Volume 40, Number 7 www.pilchuckaudubon.org July 2013

## Forest Service Sustainable Roads Plan

By Allen Gibbs, Conservation Chair

I'll cut to the chase on this long time, looming natural resource challenge in our backyard. Most roads on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest were built to haul out logs over the past 60 years. Recreation use followed on many of those roads. Area residents have benefited one way or the other over the past 70 years but there have been adverse consequences. One is a road system that is now mostly unneeded and too large to maintain with current budgeting restrictions. For lack of maintenance funds, this has resulted in erosion and damage to our watersheds, fish and wildlife, and at times, loss of access to favorite recreation sites.

Last year, the Pilchuck Audubon board began reaching out to other outdoor recreation and conservation groups, all of which were seeking ways to help the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) develop a new road management plan. That plan is required by law to determine a suitably-sized road system, which meets the expectations of most road users and for which the Forest Service should receive sufficient maintenance funding. Our local national forest received \$688,000 road maintenance last year. It received \$250,000 for 2013. It will likely drop to \$150,000 in 2014, not counting possible sequestration effects.

Earlier this year, nearly two dozen conservation, outdoor recreation, business and local government groups met with MBS officials to discuss the worsening situation. The forest must complete a report with recommendations by December 31, 2014. Public participation is required and all national forests must submit a similar roads' report by then. The local forest is strapped for staff and funds to complete this work. So, collaboration by the forest, the conservation, recreation, and forest products groups, with some local elected officials, will help staff public meetings to gather public comments.

The MBS has announced it will host eight public meetings between June and October, seeking public help to identify a road system within budget for safe travel,

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## July Program Meeting Friday, July 12, 7 PM

# Missing – One Bird Mother... what happens when bird parental care is not available?

Join Frances Boyens, Wildlife Volunteer Program Manager at Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), as she shares with us the secret world of raising orphaned baby birds. She will show great photos and teach about how much work and dedication goes into being a "bird mom". Frances will share some amazing success stories and other fascinating facts about the world of wildlife rehabilitation where injured and orphaned wildlife is nursed back to health in PAWS wildlife hospital. For more information, call 425.252.0926.

## **Special location – July only!**

Stanwood Public Library 9701 271<sup>st</sup> Street NW, Stanwood

## WANTED

## **Assistant Treasurer**

Learn the PAS financial system
Record-keeping experience helpful
Computer essential
Leave message at 425.252.0926
Rewarding and interesting position!

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## Weekend Bird Walk Trip Report: Wolf Haven

By Terry Nightingale, Pilchuck Audubon Vice President

On Saturday, June 1, fifteen weekend birders made another epic journey south, this time to Wolf Haven near Olympia. Once again the weather gods smiled upon us and granted beautiful blue skies and plenty of sun for our outing.

We started the day with a quick scan of the Wolf Haven parking lot, and we were richly rewarded with the sounds and sights of three Common Ravens. This was no coincidence, as we would later learn from Wolf Haven's Executive Director, Diane Gallegos, our gracious host and guide for the day. She taught us that wherever there are wolves. there are ravens. These two species have been co-evolving for thousands of years, with ravens taking



Turkey Vulture by Dick Daniels

advantage of the food made available by wolf kills. Next another corvid, one we did not expect to see, made itself known by its "chuck chuck" calls and its flashy blue and white plumage; a Western Scrub Jay was hanging out on a fence nearby. Also present were **Yellow-rumped** Warblers, the common Chickadees (Black-capped and Chestnut-backed) and another unusual bird, a Chipping

**Sparrow!** This last one was a lifer for at least one member of our group.

After giving our group a brief introduction to the mission of Wolf Haven and cautioning us to stay with the group and keep our voices down to avoid disturbing the wolves,

> Diane proceeded to show us around. The wolves are kept in pairs in large enclosures with high fences to keep them safely contained but to give them a companion since they are such social animals. We learned that wolves and wolf-dog hybrids make extraordinarily poor pets, not least because they are genetically different from domestic dogs and can't be trained like domestic dogs can. As a wolf gets to be about 2-3 years of age, it will start acting more like an adult wolf than like a baby wolf. In addition to ripping up furniture, keeping a wolf in your house can be

quite dangerous. The wolves at Wolf Haven were rescued from pet-hood, and in some cases neglectful owners. Now they get daily food, mental stimulation, and a companion wolf to live with. Some of the pens include trees under which the wolves have dug deep dens (up to eight feet deep) for shelter. When a storm passes

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## **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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

#### **To contact Pilchuck Audubon** Society, call 425.252.0926.

The monthly *Profile* is available online at

www.pilchuckaudubon.org

#### **Board of Directors**

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Smart Growth Kristin Kelly..... © 2012 Pilchuck Audubon Society. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA. Opinions expressed are those of the credited writers and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Pilchuck Audubon Society.

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## **Trip Calendar**

## Check our calendar at www.pilchuckaudubon.org for the latest information

### Tuesday, July 2

#### **Anacortes**

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. So many beautiful birding places; lakes, beaches, marinas, and even a mountain. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360.435.3750

## Sunday, July 7 Huckleberry Mountain Trail

Meet in Marysville at the Park and Ride on the south side of 4<sup>th</sup> St. at 8 AM. We will walk the beautiful and flat riverside Suiattle Road for two miles to the Huckleberry Mountain trailhead. We will then start uphill and enjoy a hike through old native forest. Trail gains approximately 800 ft/mile. Wear sturdy shoes/boots and bring a daypack with layers of clothing, raingear, lunch, snacks and water.

Trip Leader: Kathy Johnson, 360.659.7252, katherine@earthlink.net

## Tuesday, July 9

#### **Camano Island**

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Quilceda Village Wal-Mart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd and next to I-5. Scenic locations we may bird are Triangle Cove, Eide Road, English Boom, Iverson Spit and Cama Beach State Park. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360.435.3750

## Tuesday, July 16

### **Stevens Pass Area**

Meet at 7:00 AM at Monroe Park and Ride on Highway 2, one-half mile west of the Fairgrounds.

Trying for summer birding success at higher altitudes. Will visit The Old Cascades Highway, and maybe the ski

slopes. Warblers, grouse, sparrows, flycatchers, ravens, nutcrackers, chipmunk and hare. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360.435.3750

#### Saturday, July 20

### **Woodland Park Zoo**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Everett Mall. Park in the back near L.A. Fitness and the Everett Transit Center facility. Zoo admission \$18.75 and parking \$5.25. Carpooling strongly recommended. Plus bring spending money for concessions or souvenirs. Also bring hat, sun screen, good walking shoes, and binoculars if you have them. I don't just want to search around the park for birds. I'd like to see some of the exhibits and if we spot some wild birds, so much the better. Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425.244.7633, aracfi@msn.com

## Tuesday July 23 Blue Stilly Park and Other Areas in Virginia's Neighborhood

Meet at 8:00 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. Virginia is going to show us her neighborhood, including her feeders. No need to pack a lunch for Virginia will provide at her place. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360.435.3750

## Tuesday, July 30 Stillaquamish and Sauk Rivers

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. We are going to visit areas along Highway 530 near the rivers. Included are C-Post. Rd.,Fortson Ponds and Sauk River Boat Launch. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leaders: Virginia Clark 360.435.3750,

Wilma Bayes 360.629.2028

## Roads...

#### (Continued from page 1)

anticipated public uses, and administrative and natural resource management of the forest. At the meetings, the public will be asked which roads are important to them and why. Their comments will be recorded by volunteer note takers and table facilitators. Forest Service technical staff and leadership, as well as representatives of the aforementioned public groups, will be on hand to answer questions. Attendees will be asked to fill out questionnaires and, at their respective tables, talk about why it is important to retain access to their favorite places and how well they want that access to be maintained. This information will then be posted on a forest map along with notes and given to the forest road planners.

PAS has volunteered to provide volunteers to help conduct a meeting in Everett on Wednesday, October 9 at the Everett Public Library from 5:30-8:00 PM. Joining

us will be local members of the PNW Four Wheel Drive Association, the Everett Mountaineers, and perhaps members of other groups. We will set up the meeting space, provide refreshments, and guide attendees through the easy process which identifies favorite places and the roads to access them. PAS members are encouraged to help with this meeting. Pre-registration by the public will be required for each of eight meetings (Enumclaw, Issaquah, Bellingham, Sedro Woolley, Darrington, Monroe, Seattle, and Everett). Registration details will soon be posted separately in the PROFILE and on our website. The first meeting will be in Seattle on June 29 and some of your PAS board has volunteered to staff that event in preparation for the Everett meeting.

PAS members will be frequently encouraged over the next four months to provide comment in the process. You can even participate in this public process without attending any meetings! The questionnaire filled out at the meetings will be posted on the MBS website soon and you can fill it out there.

## **Community Events, Classes and Festivals**

Check our calendar at www.pilchuckaudubon.org for the latest information

### **Birds of Bloedel**

## July 14

## **Bainbridge Island**

Join ornithologist Dan Froehlich on a two-hour early morning walk around the Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island from 8 – 10 AM. Identify birds by sight and sound, and take a closer look at the bird-life drama unfolding before your eyes. Dan is working toward a PhD in Zoology and conducts research and teaches field ornithology classes around the world.

Preregistration required and cost is \$22 for non-members. Call 206.842.7631 or visit http://www.bloedelreserve.org.

## **Summer Dragonflies**

## July 25 - 26

#### Seattle

For all you bird and butterfly enthusiasts, it's time to follow the natural course of evolution and progress to dragonflies. Dennis Paulson, Northwest expert on these insects, will teach a class this summer during the peak time for dragonfly activity. The Burke Museum supported class will focus on basic dragonfly biology and the identification and natural history of local species. We should see in the field at least a sample of the 80 species that occur in Washington.

Pre-registration is required by July 20. For more information on class location, schedule, and cost, go to www.burkemuseum.org/events/browse/summer\_dragonflies.

## Don't Miss the PAS Picnic August 18, 10 AM – 1:30 PM

Make sure to mark your calendar for Sunday, August 18, at the Langus Riverfront covered picnic shelter, 400 Smith Island Road, Everett.

The fun kicks off at 10:00 AM with a guided bird walk to Spencer Island. Don't forget your binoculars!

Lunch starts at 12:30 PM to honor all of our wonderful volunteers. Pilchuck will be providing hot dogs/sausages, condiments, coffee, paper goods and utensils. Please bring salad, dessert and cold beverages (sorry, no alcohol allowed in the park).

For directions or event questions, call Judy Chapman at 360.387.3363.

## Puget Sound Birdfest of Edmonds September 6 – 8

**Edmonds** 

This is a yearly celebration of the birds and of nature found on the beautiful shores of Puget Sound. The three day events include speakers, guided walks, land and water-based field trips, exhibits, and educational activities for children and adults. The Puget Sound Bird Fest provides participants with opportunities for observing birds in their native habitats of Edmonds, and for learning how habitats in urban and suburban areas can be restored and preserved for birds and other wildlife.

For more information on this fun weekend, visit http://www.pugetsoundbirdfest.org/.

## **Smart Growth Events**

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Feast with Friends Fundraiser September 12 Snohomis

Hosted by Futurewise and in support of Pilcuck Audubon's Smart Growth program. The Feast is a celebration of our rich farming heritage and sustainable



communities. Local farmers donate product to local chefs who provide our guests with great tastes of food, accompanied by local wines.

If you would like to make sure you receive an invitation, please contact Kristin Kelly at 425.923.8625 or kristin@futurewise.org.

# Livable Snohomish County Summit and County Council Candidate Forum October 12 Everett

This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> summit and this year will be focused on "Building Livable Communities." The free event will be held at the Everett PUD Building in Everett from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. Activities include have a variety of speakers, presentations, films, free lunch, exhibits and informational tables, networking opportunities, and a County Council candidate forum, all of which will focus on how we can work toward building better urban and rural communities.

RSVPs are encouraged, so we can plan for food for the day. Please RSVP to Kristin Kelly at 425.923.8625 or kristin@futurewise.org.

## **President's Message**

By Kathleen Snyder, Pilchuck Audubon Society President



One of the Pilchuck programs of which I am most proud is our annual Classroom Conservation Awards. This was started by **Phil and Laura Zalesky** in 2007. Each year,

elementary classroom teachers in Snohomish County are invited to apply for grants to be used for conservation or environmental education. Ten such grants are awarded each year and the projects are always varied and imaginative. The Zaleskys have recently handed over the reins of the committee to **Laurel Cheap** who has been involved since the beginning. To keep this important work going, the Pilchuck board of directors has voted to continue funding it yearly . The board extends their most sincere appreciation and thanks to Laura and Phil for their years of dedication and support of this very worthwhile program.

I have another upgrade to our website to announce. On the home page, left hand side, there is a link to the National Audubon Society's "On-Line Guide to North American Birds". This guide features over 800 species of birds - all of North America's breeding birds, as well as



non-breeding species that regularly or occasionally visit North America, north of Mexico. The images are from VIREO (Visual Resources for Ornithology), the world-wide bird photograph collection of The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University. There are recordings of bird calls plus discussions of habitat, nesting, migratory patterns, etc. Please take the opportunity to explore this great resource.

In the website photo gallery, we are now featuring the photos of **Rex Guichard**. Many of Rex's photos are already being used throughout the website. Rex is a regular participant on the Tuesday field trips and his skills as a retired EMT came in especially handy on a field trip in June when a man and young girl tumbled off their motorcycle in front of the van Rex was driving. **Art Wait** and **Carlos Pinto** were there to help as well. Good going guys!

We have now down-sized our storage unit for a cost savings of almost \$700 per year. I have a big thank you to the crew who accomplished this: **Jay Ward**, **Leslie and Colin Strickland**, **Gary Loyd**, **John Snyder** and **Morag**. Amazingly, the entire move was done in 40 minutes.

## Trip Report...

(Continued from page 2)

through, they hide out underground until things blow over. In addition to the familiar gray wolves, the Wolf Haven also has red wolves, coyotes, and a few individuals of the highly endangered sub-species the Mexican gray wolf.

While we were learning a ton of new information about wolves and wolf behavior, we continued spotting new bird species for the day. Those included a **Turkey Vulture**, two **Bald Eagles**, two **Red-tailed Hawks**, a **Rufous Hummingbird**, and a **Red-breasted Sapsucker** who came within a few yards of us and was clearly used to people being around.

After visiting the wolves, we also toured the mounded prairie habitat (like the Mima mounds) behind the pens, where **Savannah Sparrows** were singing, nesting **Tree Swallows** zoomed through the air vacuuming up flying insects, and a **Western Wood-Pewee** called from the adjacent forest. In the humble opinion of your correspondent, Wolf Haven is a place well worth a visit.

After thanking Diane and bidding goodbye to some of our birding group, those remaining headed to our next stop, **Ken and Bonnie Miller's** family tree farm. These are the parents of our own **Sue Miller**, a regular weekend birder. After a delicious lunch, the Millers gave us a tour of the tree farm, illustrating the benefits of small tree farms as a balance between the needs of agriculture and providing habitat for wildlife. During the tour we found several large ant hills, saw another **Red-breasted Sapsucker**, and observed many of the usual suspects of the conifer forest, such as the aforementioned chickadee species, **Golden-crowned Kinglets**, a **Brown Creeper**, **Black-headed Grosbeak**, a **Swainson's Thrush**, and **Dark-eyed Juncos**. Overall an educational day with plenty of great birds!



Azure-winged Magpie taken in China by Judy Rowe Taylor

## **Backyard Birding Highlights**

## By Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

This is a great time of year for bird watching. The American Gold Finches are here and the Western Tanager has arrived. There are Swallows everywhere and the Black-Headed and Evening Grosbeaks are still around. There

were even a couple of sightings of Red Crossbills in Granite Falls and Mukilteo. Then, there is the return of the Brown-Headed Cowbirds, hopefully not too many.

Carol and Larry Beason reported a sighting of 2 California Condors while on their trip to the Grand Canyon in April. They listed a total species count from their home at Lake Bosworth which included 4 Barn Swallows, 6 Brown-Headed Cowbirds, 8 Brewers Blackbirds, 14 Band-Tailed Pigeons, a Common Raven flying over, 12 Evening Grosbeaks, 2 Osprey over the lake, 3 Red-Crossbills, 2 Red-Breasted Sapsuckers, 12 Red-Winged Blackbirds, a Sharp-Shinned Hawk, 6 Violet-Green Swallows, 2 Western Tanager and a Wilson's Warbler.

**Gail Dibernardo** has views of the Brier Detention Pond where she reported some very interesting sightings. Her total species count of 27 from Brier included 2 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, a Wilson's Warbler, a Bewick's Wren, 4 Steller's Jays, 6 Golden-Crown Sparrows, 4 American Robins, a Great-Blue Heron flying over, 2 Band-Tailed Pigeons at the feeders,

a California Quail, a Chipping Sparrow, 3 Wood Ducks, and 3 Violet-Green Swallows all at the Brier Detention Pond.

**Kriss Erickson's** report from Everett included 9 Bushtit, a House Finch. 4 Steller's Jays, 16 American Crows, 12 Mourning Doves, 10 Band-Tailed Pigeons, 13 Black-Capped Chickadees, a Lincoln's Sparrow, a Downey Woodpecker, 2 Northern Flickers, 4 Mallards in the yard, 2 Song Sparrows, a Red-Breasted Nuthatch and 3 Chestnut-Backed Chickadees for a total species count of 14.

**Hilkka Egtvedt's** count is down a little because she was away part of the month. Still her total species count was 22. She spotted a male Red-Crossbill on May 4th and 5th. The Brown-Headed Cowbird appeared around the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. Her report also included 3 American Goldfinch. 2

April 26 - May 25, 2013

Anna's Hummingbirds, 3 Band-Tailed Pigeons, 3 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 2 Dark-Eyed Junco, a Pileated Woodpecker, 25 Pine Siskin, a Purple Finch, a Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 3 Violet-Green Swallows and 2 White Crowned Sparrows.



Osprey by Rex Guichard



Bewick's Wren by Rick and Nora Bowers/VIREO

Our new reporter, **Sue Klinker** reported 24 species from her home in Snohomish. She has a very busy yard with 7 American Goldfinch, 8 Anna's Hummingbirds, 3 Black-Capped Chickadees, 7 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 4 Dark-Eyed Junco, 7 Evening Grosbeaks, 5 Northern Flickers, 2 Pileated Woodpeckers, 9 Pine Siskin, 2 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 6 Rufous Hummingbirds, 7 Spotted Towhees, 2 Tree-Swallows and 5 Steller's Jays.

Another Western Tanager reported by **Julie O'Donald** from her home in Brier. She also listed a Warbling Vireo, a Wilson's Warbler, a Pacific Slope Flycatcher, a Yellow Warbler near the stream, 3 Violet-Green Swallows, a Pacific Wren, a Pileated Woodpecker, a Great-Blue Heron flying low, 6 Dark-Eyed Junco, 2 Canada Goose flying over, a Bewick's Wren in the shrubs, 7 Band -Tailed Pigeons at the feeders and 2 Anna's Hummingbirds for a total species count of 25.

This is the first time I have ever seen Band-Tailed Pigeons at my home in Marysville. Four Band-Tailed

Pigeons landed on my feeders and began to clean them out. This happened almost everyday until I found one of them on the ground with it's head missing. Now only one comes to eat. I think a hawk must have taken it out. My total species count of 28 included 4 American Robins, 2 Red-Winged Blackbirds at the Y, 2 California Quail, 4 Mourning Doves, 2 Purple Finch, 20 Pine Siskin, 2 Western Tanagers, 5 Yellow-Rumped Warblers at the pond, 10 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 4 Evening Grosbeaks and 1 European Starling in the field off 100<sup>th</sup> Street.

If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact me at pricemara@clearwire.net or call my cell at 425.750.8125.



## Smart Growth Report By Kristin Kelly, Director

With 2013 half way over, it's time to report on accomplishments and upcoming challenges of the Smart Growth Program.

**Growing Transit Communities:** I received a grant from Puget Sound Regional Council's Growing Transit Communities (GTC) to do outreach on Transit Oriented Communities along the Highway 99 corridor. Most of the work of GTC throughout the Puget Sound area is centered around light rail and rapid bus stations. In Snohomish County, Sound Transit's light rail line will be built from Northgate to Lynnwood up the I-5 corridor by 2023. In the next five years, voters will decide on more funding to extend light rail from Lynnwood to Everett. Since the beginning of the year, I have been surveying small business owners at several of the SWIFT bus stations between the King County border and Everett. The survey will tell us about the interest of the owners for more mixed -use transit oriented development. We have targeted a diverse array of businesses operated by Vietnamese, Korean and Latino populations. The survey work should be completed during the summer.



2015 Comp Plan Update: Snohomish County is well underway on planning for the next 20 years of growth. The comprehensive plan must be consistent with the Growth Management Act, the Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2040 and the Multi-County Planning Policies. After receiving the population targets from the state's Office of Financial Management in June, Snohomish County Tomorrow recommended a slight diversion of population targets from Vision 2040. We had concerns that too much growth would be directed into the unincorporated areas of Snohomish County that lacked adequate infrastructure and would put pressure to expand urban growth areas into our rural areas.

The next step will be for the county to develop land use/zoning alternatives to be analyzed under State Environmental Protection Act and for public input. This is our opportunity to ensure our communities will be planned in sustainable ways and is one of my highest priorities for the rest of 2013/2014. Your involvement in this issue is of utmost importance and you will be hearing from me on this issue as the process continues.

#### **County Comprehensive Plan Amendment Process:**

This year the County Council will be considering several land use changes as part of Docket XVI and will be setting the next round of amendments called Docket XVII as part of the update in 2015. There are several UGA expansions and conversions of agricultural land into other uses that we oppose.

## **Countywide Transfer of Development Rights**

**Program:** In an effort to ensure protection of our commercially designated farmland, forests, and rural lands, the County Council last year adopted a countywide Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program. This summer the council will be adopting the regulations to implement these policies. A successful TDR program will mean development rights for farms and forests can be sold to developers so that the developers can build more densely than normally allowed in suitable locations while owners of the farms and forests can afford to leave them undeveloped. There are many details to be worked out but the more densely developed land will be located within urban growth areas.

Critical Area Regulations on Farm Land: The County Council will be adopting critical area regulations for agricultural and rural lands that are being farmed. These regulations were put on hold for over four years by the State Legislature as a way to work out differences between the Washington State Farm Bureau and others about how to best protect critical farmlands. We support the current ordinance under consideration but are asking for more protections for wetlands, for farm plans to address potential nitrate and other chemical pollution of groundwater, and for more monitoring actions. These regulations will be adopted most likely in July.

**Sustainable Lands Strategy (SLS):** For three years, I have been serving on the Sustainable Lands Strategy, a committee consisting of representatives from the Tulalip Tribes, the Stillaguamish Tribes, the Snohomish County Agricultural Advisory Board, the farming community, and the environmental community. This is a consensus, non-regulatory advisory committee working to find net gains for farming, salmon and wildlife habitat restoration. We are now engaged in Phase Three of a three-phase process that will recommend projects and help find funding opportunities for projects. This process has brought together competing interests to protect farming and to restore habitat for endangered Chinook salmon.

Check out the Pilchuck Calendar for upcoming events that support this year's Smart Growth efforts. For questions about this report, you can contact me at 425.923.8625 or kristin@futurewise.org.



# **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



This spring, Audubon launched a high-tech tracking project to monitor hummingbird populations and feeding behavior across the US. Download the mobile app or visit http://www.hummingbirdsathome.org to report your sightings.

iPhone app



Android app

