

Pilchuck Audubon Profile

January 2002

January 11th -- Program Meeting Malheur National Wildlife Refuge – Slides by Darryl Thompson

Darryl will share his slides taken on previous field trips the past several years. The Refuge, located in the south central area of Oregon, is a birder's paradise because of the diversity of habitat. Shaped like a lopsided "T", it spans an area 40 miles long and 39 miles wide, with over 187,000 acres. Birds and other wildlife need several types of habitat for food, shelter and raising young, and Malheur fulfills those needs. Over 320 species of birds, 58 species of mammals, 10 species of native fish, five non-native fish species, and a number of reptiles can be found on the refuge during the year. You won't want to miss this stirring program. This is our first step toward this year's trip!

Program meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Books, shade grown coffee and other items will be available for sale before and after the presentation.

February 8th -- Program Meeting Tom Hoffman, International Crane Foundation

Once again we are pleased to have Tom Hoffmann as our speaker. Tom is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Crane Foundation and has given us a number of outstanding programs on Cranes over the years. The February program will be on the research about the West Coast Sandhill cranes. He and others have been studying these cranes as they seem to be very separate from the other Sandhills that come through Othello and the Central part of Washington. This program should be of interest to all who love the sound of the Sandhills flying over. Tom can share other Crane news as I know ICF has been involved in Crane migration using ultralights recently. Cranes are greatly endangered all over the world and Tom can update us on ICF world wide conservation efforts.

All are invited to this program and all programs. In addition this program should get us ready to plan ahead to attend the annual Sandhill Crane Festival in Othello to be held the weekend of March 23rd. PAS will again have a group going over to attend this wonderful festival. You can sign-up for the trip after Tom's talk.

Program meetings start at 7:00 pm at the PUD Building, 2332 California in Everett. From I-5 southbound – take exit 194 south, south; follow City Center signs onto Everett Avenue westbound; turn left at Virginia; then turn right onto California Street. Parking is on the right in the lot or in the front of the building. From I-5 northbound – Take exit 193 north [Pacific Ave/City Center exit]; turn left on Pacific Avenue and go to Cedar Avenue. Turn right on Cedar and continue to Hewitt Ave., then turn left. Go to Virginia Ave., turn right and immediately left into the parking lot. Any questions call Susie Schaefer 425-771-8165 or the PAS office at 425-252-0926, 3# and leave a message.

Pilchuck Audubon Society is a grassroots environmental organization with approximately 1,500 members in Snohomish County and Camano Island, WA. *Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of the earth's biological diversity.* Through education, advocacy and community activism, PAS is committed to bringing people closer to wildlife in order to build a deeper understanding of the powerful links between healthy ecosystems and human beings and to encourage the involvement of our members in efforts to protect the habitat this wildlife depends upon for survival. We also serve as a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. PAS is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Washington.

PAS Office: 425-252-0926 (Voice) – 425-259-6873 (Fax)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Name	Phone
President	Darryl Thompson	206-546-6141
Vice President	Available	
Treasurer	Lori Featherstone	425-742-7956
Secretary	JoAnne Zeller	360-658-5128
Education	Michael Dossett	425-402-3790
Programs	Susie Schaefer	425-771-8165 cell: 425-478-9383
Publicity and Volunteer Coordinator	Christina Robertson	425-252-5434
Membership Chair and Database Administrator	Ileen Weber	425-423-9069 (before 8pm)
Newsletter Editor	Available	
Conservation Co-Chairs	Sally & Jan van Niel	425-778-7568
County Issues	Kristin Kelly	425-397-6480
At Large	David Gladstone	425-252-0926
COMMITTEES	Name	Phone
Biodiversity	Tom Nowak	425-334-7433
Bird-A-Thon	Hikka Egtvedt	425-347-4944
Bird Sightings	Available	
Field Trips	Mark Freed	425-743-2746
Hospitality	Virginia Clark	360-435-3750
International	Susie Schaefer	425-771-8165
Legal Advisor	Pete Dewell	425-259-6269
Newsletter Mailing	Sue Madison Barb Thompson	425-334-1564 360-435-2009
Forest Practices	Kathy Johnson	360-659-7252
Webmaster	Keith Lehn	425-337-0485
STAFF		
SmartGrowth Director	Sue Adams	425-252-0926

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

Articles for the Profile should be submitted to the Newsletter Editor at the PAS Office, 1803 Hewitt Ave, #108, Everett, WA 98201 by the 10th of the month preceding publication. The Editor reserves the right to edit for reasons of space, grammar or legal reasons.

Articles should be limited to 800 words. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the credited writers and do not necessarily represent the official position of PAS.

"Folding parties to prepare the newsletter for mailing are held the third Monday of the month at Alfy's, 2317 Broadway, Everett, 5-6:30pm. Contact either Barb Thompson at 360-435-2009 or Sue Madison at 425-334-1564 to volunteer.



A Word from the Prez . . .

Darryl Thompson

Hope your holiday season is progressing enjoyably! PAS has been very busy again at this time of year with our successful Winterfest Celebration and Auction Fund Raiser. We also had a fund raising letter go out to our faithful just prior to our Winterfest event. The reason for all our fund-raising efforts is to try and establish a broader base of financial support with less reliance on foundation money, which can be fickle.

To that end, the major part of the credit must go to Ileen Weber (Membership and Database Manager) and Sue Adams (Smart Growth Director)! Yes, there are others of us who have raised a lot of money this past year and you are not being ignored. On the contrary, it takes a lot of dedicated volunteers and other citizens to keep the PAS engine fueled and running efficiently. We are forever grateful for all of your continued faith and support! When our previous Volunteer Coordinator, Jane Rock, retired to move to Montana, we lost a great fund raiser, but it was wonderful to see her at Winterfest!

A few days before the actual event we had very few donations and fewer ideas of how to generate more interest this year. So, a huge thank you to all of you wonderful folks that contributed in whatever manner you did; you should be very proud of yourselves. I would be remiss if I did not mention some people who don't usually pop up in our columns and who should be noticed. I've already mentioned Ileen and Sue and their level of commitment cannot be measured in ordinary terms. Also our Webmaster, Keith Lehn, packed around and kept track of all of the wonderful donations that streamed in at the last minute and basically took over Keith's garage and van! Thank you to Art Wait for maintaining his well deserved "Grampus Maximus" title and coming through as our sales person par excellence. Thanks also to our new Volunteer Coordinator, Christina Robertson, for her excellent efforts. Kudos to Joanne Zeller, our new Secretary, for jumping into the fray!

I cannot forget our new Treasurer, Lori Featherstone and her understanding husband, Chris, for her cool efficiency and logical approach to business. My sincere thanks to Donna Ferrill (and Steve) for their continued support. And as always, thanks to Phil and Laura Zalesky. There are so many more, but I'm over my limit. I'll just say that Bobbi Cross served us well as Editor and Secretary and in other duties she took on. Her efforts will be missed, especially by me, on those little tasks she performed for me!

David and Melinda Gladstone get their own sentence and expression of thanks. What these two do for PAS and our Earth in general...you may never know...and that's basically, how they like it! Thank you!

Those of you I forgot or left out, please excuse me. You too are invaluable and a great help to PAS and me personally. Let's go get 'em in the new year; we certainly have our work cut out for us. If the Board works as hard and as well as we did last year, 2002 will be another good year (of challenge) for PAS. Thank you, from my heart to my fellow Board Members; I'm proud of you all. Good health and good birding!

Darryl's Dilemma . . . THE TREASURE UNTAPPED!

Darryl Thompson

We face some critical decisions with the new County Council taking over and with the Everett City Council grappling with some very contentious issues. Most of the sticky issues have been carried over from previous administrations and now will be dealt with by new bodies with different perspectives and different agendas! Also, not to ignore the other 17 cities in the county, but we have some of our most serious concerns right here in the epicenter of government.

Not all is gloom and doom, however! There exists a rare and unique opportunity for the new leadership to come through for the citizens and for our quality of life. Contrary to their usual lockstep, it must be obvious to the leadership what the citizens of the county and of the municipalities long for, equitability and yes, empathy! Things are not always the way someone says they are, just because they say it! Those astute members of the elected few will consider all of what is presented before passing judgment and rendering the same old "business as usual" response. There is such an uproar over the development going on in the city right now that many otherwise supportive citizens are disillusioned and disappointed that their concerns are being ignored.

I have long wanted to establish a coalition, a group, if you will, of people from different points of view, that would be willing to commit to serious and frank conversation about where we are and where we are going. I know, some of you are saying, "We already have that", but we don't! The Economic Development Council (EDC) is a start, but it produces the same kind of "planning" we always seem to do. This produces, for the most part, re-activists. Actually, that's out of necessity, because we don't really have this group I propose. I would like to see a meeting on a regular basis where the developers would sit down with the planners and concerned citizens and discuss the plans they have in mind and get input to deflect potential problems or offer positive suggestions to enhance the projects. Not everyone is against all development; we oppose ill-advised or poorly planned development. How refreshing it would be to have a builder call us up and ask us to a site visit before the permits are just slam-dunked!

My dilemma is entitled "Treasure Untapped" and what does that have to do with the price of tea in China? Well, allow me to suggest the "Treasure" to which I refer, is the untapped "Treasure" right at our feet: our waterfront and estuary of the Snohomish River. You see, amidst all this rancor and rhetoric, the energy being wasted on unproductive activities is ludicrous! Our river mouth and surrounding uplands are a natural attraction, as yet to be realized for the economic value they represent. There is a great chance to turn a ridiculous argument into a win for all...including the wildlife.

Preserving the estuary's natural state will make it possible for the migrating shorebirds that visit by the thousands to attract visitors from all over the country with their money! This area is unique for another reason; we may have the largest

nesting colony of Ospreys on the West coast. This past year we had over 28 active nests with over 50 young Ospreys. Jetty Island is a very important stopover to migrating birds of many species as well. People want to see these phenomena...repeatedly.

We could designate this area a reserve which would afford additional protections and draw tourists. It's already an Important Birding Area (IBA) as designated by National Audubon Society (NAS). The reserve would not only be a vital sanctuary for migrating birds, but part of a delicate ecosystem that is necessary for a balanced coexistence between humans and nature. And along with this could be a vibrant old town, restored and gleaming, an invitation to visitors. I envision old time trolleys shuttling people back and forth to the waterfront and historic Everett. They can step off the train or bus and into an Events Center that is properly located near the transit hub, not in the historic area we need to preserve and restore!

A pipe dream? I don't think so! My dilemma is why don't we try? If we would just work together.

Let me know what you think, your opinion counts!



SANDHILL CRANE FESTIVAL 2002

Once again a group from PAS will be heading over to Othello for the annual Sandhill Crane Festival in March. The date for the festival will be March 23rd and 24th so be sure to mark your calendars. We usually go over a couple of days early and then are joined Friday night by another carpool or two of those for the weekend. To help us get ready for the CRANES, our February 8th program will be by Tom Hoffmann of the International Crane Foundation.



CALENDAR

January, 2002
(Including Mid-Week Field Trips)

Check our website at www.pilchuckaudubon.org for latest information.

TUESDAY, January 8

BLACKIE SPIT/BOUNDARY BAY/WHITE ROCK

Meet at Smokey Point, exit 206, behind Key Bank at 7:00 a.m. sharp! We will avoid "all that Vancouver traffic" and stay along the bay for some great looks at shore birds and water birds galore! There are always lots of raptors. If you need directions call me. I found a great little place for lunch...new and you'll like it! Dress for the weather. Plan on being gone most of the day and bring two I.D.'s (driver's license, birth certificate, or passport), two of the three! Trip Leader: Darryl Thompson 206-546-6141

SATURDAY, January 12

WEST POINT TREATMENT CENTER (DISCOVERY PARK)

8:30 a.m. Meet at Lynnwood Park and Ride on 200th (by Levitz). This trip will be Part Two of the PAS Waste Water Treatment Center tour. Bring a lunch and snacks and we will see what we can make of the day. We should have plenty to see and do as we explore the West Point area. Trip Leader: Susie Schaefer 425-771-8165

TUESDAY, January 15

FIR ISLAND/JENNINGS-NORTH ACCESS

Meet at Smokey Point, exit 206 behind Key Bank at 7:30 a.m. sharp! We will spend more time along the river than we usually do. There are lots of birds to see besides water birds in the winter. We will also search for owls at the North access. Might be muddy! We might take lunch in-doors too! Getting soft in my old age. Plan on a shorter day this time. Trip Leader: Darryl Thompson 206-546-6141

SATURDAY, January 19

BOUNDARY BAY, DRAYTON HARBOR AND SEMIAHMOO SPIT

Meet at Key bank at 7:30 a.m. at Smokey Point. Plan on lunch indoors as weather is usually a little raw, on the water. Lots of great water and shore birds are possible! Call for directions, if needed. Trip Leader Darryl Thompson 206-546-6141.

TUESDAY, January 22

BOB HEIRMAN PARK AT THOMAS' EDDY

Meet at McCollum County Park parking lot (north of the pool) at 8:00 a.m. sharp! It's always nice to return to an old friend, which is what this place is. We often find unusual species here and we'll also look for the recently returned Gyr Falcon southeast of Snohomish along French Creek. Fish and chips anyone, at Chuck's Seafood Grotto? Dress for the weather; it will be a short day. Trip Leader: Darryl Thompson 206-546-6141

SATURDAY, January 26

GREAT BIRDS OF THE NORTH

9:00 a.m.; meet in the employees' parking lot of Key Bank, Smokey Point (exit 206 off I-5). Once again, Curt & Suzanne will lead this VERY popular annual event. To avoid traffic problems on the back roads of Skagit Flats, we will limit participants to 24. Decide early if you would like to indulge in this exciting trip and GIVE CURT A CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT. Expect to see Snow Geese, swans, hawks, owls, eagles, and a variety of waterfowl, shorebirds, and songbirds. This year, again, we will be planning to include a visit to Gary Wold's organic orchard near Stanwood. It's on a ridge overlooking the Stilly where raptors are said to sail on the updrafts right at eye level. Bring a lunch and warm clothes. This will be mainly a driving trip, so those who do not or cannot walk a lot will find this an especially enjoyable trip. See B-20-21, pages 74-75 in Wahl and Paulson. Trip leader: Curt & Suzanne Howard 360-652-7266.

TUESDAY, January 29

EDMONDS MARSH/DEER CREEK HATCHERY

Meet at the Marsh in Edmonds at 8:00 a.m. sharp! Exit I-5 at 177, go west towards downtown and Kingston Ferry, to Dayton (about 3.5 miles). Turn left at signal to last driveway on left, with curbs, go to back of parking lot to the Marsh. DO NOT CROSS TRACKS! Good place to get chowder and hot tea or coffee. Will be short day with lots of great birds. Trip Leader: Darryl Thompson 206-546-6141

WEDNESDAY, February 6

VANCOUVER, WA SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

7:00 a.m. at the Lynnwood Park and Ride on 200th. This is Part Three of the Waste Water Treatment Plant tour. This will be an all day trip as we will visit the grounds of the plant as well as the Environmental Education Center. Bring lunch and snacks. We will be carpooling. Please call Susie to confirm if you are planning to join this interesting trip. Trip Leader: Susie Schaefer 425-771-8165.

NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS: Field trips are open to members and non-members alike. No advance notice is required to join a field trip unless stated otherwise in the trip description. Trips go, rain or shine! Bring a sack lunch, beverage, binoculars, scope, and field guide if you have them (if not, we'll share!). No perfumes or cologne. Please be prepared to share cost of gas with carpool drivers. Pets, even leashed, are prohibited on field trips. Please leave them at home.

SMARTGROWTH REPORT

Sue Adams, Director

MINERAL LANDS UPDATE

Sue Adams

The **Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)** for the Snohomish County Mineral Lands Designation is ready for public review. The DEIS was prepared by Huckell/Weinman Assoc, Inc. for Snohomish County Planning and Development Services because the Growth Management Act directs the designation of mineral lands by the county. A stakeholders committee has been working with county staff and Huckell/Weinman off and on since 1998 discussing issues associated with this process and making recommendations. Evidence of the committee's hard work is in the DEIS but the alternatives individually do not address the cumulative effects of the many quarries.

The problem with not accounting for the many potential quarries and the cumulative impacts they will generate in that there is no comprehensive review of the traffic impacts from trucks on our local highways and roads. There needs to be a mechanism to measure the impacts of this use on a drainage-basin-by-drainage-basin level. The federal listing of the Chinook salmon is an indication our fisheries are stressed which, not only points to habitat losses, but also brings into question water quality.

Mining impacts water quality (turbidity and temperature), water quantity (aquifers which feed streams during critical low-flow phases of the year), and wetlands (which store and filter water before it is released slowly into rivers and streams). If the local fisheries are in trouble then we need to take that fact into account. We need to limit or phase the operation of quarries so fish and their habitat will be protected. The level of evaluation for these impacts is regional, not on the ground, where only the true impacts are seen.

If you would like to look at the DEIS you will find it in your local library or call the PAS office and talk to Sue Adams.

COUNTY ISSUES REPORT

Kristin Kelly

End of the year land use decisions for Snohomish County have shown a mixed bag. First, the Snohomish County Council will be changing the first of the year. Recently, Mike Ashley from the 1st district was replaced with John Koster. Mr. Koster, along with newcomers Jeff Sax (replacing Dave Somers from the 5th District) and Dave Gossett (replacing Barbara Cothorn from the 4th District), will be joining incumbents Kirke Sievers and Gary Nelson. The new council will now be dominated by Republicans (3 to 2). Because both candidates John Koster and Jeff Sax were supported financially by the developer and real estate industry, Pilchuck Audubon and its SmartGrowth campaign are expecting a tough fight on

some important decisions that have already been made and on those yet to be decided.

This year did, however, provide us with some hard-fought and important wins for land-use, the environment, and quality of life for Snohomish County residents. Just recently, the County Council adopted and will begin implementing the first phase of the Lake Stevens **Urban Growth Area (UGA) plan and Development Phasing Overlay (DPO)**. Citizens for Responsible Growth of Greater Lake Stevens fought for five years for a UGA plan that would address the infrastructure deficits in the area, especially in relationship to road capacity problems and surface water drainage shortfalls. The DPO was a major win for activists, as it is the first of its kind in Snohomish County that would tie approval of development permits to actual funding and fixes to these two major infrastructure needs. The County is in desperate need of help financially for road improvements: without the developers finding new sources of funding, they will not be allowed to build except in areas that already have services available, or that have funding in place. It is too soon to know if this decision will be appealed to the Central Puget Sound **Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB)**, but we will let you know if that should happen. For a more detailed explanation of the Development Phasing Overlay, please see next month's Profile.

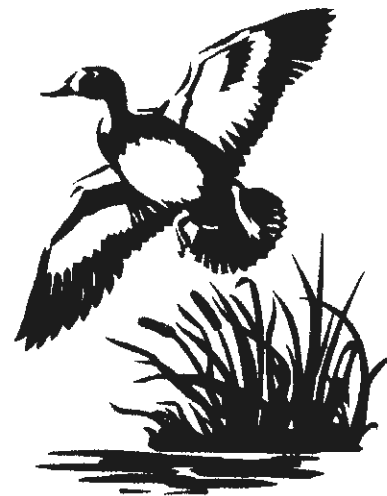
The Clearview rural commercial area is another issue of concern. Early in 2001, the Council adopted a plan to allow more commercial development along Highway 9 in this area. This decision was appealed to the GMHB because of concerns that this "rural" commercial area would be turned into an "urban" commercial area (even more than it already is) which would change the character of the rural area and add significantly more traffic, and is counter to the goals of the Growth Management Act. The decision of the GMHB was to remand this plan back to the County. The remand was recently before the Planning Commission, who will be recommending to the new County Council that approximately 77 acres of land that has been zoned rural business previously be allowed to keep that designation, despite the Board's decision. This will be before County Council probably sometime in late January 2002.

Mill Creek's Urban Growth Area plan also was forwarded to County Council by the Planning Commission, who recommended that the plan brought forward by the Planning Department staff be adopted. This plan would include some type of phasing mechanism for the new urban centers being proposed at 132nd and 148th. Hopefully this UGA plan decision will be made in March 2002.

Snohomish County Planning and Development Services (PDS) is also working to implement the new, misrepresented initiative, called Right to Plow that was passed in November by Snohomish County residents and became effective December 1, 2001. Although there are still federal and state laws which govern permitting, such as the Clean

Water Act, there are no County regulations that would stop someone from grading or filling in a stream if they are in the business of providing commercial production of food or farm products. Wetlands which are under 5,000 square feet of non-riparian Category 2 or 3 or under 10,000 square feet of non-riparian Category 4 wetlands would not need a County permit.

Clearly, this new initiative will be giving the County more work to do to assure enforcement. The Snohomish County Farm Bureau, who sponsored this initiative, has agreed to use its staff and members to help educate the public concerning Best Management Practices. For more questions concerning the Right to Plow initiative, we suggest you call PDS and talk with Agricultural Planner Scott White at (425) 388-3311, ext. 2041, or call Sue Adams at SmartGrowth.



MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WANTED

Ileen Weber

This job is easy. It requires someone who is detail-oriented, outgoing and has a basic understanding of computer databases. Candy Brown has already stepped forward to help with data entry and she's a joy to work with. She has such a positive attitude! There are only a few more tasks: liaison with National Audubon (about 1 to 2 hours per month at most); recruit new members and direct a campaign to renew lapsed members (2 to 4 hours per month). Serving on the Board is optional.

I will continue as Database Administrator because our database is used for more than membership tracking so I will remain available for computer issues. If you're interested or need more information, please call me at 425-423-9069 between 12 noon and 8pm.

National Audubon Society's Statement on Senate ANWR Vote

December 2, 2001

Statement by Lois Schiffer
Senior Vice President - Public Policy
National Audubon Society

"The Senate has rightly rejected another misguided attempt by pro-drilling senators to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling.

"Senators this evening voted 94 to 1 to block an effort by pro-drillers to attach the Arctic drilling provision to unrelated railroad legislation. This is victory for the millions of birds that call the Arctic Refuge home.

"We will not achieve energy security by ruining the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Opening the Arctic Refuge to drilling would be a disaster for migratory birds, for other wildlife and for future generations of Americans who deserve this pristine wild place.

"We can secure our energy future and reduce America's reliance on foreign oil by developing newer, cleaner sources of energy, such as solar and wind, and by making our cars, homes, and appliances more energy efficient."

Help for Injured Wildlife

(Not Domestic)

The following numbers are available 24
hours a day

Deer Creek Wild Animal Rescue
Shirley Shumway
Snohomish
425-335-0788

Sarvey Wildlife Rehab
Kaye Baxter
Arlington
360-435-4817

CONSERVATION CORNER

Sally and Jan van Niel, Conservation Chairpersons

Huckleberry Land Exchange Summary

Pilchuck Audubon Society recently obtained a significant victory (and a conclusion to the proceedings, as well!) in the ongoing saga of the Huckleberry Land Exchange. As many of you may recall, when we last visited this story, PAS, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, the Huckleberry Mountain Protection Society (HMPS) and the Western Land Exchange Project (WLEP) had won a resounding (though unexpected) victory in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. In that decision, the Court told the U. S. Forest Service that it had not prepared a sufficient Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), nor had it looked at a sufficient number of alternative approaches regarding the Forest Service's proposed exchange of approximately 4500 acres of pristine, primarily old growth forest for approximately 32000 acres of primarily clearcut Weyerhaeuser land.

After the Forest Service returned with a supplemental EIS, as well as a number of new alternatives, PAS and WLEP still felt that the proposed exchange was not in the public interest. The Muckleshoots negotiated a separate settlement satisfactory to them, and HMPS decided not to contest the Forest Service's new decision. PAS' and WLEP's appeal of the Forest Service's decision was unsuccessful, leaving us with the choice of going back to the Federal District Court or not.

While we were considering these alternatives, PAS and WLEP decided to attempt our own settlement with Weyerhaeuser. After nearly two months of negotiations with Weyerhaeuser, WLEP decided to bow out of the negotiations. PAS' Board determined that, rather than let Weyerhaeuser off the hook, we would continue the settlement talks. The result was that, in late October, David Gladstone was successful in getting Weyerhaeuser to donate 70 acres of wetlands in the Rock Creek Watershed (located east of Black Diamond between the Green River Watershed -- where Huckleberry Mountain is -- and the Cedar River Watershed), and sell to us an additional contiguous 30 partially forested acres at a below market cost (with the purchase price and associated costs to be paid for by King County). These 100 acres saved by PAS will have a Conservation Easement placed on them in favor of the Cascade Land Conservancy, with the fee interest being held by King County. Both the easement and the fee will have severe restrictions placed on them, forbidding forever any logging, development, grazing, hunting or other non-environmentally-friendly uses.

This landmark decision had one more long term impact. In the words of Janine Blaeloch, Director of the Western Land Exchange Project: "The case also required that the Forest Service significantly improve its cumulative impacts analysis to take into account past and foreseeable land trades... The Huckleberry trade... will have a substantial effect on tens of

thousands of acres of forest." In an article in the Seattle Times on Nov 21, 2001 it was reported that "Last year, the General Accounting Office found that the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management had given away millions of dollars a year by swapping lands for less-valuable property -- sometimes illegally, and sometimes based on sloppy or bogus land appraisals. Huckleberry Mountain was one of the cases cited."

We can be proud of the role of Pilchuck Audubon in this significant decision by the Appeals Court and subsequent settlement.



KRKO TOWERS

The issue of the KRKO towers will go before the hearing examiner during the weeks of January 31, February 4 and February 11. On January 31, from 1:10 p.m. until 2:10 p.m. the applicant will give an overview of his proposal in the Ginni Stevens Hearing Room. This will be followed by public testimony from 2:20 until 5:30 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to not later than 10:00 p.m. If you are planning on testifying don't wait until the last minute. If there is no one signed up, the hearing will end early. If there is a need, the hearing for public testimony will resume at 9:00 a.m. the next morning.

The Citizens to Preserve the Upper Snohomish River Valley (CPSURV) and Pilchuck Audubon's case will be heard for the next day and a half. Then the Harvey Airfield Representatives case will be heard for one and one-half days. The Planning Department Representative will have one half day to respond. The applicant will have 3 days to present their case. This will be followed by one day each of rebuttal by CPSURV and PAS followed by Harvey Airfield. The above will be followed by closing arguments from both sides.

FAST TRACK LEGISLATION

Members of the Conservation Committee from both Seattle Audubon Society and PAS met with representatives of Rep. Jay Inslee's staff to express our concern about Fast Track legislation. We are concerned that it will export more jobs, as well as enable products to be produced under conditions that are not environmentally safe. That has already happened under NAFTA.

BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

Oct 26, 2001 through Nov 25, 2001

Joan Lucas, Sightings Coordinator

Are you going to be envious! Hilka Egtvedt's gift from a close relative paid her way on two naturalist tours to Maine and the Galapagos Islands. She writes, "Our ship had naturalists who were very knowledgeable, interesting and entertaining. One told me that he once spent two hours in an Ecuadorian jungle and saw 120 different species of birds. One afternoon on Floreana Island, some sea turtles hatched and came out of the sand while we were there. Suddenly, about 25 frigatebirds appeared and scooped up every one of the baby turtles despite our attempts to scare them off. Our naturalists tried to console us with the information that there apparently was some flaw in these particular turtles' genetic makeup, since they are supposed to emerge from their sand nest during darkness." Among species she added to her life list are MANIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD, WAVED ALBATROSS, LAVA GULL (only 300 pairs remain), LARGE-BILLED FLYCATCHER, MASKED BOOBY, DARWIN'S FINCH and---attention vegetarians---a VEGETARIAN FINCH! Wish I could publish her entire list for readers' pleasure, but I've been asked to reduce copy here---thus saving paper and a tree or two---so talk to Hilka if you plan to follow in her wake and want her whole list. Meanwhile back at Snohomish County, she reports a female ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD, MERLIN and SHARP-SHINNED HAWK on a list of 20 species visiting her Mukilteo yard.

Arthur and Shirley Wait continue their watch over the Snohomish River wetlands and Ebey Island between Everett and Snohomish. They compiled a record of 643 birds in 49 species, highlights of which are 6 TUNDRA SWANS arriving on November 6; GREEN-WINGED TEAL; CINNAMON TEAL; one EURASIAN WIGEON; a male RING-NECKED PHEASANT; and LINCOLN'S, GOLDEN-CROWNED and WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS.

Near Kayak shores, Anne and Dick Vanderhoff list 22 species on land and the waters of Port Susan Bay. Exciting sightings are 20 SWAN SPECIES flying over on November 6, BARROW'S GOLDENEYES, 5 HORNED GREBES, 32 SNOW GEESE and about 1,000 DUNLINS.

An ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER gets an exclamation point for visiting Nancy Sosnove's east Everett river-side yard. Others on her list of 17 species are a BROWN CREEPER and 18 BUSHTITS.

Mara Price's north Marysville yard hosted 26 species in November. She includes CALIFORNIA QUAIL; DOWNY and HAIRY WOODPECKERS; a WINTER WREN and RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER.

Bob Poulin scouts the east mid-section of Camano

Island shores and lists BARROW'S GOLDENEYES, 200 WESTERN GREBES and 9 WESTERN SANDPIPERS in a total of 16 species.

VARIED THRUSH and a DOWNY WOODPECKER are highlights of Lauretta Herrera's November list at Silver Lake.

Twenty-nine species rewarded Clayton Haberman for his daily walks along Tulare Beach in western Tulalip. He records BARROW'S and COMMON GOLDENEYES; COMMON MERGANSERS; GLAUCOUS-WINGED and MEW GULLS and others.

In the foothills of east county, Jerry Berlin lists 3 RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKERS, a female ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD, 7 GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS, 3 HAIRY WOODPECKERS and VARIED THRUSH.

In Sisters, Oregon, Thanksgiving week, I watched White-Headed Woodpeckers and Mountain Chickadees taking seeds from a feeder only inches from bushy tailed squirrels and a few feet from a half dozen deer.

Llamas outside our motel completed an idyllic snowy scene of early winter in that high plateau west of Bend and Malheur Refuge. At home by Lake Martha, we were visited by large numbers of migrating MALLARDS, CANADA GEESE and DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS, a GREATER SCAUP and 3 BUFFLEHEADS highlighted the month-long watch.



Bird Codes -- COBO

There's been a thread on Tweeters recently discussing the use of bird codes - you know those 4 letters codes some of us understand and some don't. We thought this comment was a wise man's advice and something all of us should think about.

Concerning codes (abbreviations) for bird names:

1) There is no one standard system in use; in fact there are several conflicting ones: four- and five-letter, Latin or English, and so forth.

2) These are meant to be used in particular, specialized contexts where uniformity is a requirement, such as when masses of information are stored in a database.

3) They are unfriendly to the ordinary reader (99.999% of the world), non-transparent, potentially confusing, and a classic example of professional jargon, the use of which, to be effective, needs to be confined to the context for which it was created.

4) Although they appear intuitive and easy to learn, they are full of snares and deceptions. For example, is SASP a Savannah or a Sage Sparrow? That is an arbitrary call unless you are clued in to the secret language. What about when bird names change? Often the codes are locked in and don't change along with them. For example, what do you think a COBO is? A Cobalt Booby, maybe? No, it's a Barn Owl, once (but no longer) known as the Common Barn Owl. Anyway, we will be doing ourselves and others a big service if we just use the full names of birds when we record any information which, now or later, may be destined for a wider audience.

NEWS RELEASE: WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Date: November 15, 2001, Contact: Mike Davison, (360) 466-4345, ext. 280; Or: Doug Williams, (360) 902-2256,
<http://www.wa.gov/wdfw>

Swans collared for lead-poisoning research Rehabilitated and collared Trumpeter Swan will be released at Wiser Lake Friday

Biologists from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and their Canadian counterparts are accelerating a coordinated effort to find out why Trumpeter Swans are still dying from lead poisoning, even though lead shot has been banned in the United States and Canada for years.

A team of biologists from WDFW and the Canadian Wildlife Service are trying to trap about 50 Trumpeter Swans and fit them with radio-transmitting collars to monitor them during their annual migration. Ground crews will be able to pinpoint exact habitats used by the swans and systematically check those areas for concentrations of spent lead shot and develop removal plans.

The first Trumpeter Swan fitted with a radio-transmitting collar will be released into the Wiser Lake wildlife site, south of Lynden, just off State Route 539, at 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 16. This particular bird, a sub-adult female, was found shot and severely injured in northwestern Washington last winter and has been rehabilitated at the Pilchuck Valley Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

"We have lost probably 200 to 300 Trumpeter Swans to lead poisoning over the last few years," said WDFW wildlife biologist Mike Davison, who is heading the Trumpeter Swan research effort. "This is a catastrophic die-off."

A few individuals are probably still using lead shot. However, the agency is operating on the premise that most of these birds have been getting lead poisoning from historically deposited lead, and not from current illegal hunting. The swans, with their long necks, are likely reaching these shallow underwater areas where spent lead shot is still present.

"As far as hunters are concerned, we're getting good compliance with the non-toxic shot requirements," Davison said. Lead shot was banned in the United States in the mid-1980s; Canada banned lead shot in the mid-1990s.

The overall health of the Trumpeter Swan population in Washington state is strong, but the fact that swans are still dying from lead poisoning is a concern to WDFW. Nearly three-quarters of the Trumpeter Swans that migrate along the west coast's great Pacific Flyway winter in Washington state, mainly in Whatcom and Skagit counties. More than 1,000 Trumpeter and Tundra Swans overwinter in Whatcom County alone.

"The birds are picking up lead in numbers and volumes that couldn't be found randomly in a number of sites, so we think there are possibly a few key areas that have very high lead concentrations that are poisoning the swans," Davison said.

The agency has aggressively sampled various areas the Trumpeter Swans use in Washington state, and none have been found to have high lead concentrations.

"We found one area of interest in British Columbia that's just across the border and falls within the flight radius of the birds we're studying with unusually high levels of lead," Davison said, adding that biologists will return to the lake next summer for a more intensive study.

Just one or two ingested lead pellets can kill a bird, and it usually takes only 10 days from ingestion until a bird displays visible symptoms of lead poisoning being displayed. How long the lead takes to kill the bird depends on a number of factors, but it's usually a matter of three weeks to six weeks.

Trumpeter Swans are off-limits to hunting in both the U.S. and Canada. With their bright white plumage and large size, the swans are one of the most visible bird species in the region and attract big crowds to their traditional wintering grounds in Skagit and Whatcom counties. The birds arrive generally in late October and will stay in northwestern Washington over the winter before beginning their northward migration in April. They nest in central Alaska and points north.



Media Article Links On our Web Site

Frequently, someone at PAS reads something in the print media that we want to share with our members. It's impossible to reprint or include all of these in the Profile. So instead we are starting a page on our web site that includes links to two different categories of articles: 1) local newspapers that mention PAS and 2) articles, editorials and letters to the editor of significance that we would like to suggest that you read.

Our webmaster and Volunteer of the Year, Keith Lehn, has graciously agreed to post these links on our web page at www.pilchuckaudubon.org. Each link will have a few words identifying the subject of the article with the date of the article.

If you have access to the web, either at home or at the library, please take the time to check out these links to recent news articles.

THE GREAT WASHINGTON BIRDING TRAIL UPDATE

Christi Norman

The public workshops for the Great Washington Birding Trail -- Cascades Route have been completed. The series of five meetings was a success because sufficient sites for the birding trail were nominated (113) from public input (89 people).

As with the North Central Washington workshops in eastern Washington, there was a mix of Audubon birdwatchers, business and agency personnel attending the November workshops hosted by Pilchuck and Skagit Audubon Societies. The workshops were held in the town of Snohomish for Snohomish County and Sedro Woolley for Skagit and Whatcom Counties. In Snohomish 17 people nominated 16 sites, and in Sedro Woolley 38 people nominated 41 sites. At each meeting the Audubon staff and six volunteers each from Pilchuck and Skagit Audubon Societies assisted the public with their nominations. Thanks to Virginia Clark, (delicious cookies!), Jeral Godfrey, Darryl Thompson, Jan and Sally van Niel and Art Wait for helping at the Snohomish workshop. We also extend a thank you to Miranda Prescott of the Snohomish Tourism Bureau for her assistance.

Congratulations to Skagit Audubon as their press release resulted in a full-page article with color photographs in their local paper, the Skagit Valley Herald. Thanks to Christina Robertson for the Snohomish publicity.

The next step in the process is to visit the nominated sites to conduct more detailed review. If you would like to volunteer for site visits in your area with the Audubon WA staff, please contact Christi Norman at christin@seanet or 206-524-4570.

WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED

This store is a MUST SEE for all bird lovers! Their two locations are:

17171 Bothell Way NE, Lake Forest Park;
206-367-1950

Monday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday: 12 noon to 5 p.m.
and

4821 Evergreen Way, Everett; 425-252-2220

Monday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday: 12 noon to 4 p.m.

These great stores will donate 5% of your purchase price to Pilchuck Audubon Society. Just let them know you are from PAS.

AUDUBON PRAISES HARKIN FARM BILL'S CONSERVATION BENEFITS

WASHINGTON, D.C. Friday, December 7, 2001 -- The National Audubon Society today commended Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) for his leadership in increasing conservation funding to \$4.4 billion in a revised farm bill introduced this week. The new measure represents an \$800 million annual increase in conservation funding from Harkin's original bill.

"Audubon applauds Chairman Harkin for his efforts to help America's family farms and rural economies by increasing funding for voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs," said Audubon VP Genevieve Thompson. "The new farm bill gives farmers the tools they need to protect bird and wildlife habitat."

Audubon is particularly pleased that the bill increases the new Grassland Reserve Program from one million to two million acres. This program preserves or restores habitat for several species of migratory birds and grassland songbirds, such as the bobolink, lark bunting, and the grassland sparrow, which have seen steep population declines due to loss of habitat.

The legislation (S1731) also significantly boosts the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, which encourages farmers and ranchers to set aside habitat for birds and wildlife. Under the new legislation, funding for WHIP was increased from \$100 million in average annual spending to \$270 million. This provision also includes a new emphasis on habitat protection for endangered species.

The new Harkin Farm Bill also calls for:

- \$1.65 billion over five years for the Farmland Protection Program, which buys development rights from willing landowners to avert sprawl;
- More than \$1.2 billion a year for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, which addresses water pollution on farms and ranches;
- Funding that will allow the restoration of 250,000 acres of wetlands every year; and
- A new program that would allow farmers to lease, transfer or sell water rights on 1.1 million acres of land in order to protect birds, wildlife and fish.

BOBBI -- THANKS

Bobbi Cross has worn many hats through the years as a volunteer for PAS. Most recently she has been the *Profile* Editor, but formerly she was the Board Secretary and the Membership Chair. There are very few tasks at PAS that Bobbi hasn't taken on at one time or another. We want to thank her for the many hours given to PAS and wish her well.

VOLUNTEER SURVEY

Christina Robertson
Volunteer Coordinator

Dear Prospective Pilchuck Audubon Volunteer:

Pilchuck Audubon is staffed almost entirely with volunteers – we could not accomplish all that we do without the generous help and creative input of many people – people like YOU! During the course of the year there are many ways to volunteer and help out, from a little to a lot, and every bit helps and contributes to our mission and programs on behalf of birds and nature. And besides – it's fun to get involved in the work of the organization and to meet people with similar passions and interests!

Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed survey and let us know where your interests lie. If you have any questions, please call me at (425) 252-5434 or send me an email at Crobertson@pilchuckaudubon.org.

First name	Middle initial	Last name
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Address	City	Zip
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Home phone (include area code)	Work phone (include area code)
--------------------------------	--------------------------------

E-mail address

◆ **What type of schedule do you prefer? (please check one)**

A regular schedule

- Daily
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Other _____

A flexible schedule

- Hours per week _____
- Hours per month _____
- One-time projects or events
- Other _____

◆ **Where would you be willing to volunteer? (please check all that apply)**

- South Snohomish County Everett-Monroe-Marysville North Snohomish County

◆ **With what age groups would you prefer to volunteer? (Please check all that apply)**

- Children Teenagers Adults

◆ Please indicate your areas of interest (please check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birdathon Fundraiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips and Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winterfest Fundraiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Washington Birding Trail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with mailings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Answer phones | <input type="checkbox"/> Work in the PAS office : hours available _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compile Mailings | <input type="checkbox"/> Distribute posters / flyers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer assistance /(data entry | <input type="checkbox"/> Event staffing / booths |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Take photographs | <input type="checkbox"/> Compile information (Birding) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Edit / proofread / write | <input type="checkbox"/> Set-up / Take-down (meetings) |

Other: _____

◆ Are you 18 years of age or older? Yes No

◆ How long do you anticipate volunteering?

- A month or two A year or more Need to try it and see

◆ What is your current employment status? Employed Retired Unemployed Student

◆ Please list any allergies or physical conditions we need to know about and/or accommodate:

◆ In case of emergency, whom should we contact?

Name of emergency contact (1) ()	()	Relationship
Home phone (include area code)	Work phone (include area code)	Pager
Name of emergency contact (2) ()	()	Relationship
Home phone (include area code)	Work phone (include area code)	Pager

Thanks for taking the time to fill out this report. After it has been returned and reviewed, we will contact you to review available volunteer opportunities and see how we might put your talents to work in a way that meets your interests and schedule.

RETURN THIS FORM TO: **Pilchuck Audubon Society**
Attn: Volunteer Coordinator
1803 Hewitt Avenue #108
Everett, WA 98201

IN THE FIELD...

Darryl Thompson

Recently, our Mid-week Field Trip Group visited Port Gamble and points along the way to Fort Flagler State Park. This trip encompasses areas such as Salisbury Point State, Park Shine Tidelands State Park, Port Ludlow, Mats, Oak Bay, the breakwater and lagoon, Marrowstone Point, Point Wilson, Port Townsend and others. One never knows where the birds will show. This day was begun with some trepidation as the weather was wet and getting worse, but as those faithful of you who trust our luck are often rewarded with acceptable weather. This trip turned into a beautiful, sunny day with many lovely species to observe!

The start of the trip is always fun when we hope the ferry and get a peek at some species not easily seen from shore. There were many Scoters (Surf, Black, White-winged) on the crossing and several Ancient and Marbled Murrelets. Of course, there were Cormorants everywhere and many Barrows and Common Goldeneye hanging around the dock at Kingston as we arrived.

Once at Port Gamble the bird watching gets serious...I mean there are so many species to observe, it's incredible. (Go to our Web Site for the complete list). We saw Bald Eagles, Red-Tailed Hawks, all three Scoters, Long-Tailed Ducks, Western, Horned, Pied-Billed Red-Necked Grebes and we were rewarded with a rare siting of three Clark's Grebes! We all got very good looks at these rare visitors. We also had Wigeon, Northern Pintail, Bufflehead, both Goldeneye, Red-breasted and Hooded Merganser.

All day we had great looks at wonderful birds including a playful Peregrine mobbing a sleepy Red-Tailed Hawk, so much so, that the Buteo finally tried to escape the hassle...and it did, as the Falcon lost interest. We also, discovered several different species of shorebirds along the breakwater.

Maybe you'd like to join us on a trip...we have a very pleasant group of regulars and yesterday we had a new person from Seattle Audubon along. All are welcome and all have a good time and we share a lot of information. Hope to see you soon.

REACH NEW AUDIENCES

The Profile Newsletter is mailed to over 1,300 members every month, offered at general meetings and given out at outreach events. Ad rates are reasonable at \$35 for a 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" space. Prepayment is required. For more information contact the Newsletter Editor, at the PAS office, 425-252-0926.

WATERWORKS GARDEN FIELD TRIP

Susie Schaefer

On a lovely sunny Sunday in early December we took the first trip of the three-part PAS Sewage Treatment Plant tour. We headed for Renton to the "Waterworks Garden" to see how the King County Waste Water Department and the City of Renton had developed their sewage treatment plant a couple of years ago. We were also interested to see what birds we might be able to find in the area. It proved to be an interesting trip on both accounts. We were able to walk through the newly developed odorless public pathway by a series of settling ponds surrounded by up-and-coming native plants and some beautiful artwork with stones, grates, and basalt columns. In another few years the plantings will look even better and be able to support even more species. In the area we identified 47 species of birds along the path, flying overhead, and in the riparian area next to the plant (Black River Riparian Forest).

Bird list for December 9, 2001 -

Pied-Billed Grebe	4	Golden-crowned Kinglet	5
Double Crested Cormorant	2	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	13
Great Blue Heron	14	Bewick's Wren	1
(There is a big Heronry nearby)		Winter Wren	2
Green Heron	1	Marsh Wren	5
Canada Goose	22	American Robin	64
American Wigeon	4	Bushtit	32
Gadwall	23	Black-capped Chickadee	11
Green-Winged Teal	51	Chnt-backed Chickadee	2
Mallard	96	Stellar's Jay	3
Ring-Necked Duck	21	American Crow	200
Greater Scaup	4	European Starling1	75
Common Goldeneye	1	Yellow-rumped Warbler	9
Bufflehead	30	Spotted Towhee	3
Hooded Merganser	33	Song Sparrow	13
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	White-crowned Sparrow	5
Red-tailed Hawk	12	Golden-crowned Sparrow	3
American Kestrel	1	Dark-eyed Junco	18
Mew Gull	5	Red-winged Blackbird	7
Ring-billed Gull	3	Brewer's Blackbird	3
Glaucous-wing Gull	26	House Finch3	8
Rock Dove	26	Pine Sisken	18
Belted Kingfisher	3	American Goldfinch	6
Downy Woodpecker	1	House Sparrow	4
Northern Flicker	12		

Part Two of the tour is scheduled for Saturday January 12th to the West Point Treatment Plant. The final trip will be to Vancouver WA tentatively scheduled for Wednesday February 6th.

If you have any questions about this tour or if you want to talk about the planning for Brightwater call Susie Schaefer at 425-771-8165.

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

JOINT membership in National Audubon Society and Pilchuck Audubon Society includes National Audubon Society's bimonthly magazine *AUDUBON* and Pilchuck Audubon's monthly *Profile* newsletter for one year. Cost is \$20 for an Introductory Membership or \$35 for a Regular Membership. **Make your check payable to National Audubon Society.**

When you join National Audubon Society, you are also automatically become a member of Pilchuck Audubon Society. However, PAS gets only about \$1.00 of your national annual dues to support its programs.

LOCAL membership in Pilchuck Audubon Society includes a one-year subscription to Pilchuck Audubon's monthly *Profile* newsletter. Cost is \$25. A special limited income category is also available for \$16. Make your check payable to Pilchuck Audubon Society.

Mail checks for these memberships to Ileen Weber, 1803 Hewitt Avenue, #108, Everett, WA 98201.

NAME _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____