

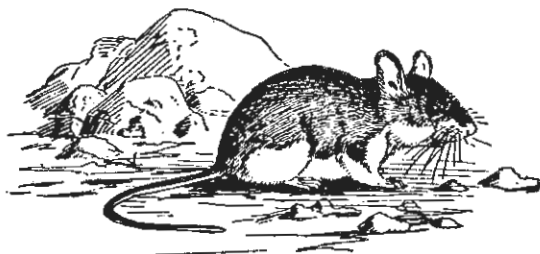
Pilchuck Audubon Profile

September 1981

Volume X No. 1

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 12, Saturday - Field trip to Deception Pass, Penn Cove, and Crockett Lake. Meet 9:00 a.m. at Bank Building at Smokey Point Exit 206 on I-5 or at 10:30 a.m. at far south end of Deception Pass Bridge in Parking Lot. Expect to see migrating shorebirds, waterfowl, and raptors. Bring a sack lunch. Leader: Steve Loerch 659-6901. POTLUCK will follow at KC & Dorothea Jones, 1265 Halsey Dr., Admiral's Cove.
- September 18, Friday - REGULAR MEETING. Bob Watson of the Washington Department of Game, Program Manager for Citizen's Wildlife Heritage Program, will speak about the program and our involvement with it. 7:30 p.m. in room 308 at Everett Community College.
- September 26, Saturday - Field trip to Lake Tennant near Bellingham. Meet at 9:00a.m. at the Bank Building at Smokey Point Exit 206 on I-5 or at 9:45 a.m. near the north side of Sears at Skagit Valley Mall in Mount Vernon. Enjoy a short walk on boardwalk over marsh and along lake shore. Bring a sack lunch. Leader: Steve Loerch.
- October 4, Sunday - Field trip to Snoqualmie Wildlife Recreational Area. Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Monroe Safeway. Look hike around the lake, a level 1½ miles. Should see waterfowl and songbirds and enjoy a pleasant walk. Leader Steve Loerch.
- October 16, Friday - REGULAR MEETING. Speaker to be announced. 7:30 pm at Everett Community College, Room 308.
- October 24, Saturday - Fieldtrip to Deering Wildflower Acres and Jennings Park. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Jennings Park. Two quiet walks through the woods. Should see songbirds, possibly waterfowl, and fall colors. Bring a sack lunch. Leader: Sally and Jan van Niel, 778-7568



White-footed mouse



Field Trip Reports:

Foul Weather Bluff

Three osprey nestlings (or were they two adults and one young?) were the highlight of the PAS field trip to Foul Weather Bluff on August 8. With the help of a scope we were able to see facial patterns and movements clearly. Two of the birds were seen later flying from the nest while one remained. On previous visits to this Hood Canal Conservancy birders had seen the nest atop a bare tree in the woods northeast of the marsh, but it was not occupied.

Other treats which the small group of seven enjoyed were a flock of about 150 Bonaparte gulls and two mystery birds, as yet unidentified. Hans Falk took several pictures of the pair as they chased sand fleas along the beach so maybe someone will solve the mystery when Hans shows his slides. The birds were brown and gold striped, smaller than a robin, and had a finch-like profile, and walked rather than hopping. After much page flipping in Peterson's Field Guide, Birds of North America and others, everyone discarded the first impression that they were water pipits, declared themselves amateurs, and gave up the search.

Other species seen on the trip were eared grebes, Cassin's auklet, cinnamon teal, gadwalls, scoters, shovelers, and about a dozen great blue herons around the marsh area. Evan Lucas led the caravan by ferry to the conservancy site.

Sauk Mountain

Ten people participated on the field trip to Sauk Mountain. Everyone was hopeful that the overcast skies would clear for our hike; it was still cloudy when we arrived at the trailhead, but the weather was soon forgotten. We were all overwhelmed by the beautiful display of wildflowers. Many species were seen including columbine, Columbia lily, Avalanche and Glacier lilies, Cat's ear, lupine, several phlox and sedum species. Near the summit of the mountain, we watched several marmots playing. Although Mount Baker never revealed herself, on the way back to the car we glimpsed the Skagit and Sauk rivers through the fog.

PILCHUCK AUDUBON & THE PARK

Pilchuck Audubon participated in this year's People in the Parks celebration at Forest Park in Everett. The weather was very cooperative and many people dropped by our booth. Many copies of Audubon Magazine's Mount St. Helen issue were given away. We would like to thank Nancy Wahl, Judy Atkins, and Eileen Loerch who helped at the booth.



Mountain Beaver
cutting twigs

LORD'S HILL

The Lord's Hill Committee has been meeting to try to develop a plan for the use of Lord's Hill. The committee is trying to come up with a plan that will allow logging, quarrying, hiking, and horseback riding to occur in a compatible manner. Representatives on the committee are from the Coalition of Homeowners in the area, Dept. of Natural Resources, Pilchuck Audubon, Horsemen Club, the quarry operator, and the Snohomish County Park Department. For further information contact Sally van Niel at 778-7568.

HISTORICAL NOTES

An accomplishment of the Red-throated Loon.-- While on the southern end of Puget Sound in November and December, 1914, and particularly on Oyster Bay, Washington, the writer had opportunity of making observations on the Red-throated Loon (Gavia stellata). This small Loon is noticeably handier on the wing than G. imber (sic) (Common Loon), but differs especially from that species in its ability to get under way from a position in the water. When the waves are rolling it must splatter through the crests of a number of them before it gets clear, but from still water the Red-throated Loon can spring into the air and proceed directly into normal flight, an accomplishment in striking contrast to the limitations tradition ascribes to powers of flight in the Loon kind. W.L. McAtee, Washington, D.C.

(editors note: this article appeared in The Auk in 1916)

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome these new members to Pilchuck Audubon:

Everett- Carol Davis, C.E. WNordlund, Merle Gors, Henry Kral, Ruth Baggett, Florence Johnson, Mrs. Dorothy Schardt & Family, Mr. & Mrs. Schwesinger, Franz Beilfus, Carl Carlson, Kenneth Grant, Donna Wojahn, Rosemary O'Hara

Arlington- Dorothy Webb, Terri Spencer & Family, Mary Carmichael

Mountlake Terrace- Erin Lane, Alice Pistole

Lynnwood- Anne Gordon, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Achoenholtz

Snohomish- Joyce Borden & Family, Eileen Younkin, M. Fulerson, L. Gosting & Family, K.L. Neal

Stanwood- Jack Raidy, Margaret Buse

Edmonds- Helen Moore

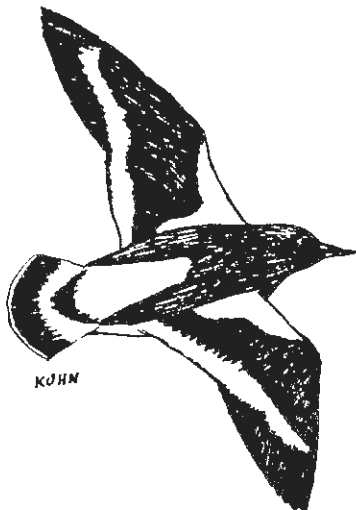
Marysville- R.E. Anderson, H. Odell

Mukilteo- Mr. & Mrs. M.J. Daffron

Startup- Cleda Johnson

Charles Woodley of Everett and Robert & Jan Richards of Snohomish transferred into our chapter.

Remember - information to be included in the next newsletter must be received by the first Monday of each month.



Who's going to tell the little green frog
pulsing his heart out in the bog
that Lots 6-10 were purchased by Fogg
Industrial Engineers?

And who's going to warn the meadowlark
flaming with song on the mossy bark
that the dozers will come in the pre-dawn dark
shedding their crocodile tears?

And who will enlighten the small gray fox;
his den will be bartered for pink cement blocks
and paths made of steel in labyrinth walks
will climb to the sky?

And who'll tell the chipmunks, squirrels and bees
that buildings grow taller than cottonwood trees
and the whole earth will tremble and fall on
its knees?

Not I. Not I.

by Betty Cornwall

WILD BOAR RELEASE THREATENS WILDLIFE, LIVESTOCK

The recent introduction of wild boar into Whatcom and Skagit counties endangers the health and habitat of native wildlife and domestic livestock. Washington Department of Game biologists speculate that private citizens illegally released the wild boar into the area sometime between late February and mid-March. They are conducting investigations to determine the number and distribution of the wild pigs, and they are asking for public support in reporting boar sightings.

Officials fear that the boar may damage habitat and spread disease among deer, elk, bear and dairy cattle if they are allowed to gain a foothold in Washington. The wild boar has been identified as a carrier of brucellosis, hog cholera, leptospirosis, and other diseases that may affect big game. In addition to their potential for introducing and transmitting disease, wild boar are voracious feeders that can devour a wide variety of food sources, including big game forage, agricultural products, and newly planted tree seedlings.

The wild boar is not one of the 640 recognized species of wildlife native to Washington state, and it is not classified as a game animal. The unauthorized introduction of wildlife to Washington is a criminal violation. Game Department officials also pointed out that persons responsible for releasing the boar here may also face civil claims and penalties for damage resulting from the boar's introduction to the state.

Game Department personnel verified the presence of the wild boar here last month, when field agents picked up two animals south of Bellingham for specimen analysis. The animals were not infected with brucellosis, but officials pointed out that based on test results from just two animals, they cannot rule out the possibility that other boar may carry the disease. They expressed a fear that the boar may pick up the disease from cattle in the area. Last year Whatcom County dairy herdsman suffered an estimated \$1 million in losses from brucellosis.

With the verified presence of wild boar in the state, Game Department officials have initiated a campaign to eliminate the entire wild boar population with the help of the general public and organized sports groups.

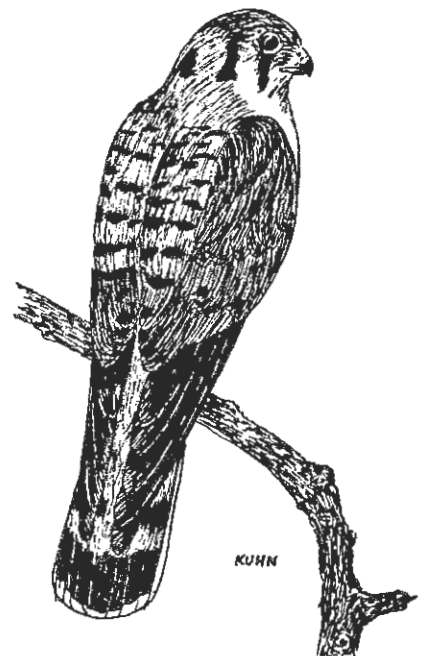
COALITION FOR WASHINGTON'S FISH AND WILDLIFE

The Coalition is composed of members from the Audubon Society, Washington State Sportsmen's Council, Federation of Fly Fishermen, Washington Environmental Council, Washington Resorts and Private Parks Association. The goal is to seek adequate funding for Washington fish and wildlife programs and habitat.

Some of the fish and wildlife problems are:

- 1) losing fish and wildlife habitat: from 1971-77 the state has lost 869 miles of irreplaceable habitat--to port expansion, landfills, and flood control.
- 2) recreation demand is far outstripping supply: number of wildlife appreciation days is up 267% from 1965-75.
- 3) the Department of Game is trying to meet the fish and wildlife needs of the 80's with less buying power than it had in 1950--there are 57 positions cut and the Mt. Vernon District office has been closed.

For further information (and donations are needed) contact the Coalition, Box 58842, Seattle, WA 98188.



Opposition Mounts as MX Approaches Showdown

Opposition to the Air Force's \$40 billion plan for deploying the MX missile in Nevada and Utah has been developing momentum since the Mormon church came out against it last month. Both governors—one a Republican, the other a Democrat—want no part of it. A lawsuit has been mounted by a bipartisan group, including legislators from both states. Public opinion polls in the area are running heavily against the plan. And in Washington this month the House voted to postpone expenditure of further MX construction funds.

The MX proposal (see *Leader*, 1/16/81) has been revised in some ways, but it remains a gargantuan shell game to keep the enemy guessing. Two hundred nuclear-tipped MX missiles could be hidden in any of 4,600 shelters along a network of roadways that would stretch more than halfway across Nevada and deep into Utah. The blue-ribbon MX review panel appointed by President Reagan is scheduled to make its recommendation July 1st and the president expects to decide the fate of the proposal later in the month.

Church groups are concerned both about nuclear armaments and the social upheaval that would result from the influx of thousands of construction workers and military personnel into the sparsely populated state. An increasing number of military experts question the underlying concept and the system's exorbitant cost. Local residents don't like the idea of becoming an international target and having mobile nuclear weapons in the neighborhood. National Audubon Society, in its comments on the Air Force's environmental impact statement, stressed the damage the system would cause to wildlife, particularly its effects on the groundwater table. The Audubon statement noted that the Air Force had little to say about the kit fox, antelope, sage grouse, and other desert species, except a vague claim that "adverse habitat impacts" would be minimized.

BIRD SIGHTINGS

Migration time is upon us again as evidenced by the shorebirds beginning to show up along the shores. At Penn Cove 50 surfbirds and ruddy and black turnstones were seen by the Loerchs. And numerous other sightings of dowitchers, turnstones, and sandpipers have been reported from Island and Snohomish counties. At the Pilchuck Tree Farm Nancy Buell saw 2 great blue heron. The Loerch's saw 8 osprey on Fidalgo Island. Near Smuggler's Cove, the Kenyon's saw 15 killer whales and 1 pilot whale.

'We've got to get started with our protest before they even THINK of icebergs'

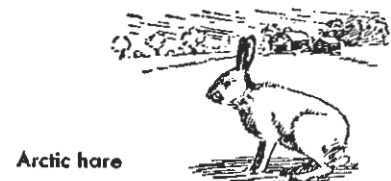


Tours and Seminars

Two field seminars are being offered by the Rocky Mountain Region of the NAS. The field seminars provide an opportunity to explore a special interest subject area, learn about that area while touring, and to share the experience with like-minded people. The tours are to:

- 1) Ornithology Field Tour- Colima, Mexico
November 22-December 1, 1981
- 2) Winter Ecology-Ski Tour-Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming
January 9-15, 1982

For information and details of cost, etc. call Martha Jordan, 775-0137.



Voluntary Vehicle Inspection Program Begins

Beginning July 18, the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) is offering free emission tests for cars on **Saturdays** at four locations around the greater Seattle metropolitan area. The free tests are being offered to acquaint area drivers with the type of emission testing that will become mandatory on January 2, 1982 when the state's vehicle emission inspection and maintenance (I/M) program begins. The free tests are informational only; no penalties will be assessed for vehicles failing.

Where to get your car tested

Saturday test sites will include Northgate shopping center (the south parking lot), the Southcenter Union 76 station, the Overlake branch of Sea-First National Bank (Redmond), and Pacific First Federal Savings at Alderwood Mall (Lynnwood).

Need for I/M program

Federal law requires a motor vehicle emission inspection and maintenance program (I/M) in areas that exceed carbon monoxide and ozone standards. The greater Seattle area exceeds health standards for both these pollutants, largely due to the automobile. I/M has been shown to be the most effective control measure for reducing emissions from in-use vehicles.

How the Washington program will operate

As of January 2, 1982, vehicles

registered in the emission inspection area must be tested every year. Vehicle owners in the inspection area will receive a notice reminding them of the emission testing requirements 90 days before their vehicle's license expires. During the 90-day period the owner must have the vehicle tested at one of six test stations. The test fee is \$10.00, which includes a free retest for vehicles failing the first test.

Vehicles will be tested for both hydrocarbons (HC) and carbon monoxide (CO). The test itself will take only about three minutes. Those failing must be repaired or adjusted and retested. (Most cars failing the test will require only a simple carburetor adjustment to come into compliance with the emission standards). If a vehicle still fails

From: Clean Air Project
July-August 1981

the test after repairs have been performed, the owner can request a waiver (enabling the registration to be renewed) provided at least \$50 is spent on repairs or parts in attempting to meet the emission standards. In I/M programs operating in other states, the average cost for necessary repairs or adjustments is less than \$35.00.

Emission Reduction Benefits

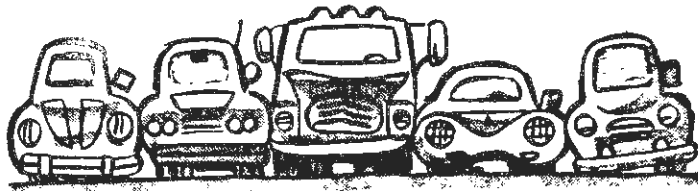
Other states have found that I/M successfully reduces pollutants from exhaust emissions. In Portland, Oregon, which has had an I/M program since 1975, vehicles emit 20% less hydrocarbons and 36% less carbon monoxide than similar vehicles in Eugene, Oregon, which does not have an I/M program. In New Jersey ambient concentrations of CO were reduced by 40% since 1974 as a result of the I/M program and the increasingly stringent new car emission standards. In Arizona, the emissions of vehicles tested were reduced 40% for hydrocarbons and 25% for carbon monoxide after the first year I/M became mandatory.

Fuel economy benefits

Although individual motorists may not notice a drastic improvement in fuel economy, maintenance performed as a result of Washington's I/M program may reduce fuel consumption. Studies have shown that maintenance performed to manufacturer's specifications can result in an average fuel economy improvement of 3% to 4%.

Further information

For more information about the I/M program, contact the Washington Department of Ecology at (206) 753-4228.



TRAPPING OF CALIFORNIA CONDORS TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

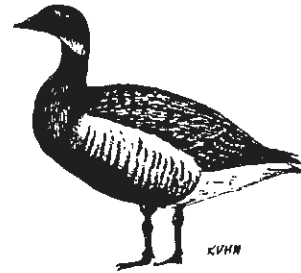
The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will begin trapping California condors in early September as the start of a "last ditch" captive breeding and research program designed to save the endangered bird. Initially only two condors will be captured and fitted with radio transmitters. Each will be released and then carefully monitored before permission is sought from the California Fish and Game Commission to capture additional condors.

The CF&G Commission unanimously approved a permit authorizing the capture and handling this season of a maximum of nine condors for captive breeding, radio telemetry, and other research purposes. Three of these birds will be kept in captivity as breeding stock, including one as a mate for Topa-topa, the only condor presently in captivity.

Fewer than 30 of the giant vultures are thought to remain in the rugged mountainous terrain some 70 miles north of Los Angeles. With a 9-foot wing span, the condor is one of the country's largest birds and also one of the slowest to reproduce in the wild, laying only one egg every two years. Experts estimate the condor population has declined steadily by about 2.5 birds a year since 1966. Unless this trend is reversed the condor could become extinct within the next decade and could be functionally extinct before then. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will continue to work closely with California wildlife officials and all those who are concerned with saving this majestic bird for future generations.

STATE AUDUBON CONFERENCE

October 9-11 is the semi-annual conference of Washington chapters of Audubon. It is held in Ellensburg. Anyone wishing to attend is welcome and encouraged to do so. Please call Sally van Niel for details and cost (nominal). 778-7568.



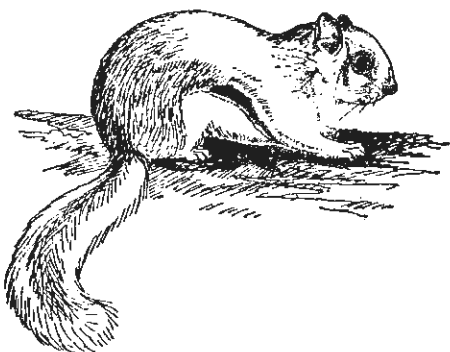
TRUMPETER FAIR - a salvaging operation

This coming spring (1982) Pilchuck Audubon will be presenting to the public the first recycling fair, plant and bake sale. We need the help of all 400 of our 380 members. What, where, when and how? Come! join the select group, remember only 400 openings, and help decide. In the meantime, canvas your garden, select and pot up those exotics and other goodies to donate to the Barney Lake Cause.

(All money will be for the preservation of Barney Lake habitat for Trumpeter Swans)

Ask your friends and neighbors to save those recyclable goodies for Audubon. You may not even know what it is but someone else does and may buy it. A cord, a cord of wood, five yards of sawdust, a boot scraper, a doorknocker, two pieces of hardwood flooring, a mulberry tree. What do you have?

To volunteer, call, write, or beat a path to see Kurt Howard. 652-9619, 7207 Lakewood Road, Stanwood, WA 98292.



Flying Squirrel



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To subscribe to the Profile, send \$5.00 to Pilchuck Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1618, Everett, WA 98206.
(If you would like first class postage, send \$2.00 to PAS. This applies to all members)

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

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

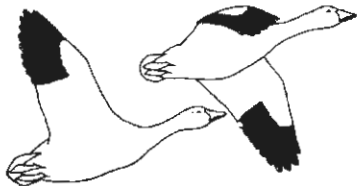
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