

Pilchuck Audubon Profile

MAY 1985

VOLUME XIII NUMBER 9

MAY 11th, SATURDAY

**FIELD TRIP: PAS' NEW SANCTUARY
SNOHOMISH SEWAGE LAGOON**

Leader: Joyce Kelley (568-5974). Come visit our new sanctuary! We will meet at the lower parking lot of Everett Community College (1000 block of Broadway, Everett) at 8:30 a.m. or directly at the parking lot of the Snohomish Sewage Lagoon at 9:00 a.m. We will take a walk around the sewage lagoon to see the large number of birds residing here (over 125 species have been seen during the time Joyce has been visiting this area. We don't promise all 125 species on this date, however). Last year we were treated to a bittern and a barn owl, plus a variety of warblers and a number of other spring/summer visitors and nesting birds. Bring comfortable shoes, sack lunch and binoculars.

MAY 14th, TUESDAY

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING

Dee Boersma, Associate Professor of the Institute for Environmental Studies in Zoology, University of Washington, will present Conservation of Magellanic Penguins in Argentina. Her studies have been ongoing since 1982 at Puta Tambo where there is a colony of over a million Magellanic Penguins. She has just recently returned from Argentina and will leave again in the Fall to continue her research. Dee has also done extensive seabird research on the Galapagos Islands and in Alaska. Everyone is welcome. Red Cross Building, 26th and Lombard, Everett at 7:30 p.m. in the Boeing room. Use the 26th Street entrance and follow the "Audubon" signs.

MAY 24th - 27th, WEEKEND

21st ANNUAL WENAS AUDUBON CAMPOUT

Article and more information on this FUN weekend is on the last page.

JUNE 8th - 9th, WEEKEND

SECOND ANNUAL SPRINGWATCH

Join us on our second annual Springwatch weekend. Turn to pages 6 & 7 for article, information, map, and registration form.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER
By Curt Howard

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of Pilchuck Audubon. I know that with your help Pilchuck will continue to be the leading environmental group in Snohomish County. We shall speak up on behalf of the plants and animals and features of nature which man feels stands in his way to exploiting this world.

I personally wish to thank Gerald and Marianne McKnight for their selfless interests in Pilchuck Audubon. Their major contributions have been little heralded, but nevertheless highly visible. Not only have they been an excellent Treasurer (Gerald) and consistent Profile editor (Marianne) but have also given of their time to act as procurers of bird seed, keepers of records, friends and sounding boards.

Soft warm fuzzies to everyone who has contributed to the success of Pilchuck Audubon this past year. If you are reading this, you are one of those people I am glad to know and work with. Accomplishments are generally attributed to the President, and I gladly accept thanks. However, the major kudos belong to the following people: Susie Schaefer - Finance; Sally Lider - Secretary; Bruce Kelly - Vice-President; Anne Grubb - Conservation; Laurel Carraher - Education; Terri Spencer - Bird Sightings and Eagle Count; Bonnie Phillips-Howard - Field Trip Chair and Special Honored Assistant to the President; Syd Carlow - Publicity; Bill Lider - Christmas Bird Count; Jane Erickson - Sensitive Area Atlas; Teresa McKnight and Nancy Salvadalena - Hospitality; Linda Evans - Corson Research; Sterling Lantz - Sea Lion Coordinator; Virginia Clark - Membership; Mike Grubb - Recycling; Don Kusler - Toxics; Joyce Kelley - Programs and Sanctuary; Margo Shepard - Shorelines Management; Mary Joiner - Springwatch.

May God smile at you and allow the elixer of life to drip into your sipapu.

NOTICE: NATIONAL'S RAFFLE TICKETS
From John Borneman, Western Region

We have been notified by the Washington State Gambling Commission that it is illegal to suggest a donation of over \$1.00 for a free drawing. Please notify your members that the suggested donation is **NOT** over \$1.00. Those that have already sent in \$2.00 per ticket will be sent additional ticket books upon request.

RECYCLING FORUM
By Nancy Salvadalena

Thanks to Heather Russell for sending along an article about a Seattle couple who take advantage of the zero can garbage rate and who, by recycling and composting, need to visit the transfer station only every three to six months. Heather's method of composting includes several buckets in which kitchen "garbage" is placed, along with a good source of nitrogen. These are emptied as they liquidize.

Heather is also trying to reduce her consumption of plastic and wonders where she might find bulk, glass containers of a "good" shampoo, dishwashing detergent, and other products which could then be transferred into small, reusable, plastic bottles.

This and That

1) On a recent walk through the neighborhood, I noticed a clever way to recycle an old lawn mower. With the motor removed, it was just the right size to hold a garbage can, which could then be easily rolled out to the curb and back.

2) If I have an abundance of paper grocery sacks after using them for garbage bags and recycling containers, I take them on my next trip to the store, to be filled again.

3) When my brother orders "take-out" pizza, he brings the cardboard box from his last purchase to be refilled.

Don't forget to let me know about your recycling ideas. Call 337-7458 or write 2227 Burley Dr., Everett, WA 98204.



COMMON SNIPE

NOTICE: AUSTRALIAN BIRD BOOKS

The Australian Bird Books have arrived! If you ordered one, please give Curt a call at 652-9619. He will give you details how you can pick it up.

HELP! WE NEED YOUR EYES!

By Dave Mundell

Our fledgling Bluebird Restoration Project is off on its first flight. We have a dozen nest boxes in place thanks to materials donated by the Lidars and logistics by Joyce Kelley. Unfortunately we are flying in the dark as we have very little recent information on bluebird sightings in our area.

Successful bluebird trails (groups of nesting boxes) are operating at the Fort Lewis Reservation and near Roy, Washington. A small population of mountain bluebirds has established itself in a trail near Glacier, Mt. Baker National Forest.

We request that all members and friends be especially vigilant this spring and summer for mountain and western bluebird sightings in the Snohomish County area and especially in the Snohomish River Basin. More boxes will be constructed and we hope placed on sites where sightings are reported.

Call Dave Mundell at 334-2344 with any bluebird sightings.

GAME DEPT SEEKS BREEDING BIRD DATA

Doug Wechsler

Habitat Preservation Biologist

The Nongame program of the Game Department is seeking statewide cooperation to gather information of the status of several uncommon Washington breeding birds. Birders interested in helping with this project should record population data and breeding observations; including location and description of habitat. It would also be helpful to know of any potential problems at breeding sites which could cause disturbances.

Breeding records may be based on the following criteria: adults, eggs, young at a nest, adults carrying nest materials, adults carrying food, or young birds less than adult size. Please let us know which criteria your breeding observations are based on.

Specific help is needed for the following of any breeding records along with any information of the specifics mentioned after each bird species:

COMMON LOON - nests or young not fully grown
HORNED GREBE, RED-NECKED GREBE - areas with several nests
GREAT EGRET, BLACK-NECKED STILT

FLAMMULATED OWL - breeding season calling, nest records, local population surveys

BLACK SWIFT - specific nest sites

BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER - local population survey

THREE-TOED WOODPECKER, WHITE-HEADED WOODPECKER, ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER - population concentrations and careful habitat descriptions

PURPLE MARTIN - nest sites in natural cavities and locations of large colonies in artificial sites

WESTERN BLUEBIRD - breeding in natural cavities, especially multiple pairs, and habitat description; ten pair or more in bluebird box routes

Send information to Nongame Data Systems, Washington Dept of Game, 600 N Capital Way, Campus Mail Stop EX-12, Olympia, WA 98504

CONSERVATION GAME LICENSE

PAS will be selling 1985 Conservation licenses for your vehicle at the monthly program meeting. The cost of the permit is \$5.50 (\$5.00 for the Department of Game and \$0.50 for PAS). Each additional vehicle costs \$0.50.

LOCAL GROUSE STAR IN FILM

By Paul Dye

Marty Stauffer's PBS television show "Wild America" recently finished its first filming session about Ruffed Grouse in western Washington on the Corson Natural Area and Paul Dye's Bird Breeding Farm.

I had located an active drumming log and the cinematographers claimed that they got some excellent footage of drumming from a blind. Of particular interest was their observation that the grouse approached the log and began drumming a full hour before daybreak. This activity continued about every five minutes until the sun had risen high enough to reach the log, when the grouse would suddenly depart.

The Bird Breeding Farm's captive grouse were used for closeup filming of the "snowshoe" winter foot appendages and plumage color variations in western Washington's native ruffed grouse.

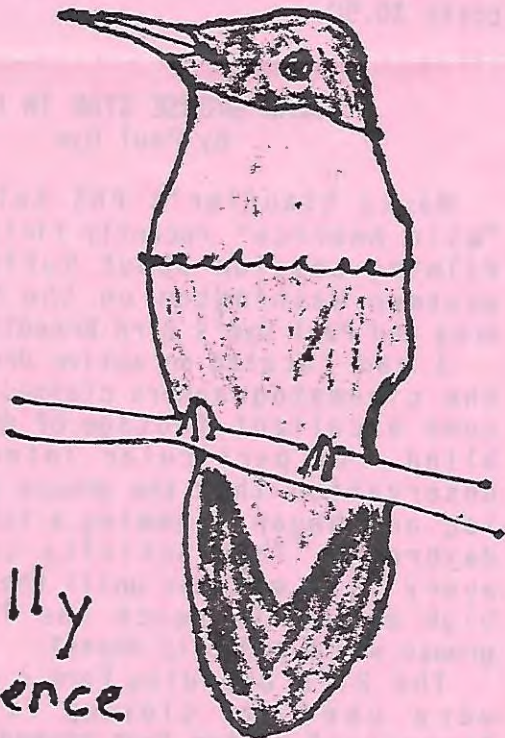
The cinematographers plan to return at least twice more: once to film a nest which the game department has agreed to help locate, and once for a study of brood behavior and interaction with predators.

WHY BIRDS & PEOPLE NEED TO BE TRUE TO THEMSELVES

By Laurel Carraher

I was so excited to receive in the mail this drawing by Billy Lawrence of Lynnwood. It pleases me that he wanted to share it with us.

I love the strength and simplicity of this drawing. Billy draws with a sure hand, notice that he did not hesitate anywhere, that there are no tentative lines. This style of drawing is perfect for this bird - it communicates a sturdy, no nonsense, perhaps even arrogant personality. That is, it is perfect if we have correctly guessed this bird's identity. I didn't know what this bird was, so I asked my son, Noah. He immediately guessed a kingfisher. I said it couldn't be a kingfisher because it had no crest, but of course I was wrong again. After consulting the National Geographic Song & Garden Birds of North America and the Encyclopedia of North American Birds we decided it must be a green kingfisher, which does not have a crest, and a male, as Billy used green and rust for the coloration. (Billy, if we have guessed incorrectly, please write and let us know!).



By
Billy
Lawrence

Doesn't he look as if he's sitting very still on a low branch over a river, totally alert for the flash of a minnow? When he spots it he will dive for his dinner and perhaps, afterwards, brag to his friends and

keep others away from his territory with a shrill call alternating with a sharp tick, tick, tick and a flick of his tail.

When it comes time to nest the kingfisher will fly to a tunnel that he has dug in a cliff. That's right - a bird that digs. And he loves to dig - the green kingfisher digs as much as one yard into the cliff, and the belted kingfisher digs a tunnel from 3 - 15 feet deep! It might be fun to measure 15 feet to see more clearly how far this birds digs. Both the male and female dig - using feet and beaks (his beak does look like a pick ax, don't you think?), pushing the dirt out the entrance with strong feet.

It strikes me that birds have as many different talents as people, and they are not always what you would expect. Earlier we talked about ducks that like to nest in trees in the woods and eat acorns - the wood ducks. And here are birds who like to dig. We might be tempted to teach the kingfisher to "do it right" and build a nest in a tree. But I suspect that we would only frustrate the kingfisher and, besides that, eliminate all the fun that comes from different ways of doing things.

It is important that birds be provided with what they need in the environment to do things their way. Like people, birds have many different personalities and ways of doing things, and they don't all have to do the same things the same way, anymore than we do. Besides that, it is ok if we're not perfect at everything; we just need to do our best at what we like to do, and be true to ourselves. This reminds me of one of my favorite stories - *The Animal School*, by G.M. Reavis. I am including it here. Hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

I can't wait to receive more drawings from you! Please send them to Laurel Carraher, 19107 Badke Rd., Snohomish, WA 98290.

THE ANIMAL SCHOOL

By G. M. Reavis

Once upon a time, the animals decided they must do something heroic to meet the problems of "a new world." So they organized a school. They adopted an activity curriculum consisting of running, climbing, swimming, and flying. To make it easier to administer the curriculum, all the animals took all the subjects.

RAPTOR RAPTURE FOLLOW-UP

By Terri Spencer

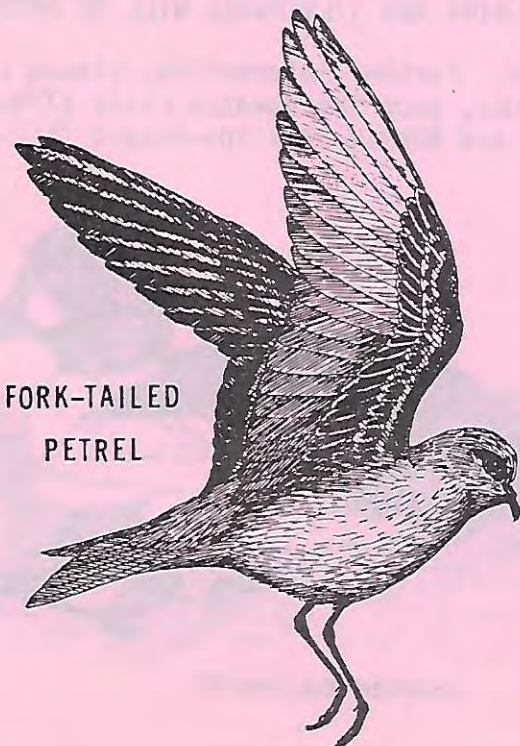
The duck was excellent in swimming, in fact better than his instructor; but he made only passing grades in flying and was very poor in running. Since he was slow in running, he had to stay after school and also drop swimming in order to practice running. This was kept up until his web feet were badly worn and he was only average in swimming. But average was acceptable in school, so nobody worried about that except the duck.

The rabbit started at the top of the class in running, but had a nervous breakdown because of so much make-up work in swimming.

The squirrel was excellent in climbing until he developed frustration in the flying class where his teacher made him start from the ground up instead of from the tree-top down. He also developed "charley horses" from overexertion and then got C in climbing and B in running.

The eagle was a problem child and was disciplined severely. In the climbing class he beat all the others to the top of the tree, but insisted on using his own way to get there.

At the end of the year, an abnormal eel that could swim exceedingly well, and also run, climb, and fly a little had the highest average and was valedictorian. The prairie dogs stayed out of school and fought the tax levy because the administration would not add digging and burrowing to the curriculum. They apprenticed their child to a badger and later joined the groundhogs and gophers to start a successful private school.



FORK-TAILED
PETREL

On Easter weekend several Pilchuck Auduboners journeyed to Neah Bay for an overnight field trip. Along the way we saw a couple of bald eagles, six turkey vultures, a couple of Harlequin ducks and several red-tailed hawks. The closer we got to Neah Bay the more red-tailed hawks we saw floating on the thermals following the coast.

At Cape Flattery we discerned several gray whales. Many rufous hummingbirds were seen and heard along the dirt road to the trailhead. River otters were seen in the Waatch River.

On Sunday Bud Anderson of The Falcon Research Group escorted us to see the migrating raptors. Before leaving Neah Bay, Bud pointed out the fork-tailed storm petrels which looked like large swallows flying low over the bay.

At a large clearcut on Air Force land we saw red-tailed hawks, sharp-shinned hawks and bald eagles rising up in front of us catching the thermals. We observed 200 in no time. One "kettle" contained 44 raptors (a kettle is a large group of raptors soaring on a thermal together). We also observed 21 sandhill cranes fly directly overhead. On Saturday strong winds were coming from the east. A one day record (1742) for migrating raptors in the Pacific Northwest was set on Saturday. We didn't see nearly that many, but what we did see was quite impressive. With the birds seen on Sunday, Bud's group surpassed, in less than one week, the total seen all of last Spring.

At another ridge 73 sandhill cranes flew over, two Northern harriers, a black merlin many sharp-shinned hawks, bald eagles and red-tailed hawks. Three of us and Bud went to a higher area and saw 11 more cranes, several ravens, red-tails, and "sharpies" plus one great surprise - a ferruginous hawk. This is the first definite record of a sighting in Western Washington. Ferruginous hawks nest in Eastern Washington but are very local. (Editor's note: Six of us saw a ferruginous hawk at the museum parking lot on Saturday. There isn't any way of knowing if it is the same bird or if there were two.)

Exploring further we discovered a yellow-rumped warbler, oldsquaws in summer plumage and two feeding osprey. Some folks took a boat ride to see the whales close-up.

Neah Bay has a lot to offer the nature lover. We had an absolutely great weekend.

Mark your calendar and reserve your place for June 8th and 9th. Springwatch is Pilchuck Audubon's Camp Kirby weekend for enjoying, learning about and watching nature. Springwatch is for everyone, be you 8 or 87, member or nonmember.

Camp Kirby is a 50 acre Camp Fire Girl's camp on the tip of Sammish Island, on a sand spit. For overnight accommodations there are 12 buildings, 4 camping areas, and 4 tree houses (each must have at least one adult chaperone). There also is about one mile of beach and many trails through the forest.

Sammish Island is approximately an hour and a half drive from downtown Everett (See accompanying map for directions). There will be signs to direct you where to check in. PLEASE CHECK IN BETWEEN 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 8th. If you cannot arrive by this time, by all means come anyway. You may come part of the day, all of the day, or we hope for both days.

STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES WILL BEGIN AT 10.00 a.m. ON SATURDAY AND END AT 3:00 p.m. ON SUNDAY.

In spite of 80 inches of rain last year at Springwatch, we had a great time. This year we are in the rain shadow, so bring your suntan lotion, your appetite and your curiosity.

WE ARE PLANNING THE FOLLOWING CHOICES FOR YOU TO SELECT FROM:

- Clam digging demonstration
- Crabbing demonstration
- Canoeing 101 (we have only one canoe; do you have one we can use?)
- Kite flying 203 (bring a kite if possible)
- How to build a birding blind
- Marine biology (wonders at the tide pool)
- Owl pellet examination
- Trip to Padilla Bay Interpretative Center
- Day care (cooperative)
- Special youth activities
- Sing alongs around the evening fire
- Photography
- Bird identification (of course)
- Plant and wildflower identification
- Beach walks
- Forest walks
- Owl prowl
- Ornicopter demonstration

Your own brown bag lunch for Saturday. An ice chest for lunches if necessary as there will not be enough room in the refrigerators for your lunches.

Your own sleeping bag, towel, wash cloth, soap, etc. The camp is coeducational with bunks in each building.

Warm clothes (along with the suntan lotion; the night may be cool)

Rain gear (unlikely to be necessary, of course)

Walking shoes (and an extra pair)

Flashlight (check those batteries)

Binoculars, scope

Bird, wildflower, sea shore, etc. identification books

Kite

Compass

Dry clothes (in case you get wet on our beach walks)

Your special slides to share with us Saturday evening

MENU:

Saturday evening:

Spaghetti, French bread, fresh green salad, beverage, dessert

Sunday Breakfast:

Eggs, toast/muffins/coffee cake, juice/beverage

Sunday Lunch:

Will be provided but the menu hasn't been finalized

(Coffee, tea and milk will be provided throughout the weekend; if this does not suit your fancy, bring your own choice)

ALL CHINA AND SILVERWARE WILL BE PROVIDED

For further information, please call Mary Joiner, your Springwatch Chair (776-7756) or Curt and Bonnie Phillips-Howard (652-9619).



COMMON GOLDENEYE

SPRINGWATCH REGISTRATION

Please enter my registration for CAMP KIRBY SPRINGWATCH, June 8th - 9th:

Name(s) _____
Last First Last First

Last First Last First

Address _____
Street City Zip

Telephone _____ Number of adults _____ Number of children _____

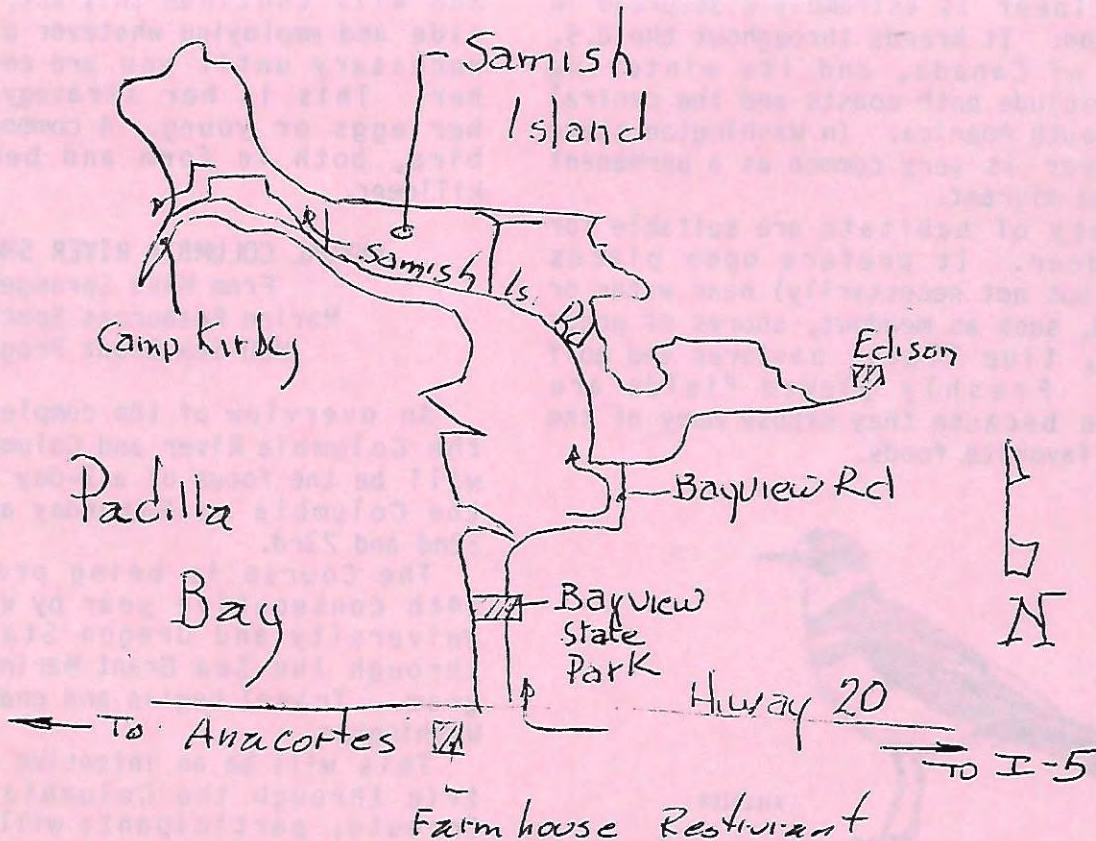
COST: \$10.00 per adult, \$5.00 per child under 12 Amount enclosed _____

SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS (Please check appropriate space(s)):

Cabin (bunk bed) _____ Tree house (children over 10 yrs) _____ Camper/motorhome _____

RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY MAY 23rd AS SPACE IS LIMITED. If you wish to take a chance & register late, call Bonnie Phillips-Howard (652-9619), to see if space is still available.

Make checks payable to Pilchuck Audubon Society and mail directly to Bonnie Phillips-Howard, 7207 Lakewood Rd, Stanwood, WA 98292.



SPOTLIGHT ON BIRDS - KILLDEER

By Sally Lider

Charadrius Vociferus, the killdeer, is probably the best known shorebird - perhaps because of its contrasting colors and startling cry. Indeed, the dictionary definition of vociferous is: making or given to loud outcry, which seems to fit this bird as it flies over the marsh calling out kill-dee, kill-dee.

The killdeer is a member of the Family Charadriidae (plovers). Plovers in general are stockier than sandpipers, with short, thick necks. Their short bills have a noticeable swelling near the tip. They are fast, direct fliers with pointed wings.

This eight inch long bird is easily identified by the two black neck bands. The smaller semipalmated plover has only one neck band. The killdeer is dark above and light below with a white forehead, chin, and throat. The lores and cheeks are dark, there is a white patch behind the eye, and a black bar across the fore-crown. It has a somewhat longer tail than other plovers, and the upper tail is orange. The juvenile killdeer has only one neck band. In addition to the familiar call, you might also hear killdeers repeat a high-pitched kee-dee-ah, or a plaintive cry-babee.

The killdeer is extremely widespread in distribution. It breeds throughout the U.S. and most of Canada, and its wintering grounds include both coasts and the central U.S. to South America. In Washington state the killdeer is very common as a permanent resident and migrant.

A variety of habitats are suitable for the killdeer. It prefers open places commonly (but not necessarily) near water or wet ground, such as meadows, shores of ponds and lakes, tide flats, pastures and golf courses. Freshly plowed fields are attractive because they expose many of the killdeer's favorite foods.



KILLDEER

Many "harmful" insects are eaten by the killdeer, particularly weevils and beetles, flies, ticks, mosquitos and their larvae. Also included in its diet are earthworms, ants, centipedes, grasshoppers and caterpillars.

For nesting the killdeer prefers grass-covered, or bare, gravelly ground in open situations that afford the brooding female an extended view in all directions. The nest is usually a shallow, saucer-shaped hollow scooped out in the ground, and may be lined with chips of stone or wood, a few pebbles, or some grass or weed stalks. Sometimes a cup-shaped depression is made among crushed stones or on bare rock without lining. There are generally four eggs laid, which are pale buff and marked like pebbles for camouflage.

The killdeer is a solitary bird, seldom occurring in large flocks. Maybe that is why its behaviour is so noticeable. An active individual, the killdeer runs rapidly across the ground, pausing only momentarily to look and listen, or to capture some morsel of food. Perhaps the most famous facet of killdeer behaviour is the "broken-wing" deception, at which this species excels. The female will flutter away from the nest, dragging and flapping her wings as though one or both were broken. She will continue this act, rolling on her side and employing whatever other antics are necessary until you are enticed to follow her. This is her strategy for protecting her eggs or young. A common, but colorful bird, both in form and behaviour, is the killdeer.

ANNUAL COLUMBIA RIVER SHORT COURSE

From Mike Spranger,

Marine Resources Specialist

WSU Sea Grant Program

An overview of the complex issues facing the Columbia River and Columbia River Gorge will be the focus of a 2-day Short Course on the Columbia on Saturday and Sunday, June 22nd and 23rd.

The Course is being presented for the 14th consecutive year by Washington State University and Oregon State University through the Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program. Travel begins and ends in Vancouver, Washington.

This will be an intensive education field trip through the Columbia River Gorge. Enroute, participants will hear a running commentary of the unique historical, ecological and geological aspects of the Gorge

from experts from the Pacific Northwest. We will visit scenic vistas along the river, as well as sites of both scientific and economic significance. In addition, there will be discussions of other major issues facing the river, including the potential impact of siting a nuclear waste repository at Hanford, WA, and the controversy surrounding riparian management.

Fee is \$144.50 per person, double occupancy; \$149.50 single. This includes transportation, 5 meals, overnight at Portage Inn, The Dalles, OR and educational materials including the book, The Columbia Gorge: A Unique American Treasure. For an additional fee college credit is available.

For information contact Mike Spranger or Suzie Higert, Vancouver, Columbia/Snake River Office, 1919 NE 78th St., Vancouver, WA 98665 Phone (206) 696-6018.

BIRD SIGHTINGS THROUGH APRIL 9TH



- Mar 9 A half dozen RED CROSSBILLS were observed eating from cones on Japanese Black Pines on the Edmonds Community College campus. (Beth Burrows)
- Mar 10 Two GOLDEN EAGLES were seen on Ebey Island. (Carl Franz)
- Mar 13 Thirteen unidentified SWANS were seen along Boe Road. (Bonnie & Curt Howard)
- Mar 13 An adult BALD EAGLE was seen flying over a Stanwood home. (Curt Howard)
- Mar 16 The group that went on the field trip to Discovery Park saw the first reported VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOWS this spring.
- Mar 16 The first reported sighting of a RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD for the spring. Also some SWALLOWS were seen. (Curt Howard)
- Mar 17 Two WOOD DUCKS and one RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD were seen at Mary Esther Kelley's home.
- Mar 17 Virginia Clark saw her first HUMMINGBIRD of the season at her home. She now has five.
- Mar 19 A BALD EAGLE was seen near 164th and I-5. (Wilda & Lester Jones)
- Mar 19 A BALD EAGLE flew back and forth the length of Martha Lake (near Alderwood Manor). Eagles have perched in the trees on the lake in past years. (Pat

Svendsen) (Note: Could this eagle be the same one seen by the Jones?)

- Mar 29 Two SHARP-SHINNED HAWKS were seen at Virginia Clark's home.
- Mar 29 Three TURKEY VULTURES and one BALD EAGLE were seen near Camano Island State Park. (Bonnie Phillips-Howard)
- Mar 30 Hundreds of SWALLOWS (probably VIOLET-GREEN) were flying over an Arlington residence. (Terry Spencer)
- Mar 30 An adult BALD EAGLE was seen flying over Pilchuck Audubons' Sanctuary. (Curt Howard)
- Apr 1 A VIRGINIA RAIL was heard in the marsh behind an Arlington residence. (Steven Howard)
- Apr 3 A BAND-TAILED PIGEON, three male EVENING GROSBEAKS, 26 MOURNING DOVES and six PURPLE FINCHES were seen. (Virginia Clark)
- Apr 6 Three GREAT BLUE HERONS flying over Chain Lake, one CALIFORNIA QUAIL and two pair of PILEATED WOODPECKERS were seen north of Monroe. (Noah and Laurel Carraher)

March 1985 A white HOUSE FINCH has been coming to a feeder in Stanwood. A RED-TAILED HAWK has been making passes at banties and chicks. BARN SWALLOWS (first of the season reported) came back around March 20th for the thirteenth year of nesting. (Virginia Eagleton)

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 1-624-2854
Swan Sightings 775-0137
Falcon Research Group 1-822-9690
(to report large western WA falcons)

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 the next day, a report taken by the WSP will be relayed directly to the agent over his vehicle radio.

CONSERVATION AWARDS From Helen Engle

Two of Washington Auduboners' favorite members have won prestigious national awards, well deserved and timely! Lorna Campion, Seattle Audubon, and Eleanor Stopps, Admiralty Audubon, have been chosen to receive Gulf Oil Corporation Conservation Awards in Washington, D.C. on May 23, 1985.

The Gulf Oil Conservation Awards program honors Americans who have made outstanding contributions to the preservation of renewable natural resources. It seeks, especially, to honor those who have had little or no national recognition, encouraging younger conservationists as well as veterans with long records of noteworthy achievements.

Awards are presented annually -- this is the thirty-first year of the program -- to ten professional category and ten citizen category winners. The award consists of \$500 and an engraved bronze plaque along with a citation describing the conservation efforts made by the honoree.

Eleanor and Lorna's good works for conservation could be a book-length production! Both have worked sacrificially on Washington State's top wildlife priorities for years. Eleanor developed educational material and slide shows for schools, garden clubs and the public, as well as working with the bird clinic while living in Seattle.

When she moved to Port Ludlow Eleanor was instrumental in the forming of the Admiralty Audubon chapter there, while continuing her interest in furthering the work of Zella Schultz, bird bander, gull researcher, and watercolor artist of professional quality. Eleanor became the spokesperson for the birds and other wildlife values of Protection Island. The development of the Zella Schultz Bird Sanctuary in the early '70s only partially satisfied her preservation instincts.

Together with Lorna they lobbied Congress, after completely organizing forces in the state, to create a wildlife refuge of the entire island, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Lorna's many involvements as Conservation Committee Chair for Seattle Audubon prepared her for a leadership role in the important work of the Coalition for Washington Fish and Wildlife. She carried the message of Bowerman Basin to Regional and National Audubon conferences, led Audubon's participation in the Washington Wilderness Bill's success, and exemplifies the coalition building and teamwork approach in the environmentalists' work of the '80s.

Lorna's presentation of a puffin decoy to Governor John Spellman in appreciation of his support of Audubon goals will always be remembered as a highlight for bird lovers in Washington.

1985 is the fourth year the Conservation Awards program has been sponsored by Gulf Oil. Started in 1953 by American Motors, the program has honored hundreds of dedicated professional and volunteer conservationists, as well as many outstanding non-profit citizen organizations. Washington State has been well recognized by the following: Burton Lauckhart (1954), Howard Nelson (1961), Mavin Durning (1965), Jim Ellis (1968), Washington Environmental Council (1972), John Hendee (1974), Joan Thomas (1975), John Biggs (1977), Helen Engle (1977), Sandra Gray (1977), Joe and Margaret Miller (1978), Susan Saul (1983), Milt Martin (1983).

Congratulations to Eleanor Stopps and Lorna Campion: You are beloved by your fellow Auduboners and symbolize the very best in our society. You are inspirations to us all!

UNCOVERED ISSUES

By Peter Hurley

(Editor's note: This is the continuation of the list of uncovered environmental issues that appeared in last month's Profile. If any of these interest you, call Peter Hurley, 355-7239, (evenings).

- County clearing ordinance (drainage, erosion, aesthetics)
- County stream buffer ordinance (fisheries, erosion, flooding)
- Leaking underground storage tanks (LUST, David Wright, WDOE)
- Stillaguamish River pollution
- County Park & Open Space Plan
- Citizen review of standards for Howarth Park dredge spoils dump site
- Model Conservation Standards
- Minimum stream flow (fisheries)
- Riparian zone (fisheries, shorelines)
- Fisheries, Game, Ecology Dept. budgets (enforcement)

MEMORIALS

We wish to give thanks and acknowledge the following memorials to the Sanctua Fund to help perpetuate wildlife. In memory of Theodore Garza of Snohomish, Washington. In memory of Donald Sullivan of South Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

ANNUAL WENAS AUDUBON CAMPOUT

By Earl J. Larrison

All Auduboners and friends are invited to the 21st annual Wenas Audubon Campout to be held over Memorial Day weekend, May 24-27 at Cascade Park on Wenas Creek in the foothills of the Cascades between Yakima and Ellensburg, our traditional meeting site.

Events will begin with a campfire on Friday evening, May 24, and go on until noon on Monday, May 27. There will be an afternoon bird walk and informal campfire Monday evening for those remaining to go home on the 28th. Two full days of activities, Saturday and Sunday, have been planned.

A variety of field trips is scheduled again this year, with a series of identification workshops for the afternoons to enable you to improve your ability at identification. By popular request, a number of the field trips scheduled last year have been listed again this year. We are also emphasizing campers to make individual walks in the vicinity of the campground. Birds, animals, and flowers are right within walking distance of your campsite.

Although we are again asking that persons riding with others on the auto field trips help defray gas costs with a donation, the activities of this campout are free. There is no registration fee. Certain expenses are incurred, however, and anyone wishing to make a contribution will be welcomed. We have purposely kept the event a camping one with only rudimentary facilities available, in the tradition of the old-time camping trips of yesterday.

Please bring your drinking water. Water for washing is available from the creek, but should not be used for drinking, unless boiled or treated. There is a spring about a mile upstream from camp. We will furnish paper rolls for the outhouses. Be sure to bring garbage sacks and take your trash out with you when you leave.

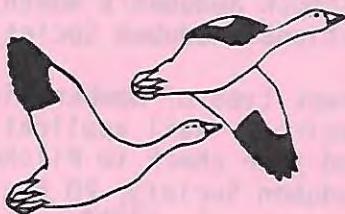
The theme of this campout will be the assembling of information on the flora and fauna of the Wenas area which is coming to completion. A number of persons have been contributing records and data on the animals and plants of Wenas during the past year, but we need one final inventory of this marvelous region. The project will be explained at campfires. The preliminary manuscript of a book on the natural history of Wenas has been prepared and the final write-up, with contributions from this year, will be printed next winter in time for distribution at the 1986 campout.

The continued success of the Wenas campout proves the interest that many persons have in nature and the wild things. Since the campout first began, several generations of Auduboners have participated and we especially welcome the young people, as well as the "old timers".

DEADLINE FOR JUNE'S PROFILE IS MAY 14TH

Pilchuck Audubon Society

P.O. Box 1618, Everett, Washington 98206



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