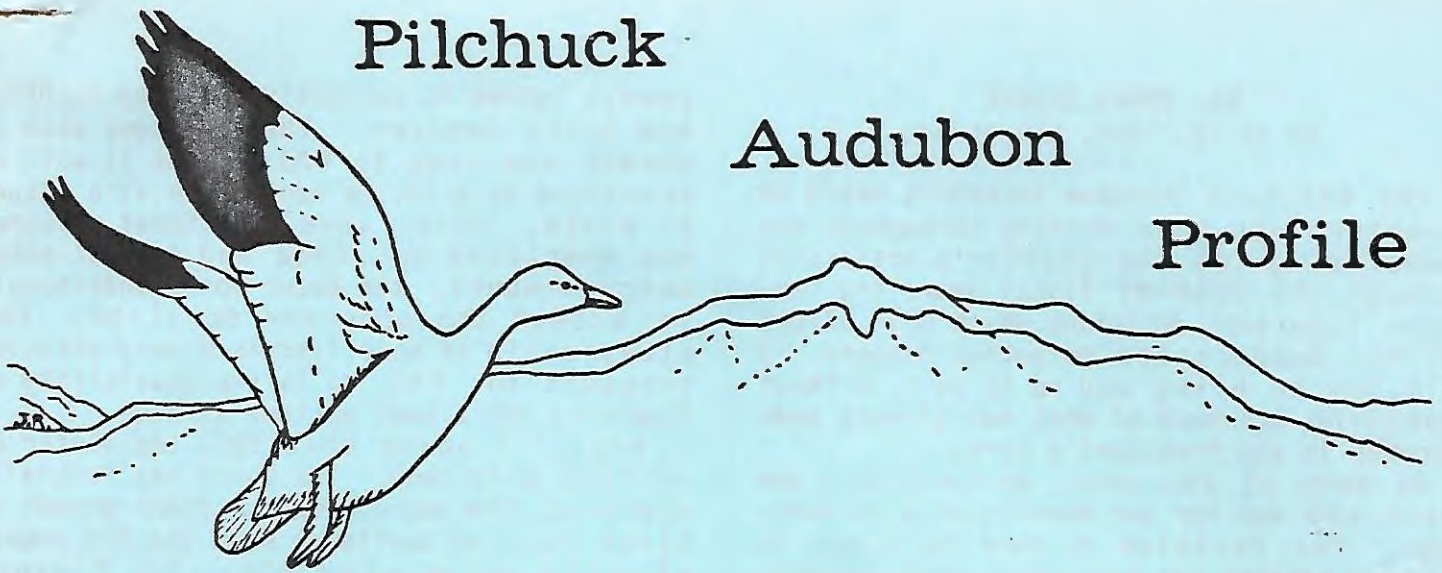


Pilchuck

Audubon

Profile



NOVEMBER 1984

VOLUME XIII NUMBER 3

PILCHUCK AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 27th, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: MARCH POINT, WA. PARK

Leader: Terri Spencer (435-8602). Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the bank building at Smokey Point, exit 206 off I-5. This will be mainly a driving tour, although we will do some walking. At March Point, we will see Brant and, perhaps, yellow-billed loons. Washington Park will offer harlequin ducks, black oystercatchers, and other saltwater birds. We will be in the Olympic rain shadow, so we may have good weather and great views of the San Juan Islands. Bring warm clothes, binoculars and lunch.

NOVEMBER 10th, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: SALMON HATCHERY TOUR JOINT WITH SNOHOMISH CO. EXTENSION

Leaders: Stirling and Judi Lantz (745-3235). Skykomish Hatchery, Highway 2, 1.5 miles east of Startup. This is not the normal hatchery tour that is given during normal working hours. There will be a number of guides to demonstrate and explain the life cycle of the various species of trout and salmon in our Northwest rivers. It will be a "hands-on" experience, where you can actually touch and study the salmon close up. You will learn about salmon anatomy, embryology and how to determine a salmon's age by examining it's scales. The tour is planned to coincide with the peak salmon migration run so that fish can be seen in the nearby river. You will also see salmon in hatchery holding facilities. You will be able to observe egg-taking, fertilization and handling techniques. For further information on exact time call John Munn, Extension Naturalist, 259-9422, Everett.

NOVEMBER 17th, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: GEORGE C. REIFFEL GAME REFUGE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Leaders: Bonnie Phillips-Howard (652-9619) and Terri Spencer (435-8602). Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the bank building at Smokey Point, exit 206 off I-5. This will be our annual trip to this Bird Sanctuary in the Fraser River Delta. Waterfowl can be seen very close up, which makes this a great trip for a novice birder and for photographers. There is an entrance fee of about \$2.00 and bird seed is available at a small charge. Bring warm clothes, binoculars and lunch.

DECEMBER 8th, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: RIDE THE SAN JUAN FERRY

Leaders: Bonnie and Curt Howard (652-9619). Details in the next Profile.

DECEMBER 11th, TUESDAY

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING

Libby Mills, the Nature Conservancy Steward for the Skagit River Bald Eagle Preserve, will present a program on her work with Bald Eagles.

DECEMBER 29th, SATURDAY

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Leaders: Bill and Sally Lider (776-0671).

PAS BOARD UPDATE
By Sally Lider, Secretary

The Pilchuck Audubon Society's board of directors has been meeting throughout the summer to guide the chapter's activities through the 1984-85 fiscal year, and consider important decisions which will affect all PAS members and potential members. I will try to bring you up to date, without repeating too much of what has already been reported in the President's Corner.

As many of you know, we now have a new place and day for our monthly program meetings. The decision to make the change to Tuesday evening was made after much thoughtful discussion about what night of the week is best for most people interested in attending the meetings. The choice to hold the meetings in the Boeing Room of the Red Cross Building was, I think, a good one. All those who attended the September 11th meeting seemed relaxed and comfortable!

Besides the contributions to The Nature Conservancy (Pierce Island acquisition) and the Evergreen Coalition, the board also approved \$150.00 in the 1984-85 budget for PAS' institutional membership in the Washington Environmental Council.

There were extensive discussions on possible uses for money that was raised for the Trumpeter Swan Enhancement Fund. The board considered many suggestions, mostly having to do with educating the general public as to identification of swans in the field, and an awareness of their sensitivity to human disturbance. At the September 24th meeting the board approved the purchase of a Kodak model 5600 slide projector and accessories, with over half of the purchase price to come from the Trumpeter Swan Fund. One of the primary uses of the new projector will be to present educational slide shows about Trumpeter Swans.

The PAS handbook was distributed to all board members. It's contents include copies of important documents, by-laws of the chapter, executive officer and committee chair responsibilities, job descriptions, committee charges, annual reports, policy statements, and the budget. A special thanks is deserved by all those who worked to put the handbook together.

The board approved an increase in the Profile subscription price from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per year. The increase took effect in September.

In August a proposal was brought before the board by Joyce Kelley for PAS to be the recipient of a gift of land. This 2.13 acre parcel of wetland adjacent to the Snohomish

sewage lagoon is currently owned by Heinrich and Betty Janssen. The Janssens wish to donate the land to PAS so that it will be preserved as wildlife habitat in its natural state. After some additional research was completed by Joyce and several other board members, the board voted unanimously to accept the proposed donation. The stewardship of this land is a very exciting prospect for PAS, as is the possibility of acquiring additional wetland acreage.

PAS will again this fall and winter be selling bird seed. The board has initially approved the purchase of 2000 pounds of black Russian sunflower seed and 500 pounds of wild bird seed mix. The Finance Committee is currently shopping for the most reasonable wholesale prices.

Finally, the board voted in favor of PAS selling Washington Department of Game conservation permits at monthly program meetings. The permits cost \$5.50 each. PAS will make \$0.50 on each sale.

RECYCLING FORUM
By Nancy Salvadalena

Let's talk about PLASTIC. Plastic should be of concern to all environmentalists. At this time, in this area, it is not recyclable and because it is not biodegradable it piles up in landfills and is seen strewn along roads and beaches.

Obviously, we must try to avoid buying plastic packaging unless it is something we will be using over and over again. Instead, buy beverages in aluminum, glass, or paperboard (biodegradable) containers. Buy eggs in recyclable cardboard cartons. Do not use plastic sacks unless you will be getting a lot of use from them. Let the stores and companies know how you feel.

If you do acquire some plastic containers, reuse them instead of throwing them away. I have used some gallon jugs to store a supply of emergency water. Curt Howard suggests cutting the bottoms off of gallon jugs, removing the caps, and placing them over young plants in the spring or in the fall to protect them from frost. If we all do our part we can keep this beautiful land from becoming a pile of plastic.

Tip of the month: Heather Russell asks: Can the metal lids from mayonnaise, etc. be recycled? YES. Wash and dry them, remove any cardboard liners, and recycle with your "tin" cans.

Remember to call (337-7458) or write Nancy Salvadalena, 2227 Burley Dr., Everett, WA 98204 with your tips and questions.

BIRD SEED SALES

PAS is once again selling bird seed for your backyard feeders. We will be selling black Russian sunflower seeds and a wild bird seed mix. They will be available in 10 and 50 pound bags. Ten pounds for \$5.00 or 50 pounds for \$25.00. This amount includes sales tax as well as a donation to PAS.

Both these seeds are of a much superior quality to bird seed you can purchase in the grocery store. You will have less waste and this quality seed will go further. Also you will be helping to support Pilchuck Audubon with your purchase. Four sales outlets are available for your convenience:

Everett:	Gerald McKnight	337-4777
Snohomish:	Joyce Kelley	568-5974
Edmonds:	Susie Schaefer	771-8165
Stanwood:	Curt Howard	652-9619

Aug 8 One highly successful FLYCATCHER stalled, dove, caught and ate more than a dozen flying termites. CEDAR WAXWINGS were also after the flying termites. A RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH was tapping pine nuts on the fencepost. (Natalie MoneyMaker)

Sept 10 Bonnie Phillips-Howard saw a PILEATED WOODPECKER in her yard. She also saw a partial albino RED-TAILED HAWK, OSPREY, and an immature GREEN-BACKED HERON on a trip through the Snohomish River Estuary.

Sept 11 Bob Mindick had a PILEATED WOODPECKER in his yard near Bothell.

Sept 11 Two OSPREY were seen in the Snohomish River Estuary. (Carl Franz)

Sept 12 A COMMON Nighthawk flew over I-5 near Grand Avenue in Everett. (Terri Spencer)

Sept 15-16 Several GREAT BLUE HERON, RED-TAILED HAWKS, two BALD EAGLES, a PEREGRINE FALCON, four NORTHERN HARRIERS, SEALS, three AMERICAN BITTERNs, nine DOWITCHERS, and a MERLIN harassing STARLINGS were seen on Skagit Bay and Skagit River. (Judy Starr-Brewer and Larry Brewer)

Sept 15-23 The annual fall invasion of CEDAR WAXWINGS, ROBINS, and a few STARLINGS descended on their Mountain Ash trees stripping the berries. (Marianne McKnight)

Sept 18 A GREAT HORNED OWL made an unsuccessful pass at Virginia Eagleton's

banties roosting in the trees. Racing out of bed, she found banties running around everywhere and the owl sitting in a nearby cottonwood "hooting". She also had a pair of BARN SWALLOWS raise three broods this year. Usually the maximum is two.

Sept 23 A GREAT HORNED OWL was in Joan Lucas' yard in Everett.

Sept 23 A PILEATED WOODPECKER and WINTER WREN were seen on property near Granite Falls. (Donna Ferro)

Sept 24 A BEWICK'S WREN was in Rick Berger's yard.

Sept 30 Two SNOW GEESE were flying near Steamboat Slough. (Terri Spencer)

Oct 1 A male COOPER'S HAWK caught a sparrow while visiting a bird feeder south of Paine Field. The hawk had been around for 3-4 weeks. (Rick Berger)

Oct 1 A YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER, acting like a flycatcher, was observed in a field by Terri Spencer near her home.

Oct 2 An identified FALCON was seen flying high over Eastmont. (Mike Bauer)

Oct 5 A STARLING was observed not only imitating the song of a red-winged blackbird but also their habit of showing their epaulets (red shoulder patches). (Steven Howard)

SEND YOUR SIGHTINGS TO

Terri Spencer/Steven Howard
23329 - 27th Ave NE
Arlington, WA 98223

CALL BIRD SIGHTINGS TO

Terri Spencer/Steven Howard 435-8602
Marianne McKnight 337-4777

OTHER SIGHTINGS

Seattle Audubon Hotline 1-624-2854
Swan Sightings 775-0137

HELP FOR INJURED WILDLIFE

Wildlife Care Center of Everett
Dr. Yearout, D.V.M. 353-3814
Kaye Bailey 337-6900
WSP (report injured wildlife) 259-8585

STOP POACHING HOTLINE 1-800-562-5626 WASHINGTON STATE PATROL (WSP) 259-8585

A report taken on the hotline may not reach the local agent until the next day, a report taken by the WSP will be relayed directly to the agent over his vehicle radio.

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

OFFICERS & CHAIR POSITIONS FOR 1984 - 1985

- * President: 652-9619
Curt Howard
- * Vice President: 435-2024
Bruce Kelly
- * Secretary: 776-0671
Sally Lider
- * Treasurer: 337-4777
Gerald McKnight
- * Finance: 771-8165
Susie Schaefer
- * Editor: 337-4777
Marianne McKnight
- * Education: 794-6063
Laurel Carraher
- * Conservation: 668-4462
Anne Grubb
- Bird Sightings: 435-8602
Terri Spencer
- * Programs: 568-5974
Joyce Kelley
- * Field Trips: 652-9619
Bonnie Phillips-Howard
- Christmas Bird Count: 776-0671
Bill Lider
- Publicity: 259-7047
Kathy Green
- Hospitality: Co-chairs
Nancy Salvadalena 337-7458
Teresa McKnight 337-4777
- Sensitive Area Atlas: Adopt-a-Quad
Jane Erickson 334-4392
- Corson WRA Research: 337-0485
Nancy and Keith Lehn
- * Membership Records: 435-3750
Virginia Clark
- * Board Positions

NOTES FROM THE EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

Laurel Carraher, 794-6063

As the new Education Chairman, I would like to state that I have said "yes" to the challenge because I feel a great debt to Pilchuck Audubon for providing such a wonderful program for my family and for the larger family of man and all living organisms; and I hope that, with a little help from my friends, we may all realize some effective projects.

Three ideas were conceived before I took office, and I have no trouble embracing all of them with great enthusiasm. The first is to plan and execute a portable display of text and images of the Trumpeter Swan. This display would be taken to fairs and to speaking engagements and would serve as a vehicle for education as well as publicity for Pilchuck Audubon. We need people who can provide information for the text, as well as

black and white photos, a few color photos (they will cost \$25.00 each to reproduce), perhaps old line engravings or drawings. If any of you can provide any of these or know of resources for them, please let me know.

Another very large project is to create a slide show, with narration, on the Trumpeter Swan. The Fish and Game Department has expressed interest in buying the completed film. We need information for the narration, someone to write the narration, black and white and colored slides, and a narrator. As you can see, it is a big project and in need of lots of help. Please call me if you have any leads to these materials.

On a national level the Audubon Society is trying to interest more children in the program. Pilchuck Audubon is making this a top priority, too. One thought is to have a few field trips geared especially to the kids; naturally, adults could come too. Continuing Springwatch (that very successful camp experience planned by Jane Erickson and Joyce Kelley last year) sounds like another great idea. We would love to hear your ideas for getting the kids more involved, more aware of the wonders around them and concerned about nurturing and protecting their environment.

I am excited! I think these are inspiring ideas and I know that there are many other wonderful projects just waiting to be done. I hope you are excited too. Let me know about your ideas and if you would like to help in any way, big or small.

LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOPS

The Seattle legislative workshop will be held on December 1st at the Mountaineers, 300 - 3rd Ave. W., Seattle from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Bellingham workshop will be held on December 2nd at the Cascade Natural Gas Company, 1600 Iowa, Bellingham from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

CONSERVATION PERMITS

PAS will be selling Department of Game 1985 Conservation permits for your vehicle. These permits are required on all vehicles using state Game Department land or water access sites posted as "Conservation License Area". Permits can be purchased at PAS program meetings starting at the December 11th meeting. The cost of the permit is \$5.50 (\$5.00 for the Department of Game and \$0.50 for PAS).

FEEDING BIRDS IN WINTER

In cold weather, the calorie needs of birds increase dramatically. A feeder can supply the additional food that birds need when the weather is cold and their normal wild food is frozen or covered with snow. However, the kind of food that you supply is highly important. The food in your feeder should match as nearly as possible the high calorie and protein needs of cold weather. A recent U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Report indicates that much of the bird seed placed in feeders every year is wasted or simply attracts birds that often are considered nuisances. White proso millet and the small black-hulled oil-type (Russian) sunflower seed were the best over-all foods. Thistle, Gusztia abyssinica, was an excellent food for gold finches and popular with many other species as well. Instead of buying ordinary commercially prepared "wild bird food", a seed mixture containing millet, niger (thistle), sunflower, buckwheat, rape, or hempseed will be less expensive and less wasteful. It seems when birds find a favorite food in a mixture, they will shovel out the rest until finding what they want. Having separate feeders for sunflower seeds and a mixture of bird food without sunflower seeds seems to eliminate the discarding of unwanted food.

Food for insect eaters like woodpeckers, nuthatches and chickadees can be provided by supplying a protein-fat mixture placed in a mesh bag or a small log with holes bored in it and hung in a tree. Information has been gathered that says it may not be a good idea to feed the birds straight fat such as suet. It seems to disrupt the bird's digestive process. A combination of suet, peanut butter, and cereals or grains such as cornmeal, oatmeal, farina, etc. appears to be a good way of supplying fat and protein. It is best not to mix bird seed with suet or peanut butter.

Bread crumbs in your feeder are acceptable on a short-term basis. Some ambitious people even make a special batch of corn bread for their hungry winter visitors. Corn bread and whole wheat bread are better than white bread. If you can, mix some seed with the bread crumbs.

When the temperature is below freezing, put out warm water frequently during the day. It is possible to make an electric heater for the birds' water by placing a light bulb and socket in a flower pot, feeding an extension cord through the hole in the bottom. Fit the saucer that would

normally go underneath the flower pot on top of the pot, and fill with water.

Your feeding station can be as simple as a swept spot on your patio or lawn or a hanging bird feeder. Place your station near a bush or trees, preferably where you can see it, for watching birds at the feeder is a pleasure the entire family can share.

The old wives' tale says, "Don't feed the birds unless you can do it year-round". It can be a real pleasure to stock a year round feeder, but this is not necessary. Birds need to be fed during the cold and the snow, and if this is the only time of year that you feed them, you will be doing them a great service.

Pilchuck Audubon Society would be happy to answer any additional questions you may have. If we don't have the answers, we'll lead you to someone who does. We sell black Russian sunflower seed and specially mixed bird seed, and can suggest sources for other feed that may be difficult to find. Call Curt Howard, 652-9619, or Marianne McKnight, 337-4777.

RARE MOUNDED PRAIRIES

The Mima Mounds Coalition has been formed to work for the preservation of the Mima Mounds, an unusual land form located south of Olympia. For a century and a half Thurston County's Mima Mounds, those curious pimpled prairies, have fascinated visitors. The Mima Mounds are generally several feet high, 20 to 30 feet across and densely packed over large prairies. While similar features exist elsewhere, those on the Mima Prairie are the best-known and have given their name to the phenomena.

The mounds originally occupied over 30,000 acres on the Mima and other nearby prairies, but have been threatened by 'human progress' in some areas and by encroaching forests in other. Protection is now assured only for the 445 acre state-owned Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve; a registered National Natural Landmark.

Details on the Mima Mounds has been supplied to the central public libraries in Olympia, Centralia, Aberdeen, Tacoma and Seattle. The Washington Room of the State Library also has a file of valuable data.

Thurston County Commissioners have recently established a task force of citizens to help advise the County on possible steps which may be pursued to protect the Mima Mounds.

For information about membership in the Mima Mounds Coalition or helping with its work, write to: Mima Mounds Coalition, P.O. Box 1516, Olympia, WA or call 206-786-5302.

AMERICAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION CONVENTION - VANCOUVER, B.C.

By Fred Bird, PAS Member

The American Birding Association (ABA) held its biennial convention July 16-22 in Vancouver, B.C. The event which drew some 450 birders from the United States and Canada was hosted by ABA members in the British Columbia area.

ABA was founded about 15 years ago to unite professional and amateur field identification specialists and to promote the science and sport of birding. ABA publishes Birding Magazine which features articles on species identification, stories and maps on "hot" birding areas, as well as stories on the sport of "listing". ABA also offers superb mail order access for every imaginable publication on birds, ranging from field guides to touring guides, most at a discount to the 6000 members of the organization.

While most of the membership is made up of amateur birders, all the famous "superbirders" belong, and it wasn't unusual to sit down to dinner with the likes of Chandler Robbins (Golden Press: Birds of North America) or even the grand guru himself, Roger Tory Peterson. Everyone, regardless of his status in the birding world, was friendly and outgoing in his assistance to less professional birders such as myself. I left the convention with a long list of new friends and invitations to visit people all over the continent.

The convention itself was very much a working affair, starting with three days of intense workshops in Marine Birds (Dennis Paulson), Shorebirds (Jon Dunn), Flycatchers (Kenn Kaufman), Owls (Jon Winter), and Hawks (Bill Clark). The dinner programs every evening were entertaining and informative.

The last two and a half days of the convention were devoted to long and highly rewarding field trips. Divided up into manageable groups and superbly guided by local ABA members, we toured Manning Park, Victoria-Vancouver Island, Stanley Park and the Iona Island sewage lagoons (where else!). Altogether, the group saw about 170 species. I added 12 birds to my lifelist, the best of which were soras, two northern three-toed woodpeckers, Bairds and semi-palmated peeps.

Better than new birds was the pleasure of having someone like Benton Basham patiently and personally explain the subtleties of sandpiper identification. Benton is only the Number One lister for North America, with over 750 species to his credit.

I strongly recommend ABA for anyone interested in the science or art of field identification. In my recent 12,000 mile trip around the West (currently "serialized" in the newsletter), all the birders I met were ABA members and all were charming and most helpful.

ABA also annually publishes the names of birders whose listing efforts have topped 500 species in North America (north of Mexico), as well as a variety of other categories, including annual lists (Basham, for example, got 711 species last year), world, provincial and state lists. Incidentally, while I am still about 100 species short of the 500 mark, my Washington State list will qualify me to be "listed" in the next such publication.

ABA membership costs \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families. The American Birding Association address is: PO Box 4335, Austin TX 78765. I would be glad to answer questions about ABA. Please feel free to call me at 568-7529.

* Application for joint membership in National Audubon Society and Pilchuck Audubon Society.*

* Includes National Audubon's bimonthly magazine AUDUBON and Pilchuck Audubon's monthly *
 * PROFILE newsletter for one year. Make your check payable to National Audubon Society. *

* NAME _____ PHONE _____ Check type of membership *
 * ADDRESS _____ desired. Mail application *
 * CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ Audubon Society, PO Box 1618, *
 * Everett, WA 98206. *

* INDIVIDUAL	\$30.00	___ SENIOR CITIZEN INDIVIDUAL	\$21.00	___ SUPPORTING	\$100.00	*
* FAMILY	\$38.00	___ SENIOR CITIZEN FAMILY	\$23.00	___ CONTRIBUTING	\$250.00	*
* SUSTAINING	\$50.00	___ STUDENT	\$18.00	___ DONOR	\$500.00	*

* ----- *

* Subscription only - fill in name and address above. *

* ___ Subscription to PROFILE only \$8.00 Make check payable to Pilchuck Audubon Society. *

* For additional help or Membership information contact Virginia Clark at 435-3750, evening *

SANCTUARIES

As you may have noticed in recent news articles and in the Profile, some very environmentally sensitive and beautiful parcels of land in Snohomish County are being felled, filled, dumped in and asphalted over in the name of progress.

As this disintegration of natural habitats proceeds at an alarming rate, more and more Pilchuck Audubon members, as well as members of the environmental community as a whole, have expressed concern for the need to begin acquiring some of these pieces of land before they are forever lost.

Recently, Pilchuck Audubon was given the opportunity to accept the donation of a 2.13 acre parcel of pristine wetland habitat near the Snohomish sewer lagoon. This piece of property is untouched, and (we hope) soon to be untouchable. This is only the beginning.

The Pilchuck Audubon Sanctuary Committee is being formed, to acquire environmentally sensitive property. The committee will be considering:

Which pieces of land are currently threatened and how might they be acquired.

How accessible will these properties be to the public and what will be our liability?

What expenses will be incurred in the management of the land?

How can we coordinate with county, city, and state habitat protection programs?

We are appealing to the Pilchuck Audubon membership for expertise and enthusiasm. We

need some expertise in real estate, i.e., the realm of title searches, quit claim deeds, non-profit exemptions, etc. We also need to know of areas that we might conceivably acquire.

Although we are starting this process slowly and carefully, we are hoping to match the quality of National Audubon and the Nature Conservancy in our efforts to preserve our rapidly dwindling wildlife habitats.

Please help us with your ideas, comments and suggestions. Call Joyce Kelley in the evening at 568-5974 or better yet, join us at our next meeting at Joyce's house on November 1st at 7:00 p.m.

SANCTUARY COSTS

Although the new Snohomish land has been donated to PAS, there are some costs associated with the acquisition. Filing fees and title insurance will be incurred by PAS. We are looking into liability insurance needs also.

Donations are needed to help PAS take advantage of this sanctuary. For additional information contact Susie Schaefer 771-8165. In the future we will be planning a large fund raising pledge drive to help obtain other prime sanctuary properties.

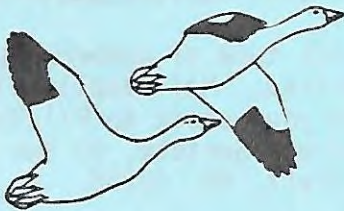
REDWING BLACKBIRD LECTURE

Dr. Gordon Orians, director of the UW Institute for Environmental Studies and internationally known professor of ecology, will give a slide lecture on redwing blackbirds at Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo ARC on November 20th at 7:30 p.m.

***** DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER'S PROFILE IS NOVEMBER 8TH *****

Pilchuck Audubon Society

P.O. Box 1618, Everett, Washington 98206



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