The return migration of the Sandhill Cranes has begun. Cranes are leaving their wintering homes in New Mexico and Arizona and heading north. Many will stop to rest for a short time in the San Luis Valley at the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge. Some may make a brief stop in the Eckert/Delta area south of Grand Junction. We can expect the first arrivals here in the Yampa Valley sometime during the first or second week of March.

Spot the Yampa Valley’s first crane! Send us your photo to win!

Document your sighting of the first Sandhill Crane spotted in the Yampa Valley. Email it to coloradocranes@gmail.com or snail mail it to CCCC headquarters at 40625 County Road 69A, Hayden, CO 81639. Include your name, plus the date, time and location of the sighting. A fabulous prize will be awarded to the individual with the photo of the earliest sighting. At the end of March the winner’s name and photo will be posted at www.coloradocranes.org.

The 3rd annual Yampa Valley Crane Festival is September 12-15 in Steamboat Springs, Hayden & Craig, with daily crane viewings, speakers, films, crane art, workshops, family activities, school programs & more.

www.coloradocranes.org