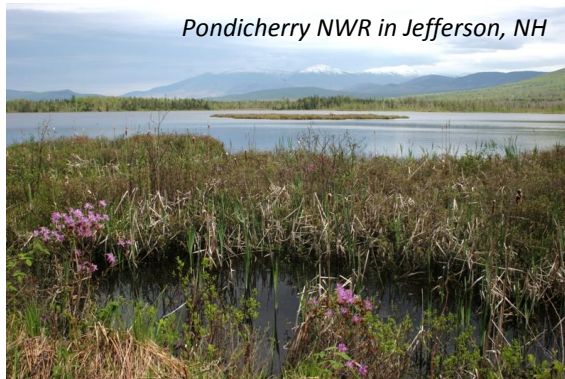


*Pondicherry NWR in Jefferson, NH*



## **HMANA's Raptorthon Challenge**

**Support Julie Brown during her One-Day Event!**  
**May 12, 2012**

Hello, my name is Julie Brown and I am the Monitoring Site Coordinator for HMANA. This spring, I am conducting my 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Raptorthon Challenge at Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge in New Hampshire to count as many species as I can in a 24 hour period. I invite you to become my sponsor and help me raise money for raptors.



For the past few years, I have helped lead a bird walk at the Pondicherry Refuge on International Migratory Bird Day. Last year, I combined this hike with my Raptorthon Challenge and counted 88 species and raised \$1035 for raptor conservation programs at HMANA!

In my opinion, there is no better place to celebrate international bird conservation. Pondicherry, north of the White Mountains, has the highest breeding bird diversity of any single location in New Hampshire, which is no surprise given the habitat diversity spread out over 6,000 acres; black spruce bogs, wetland and marsh, northern hardwood/boreal forest, open lakes and mountains.

My Raptorthon team, like last year, will consist of myself and my husband, Phil but we'll have a new addition this year, our newborn baby will be joining us for the event. It's never too early to participate in your first Raptorthon!

We will be counting not only raptors but ALL bird species seen or heard at Pondicherry on May 12, 2012. Mid-May is the ideal time to see a wide diversity of resident breeders like Merlins and Northern Goshawks as well as migrants like Bay-breasted Warblers and Black Scoters. On a typical spring day, we could see up to 100 species on the refuge.

Your sponsorship will directly support important raptor research programs and the migration monitoring network. 50% of my proceeds will go towards managing HMANA's information database, **HawkCount.org** and the **Raptor Population Index program** which uses count data to provide a unique assessment of the health and trends of populations of North America's migratory raptors. The remaining 50% will go towards HMANA's **HawkWatchFund**, a new grants fund offering support to the hawkwatching community.

You may make a flat rate donation online by clicking on the **Donate Now** button on the main Raptorthon page and selecting my name from the dropdown menu. You may also pledge a flat rate or any amount per species by mailing a printed **Pledge Coupon** to: Julie Brown, 151 Antrim Rd, Hancock, NH 03449. After my event, you will receive a report of my findings.

I am looking forward to working hard to see as many raptors and other bird species as possible during my Raptorthon and I hope that I can count on your support!

Yours sincerely,  
*Julie Brown*