



WHAT'S UP WITH THE OIL TRANSPORTATION SITUATION?

By Jen Syrowitz, Audubon WA

Birds and people across Washington State are being threatened by an increase in the transport of non-renewable energy sources, including oil.

Numerous proposals to increase oil-by-rail transports are underway. Oil trains risk catastrophic environmental consequence by way of vessel transfer, accident, and sabotage - risks for which the Washington Department of Ecology is not prepared. There are seven oil terminal proposals moving forward in Washington State and opportunities for action are underway.

Anacortes

Shell is proposing to build a new rail loop at its refinery in Anacortes, just a hundred feet from the shore of Puget Sound. If Shell succeeds, six more trains per week – with 100 tank cars each – would be added carrying dangerous, explosive crude oil through the Pacific Northwest.

Right now, the Department of Ecology and the Skagit County commissioners are deciding how much time to give the public to weigh in on Shell's proposal. The Stand Up to Oil campaign is working to extend the scoping comment period for the Shell Refinery permit by targeting Skagit County Commissioners and the Department of Ecology. Audubon Washington, Skagit Audubon, and Grays Harbor Audubon Society signed a collaborative letter asking them to extend the scoping comment period. The Stand Up to Oil campaign has made it easy for everyone to add their voice with this petition – <http://ow.ly/RiQni>

Grays Harbor

Grays Harbor is an area of hemispheric importance to birds threatened by no less than THREE impending oil terminals. It will be important for the Audubon network in Washington to ban together against this enormous threat to our coastal avian friends. The draft Environmental Impact Statements for the Westway and Imperium terminal proposals in Grays Harbor will be released August 31st. Public hearings are scheduled for Oct. 1st in Elma and Oct. 8th in Aberdeen, WA. More info available at www.ecy.wa.gov/GraysHarbor

Participate

- 1) Join the Stand Up to Oil campaign - a coalition of groups opposed to new oil terminals and an increase in oil transport through the Northwest, while working to improve safety measures for oil currently traveling through the region.
- 2) Stay tuned for information regarding comment opportunities and public hearings for each oil terminal threat in Washington State:
- Tesoro Savage (Vancouver)
State DEIS: expect November 24th

(Continued on page 4)

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM MEETING

(note location change)

Welcome to Subirdia

Dr. John Marzluff, UW Professor

Friday, September 11, 7:30 PM



In his latest book Dr. Marzluff reveals that our suburbs and city parks are often rich in bird diversity and these areas may play a key role in preventing loss of species from climate change and other impacts. Considering the well-being of birds as we develop and live in our communities can make a positive difference in the lives of our children and grandchildren. Dr. Marzluff is the James W. Ridgeway Professor of Wildlife Science at the University of Washington, author and editor of numerous books and scientific papers, and a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union.

7:30 - 9:00 pm

**Edmonds Plaza Room,
650 Main Street, Edmonds**

For more information, leave message at 425-610-8027

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Kathleen Snyder, Pilchuck Audubon President

We don't normally share our annual Pilchuck Audubon August picnic with yellow jackets but this summer, we can all agree, has been out of normal. So this year, Virginia Clark, our field trip leader, was stung while on the bird walk and our tasty potluck lunch had to be constantly covered and carefully examined before eating. We all enjoyed ourselves anyway on another lovely, warm day. I ended up with some extra silverware. If you are missing some, please contact me.

In addition to a Spencer Island bird walk (highlight bird – American Bittern) and the delicious food (highlight dessert – Virginia's homemade apple pie), many Pilchuck volunteers were honored for their service to our organization. I am embarrassed to relate that there was one volunteer there who has helped PAS many times and whom I neglected to recognize. Rick Brauer is on the Development Committee and helped with Birdathon, our new Legacy brochure, and our donor gift project. Our organization has benefitted from his wonderful photographs and exceptional writing skills (see Close Encounters of a Bird Kind on our website). Thank you, Rick, for everything you do and for being a good friend.



Pilchuck Annual Picnic. Photo by Allen Gibbs

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 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 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.

Newsletter submissions

Submit articles to newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290. Submissions must be received by the 21st of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.610.8027.

The monthly Profile is available online at www.pilchuckaudubon.org

CALLING ALL MEMBERS! SENDING OUT AN SOS - WE NEED YOU!

HELP WANTED

We are looking for a few good volunteers! Our chapter needs the following leadership positions filled:

Treasurer, Avian Projects and Volunteer Coordinator.

If you like numbers, serving as chapter treasurer can be a rewarding experience and we even have a bookkeeper now to handle the day-to-day finances. If you enjoy more physical tasks, like installing nesting gourds, platforms or boxes for a variety of bird species, we'd love to have you join our Avian projects team. If you like to help behind the scenes, our Volunteer Coordinator position will challenge your ability to pair interested people with our annual events and special projects.

If you've thought of getting more involved, now is your chance! Finally, if you would like to lead our dynamic chapter as President, we'd love to hear from you. Our current president Kathleen Snyder's term expires in April and the search is on!

If you know someone or are that special someone, please call 425.610.8027 or email president@pilchuckaudubon.org to learn more about serving in this important two-year position.



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NORTHWEST SWAN CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

By Martha Jordan

It is exciting to announce the formation of a new local nonprofit tax exempt organization dedicated to native Trumpeter and Tundra Swans in Washington State: Northwest Swan Conservation Association (NWSCA).



You may have known us as Washington Swan Stewards under The Trumpeter Swan Society. Changes within TTSS and with the needs of Washington swans have provided us with an opportunity to shift to a more local focus. NWSCA will work with both of our native swan species throughout the northwest while remaining connected with other regional and national swan organizations.

Please note that we are the same people working as we have in the past - only our name and affiliation has changed. Martha Jordan is the Executive Director and founder. All contributions will be used locally for support of Washington's swans.

Many of you may be familiar with the Adopt A Swan program to raise funds for Washington issues concerning lead poisoning in swans. This program remains and I will continue to administer it as we have done for more than 16 years as part of NWSCA. Adopt A Swan has been a valuable tool for raising awareness of the lead poisoning issue across the country with both individuals and schools.

We invite you to become a member of NWSCA. Please take the opportunity to visit us on Facebook and our website at www.nwswans.org. Our website also has information on our activities, events, programs and volunteer opportunities. Our email address is: mj.cygnus@gmail.com.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with you through NWSCA with the same dedication that you have come to know and expect from us.

A hearty thank you to Pilchuck Audubon Society for providing us a platform to facilitate this transition to happen more efficiently and smoothly. This type of collaboration is what makes wildlife conservation keep moving forward.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE NEWS

By Allen Gibbs, Committee Chair

Summer has been pleasant for the most part, but on the active side for issues. There are the tragic wildfires in eastern Washington and in the North Cascades Park Complex at Newhalem. My October report will focus on issues coming out of this wildfire season.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) –The 2015 Senate Energy bill drafted by Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski who chairs the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and Senator Maria Cantwell who is ranking Democratic member of the committee, contains many items of interest to Audubon. Among them is the LWCF reauthorization which enables fund transfers to federal agencies to protect and safeguard natural areas, and provides funds to acquire land for recreational and cultural heritage sites. Locally, Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve on Whidbey Island and Hooven Bog in south Snohomish County have benefitted from these funds.

As a junior US senator for Washington State in 1965, native son Henry M. Jackson submitted a bill establishing the LWCF. A percentage of royalties collected by the US government from oil/gas companies drilling off-shore in US waters go into the LWCF. The LWCF is now capped at \$900 million per fiscal year.

The time for your action is now, as the LWCF authorization ends September 30, 2015. The Act needs to be reauthorized by then to continue the transfer of funds for conservation programs. Over half the Senate supports permanently reauthorizing LWCF this year! That is exceptional! Support in the House is less enthusiastic but House members in Pilchuck's area do support it.

Please contact your congresspersons to thank them and tell of your support of the LWCF bill (S.890). This also includes brand new language (National Park Maintenance and Revitalization Fund) to address the \$1 billion backlog of repairs needed for national park infrastructure.

See contact information on Advocacy section on the PAS website (pilchuckaudubon.org) for postal addresses of your congresspersons. **Please send your letters of support now** so that when the Congress reconvenes on September 8th, there will be a stack of supportive letters from PAS members and friends! Include your zip code in the message as the zip code shows it is from an actual constituent.

You can also call your congresspersons' office in Everett, Bothell or Seattle, and leave a message with your name and address that you support the LWCF reauthorization bill. (Cantwell phone number: 425-303-0114; Murray phone number: 425-259-6515; Rick Larsen: 425-252-3188; Suzan DelBene: 425-485-0085; Jim McDermott: 206-553-7170). Emails can go to Senator@murray.senate.gov or Maria_Cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov.

WHAT'S UP WITH THE OIL TRANSPORTATION...

(Continued from page 1)

- Westway and Imperium (Grays Harbor)
State DEIS comment period: August 31 - October 29
Public hearings: Oct. 1, Elma, WA; Oct. 8, Aberdeen,

WA

More info: www.ecy.wa.gov/GraysHarbor

- Shell Refinery (Anacortes)
Scoping for State DEIS: see above

3) Reach out to your local elected city council members or county commissioners about this issue. Ask them to pass local resolutions like Spokane, Bellingham and Seattle.

4) Reach out to county emergency managers and fire chiefs asking if they have updated their emergency management plans to adequately address exploding trains. If they have not done so, push them to do it

5) Join the Oil Transport in WA list serve (contact Rebecca at WA Environmental Council, rebecca@wecprotects.org).

6) Help document oil transport activity in your community to share with others.

7) Organize small informal educational gatherings.

But did you also know that due to outdated policies, the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest allows the public to cut down snags? The Okanogan Wenatchee manages nearly 1.5 million acres and some of the most beautiful pine forests of the eastern Cascade Range. This forest is home to five at-risk woodpecker species in Washington State, including the black-backed woodpecker, white-headed woodpecker, Pileated woodpecker, Lewis' woodpecker, and American three-toed woodpecker. Other cavity-nesting birds threatened by snag-habitat loss include the flammulated owl, mountain bluebird, and pygmy nuthatch. Yet every year, hundreds to thousands of snags in these birds' home territories are cut down by woodcutters, hunters, and campers.

Join us in a campaign to educate land managers with the Okanogan-Wenatchee on the value of snags in our forests. Let them know that snags are vital components of our forests and snag felling should not be permitted for healthy forest management.

- Nearly every other land management agency in Washington prohibits snag felling because of the value of snags for wildlife. Agencies that prohibit snag felling include Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympic National Forest, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, North Cascades National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, and Olympic National Park.

- The Okanogan-Wenatchee allows snag-felling with a woodcutting permit. However, snag-felling is not regulated which leads to overharvest each year.

- Illegal woodcutting is common, includes other illegal activities such as off-road driving, cutting within streams and water, cutting in areas marked 'closed to woodcutting', and cutting of snags with active white-headed and black-backed woodpecker nests.

- Woodcutting is allowed during the sensitive nesting season and woodcutters are allowed to cut snags immediately adjacent to active nest trees. The noise and disturbance caused to nesting birds can be extreme and has led to nest abandonment in black-backed woodpecker, three-toed woodpecker, and bluebirds.

The collective power of the Audubon network in Washington can make a difference. Please consider contacting the local forest staff and let them know that the loss of snags means the loss of forest birds and the loss of overall forest biodiversity and resilience.

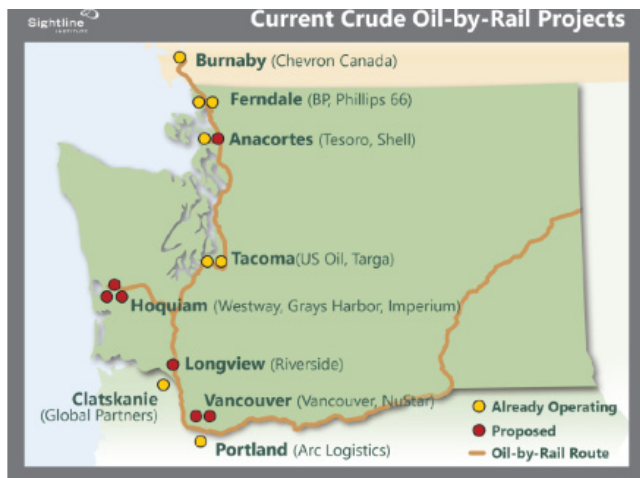
Mike Williams Forest Supervisor

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Mrwilliams01@fs.fed.us 509-664-9323

Kelly Lawrence District Ranger

Naches Ranger District
US Highway 12
Naches, WA 98937
kellylawrence@fs.fed.us 509-653-1415

Sign an on-line petition: <https://works.audubon.org/petition/snagged-end-snag-cutting-federal-lands>



LOSS OF FOREST SNAGS IN THE OKANOGAN-WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

By Teresa Lorenz, Wildlife Biologist

Did you know that trees can be more important for wildlife dead than alive? When trees die, their wood softens and rots providing places for animals to create cavities that are used as nest and shelter sites. In the northwest, nearly 100 species of wildlife use snags including some of our favorite birds such as woodpeckers, bluebirds, owls, nuthatches, chickadees, wrens, ducks, swifts, swallows, and kestrels.

TRIP CALENDAR

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

Tuesday, September 1 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, September 8 North Whidbey Island

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 will bird Deception Pass State Park, Ala Spit, Dugualla Bay, Swantown and areas enroute. Pack a lunch.
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

Tuesday, September 15 Sequim

Meet at 7:10 AM at the Edmonds Wade James Theater Parking Lot, 950 Main St., Edmonds, 98020, just East of 9th Ave. on the South side of Main St. We'll take the ferry to Kingston and bird the voyage, the docks, go through Port Gamble and across the floating bridge. We will bird, Sequim Bay, Dungeness Recreational Area. Lots of waterfowl, shorebirds and surprises. Bring a lunch.
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

Tuesday, September 22 Smith and Spencer Islands

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). Trying for raptors and returning waterfowl. Walk the Trails, view the Everett Sewage Ponds. Lots of walking. Pack a Lunch.
Trip Leader: Art Wait 360-563-0181

Tuesday, September 29 Lyman to Washington Pass

Meet at 7:00 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. We'll be headed to North Cascades Highway 20. Black Swifts, Gray Jays Clark's Nutcracker, Blue Grouse, flycatchers, vireos and crossbills likely. If you plan to drive a carpool, top off your gas tank, for gas stations are rare where we will be. Pack a lunch.
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark 360-435-3750

UPCOMING EVENTS, FESTIVALS, & CLASSES

Banding Across Borders September 4 - 7 Vancouver, B.C.

The Western Bird Banding Association and the Vancouver Avian Research Centre are hosting ornithologists from different countries and cultures to inform science and conservation through ethical bird banding practices. Field trips, lectures, hawk watch, and lots more. http://www.westernbirdbanding.org/meeting_2015.html

Sounds of Fall Migration

September 12 Padilla Bay, WA

Join naturalist, Libby Mills, as we see what's going on in the southbound bird migration. We will explore Padilla Bay's uplands and the fields of the "west 90" on the Samish flats. Saturday, September 12 and Saturday, October 24, 8:00AM-12:00 noon. Registration is required.
<http://www.padillabay.gov/calendarofevents.asp>

Birding Walk: Juanita Bay Park

September 15 Kirkland, WA

A relaxed walk in the park, seeing what birds are in the area. Meet in parking lot. Free. No pre-registration required. Sponsored by Eastside Audubon.
Leader: MaryFrances Mathis, 425-803-3026.

Godwit Days

September 26 - 27 Arcata, CA

Join up for a weekend of birding in Humboldt and Del Norte counties of northern coastal California. Eight birding trips with small group sizes will be offered over the weekend during peak migration season. <http://godwitdays.org/attend-events/events/>

PUGET SOUND BIRD FEST IN EDMONDS

SEPTEMBER 11-13

REGISTRATION BEGINS AUGUST 1

<http://www.pugetsoundbirdfest.org/>

This three-day event includes speakers, guided walks, land and water-based field trips, exhibits, and educational activities for children and adults. Plan to spend the weekend in Edmonds, birding and meeting other birders, naturalists, photographers, and people engaged in fascinating bird research projects.

SWIFTS NIGHT OUT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 4PM-DUSK

<http://monroeswifts.org/>

Come witness an amazing natural event occurring in our community! Celebrate the arrival of the 2nd largest roost of Vaux's Swifts in America! Watch thousands of these birds swirl into a 4-ft.-square chimney in just minutes!
Wagner Center - 639 West Main St, Monroe

PRESTON-SNOQUALMIE TRAIL

OCTOBER 11

Meet at 8:00 am in the Ash Way parking lot just west of I-5 in north Lynnwood. Walk the 1.8-mile paved trail to explore this wooded habitat and take in the view from the overlook at the end of the trail. After the bird walk, participants are welcome (but not required) to join us for a little socializing over lunch, most likely in Snoqualmie. Bring snacks, water, and foul weather gear just in case. This is a half-day event.
Leader: Terry Nightingale <tnight@pobox.com>

BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

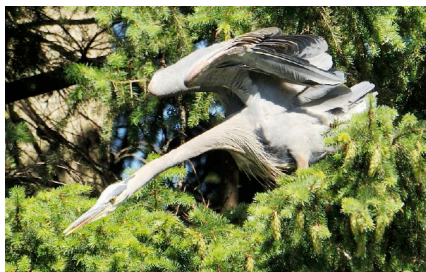
MAY 26, 2015 – JUNE 25, 2015

By Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

Can you imagine spotting 5 Swainson's Thrushes in a tree let alone listening to them sing. Carole and Larry Beason spotted the Thrushes along the roadside near their home at Lake Bosworth. They also included a Ring-necked Pheasant in their report. Their total species count of 44 also included 3 Bald Eagles over the lake, 2 Barn Swallows, a Kingfisher, 14 Canada Goose, 5 Cedar Waxwings eating berries, 4 Evening Grosbeaks, 4 Hairy Woodpeckers, 14 Mallard on the lake, 2 Osprey over the lake, 6 Pine Siskins, 4 Purple Finch, 2 Red-Breasted Nuthatches, 18 Red-Winged Blackbirds, 6 Spotted Towhees and a Western Tanager.

Hilka Egtvedt heard a Barred Owl calling at night in her yard in Mukilteo. She also spotted a Caspian Tern flying over. Her report also included 4 American Gold Finch, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 6 Band-Tailed Pigeons in her yard, 4 Black-Capped Chickadees, 3 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 2 Eurasian-Collard Doves, 4 House Finch, an Olive-Sided Flycatcher, 3 Purple Finch, 2 Red Crossbill, a Red-Tailed Hawk mobbed by 2 crows, a Violet-Green Swallow, 2 Western Tanagers and 2 White-Crowned Sparrows for a total species count of 31.

Kriss Erickson reported a Horned Lark in her yard in Everett along with 12 American Robins, 6 Steller's Jays, 5 Anna's Hummingbirds, 4 Mourning Doves, 8 Western Gulls, 6 Song Sparrows, 3 Mallards, 6 American Goldfinch, 32 Northwestern Crows, 14 Black-Capped Chickadees, 8 Chestnut-Backed Chickadees, 2 Varied Thrush, 2 Townsend's Warblers, 2 Yellow Warblers, 2 Golden-Crowned Kinglets for a total species count of 28. Mary Sinker's report from Stanwood included 20 American Goldfinch, 27 American Robins, 4 Barn Swallows, 5 Bewick's Wrens, 8 Black-Headed Grosbeak, 4 Cedar Waxwing, 6 Downey Woodpeckers, 5 Evening Grosbeaks, a Great-Blue Heron at the creek, 8 House Finch, 4 Killdeer in the pasture, 17 Mourning Doves, 4 Northern Flickers, 1 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 11 Rufous Hummingbirds, 12 Steller's Jays, 11 Tree Swallows, 2 Veery and 2 Wilson's Warblers for a total species count of 42.



Great Blue Heron Photo by Weldon Smith, Mill Creek

My count from my home in Marysville is a little down. We have had visits from various cats and also they are working on the fields along 100 so I don't see the species I used to. My total species count of 20 includes 2 American Goldfinch, 3 Black-Capped Chickadees, 5 Brown-Headed Cowbirds, 6 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 4 Evening Grosbeaks, 2 California Quail, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 4 House Finch, 4 Spotted Towhees, 5 Steller's Jays, a Yellow Warbler at the pond, a Western Tanager, a Turkey Vulture flying over and 10 Rock Doves on the wires.

JUNE 26, 2015 – JULY 25, 2015

This report will be a little short this month as there are only 3 of us reporting.

Reporting from their home near Lake Bosworth, Carole and Larry Beason listed the 5 Swainson Thrush again. They also listed 13 American Robins along the roadside, 5 Barn Swallows over the lake, 18 Brewers Blackbirds on the lawn under the feeders, 15 Canada Goose on the lake, 2 Common Ravens, a Golden-Crowned Sparrow, a Great-Blue Heron flying over, 22 Mallard on the lake, an Osprey, 3 Pileated Woodpeckers, a Red-Tailed Hawk, 2 Red-Breasted Sapsuckers in the trees, 18 Red-Winged Blackbirds at the feeders and in the cat tails, 8 Song Sparrows, 10 Spotted Towhees and 7 Violet-Green Swallows for a total species count of 39.



Canada Goose Photo by Weldon Smith, Mill Creek

Hilka Egtvedt's report from Mukilteo included 4 American Goldfinch, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, a Bald Eagle, 9 Band-Tailed Pigeons, 3 Black-Headed Grosbeak, 4 Bushtit, 3 Chestnut-Backed Chickadees, 2 Eurasian Collard Doves, a Hairy Woodpecker, 3 House Finch, 3 Pileated Woodpeckers, 3 Purple Finch, 3 Steller's Jays, 2 Violet-Green Swallows and 2 White-Crowned Sparrows for a total species count of 24.



American Goldfinch Photo by Weldon Smith, Mill Creek

My report from my home in Marysville included 2 American Goldfinch, 8 Black-Headed Grosbeak, 3 Mourning Doves, 4 Northern Flickers, 2 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 2 Brown-Headed Cowbirds, a Red-Tail Hawk,

3 Spotted Towhee, 4 Black-Capped Chickadees, 4 Dark-Eyed Junco, 2 Common Raven, 10 Steller's Jays, a Rufous Hummingbird, 2 Downey Woodpeckers and 4 Violet-Green Swallows for a total species count of 21. I haven't seen anywhere the number of Swallows this year as last year. The count seems to be down everywhere.

If you are interested in becoming one of our bird sighters, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a message on my cell at (425) 750-8125.

CANDIDATE FORUM

By Kristin Kelly, Smart Growth Executive Director

Pilchuck Audubon Society's Smart Growth Program and KSER 90.7FM Radio are co-hosting a Candidate Forum for County Executive, County Council and City of Everett. The leadership of these important positions will help determine our future for many years regarding environmental and wildlife protection, transportation solutions, and building more sustainable urban communities.

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 1

PUD Auditorium, 2320 California Street, Everett

Candidates who have confirmed their participation (as of 8/20/15):

Dave Somers for County Executive
Greg Tisdale for Position 2 of the County Council
Cassie Franklin for Position 4 of the Everett City Council
Charlene Rawson for Position 5 of the Everett City Council
Brenda Stonecipher and her opponent Erik Richerson for Position 6 of the Everett City Council
Judy Tuohy for Position 7 of the Everett City Council

Candidate and incumbent (and unopposed) County Council District 3 Stephanie Wright has declined the invitation to participate. Scott Bader, incumbent for Position 5 of the Everett City Council has also declined to participate. Current County Executive John Lovick, County Council District 2 member Brian Sullivan, and City Council Member of Position 4 Ron Gipson have not yet responded.

It is free and no registration required. Please share this information with friends and family and attend this important event.

NEW EFFORT TO SAVE A WETLAND

Recently, Pilchuck Audubon was approached by Sno-King Watershed Council (SKWC) for help in saving an important wetland in the headwaters of Swamp Creek. Pilchuck wrote and submitted a letter of support in this effort to prevent Snohomish County from turning a high value wetland into a detention pond, and also to stop the county from using a City of Everett street as a floodway from this wetland/detention pond.

Specifically, SKWC has appealed the Snohomish County Airport's Determination of Non-Significance decision to construct a storm water detention pond in a high value Category II wetland near Paine Field. SKWC has asked the County to withdraw its DNS and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

Turning the wetland into a detention pond will degrade the wetland. Water levels will fluctuate wildly during storms and reduce its normal wetland functions which include providing habitat, attenuating flooding and cleaning water.

The Airport also proposes to use a neighborhood Everett street as an overflow floodway from their detention pond. This street already floods and according to calculations will increasingly flood during storm events. The people living in this neighborhood have to report the flooded street and wait for the City of Everett to provide safety barriers. In the meantime, the water is too deep to drive through.

Not only is the proposed use of this wetland contrary to County Code, but it also sets an extremely bad precedent for future development.

SKWC has filed the appeal and hired a lawyer. A wetland biologist and possibly another environmental consultant are needed as well. Their website is www.snokingwatershedcouncil.org and they would greatly appreciate help from the wider environmental community.



Pilchuck Audubon Society
 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198
 Snohomish, WA 98290



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.

- New Member \$28
- Renewal \$28
- Lifetime Member \$1,000
 - 10 monthly payments of \$100
 - 4 quarterly payments of \$250
 - 1 payment of \$1,000
- Donation \$ _____
 - My employer will match my contribution!
 My employer's gift matching form is enclosed with my contribution.

Make checks payable to: Pilchuck Audubon Society

Mail to: Pilchuck Audubon Society
 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198
 Snohomish, WA 98290-1742

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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