

Rosy-Finch Data Needed- You Can Help

Garth Spellman, PhD

Calling all birders, color-banded Brown-capped Rosy-Finches coming your way. Researchers at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies and the University of California Santa Cruz are trying to uncover the broad distributional movements of Brown-capped Rosy-Finches. Field ornithologists can help by reporting banded bird sightings on eBird or CitSci.org.

Finches are being banded in the Winter (nonbreeding season) and Summer (breeding season) and the goal is to reveal how tightly Winter and Summer distributions are connected. If a bird is banded during the Summer (June 15th-August 15th), the bird will be banded with a color band on its right leg. If a bird is banded during the winter, the bird will be banded with a color band on its left leg. The colors correspond to broad areas across the Rosy-Finch distribution throughout Colorado and Southern Wyoming. See the map below for details. A gold band indicates the bird was captured and banded in the northern Front Range, a green band indicates the birds was banded in Evergreen, CO, and a blue band indicates the bird was originally banded near Telluride, CO. More colors will follow as we expand banding operations, but this will not occur in the beginning of 2018.

If you resight a color banded Brown-capped Rosy-Finch, please record the following information and report your sighting.

- Date/Time
- 15 June-15 August most valuable at this time (Most birds have thus far been banded in the Winter so summer sightings are crucial. However, all resightings are important.)
- Location
- Latitude/Longitude
- A picture or description of the bird
- Color band (blue, gold, green)
- Leg (bird's right or left)
- Number of birds observed
- Submit on eBird or CitSci.org (Here is the link to the CitSci.org project page: http://www.citsci.org/cwis438/Browse/Project/Project_Info.php?ProjectID=935)

Thank you for your help!

