



Shout-out to Our Volunteers and Fellow Bird Nerds on the Leque Island Study Site

By Leah Rensel, Field Technician
Ecostudies Institute

One of the joys of working in the Pacific Northwest is the opportunity to work with other enthusiastic bird nerds. When I explain to lay people that I work with birds, I am mostly met with confusion or, better yet, the “Can You Identify This Bird Based On Vague Descriptions” game. But there is a special breed of people who, like me, enjoy watching swallows cut and weave through the air and identifying them by their iridescent plumage. I have lived and worked in several other states across the US and have yet to find such a welcoming and delightful community of binocular-toting, bird-book-reading individuals anywhere else.

As part of our assessment of avian responses to estuary restoration, Ecostudies Institute has reached out to the community to help us achieve our goals. They represent a valuable font of information, and many are intimately familiar with the Leque Island study site. As a result of their efforts, I am delighted to say that the 2016 bird surveys have been an unqualified success thanks to these dedicated volunteers.

In April, I had the very great privilege of leading the first Citizen Science Leque Island Bird Surveys with Gary Slater and biologists from the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). This is the first time a program quite like this has been attempted at Leque Island. We intended to build a project that would augment our own surveys and generate data about the species composition and abundance during the breeding season.

This is the time of year when migration is in full swing and everybody from the marsh wrens in the estuaries to the mallards in the bushes are displaying to mates, building nests, and carefully tending to tiny offspring. It's a busy season, and I needed all the help I could get. So we asked volunteers to pick sections of Leque Island and patrol for a set amount of time, writing down all the birds they encountered.

The orientation training occurred on a beautifully blue sky spring day, when the tree swallows soared over our heads in pursuit of a tasty insect lunch. I had an absolute blast comparing bird sightings and discussing species ranges with the 15+ people who graciously took a few hours out of their Sunday to help us. There were some hiccups; I have yet to

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JULY PROGRAM MEETING Assessing Effects of Estuary Restoration Projects on Bird Populations

Friday, July 8, 2016

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Stanwood Public Library

9701 271st St NW, Stanwood ([map](#))

Tom Virzi of Ecostudies Institute will be giving this presentation. In 2016, Ecostudies Institute began a multi-year monitoring program investigating the response of bird populations to estuary restoration projects at Leque Island and Fir Island Farm. Both sites are former estuarine wetlands that were diked in the late-1800s, and restoration is currently planned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to return habitat to more natural conditions. Pre-restoration monitoring of bird populations (including shorebirds, wading birds, landbirds and raptors) began in winter 2016 to obtain baseline data for comparison. Our main goals include: 1) quantifying the numerical response in species abundance by breeding and wintering birds at each restoration site, and 2) investigating changes in shorebird abundance and distribution across the greater Skagit-Stillaguamish estuary.

Tom joined the Ecostudies team in 2014 as the principal investigator studying the endangered Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow in the Florida Everglades. Tom brings a wealth of knowledge about the species and its habitat requirements, and Everglades restoration to his work. His research interests focus on studying the population ecology of threatened avian species, devoting particular attention to the effects of habitat restoration on bird populations.

Tom was previously an instructor of ornithology at Rutgers and always enjoyed bringing his passion for birds into the classroom. He maintains a philosophy that education is a critical component of scientific research that is often undervalued in its importance towards achieving conservation goals. Away from work, Tom is a true waterman, spending his time surfing, kayaking, and fishing.

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

NO PROGRAM MEETING IN AUGUST

Smart Growth Report

by Kristin Kelly, Executive Director

It's a beautiful June day as I write my Smart Growth Report, and on days like this it's hard to think about the complicated and technical issues of land use policy and development regulations, which take up a good portion of my work load. It's equally difficult to explain the process and the substance of ordinances that our Snohomish County Council has or could adopt that will affect our communities.

But I believe it is important for people to understand land use policies and development regulations so that all can have a voice in these decisions before they are made, which we hope will help to stop or at least influence those decisions.

Let's face it, the work I do is sometimes just really boring and tedious. Getting folks excited and involved when I need to use words like ordinances, amendments, and codes, as well as trying to explain legal and planning jargon and acronyms, is a challenge for sure. However, if not for the Smart Growth Program here in Snohomish County, residents of this county have no one who is working on their behalf for clean water, wildlife habitat, rural and resource land preservation, and sustainable and livable urban communities against the lobbying efforts of the Master Builders Association, big developers, and the government itself.

But never forget, land use affects all of us in some way. Whether you live in a city, inside an urban growth area, in the rural areas, or on farm or forest land, the costs of growth has some effect on your life. Directly, it can affect the kinds of developments, such as homes and businesses that are built next to us. Indirectly, no matter where the development occurs, there are definite associated costs, such as more roads, utilities, schools, and fire and police protection. That means we all pay more in taxes.

While the Growth Management Act is designed to ensure counties and cities adopt good land use policy and regulations to alleviate the impacts of growth using best available science, our county and city councils are political in nature, and many times they adopt rules thinking they may have done enough to keep everyone happy and to prevent appeals and court action. While everyone can be involved and hold the county and cities accountable to the GMA, it does take a fair amount of experience and understanding of the process, policies, and regulations to be effective. As I said, these issues are not easily understood, nor are they exceptionally exciting. In my 20 years of experience working on land use issues in Snohomish County, I estimate that at least 90 percent of people who eventually get involved in a land use issue begin because of some type of development about to happen in their neighborhood. I know this because I usually get the call from someone telling me about it and asking me to help. While I do my best to give the caller advice on the situation, I do not have the time or resources to take on problems once they reach the development permit application process. For me, that fight is much harder to win, and rarely completely stops a project.

That is why, as boring and tedious as it is, the work that I do running the Smart Growth Program centers on comprehensive land use plans and policies, and the development regulations that implement these policies, helps ensure citizen's voices are heard among the chatter of the development community.

As more important issues come forward, please help me to help you and our county's future by taking time to be involved.



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

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2016 Birdathon Success

by Jim Beneteau, Development Chair

Birdathon 2016 concluded with the awarding of prizes at the monthly program meeting June 10. Have to say, it was a pretty significant success!

Our fund-raising goal was \$5,000 and the announced total was \$6,693. LATE BREAKING NEWS: an additional donation of \$99 was made to the Timberdoodles team and another donation came in, bringing our grand total to \$6,822!

Leading the way were the Eggsporing Egtvedts (Hilkka and Claire Egtvedt) with the most pledges for the Big Month category—\$2,102, and the Timberdoodles (Frank Caruso, Joyce Hershberger, Virginia Dare, and Kathleen Snyder) for the Big Day, with a total of \$2,802. The Biggest Pledge was a remarkably generous \$1,500 from Jeff Remington (awarded the prize of Virginia's cookies). Prizes for the most pledges categories were 20 pounds of bird seed for each of the team members.

The Board team of Birders Most Fowl won for the Best Name category and received coffee for team members Cindy Easterson, Kathy Piland, and Jim Clark, and mealworms for Jim Beneteau (we ran out of coffee but we're reliably informed the mealworms were not brewed).

In the Best Bird category, Heron Addicts (when pronounced correctly), Rick and Tina Taylor won both the Big Month category for spotting a Northern Goshawk, receiving 40 pounds of seed, and also the Big Sit, where they picked up White-Fronted Geese (and a Flicker nest box in reward). The Timberdoodles spotted a Lazuli Bunting for the Big Day prize of various bird seed packages.

Most Species winners were Heron Addicts for the Big Month with 167 species, and for the Big Sit, finding 70 species at English Boom. Timberdoodles found 99 species for the Big Day. The teams received Fred Meyer gift cards, 40 pounds of seed, and baskets with towel-wrapped wine, respectively, for the category wins. The Timberdoodles also got American flags for spotting the most Eagles (13).

The wonderful photographs (all of which you can see on the web site at <http://pilchuckaudubon.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&pageid=263§ionid=140>) earned Rex Guichard, for his picture of the Western Sandpiper landing (Big Month winner); Ken Longley, for the striking photo of the Magnificent Frigate Bird (Big Year winner); and Bill

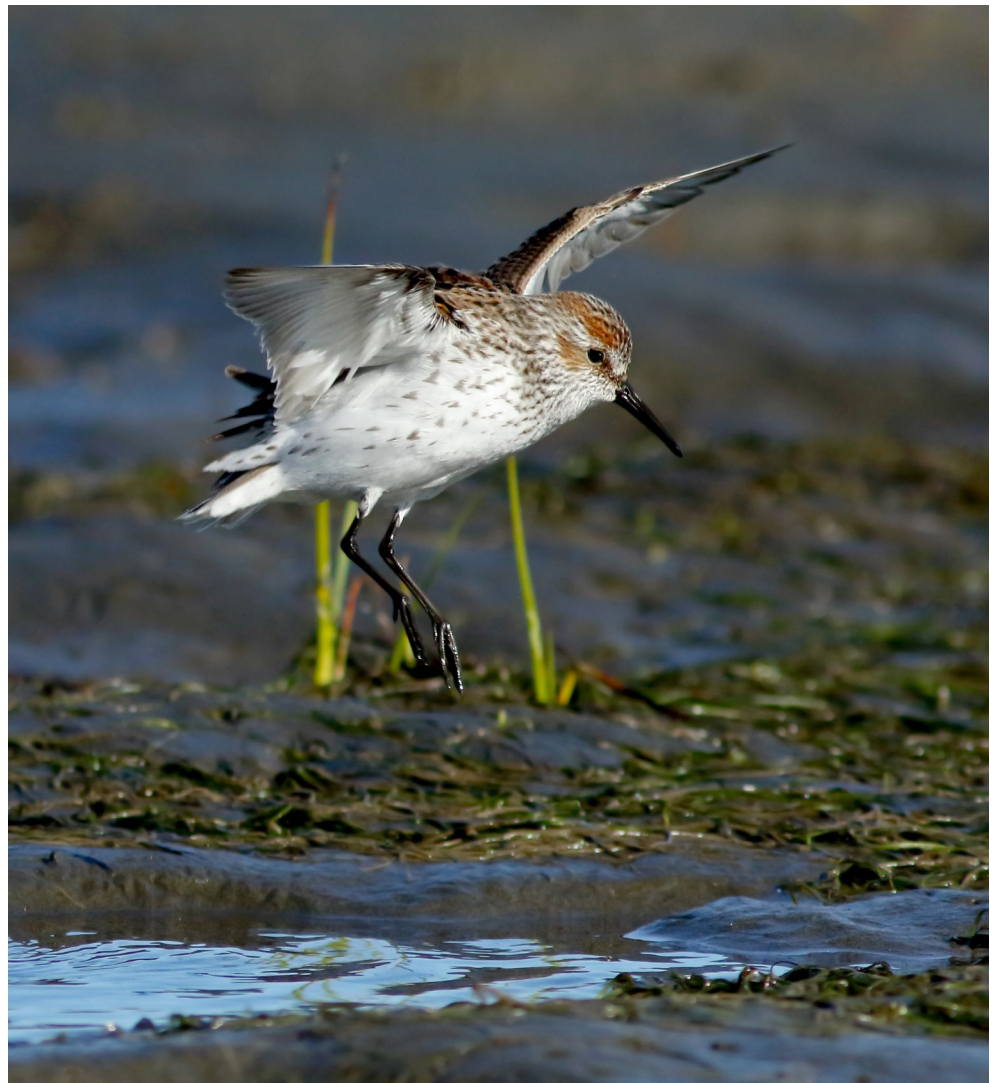
Fulton (Viewers' Choice award) for "Feeding Time" swallows gift certificates from Wild Birds Unlimited. Big Month also got seed and a feeder, and Big Year was given a copy of *Feathers*. Participating photographers Brandy Ream and Rick Brauer received bags of mealworms with berries.

Not to be forgotten, the Counting Crows team—who didn't count the team numbers carefully—(Terry and Sue Nightingale, Judy Hall, Jonathan Blubaugh, Douglas Resnik, and Lisa Weber) also received a participation prize of bell-shaped seed balls and hangers.

The Grand Prize drawing, a two-night stay at a cabin in Ocean Shores, generously donated by Leann Jacobson, was won by the Eggsporing Egtvedts.

All-in-all, a pretty rousing success. Hope to see YOU participate next year.

Special thanks to all our merchant (and other) supporters for donating the prizes: Everett Wild Birds Unlimited; Monroe Wild Birds Unlimited (Leann Jacobson); Sno-Isle Food Co-op; Fred Meyer; Arlington Hardware; Marysville, Everett, and Arlington Co-op Supply; Stanwood Snow Goose Books; Camano Coffee Roasters; Wilma Bayes; and ourselves: Pilchuck Audubon. ✧



First-prize photo of Western Sandpiper Landing by Rex Guichard. Copyright © 2016 Rex Guichard. Used with permission.



Leque Island survey volunteers at orientation.

Leque Island

(Continued from page 1)

hear of a pilot project that transitioned easily from paper to the field. But, in the end, we adjusted smoothly and made notes for next time.

I've since run into several volunteers out at Leque Island when our surveys overlap.

So thank you to our outstanding volunteers! Your contribution and dedication to conserving avian wildlife is sincerely appreciated. My job is a fairly solitary one; for the most part I work alone, counting birds and collecting data by myself. It was a joy to have your help and company while we worked together to help our feathery friends. With people as passionate about conservation as you are, I have hope that future generations can enjoy what we have the privilege of seeing every day.

A special thanks to the members of the Pilchuck and Skagit Audubons who participated in the project and helped us get the word out about this program. Thank you also to the Stanwood Library, who graciously allowed us to use their meeting room. And finally, thank you to the WDFW staff members who helped educate us on the intricacies of the estuary restoration process: Ruth Milner, Belinda Johnson, and Loren Brokaw. ✧

Editor's Note: Leah will be repeating the study in late August 2016. If you would like to be involved, contact her at lrensel@ecoinst.org.



Gary Slater (center) explains to Leque volunteers about the survey methods they will be using during this breeding season.

This article and the accompanying photographs were reprinted with permission from Ecostudies Institute, www.ecoinst.org.

TRIP CALENDAR

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



Tuesday, July 5

No Trip Scheduled

Sunday, July 10 **Butterflies of Central Washington**

Meet at 8:30 AM at Everett Station at 3201 Smith Avenue. Park in the northwest corner of the parking lot across Smith Avenue from the Everett Station building. We are in for a special treat—Maureen Traxler of the Washington Butterfly Association will take us to see the butterflies! This will be an all-day trip. Pack a lunch and bring snacks, water, binoculars, sunscreen, and foul-weather gear just in case.

Leader: Terry Nightingale, 206-619-2383,
tnight@pobox.com

Tuesday, July 12

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, maybe the ski slopes, Smithbrook Road, Fish Lake, and Lake Wenatchee. Warblers, grouse, sparrows, flycatchers, ravens, nutcrackers, chipmunk, and hare. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)

Tuesday, July 19 **Blue Stilly Park and Other Places in Virginia's Neighborhood**

Meet at 7:30 AM at Virginia's home (Call Virginia for directions). Virginia is going to show us her neighborhood, including her feeders. No need to pack a lunch for Virginia will provide at her place (Virginia requests each person who has a folding chair to bring it).

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)

Saturday, July 23 **Crystal Mountain Ski Resort**

Meet at 8:30 AM at Everett Mall. Park in the back, near the transit facility by LA Fitness. We will ride the Mt. Rainier Gondola up to the summit and hike back down. The gondola will take us to the Summit House at 6872 feet, over 2000 feet above the base. There are stunning views of Mr. Rainier from the summit as well as a café and gift shop. The resort staff advises that peak wildflowers ought to be in July, and the trails should be mostly free of snow. The Crystal Mountain to Silver Creek trails are 4.8 miles down past Alpine meadows and two mountain lakes. I expect great birding, wildflowers, and scenery. All day. ADA if you want to ride the gondola back down. Bring lunch for the trail, water, sunscreen, binoculars, hat, sturdy hiking shoes, and bug repellent just in case. We'll probably stop for a little socializing over dinner on the way home. Round trip gondola

UPCOMING EVENTS, CLASSES, and FESTIVALS

Sounds of Summer Birds

Mount Vernon, WA

July 2 or 3

Feeding the brood is the name of the game for summer birds, and it's the tail end of the bird-song season. Join naturalist Libby Mills, listening and looking for summer birds at Padilla Bay Interpretive Center. Be prepared for a slow walk around the reserve uplands. Binoculars and field guides are available. Meet in the Padilla Bay parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

To register, call the Interpretive Center: 360-428-1558.

<http://www.padillabay.gov/AdultClasses.asp>

NCI 30th Anniversary Picnic

Diablo, WA

July 17

Gather your friends and family and come join North Cascades

Institute for a 30th birthday party (and the National Park Service's Centennial) in the mountains. There will be a BBQ picnic lunch, naturalist-led activities on Diablo Lake and local trails, Environmental Learning Center tours, live music, Diablo Lake Boat Tours with Seattle City Light, and more!

<http://ncascades.org/signup/programs/anniversary-picnic>

Sedona Hummingbird Festival

Sedona, AZ

July 29-31

The Sedona Hummingbird Festival is held when the local hummingbird population is highest and most diverse—up to 7 species—and with typically five times the number of hummers as in early summer. Thanks to Sedona's high altitude of 4,500 feet, the festival escapes the intense summer heat experienced in more southern parts of Arizona. August is also a "low season" for tourism, so lodging prices tend to be quite reasonable (by Sedona standards).

<http://hummingbirdsociety.org/hummingbird-festival/> ✧

ticket \$22. Please no pets.

Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425-244-7633,

aracfi@msn.com

Tuesday, July 26

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](tel:360-435-3750)

Saturday, August 20

Bird Walk

Location to be determined. Nominations most welcome. Leaning toward, but not necessarily limited to, the high Cascades.

Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425-244-7633,

aracfi@msn.com ✧

Looking for People of Influence

By Cindy Easterson, President

Influence makes things happen and more often than not, the shape of influence takes on human form. Most of us can look back over our lives and recall a handful of people whose influence helped mold the person we are today. Those cited most often as having influenced a life are teachers and volunteers.

Years ago (well OK...years and years ago!) when I was a freshman at Yakima Valley Community College, I needed one of those crazy “fluffy” classes to fill out an elective. I considered myself a serious student of science, and there didn’t seem too much on the list that struck my fancy, until I saw an “Introduction to Bird Identification” class that offered just the credits needed. So I signed up.

I will forever be indebted to this fellow for introducing me to birds. At the time, my academic life was wrapped up in the logic and order of organic chemistry and calculus, but birds were simply magical. This young instructor would meet with us a couple nights every week to teach about categories of birds and diagnostics for identification but on weekends he would volunteer his time (and his old Volkswagen van!) so we could go birding. “Today”, he’d say, “we are going to see, yellow-headed blackbirds, barn owls, yellow warblers, cliff swallows” and then he’d drive us to various places and the birds would be there! For someone new to birding, it seemed supernatural that anyone could locate so many of those dully illustrated species from my old Peterson Field Guide. Sadly, I have forgotten this young fellow’s name, but I will never overlook the influence he had on my life. He beheld birds with an inspired reverence and shared moments in nature that forever changed how I would view and value the natural world.

Recently, there was a memorial service for Laura Zalesky where the themes of passion and influence were repeated by almost every speaker. Laura once said of her husband Phil, “He influenced so many people through his teaching. And when we would go out hiking with people, he would teach them all about the area.” It was evident, from the memories retold at Laura’s service, that the glow of influence was not Phil’s alone, but a shared light. I heard how, in the warmth of a yellow living room and around a table of home cooking, the Zaleskys made positive changes for preserving wilderness areas and inspired a broad community to enjoy, nurture, and champion our Northwest environment.

I am truly grateful to those who volunteer their time and talents to Pilchuck Audubon Society, and I have a personal goal to grow our capacity to teach, to share, and to advocate. We hold a standing invitation to influence our youth, our neighbors, and our communities to help sustain and enhance healthy habitats for birds. So if you would like to help with survey effort, provide proofreading, take event photos, manage survey data, support grant-writing and fund-raising activities, or share in the camaraderie of tabling an event, give me a call (425- 876-1055) or drop me a line (president@pilchuckaudubon.org). Together we’ll make things happen. ✧



Yellow-headed Blackbird

Backyard Birding Highlights

By Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

The bird species with the largest number reported in the two-month period are listed for April and May, 2016.

First, I would like to welcome our new bird reporter, Linda Kielland from Lake Stevens. She also reports the birds she spots around the Everett area. Her first report listed 35 species which included 14 Band-Tailed Pigeons, 3 White-Crowned Sparrows, 9 Brewer’s Blackbirds including 3 juveniles, 5 European Starlings plus 13 juveniles, 8 American Gold Finch, 2 Bald Eagles over Everett west of K.C. site, 6 Mallard in Anthony’s parking lot, a Great Blue Heron flying near Langus Riverfront Park, 6 Canada Goose near POE Boat Launch, 2 Red-Winged Blackbirds, 1 Killdeer near Dagmar’s Landing, 6 Evening Grosbeaks plus 2 juveniles, 2 Yellow-Rumped Warblers, and 3 Violet-Green Swallows.

Carol and Larry Beason sent me a picture of a Spotted Owl they encountered on their morning walk near Lake Bosworth. It’s been a long time since one has been reported. Their total species count of 49 also included 7 American Robins, 2 Bald Eagles over the lake, 3 Barn Swallows, 4 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 18 Band-Tailed Pigeons, 8 Canada Goose on the lake, 2 Common Ravens flying over, 5 Dark-Eyed Junco, 3 Mallard on the lake, 3 Osprey flying over, 5 Pine Siskins, 18 Red-Winged Blackbirds, 2 Ring-Necked Ducks on the lake, 11 Tree Swallows, 4 Turkey Vultures over the road, and 2 Western Tanagers.

Reporting from Mukilteo, Hilka Egtvedt listed a Bald Eagle, a Barred Owl calling at night, 4 California Quail, 8 Band-Tailed Pigeons, a Eurasian Collared Dove, 3 Rufous Hummingbirds plus one juvenile, 2 Anna’s Hummingbirds plus one juvenile, a Red-Breasted Sapsucker, 4 Violet-Green Swallows swooping over the neighborhood, 2 Red-Breasted Nuthatch, 7 American Robins, a Chipping Sparrow (the first one in almost 36 years at her home), a Fox Sparrow, 4 Golden-Crowned Sparrows, 5 Purple Finches, 3 Pine Siskin, 3 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, and 7 American Goldfinches, for a total species count of 30.

Kriss Erickson’s report from her home in Everett included 4 Golden-Crowned Kinglets, 3 Bewick’s Wrens, 27 Bushtit, 8 Common Grackle (very similar to Brewer’s Blackbirds), 12 Mourning Doves in her yard, 6 American Robins, 6 Varied Thrush, 2 White-Crowned Sparrows, 2 Bald Eagles flying over, 22 Western Gulls, 4 Northern Flickers, 23 Northwest Crows, and 5 Mallard Ducks with 13 juveniles, for a total species count of 22.

Reporting from Stanwood, Mary Sinker’s report included 11 American Robins, 7 Anna’s Hummingbirds, 6 Bewick’s Wrens, a Brown Creeper, 10 Black-Capped Chickadees, 5 Chestnut-Backed Chickadees, 5 Downy Woodpeckers, 12 Evening Grosbeaks, 2 Great Horned Owls, 2 Killdeer in the pasture, 12 Mourning Doves, a Northern Harrier in the pasture, a Red-Breasted Sapsucker, 8 Red-Winged Black- birds, 6 Rufous Hummingbirds, 5 Song Sparrows, 12 Steller’s Jays, 4 Tree Swallows, and 4 White-Crowned Sparrows, for a total species count of 40.

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Upcoming Events at the Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Native Plant Demo Garden

By Susie Schaefer

Help Pollinators Love Your Landscaping
with Julie O'Donald

Saturday, July 9, 10:00 a.m. to Noon
Free

Master Gardener, naturalist, butterfly expert, and teacher, Julie O'Donald, will provide a free workshop on how to attract native bees and butterflies to the home landscape. Learn to recognize which pollinators may be in your garden with specific details on using native plants. Updated for 2016, this program includes a tour of the Edmonds Native Plant Demonstration Garden. Julie will be presenting not only in the hatchery classroom but also outside in the Demo Garden filled with butterflies and bumblebees in July—a genuine treasure hunt! Plan to come and park on Pine Street and be ready for a memorable morning. Coffee, juice, and snacks available for all.



July 4 is always a big day in Edmonds with the Fourth of July Parade, and this year is no exception. Jim has signed our group to be in the parade again like we were last year. We had a great time last year. If you want to participate in the parade this year, please send an email to byh@hotmail.com with your name and phone number.

Saturday, August 6, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Work Party with Earth Corps

We have not had a work party for months so all volunteers are needed for this big mid-summer work party. Please be sure to put this date on your calendar now.

Saturday, August 13

Special workshop on garter snakes

More information in the August newsletter.

If you are interested in joining the **Field Sketchers** group with Nancy Moore and April Richardson, call April (425-293-2175) or email Nancy (rayandnancy@comcast.net) about meeting times and places. ✧

Taking the Pulse of Western Sandpiper Migration SURVEYORS NEEDED for THREE SITES IN SNOHOMISH AND ISLAND COUNTIES

The project is a collaboration between [Bird Studies Canada](http://www.birdstudiescanada.com) and the [Centre for Wildlife Ecology](http://www.centreforwildlifeecology.com) at Simon Fraser University. Initiated in 2013, the project's goal is to use citizen scientists to create an indicator of population status that can be used to quickly identify species or populations of concern. Two years of surveys have been completed at over 35 sites across the Salish Sea and Tofino region.

Surveyors conduct two-hour standardized surveys in both the adult and juvenile migrations. The dates for this year's surveys are Fri-Mon of the week-ends of July 16 and August 20, 2016.

Additional information about the project and training tools are available on the Western Sandpiper Migration project website. <http://www.sfu.ca/~dhope/index.html>. ✧

Save the Date!

FEAST ON THE FARM

The annual fundraiser for Smart Growth, **Feast on the Farm**, will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31, at the beautiful Craven Farm, 13817 Short School Road, Snohomish.

Feast on the Farm brings together our local farmers, chefs, wineries, breweries, and distilleries to create great food for our guests to enjoy, to celebrate our rich agricultural history in Snohomish County, and to learn how the Smart Growth Program is helping to ensure we have local farming for our future.



General tickets are \$50, and sponsorships are available for \$100, \$250, \$500, and \$1,000.

Invitations will go out mid-July. To RSVP, email Kristin Kelly at execdirector@pilchuckaudubon.org. ✧

NO PROGRAM MEETING IN AUGUST

Annual Volunteer Picnic—August 14

Pilchuck Audubon Society will be celebrating our volunteers at our annual Volunteer Potluck Picnic, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 14, at Langus Riverfront Park, 400 Smith Island Road, Everett. Please bring your favorite dish to share. PAS will be providing plates, drinks, and utensils.

Virginia Clark will lead a bird walk from 10 a.m. to noon, and the potluck picnic will be from noon to 2:00 p.m. Directions can be found at <https://everettwa.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Langus-Riverfront-Park-27>. ✧

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Backyard Birding Highlights

Reporting from Marysville, my total species count of 23 included 6 American Crows, 6 American Robins, 4 Black-Headed Grosbeaks, 2 Common Ravens flying over, a Cooper's Hawk perched above the bird feeders, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 2 Great-Horned Owls in the woods, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, 2 House Sparrows at the YMCA, 6 Mourning Doves, 6 Northern Flickers, 2 Pacific Wrens, a Pileated Woodpecker, a Ring-Necked Duck in the pond along 100th St., 2 Rufous Humming-birds, 4 Steller's Jays, and 2 Varied Thrush.

If you are interested in participating in our bird sightings, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a message on my cell at 425-750-8125. ✧

NO PROGRAM MEETING IN AUGUST

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



**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 \$ _____
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