

Durango Bird Club

Christmas Bird Count 2025

Lake Nighthorse – Sunday, December 21st

Leader: Chris and Emily MacDonald

Contact: Please email Chris @ christian@macdonaldcs.com

AREA DESCRIPTION: The main feature of this area is Lake Nighthorse. We have special permission from the City of Durango to access the lake. This area also includes the Animas River Trail behind the DoubleTree Hotel, up river to the tunnel bridge on Main Avenue. The Tech Center, Twin Buttes hiker/biker parking area, Greenmount Cemetery, and Fassbinder Park are all within this route. The Roosa Avenue eBird hotspot can be a good spot for American Dippers.

BOUNDARIES: Much of the south boundary is the view shed up to the top of the ridge that is Basin Mountain. The NE boundary is Camino Del Rio and Main Street – do not count anything on the east side of those roads. Farther south, the east boundary of the West Area is approximately the west edge of the Animas River Valley view shed, which in much of the area is the top of the skyline ridge above the valley. On Smelter Mountain's slopes, the eastern boundary is drawn to approximate the edge of a reasonable view shed from the Animas. The northern boundary along the Animas River is the Main Avenue tunnel bridge. The southern boundary along the Animas River is approximately the Lightner Creek confluence.