## **Visitor Information for LMBO: 2025**

Construction: We are in the process of building a new banding station. If you have volunteered or visited us before you will see that where our trailer was, is currently a construction site! We are still banding while construction occurs. We are banding out of a small shed in Site 101 across the road from the old station. We hope that the new station will be open for visitors in Fall 2025.

Thank you for your interest in visiting Last Mountain Bird Observatory! We look forward to having you out. This document covers what to expect from your time visiting us, and what you might need to do to prepare.

The banding station opens to the public every day we are open from 10:00 to 1:00. We are open 7 days a week, weather permitting. We do not open the nets if it is raining, snowing, or if the wind is over 30 km/h.

When we are banding birds, our first priority is always the safety of the birds. Being captured and banded is a stressful situation for the birds, and we reduce stress wherever possible. This includes reducing handling time as much as possible and closing the nets if weather conditions change.

We check the mist nets every 30 minutes for birds. This can be a lot of walking for people, but as long as you come prepared with good walking shoes (closed toe recommended), sunscreen, and a hat, people are generally pretty comfortable. Ticks and mosquitoes are around the net lanes, so bring whatever you need to reduce your exposure. We like to recommend bug spray and long pants/sleeves.

You should also bring enough water and snacks for the day. There is no potable water available in the park and depending on the time of year only porta-potties available for washrooms. There is also a concession in the park, but this is only open in August.

If you are staying in the park, you are able to use our tent site for camping. You are welcome to book your own site if you prefer though or if you require a site with power/water. You can book sites at Last Mountain Regional Park (https://letscamp.ca/camps/lmrp) or call the office at 1 (306) 484-4483.

Many people get lost their first trip to LMBO. A lot of the area's attractions begin with Last Mountain and it can be confusing. Please see the attached maps. The banding station is in Last Mountain Regional Park, and this is what you should put into your navigation app. Anything else will likely take you to the National Wildlife Area or the Bird Sanctuary. Once you are in LMRP, stay on the main road heading south. You should see the Last Mountain Bird Observatory sign on the east side of the road (left side if you are heading south). You will also see the red Loraas dumpsters. Turn left just before the dumpsters, and we are the trailer with a deck.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to Jordan at <u>jrustad@naturesask.ca</u> or call/text us at 306-539-9415.