

## It's Starting!

Chuck Aid March 1, 2020 :

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What a February! I'm looking forward to Larry White's monthly report on snow totals – seems like we had at least 20 days when we had some amount of precipitation. \*

And, then, here at the very end of February, we get teased with a bit of springtime-like weather.

But, there are some birdy activities that are not just teasers: Breeding season has begun, with reports from the lowlands of Bald Eagles and Great Horned Owls incubating, and House Finches carrying nesting material.



Great Horned Owl (c) Rob Raker

We are also starting to hear a change in some of the local Evergreen vocalizations: Red-shafted Flickers, White-breasted Nuthatches, Mountain Chickadees, and Gray-headed Juncos are all starting to work on their songs.



Northern Flicker (c) Mick Thompson

There is definitely more drumming being done by all the woodpeckers. And, spring migration has begun with reports of Mountain Bluebirds moving into the area.



Maybe I'll be able to make it through March with such stirrings letting me know that brighter and LONGER days are ahead. Yay!

\* This just in from Larry White: At his recording station in the Upper Bear Creek watershed, there were 14 days with measurable precipitation plus 3 with just a trace, resulting in an all-time record for liquid precipitation for the month. Snowfall totals came in just under the record, in second place. As a result of the wet and snowy month, the 5-month water-year total to date is well above average.