Birding Festival returns to Barr Lake

See birds in the hand, in the trees, on the water and probably on display: The Barr Lake Fall Birding Festival returns 7 a.m.-noon on Sept. 11. 

Birds in the hand: Bird Conservancy of the Rockies will operate its banding station, which involves catching birds in bird-safe mist nets a few yards in either direction from the banding station, just off the lake’s perimeter trail. Banders will weigh, measure and determine the approximate age of the birds, explaining the process to visitors, also letting them know whether the birds are migrants or residents of the park (and sometimes noting whether banded migrants might have been there before or have visited other places in Colorado).

Other attractions of the Birding Festival will be guided bird walks in the park, informational booths, and kids’ activities, including face-painting, nature journaling, and more.

“Celebrate the magic of migration,” a posting from the park suggests, adding that more information will come as Sept. 11 nears.

Admission to the park, $8 per vehicle (the price of a state park day pass), also provides admission to the Birding Fest. (It’s free for those with annual passes).

Barr Lake is at 13401 Picadilly Road, just east of Brighton (south off Bromley Lane at Picadilly). For more information, call the park’s Visitor Center at 303-659-6005.