



Redwood Region Audubon Society's Annual Banquet & Auction

BIRDS AT THE CROSSROADS: Science, Culture, and the Path Forward

This year's speaker, **Ivan Phillipsen**, the host and the creator of **The Science of Birds** podcast and a professional birding guide with a background in scientific research, will explore how we are living at a pivotal moment in the history of birds—when our scientific understanding, technological tools, and global enthusiasm for birding have reached unprecedented heights, even as bird populations face accelerating threats from habitat loss and climate change. This convergence of knowledge and passion gives us a rare, urgent opportunity to protect the planet's remaining avian diversity.

Ivan has loved animals and nature his whole life. His first obsession was with amphibians and reptiles. This interest led him to graduate school, where he studied amphibians. After earning a Masters degree in Biology and a PhD in Zoology, he did postdoctoral research on aquatic insects.

Along the way, his love of nature expanded to include plants, fungi, and all animals, including birds. Birds have become Ivan's greatest passion. He's an avid birder and co-owns a birding ecotour company called Wild Latitudes. Some places where Ivan leads natural history tours are Vietnam, Patagonia, Iceland, Alaska, Australia, and Spain.

He and his houseplants live in the wonderful city of Portland, Oregon.



Saturday, February 21st, 2026

Place: Arcata D Street Neighborhood Center, 13th and D Sts.

Time: Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Our fun-filled silent auction usually features beautiful natural history items, often bird-related, such as carvings, original paintings, special services, as well as a variety of many other items. We will feast on a delicious, gourmet dinner catered by Uniquely Yours, and dessert from Ramone's Bakery. Ivan's talk will follow.

Cost: \$50/person until February 18, when it goes to \$65.

Send check made out to RRAS to P.O. Box 1054, Eureka, CA 95502,
email gary@jacobyecreek.net with Banquet in the subject line, or phone (707) 496-6581.

The last day to make reservations is February 19th.