

Studies from "a morning of observations" at Pine Meadow Ranch will hang at Sisters Art Works through August and most of September.

Ranch 'observations' produce exhibit

How does light filter down through leaves to Whychus Creek? How do you record how an old barn door has opened every day for decades?

Kathy Deggendorfer invited artists to join her early on July 23 at The Roundhouse Foundation headquarters at Pine Meadow Ranch to participate in a morning of observations. Those observations produced a variety of artistic studies — now on display to the Sisters public.

From a single cable draped over a fence post to long views over fields to the mountains, these marks on paper represent a few hours of time in one day in one place.

"7.23.18 Pine Meadow Ranch" is an exhibit of 13 diverse studies from 13 artists at Sisters Art Works, 204 W. Adams Ave. in Sisters, from August 1 to September 26, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sisters Country birds

By Douglas Beall

Correspondent

Flycatching from atop a 100-foot snag on the shoulders of Mt. Jefferson and then soaring another 200-300 feet for a buggy meal, the Lewis' woodpecker's [Melanerpes lewis] aerial maneuvers are stunning. Adding colors from iridescent green, black, red and white, the Lewis' woodpecker is an outstanding resident of Central Oregon and the Cascades.

The bird is named after Meriwether Lewis, who first described it in 1805 during his sojourn with William Clark through the Northwest



PHOTO BY DOUGLAS BEALL

The Lewis' woodpecker.

Territories.

Nesting in previously used woodpecker holes in snags, the five to nine white eggs hatch in 12-16 days. The chicks are completely featherless and will not leave the nest for 28-34 days and will continue to be fed by the parents for approximately 60 more days. Lewis' woodpeckers feed on insects until fall when many migrate to southern Oregon and California where they begin to collect and store acorns and other nuts and grains for the winter.

Unfortunately their populations have declined 72 percent from 1970-2014, leading to a listing of serious concern on the Yellow Watch List. Two factors

have contributed heavily to this decline: loss

of habitat (massive clear-cutting), and increasing starling populations who occupy nesting holes. 30-40 years ago Western Oregon and Washington had significant populations, however now have almost zero nesting Lewis' woodpecker.

A group of woodpeckers is referred to as a "gatling," "a descent," or a "drumming."

To view more images of Lewis's wookpeckers, visit www.abirdsings becauseithasasong.com/ recent-journeys/.



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