

Volume 46, Number 7 www.pilchuckaudubon.org July 2019

BEES AND BEEKEEPING WITH STEVE WINCHELL

The July Pilchuck Audubon program will be held at the Camano Branch of the Sno-Isle Library System on Friday, July 12. As in past years, our July program meeting is being held in a different location than Everett as a way to ensure that members and friends from north Snohomish County and Camano Island can attend more easily and those from south Snohomish County and Everett have a great opportunity to go birding in north Snohomish County or on Camano Island and then attend a Pilchuck Audubon program meeting.

One of our long-time PAS members (and former Board member), Steve Winchell, who lives in Arlington, will be sharing his knowledge and experience in bees and beekeeping. After the May PAS meeting, a number of those attending requested that Steve be scheduled to give a program as they had managed to get him talking about bees before the regular program started and they all wanted to hear more from him.

As a child, Steve was fascinated with honeybees; his family has stories and home movies of Steve catching honeybees when he was about five years old. After college, Steve again took a serious interest in bees and beekeeping, helping his dad with his bees. He read and studied about bees and beekeeping, and also took an interest in Karl von Frisch, who won a Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine in 1973 for his work on how bees communicate. Later, in the 1980s, Steve's dad lost his bees to disease and phased out of beekeeping, and Steve went on to other interests. After he retired, Steve resurrected his interest in honeybees; in 2015, he bought his first two packages of bees and enrolled in the Apprentice Beekeepers Class through the Washington State Beekeepers Association. Since then, he has continued to

In this issue

III tilis issue	Climate Watch5
Backyard Birding Report7	Leque Restoration Update 3
Birding Farther Afield8	Save the Date 8
Birding Trip Calendar5	Snohomish Council
Birding Trip Report7	Candidates Forum 8
Birding with Susie4	Wiley Slough Birdwalk 6



July Program Meeting

Friday, July 12, 2019

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Camano Island Branch

Sno-Isle Library System

848 N. Sunrise Blvd., Camano Island (map)

read, study, and publish. He hopes to be certified as a Journeyman Beekeeper soon. In May 2019, the American Bee Journal published his article on making Oxalic Acid Vaporizers for less than one-quarter of the usual retail cost.

This will be a very interesting program, and all are welcome to attend. Steve will also have information available on some Washington native bees. As with all PAS program meetings, this program will be free and open to all interested people of all ages. The evening will start with a showing of the competing bird photos in the PAS 2019 Birdathon, which promises to be a great representation of some of our outstanding Pilchuck Audubon bird photographers. 🔏

UPDATE ON LEQUE ISLAND

Continued from Page 3

Why Restore Estuaries?

Estuaries are places where fresh- and salt-water mix, located where rivers meet the sea. In Puget Sound, 70 to 80% of estuary habitat has been displaced by humans, usually due to diking and draining to make land habitable for people or agriculture. In the Stillaguamish delta in particular, 85% of historic estuary area is lost, including 250 acres at Leque Island. Following construction this summer, WDFW expects those 250 acres to revert to the estuarine marsh habitat that it once was.

Estuarine marshes provide a wealth of services that make them extremely valuable habitats to conserve and restore. They serve as nursery habitats for a variety of marine life, including more than 75 percent of marine fish species nationwide. Estuarine marshes are vitally important for juvenile Chinook salmon, that spend several months growing and hiding in this habitat type as they transition from freshwater to saltwater before heading out to sea where more predators lurk. Our Southern Resident Killer Whales rely upon Chinook salmon as a large part of their diet; therefore, survival of these two species is closely linked. Shorebirds feed in these productive habitats, while migratory birds use estuarine marshes as stopping points on their routes. Estuarine marshes serve as a buffer between land and sea, filtering nutrients and run-off, even shielding coastal areas from storm surge, flood, and erosion. These

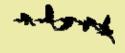
habitats are also vital in combating climate change by sequestering carbon in our atmosphere. Estuarine marshes remove 10 times more carbon dioxide per hectare from the atmosphere than do forests.

Post-Project Monitoring

WDFW and partners will monitor the restoration site into the future for habitat changes and corresponding fish and bird use. Monitoring on other similar restoration projects in the area has shown that we can expect fish, including Chinook salmon, to begin using the site in high densities the first year after the dikes are breached. Nearby restoration sites teem with 10,000 to 100,000 juvenile salmon, depending on the size of the site.

A grant from WDFW's Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) will fund bird monitoring on the site, so that it can be compared with pre-project bird numbers and reference habitats. Monitoring similar projects in Puget Sound has shown that we can expect species composition among birds to change, but Leque will still be used prominently by birds, especially those that are commonly associated with salt marshes and mudflats.

Thank you to Pilchuck Audubon and all of the other groups that participated in the process. The project benefited because of it!



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

To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.610.8027.

The monthly Profile is available online at

www.pilchuckaudubon.org

Copyright © 2019 Pilchuck Audubon Society

Board of Directors

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Conservation
Membership
Avian Science
Development
Members at Large

Cynthia Easterson president@pilchuckaudubon.org

Kathy Johnson.....forest@pilchuckaudubon.org
Jay Ward425.418.3226

David Gladstone

Committee Chairs

Consultant

Bird Sightings
Citizen Science Coord.
Communications
Conservation Awards
Donations
Education
Field Trips
Forest Practices
Hospitality
Newsletter Editor
Programs
Volunteer Coordinator

Susie Schaefergarden@pilchuckaudubon.org
Jed Holmeshabitat@pilchuckaudubon.org
Terry Nightingalewebmaster@pilchuckaudubon.org

Staff

Executive Director/Development Director.....Open
Smart Growth DirectorOpen

LEQUE ISLAND (EIDE ROAD) RESTORATION PROJECT UPDATE

by Loren Brokaw (WDFW) with Allen Gibbs (PAS)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is preparing to complete the next phase of restoration construction at the Leque Island Unit (commonly known as Eide Road) this summer. This site is popular among the birding community; several members of Pilchuck Audubon (PAS) actively participated in the process to provide input on the project, much of which is incorporated into the final design. Work is expected to begin in July, and the site will be reopened to the public by the end of October.

The major project elements include:

- Removing the dike in its entirety to connect tidal waters to the site;
- Removing Eide Road;
- Constructing a new 0.7-mile-long wave-protection berm near the alignment of Eide Road to protect the City of Stanwood;
- Building a trail on top of the new berm for pedestrian access;
- Constructing a new parking area near HWY 532 that connects to the new berm;
- Building a new short trail leading to Davis Slough for non-motorized boats;
- Excavating some additional channels and lower areas on the site.

Upcoming Tour

WDFW is pleased to offer a tour of the site with its new look following construction. The tour will be open to members of Pilchuck Audubon and Skagit Audubon and will likely be planned for a Saturday in October or November. WDFW will lead the tour and talk about how the construction process went and show new features on

the site. The group will walk along the new elevated trail that will be near the current alignment of Eide Road to get a good view of the new habitat and any birds that may be onsite. More details, including the registration procedure, will be distributed at a later date.

Leque Island Stakeholder Involvement Process

WDFW engages stakeholders in the planning process for restoration projects to understand perspectives of different groups that value the property and associated fish and wildlife so that, when decisions are made, their perspectives can be taken into account. In an initial phase of the project beginning in 2005, WDFW convened a public meeting, including many Audubon members, with the intent of advancing a partial restoration project on the site. That project did not proceed for a time due to saltwater intrusion concerns from a local drinking water district. Following a drinking water study that ruled out the saltwater intrusion threat, WDFW re-launched the project in 2013 and considered a wider range of design options for the site, ranging from no restoration to full restoration. WDFW formed a 30-person stakeholder advisory committee that attended a series of meetings and provided input on the type of project to advance. The committee benefited by having five Audubon members, including two representatives from PAS.

At the close of the stakeholder process, the committee supported advancing a design that involved removing dikes to restore tides to the site, to return the habitat to its historic state of estuarine marsh. WDFW selected that design, and several committee members

encouraged WDFW to incorporate public access features into the project that would allow people to continue to enjoy the site. WDFW then formed a sub-committee (with 1 PAS rep) to provide detail on what those features might include. Three of the most popular ideas were to include a boat launch, a raised walkway, and some lower excavated areas that could hold water longer to diversify habitat for birds. All three of these features are now included in the final design for Leque Island and will be constructed this summer.



Continued on Page 2

Ten bird watchers took a ferry to Sidney, BC, to start our Big Week. Purple Martins were seen while waiting for our ferry. Three cars carried all of us, our baggage, and a small grocery store of foods. Susie chose a bold plan—to drive all the highways on the Island. And we did. V.I. is similar to the Olympic Peninsula. It is covered in forests with narrow highways from town to town. Coasts are rocky, with tide pools. While not under an avalanche of birds, we did see enough to encourage us to keep looking with ten pair of experienced birder eyes. I watched a Swainson's Thrush for two full minutes. An Orange-crowned Warbler swooped low over the head of one of us, defending its territory. Bald Eagles were so common we ignored them unless they were spiraling toward earth in locked talons. Raven croaks sounded louder and deeper on the old-growth forests trails we walked. Our car trunk lids often

popped open for second breakfasts, lunches, picnics, drinks, and dinners, before we checked into motel rooms and went off to a restaurant. Our hikes were no more than a kilometer, and three of us used walking sticks. Susie got our hopes up to see/hear a Skylark, but we failed to find one near Victoria where our guidebook said they might be seen. Their song is long and memorable per our birdsong apps.

L to R: Kim, Susie, and Priscilla birding from a bench on Vancouver Island. | Jack Parsons photo

Keeping three cars together is more difficult on unfamiliar roads. We kept together easily with the use of hand-held radios. It was as if we were all in one vehicle and talking among ourselves. We experienced very few mosquitoes. Dust was not an issue as it could have been on unpaved roads. Gas prices are higher in Canada, but this was still an inexpensive vacation. My personal greatest disappointment was the abundance of huge billboards facing the highway near each town. Wow! They are unattractive on an island full of natural beauty! Mileage between towns is in kilometers rather than in miles, which fools the mind into thinking we are

going farther than we really are. Traffic was light or nonexistent in the northern part of the Island. We covered 995 miles.

We took a local ferry to two small islands near Port McNeil. The first island offered a forest hike along the coast where five wild mink were seen. They were a delight to watch. Two were swimming near shore, and one caught a large crab that it ate. Three were on the beach and were not frightened to see me; one came close to me for a better look at a "bird watcher."

Temperatures were in the mid-60s with cooler nights for better sleeping. Mornings were all about coffee and tea, then drive off to see morning birds. We heard far more than we saw, but warblers were a staple. One beautiful male Townsend sang his song in the top of a nearby tree for several minutes. Massive trees are more common

than Bald Eagles. Flowers were seen every day, Indian Paintbrush, Lupine, many others, but I for one did not see any Fireweed. Between bird sightings we visited museums, an aquarium, art galleries, a lighthouse, overlooks, beaches, boardwalks over a swamp, totem poles, and traveled on ferries. Seen unexpectedly were the mink, black feral rabbits, and black squirrels. Expected but not seen were bear,

whales, sea otters, and elk. Overnight rooms ranged from college dorm rooms, to motels, and a wonderful bed and breakfast our last two nights. Better birds seen were Wood Ducks, Harlequins, Mergansers, Rufous Hummingbirds, Black Oystercatchers, Marbled Murrelets, Swainson's Thrush, and eight species of warblers. Around 100 species were seen or heard.

Vancouver Island is a temperate forest paradise. Lakes and rivers were clear as glass. Views were magnificent. Stars were bright at night. Thank you to Susie, Kim, and Reg for designing this tour of Vancouver Island to suit 10 unique bird watchers!

TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website, <u>www.pilchuckaudubon.org</u>, for the latest information



Tuesday, July 2

Camano Island

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). We will bird Eide Road, English Boom, Iverson Spit, and wherever else Virginia prefers. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Saturday, July 6

Beside Snohomish River

Meet at 8:00 AM at the Everett Mall (1402 SE Everett Mall Way), which is in the vicinity of I-5 Exit 189; park near the bus station in the parking lot south of LA Fitness. We'll carpool to Field's Riffle and to Riverview Wildlife Refuge. Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net

Tuesday, July 9

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 Shell House and Everett Animal Shelter making a left turn onto 4th St SE to a parking lot on the right side of the street. Trying for raptors and returning waterfowl. Walk the Trails, view the Everett Sewage Ponds. Lots of walking. Pack a Lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Tuesday, July 16 Sedro-Woolley to Marblemount

Meet at 7:00 AM at the Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). We are going to visit areas along the North Cascades Highway. Included are Lyman, Hamilton, Rasar State Park, and the Howard Miller Steelhead Park. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Tuesday, July 23 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

Tuesday, July 30

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (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

Tuesday, August 6

Marysville Area

Meet at 8:00 AM at the Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). We may bird the Marysville Wastewater Treatment Facility, Jennings Park, Harborview Park, and whatever else we can discover. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Saturday, August 10

Magnuson Park, Seattle

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Lynnwood Transit Center, which is in the vicinity of I-5 Exit 181; come to Bay D1, which is near the southwest corner of the parking lot. We'll carpool to Magnuson Park. For anyone who may wish to meet us at the park, please contact the trip leader for more information. Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net

Climate Watch, a Community Science Program from Audubon

Explore how North American birds are responding to climate change by participating in Climate Watch. Here's how to get started.

Want to use your birding skills to advance our understanding of climate change's impact on birds? Then Climate Watch is for you.

This innovative community-science program enlists volunteer birders from across the Pilchuck Audubon Society in conjunction with Audubon chapters across the country to join in a nationwide effort to count nuthatches (and other species in other regions of the US) in the same place (or places) twice each year. By sticking to a scientific protocol and sharing their results, these community scientists help track whether birds are moving in accordance with projections from Audubon's climate models.

Sherrill Miller and Jim Beneteau have volunteered to lead the effort for Pilchuck Audubon Society. Jim will coordinate the effort in the north end of our region, and Sherrill will coordinate the project across the south end of the county.

Climate Watch participants do not need to be expert birders; you really only need to be able to identify a Redbreasted Nuthatch by sight or sound. You can learn their distinct call in just a few minutes.

Climate Watch takes place during two distinct seasons—winter (January 15-February 15) and summer (May 15-June 15)—each year. Participating teams conduct their surveys at any time during these time windows.

If you are interested in volunteering, please get in touch with Jim (beneteau@wavecable.com) or Sherrill (sierrasamig@gmail.com) for more information. beneteau@wavecable.com))

Anacortes

Trip Report

On Saturday, May 11, Pilchuck Audubon Society conducted a weekend bird walk at the Wiley Slough unit of the Skagit Wildlife Management Area in lieu of the Friday evening monthly program meeting. The Wiley Slough unit is also known as the Headquarters Unit. The Wildlife Management Area is administered by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The trip was organized by Pilchuck Audubon Society Volunteer Coordinator, Jed Holmes, who invited Belinda Rotton, Manager of the Skagit Wildlife Management Area. Ms. Rotton graciously gave a brief overview of the Skagit WMA with an outline of some of the activities and issues in play at this invaluable facility. Sadly, I was a bit tardy and only caught the tail end of her talk. Nevertheless, I found quite a bit of information could be retrieved from the WFDW website in the preparation of this article. Belinda then led us on a walking tour of the site near the parking area and picnic shelter where her talk was given. Thirteen people attended the outing. On behalf of the participants and all of PAS, we would like to thank Belinda Rotton for her gracious public service and hosting of our little band.

Immediately upon arrival, as is so often the case on birding trips, the parking lot proved richly rewarding. Upon alighting from the car at the picnic shelter, I was informed that there was a Black Phoebe in our presence! Happy Day! I have been personally predicting the likely arrival of Black Phoebes and a few other common California birds in light of manifest anthropogenic atmospheric warming. California Scrub Jay is now resident in downtown Renton. My prediction: the imminent arrival of Red-shouldered Hawk. These three are common and widespread in California and parts of Oregon. At the same time, I worry that we could be losing cold-adapted species such as Northern Shrike, Barrow's Goldeneye, Grey-crowned Rosy Finch, and the ptarmigans. When I lived in California, Black Phoebe was my favorite bird. In Washington, my favorite has been Cedar Waxwing. What shall I do?

Black Phoebes are riparian. They love to perch on a twig over the water. They will sally from a twig to snatch a bug and return to their perch with a merry, "CHEEP!" I could sit for hours by a stream and watch them hunt.

Unlike our *Empidonax* flycatchers, they are year-round residents. They are absolutely adorable in their formal penguin-like black-and-white plumage. I have been birding in Washington since 1969 and had never seen a Black Phoebe here.



Black Phoebe | Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Tally

Here's a list of most of the birds we encountered at Wiley Slough: a pair of Canada Geese, two Wood Duck, four Cinnamon Teal, six Northern Shoveler, fifteen Gadwall, two American Widgeon, three Mallard, five Green-winged Teal, two Eurasian-collared Dove, a male Rufous Hummingbird, a pair of Killdeer, nineteen Longbilled Dowitcher, four Glaucous-winged Gull, a Great Blue Heron, a Turkey Vulture, four Bald Eagle in a nest including two babies, a Peregrine Falcon, the phoebe, two crows, a pair of nesting Tree Swallow, two Barn Swallow, two Black-capped Chickadee, a Bewick's Wren, three American Robin, a European Starling, a House Finch, a White-crowned Sparrow, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, a Song Sparrow, a Spotted Towhee, three Red-winged Blackbird, a male Yellow Warbler, and three House Sparrow. Additionally, we heard the following: Marsh Wrens, a Swainson's Thrush, a Common Yellowthroat, and a Black-headed Grosbeak. All were uploaded to eBird via the mobile app. \angle







BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator April 26, 2019 to May 25, 2019

Our colorful spring birds are back. The American Goldfinch, Western Tanager, Evening Grosbeak, Black-headed Grosbeak, Rufous Hummingbird, Purple Finch, and Wilson's Warbler were reported this month.

Reporting from Lake Bosworth, Carole and Larry Beason

listed 4 American Gold-finch, 2 Bald Eagle, 3 Barn Swallow, 8 Black-headed Grosbeak, 34 Canada Goose on the lake, a Common Raven over the house, 4 Evening Grosbeak, 4 Golden-crowned Sparrow, Hammond's Flycatcher, 2 Osprey over the lake, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 5 Purple Finch, a Red-breasted Sapsucker, 18+ Red-catcher | Audubon winged Blackbird, 6 Ring-necked Duck on



Hammond's Fly-

the lake, 5 Rufous Hummingbird, a Swainson's Thrush, 24 Tree Swallow, 4 Violet-green Swallow, 2 Wilson's Warbler, and 2 Wood Duck on the lake, for a total species count of 45.

Reporting from her home in Mukilteo, Hilkka Egtvedt listed 2 California Quail, 11 Band-tailed Pigeon, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, a Rufous Hummingbird, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, a Bewick's Wren, a Western Tanager, 2 Black-headed Grosbeak, 2 Goldencrowned Sparrow, a White--crowned Sparrow, 2 Brownheaded Cowbird, 6 Purple Finch, 12 Pine Siskin, and 2 American Goldfinch, for a total species count of 28.

Mary Sinker's report from Stanwood included 12 American Goldfinch; 23 American Robin; 11 Anna's Hummingbird; 2 Bald Eagle; 11 Barn Swallow; 15 Blackcapped Chickadee nesting in a bird house, feeding young; 10 Black-headed Grosbeak; a Brown Creeper; 5 Chestnut-backed Chickadee; a Cooper's Hawk; 6 Downy Woodpecker; a Great Blue Heron; 2 Great Horned Owl hooting; 5 Hairy Woodpecker; 11 Mourning Dove; 5 Northern Flicker; 2 Pileated Woodpecker; 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch; 11 Redwinged Blackbird; 9 Rufous Hummingbird; 10 Song Sparrow; a Swainson's Thrush; 9 Tree Swallow nesting in a bird house; 2 White-crowned Sparrow; and 2 Wilson's Warbler in the garden, for a total species count of 36.

My report from Marysville included 2 American Goldfinch, 9 American Crow, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 4 Brown-headed Cowbird, 4 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 3 Mourning Dove, 2 Northern Flicker, 2 Evening Grosbeak, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Song Sparrow, 4 Spotted Towhee, 5 Steller's Jay, 2 White-crowned Sparrow, 12 Black-headed Grosbeak, 4 Purple Finch, and 2 Western Tanager, for a total species count of 24.

If you are interested in participating in our Backyard Birding count, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a message on my cell phone at (425) 750-8125. 🔏

REPORT: Bird Walk in Northern Bothell Parks, I June 2019

by Douglas Resnick, Trip Leader

Lisa, Terry, Michelle, Kelli, Kim, and I met on a cool, overcast morning at Canyon Park Park & Ride. We visited the nearby wetlands first, then Centennial Park. We observed a total of 46 species, as recorded on

In order to reach the Canyon Park Wetlands, as labeled in eBird, we walked to the entrance of the North Creek Trail that is located east of the neighboring business center; the trail is so labeled on maps, but I borrowed "Canyon Park Wetlands" from the name of the eBird hotspot associated with this area. The trail parallels the creek and is bordered by trees, shrubs, and grass; several ponds are visible along the way. A number of birds were singing, including several warblers: Yellow, Black-throated Gray, and Wilson's. A surprising call came from one of the ponds: almost hidden among the many Mallards were a few Pied-billed Grebes. The ponds were also host to herons, Great Blue and Green.

Occasionally, we would spot a Violet-green Swallow briefly perched on a nearby twig, or a Willow Flycatcher perched on a branch.

After having returned to the transit center, we carpooled to Centennial Park. The clouds by now had mostly dissipated, and the day had warmed. We walked mainly



Willow Flycatcher | Mick Thompson Photo

along the loop trail that runs through the grass behind the northern, developed part of the park. We were fortunate to spot a Black-headed Grosbeak standing on a large rock soon after we set out. The trees surrounding the field yielded views of several Cedar Waxwings, as well as views of several kinds of woodpecker: Northern Flicker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, and Downy Woodpecker. One sapsucker was acrobatic in its efforts to forage among the tiny, top limbs of some small trees. In the sky, we saw Barn Swallows and a distant Red-tailed Hawk. A brief foray into the utility corridor at the south end of the park gave us a view of a Black-capped Chickadee entering a nest-hole with a grub in its beak.

We finished our birding around 12:30 p.m., after which several of us reconvened at Crystal Creek Cafe for lunch. 🙎

UPCOMING EVENTS, CLASSES, AND FESTIVALS FARTHER AFIELD

Monterey Bay Birding Festival Sept 20-22, 2019

Watsonville, CA <u>montereybaybirdingfestival@gmail.com</u>

Alabama Coastal BirdFest Oct 2-5, 2019

Spanish Fort, AL <u>alabamacoastalbirdfest@gmail.com</u>

Cozumel Bird Festival Oct 11-13, 2019

Cozumel Island, Quintana Roo, Mexico Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/Cozumel-Birding-Club-

251773881695339/ or email cozumelbirding club@gmail.com

Cape May Fall Festival

Oct 17-20, 2019

Cape May, NJ 609-246-3581

https://njaudubon.org/nja-events/cape-may-fall-festival/

Hawaii Island Festival of Birds Oct 25-28, 2019

Kailua-Kona, HI <u>info@birdfesthawaii.org</u>

Contact: 808-331-3655

Black-necked Crane Festival Nov 11, 2019

Gantey Valley, Bhutan Contact: Karma Jamtsho

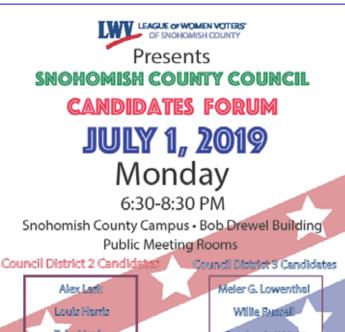
info@incredible-bhutan.travel/birdcutia@gmail.com

Azores Birdwatching Arts Festival

Dec 11-21, 2019

Açores, Pico Island <u>abwafestival@gmail.com</u>

Contact: Terry Costa +351-963639996





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 payr	nents of \$100
	4 quarterly payn	nents of \$250
	1 payment of \$1	,000
_		

Donation.....\$____

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 ____

Phone _____E-mail

Send me these via e-mail (check all that apply & include your e-mail address above):

Profile Newsletter Program Announcements Action Alerts

Pilchuck Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable corporation registered with the Washington Secretary of State. Your contributions are tax deductible.

Save THE Date

SWIFT NIGHT OUT

September 7, 2019, 4:00 p.m. until dusk
Celebrate the Vaux's Swift migration and watch
thousands of birds come to roost in the chimney at
Wagner Center, Monroe, Washington. A great event for
the entire family.

PUGET SOUND BIRD FEST

September 13-15, 2019 Edmonds, Washington

FEAST IN THE FOREST

October 22, 2019

Join us for an amazing 'chef's table' style feast at the Floral Hall in Forest Park, Everett, Washington. Plans are under way for an incredible dinner and not-to-be-missed program on owls. Mark your calendars and watch the website for more information.