

April is Native Plant Appreciation Month in Washington!

On January 24 of this year, Governor Inslee once again proclaimed April to be [Native Plant Appreciation Month](#). Native plants are vital to our wildlife, providing food, shelter, and places to nest and reproduce. They also define our region, from the Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar trees, to Rhododendrons, Oregon Grape, and the variety fern species that call western Washington home. These species are what draw many of us to the Pacific Northwest and the wonderful outdoor spaces we have here.

Audubon is a major proponent of native plants, as exhibited by our [Plants for Birds](#) initiative and the [Native Plants Database](#). And, of course, we have to mention PAS' Wildlife Habitat and Native Plant Demonstration Garden in Edmonds! But we'd be remiss not to mention that our state has a wonderful organization dedicated to native plants, the [Washington Native Plant Society](#). This month, they have a [number of interesting talks and programs](#) to celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Month, and we encourage you to tune in if you'd like to learn more about our native plants. 🌿



Photo Credit | Mick Thompson

Western Tanager and Red Elderberry

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April Program Meeting

Wildfire, Habitat Recovery, and the Greater Sage-Grouse

Guest Speaker: Dr. Elizabeth Schuyler

Although wildfire is a natural process in sagebrush ecosystems, fire severity and frequency have changed substantially in recent years. The interaction between fire suppression, certain land-management practices, and the invasion of non-native grasses has led to an increase in the frequency of wildfires that has significant impacts on sagebrush-dependent species such as the Greater Sage-Grouse. Grouse are members of the family that includes quail, turkeys, chickens, and pheasants.



Dr. Lizz Schuyler of Oregon State University has been studying the effects of a large-scale wildfire on Greater Sage-Grouse in the Trout Mountains of Oregon and Nevada. She is a veteran of many field seasons studying how habitat disturbances and climate influence population dynamics of harvestable species such as deer and grouse.

When: April 8, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Where: Online

Register for Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUsceigrzwpGNEDFSBnTMvUdAx9S3gChIEE>

Flying WILD Workshop for Teachers a Success!

By Teddie Mower, Education Committee Chair

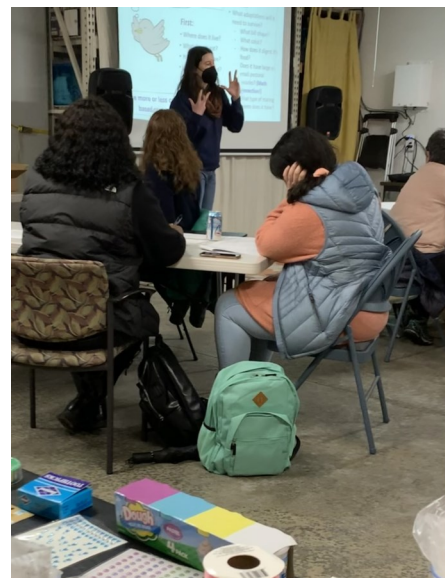
Teachers from the surrounding communities of Shadow Lake Nature Preserve enjoyed a fun-filled, standards-based, STEM-connected professional development Flying WILD workshop on Saturday, March 19 from 9:00 AM to Noon. The workshop was a partnership with Pilchuck Audubon Society's Education Committee, who acted as the facilitators, and the Shadow Lake Nature Preserve, who offered the wonderful venue and administrative support. It was a full class with a waiting list.



Flying WILD is a program of the Council for Environmental Education which introduces students of all-ages to bird conservation through classroom activities and bird festivals. The lessons can be used in both indoor and outdoor classrooms as well as for engagement and outreach activities. While the activities are fun and offer a great way to learn about bird conservation, having a bird festival can make it so much more. Students are empowered and develop leadership skills as they develop partnerships with wildlife experts, local businesses, community service organizations, and governmental entities. They organize and promote the festival, conduct research on local bird issues, and teach others at booths they have designed themselves.

If you are interested in partnering with the Education Committee to bring a Flying WILD workshop to a group of people interested in

teaching about bird conservation, contact education@pilchuckaudubon.org. If you are interested in joining the PAS Education Committee, please contact us using the same e-mail address. ✍



Upcoming Class

Using eBird with Brendan McGarry

April 19 and 26

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Pricing: \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members

Instructor: Brendan McGarry

Does eBirding make you a better birder? Possibly.

Will eBird help you record your sightings while also supporting research efforts across the globe? Undoubtedly.

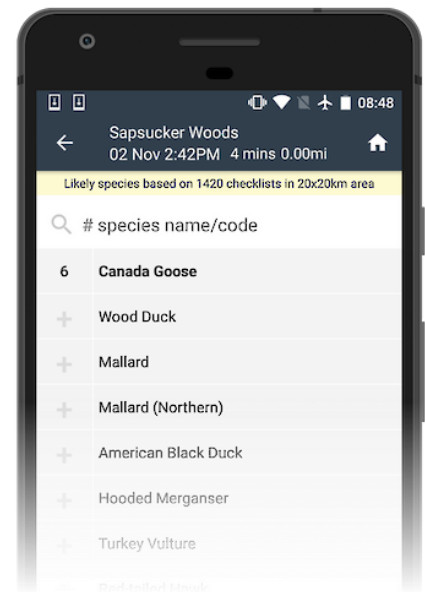
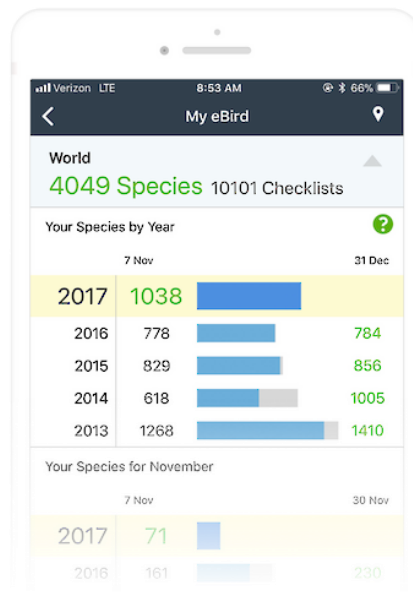
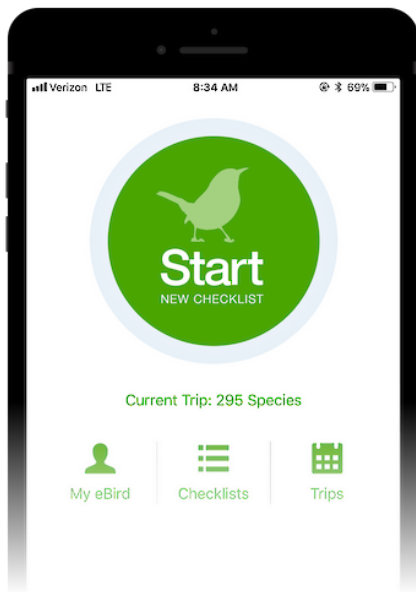
If you've ever felt intimidated or unsure where to start with using eBird, this is the class for you. Brendan will teach you the basics of how to record, share, and manage your lists while using eBird as a tool to learn new regional birds and prepare for upcoming departures near and far. Between sessions, participants will have an opportunity to practice using eBird with a goal of getting help and feedback from Brendan in the second session.

Brendan McGarry has been studying birds for the majority of this life. He has a BS in Biology from The Evergreen State College and a Master's in Environmental Education from Western Washington University. He has worked as a naturalist guide, a bird biologist, and an environmental educator for nearly two decades. He is excited about integrating community science and ecological awareness into people's birding practices.

Class will be conducted over Zoom (and recorded if you cannot make the live session).

Register for class at:

<https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/classes>



PAS Officer Elections Are Underway!

All PAS Chapter members in good standing have received a ballot for this year's election either by email or USPS mail. All ballots are due by midnight on April 7. This election cycle we are voting for the President and Secretary positions.

We will announce the results of the election at our April 8 program meeting. Our April program will be online, and you can [register here to attend](#). 🐦



Olympic Birdfest

April 22-24, 2022

Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction, raffle, gala banquet, and more.

Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 19-21, 2022. To learn more and register, visit

www.olympicbirdfest.org.

Join us for Birdathon!

Our most exciting fundraiser of the year

May is always an exciting month in Washington: flowers are blooming, migration is in full swing, but especially because it's Birdathon month!

What is Birdathon?

Birdathon is a uniquely Audubon way to support our mission and help protect birds. Our Birdathon has two components:

The first is a friendly competition to see who can spot the most bird species and raise the most money while doing it. Similar to a walk-a-thon, participants collect pledges from family, friends, work colleagues, and others who want to support Pilchuck Audubon. But instead of getting a pledge of \$1.00 per mile walked, participants ask for a pledge for each bird species seen by a person or team. Alternatively, pledges could be fixed amounts, such as \$25, instead of per-species.

The second aspect of our Birdathon is the photography contest. Western Washington is full of talented photographers, and our contest provides opportunities for both young and elder to showcase their photography in our youth and adult categories. [Read this year's photography contest rules.](#)

Birdathon is our biggest fundraising event of the year, and all donations and entry fees provide critical support to our work throughout the year.

When is it?

Birdathon begins May 1 and runs through May 31.

How can I participate?

- Compete in our friendly birding competition and collect pledges to see if your team can see the most birds and raise the most money. [Sign your team up here!](#)
- This year we will have the following categories:
 - **Big Day** - see as many species as you can in a 24-hour period anywhere in the world
 - **Washington Big Month** - see as many species as you can anywhere in the state during the whole month
 - **Global Big Month** - see as many species as you can anywhere in the world during the whole month
- [Donate/sponsor a team](#)
- Submit your photos to our [bird photography contest](#)

Please visit our [Birdathon web page](#) for all of this year's rules and information. On that page you'll find resources to register your team, print your species checklists and pledge trackers, meet our teams, find fundraising tips, and how you can support a team or Pilchuck Audubon by making a donation!

Please consider participating in this incredibly fun and important fundraiser for Pilchuck Audubon. All proceeds go toward our mission and programs throughout the year. 🦋

[Register my team!](#)

Sponsor:

KENMORE CAMERA
"center of the photographic universe"

Photos from the 2021 Birdathon
photo contest appear on
pages 5 and 6



Chestnut-backed Chickadee in native plant Vine Maple;
Redmond, WA | Mick Thompson



Arjun Subramanian/Pilchuck Audubon Photography Awards

1st Place Youth Category: "Red-breasted Sapsucker" by Arjun Subramanian

1st Place Adult Category: "Face-off Between Short-eared Owl and Northern Harrier"
by Kathy McCulloch Wade



Kathy McCulloch Wade
Pilchuck Audubon Photography Awards



David Reddish
Pilchuck Audubon Photography Awards

2nd Place Adult Category: "Harrier Hawk" by David Reddish

2nd Place Youth Category: "Sandpiper" by Tashi Schorr



Tashi Schorr/Pilchuck Audubon Photography Awards

BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website, <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips>, for the latest information.



Saturday, April 2 Howarth and Forest Parks

8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

in Everett

Trip Leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (landline) or dresnick1@comcast.net

This is a half-day trip. Some parts of the trails are steep, and some parts may be muddy; a walking stick would be useful. Further details will be provided to registered participants. After you have submitted your [2022 Field Trip Liability Release](#) to director@pilchuckaudubon.org, please contact the trip leader in order to register for the trip.

Tuesday, April 5 Silvana Roads

7:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-631-2611

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Quil Ceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quil Ceda Blvd. (next to I-5). We will explore the Stillaguamish Valley roads between Silvana and Stanwood, looking for shorebirds, raptors, and remaining ducks, among others. A walk at the Port Susan Bay Conservancy likely will be included. Pack a lunch.

Tuesday, April 12 Nisqually

7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-631-2611

Meet at 7:00 AM at Walmart at 1400 164th St. SW in Lynnwood on the east side of I-5 at Exit 183. Park away from the store. Edmonds riders can drive directly to Nisqually NWR. On this popular trip, we will explore the refuge boardwalks for early spring migrants, check out the waterfowl, and look for a Red-shouldered Hawk. Pack a lunch.

Tuesday, April 19 South Whidbey Island

7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-631-2611

Meet at 7:00 AM at Eastmont Park & Ride, I-5 Exit 189, east side, aiming for the 8:00 AM ferry from Mukilteo. Sunset Beach, Deer Lagoon, and Crockett Lake areas always yield a large and varied species list, and the rest of South Whidbey is great birding. Pack a lunch.

Tuesday, April 26

Guemes Island

7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-631-2611

Meet at 7:00 AM at Quil Ceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quil Ceda Blvd. (next to I-5). We should arrive in Anacortes in plenty of time to bird around the Guemes ferry landing before taking the 9:15 ferry for a birding tour of the island. Pack a lunch.

Saturday, May 7

Penny Creek and Silver Lake

8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Trip Leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (landline) or dresnick1@comcast.net

This is a half-day trip. We'll visit the aforementioned watery sites, which are in Mill Creek and in Everett. This should be an easy walk, though not short. Further details will be provided to registered participants. After you have submitted your [2022 Field Trip Liability Release](#) to director@pilchuckaudubon.org, please contact the trip leader in order to register for the trip.



2022 Field Trip Waivers

If you plan on attending a field trip, please be prepared to sign a waiver when you show up, or send yours in electronically ahead of time to director@pilchuckaudubon.org. Even if you've recently signed a 2021 waiver, we'll need you to sign a new one for the current year.

As a reminder, our current guidelines are:

- For those who are unvaccinated for COVID-19, we will not be able to accommodate your attendance on field trips at this time.
- For those who are vaccinated:
 - Masks are not required while outdoors.
 - Carpooling with individuals from outside of your house is allowed, but masks should be worn while in the vehicle.
 - Maintaining 6 feet of distance between participants is highly encouraged.
 - Sharing equipment is discouraged.

Please review the full [field trip guidelines here](#). You can [download your 2022 waiver here](#) to sign ahead of time.

Thank you for helping us keep our friends, families, and communities safe! 🐦

Conservation Report

by Allen Gibbs

The 2022 General Election is attracting new state legislative candidates in Snohomish County races.

I am drawing this information from reports written by Jerry Cornfield, the *Everett Daily Herald* political news commentator. I don't personally have such insider information.

Mr. Cornfield reported on Tuesday, March 22, about election plans of some state legislators representing Snohomish County. Some will and some will not seek reelection. Most have not yet announced their plans.

Representative Emily Wicks (Democrat, 38th district, which includes some of Everett City) will not run again. Cornfield noted this will leave no incumbent House candidate seeking reelection in the 38th District this year. Rep. Mike Sells (Democrat) earlier this year said he will not seek reelection. His part of the 38th includes some of Everett, Tulalip, and much of Marysville.

Perhaps running for Sell's seat are Democrats Julio Cortes and Mary Fosse, and Republican Mark James. Christopher Elliott has not claimed a party preference. David Wiley told Cornfield he will run as a Libertarian.

As of March 21, Democrat Charles Adkins said he is

considering filing for Wicks' position. Republican Gary Kemp of Marysville had already said, prior to Wicks' announcement, that he would campaign against Wicks this year.

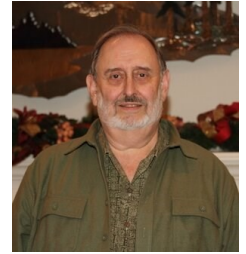
Senator Robinson (all of the 38th District) will run for reelection. She apparently has two Republican opponents, Bernard Moody and Anita Azariah.

Wicks, Sells, and Robinson have been supporters of most, but not all, of Audubon Washington's priority legislation.

Candidate filing is in May. Perhaps the June PROFILE will have state legislature candidate information for all Snohomish County and Camano Island positions, again thanks to the *Daily Herald*.

Primary election is on August 2; the General election will be on Tuesday, November 8.

Pilchuck Audubon Society, as an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, does not endorse candidates.



Allen Gibbs

Free Webinar hosted by WSU Extension: Oak Prairie Restoration in the San Juan Islands

April 27 from 7:00 – 8:30

Via Zoom

Restoring a Critical Ecosystem

Why do oak prairie systems matter?

Historically prevalent in the San Juan Islands but now considered one of the region's most threatened and rare natural habitats, Garry Oak (also known as Oregon White Oak) prairie systems support a wide range of specialized species including migrating neotropical birds and species found nowhere else in Washington. Landscape fragmentation, development, fire suppression, and invasive species have led to the decline of these unique systems.

If you would like to create or restore oak prairie habitat on your property or would like to learn more about this unique ecosystem, be sure to join us for this free webinar.

Topics covered

- Overview of oak prairie systems
- History and status of oak prairie systems in the San Juan Islands
- Best management practices for oak prairie restoration
- Soils as a predictor of oak prairie habitats
- How prescribed fire and burn piles can facilitate oak prairie restoration

For more information and to register, visit: <https://forestry.wsu.edu/nps/events/oakrestoration/>

The Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Native Plant Demonstration Garden (Demo Garden)

By Susie Schaefer

The first phase of the new and improved Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Native Plant Demonstration Garden got off to a good start on Saturday, March 12, with a great group of intrepid volunteers having a planting party. They spent the morning planting the new plants acquired at the Snohomish County Conservation District Native Plant sale or purchased from Oxbow Farms (in Carnation) and Go Natives Nursery (in Shoreline) in the upper garden areas where we had been thinning and clearing out some of the more enthusiastic snowberries and Nootka roses. These plants are now happy in their new home at Edmonds City Park. The volunteers spent the morning following the new plan to add color and beauty and provide increased opportunities for the birds and pollinators. Visitors now stopping by the newly replanted top area on Pine Street can find new ideas about native plants, birds, and wildlife.

Kelsey Ketcheson of Edmonds, who has some good experience in landscaping and began volunteering at the Demo Garden several months ago, agreed to put a plan together after seeing the beautiful signs that Eagle Scout Ian Jones had made and installed for the Demo Garden last year. And now, after seeing the new signs and the new plants, it is getting easier to imagine how the new, improved garden will look in spring and fall and how it will offer new opportunities for plants, birds, and wildlife.

Volunteers and anyone interested in lending a hand at work parties as work continues at the Demo Garden can sign up with Sound Salmon Solutions, the organization which now manages the Willow Creek hatchery and the surrounding city-owned property. To sign up, use their website, www.sound.salmon.solutions, and complete the volunteer sign-up sheet located under “events”. Volunteers are always needed to care for and maintain this community garden, so it is important that volunteers sign up to help



Demo Garden with new plants (Blanket Flower, Lupine, Penstemon, and more).

care for and maintain the garden on a year-round basis. The Demo Garden is a program of Pilchuck Audubon; more information about the history of the Demo Garden can be found at www.pilchuckaudubon.org. To receive regular notices about activities at the Demo Garden, please sign up on the active mailing list by emailing garden@pilchuckaudubon.org, or call Susie Schaefer at 425-478-9383 for more information.

The Demo Garden will have an information table at the Edmonds community Volunteer Recruitment Day on Saturday, April 9, 2022, at the new Edmonds Waterfront Center. If you have not been to this beautiful new center, this would be a good time to visit. It is the large new building located just south of the Edmonds Ferry dock on the Sound. There should also be some parking available for those using the Center. 🍃



2022 Legislative Session Recap

The 60-day state legislative session wrapped up on March 10 with some fantastic victories for birds, as well as important policies that didn't make the cut. The good news this session came in the form of key conservation and climate funding plus a new bill that encourages equitable, well-sited solar energy. Unfortunately, some Audubon priority bills were unable to get across the finish line in a whirlwind legislative session where the crunch for time doomed a lot of important legislation.

In just eight short weeks, Audubon members like you generated 5,614 emails to legislators asking for support on key bird issues. Additionally, chapter leaders from around the state sent letters to legislative leaders and submitted op-eds and letters to the editor to their local papers. Your actions made a difference and show our political leaders the power of the Audubon network. Thank you!

Climate Program: Clean Energy and Climate Resilience

Climate change is the number one threat to birds and people. Wisely planning for a 100% clean energy future with healthy communities and abundant birds is essential to building a resilient future. That's why Audubon Washington had two climate priorities this session: incorporating climate change in our state's Growth Management Act (GMA), and promoting an equitable buildout of well-sited solar energy.

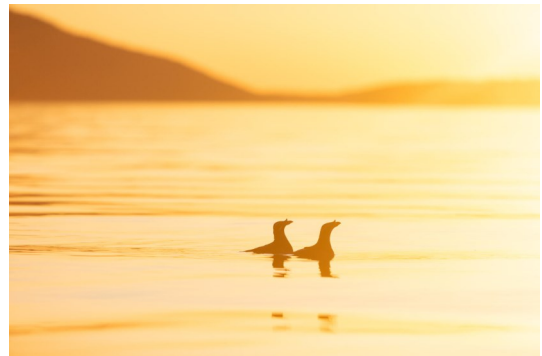
A disappointing loss - HB 1099 dies in the final moments. This year's legislative session was a critical deadline for updating the GMA before comprehensive planning for the next decade begins. HB 1099, which we've worked on diligently for multiple sessions, finally passed out of both chambers of the legislature but died when the House ran out of time to agree to late-session changes in the bill. This is a major disappointment, causing advocates for climate resilience planning to regroup and consider next steps.

Our efforts to support well-sited and equitable solar energy helped pass HB 1814, which creates a new low-income solar incentive program with precedent-setting language defining 'preferred sites' in state law. This bill will bring the benefits of solar energy to vulnerable communities and protect birds from solar development by guiding projects towards buildings, parking lots, and other locations that don't displace wildlife habitat or prime farmland. The bill's prime sponsor, Representative Sharon Shewmake, deserves special praise for stewarding this bill through a very challenging legislative session. The many local Audubon chapters who supported these efforts with letters to the

By Adam Maxwell

editor in their local papers also deserve credit for the passage of this important bill.

In other news, **Sustainable Farms and Fields, a climate-smart farming grant program the Audubon network helped to create, received two million dollars** in the supplemental operating budget. These funds will support the technical assistance, education, and outreach needed to make this new program a success.



Rhinoceros Auklet | Audubon, Rhys Logan

Coastal Program: Puget Sound

Unfortunately SB 5885, our priority bill for protecting Puget Sound coastline, didn't make it across the finish line this year. One major impediment to healthy shorelines is the presence of countless (truly, uncounted) structures like bulkheads and rock walls that destroy critical habitat for forage fish, further threatening species who rely on them like the Rhinoceros Auklet. SB 5885 would have provided a comprehensive assessment of our shoreline conditions, to get a more accurate estimate of unpermitted and derelict structures that are negatively impacting our shores.

This bill was a casualty of attacks from opponents who expressed concerns about the potential for enforcement actions against illegal and environmentally harmful structures. While this legislation didn't pass, it's imperative that we stay engaged and demonstrate broad public support for habitat recovery in Puget Sound.

In other news, we supported the successful passage of SB 5619, legislation that calls on the Department of Natural Resources to develop a plan to conserve and restore 10,000 acres of native kelp and eelgrass beds by 2040. This is welcome news for species who rely on those ecosystems!

Continued on Page 9



Greater Sage-Grouse | Audubon, Evan Barrientos

Working Lands Program: Sagelands

Sageland birds will be safer thanks to an important budget win: Washington’s Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) secured funding for new staff to help them respond to the major influx of solar projects in the Columbia Plateau. This additional staffing will allow DFW to effectively manage our growing demand for clean energy and ensure these projects are well-sited, protecting sagebrush birds like the Sage Thrasher and Greater Sage-grouse. Along this same vein, we successfully maintained funding secured in 2021 for Washington State University’s [least conflict solar siting](https://wa.audubon.org/news/restoration-and-recovery-columbia-plateau) (<https://wa.audubon.org/news/restoration-and-recovery-columbia-plateau>) process.

While we celebrate these wins, other sageland priorities saw less success. **HB 1891, a bill that would have supported a pilot project for rangeland wildfire protections, fizzled out** early in the legislative process.



Rufous Hummingbird | Audubon APA Mark Kuhn

Bird-Friendly Communities

Outdoor Education for All - HB 2078 passed! We are thrilled that more 5th and 6th graders across

Washington will have greater opportunities to access the outdoors, thanks to this new grant program which will be set up through the Office of the Superintendent of Public Schools. Seward Park Audubon Center testified in support of this legislation, offering an important and vivid example of how nature and birds can transform a child’s life!

Looking Ahead, for Birds and People

As evidenced by our mix of victories and bills that didn’t survive the session, there is a lot left to be done to ensure a resilient Washington state for all birds and people. Audubon Washington will continue our efforts in the coming weeks and months, building towards a strong revival of some of these key priorities in the 2023 Legislative session. Thank you for your continued support and advocacy on behalf of birds, all Washington wildlife, and our natural landscapes. ✍

Mark Your Calendars!

Sno-Isle Food Co-op’s Register Roundup Supports PAS in June!



Each month, the [Sno-Isle Food Co-op](#) selects a local nonprofit to be the beneficiary of their Register Roundup program. **This year, Pilchuck Audubon has been selected as the benefitting nonprofit for the month of June!**

How does it work?

Every trip to the Co-op, shoppers have the option to round up to the nearest dollar with their Register Roundup program. At the end of the month, the selected nonprofit will receive the total amount donated by their customers through the Register Roundup program.

We hope you’ll frequent the Sno-Isle Co-op in June, and when asked, round up your purchase to support PAS! And help us spread the word with your friends!

The Sno-Isle Food Co-op is located at 2804 Grand Avenue, Everett. ✍

The Importance of Shared Spaces: *Crescent Lake Unit, Snoqualmie Wildlife Area*

By Martha Jordan

Many of you have read about the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area and the Crescent Lake Unit (CLU) in particular. Over the past few years, there has been a lively and often contentious discussion regarding bird dog training expansion on the Crescent Lake Unit. Currently, it has only one pasture area adjacent to the north parking lot where dog training is allowed year round. The rest of the unit is closed to dog training and dogs off-leash at any time.

birds of all types use this area along with other wildlife.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife decided to open up the entire CLU to dog training last year without any public comment or input. WDFW said it was a pilot study. This year WDFW did solicit public comment and involved their Snoqualmie Wildlife Area Advisory Committee. I am a member of the SWAAC.

The result is the following: the bird dog training areas



Photo by Breck Haining

Swans landing in the interior of the CLU to feed on the corn in February-March 2022.

A conflict arose regarding the Crescent Lake Unit when the bird dog training user group wanted to open up the entire CLU to training from February 1 to August 31. This was strongly opposed by many others who come to CLU to bird, photograph, hike, and just enjoy the peacefulness of the area post hunting season (Feb 1-Aug 31). The wildlife use is also important, and Crescent Lake has become a night roost for several hundred swans all winter season. They also feed on the fields in the interior of this property. This year the number of swans varied from about 1,000 to a steady 450ish in February and March. The swans depart by the end of March. The adjacent dairy farm is their favorite winter feeding area throughout the season. Raptors, eagles, and

currently at Stillwater Unit and Cherry Valley Unit will remain as they have been for the past few years. The Crescent Lake Unit will be closed to all bird dog training except at the permanent dog training field on the north end, and from April 1 to August 31 at the field adjacent to the south parking lot. The rest of CLU will be closed to bird dog training.

This is great news for both wildlife and the people who enjoy the viewing and quiet at this place. Thank you to PAS and Eastside Audubon Society for your letters. Getting involved with our public lands is important. 🦅

BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

January 26, 2022 to February 25, 2022

Carole and Larry Beason's report from Lake Bosworth listed 48 American Coot and 3 American Widgeon on the lake, 3 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Bald Eagle over the lake, 13 Bufflehead, 8 Canada Goose, 5 Chestnut backed Chickadee, 2 Common Raven overhead, 10 Common Merganser, 20 Dark-eyed Junco, 17 Double-crested Cormorant, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 9 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 1 Great Blue Heron, 6 Hooded Merganser, 4 Mallard Duck, 6 Mourning Dove, 4 Northern Flicker, 24 Pine Siskin, a Pileated Woodpecker, 8 Purple Finch, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 29 Red-winged Blackbird, 5 Ring-necked Duck, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, a Hutton's Vireo, and 7 Steller's Jay, for a total species count of 37.

Reporting from Edmonds, Sarah and Paul Burien's total species count of 17 included 2 Townsend's Warbler, 20 Dark-eyed Junco, 3 Varied Thrush, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 30 American Crow, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 1 Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2 Spotted Towhee, 2 Song Sparrow, a Northern Flicker, 2 Band-tailed Pigeon, 2 Pine Siskin, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3 Bald Eagle flying over, and a Bewick's Wren. In last month's report, I reported 2 Wrentit, and I should have reported a Pacific Wren and a Bewick's Wren.

Hilkka Egtvedt's report from Mukilteo listed a Cooper's Hawk terrorizing smaller birds at the feeder, 4 Band-tailed Pigeon, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 3 Hairy Woodpecker, 2 Northern Flicker, a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 4 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Bewick's Wren, a Townsend's Warbler, 2 Spotted Towhee, a Fox Sparrow, 2 Song Sparrow, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, a White-crowned Sparrow, 28 Dark-eyed Junco, 3 House Finch, and 4 Pine Siskin, for a total species count of 20.

Kriss Erickson's total species count 23 from her home in Everett included 18 Black-capped Chickadee, 7 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 3 Steller's Jay, 32 Bushtit, 16 American Crow, 8 Western Gull, 7 American Robin, 6 House Finch, 4 Spotted Towhee, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 2 Northern Flicker, 3 Song Sparrow, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 45 European Starling, 8 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Red-tailed Hawk, 2 Red-winged Blackbird, 4 Mallard Duck, a Lincoln Sparrow, and a Varied Thrush.

Reporting from Everett, Maureen Schmitz listed 4 House Finch, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2 Spotted Towhee, 5

Dark-eyed Junco, 15 Bushtit, a Red-crowned Kinglet, 10 to 15 American Crow, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Bald Eagle flying over, 2 Steller's Jay, an Anna's Hummingbird, a Northern Flicker, 5 American Robin, Red-breasted Sapsucker, a Bewick's Wren, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, a Downy Woodpecker, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, a Song Sparrow, and a Chestnut-backed Chickadee, for a total species count of 21.

Mary Sinker's report from Stanwood included 10 American Robin, 10 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Bald Eagle, 18 Black-capped Chickadee, a Brown Creeper, 8 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Cooper's Hawk, 77 Dark-eyed Junco, 4 Downy Woodpecker, a Great Blue Heron at the creek, 2 Great Horned Owl, 4 Hairy Woodpecker, 9 House Finch, 7 Kinglet species, 18 Mourning Dove, 4 Northern Flicker, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Red-tailed Hawk, 63 Red-winged Blackbird, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, 9 Song Sparrow, 12 Spotted Towhee, 12 Steller's Jay, 2 White-crowned Sparrow, and 2 Pacific Wren, for a total species count of 31.

Walter Zandi's report from Monroe listed a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 7 American Robin, a House Finch, 11 Dark-eyed Junco, 4 Northern Flicker, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 4 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Spotted Towhee, a Song Sparrow, an American Crow, 2 Pine Siskin, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, and 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, for a total species count of 15.

My report from Marysville included 3 American Crow, a Cooper's Hawk, 4 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 15 Dark-eyed Junco, 30+ Mallard Duck in the fields along 100th Street, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 5 House Finch, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 30+ European Starling, 6 Northern Flicker, 30+ Pine Siskin, 3 Spotted Towhee, a Varied Thrush, 2 Red-tailed Hawk Flying over, 4 Steller's Jay, 2 Tundra Swan, and 2 Anna's Hummingbird, for a total species count of 19.

If you are interested in participating in our Backyard Bird Count, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or call my cell phone at 425-750-8125. 🦅



Bird Walks in Parks in Eastern Lynnwood, March 5, 2022 Trip Report by Douglas Resnick

Four birders met in the morning at Heritage Park in Lynnwood. The sky was overcast and the temperature cool, but there was no rain, and there were only light breezes.

Heritage Park is distinctive as the site of several buildings of historical interest. Behind the buildings is an area that includes lawns, trees, bushes, and some water. Accordingly, we walked past the buildings, then proceeded roughly in an arc from southeast to northwest. We heard many birds calling and singing from the trees and bushes, including Northern Flicker, Black-capped Chickadee, and Pine Siskin. From one of the views of the water, we caught sight of Gadwalls and Mallards. After finishing the arc, we exited the park, in order to explore nearby areas that were loosely joined to the park by the water, which flows into Golde Creek, which in turn broadens into a wetland just east of 28th Avenue West. The wetland hosted a multitude of Red-winged Blackbirds. We had spotted a Cooper's Hawk atop a snag as we headed east, and we saw it fly, then land again as we returned westward, cutting through the Edmonds School District property that currently hosts Spruce Elementary. Also during this segment, we had a long view of four of another raptor, the Bald Eagle, as they circled overhead.

Our next stop was Pioneer Park. This park consists of two parts, a large lawn with some trees to the south, and an area of trees, bushes, and some water to the

north. We circumnavigated the lawn, counterclockwise, with excursions first to a house with popular bird feeders to the northwest, then through the northern part and back, and lastly out and back along a paved trail to the south of the park. Two Glaucous-winged Gulls were on the lawn, along with an American Crow. We had a good view of two Pine Siskins at the bird feeder. Along the way, we also heard a Red-breasted Nuthatch and a Pacific Wren.

Our third stop was Stadler Ridge Park. This is a small park with a remnant of undeveloped land to the north and a playground to the south, as well as a good view eastward from the western edge of the park. Our most notable sighting here was of a Pacific Wren, which until this point in our outing had been heard only.

Our last stop was Spruce Park. This is a somewhat larger park than the preceding, with its natural area to the south, a lawn and a playground to the north, and a good view westward from its western edge. By this time of day, the clouds were breaking up, and the air was warming up. We saw again some of the species we had spotted at the other sites, but were rewarded for our perseverance in exploring all the eastern parks by being granted a long opportunity to observe a Varied Thrush foraging on the ground in the natural area.

We ended our birding around 12:30 PM, having reported 31 species in eBird. We then adjourned to nearby Indigo for lunch. 🍴

Volunteers Trained for Edmonds Marsh Bird Surveys

On the dreary morning of March 19, a group of hardy volunteers braved the rain and the muck to attend a training session for our long-term bird survey at the Edmonds Marsh. The project, titled "Avian Habitat Use Monitoring at the Edmonds Marsh," aims to document how birds use the microhabitats of the marsh.

Nineteen volunteers attended the training session at the Willow Creek Salmon & Watershed Education Center, which was led by project coordinator Scott Markowitz. Volunteers learned about the survey protocols, a very brief history of the marsh, and took a tour of the survey points. Despite the damp morning, the coffee was warm and spirits were high!

The project was initiated in December 2018, with hopes of continuing it for at least 10 years, if not longer. To sustain this project over the long term, we are always in need of more volunteers. We will be holding another training within the next couple months (date to be determined), so if you missed out on this training but want to contribute to this important project, please con-

tact Scott Markowitz at scott_markowitz@yahoo.com.

Background

There's a long history at the marsh regarding development, railroads, tide gates, and more. What we know is that the marsh has



Edmonds Marsh | Photo: Brian Zinke

endured substantial changes over the past 150 years, most of which have been detrimental to the marsh ecosystem's natural processes and the wildlife that depend on it. We're hopeful that future changes to the marsh will reverse this trend and be beneficial to the marsh ecosystem. With this survey, we aim to document how those changes affect the bird community. Additionally, with this baseline of data that we are generating, we will be able to provide information that can help guide future management decisions and actions regarding the marsh.

Pilchuck Audubon Society Membership Information

Support your local Audubon chapter by becoming a member. PAS dues are tax deductible (consult your tax professional for details). The PAS tax ID number is 91-6183664.

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TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website, <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips>, for the latest information

Birding Trips — See Page 7



In Case You Missed It ...

We certainly miss seeing everyone in person. However, one of the benefits of online programs is that we can record them. We know you all have busy lives and can't always make the live presentations, so in case you missed one, below are the links to watch our line-up of recent programs. Enjoy!

Meadowdale Beach Park Estuary Restoration Project (MBPERP)

[Watch the Recording](#)

Nesting Success and Recruitment of Western and Clark's Grebes in Idaho

Presentation by Anne Yen

[Watch the Recording](#)

Reproductive Ecology of the White-headed Woodpecker in Washington's Ponderosa Pine Forests

Presentation by Jeff Kozma

[Watch the Recording](#)

Panama's Cloud Forest: The Junction of Bird Communities

Presentation by Thomas Bancroft, PhD

[Watch the Recording](#)

Finches of Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge, Colville, Washington

Presentation by Michael Munts

[Watch the Recording](#)

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 425.232.6811.

The monthly Profile is available online at

www.pilchuckaudubon.org

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