

BANDED BIRD RECAPTURED

A Gray Catbird that was banded by Dr. Dave Swanson during a banding demonstration at the 2013 South Dakota Birding Festival at Fort Randall has been recaptured. Dr. Swanson captured the Gray Catbird again in July of 2014 at Clay County Park near Vermillion, SD – a distance of about 75 miles.

This is the first time that a bird that was banded during the Festival's banding demonstration has been recaptured.

The 5th Annual SD Birding Festival, for novice and advanced birders, will be held May 1, 2 & 3, 2015 at the Fort Randall Dam near Pickstown, SD. Along with banding demonstrations, birders will find programs such as back yard birding, photography, bird identification, raptors, guided field trips, children's activities, plus much more. In 2014 there were 146 birds identified during the Festival.

The Festival also offers birders (novice and advanced) a chance to go on a guided field trip to the [Karl E. Mundt Wildlife Refuge](#) – this is the only time the refuge is open to the public. The refuge, which was established in 1974, consists of 1086 acres which are used for Bald Eagle protection. The Karl E. Mundt Wildlife Refuge has the largest concentration of Bald Eagles in the contiguous United States, with over 200 that spend the winter.

More information can be found about the [Gray Catbird here](#).