

# Pilchuck

## Audubon

### Profile

DECEMBER 1985

VOLUME XIV NUMBER 4

DECEMBER 13, FRIDAY

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING

Time: 7:30 P.M. Place: the PUD Building in Everett, corner of California and Virginia (park behind the building and enter on lower level). Special guest: Martha Jordan of the Trumpeter Swan Society who will give a slide presentation on "Swans of the Northwest." Come, bring your friends, and learn more about these unique and beautiful visitors to the Northwest.

DECEMBER 14, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: SAN JUAN FERRY RIDE

Leaders: Bill Lider, Sally Lider, and Terri Spencer. Meet at 7:00 A.M. sharp at the bank building, Smokey Point, exit 206 off I-5. We will take the 8:45 A.M. ferry to San Juan Island, arriving at Friday Harbor at 10:40 A.M. We'll spend the rest of the morning touring Friday Harbor and the Whale Museum and catch the return ferry at 1:20 P.M. arriving Anacortes at 3:10 P.M. The trip will cost \$4.35 round trip for walk-ons, \$2.20 for senior citizens, children half-fare, and \$14.80 for car and driver. We may see Bald Eagles, Eared and Horned Grebes, Red-breasted and Hooded Mergansers, Oldsquaw, Common Murre and Black Oystercatchers. Bring a sack lunch or eat at the cafeteria on the ferry.

DECEMBER 28, SATURDAY

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Leader: Bill Lider (776-0671). We will meet at 7:00 A.M. at the Pier 206 Restaurant at Smokey Point, Exit 206 off I-5 to divide into groups to begin the bird count. For those early birders who don't want to fix breakfast, we will meet to eat at 6:00 A.M. at Pier 206. Bring a lunch and warm clothes and of course binoculars, field guides, and photo gear. A pot luck dinner will follow at 5:00 P.M. at Bruce and Mary Ester Kelly's home. See the article on the last page of this newsletter for complete details.

JANUARY 11, SATURDAY

(Tentative Date)

EAGLE COUNT

JANUARY 18, SATURDAY

STILLIGUAMISH VALLEY BIRDS WITH EVERETT PARKS DEPT.

JANUARY 25, SATURDAY

CROSS COUNTRY SKI TOUR

Leader: Curt Howard (652-9619). One of the purposes of our field trips is to provide the opportunity to experience natural things. Winter is a naturally occurring thing, cabin fever or no. Quite regular too! A new idea was born last February after a fantastic ski trip under ideal conditions. Picture if you will an absolutely clear, calm, crisp winter evening with 3 inches of new powder snow and a brilliant full moon. This is what we are aiming for. We will go to either Smithbrook Road or Money Creek at about 8:00 P.M. and leave for home about midnight. Some experience is desirable. Limited to 12 people. Preregistration required. Call Curt.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Curt Howard

It seems as though there is always a conference or two to go to. If not a conference, it's called a workshop, or maybe a symposium. The latest was the Northwest Wetlands Conference. Some 40 people spoke during the two day affair in Seattle. Perspectives were presented from various government agencies, local, state, and federal levels, and environmental organizations. A number of themes were presented which we must keep in mind.

First and foremost perhaps is that successful mitigation of wetland losses cannot be documented even after 10-12 years. This applies to man-made wetlands, like the proposal made by the City of Everett to create a small man-made wetland to compensate for the loss of a large wetland area as a result of the sewage lagoon expansion. Keep uppermost the requirement to have the successful mitigation in place before the habitat areas are disturbed, e.g. the Spada Lake mitigation for 1800 acres flooded in 1984. Mitigation studies were reportedly started in 1979. Now seven years later there is still no plan; in fact, the proposed "mitigation" is really not mitigation for there was a net loss of 1800 acres of wildlife habitat. The goal, of course, must be no net loss.

The Northwest Wetlands Conference was well attended. At a guess, some 300 people were there. Pilchuck's Laura Zalesky made a presentation on the Snohomish River Estuary.

The majority of participants were in categories other than the general public, i.e., government agency representatives. One of their major messages was that the public must be eternally vigilant to protect the incomparably valuable wetlands. And here all the time I thought it was the agencies' job to protect our natural resources!

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HAVE YOU SIGNED A PETITION RECOMMENDING INITIATIVE 90 TO THE LEGISLATURE? THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST CHANCE. ATTEND PILCHUCK'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING DEC.13 OR CONTACT PILCHUCK AUDUBON'S PRESIDENT CURT HOWARD 652-9619. DO IT NOW!

INCINERATION OF GARBAGE

Last spring, Snohomish County hosted a two-day conference on incineration. A follow-up conference directed at environmental problems and concerns was planned for fall 1985. The planned fall conference has not been cancelled, but postponed to spring 1986, according to Alan Fitz, Snohomish County Public Works. It is in the planning stage at this time.

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SPRINGWATCH

by Susie Schaefer

As winter sets in for real, it is time to think about spring 1986 and PAS Springwatch. For the past two years, PAS has held a weekend campout. Our first one was at Camp Silverton near Verlot and heavy rains and high spirits were enjoyed by all. Last year we went to Camp Kirby and had a great time there on Samish Island.

Joyce Kelley and Mary Joiner and other PAS members planned Springwatch previously. Now we need to put together another group of volunteers to make our 3rd event a big success. Since Springwatch is for everyone, we need volunteers to plan all aspects including food, workshops, and activities for children. This year we have to have some special activities for teenagers, so we would welcome some teens on the planning committee.

Please call Susie Schaefer (771-8165) or Curt Howard if you are interested in helping with Springwatch 1986.

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ATTENTION GROCERY SHOPPERS!  
Pilchuck Audubon can get a 1% cash rebate on all purchases from OLSON'S FOOD, TOP FOODS, HAGGEN FOODS, HAGGEN HALLMARK STORES and THRIFTY FOODS. Send your cash register slips to Gerald McKnight, 3526 - 113th Pl SE, Everett, WA 98204.

SNOHOMISH RIVER ESTUARY DEVELOPMENT

THREATS - UPDATE

by Curt Howard

The scheduled October 14 meeting of the Marysville City Council to consider a request for a "road" construction permit in the Snohomish River wetlands by Mr. Edward Hayes was rescheduled to "some-time after the first of the year." The reschedule was requested by Mr. Hayes because "he didn't have time to prepare for that hearing and provide the additional information requested by the Washington Department of Ecology for his concrete batch plant" (see below). Mr. Al Matter, Marysville Compliance Officer, is the source of the above information. He has said Marysville will notify the opposition when the "road" hearing is rescheduled. However, no notification by the City of the rescheduled meeting in October was given.

Mr. Hayes' application for the concrete batch plant was sent to the Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) by the City of Marysville after a long delay brought about by the backlog of work in the office of the Compliance Officer. Bureaucracy does have its advantages! WDOE had not officially accepted the application as of October 24. The rejection by WDOE was predicated on their contention (as well as just about everyone else's) that the drawings were inadequate. Mr. Alenderfer, Marysville City Attorney, challenged that position but Mr. Hayes did make more "information" available to WDOE. This information was also judged inadequate. As of October 24, no time schedule has been established by Mr. Hayes for providing the requested information. In spite of the assertions of Mr. Hayes and his engineer, Mr. Meyring, that they are civil engineers, it seems they can't or will not provide adequate information. Is it because they wish to avoid a commitment; that they need the ability to disclaim or even acknowledge specific requirements?

Does this nonperformance reflect sincerity? While not specifically stated, I suspect that one of the reasons for the rejection by WDOE is the result of Audubon's letter to WDOE.

WDOE has thirty days to reply to the application after they officially accept it. Letters expressing your concern would be a great value. Write to Mr. Jamie Hartley, WDOE, Mail Stop PV-11, Barron Hall, Olympia, WA 8504.

Bill Lider, Pilchuck Audubon Vice President, has filed a formal complaint with the Army Corps of Engineers about Mr. Hayes' road-building activities in the wetlands without permits. This complaint requires the Corps to investigate and take appropriate action.

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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

From Snohomish: Newell Dana, Marcia Chose, Susan Bensman, Michael Huber, Fern Hyry, L. Martin, Mrs. Frank Porembski, Sue Severance, Becky Stevens, Mickey Murphy, Pauline Lindblom.

From Arlington: Louise Carbajal, Ester Bennett, Robert Hawksley, Bonnie Westby.

From Monroe: John Demos, John Morgan, Sarah Leyde, M. Wagner.

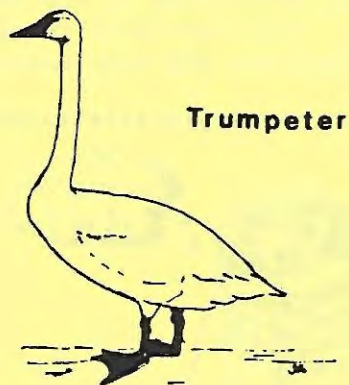
From Granite Falls: Mrs. Hans Scherrer.

(Continued on page 8)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT AUDUBON PROFILE ISSUE: PROGRAM MEETING, DECEMBER 13

THE TRUMPETER SWAN PROJECT  
NEEDS YOUR HELP

Washington State has one of the largest number of wintering trumpeter swans in the lower 48 states. The sonorous bugle of the trumpeter swan has again been heard as these magnificent birds arrive for the winter. The largest wintering concentration of trumpeters is near Mt. Vernon, with about 450 birds. Over the past few years trumpeter swans have been expanding their wintering range into new and former habitats throughout western Washington.



Each winter season the Trumpeter Swan Project in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Washington Department of Game collects information on both trumpeter and tundra swans. The Project's purpose is to determine the distribution, numbers, and habitat needs of the trumpeter swan. Your assistance is needed as an observer looking for trumpeter and other swans. If you see swans while you are out birding, especially trumpeters, please take the time to note some details.

Identification between trumpeter and tundra swans may be difficult. If you are uncertain of the species, please provide any details observed such as markings on the bill, shape of the head profile, adult or juvenile, and voice (if heard). For all sightings we would like to have as exact a location as possible and the total number of swans. Observations of feral mute swans should also be reported.

A Swan Identification sheet is available upon request by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the address below.

Please report your swan sightings to: The Trumper Swan Project, P.O. Box 2602, Lynnwood, WA 98036 or contact Martha Jordan at (206) 568-9369.

CARSONS OF KITSAP AUDUBON HOST

CARIBBEAN BIRDING TOUR

March 1-9, 1986, Joan and Paul Carson of Kitsap Audubon will be taking a group of birdwatchers to Trinidad.

The group's destination is the Mount St. Benedict Guest House and Nature Sanctuary, 800 feet high in the Northern Range, ten miles northeast of Port-of-Spain. The spacious guesthouse is on the grounds of the Abbey but operated by its own staff. Experienced U.S. guides will lead each day's field trip. Four hundred bird species are seen on the island of Trinidad. Many of those the group will see are members of bird families found only in the tropics: tinamous, sungrebes, jacanas, parrots and macaws, oilbirds, potoos, tropical hummingbirds, trogons, motmots, jacamars, toucans, woodcreepers, antbirds, cotingas, manakins, the swallow tanager and many more -- including 30+ raptor species and the famous Scarlet Ibis of Caroni Swamp.

The cost per person of the tour is \$1,398. This covers round trip airfare between Seattle and Trinidad, 8 days and 7 nights accommodations, 3 meals daily, 6 all-day field trips, baggage handling, guides, check list, transportation by comfortable minibus, all gratuities except to drivers, boatmen. The tour will accommodate 14 persons. Early registration is important. A 10% deposit is due by November 1, the balance 60 days prior to departure.

For complete details on this trip, write: Carson Caribbean Tour, P.O. Box 217, Poulsbo, WA 98370, or phone (206) 779-2612.



SOMETHING FOR KIDS !!!!

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30

What better way to teach kids respect for all living things and concern for the environment than to offer them a screenful of kids exploring the natural world and having fun while they do it?

OWL/TV, a new nature and science program for children, began in November on Channel 9, the public television station in Seattle.

OWL/TV is produced by the National Audubon Society and the Young Naturalist Foundation. It is a series for kids seven to eleven.

OWL/TV combines regular features with fast-paced games and puzzles. Each half-hour episode explores different facets of nature, science, and the environment. The series shows real kids - not actors - investigating the topics that intrigue them. Help your kids find answers to the questions they have about the world around them. Tune in to OWL/TV, Sunday mornings at 9:30, on Channel 9, Seattle.

(And if you like what you see or want to see the program repeated at another time, call Channel 9 at (206) 543-2000 or write KCTS, 4045 Brooklyn N.E., Seattle, WA 98105.)

-- Beth Burrows

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#### FIELD TRIP RULES OF ETIQUETTE

When on a field trip, here are a few things to remember.

1. Stay on the trails - it's safer.
2. Be as quiet as possible - you'll hear and see more.
3. If you are unfamiliar with the area you are visiting - stay close to the group.
4. Avoid picking wildflowers - they are more meaningful alive than dead.
5. Avoid disturbing the wildlife - do not bang on trees to get cavity nesters to fly or trample through a marsh to spook the birds out.
6. Plan to carpool. Remember to share gas expenses.
7. Be prepared - the weather is unpredictable. We go, rain or shine.
8. Please do not bring pets.
9. Leave no trace - leave the area you are visiting looking more natural than it did when you arrived.

#### FEED THE BIRDS!

Pilchuck Audubon sells bird seed the year round, but during these winter months the need for birds to have an adequate supply of food is greater than at any other time. We have Black Russian sunflower seeds or a wild bird seed mix. Don't wait! Fill your feeders while the supply lasts! Call one of the following:

Stanwood: Curt Howard 652-9619

Edmonds: Susie Schaefer 771-8165

Granite Falls: Sandy Howe 691-5720

S. Everett: Marianne McKnight 337-4777

N. Everett: Julie Winchell 259-4733

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LOOKING AT OUR WORLD

by Susie Schaefer

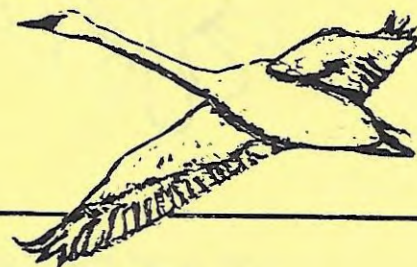
For the past several months I have written about complex and difficult world-wide environmental problems - desertification, plastics pollution and pesticides. These problems and other global concerns can seem overwhelming, and oftentimes we as individuals may feel frustrated and not know what to do. Last year at the Globescope National Assembly, the participants developed an action plan. This plan included this section on personal actions:

"As individual participants of Globescope, we acknowledge that our personal choices have a cumulative impact on the sustainability of the earth's resources, and recognize that living in an interdependent global society requires a change in attitudes, values, and behavior. We therefore strongly commit ourselves to take all appropriate actions to:

- A. Reduce or eliminate our personal habits of wasteful resource and energy consumption, and instill respect for a conservation ethic in our children.
- B. Work toward peaceful resolution of conflicts in our personal and community relationships.
- C. Exercise responsible family planning.
- D. Manage our personal finances and consumer decisions so as to support farms, businesses, and other enterprises with positive social and environmental records and aims.
- E. Actively lead, participate in, or support organizations working toward a sustainable future.
- F. Participate directly in the political process.
- G. Have fun and keep a sense of humor."

These "actions" seem like a good place to start. We can also work on communications, education, and changes in public policy that address global issues of critical importance. I am interested in gathering ideas for PAS and PAS members to "think globally and act locally." For example, what about assisting a sister environmental group in another part of the world? Could we share some of the things we have done here in Snohomish County with others? How could our educational programs include more information on population, resources, environment, and economic development with emphasis on long-term stability? I would welcome your ideas and suggestions.

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TRUMPETER SWAN COUNT

In addition to your regular swan sightings, the Trumpeter Swan Project needs help counting swans.

For one or two days during the last three weeks of January, Martha Jordan, of the Trumpeter Swan Project, will be making aerial observations of trumpeter and tundra swans. She needs four to six good people to confirm her count on the ground.

Due to inability to predict the weather, the exact day of the count is not yet known.

The Trumpeter Swan Society needs only a few reliable volunteers. A short training session on identification will be provided. Those interested in participating in the swan count should contact Martha Jordan at (206) 568-9369.



BIRD SIGHTINGS - SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1985

Two TRUMPETER SWANS were seen on the Kent Sewage Ponds October 28. A GREAT BLUE HERON was observed near Woods Creek in Monroe October 11 (Joyce Strong). An adult TUFTED DUCK was found on Green Lake again on Oct. 28. Two hundred RED-BREASTED MERGANSERS were in a flock flying along Columbia Beach, Whidbey Island, Oct. 10 (SH). Two-hundred fifty-six SHARP-SHINNED HAWKS, thirty plus OSPREYS, 5-6 BROADWINGED HAWKS and ten plus NORTHER HARRIERS were observed in migration at Lighthouse Point, New Haven, Conn. September 29 (FB). A BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE was seen at Ocean Shores October 5 (FB). A ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK was perched on the billboard near Buse Mill, October 31 (SH). Last year, the first one spotted in Snohomish County was on October 15. Another ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK plus 4 SHORT-EARED OWLS were on the Samish Flats Oct. 27. The MERLIN is back in Edmonds looking for dinner November 2 (Susie Schaefer). A GREAT HORNED OWL was observed hooting at the dawn sun near Mukilteo Oct. 18 (TS).

A covey of CALIFORNIA QUAIL were crossing Woods Creek road near Monroe Oct. 16 (SH). Seventy DUNLIN were flying over fields near Conway Oct. 15 (SH). A WANDERING TATTLER, RUDDY TURNSTONE, BLACK TURNSTONE, SURFBIRD, LESSER GOLDEN PLOVER and HEERMAN'S GULL were all seen at Ocean Shores October 5. Four adult BLACK-LEGGED KITTWAKES were on the beach at Ocean Shores October 26. A FRANKLIN'S GULL was again seen at the Everett Sewage Lagoon October 28.

A BELTED KINGFISHER was observed near Woods Creek October 11 (Joyce Strong). A PILEATED WOODPECKER was found feeding on apples near Monroe Oct. 29 (Linda Cline) and two PILEATED WOODPECKERS flew over Evergreen Way near Cascade High School Oct. 17 (SH). A HORNED LARK was observed at Ocean Shores October 5 (FB). A BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE was identified flying across Chappell Road into some cedars near Granite Falls (Joan & Evan Lucas).

A COMMON RAVEN was heard calling near the French Creek Grange October 22 (Margarite Stearman). A flock of BUSHTITS were seen flitting around and feeding along the Lowell road October 2 (Edith C.) A flock of DARK-EYED JUNCOES and a WREN were seen on Windy Ridge, Mount St. Helens September 30 (Edith C. and Ken). A WINTER WREN appeared in Edmonds October 23 and seven VARIED THRUSHES October 28 (Ed Burrows). GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS were at a bird feeder on Camano Island October 11 (DT,KT).

A TOWNSEND'S WARBLER, BLACK-THROATED GREY WARBLER and two YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS were in a birdbath on Camano Island October 3 (DT,KT). What a treat! A LINCOLN'S SPARROW was found on the Kent Sewage Ponds October 29 (FB). A SNOW BUNTING was seen at West Point in Discovery Park October 28.

Initialed observers: Steve Howard, Fred Bird, Terri Spencer, Dave and Kay Thoreson. Those with no initials are from the Seattle Audubon Hotline.

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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

OTHER SIGHTINGS  
Seattle Audubon Hotline 526-8266  
Swan Sightings 568-9369  
or 755-0137  
Falcon Research Group 822-9690

HELP FOR INJURED WILDLIFE  
Wildlife Care Center of Everett  
Dr. Yearout, D.V.M. 353-3814  
Kaye Baxter 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 next day; a report taken by WSP will be relayed directly to the agent over his vehicle radio.



# Need a Christmas Gift?

Pilchuck Audubon is offering an opportunity to you to obtain a gift membership for that "hard to buy for" friend or relative at an introductory price of \$20. for one year.

All you need to do is fill out the membership information, make out a \$20. check to National Audubon and send it to:

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

We will send your recipient a beautiful Christmas or Holiday Greeting card in your name informing them of your thoughtfulness. Time is limited on this gift offer! Please send your orders by December 15!

### SEND A GIFT MEMBERSHIP TO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### THIS IS FROM:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### NEW MEMBERS (CONTINUED):

From Everett: Howard Johnson, Jan Montoya, Paul Presler, Roy Schligel, Mary Abbott, B. Barker, Helen Berg, C.S. Bosley, Gary Brookhouser, Anthony Cooper, P. Delys, Bev Dick, Shari Fritz, Margieree Guyll, M.R. Hair, Tom Harrison, Harold Langseth, Laura Little, Doris MacFadden, Patrick McCann, E. Lyle Miller, Paul Rentner, R.G. Russell, Kin Sroufe, Sandie Valles, Glen VanProyen, Richard Yost, D.S. Bickford, Ellen Brown, Curtis Diteman, Nina Hartsock, G. Olinghouse, Mrs. P.E. Pederson, Sig Sampson, Laurie Curtis, Robert McKinley, Carole Rose, Carol Bell, Lloyd Craffton, T. Ruggenberg, T. Salisbury, Gladys Smith, Rex and Edna McAdams.

From Mukilteo: Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Andre, Mrs. S. McIntosh, Frances Smith, D.G. Jones, Mrs. Margaret Loveland, J. Morgan, C. Utt.

From Lynnwood: Coline Davidson, Julie Dimaggio, S.D. Lio, Myron Martens, J.A. Mathey, Mrs. John Moore, Mrs. H.L. Webb, Mark Wubben, Brad Lashua, Maria and John Ramberg, David Caldwell, George Hadaller, Nick Roberts.

From Lake Stevens: Mrs. L. Eich, Anne Brennan, Mrs. Roy Hoefler, Clarence Mills, S. M. Stoddard.

From Mountlake Terrace: D. Hartle, R.F. Hollingsworth, M. Walters, Eileen Lovejoy.

From Marysville: Elaine Brittain, Kenneth Camplese, J. Curtis, Elmer Dokken, Mel Donohue, Dr. Kay Gomes, Laurie McCormick, Craig Tiegen, Mrs. Karla Turk, M.E. Wetzell, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson.

From Edmonds: J.K. Leasure, G. Brightman, Joe Gasperowich, C.F. Johnson, Hans Lutz, Lucille Massick, Dale Moore, Mrs. Delores Moore, Peter Sessum, Nancy Cunningham, Will Hobart, Ray Dittamore, Michael Lolley, J.R. Boltz.

From Stanwood: T. Thompson, B.W. Middleton, Nancy Amy, Mary Benedict, Eugene Fethke, Arlon Nelms, D.A. Swigert, Rebecca Walker.



OFFICERS/COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS - 1985-1986

\*President:

Curt Howard - 652-9619

\*Vice President:

Bill Lider - 776-0671

\*Secretary:

Bonnie Phillips-Howard - 652-9619

\*Treasurer:

Thomas Paine - 259-3845

\*Conservation:

Anne Grubb - 668-4462

Solid Waste & Recycling:

Conservation Subcommittee  
Mike Grubb - 668-4462

Toxics and Toxic Wastes:

Conservation Subcommittee  
Don Kusler - 334-6781

\*Education:

Beth Burrows - 775-5383

\*Field Trips:

Terri Spencer - 435-8602

\*Finance:

Sandy Howe - 691-5720

\*Membership:

Virginia Clark - 435-3750

\*Programs:

Susie Schaefer - 771-8165

\*Editor:

Ed Burrows - 775-5383

Bird Sightings:

Terri Spencer - 435-8602

Eagle Count Coordinator:

Terri Spencer - 435-8602

Christmas Bird Count:

Bill Lider - 776-0671

Sanctuaries:

Joyce Kelley - 568-5974

Publicity:

Syd Carlow - 339-8325

Hospitality:

Nancy Salvadalena - 337-7458

Corson Research:

Linda Evans - 334-8308

Snohomish River Estuary Study Coordinator:

Laura Zalesky - 337-2479

Sea Lion Coordinator:

Sterling Lantz - 745-3235

\*Board Positions

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

It's time again, on Saturday, December 28, 1985, for the annual Christmas Bird Count, and again we ask your help in adding to a very important data base while enjoying a festive holiday time with fellow bird watchers. This will be the twelfth year for Pilchuck's annual count. Over the years we have seen the industrialization and development of North Snohomish County, encroachment on and filling of wetland wildlife habitat, oil spills, and the like. Now with the imminent arrival of the U.S. Navy, we can expect to see a further development explosion in Snohomish County. It is important that we have data to back up our claims of development impact, and birds are a major indicator of the direction our environmental quality is headed. This is where you come in.

Last year we had the poorest turnout of observers in the history of the count (only fifteen persons). Understandably, the six inches of snow on the roadway last year played a big part in low participation. The foul weather also plays a part in the number of birds observed. A red-tailed hawk with an inch of snow on his back isn't likely to be out flying. Nevertheless, when all the variables are factored in, a picture begins to emerge of the health and population of our resident birds. Last year's count followed the week after the South Whidbey Island oil spill and not a single loon was observed in the count area.

Pilchuck's count is held in the same location each year, within a circle 15 miles in diameter centered near Smokey Point. The circle is divided into six regions.

A non-mandatory \$3 donation is requested to help defray costs in publishing the C.B.C. results. We will meet and assign regions at 7:00 A.M. at the Pier 206 Restaurant at Smokey Point, exit 206 off I-5. For those wishing a hearty breakfast, we'll meet at 6:00 A.M.

If you know any property owners in the count area who would be willing to allow us to observe on their land, please call Bill or Sally Lider at 776-0671. Of course, people involved in the count will leave no litter, disturb nothing, and close all gates behind them.

A checklist of birds that may be seen in the count area will be furnished. Should any unusual birds be observed, you will be requested to supply details, such as field marks, behavior, song, habitat, lighting, and your distance from the bird to help confirm the sighting. Naturally a good photograph would be excellent corroboration.

POTLUCK AFTER CBC: Bring your own place settings and a dish to share. Those with last names beginning with the letters A-H bring a main dish, I-N bring a dessert, and O-Z bring a salad.

DIRECTIONS TO POTLUCK:  
Take Exit 210 off I-5.  
Go east on 236th St. N.E. Turn right on 19th Dr. N.E. The address is 22722 - 19th Drive N.E. The phone number is 435-2024. in case you get

