Volume 39, Number 11

www.pilchuckaudubon.org

November 2012

#### **Smart Growth Report**

By Kristin Kelly, Smart Growth Director

With 2012 almost over, a review is in order, with a look ahead to 2013.

First, I want to thank everyone who attended the Sixth Annual Feast with Friends fundraiser on August 30 at the beautiful home, art studio, and gardens of Snohomish Mayor Karen Guzak and Warner Blake. Many folks commented that it was the best one yet! We had an array of delicious food from 8 talented local chefs: Anne Dottai of Grilla Bites; James White of Java Haus; Marilyn Rosenberg of Café Zippy; Conni Brownell of The Charmed Radish; Joshua Delgado of The Kitchen Table; Jeff Linscomb of Snohomish Bakery; Mary Arthur, Culinary Arts Instructor; and I.

Local farmers and producers donated an assortment of farm-fresh product to the chefs. Thanks to Bailey's Vegetables, Chinook Farms, Craven Farm, Darigold, Freshly Doug Vegetables, Garden Treasures, Dayville Hay and Grain, Hayton Farms, Maltby Produce Markets, Mossyback Farms, National Food Corporation, Taylor Shellfish Farm, Whitehorse Meadows Farm, and Willie Greens Farm; wines from Cedar Ridge Winery.

#### Recap of 2012 issues

Snohomish County Shoreline Master Plan Update —The Snohomish County Council adopted an update to the Shoreline Master Plan Update. The Department of Ecology requested they make numerous changes, all of which we supported.

Clearview Rural Commercial (CRC) Area — This area is located along Highway 9 south of Snohomish and north of Maltby. This year, Snohomish County Planning and Development Services proposed adding more urban uses. Futurewise and Pilchuck Audubon Society

(Continued on page 4)

#### **November Program Meeting**

# Gardening with Native Plants Rita Moore Washington Native Plant Steward

Friday, November 9, 7 p.m. Everett Firefighters Hall 2411 Hewitt Ave, Everett

Gardening with Native Plants presents native plants in a garden setting rather than in the wild. You will learn what plants are native, their uses, and which setting works best for individual plants such as sunny, shady, dry, moist, aggressive, and non aggressive. Presenter is Rita Moore, a Washington Native Plant Steward for move than 10 years, who has participated in many restoration projects and does consulting on garden designs using natives.

For more information, call 425-252-0926.

## **Board Meeting Location Change**

Beginning in November, the PAS Board meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at a new location: the PUD building, 2320 California Street, Everett. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Kathleen Snyder at 425.438.1505.

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#### **National President Marks Completion of Washington Birding Trail**

"The Great Washington State Birding Trail is officially open and ready for birders!" proclaimed National Audubon President David Yarnold to 90 chapter members from around the state during the Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW) in Poulsbo Oct. 4.

Yarnold saluted the 600 volunteers who worked with Director Christi Norman to create the seven loops that cover 3,000 miles within two million acres of protected habitat, supporting nearly 350 species. The decade-long achievement was funded by \$1.5 million from private and public grants, and individual and chapter donations.

Along with full-color paper maps, birders can now access each route via the new "app" for iPhone and iPad, and an e-book. Signs are being installed to mark the 375 local sites.

Birds' flyways are the glue that unites the Audubon Society today, President Yarnold emphasized during his ACOW keynote talk. Washington's lands and waters lie squarely on the Pacific Flyway from Alaska to Patagonia,

with many Important Bird Areas included on the Great Washington State Birding Trail.

Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson cut the ribbon for the last trail route, the Puget Loop; similar ceremonies are planned around the state.



Audubon members celebrated the official completion of the Great Washington State Birding Trail during the fall ACOW Oct. 4 hosted by Kitsap Audubon. Photo by David Gluckman.

#### **About Pilchuck Audubon Society**

The Pilchuck Audubon *Profile*, official newsletter of Pilchuck Audubon Society, is published monthly.

Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) is a grass-roots environmental organization with members throughout Snohomish County and Camano Island, Washington.

Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of 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 serve as a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. PAS is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization incorporated in the state of Washington.

#### **Newsletter Submissions**

Submit articles to newsletter@pilchuckaudubon. org or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290-1742. Submissions must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

# To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.252.0926.

The *Profile* is available at www.pilchuckaudubon.org

#### $Board\ of\ Directors$

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#### Staff

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#### **Trip Calendar**

Check our web site at www.pilchuckaudubon.org for the latest information.

# Saturday, November 3 Mountain Loop Highway

(map)

This will be an all-day hike with mycologist and pharmacist Greg Hovander. Greg can identify hundreds of fungal species, tell you their medicinal qualities, their nutritional value, and cooking methods. This year's late mushroom season overlaps the snow, so we'll start at low-elevation campgrounds, Turlo and Gold Basin, along the Mountain Loop Highway. After that, participants who want to hike will proceed to the nearby Lake 22 trailhead for a moderately strenuous, 5.4 mile roundtrip walk to this beautiful, cliff-ringed lake at the base of Mt. Pilchuck. Meet at 9 am at the Granite Falls IGA store on Granite Ave. (From the W, turn left at the blinking red 4-way-stoplight). Space is limited to 12, so contact Kathy as soon as possible to reserve your spot.

Leader: Kathy Johnson 360.659.7252,

katherine@earthlink.net

#### Saturday, November 3

**Green Lake** 

(map)

Meet at 8 AM at Everett Mall – in the back, near the transit facility by LA Fitness. We'll carpool to Green Lake in Seattle and walk the wide, paved lake trail, which is about 3 miles around. Lots of waterfowl this time of year. When the group gets hungry, we'll stop for lunch. Leader: Terry Nightingale, 206.619.2383, tnight@pobox.com

## Tuesday, November 6

**Snohomish City and Outskirts** 

(map)

Meet at 8:00 AM at Snohomish Park & Ride, located at the junction of Highway 9 and Bickford Ave. Enjoyable and relaxed trip. We usually have high species counts and surprises. Pack a lunch.

Leaders: Art Wait 360.563.0181 Virginia Clark 360.435-3750

#### Tuesday, November 13 British Columbia

George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary

(map)

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart west of Marysville( I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. The refuge is in Canada, on Westham Island at the mouth of the Frazier River. Expect Waterfowl underfoot and chickadees and nuthatches fed in the hand, plus surprise species. Bring

your US Passport or Enhanced Driver's License. Pack a

lunch.

Leader: Virginia Clark 360.435.3750

# Tuesday, November 20 Smith and Spencer Islands

(<u>map</u>)

Meet at 8:00 AM at Langus Riverfront Park, Everett. Go North on SR529 (Broadway) over the Snohomish River; turn right onto 28th Pl. NE. Follow signs to Langus Waterfront Park; continue past the park to a parking lot past the left curve in the road (under I-5 and just past the shell house and Everett Animal Shelter). Should see lots of waterfowl and raptors. Walk the Langus Riverfront Trail, and Spencer Island. Lots of walking. Pack a Lunch.

Leaders: Ed Cushing 425.438.4146

Art Wait 360.563.0181

#### **Tuesday, November 27**

#### Birch Bay / Semiahmoo / Drayton Harbor

(<u>map</u>)

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart west of Marysville(I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Should see migrating waterfowl and shorebirds (dowitchers, yellowlegs, Dunlin, Long-tailed and Harlequin Ducks). Wilma will provide soup and desert at her beach cabin.

Leaders: Wilma Bayes 360.629.2028

Virginia Clark 360.435.3750

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

EVERETT AND NORTH COUNTY SATURDAY DEC 15

EDMONDS AND SOUTH COUNTY SATURDAY DEC 22
Interested in more information?
Contact Duane Karna karnadk@comcast.net

#### **NEW SHOREBIRD SURVEY - PORT SUSAN AREA**

NOVEMBER 24 OR 25 DECEMBER 8 DECEMBER 9

Contact Judy Chapman for more information judychwa@yahoo.com

(Continued from page 1)

#### **Smart Growth Report**

advocated against further urbanizing this rural area, and the County Council agreed.

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)/Affordable Housing along Highway 99 — Both Everett and Lynnwood adopted plans for the Highway 99/Evergreen Way areas inside their city limits. The Housing Consortium of Everett, Snohomish County, Futurewise, and Pilchuck Audubon Society recommended inclusionary zoning at Swift Rapid Bus stops to promote mixed-use, transit-oriented development, including affordable housing. While neither city adopted our recommendations, they did opt for incentive zoning at certain locations.

Public Notification — The County Council will now be doing more on-line notification of upcoming legislation. I urge you to visit the county's website often for information at www.snoco.org.

Snohomish County Transfer-of-Development Rights Program — After 30 years and numerous studies, the County Council adopted a countywide TDR program that will allow developers to buy development rights from farmers and forest landowners (sending areas) and use those development rights for more density in the county's urban center areas (receiving areas). Other cities adopting TDR programs are Arlington, Snohomish, and Mountlake Terrace. This is another tool to help preserve and protect our resource lands while directing new growth into our mixed-use, transit-oriented urban center areas.

Point Wells Urban Center to Urban Village — Several years ago, the County Council adopted the Urban Centers Ordinance, which designated Urban Centers including the Chevron site outside of Woodway referred to as Point Wells. A citizen's group (Save Richmond Beach) and the cities of Woodway and Shoreline appealed this plan to the state's Growth Management Hearings Board, arguing that the amount of traffic that would be generated by this Urban Center would severely impact their communities because of the lack of roads and transit infrastructure. The Board ruled against the County. The County Council complied with the Board's order and has redesignated Point Wells as an Urban Village, which will reduce the density.

#### **Looking Forward to 2013**

2013 Livable Snohomish County Summit — Every other year for the last 6 years, I have hosted a free, all -day Livable Snohomish County Summit and Candidate forum. The Fourth LSC Summit is scheduled for October 2013 and will focus on Building Livable Communities. The first forum in 2007 brought together neighborhood groups, environmental organizations, county leaders, and others to learn from each other and to begin the networking process. In 2009, the summit focused on climate change and land-use planning. In 2011, the summit looked at water issues. There will also be a candidate forum for the three County Council seats in Districts 1, 4, and 5.

Sustainable Lands Strategy — Representing Futurewise and Pilchuck Audubon, I continue to serve on the Executive Committee of the Sustainable Lands Strategy, a committee of farmers, tribe leaders, and Forterra. We are working to recommend policies, strategies, and projects that will provide a net gain for farming and salmon and wildlife habitat restoration.

10-Year Comprehensive Plan Update—Snohomish County and its cities will be required to update their comprehensive and land-use plans by 2015, referred to as the 10-year update. After 2015, they will be required to update every 8 years. Already Snohomish County is working on that adoption. I will keep you informed of meetings, hearings, and events that are important during this process.

Transfer-of-Development Rights Program — Although the county has adopted a countywide TDR program, there are still issues that need attention. There will be more work on what other lands should be included as TDR receiving areas. I will continue to advocate for area-wide rezones to include TDR overlays. I am always eager to work with Pilchuck members and other citizens who care about how Snohomish County is developed and conserved.

If you are interested in learning more about the work I do, please contact me at Kristin@futurewise.org or 425-923-8625.

### **Backyard Birding Highlights**

By Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

Well, we are now into Fall. Most of my favorite birds have headed to warmer places. We will still have the Chickadees, Steller's Jays, Northern Flickers and Woodpeckers, Crows and, soon, Varied Thrush.

Hilkka Egtvedt had a very interesting experience in her home toward the end of August. She apparently left the sliding door in the kitchen area open. Suddenly she heard a whoomping sound behind her. A Band-Tailed Pigeon had entered and flew to the top of the refrigerator. After a while it flew to the top of her computer stand. It then saw the sliding glass door and flew into it. Fortunately, it was not injured and then walked out the open door. I guess she will be careful not to leave her doors open again without the screen. Her total species count of 24 from her home in Mukilteo included 4 American Crows, 16 Band-Tailed Pigeons, 4 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 3 Chestnut-Backed Chickadees, 6 House Finch, 26 Pine Siskin, a Red-Tailed Hawk, and a White-Crowned Sparrow.



Band-tailed Pigeon *Alan Vernon* 

It must be amazing to see 22 Evening Grosbeaks at the feeders. That is what **Carole and Larry Beason** reported from their home near Lake Bosworth. They also reported 12 American Goldfinch, 36 Barn Swallows overhead, 5 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 3 Cedar Waxwing, a Hutton's Vireo, an Osprey over the lake, 2 Red-Breasted Sapsuckers, 36 Red-Winged Blackbirds at the feeders and in the trees, 26 Violet-Green Swallows, a Western Tanager, a Great-Horned Owl, and a Wilson's Warbler, for a total species count of 45.



Evening Grosbeak

Peter Wallack

John Davis reports the bird species he spots on his walks through Forest Park. This 197-acre wooded park is Everett's oldest and largest park. With its wellestablished forest ecosystems, it must be a great place to go birding. His total species count of 51 included a Bald Eagle, 5 Barn Swallows, 3 Belted Kingfishers, 3 Black-Throated Gray Warblers, 9 Cedar Waxwings, 10 Evening Grosbeaks (the first for him at the park), a Hermit Thrush, a female Merlin, 2 Orange-Crowned Warblers, a Savannah Sparrow, 10 Song Sparrows, a Swainson's Thrush, 3 Varied Thrush (must be early arrivals), 10 Violet-Green Swallows, and a female Western Tanager.



Belted Kingfisher

Mike Baird

(Continued on page 6)

#### Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

(Continued from page 5)

Twelve American Goldfinch topped **Gail Dibernardo's** report from her home in Brier. Her total species count of 18 included 4 Spotted Towhee, 8 House Finch, 5 Violet-Green Swallows, a Brown Creeper, 3 Pileated Woodpeckers (2 adults and 1 juvenile), 10 Pine Siskin, 6 Bushtit, 4 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 4 Band-Tailed Pigeons, and 2 Downy Woodpeckers.



Pine Siskin Simon Pierre Barrette

**Kriss Erickson's** report from her home in Everett included a Yellow Warbler in her yard. She also reported 12 Black-Capped Chickadees, 5 Steller's Jays, 16 American Crows, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 2 Northern Flickers, 2 male Pileated Woodpeckers, 2 female Mallards, 6 Western Gulls overhead, and a Bewick's Wren, for a total species count of 11.

More Cedar Waxwings at **Julie O'Donald's** home in Brier. She reported 2 in the trees along with 4 American Goldfinch, 2 Bewick's Wren in the shrubs, 3 Chestnut-Backed Chickadees, a Cooper's Hawk near the chickens, 3 Golden-Crowned Kinglets, 2 Golden-Crowned Sparrows, 2 Northern Flickers, an Orange-Crowned Warbler, 4 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, and a Swainson's Thrush, for a total species count of 24.

For three days straight **Mary Sinker** had flocks of American Robins in her yard and the pasture. Reporting from Stanwood, she listed 53 American Robins, 11 American Goldfinch, 5 Band-Tailed Pigeons, 3 Bewick's Wrens, 2 Brown Creepers, 5 Cedar Waxwing, 5 Downy Woodpeckers, 12 Evening Grosbeaks, a Great Blue Heron at the creek, 11 Mourning Doves, 14 Steller's Jays, 4 White-Crowned Sparrows, and 4 Yellow-Rumped Warblers, for a total species count of 33.

**Dick Vanderhoff's** report is a little short this month. He has limited viewing from his quarters at Warm Beach. His report included 3 Steller's Jays, 6 American Robins, a Rufous Hummingbird, a Northern Flicker, and 7 House Sparrows, for a total species count of 5.



American Robin

Derrick Coetzee

The Evening Grosbeaks cleaned out the feeders every day for most of the month. I spotted 20 of them in my backyard in Marysville. I also spotted 6 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 4 Purple Finch, 1 California Quail, a Cooper's Hawk that stayed around for a few days, 18 Mallard in the pond on 100th St., 20+ Tree Swallows, 2 Mourning Doves, 2 Red-Tailed Hawks, a Yellow Warbler and 6 Glaucous-Winged Gulls in the Albertson's Parking Lot (these were mostly juveniles), for a total species count of 28.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please e-mail me at pricemara@clearwire.net for leave a message at 425.750.8125.

## **President's Message Chapter Updates**

By Kathleen Snyder, President

#### New Editor

I am so very pleased to introduce Lindsey Cramer, our new Profile editor. She is a full-time employee at Boeing, where she works on their Green Team recruitment, website, and newsletter. Lindsey has a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from UW and was recently a volunteer with People for Puget Sound. As you may have heard, People for Puget Sound recently disbanded. Welcome Lindsey; we couldn't be happier to have you aboard.

#### **New Project**

I'd also like to introduce both a new project and its coordinator. A new range-wide survey for wintering and

## **Pilchuck Audubon Society Membership Information**

Support your local Audubon chapter by becoming a member.			
PAS dues are tax deductible (consult your tax professional for			
details). The PAS tax ID number is 91-6183664.			
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migratory shorebirds is being initiated across the Pacific Flyway. Puget Sound will serve as one of the survey sites. This international program is being led by PRBO (Point Reyes Bird Observatory) Conservation Science, US Forest Service International Program, and others. Ecostudies Institute of Mt. Vernon and WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife will be coordinating the survey effort in Puget Sound, and they are partnering with local Audubon chapters, including Pilchuck, to assist.

The surveys will largely be conducted by citizenscientist volunteers. It is hoped to conduct three surveys during the period from mid-November to mid-December. Tentative dates for the survey are either Nov 24 or 25, Dec 8 and Dec 9. There will be two training classes at Padilla Bay Interpretive Center on Nov 15 and 16 from 7 to 9 PM. There is also a tentatively scheduled class on Nov 7 at Mill Creek Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife office, also 7 to 9 PM.

Coordinating our volunteers will be Judy Chapman, a new volunteer from Camano Island. Judy is an active volunteer with the Camano Island State Parks and skilled at managing schedules. Although we do not yet know how many sites Pilchuck will be covering during the surveys, we expect there will be 4 to 6 and that the time involved will be 2 to 3 hours. Judy's email is judychwa@yahoo.com. She would love to hear from you if you are interested in surveying. Participants need to be skilled in shorebird identification. Thank you, Judy, for stepping up and helping on this very worthwhile project.

#### **Donations Needed for Osprey Nest Platform**

Our project to erect an osprey nest platform at Archbishop Murphy High School is coming along. We need a donation of traffic cones to use as a deterrent on the light pole that the ospreys want to use. Please contact Doug Cooper at dvcjcoop@gmail.com if you can help.

Donate / Join / Renew online:

https://www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal1038/Contribute.aspx