

AUGUST 26, 2017 – WET MOUNTAIN VALLEY FIELD TRIP

Plan to participate this year in AVAS's spectacularly scenic birding trip in **Custer County**. Those who stay all day will probably see over one hundred species including waterfowl, raptors, warblers, and many others in a variety of habitats.

Meet the trip leaders at **Lake DeWeese at 8:00 a.m.** on Saturday, August 26. To get there, leave **Westcliffe** going north on State Highway 69 and at the edge of town turn right at the sign indicating Lake DeWeese. Continue north for about five miles until reaching a settlement of summer dwellings. Stay on the *paved road* as it turns left and continue until it turns right, leading to the shoreline parking lot meeting place.

After viewing waterfowl and shorebirds on the lake we will *carpool* over to the dam. At the dam and in the drainage below we will walk to areas of excellent birding habitat. Near the lake there are areas of short-grass prairie we will check out.

Around noon we will have time to eat our sack lunches before setting out to see birds in the riparian habitats on the valley floor. The outing will end in the lower montane area of the Sangre de Cristo range.

At an altitude of about 8,000 feet, sunscreen provides needed protection. If an unusual shower develops during the day, a light jacket might be handy. Beginners welcome.

For more information please contact one of the field trip leaders: **Jane Pedersen** (970) 426-9046, janelcsw@aol.com; or **Dave Silverman** (719) 489-3565, silvireo@hotmail.com.