

APRIL 1983

VOLUME XI NUMBER 8

PILCHUCK AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

APRIL 6th, WEDNESDAY

PROGRAM: MARINE MAMMALS

The location of the program "Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast including Everett Harbor's Sea Lions" has been changed to Legion Hall in Legion Park at 7:30 p.m.

APRIL 8th-10th, WEEKEND

ELLENSBURG MEETING: AUDUBON CHAPTERS

All members are encouraged to come to Ellensburg and meet with other Auduboners from around the state. For information contact Jan van Niel, 778-7568 or Marianne McKnight, 337-4777.

APRIL 15th, FRIDAY

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING

/erett Community College at 7:30 p.m. in room 605. "A Few Uncommon Wildflowers of Washington" will be the topic of April's meeting. The slide program will be presented by Grace Patrick, wildflower expert, photographer, and co-author of Washington Wildflowers.

APRIL 22nd, FRIDAY

PROGRAM: SHOREBIRD MIGRATION

Seattle Aquarium auditorium, 7:00 p.m., cost \$1.50. Hear Dr. Steven Herreman present a slide program about the spring shorebird migration in Grays harbor.

APRIL 22nd-24th, WEEKEND

FIELD TRIP: BOWERMAN BASIN

For more information, call Steve Loerch at 659-6901. If you wish to sponsor the field trip as part of the birdathon, call Marianne McKnight (337-4777).

APRIL 28th, THURSDAY

PROGRAM: LOWLAND WILDFLOWERS

Legion Hall in Legion Park, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Pilchuck Audubon and Everett Parks and Recreation Department will present "Lowland Wildflowers of Puget Sound". John Dickensheets, Pilchuck member, will present this educational slide show. The program is free and open to the public. Please register with Everett Parks. For information call 259-0311.

APRIL 30th, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: WASHINGTON PARK

Leader: Grace Patrick. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the bank building at Smokey point exit 206 off I-5. Grace Patrick, wildflower expert, will lead this trip to Washington Park in search of wildflowers. Washington Park's diverse habitat offers a wide variety of wildflowers. Calypso orchids, fawn lilies, goldenstars, and others may be seen. Because of its location in the Olympic's rain shadow, the park contins some flowers not seen in wetter areas of western Washington.

....Y 21st, SATURDAY

ANNUAL MEETING/FIELD TRIP/POTLUCK

Field trip to Deering Wildflower Acres and Snohomish Sewage Lagoon followed by a potluck supper at Jennings Park in Marysville. The annual meeting will follow the potluck supper.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

There are currently many issues of environmental concern going on in the county. The County Council passed a Nuclear Freeze Resolution after holding a set of hearings on the subject.

The hearings on the County Growth Manage-

ment Strategy are still in progress.

The hottest hearings at the moment are those concerning the selection of a new County Solid Waste Disposal Site. All of a sudden people have learned that there is a proposal to develop a garbage dump in their "own backyard", making many people very unhappy.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee is taking testimony at hearings throughout the county. This will help narrow the eight preliminary sites down to three for further

investigation.

Read the newspaper to become informed on these issues and to find out where and when the hearings are being held. Then go and voice your concerns and ideas. The more input given, the better the final decision.

Jan van Niel



19TH ANNUAL WENAS CAMPOUT

The Wenas campout which has become a nationally famous event will be held Memorial Day weekend, May 27th - 30th. It will begin this year with an evening camp-

fire program at 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

This is a family outing with something for everyone: field trips (all-day or half-day), early morning bird walks (5:30 a.m.), morning walks, afternoon walks, workshops, and evening campfire programs complete with songs and roasting marshmellows. Birds, wildflowers, mammals, trees, shrubs, butterflies, insects, and photography are featured in the activities.

A new attendance record was set last year with 310 persons enjoying the beautiful days and cool nights. The campground and park are very large and there is plenty of room. Wild country is within walking distance for birding, etc. Food and housing (trailers, tents, campers, etc.) must be brought. It is well to bring drinking water, though a good spring is available some distance up the canyon.

Further information along with driving instructions will be in May's Profile. If you want a tentative schedule of activities or more information, call Marianne McKnight (337-4777).

1983 BIRDATHON Keith Estes, Chairman

During the weekend of April 23-24, our chapter is conducting its own birdathon. Participants will search for as many bird species as they can find anywhere in one 24-hour period. Each participant goes into the field supported by one or more sponsors who pledge any amount they wish for each species identified. Anyone, as an individual or as part of a group, is eligible to take part. Participants need not be Audubon members.

As an alternative you can sponsor the field trip to Bowerman Basin on April 23rd. The species count in this case will be based on the total species seen by the field trip participants. To sign up as a group participant call Marianne McKnight.

Funds from the Birdathon will help sustain the environmental goals and conservation efforts to which Pilchuck Audubon is dedicated. Prizes will range from certificates to T-shirts. Categories include: Under 16: most species seen, most sponsors and Over 16: most species seen, most money raised, most money per species.

Sponsor sheets and additional information can be obtained at the April meeting or from any board member:

| PRESIDENT | Jan van Niel | 778 - 756 8 |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| V. PRESIDENT | Curt Howard | 652 - 961 9 |
| SECRETARY | Joyce Kelley | 568 - 5 9 74 |
| TREASURER | Gerald McKnight | 337-4777 |
| CONSERVATION | Sally van Niel | 77 8- 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 |

STATE SHOREBIRD MECCA THREATENED

Several years ago, Steve Herreman of Evergreen State College undertook a study of the shorebirds of Grays Harbor near Hoquiam. It was known that many shorebirds stopped at the harbor during migration. The extent of the use of the area by the birds proved staggering. His studies showed over a million shorebirds used the Grays Harbor mudflats as a rest stop. This could make Grays Harbor the most important stop on the west coast.

Within the harbor, Bowerman Basin, one small area of mudflat, proved to be particularly important. A half million shorebirds of over 20 different species gather in the basin, creating an awesome spectacle. The huge flocks darken the sky and the din of their peeping is an accompaniment to the activity of the birds. Peregrine falcons, which rely on the birds as food, streak after the flocks.

Unfortunately, Bowerman Basin suffers from a lack of publicity. Few people realize its importance to the birds. Partially because of this lack of public familiarity, the basin is threatened by development. A 500 acre fill to be used as an industrial park has been proposed. This would have a severe impact on the birds.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Bowerman Basin Management Plan should have been released. We hope to have information on the contents of the plan in an upcoming Profile.

Pilchuck Audubon is planning a field trip to Bowerman Basin April 22nd to 24th. If interested, contact Steve Loerch, 659-6901.



Feb. 16 A LEWIS' WOODPECKER was seen at Ebey's Landing near Coupeville. (Steven Howard)

Feb. 16 A flock of seven TOWNSEND'S WARBLERS (in breeding plumage) visited a Silver Lake yard along with some BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES and GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS. (Marianne McKnight)

Feb. 17 A possible GOLDEN EAGLE was seen flying over a house near Snohomish. (Noah Carraher)

Feb. 18 Two PILEATED WOODPECKERS were seen in the Forest Park area. (Vicki Lesh)

Feb. 18 Six COMMON MERGANSERS have been seen daily for 3-4 weeks on Steamboat Slough. (Lorena Havens, Carl Franz)

Feb. 27 First reported sighting of a VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW at the Skagit WRA Headquarters. (Terri Spencer, Steven Howard)

Feb. 28 An adult BALD EAGLE was observed on the Pilchuck River near the Dubuque Bridge keeping an eye on the beached, dead steelhead. (Gary Wold) Gary also reports continuous sightings of CANADA GEESE on the road between Seattle Hill Road and Murphy's Corner.

Late Feb. Virginia Eagleton writes that at her home near Stanwood she heard scratching then shrieking at her sliding glass door. She rushed to see what was going on and discovered a SHARP-SHINNED HAWK fighting it's reflection.

March 13 The first reported sighting of a RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD in a yard at Granite Falls. (Doris Hall)

March 13 A GOSHAWK and RED CROSSBILLS were seen on the Breazeale/Padilla Bay field trip. (Sally van Niel)

March 14 A BALD EAGLE was seen eyeballing ducks on Ebey Island. (Steven Howard)

March 15 Perched in a tree just north of the Everett Sewage Lagoon was a BALD EAGLE. (Terri Spencer)

Send your sightings to:

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

Phone your sightings to:

Terri Spencer/Steve Howard 652-6481 Fred Bird (Arlington Times) 435-5757 Jan Richards 334-2781

LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES

Bills had to pass out of committee by March 25th. If not passed by one house of the legislature (House or Senate) by March 31st. the bill is dead for this session.

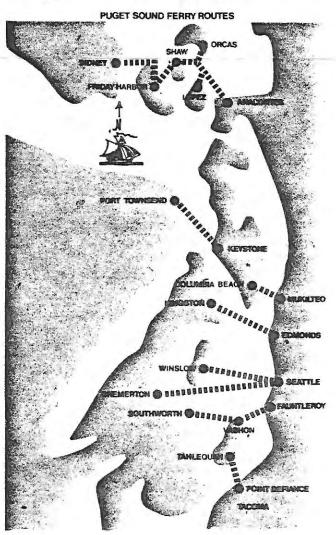
For information on bills that are still alive and action can be taken, contact Sally van Niel, 778-7568.

EXPLORING: WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES
By Steve Loerch

A rewarding but often overlooked family outing is a trip on one of the Washington State Ferries. Adults can watch the ever changing scenery and enjoy some leisurely bird watching. The kids will enjoy exploring the ferry and will be thrilled with the boat ride.

Winter, having the largest concentration of birds, is one of the best times for a trip. If the weather is nasty, you can stay dry and warm under cover. The cost of riding the ferry is lower and there is less traffic. You may see several different species of loons, including the rare yellowbilled loon. Grebes, alcids, and diving ducks are also present. If you are lucky, you may view a wintering peregrine falcon or bald eagle. Red-breasted mergansers and beautifully patterned old squaws may be seen. Winter is also the time to see the northern and California sea lions.

Summer has the most pleasant weather, but fewer numbers of birds. However, you have the opportunity to see the birds in their



breeding plumage including rhinoceros auklet, pigeon guillemot, and the clownish tufted puffin. Whales are more frequently seen in summer. The fortunate may see the secretive minke, the 45 foot long grey, of the 25 foot, 8 ton killer whale.

Fall and spring bring large numbers of migrants, including parasitic jaegers chasing common terns, and a variety of active shorebirds.

Although all the ferries have something to offer, a few have special interests. The San Juans are very enjoyable in all seasons. The scenery is spectacular and this is one of the more likely places to see whales and seals.

The Port Townsend ferry is especially good in the summer when sea birds nesting on Protection Island frequently feed in Admiralty Inlet.

The Mukilteo-Whidbey Island ferry route offers something different. Interesting birds congregate near both loading docks. In the winter, Barrow's goldeneye frequently feed near the Mukilteo dock, and blue heron and gulls are present year round. Around the Clinton dock, sea ducks congregate in winter, including white-winged and surf scoters and red-breasted mergansers.

Photographers have a unique opportunity to photograph gulls in flight. The gull frequently "slipstream" alongside the ferries, riding air currents created by the moving boat, often hanging nearly motionless in the air, making good subjects for a photograph. Sometimes they will catch pieces of bread thrown to them from the ferry.

Two publications will be useful if you would like to learn more about the birds and marine mammals of Puget Sound. "Guide to Wildlife Seen from Boats and Ferries in Puget Sound, Washington" by Katherine Hirsch contains a short narrative and a drawing of many of the birds and marine mammals of Puget Sound. The guide is free and may be obtained from the Washington Department of Game, Publications Division, 600 North Capital Way, Olympia, WA 98504.

The other publication is the recently published "Marine Birds and Mammals of Puget Sound" by Tony Angell and Kenneth C. Balcomb III. The excellent narrative discusses the status, distribution, food, and critical habitat of each species. Maps and charts in the appendix provide a wealth of information. It would be worth the price of the book just to see Mr. Angell's excellent drawings. The book should be available at most book stores.

C O M M O N M E R G A N S E R O W A E P O R A L A H P T E K R D O W I T C H E R E I S N R M U I D A E H D E R S N O T H O N E M A A L H J O A T R Y N R L P H A L S R E G E A J E R A I B U A I R O R I U I L L E N N T W F A T E R K P L E L T T F D G P F M O L A L E R O K R A N U T D I E W E O S B W C G I A D E O T N I E V O M L A K C U D D O O W G S E O I E L S C O T E R A C E O R G H G B K O S P R E Y L O O N A W S L H L B I T T E R N G N O R E H

| PINTAIL | SWAN |
|---------|--|
| WIGEON | HERON |
| OSPREY | TEAL |
| DUNLIN | SCAUP |
| PUFFIN | LOON |
| JAEGER | COOT |
| REDHEAD | G00SE |
| PLOVER | DUCK |
| BITTERN | SORA |
| GADWALL | KNOT |
| AUKLET | G00SE |
| SCOTER | |
| | WIGEON OSPREY DUNLIN PUFFIN JAEGER REDHEAD PLOVER BITTERN GADWALL AUKLET |

To find what these birds all have in common, cross out the hidden names. They may be read up, down, forward, backwards, or diagonally. Some may overlap. Use the left over letters to fill in the answer below.





WHY DO OWLS COME OUT AT NIGHT?



Most owls come out at night because the animals they hunt, such as mice and rats, come out after dark. Even though many owls are active at night, they can see just as well in the daylight. A few owls, such as the short-eared and the burrowing owl, are daytime hunters, also.

WHO KNOWS?

- 1. The owl cannot see during the daytime. True or false?
- 2. The owl is the wisest of all birds. True or false?
- 3. The "horns" of the great horned owl are really it's ears. True or False.

Answers:

1. False - all owls can see in the daytime. Some even hunt by daylight.

2. False - geese, crows, and ravens are smarter then owls.

3. False - the "horns" are simply tufts of feathers.

Pilchuck Audubon can get a 1% cash rebate on all purchases from OLSON'S FOOD STORES. The money will help to replenish the depleted general fund.

\$ \$ \$

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Send or give your cash register slips to Hal Hanson, 925 Walnut, Edmonds, WA 98020.

\$

PEREGRINE FALCON BEGINS COMEBACK

Good news for the endangered peregrine falcon. In Greenland, Alaska and Canada, peregrine populations have increased substantially since 1975. In Great Britain, a population that was reduced to 350 pairs in 1963 now includes more than 1,000 nesting pairs. The figures indicate that the bird is beginning to recover from the damaging effect of pesticides, according to Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology.

In the continental U.S., however, nesting peregrines remain severely reduced. No more than 5 to 10 percent of the original population remains. Key to peregrine recovery in the lower 48 are efforts to breed falcons in captivity for release to their natural habitat.

National Wildlife

TOUR TO SOUTHERN FLORIDA

Seattle Audubon Society is arranging an ecology tour of the southern part of Florida, including the northern Everglades National Park, NAS's famous Corkscrew Swamp Refuge, birding along the Keys and a flight to Dry Tortugas, famous for its rare birds. The group leaves Miami May 16th and returns May 23rd. For more information contact Seattle Audubon Society, 619 Joshua Green Building, Seattle, WA 98101 (206-622-6695) before April 12th.

ESTATE PLANNING Released by Helen Engle

An estate planning seminar organized by NAS was held on March 8th. Malcolm A. Moore, an estate planning specialist with Davis, Wright, Todd, Riese, and Jones of Seattle, spoke in easily understood language with clean simple examples.

NAS has a number of excellent deferred giving instruments available, including a Pooled Income Fund which gives donors an

immediate tax deduction. In the "fund" you are excused from paying capital gains taxes, and probably will actually increase your income.

The Audubon publications available in the estate planning area are Pooled Income Fund, Gifts of Land or Property, Wills, Annuities & Trusts, Gifts of Stock, and the March 8th Seminar Summary. To receive any or all of these, send a card to:

Doug Buckmaster, Director of Development National Audubon Society, Western Region 1414 Fair Oaks Avenue, #6 South Pasadena, CA 91030.

MOST DANGEROUS JOB

A policeman is attacked in an urban area, and a wildlife officer is assaulted on patrol. Which officer is in more danger? The wildlife officer is, according to a University of Wyoming study of assaults on lawenforcement officials nationally. In fact, the study found that assaults on wildlife officers are nine times more likely to be fatal than assaults on police officers.

The major difference is that wildlife officers deal with people who are usually armed, and are often in remote areas. Police are assaulted more often than wild life officers, but 80 percent of these assaults don't involve deadly weapons such as guns, knives and clubs. Many are just scuffles. In contrast, 80 percent of the assaults on wildlife officers involve firearms.

SPIDERS ADVERTISE

Biologists have long been puzzled about the silken decorations in the webs of some spiders. These loosely spun bands of silk can be laid out in a variety of shapes, including crosses, circles and lines.

Researchers at Cornell University have found that spiders which spin webs expected to last through the day, construct the decorations so that birds will spot the web and change their flight paths, thereby leaving webs intact.

The scientists watched several butterflies (a favorite meal for spiders) change direction in front of a web, escaping capture. But as the researchers see it, it's all a matter of priorities. For a spider losing a butterfly now and then is better than losing a web. National Wildlife

RECENT WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES By Jan Richards

On a hike through some very dense brush, hind my farm, I stumbled upon the home of a major source of frustration to me and loss to my chickens---a large system of COYOTE DENS, complete with eating places, feather piles, and cozy resting spots formed at the base of some large tree roots. At least fifteen large holes had been burrowed into an embankment with a marsh and adjoining streams at the base of the bank. It was a fascinating discovery (though not to the neighboring would-be chicken farmers).

KILLER WHALE CAPTURE PROTEST

The Moclips Cetological Society of Friday Harbor is asking for help in their efforts to prevent the capture of two killer whales to be put on display by Sealand of the Pacific in Victoria, B.C. This species is having a hard time maintaining its population especially in the face of frequent captures of this sort. There is presently on-going, carefully controlled scientific research which the capture will disrupt.

They are asking for our help in the form of letters and phone calls. They have prered a four page fact sheet which includes references with names and addresses of people to contact. If you are interested in receiving a copy of this material, contact Marianne McKnight, 337-4777.

TOXIC WASTES By Sally van Niel

As more information is gathered, we are becoming more aware of the problems of toxic wastes, including such substances as dioxin. According to Dr. Samuel Epstein, toxic wastes pose a potential danger to the country's land, water, air, public health, and economy, second only to the threat of nuclear war. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says that a minimum of 14,000 of the 230,000 pits, ponds, lagoons, and dumps containing toxic wastes are potentially dangerous in terms of fire hazards, noxious fumes, and threats to ground water.

We, in Washington state, have ten dump sites targeted for federally subsidized alean-up. However, in order to get Superand money from the federal government, we have to provide ten percent matching funds on private land and 50 percent of the costs of clean-up on public land. There currently is no fund in the state that is targeted to provide matching monies.

Senate Bill 4160 would authorize the sale of \$15 million in general obligation bonds to cover the costs of the state's share of hazardous waste clean-up. After 1985 the Superfund matching money may not be available.

Another problem with toxic wastes is that it is cheaper for the companies that generate them to dispose of them in landfill sites or to drive a tank truck down the road with the spigot open. If caught, they can consider the fine as a cost of doing business.

There are other approaches that can be used, such as recycling the wastes or using "superbugs" to break them down. What may be one company's disposal problem may be necessary for another company to function. So, by recycling wastes, there may be much less generated. Then, by the time the substance has been used repeatedly, it can be incinerated in properly managed facilities. West Germany uses these techniques and detoxifies approximately 85% of their wastes.

Senate Bill 4245 requires the Department of Ecology (DOE) to look at ways to manage wastes and set priorities for getting rid of them. Dumping wastes in landfills is considered to be the least effective method of handling wastes, as well as a potential danger to water supplies. Conservation and recycling are the preferred methods for handling waste.

Senate Bill 4161 sets up a special assessment of the chemical industry to pay for future management and control.

Let your Senators know your opinions of these bills.

THERE OUGHTER BE OTTERS

Recently three river otters were livetrapped from the vicinity of the Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery on the Metolius River (where their penchant for eating fish causes hatchery managers considerable grief). They were released at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon. There have been no river otters in the Malheur Refuge, or in the Silvies River drainage which empties into it, for years. The transplant is part of a long-term project to reestablish populations there.

SPOTLIGHT ON BIRDS: SHOREBIRDS By Eileen Loerch

When most people think of shorebirds, they think of the small "sandpipers" frequently seen along our shorelines. Closely resembling wind-up toys, they scurry and dash about in search of the tiny invertebrates they feed on.

In actuality, shorebirds are a very diverse group. Generally favoring open, unwooded areas, their habitat ranges from the shores and tidal flats of the coastal areas favored by the dunlin to the mountain plover's high plains and semi-desert. They may be as small as the five to six inch least sandpiper, or as large as the 24 inch long-billed curlew. Some undertake arduous migrations, like the American golden plover, whose one way trip is about 8,000 miles. Others, like the black oystercatcher, remain in the same locality year-round.

In the winter, the northwest is treated to an amazing aerial display by the large flocks of dunlin that frequent the tidal flats of our area. The twisting and turning of a flock of hundreds or thousands creates an effect that looks like the rippling of leaves in a breeze. The message for the flock to turn can not be received by sight; it happens too quickly. For now, we can only imagine some mysterious bond which ties the flock together, creating one being from the thousands.

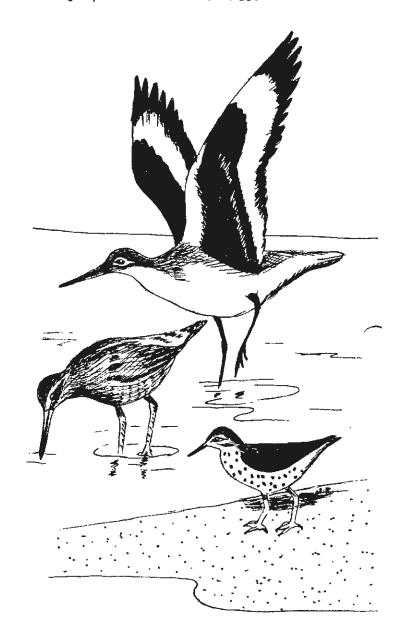
In April, the migration of shorebirds is in full swing. The birds are passing through the northwest from their southern wintering grounds to their more northerly nesting grounds. The brighter breeding plumage is replacing the more subdued winter plumage. The more brilliant colors of breeding plumage are beautiful to behold. Birds in plumage between winter and breeding, frequently seen at this time of year, can be difficult to identify.

Shorebird migration can be viewed from many locations in our state. Ocean Shores has many large shorebirds, including marbled godwits and long-billed curlews. Leadbetter Point - Willapa Bay is the stopover for many shorebirds, including rarities such as sharp-tailed sandpipers and ruffs. The concentration of birds at Bowerman Basin is mind boggling. (See article on page 3.) Closer to home, Penn Cove is good for birds which frequent rocky shorelines, including ruddy and black turnstones.

On the east side of our state, the Columbia Basin offers entirely different birds, including Wilson's phalarope,

avocets, and occasionally black necked stilts. These birds are seen not only during migration, but also spend their summers in the basin.

As is the case with many groups of birds Washington's diverse habitat attracts a diverse population of shorebirds. This is a good time of year to get out and "mingle with the masses" of birds and enjoy viewing the many species of shorebirds.



GAME TO NONGAME RATIO SMALL Of the 796 bird species in the U.S., only 74 are huntable. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission recently reported that only 35 of the 914 mammal species that roam the country are sought by sportsmen. Yet, all thes species benefit from the conservation ano management practices supported by hunting license revenue. Oregon Wildlife

CORSON WILDLIFE RECREATION AREA: This action activity started immediately after to February 12th field trip to the Northwest Waterfowl Game Farm (Paul Dye). For some, this activity was eagerly anticipated. About ten of us stayed and prepared four spots on the adjoining Corson Wildlife Recreation Area. Basically, we opened up the four areas to sunlight. The salmonberries were grubbed out and a few alder trees cut down.

These four areas are now (or will become when the plants grow) feeding stations which are scattered thoughout the wildlife area. Because of the richness and generally available food in spring, summer and fall these areas contain plants which I consider last ditch foods for birds: berries that stay on the plants throughout the winter and will be eaten by birds during harsh winters.

On February 19th, another crew returned to the area and planted Sitka spruce trees. One area contains a new potential drumming log for grouse. This log is a side benifit from cutting down an alder tree and was quite accidental but nice.

March 17th saw yet another return to the Corson Wildlife Area, at which time PAS rther added to the plants of the cleared areas; Rosa Rugosa (for rose hips), Viburnums called highbush cranberries, and a variety of Elaeagnus. The high bush cranberries were from layered starts on the game farm. The trees and other shrubs were purchased and contributed with money from the Ross Nichols Memorial Fund. Additional planting and work are planned for this fall.

SKAGIT WILDLIFE RECREATION AREA: On Saturday, March 12th, a small group of people assembled at the Skagit Wildlife Recreation Area headquarters to inventory, repair, and clean out wood duck nesting boxes. In retrospect, it was a typical Puget Sound day. We started promptly at 9:00 a.m. on an overcast day. Suddenly at noon, we discovered that we were wet. Don't know when the rain started; too much to do, see, and learn. Someone needs to tell us when to put on rain gear. Any takers? We will be going back for the three nest boxes we missed and 6-8 more near the Milltown access.

One nest box had a clutch of ten brown-white eggs, about the size of small hen eggs. These were probably from last year. Seven of the ten contained chicks with pin feathers. The nest was evidently abandoned by the adult wood ducks.

We also met an interesting couple who live only four miles from the area head-quarters. As we walked toward their house, eight trumpeter swans flew 30 feet overhead. This couple has recently been licensed to care for injured birds. The only bird they currently have is a screech owl, which we observed from less than a foot away. In fact, the owl, a female, allowed us to stroke her. She was wide awake, but a little ticked at us for waking her in the middle of her night.

Other birds we sighted at the SWRA included bald eagles; swallows, barn and others; snow geese; red tailed hawks; northern harriers; etc.; etc.

| IAME | PHONE | For additional information |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| | | contact Marge Wiltfong at |
| ADDRESS | | 353-1847. |
| CITY | STATE 710 CODE | Chook tune of membership |
| ,111 | STATE ZIP CODE | Check type of membership desired. Make your check |
| INDIVIUAL \$25.0 | O SENIOR CITIZEN INDIVIDUAL S | \$17.00 payable to National Audubon |
| FAMILY \$32.0 | | \$19.00 Society and mail to Pilchuck |
| SUSTAINING \$50.0 | 0 STUDENT | \$15.00 Audubon Society, PO Box 1618, |
| SÚPPORTING \$100.0 | | 250.00 Everett, WA 98206. |
| DONOR \$500.0 | 0 LIFE \$15 | 500.00 |

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee is submitting the following slate of officers for Pilchuck Audubon Society for 1983-84.

President Curt Howard Vice-president Tom Councell Sally Lider Secretary Gerald McKnight Treasurer

Nominations can be made from the floor at the time of the election at the April 15th meeting.

ART COMPETITION. DECISION By Marge Wiltfong

Our thanks are due to all the artists who responded to our request for promotional art material. The material we received was as varied and interesting as our members. It was a difficult task indeed for our board members to choose but a ballot was taken and the favored two were: An American Avocet With Reflection by Ellen Shurtleff of Everett and A Hummingbird and Flower in the distinctive Sumi brush-work style by Laurel Carraher of Snohomish. Ellen and Laurel both selected as their award the book "Familiar Birds of the Northwest" published by Portland Audubon Society.

Other favorites were a whooping crane captured in the midst of his courting dance. This was beautifully done by Debbie Dana of Lake Stevens. Curt Howard our chapter vicepresident sparked our imagination with an original design in Northwest Indian symbolism. We also liked Jan Richards' pen and ink head of a bald eagle. Jan's work has often enhanced our copies of the Profile. Debbie, Curt, and Jan each received a packet of our swan stationary as a token of our appreciation of their efforts in support of our program.

Their work will enliven and add a great deal of interest to PAS material.

Our graditude and thanks to all.

USEFUL NUMBERS TO KNOW

| AUDUBON INFORMATION Jan van Niel Eileen Loerch | 778-7568 659-6901 |
|---|----------------------------------|
| PAS BIRD SIGHTINGS Terri Spencer/Steve Howard Fred Bird (Arlington Times) Jan Richards | 652-6481 435-5757 334-2781 |
| OTHER SIGHTINGS Seattle Audubon Hotline Swan sightings | 1-624-2854 775-0137 |
| HELP FOR INJURED WILDLIFE Wildlife Care Center of Ever | ett |

Dr. Yearout, D.V.M. 353-3814 337-6900 ~ Kaye Bailey

WSP (to report injured wildlife)

STOP POACHING HOTLINE 1-800-562-5626

RECYCLING (what, where, when) 1-800-RECYCLE

STATE LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

1-800-562-6000 Legislative hotline 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday Audubon/WEC hotline 1-800-831-0022

Pilchuck Audubon Society P.O. Box 1618, Everett, Washington 98206



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED