



Migrations

By Steve Eginore

Southern Colorado's San Luis Valley is no stranger to natural wonders. Aside from being considered the largest alpine valley in the world, it is the site of one the West's greatest bird migrations. In early spring and fall each year, some 25,000 sandhill cranes make a pitstop outside Monte Vista on their journey between New Mexico and points as far north as Siberia. With bright red heads, graceful long necks and standing at 3½ feet on stillette legs, it's an incredible sight to behold. For more on where to view the birds during their month-long layover in the San Luis Valley, check out the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge's website at <http://alamosa.fws.gov>

