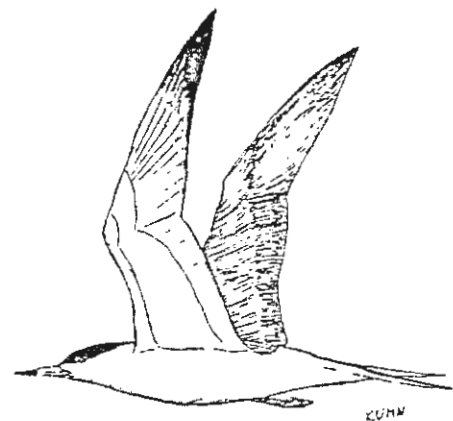


# Pilchuck Audubon Profile

## Calendar

- SEPTEMBER 13-14 Sat-Sun. Field trip to Ledbetter Point. Meet at Fred Meyer Parking Lot at 44th Ave. W and 196th in Lynnwood at 6 a.m. on Saturday or at noon at the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters on highway 101. Make your own motel reservations or plan on camping with others.
- SEPTEMBER 19 Friday- Monthly meeting: 7:30 pm Room 308, Crystal Hall at Everett Community College. Eleanor Stopps will talk and show slides of Protection Island. See article in newsletter.
- SEPTEMBER 27 Saturday- Trip to Sauk Mt. Meet at Bank of Stanwood at 9 a.m. Take exit 206, the Smokey Point exit heading north and turn right to the bank.
- SEPTEMBER 29 Audubon Board meeting at 7:30. Call Jan van Niel at 778-7568 for meeting place.
- OCTOBER 11 Saturday- Field trip to Foulweather Bluff. Meet at the Edmonds Safeway at 9 a.m.
- OCTOBER 17 Friday- Regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Everett Community College.
- OCTOBER 19 Sunday- Field trip to Deering Wildflower Acres. Meet at 1 p.m. in the lower Everett Community College parking lot
- OCTOBER 26 Sunday- Field trip to Everett Swwage Lagoon with Seattle Audubon Society. Meet at 11 a.m. at lower Everett Community College parking lot.

Our field trip chairman is Jim Kuhn. If you would like more information on any of the above trips or those in the upcoming months or if you have an area that might be a possible candidate for a trip please contact Jim at 652-6191.



## Condor Chick Dies After Handling

In a heartsickening stroke of bad luck, which came just as the program to save the endangered California condor was moving into high gear, one of the two chicks hatched this spring died last month after being handled in the nest by biologists of the study team. An autopsy has failed to fully explain the death, but experienced field ornithologists suspect it was simply the stress of being weighed, studied, and measured. Such deaths are rare but not unknown, they say. In studies over the years, in which thousands of nestlings of various species have been handled, a few such deaths have occurred. This time it happened to the second condor chick examined.

The California Fish and Game Commission has formally suspended permission for further nest visits pending a full review. The National Audubon Society-U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field team conducting the study agrees that there should be such a review.

The examination of the chick was part of a program aimed at learning more about the condors' problems and needs, data essential to planning steps to restore the condor population and its food supply and habitat. The research was undertaken in the knowledge that some longshot risks were involved. National Audubon Society believes the overall program should be continued. Without it, the condors will almost certainly become extinct.

Handling techniques, of course, will continue to be under constant review, as are all aspects of the program. The plans call for handling adult condors during a later stage of the study, to fit them with tiny radio transmitters for tracing their movements. Before this stage is reached, study team members will have an opportunity to learn trapping and handling techniques with stand-ins for the California condor. They will be working with African vultures in September and Andean condors in October.

## Grays Lake Whoopers Have Good Season

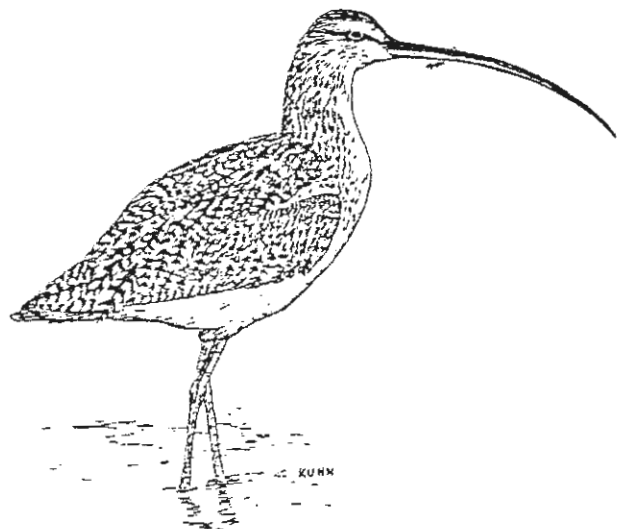
The 1980 nesting season has been a good one in the effort to establish a second wild flock of whooping cranes. The flock is being created by setting whooper eggs in sandhill crane nests at Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Idaho. Fifteen of these whoopers survived the winter in the vicinity of Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico and headed north this spring. Eleven are known to have arrived safely back at the Grays Lake area, and federal agents, still checking reports of sightings in the region, have reasonable hope that some or all of the rest are still alive. None of these birds has paired off or nested as yet, but two five-year-old males established territories this spring—a first indication of reproductive behavior.

Eleven more whooping crane chicks have hatched in sandhill crane nests this year. Water levels are high at the refuge, assuring a good food supply for the birds and giving them a better than average chance for survival.

**No Moratorium.** The annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission last month gave conservationists little to be happy about. The proposal for a moratorium on whaling failed again; its supporters could muster only 13 of the 17 votes needed to pass it. Some progress was made. Overall, quotas were reduced 9 percent, from 16,000 this year to 14,500 for next year. This included a new quota for sperm whales, set during the final hours of the conference, down from 1,350 this year to 890. But conservationists had hoped for larger cuts.

**Mutual Succumbs.** Mutual of Omaha gave in to the angry protests of Idaho cattlemen and farmers this spring and canceled the second half of a "Wild Kingdom" series on Idaho's Birds of Prey Conservation Area. The program's sponsor said the local Sagebrush Rebellion Inc. as well as the Idaho Farm Bureau and the state Grange, a farmer's organization, threatened to go to court if they aired the program. The farmers, who are now fighting a federal proposal to expand the 26,000 acre Birds of Prey Area, contend the program might influence their case in court.

**Caribou Treaty?** The United States and Canada have completed the first stage of a proposed international agreement to protect the caribou that migrate between Alaska and the Yukon Territory. An environmental impact statement was completed this spring for a joint program which would coordinate hunting regulations and the exchange of valuable scientific information about the caribou. Three herds have been identified for possible inclusion in the treaty, including the Porcupine herd, which comprises about 95 percent of the caribou in this area.





# Don't Waste Washington Committee



WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

107 South Main Street / Seattle, Washington 98104

(206) 622-3902

This is not an anti-nuclear initiative, nor is it an "anywhere but here" attitude. The Don't Waste Washington Committee advocates the creation of regional waste disposal sites, nationwide. We feel that it is reasonable to ask those states producing radioactive waste to assume the responsibility of disposing of that waste. Regional sites, created by interstate compacts, would minimize transportation distances and the possibility of catastrophic accidents.

The Federal Department of Energy is in the process of siting a permanent high-level radioactive waste repository at Hanford, Washington. In fact, 65% of the nation's high-level waste is already stored in temporary storage tanks at Hanford. The amount of low-level waste coming into Washington has increased 700% in the last four years, much of this in unlabeled and improperly packaged shipments. Over 2,500 shipments of radioactive waste are scheduled to come to Hanford from Three Mile Island alone. Studies have shown that workers exposed to radioactive materials have increased rates of certain cancers. This state has done more than its share to solve the nation's radioactive waste problem. Recent polls show that over 70% of Washington voters agree with what Initiative 383 is trying to do.

We are acting for all who care about the long term future of Washington state. We reject the idea that Hanford should become the permanent high-level radioactive waste disposal site for reasons of political expediency.

A bill passed unanimously by the State House of Representatives during the last legislative session was similar in content to Initiative 383. A slightly weaker bill passed the Senate, but no compromise was reached during the session. After the Legislature failed to act, we began our signature drive, and now it will be up to the citizens of Washington state to decide.

In the coming election campaign, we will be up against an expensive media blitz financed primarily by out-of-state money. To protect this beautiful state, we need your help.

For further information on how you can contribute please call 622-3902 OR  
write: Don't Waste Washington Committee  
c/o Washington Environmental Council  
107 South Main  
Seattle, WA 98104

\* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

## WILD BIRD CLINIC

At last, in our area there is a place to take all sick or injured birds. However, a call before taking your charge over would help coordinate aid for the bird. The clinic is run by Carla Pierre at 6224 - 204th NE, Arlington, WA. Her phone number is 435-3679.

## AUDUBON COUNCIL MEETING

The state Audubon Council sponsored by Kitsap Audubon Society will be OCTOBER 3-5 in Ellensburg. Friday evening a movie will be shown "North with Spring" based on Edwin Way Teale's Book. Saturday there will be presentations on the DNR, Local land use, State Department of Game and the Audubon Birdathon. Sunday, concurrent sessions will be held in leadership, membership and conservation.

Registration needs to be in by Sept. 19. For further information contact Jan van Niel.

## PROTECTION ISLAND

A bill authorizing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to acquire Protection Island for a wildlife sanctuary was introduced into the House by Rep. Don Bonker and in the Senate by Sen Warren Magnuson. The bills were co-sponsored by all other members of the Washington delegation except Rep. Foley.

Protection Island, a 400 acre site nine miles west of Port Townsend, is considered to be the most important nesting site of marine birds in Washington's inland waters. Over 75% of the state's marine birds nest here and include 21,000 pair of rhinoceros auklets, tufted puffins, pelagic cormorants, pigeon guillemots, glaucous winged gulls and black oystercatchers.

Many owners of the 834 building lots will be glad to sell since there is a scarcity of water on the island. The Nature Conservancy purchased 48 acres of the island and later turned it over to the State Game Dept. for a refuge.

The National Audubon Society has given this bill its top legislative priority. When Paul Howard was up here, he was given a tour of the area. Our Sept. meeting will be about this area. Letters of appreciation should be sent to Rep. Bonker and Sen. Magnuson.

## BIRDS OF PREY

The Bureau of Land Management proposal recommends that 515,257 acres of public land in Ada, Canyon, Elmore and Cwyhee counties, Idaho, be designated by Congress as the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area; that Congress remove these lands from mineral entry under the 1872 Mining Law; that these lands be removed from application under the Desert Land, Carey, and the State of Idaho Admissions Act; and that leases under the Mineral Leasing or Geothermal Steam Act would be allowed as provided in a land use plan developed under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976.

Write to your local representative and state senators to ratify Bill #S2683 and HR 7359.

## SWAN STATIONARY

Reminder- trumpeter swan stationary is still available -- 20 cards, 4 designs and still only \$5.00. Please add 75¢ for postage and handling if ordering by mail.

The proceeds from these sales go towards efforts to save the trumpeter swan habitat from further destruction in the Skagit Valley.

This would make a wonderful Christmas gift. To order by mail send to :  
Pilchuck Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 1618  
Everett, WA 98206

## BINOCULAR REPAIR

If you ever have a need for binocular repair, the only place we are aware of in the greater Seattle area that does repairs in house is:

Clary F. Olsen  
Seattle Binocular & Scope Repair Co.  
Room 724, Jones Bldg.  
1331 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101  
Phone: (206) 624-2294

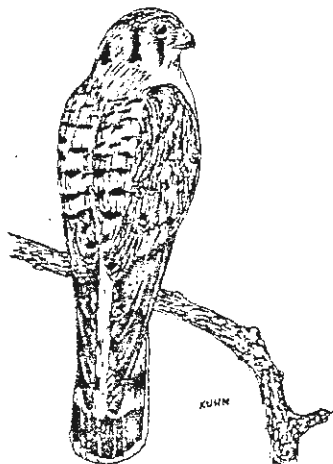
They are not open on Saturdays. They do good work and are not expensive.

## You Acquire Some, You Lose Some

While National was adding a new sanctuary to its holdings, Mother Nature was taking away one of the old ones. The Alexander Sprunt Jr. Sanctuary, a sand-spit island off the Charleston, South Carolina coast has become a casualty of natural forces. This preserve encompassed 250 acres when it was dedicated as an Audubon sanctuary in 1975. But a year ago seas from Hurricane David cut through it, and shifting currents began washing away the sand. Now the former island is completely under water at high tide, and its colonies of royal terns and brown pelicans can no longer nest there.

Nevertheless, the story has a happy ending, and a moral. The same ocean currents that were eroding the Audubon island were building a new one some 15 miles to the north. Emerging first as a sandbar several years ago, the new island--appropriately called Bird Key--has now become vegetated, and the homeless pelicans and terns have moved in. It is state land, and state wildlife officials are protecting the birds. The pelicans are one of only two colonies of this endangered species in South Carolina. This season, on Bird Key, the pelicans fledged 4,000 young.

The moral is one that Audubon members have been preaching in support of the pending federal legislation on coastal zone management and protection of barrier islands: Don't try to stop shifting sands from shifting, for they are part of a dynamic coastal ecosystem. Let them move with the changing currents, and they will continue to produce healthy beaches, dunes, marshes, and nesting areas. Try to anchor them with groins and bulkheads, and the system will be destroyed.



## BIRD SITINGS

Jim Kuhn and Pete Kaiser saw an OSPREY at Milltown and 2 GREEN HERON on the Stillaguamish River. Joyce Kelly saw a NORTHERN PHALAROPE at the Snohomish Sewage lagoon. Eileen and Steve Loerch saw BLACK BELLIED PLOVERS on Sungeeness Spit and TERNS feeding on the beach at the open coast. Joan & Evan Lucual had a ROCK WREN in their backyard. They also saw RUFFED GROUSE on Sauk Mt. Jan & Sally van Niel saw a TROPICAL KINGBIRD at Boyer Park along the Snake River. While on another of her trips to the Great Basin Martha Jordan saw a flock of 80 MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS and an abundance of AMERICAN KESTRELS and COMMON NIGHT-HAWKS. BURROWING OWLS were also seen frequently along roadsides where they build their burrows.

## RAPTOR REHABILITATION

North Central Washington Audubon Society has a special project that they are asking support for. Michael Bryant lives in the Leavenworth area and since 1973 has been caring for sick and injured birds of prey. Since then he has handled 91 birds, many of which have been returned to the wild. The birds are brought to him by individuals, Game department, other organizations and even the Seattle Zoo.

Mike does not receive any formal funding. He receives few contributions and most of these are in the form of meat for his patients. His rehabilitation program is financially beleaguered. Rehabilitation of these birds is something Audubon should support. They are asking your aid in the following way.

It costs \$30.00 a month to care for and feed a hawk or eagle and \$20.00 a month for an owl. If you would like to consider adopting one for a month please contact:

Sharon Burchett  
North Central Wash. Audubon So.  
540 S. Iowa St.  
East Wenatchee, WA 98801

PAS BOARD

President: Jan van Niel (778-7568)  
V. Pres: Marianne McKnight (337-4777)  
Secretary: Joyce Kelley (568-5974)  
Treasurer: Carl Holmes (387-4631)

Conservation: Sally van Niel (778-7568)  
Newsletter: Martha Jordan (775-0137)  
Publicity: Joan & Evan Lucas (252-1684)  
Membership: Eileen Loerch (659-6901)  
Hospitality: Carolyn Ringer (568-2302)  
Field Trips: Jim Kuhn (652-6191)  
Education: Pete Kaiser (652-6191)

To subscribe to the Profile, send \$2.50  
to Pilchuck Audubon Society, P.O. Box  
1618, Everett, WA 98206

(Another \$2.00 per year for first class  
postage.)

To join Pilchuck Audubon Society,  
which includes membership in  
National Audubon Society and the  
magazine "AUDUBON", as well as  
Pilchuck Audubon Profile, fill out  
the application and send to PAS.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

\_\_\_ Individual (\$20.00 per year)

\_\_\_ Family (\$25.00 per year)

\_\_\_ Other



**Pilchuck Audubon Society**

P.O. Box 1618, Everett, Washington 98206

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Marysville, WA 98270  
Permit #66

Address Correction Requested

98204-13  
Gerald A. McKnight  
3526 - 113 Pl. S.E.  
Everett, WA 98204

4-81

TIME VALUE MATERIAL