fear the lack of state and federal regulation of wind energy could leave Iowans vulnerable if the industry sours or scientists discover new consequences for the environment or health. (<http://thegazette.com/subject/news/without-state-regulation-iowa-counties-get-tougher-on-wind-projects-20140713>).

[Grande Prairie Wind Farm, O'Neill, NE Draft EIS](#). The Western Area Power Administration (Western), an agency of the Department of Energy (DOE), has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) on the proposed interconnection of the Grande Prairie Wind Farm (Project) in Holt County, near the city of O'Neill, Nebraska. Grande Prairie Wind, LLC (Grande Prairie), a subsidiary of Midwest Wind Energy Development Group, LLC, has applied to Western to interconnect their proposed Project to Western's power transmission system.

DATES: The public comment period closes on **August 4, 2014**. A public hearing will be held on July 1, 2014 from 5:00-8:00 PM CDT.

ADDRESSES: A public hearing will be held at the O'Neill Community Center, 501 South 4th Street, O'Neill, NE 68763. Written comments on the draft EIS should be addressed to Mr. Rod O'Sullivan,

Document Manager, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 281213, Lakewood, CO 80228-8213 or e-mail at [grandeprairie@wapa.gov](mailto:grandeprairie@wapa.gov). (<https://www.wapa.gov/ugp/Environment/GrandePrairie.htm>).

**7th Annual Nebraska Wind & Solar Conference & Exhibition: Turning Challenges into Nebraska Opportunities** will be on October 29th and 30th in LaVista, Nebraska. There are sponsor and exhibitor opportunities at varying price levels. If you have presentation ideas, you can submit them to: [admin@nebraskawindconference.com](mailto:admin@nebraskawindconference.com). (<http://nebraskawindandsolarconference.com/>).

## **Around the Nation & World...**

### ***Wind and Wildlife***

**Frack Quietly, Please: Sage Grouse Is Nesting** (check out the video – actually about wind energy, not fracking). Federal officials are weighing putting it on the endangered species list — setting off a mad scramble among the unlikeliest of allies to save the bird and avoid disrupting the nation's enormous growth in energy production. With a range stretching over more than 165 million resource-rich acres across 11 states, the grouse is at the center of one of the country's most important struggles: to balance the demand for energy against the needs of nature. And in the process, it has put two environmental priorities — preserving species and fostering renewable energy — on a collision course. ([http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/20/business/energy-environment/disparate-interests-unite-to-protect-greater-sage-grouse.html?partner=rss&emc=rss&\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/20/business/energy-environment/disparate-interests-unite-to-protect-greater-sage-grouse.html?partner=rss&emc=rss&_r=1)).

**Wind, Wildlife and Weeds**. Wind development and sage grouse sometimes appear incompatible. Historically, it seems to be one or the other, wind or wildlife. Wind development and sage grouse thrive on the gusty sagebrush plains so common throughout the West. But can they thrive together? The answer is “yes” – but it's going to take a shift in thinking to ensure they both thrive. (<http://mtpr.org/post/wind-wildlife-and-weeds>).

**The Public Lands and Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013 H.R. 596/S. 279**. The bill calls for a transition to a competitive, royalty-based leasing system that treats wind and solar generation much the same as oil and gas development, sharing royalties with counties and states. The bill includes a thoughtful transition for developers with pending applications under the current framework. PLRED directs a portion of the royalty revenue back for permitting projects, and also to the state and county where the project is developed. ([http://www.nwf.org/pdf/Policy-Solutions/NWF\\_PLRED2013\\_Factsheet\\_final.pdf](http://www.nwf.org/pdf/Policy-Solutions/NWF_PLRED2013_Factsheet_final.pdf)).

**Power plants and renewable energy**. Last week, Pacific Legal Foundation [submitted comments](#) (joined by Dalton Trucking and the Center for Environmental Science, Accuracy, and Reliability) on EPA's [proposed greenhouse gas rule for existing coal-fired power plants](#). The Foundation's comment letter focuses on EPA's failure to consult under the Endangered Species Act over the proposed rule's adverse impacts on protected species and their habitat. (<http://blog.pacificlegal.org/2014/power-plants-renewable-energy/>).

**Offshore wind farms create 'reef effect' perfect for marine wildlife - especially seals**. Wind farms have an unexpected benefit if you happen to be a harbour seal hunting for food in British waters, according to a new study. They are a magnet for hungry seals eager to take advantage of the fact that fish and crustaceans tend to cluster on the structures – which become artificial reefs for marine life over time. (<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/offshore-wind-farms-create-reef-effect-perfect-for-marine-wildlife--especially-seals-9619371.html>).

**[Marine mammals trace anthropogenic structures at sea](#)**. Deborah J.F. Russell et al., Current Biology, July 2014. Using high resolution GPS data we show how infrastructure, including wind turbines and pipelines, shapes the movements of individuals from two seal species (*Phoca vitulina* and *Halichoerus grypus*). Using state-space models, we infer that these animals are using structures to forage. We highlight the ecological consequences of such behaviour, at a time of unprecedented developments in marine infrastructure. (<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0960982214007490>).

**[Study aims to shield marine mammals from offshore wind projects](#)**. State and federal officials announced Thursday a \$2.2 million research effort aimed at preventing harm to whales and other marine mammals from building massive industrial wind turbines off [Ocean City](#). The two-year study, to be led by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, will include using underwater microphones to record sounds of whales and other marine mammals in the ocean where the federal government is soliciting bids to place turbines. (<http://www.baltimoresun.com/features/green/blog/bs-md-offshore-wind-mammal-study-20140710,0,175892.story>).

### **Wildlife**

**[3D technology used to help California condors and other endangered species](#)**. A team including researchers from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research has developed a novel methodology that, for the first time, combines 3-D and advanced range estimator technologies to provide highly detailed data on the range and movements of terrestrial, aquatic, and avian wildlife species. (<http://phys.org/news/2014-07-3d-technology-california-condors-endangered.html>).

More information: **[Movement-Based Estimation and Visualization of Space Use in 3D for Wildlife Ecology and Conservation](#)**. Jeff A. Tracey, James Sheppard, Jun Zhu, Fuwen Wei, Ronald R. Swaisgood, Robert N. Fisher. Research Article | published 02 Jul 2014 | PLOS ONE. DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0101205](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0101205)

**[Greater Sage-Grouse, USFWS website](#)**. The Fish and Wildlife Service supports efforts to keep the greater sage-grouse off the endangered species list by protecting its habitat to increase sage-grouse numbers. Find out about the benefits of conservation steps that Westerners are taking – to conserve the big open spaces that sage-grouse and other sagebrush species need. (<http://www.fws.gov/greaterSageGrouse/>).

**[Bat and Moth Game](#)** (Outreach and Education). The game helps children learn about bats and how they use echolocation to find their food. It also provides a good opportunity to share information about bats and other nocturnal animals. (<http://farringtonnatureinc.org/bat-and-moth-game/>).

### **Wind**

**[A pragmatic approach to wind farm simulations using the dynamic wake meandering model](#)**, Rolf-Erik Keck and Ove Undheim, Wind Energy, July 2014. This paper presents a computationally efficient method for using the dynamic wake meandering model to conduct simulations of wind farm power production. By using the proposed method, the time required to conduct wind farm simulations is reduced by three orders of magnitude compared with running the standalone dynamic wake meandering

model at runtime. As a result, the wind farm production dynamics for a farm of 100 turbines at 10,000 different sets of ambient conditions run on a normal laptop in

1 h. (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/we.1783/abstract?campaign=wolearlyview>).

**[Interior Department Achieves Another Milestone for Offshore Commercial Wind Energy Development in New Jersey](#)**. As part of President Obama's [Climate Action Plan](#) to create American jobs, develop domestic clean energy sources and cut carbon pollution, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Acting Director Walter Cruickshank today announced the proposed sale of leases for nearly 344,000 acres offshore New Jersey for commercial wind energy leasing. (<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/interior-department-achieves-another-milestone-for-offshore-commercial-wind-energy-development-in-new-jersey.cfm>).

**[New Report: Golden Opportunity of Atlantic Offshore Wind Power Finally Within Reach. Catching the Wind](#)**. State Actions Needed to Seize the Golden Opportunity of Atlantic Offshore Wind Power also contains a new analysis showing how the strong, consistent winds offshore can provide power to coastal states right when we need it most, bringing down energy costs and local pollution. (<http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/Media-Center/News-by-Topic/Global-Warming/2014/07-10-14-New-Report-Golden-Opportunity-of-Atlantic-Offshore-Wind-Power-Finally-Within-Reach.aspx>).

**[Engineers find Wind Turbines are at High Risk for Fire and Incidents are Underreported](#)**. A study conducted by Imperial College London and University of Edinburgh engineers found that wind turbine are at high risk for catching on fire, and incidents are largely underreported by the industry. According to the study, 120 turbines catch fire each year—with the industry only reporting a tenth of them. Next to blade failure, fire is the biggest source of risk for wind turbines. (<http://www.energydigital.com/greentech/3450/Engineers-find-Wind-Turbines-are-at-High-Risk-for-Fire-and-Incidents-are-Underreported>).

**[Wal-Mart, GM, HP lobby to boost renewable energy](#)**. A dozen leading companies, including Wal-Mart and General Motors, called for market changes Friday that would make it easier for them to buy more renewable energy. The companies say they collectively want to purchase 8.4 million megawatt hours per year of this energy, enough to power nearly 800,000 homes, but the market often stymies their efforts. They propose six “buyers’ principles” to shift how states and utilities determine their options. (<http://americasmarkets.usatoday.com/2014/07/11/wal-mart-gm-hp-look-for-ways-to-boost-renewables/>).

### **[Upcoming Webinars & Workshops](#)**

**[EISPC Energy Zones Mapping Tool](#)** Webinar will be on **July 29, 2014, at 2 p.m. CT**. This one-hour demonstration will feature Wind energy resource data and Land-based and Offshore Wind suitability models. Use the following link to attend the webinar: [http://anl.adobeconnect.com/eispc\\_tool\\_demo](http://anl.adobeconnect.com/eispc_tool_demo) (Audio via the webinar or by phone: 1-877-685-5350, participant code: 853223).

### **[Announcements](#)**

**[Proposed CRP Changes Open for Comment](#)**. The Farm Service Agency announced this week that it is accepting comments on a draft [Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement](#) (SPEIS) for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The SPEIS addresses changes to CRP mandated by the recently passed 2014 Farm Bill. (<http://news.wildlife.org/featured/proposed-crp-changes-open-for-comment/>).

**Department of Energy, Wind and Water Power Technologies Office: Wind Energy Bat and Eagle Impact Minimization Technologies and Field Testing Opportunities.**

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) invites public comment on its Request for Information (RFI) regarding a potential funding opportunity to advance the readiness of bat and eagle impact minimization technologies through investments in technology development and field testing.

In its RFI, EERE requests comments, information, and recommendations on the current state of wildlife impact minimization technologies, conditions under which technology vendors or developers would consider participating in a demonstration and validation campaign, and the conditions under which wind farm owner/operators would consider participating in a campaign to demonstrate, field-test, and validate such technologies. Additionally, EERE seeks input on a proposed framework for funding the advancement of wildlife impact minimization technologies aimed at reducing impacts to bats, eagles and other wildlife of concern, and on how to prioritize funding for research within this framework. The RFI is available at: <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>. ([http://www.ofr.gov/\(S\(p1j5zp3ymogd5wy3l45k1whv\)\)/OFRUpload/OFRData/2014-15258\\_PI.pdf](http://www.ofr.gov/(S(p1j5zp3ymogd5wy3l45k1whv))/OFRUpload/OFRData/2014-15258_PI.pdf)).

**Eagle Scoping Public Input Process.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is analyzing various aspects of bald and golden eagle management as part of its responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Public input is an important part of this process. The NEPA analysis will evaluate the environmental effects of a range of alternatives for eagle management, including possible changes to permit regulations. The purpose of the public scoping process with regard to NEPA is to determine relevant issues that could influence the scope of the analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) and related compliance efforts. (<http://eaglescoping.org/>).

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Extends Decision Deadline for Final ESA Listing Decision on the Northern Long-eared Bat as Endangered.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will extend for six months the deadline on its decision whether to list the northern long-eared bat as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), providing additional time to resolve questions received during the public comment period regarding the species' population and white-nose syndrome, a disease that has killed millions of bats and poses the greatest threat to this species. (<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/BulletinNLEBexten24June2014.html>).

### **Tools**

**Energy Department, NREL Release State and Local Energy Data Tool.** DOE and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) recently released [SLED, the State and Local Energy Data online tool](#) that provides state and local decision makers easy access to energy data specific to their location. The resources and data provided can be used to support strategic energy planning processes and deployment of clean energy projects. By entering a city and state or ZIP code into the SLED tool, users can see how their current electricity prices compare to the state and national averages, learn about applicable policies and incentives that could affect clean energy projects in their state, find available renewable energy resources, get details on alternative transportation fuel costs, and more. (<http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/sled/#/>).

**WINDEXchange** is the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Wind Program's hub of stakeholder engagement and outreach activities. The purpose of WINDEXchange is to help communities weigh the

benefits and costs of wind energy, understand the deployment process, and make wind development decisions supported by the best available science and other fact-based information.

(<http://energy.gov/eere/wind/windexchange>).

**[National Assessment of Ecosystem Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes](#)**. View and download the primary data that has been developed by the USGS team in a variety of formats using the [LandCarbon Data Tool](#). Visualize data products, view and interact with maps, charts, and statistics that summarize the results of the USGS assessment.

([http://www.usgs.gov/climate\\_landuse/land\\_carbon/Data.asp](http://www.usgs.gov/climate_landuse/land_carbon/Data.asp)). \*\*NOTE: Data on carbon sequestration for the ecoregions in Nebraska are not yet available. Other information is available to view at this time.

**[EISPC EZ Mapping Tool](#)**. The EISPC Energy Zones Mapping Tool is a free online mapping tool to identify potential clean energy resource areas within the Eastern Transmission Interconnection. (<https://eispc tools.anl.gov/>).

**[Counties with Zoning Regulations in Nebraska](#)** has been added to the Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife Project website. Several counties have zoning regulations or ordinances for wind energy facilities. Several of the counties with zoning have setbacks for commercial scale wind turbines of 600 feet from Wildlife Management Areas, State Recreational Areas, and Wetlands (USFW Types III, IV, and V). Links to all county zoning regulations found through internet searches are available on the website. Please feel free to contact me at [windwildlife@unl.edu](mailto:windwildlife@unl.edu) with edits, suggestions, etc. (<http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/windenergydevelopment.asp#zoning>).

**[Nebraska Rare Species Education for Conservation](#)** website launched! This new website features images, descriptions, range, habitat, population status, information pamphlets, and more on the 27 threatened and endangered species in Nebraska. The website is a great way to access information on Nebraska's listed species. (<http://rarespecies.nebraska.gov/>).

**[National Climate Change Viewer](#)**. The new tool gives citizens and resource managers the opportunity to look at climate-driven impacts on watersheds and map projected changes at the local, regional, state and watershed levels. ([http://www.usgs.gov/climate\\_landuse/clu\\_rd/nccv.asp](http://www.usgs.gov/climate_landuse/clu_rd/nccv.asp)).

**[National Wetlands Database, interactive mapping tool completed](#)**. To coincide with American Wetlands Month, which begins May 1, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is announcing the completion of the most comprehensive and detailed U.S. wetland data set ever produced, capping a 35-year effort by the Service to map the extent of the nation's wetlands. The Wetlands Inventory Mapper (<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>) has digitally mapped and made publically available wetlands in the lower 48 states, Hawaii and dependent territories, as well as 35 % of Alaska. (<http://www.agprofessional.com/news/National-Wetlands-Database-interactive-mapping-tool-completed--257553181.html>).

**[National Wind Coordinating Collaborative \(NWCC\) Webinars on the Latest Wind-Wildlife Research and Tools](#)**. NWCC/AWWI hosts quarterly webinars on the latest research and tools related to the interactions of wind energy, wildlife, and wildlife habitat. The webinars include time for questions after each presentation. To receive the access information for upcoming webinars, please sign up. If you are interested in sharing your work on a webinar, please contact [ian Evans](mailto:ian.evans@nationalwind.org). (<http://nationalwind.org/research/webinars/>).

**[USGS Interactive Windfarm Mapper](#)**. The USGS created this publicly available [national dataset](#) and [interactive mapping application](#) of wind turbines. This dataset is built with publicly available data, as well as searching for and identifying individual wind turbines using satellite imagery. The locations of all wind turbines, including the publicly available datasets, were visually verified with high-resolution remote imagery to within plus or minus 10 meters. (<http://eerscmap.usgs.gov/windfarm/>).

**[Developing a Research Framework for Increasing Understanding of Interactions between Eagles and Wind Energy](#)**. In this document, we outline a framework for a national, hypothesis-driven research program on eagles and wind energy. The principal goals of this framework are to guide research that improves our ability to predict and estimate take of eagles at wind energy facilities, to develop measures intended to avoid and minimize the take of eagles at operating wind energy facilities, and to compensate for, or offset, remaining eagle take. ([http://awwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/AWWI-Eagle-Research-Framework\\_Final-01-23-14.pdf](http://awwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/AWWI-Eagle-Research-Framework_Final-01-23-14.pdf)).

**[Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines Webinar Series](#)**. The USFWS has offered a number of webinars related to the Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines. Recordings of the webinars, presentations, and transcripts are available at: [http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/wind\\_training/wind\\_training.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/wind_training/wind_training.html).

**The Wildlife Society Renewable Energy Working Group – LinkedIn**. Connect with other resource professionals involved in renewable energy – wildlife work. To join, go to: [http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4433729&trk=my\\_groups-b-grp-v](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4433729&trk=my_groups-b-grp-v), click Join.

### **[Upcoming Conferences](#)**

**[Abstract Deadline](#)** July 28, 2014 for **[Conference on Wind energy and Wildlife impacts](#)** which will be in Berlin, Germany, March 10-12, 2015. ([https://www.cww2015.tu-berlin.de/menue/cww\\_2015/](https://www.cww2015.tu-berlin.de/menue/cww_2015/)).

**[AOU•COS•SCO](#)** (American Ornithologists' Union, the Copper Ornithological Society, and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists) Joint Meeting will be **September 23-28, 2014** in Estes Park, CO. There will be a symposium on Avian Interactions with Energy Infrastructure: Challenges of Being Green (Chair: Jen Smith) and Effects on Birds of Unconventional Shale Gas Extraction and the New Energy Boom (Chair: Steve Latta) as well as sessions on migration, population ecology, and much more. (<http://birdmeetings.org/aoucossco2014/>).

**[Raptor Research Foundation 2014 Conference](#)** will be **September 24-28, 2014** in Corpus Christi, TX. Associated with the conference is an Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) Workshop. (<http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/current-conference>).

**[The Wildlife Society Annual Conference](#)** will be in Pittsburgh, PA October 25-30, 2014. The **[Renewable Energy Working Group](#)** will be offering a [field visit](#) to the Casselman Wind Farm on October 25, 2014. For basic information about the field visit, go to: <http://wildlifesociety.org/learn/field-trips/>. For more detailed information, go to: <http://news.wildlife.org/the-wildlifer-2014-june/news-from-subunits-10/> and search for Renewable Energy Working Group updates.

Wind Wildlife Research Meeting X will be in Broomfield, CO, week of December 1, 2014. Dates TBD. The biennial Wind Wildlife Research Meeting provides an internationally recognized forum for researchers and wind-wildlife stakeholders to hear contributed papers, view research posters, and listen to panels that synthesize the most recent wind power-related wildlife research.

(<http://nationalwind.org/save-the-date-wind-wildlife-research-meeting-x/>).



**7th Annual Nebraska Wind & Solar Conference & Exhibition: Turning Challenges into Nebraska Opportunities** will be on **October 29th and 30th** in LaVista, Nebraska. There are sponsor and exhibitor opportunities at varying price levels. If you have presentation ideas, you can submit them to: [admin@nebraskawindconference.com](mailto:admin@nebraskawindconference.com). (<http://nebraskawindandsolarconference.com/>).

Conference on Wind energy and Wildlife impacts will be in Berlin, Germany, March 10-12, 2015. (<http://www.cww2015.tu-berlin.de/>).

Check out the **Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife Project website** at: <http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/> and **Wind Energy and Wildlife news** at: <http://www.scoop.it/t/wind-energy-and-wildlife>.

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