

Pilchuck Audubon Profile

OCTOBER 1982

VOLUME XI NUMBER 2

PILCHUCK AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 2nd, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: LAKE TENNANT

Leader: Steve Loerch, 659-6901. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the bank building at Smokey Point exit 206 off I-5. Enjoy a walk along a picturesque boardwalk, over a marsh, and beside the lake shore. Bring a sack lunch.

OCTOBER 9th, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: BIRD WALK

Leader: Steve Howard, 652-6481. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Coast to Coast store in Frontier Village on Highway 9. Enjoy a unique opportunity to walk around privately owned Ricvil farm, which is bordered by the Snohomish River and a pond. A trip to the Snohomish sewage lagoon will follow. Expect to see migrating songbirds and waterfowl. Bring boots, coat, binoculars, and a sack lunch.

OCTOBER 15th, FRIDAY

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING

Everett Community College, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 605. Leonard Steiner will present his slide program, "A Kenyan Camera Safari." Mr. Steiner, a talented amateur photographer, traveled through Kenya photographing the wildlife, scenery, and the Samburu and Masai natives of Kenya. He journeyed through the Serengeti Plains, the Rift Valley, and Tsavo Park. He visited Mount Kilaminjaro and ended his tour on the Indian Ocean coast. His one and one half hour program offers an excellent opportunity for the armchair traveler to "visit" Kenya and get a feeling for the country, its wildlife, and its culture.

OCTOBER 25th, MONDAY

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Meet at 7:30 p.m. in the board room of Cascade Savings and Loan Assn., 2828 Colby, Everett. All board meetings are open to PAS members. Come and see what we do.

OCTOBER 30th, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: WASHINGTON PARK

Leader: Steve Loerch, 659-6901. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the bank building at Smokey Point exit 206 off I-5. Shoreline and saltwater birds will be seen in this driving tour of the Anacortes area. Washington Park, with its rocky shores, will offer harlequin ducks, possibly black oystercatchers, and lovely views of the San Juan Islands across Rosario Strait. Blue herons, kingfishers, western grebes, brant and rafts of loons will probably be seen at March Point. Bring binoculars, warm clothes, and lunch.

NOVEMBER 7th, SUNDAY

FIELD TRIP: MOUNTLAKE HILL

Leader: Steve Loerch, 659-6901. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Old National Bank parking lot (corner of 196th and 44th Street SW, Lynnwood). A "hot spot" in Seattle for birds and birders!!! More information next month.

NOVEMBER 19th, FRIDAY

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING

Everett Community College at 7:30 in Room 605. "Project Babe", a slide show and lecture on Woodland Park Zoo's project to treat injured eagles and return them to the wild and the research connected with the project.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A strong resolution to understand the needs of the chapter's members marked an all day meeting of the Board of Directors of Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS).

For the coming year the major priority will be to learn more about the members of PAS. To help the Board learn of your needs and wants, please ask yourself these questions:

What is it you like about Audubon?

What can be improved?

How can we better serve you as an Audubon member?

Are you someone who supports our purpose and endeavors but just doesn't have time to become involved?

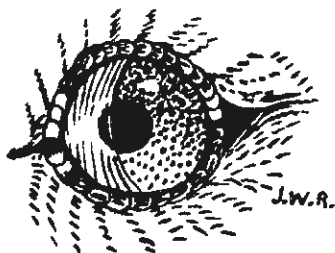
Can we do more for you - or just leave you alone?

During the next several months we hope to be able to get feedback on these questions from many of our members, notably those we don't normally see at our activities. Please share your thoughts on these points with us.

Thank you.

Jan van Niel

THE NICTITATING MEMBRANE is a third lid that lies under a bird's eyelid. Most birds blink, clean and moisten their eyes by drawing the thin, transparent nictitating membrane across the eye. This membrane especially protects the bird's eyes from drying air currents in flight. Some diving water birds have a clear, lenslike window in the nictitating membrane that bends light rays and adjusts the bird's vision for seeing underwater.



nictitating
membrane

A DAY AT LAKE CHAPLAIN

By Paula Wellnitz, Member

After the quarter mile walk in the cool shadow of the trees and hill, I rounded the curve to see the sunlit blue of Lake Chaplain stretching out its two mile length. From the flat meadow/marsh area at the north end of the lake a great blue heron rose screaming. As I watched him fly away a small northwestern crow flew to a perch on a dead tree limb.

The cry of loons gave away the identity of three birds splashing half way down the lake. Later I was able to see them, probably a mother and her two almost grown babies, following each other.

The sun was hot on the road along the lake but the cool green of trees reached to the road and to the lake on the other side. White capped mountains filled the gap between the green hills at the south end of the lake.

On top of the only rise in the road a grey bird that looked a lot like a robin but acted a little differently flew down and crossed the road. Later I decided it was a solitary vireo.

The caretaker told me of an osprey nest with two young. I found it but only saw one peer over the edge.

I stopped to pick some Salmon berries at the edge of the trees. Deer tracks were everywhere in the mud. Suddenly I noticed a young deer with small velvet bumps browsing at the edge of the lake. He continued unafraid for about 15 minutes.

When I was almost back to the north end of the lake two loons came over and hooted their farewell.

A P.S. is that the next week an osprey appeared at the little lake on the farm where I live. Was he paying a return visit? It is just a few miles away from Lake Chaplain.

Editor's note. Lake Chaplain is located about six miles due north of Sultan. For access drive about 2.5 miles southeast of Roesiger Lake. See Forest Service map for details. Some roads may be closed due to construction.

NAME CHANGE Our Whistling Swan (which never did whistle) is lumped with the Eurasian Bewick's Swan as the Tundra Swan.

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENT
STRATEGY AD HOC COMMITTEE**

At the request of the Snohomish County Council, a special committee was established to study the basic problems and needs of the County Road System. Suggestions for raising funds for a more adequate system and the development of a procedural strategy would form the basis of a road ordinance for the county.

Putting it simply, the County just does not have enough money to maintain the current road system. Nor does it have enough money to build any new roads in areas where the roads are definitely needed. This is due to a variety of factors. The 106 per cent levy lid restricts the amount of money that the County can spend to 6 per cent over the previous year. This does not mean that your taxes can only increase by 6 per cent as some of you are aware. With inflation having been around 12 per cent for several years, this has created a problem.

In addition, some of the money from the Road Fund has been diverted to the Sheriff's Office to be used there.

And as the county population has continued to grow, there is additional stress on the roads that weren't built to handle that much traffic.

So---some questions the committee will address are:

What level of service is required?

How do we get more money to maintain roads?

Where do we need to build roads to handle growth?

How will these roads impact the state highway system?

The committee is composed of many of the largest developers in the county, and four members representing citizens and environmental groups.

For further information, call Sally van Niel, 778-7568.

A unique **WILDLIFE ART EXHIBIT** including many species that are considered "ENDANGERED AND THREATENED" by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior will open on October 6 and continue through October 31 at the Golden Gallery, 1st & B (Marks Building), Snohomish.

MOUNT ST. HELENS

President Reagan's signature on the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument bill brought favorable agreement from the Weyerhaeuser Co. and the Seattle Sierra Club.

The measure was the first major environmentally-oriented public lands legislation approved by Congress in the 20 months since Republicans took control of the Senate and Reagan took office.

The 110,000 acre research, education and recreation area will protect the crater, Spirit Lake, the pyroclastic flow on the volcano's north face, new lakes on Castle and Coldwater creeks and most of the flow of mud and debris on the North Fork of the Toutle River.

APPOINTMENT Beth Huning has been named as new director for National Audubon Society's Western Education Center and Richardson Bay Sanctuary. Beth's responsibilities for the overall management and protection of the center and sanctuary include helping in the implementation of NAS education efforts in the Western Region and developing strong local programs in environmental education for use at the center and throughout the region.

TREASURER'S REPORT As of 09-20-82 our operations fund account balance was \$1257.57. Our savings account balance (funds with expenditure restrictions) was \$824.67.

Portland Audubon's **HAWAIIAN EXPEDITION** for 1983 will be February 12th to 26th. You will walk across lava flows just a few years old, explore cloud forests, deserts, alpine areas, swamps and beaches. You will visit Kilauea Volcano and Haleakala National Parks and the City of Refuge National Historic Park. Estimated cost is \$1290 which includes both air and ground transportation, hotels, and some box lunches. The air carrier (Northwest Airlines) leaves from either Portland or Seattle. The trip is limited to 15 persons. For additional information write to David Anderson, 2703 SE Belmont, Portland, OR 97214 or call Marianne McKnight, 337-4777.

BALD EAGLE RESTORATION

By Gary Wold, Member

My annual fishing trip to Juneau this year held an unexpected surprise.

For those of you who know the Juneau area or have the charts; we fished the Taku Inlet, outer point of Douglas Island, South Shelter Island, Point Retreat, Chatham Straits, and Icy Straits. We caught rock fish, Ling Cod, Halibut, King and Pink Salmon.

Much of the time we found ourselves watching the Bald Eagles and the whales (shy to powerboats). Each evening we found a small cove or anchorage, and sometimes rowed into the beach to search for eagle feathers on the ground and to cook the fresh caught fish over a beachwood fire.

One evening we came into an isolated anchorage named Funter Bay, the site of an abandoned cannery now occupied by a lone caretaker and an occasional visitor. As we approached the old docks, I noticed a large boat moored. It was the Fish & Wildlife Service 50 foot boat, the "Surfbird." As we edged in closer to tie up, I spotted a number of yellow crates on the Surfbird's bow clearly marked in large blue print, "Caution Live Bald Eagle." I counted 21 crates all with large air passage holes.

The crew of the Surfbird came out to meet us, and I took this opportunity to ask about the "Live Eagle Crates." They explained they had arrived in Alaska five days before from New York state. Two men were employees of New York's Wildlife Department and the third man was a professional climber. They had come to Alaska to capture 21 unfledged Bald Eagles and return with them to New York.

Here was a Bald Eagle restoration program in progress. I immediately asked, "When is feeding time, I would like to see the birds?" That evening at 10 p.m. all the birds were removed from their crates and each crate was cleaned and relined. The eagles were then returned to their crates, each with a chunk of fish caught that day by the crew.

The eagles' capture began with aerial surveys along Chatham Strait and other selected areas. Climbers arrive by boat to retrieve the seven or eight week old eagles from their nests with no apparent threat from the parent birds. Within five or six days the birds are on their

way to New York aboard a chartered jet (\$17,000 per flight), where a hacking (falconry technique) process begins.

In the hacking process the nestling eagles are placed in artificial nests, within individual cages atop 35 foot high towers. The birds are fed fish and small mammals by hidden human caretakers until they are ready to fledge at approximately 12 weeks of age. Feeding is done in such a way that the eagles do not associate people with their food source. During their time in the towers the birds orient themselves to their surrounding; hopefully they come to recognize New York as their home.

When the eagles begin to exercise their wings, the cage doors are removed and the eagles are allowed to fledge on their own. Before their release, each bird is given an individual wing marker and band for future identification.

Once the eagles have fledged, food must still be provided on the towers, for until immature eagles learn to hunt on their own they will return to the tower to feed. To monitor the bird's well-being, radio transmitters are attached to a central tail feather which drops off with molting. At 20 weeks of age the birds can provide for themselves and soon after leave their release area. The eagles appear to wander many miles; one from a previous New York release was spotted in Alabama. Generally, mature birds (four or five years old) return to their home area.

The New York State Wildlife Department managers see a bright future for eagles in their state. Apparently New York State has many areas of suitable nesting habitat and levels of contaminants such as DDT are declining. Their ten year program (1976-1986) hopes to establish 40 nesting pairs of Bald Eagles by the early 1990s.

Southeast Alaska has an estimated 30,000 Bald Eagles; 20,000 of them are breeding pairs. I guess they can spare a few for New York.

THANK YOU FROM NAS ARK A very nice letter was received from Edward McCain thanking PAS for our help in making the Ark's visit here a success. He was impressed with our hospitality and enthusiasm for the Audubon Cause. Let's keep up the good work.

Kid's Corner



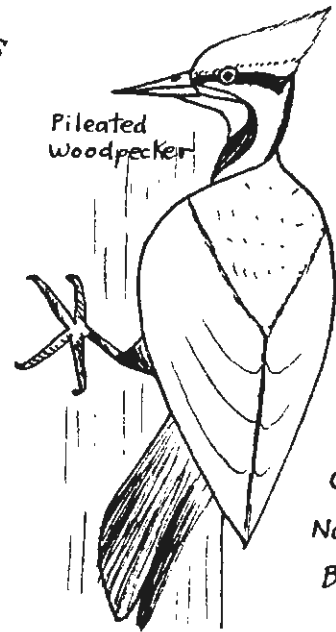
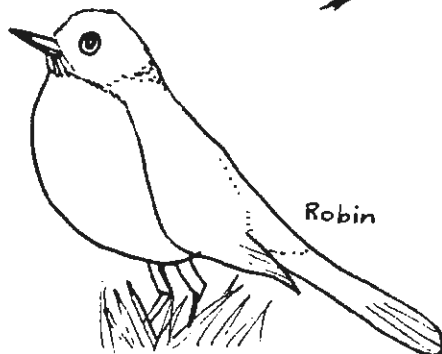
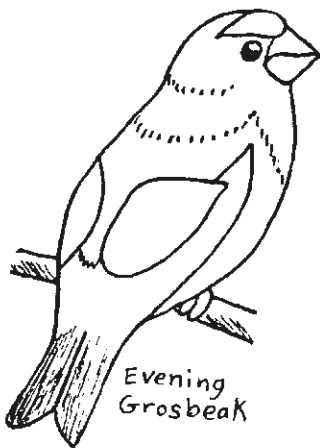
CONCERN FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT - BIRDS AS MONITORS

Our concern for our environment increases every day as man exploits it. Birds are noticeable and mobile creatures in the environment, like monitors, revealing to us the effects and consequences.

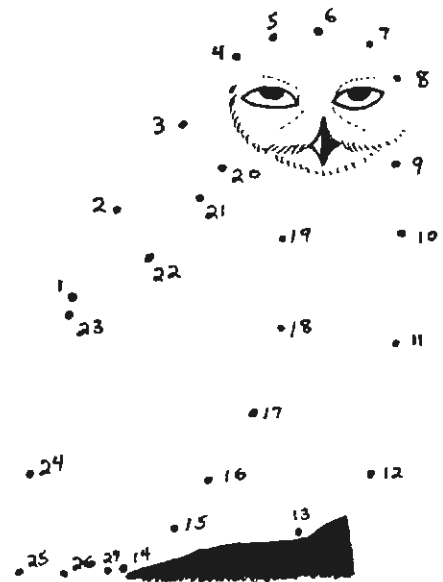
THE IMPORTANCE OF VARIETIES OF HABITATS

Why does any bird live where it does? Because each bird species finds in its own habitat what it needs for its existence. The materials and places for building nests, enough food, a good climate with the proper range of temperature, humidity and light are all important in deciding in which habitat a bird can live.

The habitat is a bird's address and the niche is its profession. A bird's niche depends on its activities--whether it forages for food in trees or on the ground, whether it feeds during the day or at night, and its nest material preferences--bark, leaves, grasses, or weed stalks. Every bird has different needs that decide where they can and cannot live.



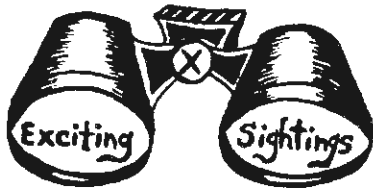
Colorful Northwest Birds



MATCH THESE BIRDS WITH THE HABITAT IN WHICH THEY ARE MOST COMMONLY FOUND:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Rock Dove | Marsh |
| Great Blue Heron | Forest |
| Sage Grouse | Sea |
| Tufted Puffin | City |
| Spotted Owl | Open Fields |
| Western Meadowlark | Desert |

Color Us



Aug. 7 Just east of the Mazama turnoff several hundred adult and immature **VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOWS** were observed sitting on the telephone wires. This behavior was believed to be staging for migration. (Terri Spencer, Steve Howard)

Aug. 13 A salt marsh at Ocean Shores revealed **LEAST SANDPIPERS**, one lone **BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER** and several **SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS**. **CASPIAN TERNS** were noticed to be more common than the gulls. **BLACK TURNSTONES**, **WANDERING TATTLERS**, **SANDERLINGS**, **BRANDT'S** and **DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS**, **SURF SCOTERS** and a "raft" of **ARTIC LOONS** were seen. (Terri Spencer, Steve Howard)

Aug. 18 Hans Falk sighted a **TURKEY VULTURE** flying over his home on East Hewitt.

Aug. 28 A busy day for bird sighting. A **RED-EYED VIREO** was seen by Jan Richards at her residence in the Dubuque area. A **COOPER'S HAWK** was seen flying over I-5 near the Hewitt Avenue Trestle. Discovery Park had several immature **ROBINS**, **BEWICK'S WREN**, two **BROWN CREEPERS**, two **STELLER JAYS**, many **BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES**, and some **GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS** in residence. (T. Spencer, S. Howard)

Aug. 29 Two **RAVENS** were spotted at Jan Richards residence.

Sept. 3 A **TEMMINCK'S STINT** was spotted at Reifel Bird Sanctuary in British Columbia (PAS field trip on November 20th). This rare, small, sandpiper-like bird lives in Siberia and Southeast Asia. This was the first reported sighting in North America. (Seattle Times)

Sept. 4 On a ferry ride to San Juan Island three **BALD EAGLES**, an **OSPREY**, and many common **TERNS** were spotted. Approximately 18-24 **TURKEY VULTURES** were seen flying low enough to almost touch them. Vultures were abundant on the island. **VESPER**

SPARROWS, **WILD TURKEYS**, many **HAWKS** (mostly) **RED-TAIL**, an immature and an adult **BALD EAGLE**, and **VAUX'S SWIFTS** were spotted. At Griffin Bay on San Juan Island **COMMON LOONS**, **SURF SCOTERS**, **EARED** and **HORNED GREBES**, two **BELTED KINGFISHERS**, two **GREATER YELLOWLEGS**, and a **RED-TAILED HAWK** were seen. A **CALIFORNIA SEA LION** was people-watching from the water. (T. Spencer, S. Howard)

Sept. 6-10 Along the Chewack River near Winthrop a very large **BLACK BEAR** crossed the road in front of Steve and Eileen Loerch's van. On the same trip they heard **BARRED OWLS** and saw **PILEATED WOODPECKERS**. At the top of Hart's Pass they found themselves amongst a **WARBLER** migration with **YELLOW-RUMPED** and **TOWNSEND'S** being the most noticeable. Hundreds of **RED CROSSBILLS** were observed.

Sept. 8 At the Jordan Road Swinging Bridge near Arlington, 30-40 **CEDAR WAXWINGS** were observed feeding blackberries to their young. (Fred Bird)

Please report sightings to:

Terri Spencer/Steve Howard	652-6481
Fred Bird (Arlington Times)	435-5757
Jan Richards	334-2781
Seattle Audubon Hotline	1-642-2854

Or send your sightings to:

Terri Spencer/Steve Howard
2431 SR 530
Arlington, WA 98223

The **77th Annual Audubon Dinner** will be held at the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles on Thursday, November 4, 1982. The dinner will include an address by Russ Peterson, President of the National Audubon Society, the presentation of the Audubon Medal, and a special audio-visual presentation on Mono Lake by David Gaines. Reservations, which should be made before October 29, are \$30 per person. For more information, call Marianne McKnight, 337-4777.

NAME CHANGE The **Gray-headed Junco** joins the **Oregon**, **Slate-colored**, and **White-winged Juncos** as forms of the **Dark-eyed Junco**.

PAS BOARD BRIEFS
By Eileen Loerch, Reporter

GOOD NEWS - BREAZEALE
By Sally van Niel

The first PAS Board meeting of the year was held August 28th at Hal and Pauline Hanson's home. The all day session covered a variety of issues, including the accomplishments of the previous year and the goals for the coming year. The development of committee budgets was discussed, as was the continuing reorganization of the Board.

The Board decided on the following priorities for the coming year:

1. Discover who our members are and what they want from Pilchuck Audubon Society.
2. Establish a talent and resource bank.
3. Complete the Chapter Handbook.

The Board also took a stance on the Shoreline Management Act as follows: "The Pilchuck Audubon Society Board supports maintaining the integrity of the shorelines and their habitats as stated in the Shorelines Management Act."

Again thanks to the Hansons for their hospitality.

1982-83 PAS BOARD

PRESIDENT	Jan van Niel	778-7568
V. PRESIDENT	Curt Howard	652-9619
SECRETARY	Joyce Kelley	568-5974
TREASURER	Gerald McKnight	337-4777
CONSERVATION	Sally van Niel	778-7568
MEMBERSHIP	Marge Wiltfong	353-1847
EDUCATION	Eileen Loerch	659-6901
NEWSLETTER	Marianne McKnight	337-4777
FINANCE	Susie Schaefer	771-8165
FIELD TRIPS	Steve Loerch	659-6901

NEW SPECIES The Red-breasted Sapsucker has been separated from the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. This adds one species to the Washington State list, as the Red-breasted Sapsucker is resident west of the Cascades; the Red-naped race of the Yellow-bellied is common in summer east of the mountains.

Western and Eastern Screech-Owls are now two species, with very different calls and differently colored bills. They nest in company in Texas with only minor miscegenation.

Over 400 people attended the dedication of the Breazeale - Padilla Bay Interpretive Center. There were many speakers including Governor Spellman, Representative Al Swift, and Director of the Department of Ecology, Donald Moas. The highlight of the day was a historical perspective by Miss Edna Breazeale.

The Interpretive Center is approximately 96 per cent complete and has interpretive displays, research areas and a "hands-on" room. In addition, there are over two miles of trails though a variety of habitats including a grove of old growth cedar, an open field, and an area where field and conifers meet. The pond for waterfowl has been marked off but has not been started yet.

It is very exciting to see the successful completion of an environmental project with which one has been associated, especially in these times when the environment is not treated with care and so many battles have been lost.

To find the Center, continue on the Bayview - Edison Road north of Bayview State Park. You will be pleasantly surprised by the attractive sign and building.

BIRDATHON UPDATE

A new North American record for the number of bird species seen or heard in one day -- 235 was established by the national chairman, Roger Tory Peterson.

One hundred forty chapters participated in the birdathon, raising over \$113,000.

Our chapter raised a total of \$188.95, which is divided between the regional office, the national headquarters, and our chapter. Our share was \$62.98. Thanks to everyone who took part in this fun, money-making activity.

DO YOU KNOW what family of birds, widespread and common throughout most of the world, is absent from the Australian and Antarctic continents? Woodpeckers (lack of trees for survival).

BARN OWLS are birds of open country rather than woodlands. A barn owl has a light, silent, mothlike flight. Once these owls nested in hollow trees and caves, but like many birds, they have adapted to buildings as well. They are beneficial birds which locate their prey, mostly small rodents, by hearing at night. The oldest barn owl reported was 17 years, 10 months old in Holland. Barn owls themselves are occasionally the prey of great horned owls and prairie falcons. Owls are protected by law.



***** OCTOBER 20TH IS DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER *****

Please enroll me as a member of Pilchuck Audubon Society and National Audubon Society. I will receive the Pilchuck Audubon "PROFILE" and "AUDUBON" magazine for one year.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

For additional information contact Marge Wiltfong at 353-1847.

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

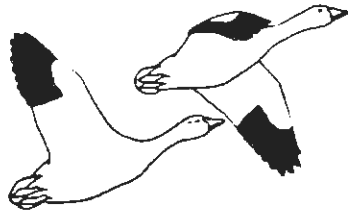
Check type of membership desired. Make your check payable to National Audubon Society and mail to Pilchuck Audubon Society, PO Box 1618, Everett, WA 98206.

<input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR CITIZEN INDIVIDUAL	\$17.00
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY	\$32.00	<input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR CITIZEN FAMILY	\$19.00
<input type="checkbox"/> SUSTAINING	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> SUPPORTING	\$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> CONTRIBUTING	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> DONOR	\$500.00	<input type="checkbox"/> LIFE	\$1500.00

"PROFILE" SUBSCRIPTION (Please make checks payable to Pilchuck Audubon Society)

Pilchuck Audubon Society

P.O. Box 1618, Everett, Washington 98206



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Gerald & Marianne McKnight
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Everett, WA

98204