

Great Backyard Bird Count Training with Alan Mearns and Brian Zinke

Saturday, Feb 12 @ 10 AM

**Free,
Online
Program**



crowdcast.io/e/birdcount2

**GREAT BACKYARD
BIRD COUNT
TRAINING**
with
**ALAN MEARNES
& BRIAN ZINKE**





**Hosted
by the
Everett
Public
Library**



Started in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) was the first community science project to collect data on wild birds and [display the results](#) in nearly real time.

For four days each February, people from all over the world come together to count as many birds as they can. This can be in your own backyard, as the name of the count indicates, but can actually be from anywhere—your neighborhood, the local park or beach, even the Everett Public Library! These observations help scientists better understand global bird populations before one of their annual migrations.

This fun workshop, held virtually on the Saturday before the GBBC, is designed for first timers, beginning birders, teachers, families and kids, and others who want to learn how to participate in the GBBC and brush up on their backyard bird identification skills. The training will include what birds you are likely to see, how to practice spotting birds, and recording and entering your data online.

This year’s GBBC itself takes place from February 18-21, 2022. The GBBC is free, fun, and easy for all ages. You can participate even if you have only 15 minutes to spare!

For more information on the GBBC, visit the [GBBC website](#) or [Pilchuck Audubon’s website](#).

Alan Mearns is a retired NOAA scientist in Edmonds. He and his wife have participated in the GBBC for more than a decade, have conducted backyard bird counts for nearly 30 years, and both are long-time members of the planning committee for the annual Puget Sound Bird Fest (held in September).

Brian Zinke is the Executive Director for the Pilchuck Audubon Society. He's a certified Associate Wildlife Biologist®, and has worked to conserve several endangered species in Washington, Wyoming, and Kansas.

To Register:

<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/birdcount2/register>

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The White Birds of Winter

The *White Birds of Winter* are here! Thousands of Trumpeter Swan, Tundra Swan, and Snow Goose have migrated from Alaska and Canada to feed in the farm fields of Washington. On Thursday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m., Wildlife Biologist Martha Jordan will Zoom entertaining stories and a spectacular slide show about these magnificent birds. Register online through the Adopt A Stream Foundation's Nature Store, www.streamkeeper.org/thenaturestore (<http://www.streamkeeper.org/thenaturestore>), or call 425-316-8592 to reserve your spot: \$7 general admission, \$5 Adopt A Stream Foundation members.

Martha, the Director of the NW Swan Conservation Association (<https://nswans.org/>), will explain the myths and share the facts about these beautiful birds. During this *Streamkeeper Academy* event, which is geared for middle school students to adults, you will learn about swan and Snow Goose life history, biology, and some identification tips.



Snow Goose (pink beak and feet) | Photo Credit: G. Plowman



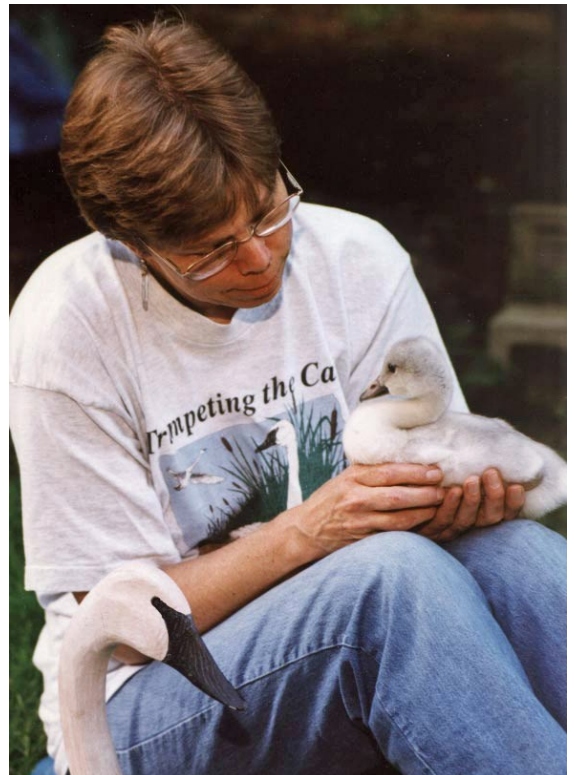
Flight of Trumpeter Swans (black beak, feet) | Photo Credit: G. Plowman

You will also learn the best places to view them now in Washington State. Martha will also shed some light on the problems and controversies (including lead poisoning and habitat destruction) migratory birds face on their Washington State wintering grounds.

Through her beautiful photographs, Martha will teach you how to tell these birds apart and where you can go to see them now. Pick up a free *Swan and Goose Identification* pamphlet at the Adopt A Stream Foundation's Northwest Stream Center www.streamkeeper.org ([http://](http://www.streamkeeper.org)

www.streamkeeper.org] before your next local bird-watching excursion.

Proceeds from *White Birds of Winter* benefit the NW Swan Conservation Society and the Adopt A Stream Foundation's *Streamkeeper Academy*. 🦢



Martha Jordan with a cygnet.

UPCOMING CLASSES

All classes will be conducted over Zoom and recorded, so if you cannot make the live sessions you can still register to receive access to the recordings for a few weeks after each class.

Register for classes at <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/classes>.

The Basic Bird: Essentials of Anatomy and Physiology, Part 1

February 22

7:00-8:30 PM

Pricing: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members

Led by Cathy Johnson-Delaney, DVM

To truly appreciate these remarkable creatures, an exploration of the avian anatomy and physiology is essential. This course will present the avian anatomy and function from both a lifelong birder and avian veterinarian's perspective. This webinar will start with the musculoskeletal and respiratory systems and integrate the nervous and gastrointestinal systems, and how this impacts all aspects of flight and behavior.



Cornell Lab of Ornithology | allaboutbirds.org

Dr. Cathy Johnson-Delaney is a 1980 WSU graduate who has practiced avian and exotic pet practice in the greater Puget Sound area. She was board certified in avian practice, and is currently writing a textbook on avian procedures and techniques. She served as President of the Association of Avian Veterinarians 1994-95 and is currently on the board of the Association of NW Avian & Exotic Veterinarians. 🐦

Neotropical Migrants

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Pricing: \$55 for members, \$75 for non-members

Led by Connie Sidles, Master Birder

The neotropical arrivals will be streaming into our state as soon as spring arrives. In fact, all across the continent, billions of passerines from Central and South America are coming to breed. They all will be in their brightest spring plumage—living jewels that each has made this arduous journey on its own, driven by the need to nest.

If you've been overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of species that swell our year-round avian populations, then this class is for you. Come hear Connie Sidles explain how to ID warblers, vireos, flycatchers, kingbirds, shrikes, swallows, swifts, nightjars, and (if time allows) hummingbirds. They are here for only a short time, and then they leave us in late summer and fall, emptying our skies for another year. 🐦



White-tailed Nighthawk | eBird.org

Edmonds Marsh Bird Surveys:

Volunteers Needed ♦ Upcoming Training Day!

Beginning in December 2018, the Avian Habitat Use at Edmonds Marsh Project is a twice-monthly survey in which we are documenting the interaction between avian visitors and the marsh's habitat. This survey will give us a better understanding to how the birds that breed, overwinter, and use the marsh on migration interact with the site, and will help us make more informed recommendations on how the site can best be managed for birds.



The goal is to keep this survey going for at least 10 years; as you can imagine, we need a lot of volunteer help!

We are looking for volunteers with good observation and bird-identification skills, an attention to detail, a love for the marsh, and the willingness to volunteer three or four hours at a time. Volunteers on this project can choose to volunteer as often as every month and as infrequently as once a year. In this survey, we get the privilege of visiting spots in the marsh that are not open to the public, so a reasonable level of mobility is necessary.

Volunteer Training Day

We will be hosting a volunteer training day at the marsh on **Saturday, March 19, from 8:00 a.m. to Noon**, where we will provide instruction on the survey protocols, give a tour of the survey points, and share some of the early results of the project.

If you are interested in being a part of this survey and contributing to bird conservation, contact Scott Markowitz (scott_markowitz@yahoo.com) to get in on the action.

We look forward to your participation! 🦋



PHOTO CREDITS

Above: Marsh Wren | Bill Anderson

Left: Surveyors | Brian Zinke

BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

TRIP CALENDAR



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

Tuesday, February 8 **Monroe to Carnation**

7:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-631-2611

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Monroe Park & Ride on US 2 for a trip through the Snoqualmie River Valley. Build your 2022 Year List at regular stops, including Lake Tye, Crescent Lake, Tolt-McDonald Park, Sikes Lake, and the Snoqualmie River Trail. Pack a lunch.

Tuesday, February 15 **North Whidbey Island**

7:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-631-2611

Meet at 7:30 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). Fidalgo Island and North Whidbey Island offer a variety of lake and waterfront settings for wintering waterfowl, including Campbell Lake, Rosario Beach, Deception Pass, Ala Spit, and Dugualla Bay and Admiralty Bay. There will be good opportunities to see seasonal songbirds as well. Pack a lunch. Dress for the weather.

Saturday, February 19 **Great Backyard Bird Count**

8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon See Page 7

Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425-244-7633
aracfi@msn.com

Tuesday, February 22 **Spencer Island**

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-631-2611

Meet at 8:00 AM at the gravel parking lot at the Everett Sewage Lagoons. From south, take Exit 195 from I-5 to East Marine View Dr. to SR 529, Ross Rd. and Smith Island Rd. past Langus Riverfront Park and around curve to lot. From north, take Exit 198 from I-5 to SR 529, then exit for Langus Riverfront Park along frontage road to Ross Rd. and Smith Island Rd. Our October trip to Spencer Island was cut short by rain, so we will try again. We will check the Everett Sewage Lagoons along the way. Northern Smith Island, Ebey Waterfront Trail, and perhaps Tulalip Bay are other destinations. Pack a lunch. 🦋

WANT TO BE A PILCHUCK EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICER?

By Allen Gibbs

As required by our Bylaws, election notice and details must appear in the March and April editions of the PROFILE. Given the uncertainties whether we can return to in-person general membership meetings by April 2022, this is an extra early election notice.

April 2022 is our next Pilchuck Audubon Chapter election of officers. The President and Secretary are elected in even years. The Vice President and Treasurer are elected in odd years.

Our elections historically are by voice and paper ballot by PAS members at the April General Meeting. We could not have any in-person general meetings in 2021. Our Bylaws enabled us to use paper and email ballots in 2021. Ballots were cast by USPS and online form.

It may be likely that will be the way of our April 2022 election. Details will be in the March and April PROFILE editions. 🦋

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:

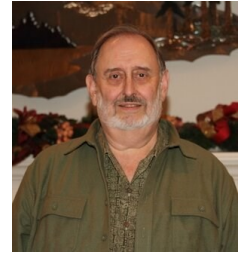
- For those who are unvaccinated for COVID-19, we will not be able to accommodate your attendance on field trips at this time.
- For those who are vaccinated:
 - Masks are not required while outdoors.
 - Carpooling with individuals from outside of your house is allowed, but masks should be worn while 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



Allen Gibbs

Skagit River headwaters protected

Great news!

British Columbia Premier John Horgan announced on January 19, 2022, that an "... agreement with Imperial Metals Corp and the Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission will see the mining company return all mining and related rights in the nearly 58-square-kilometre Silverdaisy watershed, known as the Skagit River Donut Hole.

"Washington Governor Jay Inslee says the agreement is a 'shining example' of cross-border collaboration."

Pilchuck Audubon Society, together with many Washington Audubon chapters and public officials at federal, state, local, and tribal governments, urged such a settlement going back at least four years. Many thanks are owed to Seattle-based Washington Wild for building the coalition leading to this great outcome!

Quotes in the article are taken from a story published by The Canadian Press.

Washington State Legislative News

The 2022 legislative session opened on January 10 and is rapidly moving through what is called the "Short Session," which ends March 10. By close of business on February 15, House bills not voted out to the Senate and Senate bills not voted out to the House will be "dead" for the session.

March 4 is the last day for the two chambers to act on bills received from each other. There are exceptions, dealing with initiatives, budgets, and settling differences thereof. March 10 is the last day of the regular session.

State Bills of Audubon Interest

HB 1099 was close to passage in the 2021 session. On January 21 this year, the House passed it along party lines of 57 yeas and 41 nays. A Senate hearing was held on February 1. Next steps not known. It significantly improves the state's climate response through updates to the Growth Management Act. Audubon has been a strong proponent in this, going back to earlier sessions. It will work hard for passage in the Senate. Many thanks to Pilchuck Audubon members for urging their state legislators to pass this bill!

SB 5885 will protect Puget Sound shorelines. Without recovery of the shorelines, survival of salmon, orcas, and marine birds is doubtful. We are reminded by our own Dr. Trina Bayard of the need for better data, improved habitat mitigation, and better law enforcement of shoreline structure violations, some of which go back for generations.

HB 1814 is a thoughtful effort in the support of well-sited, equitable, solar energy development. Sunny eastern Washington is a great place for solar energy development. But it must not occur at the expense of converting undisturbed bird and other wildlife habitat. Here is a bill encouraging siting development in areas already disturbed. Ask your legislator to support this bill!

And then there is House Bill 1838 and Senate Bill 5727, also known as the Mandatory Buffer Bill and the Lorraine Loomis Act. There are good reasons behind these bills, but proponents must explore more options to achieve riparian habitat conservation. Other policy and budget proposals are needed. Until that occurs, the bills likely will not move any farther this session.

Actions on legislation surviving the February 15 cutoff will be serious matters. That is when those of you receiving Audubon alerts to contact your legislators will "amp up" for action. If you are not a participant in promoting legislative priorities, here is how to join the effort.

- To sign up to receive updates on state legislation during this session, click here: <https://wa.audubon.org/conservation/legislative-session-2022>.
- If you have questions about Audubon Washington's work during the session, contact Adam Maxwell, our senior policy manager: Adam.Maxwell@audubon.org.

Federal Scene

National Audubon Society is urging passage of HR 2773, Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2023.

"This provides funding for (1) the conservation or restoration of wildlife and plant species of greatest conservation need; (2) the wildlife conservation strategies of states, territories, or the District of Columbia; and (3) wildlife conservation education and recreation projects. The Interior Department must use a portion of the funding for a grant program. The grants must be used for innovative recovery efforts for species of greatest

Continued on Page 7

25th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count

Saturday, February 19, at 8:00 a.m.

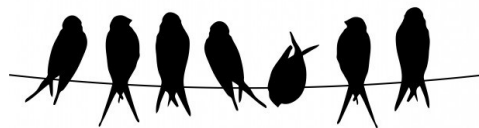
Join the Pilchuck Audubon Society for the Great Backyard Bird Count on Saturday, February 19. We will meet, rain or shine, at 8:00 AM at the trailhead on Paradise Lake Road east of Woodinville. Whilst taking S/R 522, turn east (right) at the signal light on to Paradise Lake Rd. (If you turn the wrong way off S/R 522, you will be heading to Maltby and S/R 524.) Travel about 1.7 miles (according to Google Maps). Turn right into the gravel parking lot. The address is 23210 Paradise Lake Rd, Woodinville, WA 98077.

Half day. Open to all. No reservations required. Bring fowl weather gear, sturdy walking boots, water, and snacks for yourself. Also bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. On our scouting trip, we hiked a bit less than seven km on fairly easy loop trails, with little elevation gain. We barely scratched the numerous trails. The site is forested. We walked just before dusk and saw a raven, a small flock of kinglets, and few chickadees. The morning will bring many more active species to detect!

Please submit the [attached liability waiver/COVID acknowledgment](#) to director@pilchuckaudubon.org. I will have blank forms if necessary. No dogs. Open to all who are vaccinated.

Optional orientation for the GBCC is being given by PAS Executive Director, Brian Zinke, on Saturday, February 12. Register by clicking <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/birdcount2/register>.

Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh • 425-244-7633 • aracfi@msn.com



Conservation Report, *Continued from Page 6*

conservation need, species listed as endangered or threatened species, of the habitats of such species.”

All Democratic Washington State representatives are cosponsors of this bill. 154 congresspersons are cosponsors. 117 are Democratic; 37 are Republican, so a bipartisan bill! None of Washington State’s three Republican representatives are cosponsors but that doesn’t mean they oppose. Opportunities to thank our cosponsoring delegation members will be coming along this year. The three Representatives covering Snohomish County and Camano Island are Rick Larsen, Suzan DelBene, and Pramila Jayapal.

These figures will be familiar to you. One-third of all wildlife species in the US are at risk of being listed

threatened or endangered. **Audubon members and friends care!** This is an astounding loss of 3 billion birds since 1970 that once called North America home or used for layover during migration. That news is bad. But if we take action now, about 75 percent of birds in threatened or endangered status or deserving such protection can be saved by our actions today!

The bill increases funding for state action plans by more than \$1 billion. It will bring more than \$90 million to tribal programs.

When you receive alerts to ask your congresspersons to support this bill, do so! Most of Washington State’s delegation in the House and Senate is already there! 🦅

I recognize eagles. I watch them soar, circling upward, from my living room windows. From my third-floor condo, they look like they are heading into the clouds. Occasionally, a smaller bird, usually with what I think of as a courageous friend, chases them away. Are those crows? Sparrows? Hawks? I have absolutely no idea; to me, they are nearly all LBB (little brown/black birds).

In spring, I see small birds with flashes of yellow. They flit in and out of the tree in front of my windows, frequently taking a quick detour from the tree limbs to my deck. They land on the railing, and then head back to the safety and shade of the tree. I decided they must be goldfinches. It helps that the American Goldfinch is the state bird of Washington, so that really clinched my uninformed decision.

If you consider broad classifications, I recognize owls. I wouldn't know a Barred Owl from a Barn Owl. Owls are large and unusual looking. It makes it much easier to see them. Clearly, my knowledge of our avian companions is neither deep nor wide.

So, why was I signed up for an Audubon class? I clearly have not had a lifelong interest or fascination with birds. I can name, at most, twenty birds. I can recognize about ten. The expression "LBB" was invented for people like me. All birds look alike to me. Birds that are colorful, like the Steller's jay, cardinal, or wood ducks, stand out enough to be noticed and recognized. Otherwise. I simply can't see them. And I'm not about to spend \$1000 on great binoculars in the hopes of looking for wildlife that I can't even name.

I hike. Walking up trails, through the trees in the spring, I hear bird song. I had decided they are all robins, because that way I can give them a name and feel like I'm more at home in the woods. Except, there are a lot of different bird songs, different calls. Who am I kidding? They can't all be robins! But then, what are they? Still not buying \$1000 binoculars to figure it out.

In March, the Seattle Times had an article on birds in the spring, and it included links to the songs of each bird. (<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/9-common-seattle-backyard-birds-to-listen-for-in-the-spring/>.) Even I, a person with absolutely no ability to find birds, might be able to recognize just one bird that I hear. So, I found the Pilchuck Audubon class, *Who's*

calling, please? Introducing 'birding by ear.' Perfect. The course promised we would learn the song of one bird. It suggested we might learn more, but really, I felt learning one bird was do-able. Not five, not ten. Just one bird.

My sister, Joyce, and I logged onto the online class and our instructor, Whitney Neufeld-Kaiser, a Master Birder, introduced us to the junco. I had no idea what a junco was, where they lived, or what they looked like. She played their calls, showed us spectrographs of the calls, and took us to the Cornell website and to xeno-canto (<https://www.xeno-canto.org/>) to hear more. By the end of the class, I knew that if I walked in the woods and heard a sound like the ringing of an old-fashioned land line, brrrrring, brrriing, brrring, it was a junco.



Dark-eyed Junco | eBird.org

Suddenly, I heard juncos everywhere! On a hike in the Redmond Watershed, walking up the street by my house, simply everywhere. Joyce and I were doing an easy walk along through a neighborhood. I heard a sound—was it a junco? Two women were walking towards us, and just as they got near us, we crossed the street, so we could hear the bird better. With Covid on everyone's mind, they called to us, "We didn't mean to make you cross the street!"

"Oh, no. We were listening to that bird and wanted to get closer. We think it's a junco." We explained about the telephone-like calls. Now two more women can identify a junco.

Last week, a friend who has become an avid birder sent a picture of a bird enjoying her water feature on her deck.

"What is the bird?" I messaged back to her.

"A junco," she texted.

Ah, I still don't know a junco when I see one. But if, when, I hear the sound in the woods, I know a junco when I hear it. 🦋

BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

November 26, 2021 to December 25, 2021

Happy New Year. Hope everyone got through those snowy days ok. It was pretty bad, especially if you lived in the hills.

Carole and Larry Beason's report from Snohomish listed 44 American Coot, 4 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Bald Eagle, 17 Canada Goose on the lake, 7 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, a Common Loon on the lake, 2 Common Raven flying overhead, 20+ Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Downy Woodpecker, a Great Blue Heron along Machias Road, 4 Golden-crowned Sparrow in the chicken pen, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 7 Mourning Dove, 3 Northern Flicker, 20+ Pine Siskin, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Red-breasted Sapsucker, 30 Red-winged Blackbird, 10 Ring-necked Duck on the lake, 5 Steller's Jay, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, a Varied Thrush, and a Hutton's Vireo, for a total species count of 38.

Reporting from Edmonds, Sarah and Paul Bueren listed 25 Dark-eyed Junco, an Anna's Hummingbird, 30 American Crow everywhere, 2 Song Sparrow, 5 Bushtit, 3 Black-capped Chickadee, a Varied Thrush, 5 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, a Cooper's Hawk on the feeders, 2 Northern Flicker, a Spotted Towhee, a Townsend's Warbler, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet, a House Finch, and a Pine Siskin, for a total species count of 16.

Hilkka Egtvedt's report from Mukilteo included a Cooper's Hawk and a Sharp-shinned Hawk harassing the feeder birds, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 3 Northern Flicker, a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 5 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 7 Bushtit, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Bewick's Wren, a Townsend's Warbler, 2 Song Sparrow, 25 Dark-eyed Junco, 23 Pine Siskin, and 4 House Finch, for a species total of 19.

Reporting from Everett, Kriss Erickson listed 22 Black-capped Chickadee, 12 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Bewick's Wren, 4 Steller's Jay, 25 Bushtit, 12 American Crow, 6 Western Gull, 13 American Robin, 8 House Finch, 3 Spotted Towhee, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 2 Northern Flicker, an Anna's Hummingbird, 36 European Starling, a Barred Owl, 12 Dark-eyed Junco, and 23 Canada Goose flying over, for a total species count of 19.

Maureen Schmitz's report from Everett listed 8 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Steller's Jay, 4 American Robin, 2 Townsend's Warbler, a Northern Flicker, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 10 Pine Siskin, 6 House Finch, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 7 Bushtit,

a Downy Woodpecker, and a Winter Wren, for a total species count of 18.

Reporting from Stanwood, Mary Sinker's report include 23 American Robin, 5 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Bald Eagle, 12 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Brown Creeper, 8 Bushtit, 8 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 137 Dark-eyed Junco, 4 Downy Woodpecker, 2 Great Blue Heron at the creek, a Great Horned Owl, 7 House Finch, 10 Kinglet Species, 18 Mourning Dove, a Northern Pygmy Owl, 76 Pine Siskin, a Pileated Woodpecker, a Red-tailed Hawk, 15 Red-winged Blackbird, 2 Sharp-shinned Hawk, 5 Song Sparrow, 37 Spotted Towhee, 12 Steller's Jay, 2 Varied Thrush, and 6 Pacific Wren, for a total species count of 31.

Walter Zandi's report from Monroe included a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 2 American Robin, a White-crowned Sparrow, 11 Dark-eyed Junco, 4 Northern Flicker, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 3 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Spotted Towhee, 2 Mourning Dove, a Downy Woodpecker, 16 Pine Siskin, a Pacific Wren, 3 House Finch, and a Varied Thrush, for a total species count of 20.

My report from the hills in north Marysville included 2 Anna's Hummingbird, a Barred Owl, 5 Black-capped Chickadee, 15 Dark-eyed Junco, a Downy and a Hairy Woodpecker, 3 House Finch, 10 Bushtit, 3 Northern Flicker, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 4 Spotted Towhee, 2 Steller's Jay, 6 Mallard Duck in the pond along 100th St, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Cooper's Hawk on the feeders, and 12 Pine Siskin, for a total species count of 20.

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. 🦅

Hutton's Vireo



Above: allaboutbirds.org

Left: eBird.org

Volunteers Needed for Planning Committees

By Brian Zinke

Have you ever attended the Puget Sound Bird Fest? Or Swifts Night Out? What about the Feast in the Forest?



If you have, you know how wonderful these events can be! These are some of our biggest and most anticipated events of the year, and we absolutely want to keep them going.

But we need your help.

These events require planning, brainstorming, and coordination to make them successful and fun. If you have enjoyed participating in one of these events, please consider volunteering your time, even just a little bit, to one of these committees so we can ensure another year of your favorite events.

Please email Brian (director@pilchuckaudubon.org) if you can help us by serving on one of these planning committees:

- Swifts Night Out
- Feast in the Forest
- Puget Sound Bird Fest

Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to hearing from you! 🦋



Swifts Night Out; Monroe, WA | PAS Archives

Owl Prowl at Yost Park in Edmonds

March 15

Join an expert guide from the Pilchuck Audubon Society for an evening getting to know the owls of Yost Park. We'll discuss the unique adaptations of these fascinating birds of prey as we search forested trails for resident barred owls. Requires moderate walking on uneven terrain. Dress for the weather – event happens rain or shine, but may cancel for wind due to safety concerns. To comply with current COVID guidelines, class size will be limited and masks and social distancing will be required. Children 12 and older are welcome.

This event is hosted by the City of Edmonds. To register, [please visit their website here.](#) 🦋



Winter Wings Birding/Photography Festival

Klamath Falls, Oregon

February 18-20, 2022

Get ready for a 2022 Winter Wings Festival like no other! Winter Wings brings together birders and photographers to learn and explore with top-notch professionals and enthusiastic local guides. The Klamath Basin is renowned for its massive wintering population of Bald Eagles, but is prime habitat for many other raptors including owls, as well as a diversity of waterfowl.

The 2022 Festival will feature Richard Crossley, author of the Crossley ID Guides and co-author of *Ornithology: For Your Mind, Body, and Soul*. For our photography keynote we are excited to have Jennifer Leigh Warner, conservation wildlife photographer.

Join us for an extensive array of field trips, workshops, presentations, and receptions that highlight the wonders of the Klamath Basin in winter. On Friday, Feb. 18, there will be several presentations on the status of Klamath Basin wetlands and partner initiatives.

Dates: Friday, Feb. 18 through Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022

Host site: Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech),
3201 Campus Drive, Klamath Falls, Oregon, 97601

Website: www.WinterWingsFest.org

Registration opens in mid-December on date TBA.

For information, call 877-541-BIRD (2473) or email info@winterwingsfest.org 🦋

Help Us Plan the Future of the Demo Garden!

February 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an online meeting to discuss ideas for the future of the Edmonds Wildlife Habitat & Native Plant Demonstration Garden located at the Edmonds Marsh. We need fresh ideas and fresh faces about how we can continue to improve this project, so we hope you'll join us.



If you're new to the garden and would just like to learn more about it or have an interest in volunteering to help plant, mulch, or weed, this meeting would be a great opportunity to get involved and meet others involved with it. Our spring planting will be coming up soon, and we could use the help!

To sign up, please fill out the Zoom registration link below. We hope to see you on February 24 at 6:00 p.m.!

[Zoom registration link](#)



Have you seen the new website updates?

We've been working hard to update our website (pilchuckaudubon.org) recently to make it an even better resource for you. While we still have several pages we're currently working on, here are the latest updates:

Under the "Birding" tab

- New [Birding Resources](#) page
- New [Report a Banded Bird](#) page
- New [Sick, Injured, or Dead Birds](#) page

Under the "Education" tab

- New [Audubon for Kids](#) page
- New [Outreach Programs](#) page

We also split out the former "Conservation" tab into two new tabs, the "Bird-friendly Communities" tab and the "Community Science" tab.

Under the "Bird-friendly Communities" tab

- New [Climate Change](#) page
- We'll also be updating the current pages and adding more in the future covering topics such as Audubon's Lights Out initiative, Bird-friendly Buildings initiative, domestic cats, and more!

Under the "Community Science" tab

- Here you'll find all of our current projects that are powered by **you!**
- Most of these pages will be getting a facelift soon, as well

Stay tuned for more updates in the near future! 🦅



Olympic Birdfest
April 22-24, 2022

SAVE THE DATE

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.

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.

- Student \$15
 - Senior \$30
 - Adult \$35
 - Family \$50
 - Lifetime Member (one-time payment)..... \$1,000
 - Donation..... \$ _____
- My employer will match my contribution
My employer's gift-matching form is enclosed with my contribution

Make checks payable to **Pilchuck Audubon Society**

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

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
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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.

TRIP CALENDAR

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

Birding Trips — See Page 5



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!

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](#)

Snohomish PUD Natural Resource Protections

Presentation by Laura Zorick

[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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