

November Program Meeting

Salmon and the American Dipper

Guest Speaker: Dr. Christopher Tonra

Dr. Christopher Tonra will talk about the influence of salmon and the nutrients they provide on the life history of the American Dipper. His team studied dippers along four streams in areas with and without salmon to determine the impact salmon have on the survival, reproduction, body condition, and behavior of this charismatic species of western streams. In addition, the team explored the impacts that the removal of two dams on the Elwha River had on dippers by sampling birds before and after removal of the Elwha Dam. This work has shown how salmon can have enormous impacts on wildlife populations beyond the water.

When: November 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Where: Online

Register for Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsf-yopzsqHtyAVG9 DCjUYG7RdBhARoNI>



Photo by Mick Thompson

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Take Time To Celebrate

It's important to celebrate when we achieve something good. This year we achieved many good things worth celebrating.

At the State level, WA Audubon achieved passage of all three of its top legislative priorities thanks to thousands of emails and letters to the editors. These include:

- Passage of HB118 which requires cities and counties to address climate change and sea level rise in their comprehensive plans,
- SB5104 which requires and funds a survey of Puget Sound shorelines for armoring and other disturbances,
- Requiring consideration of key habitat and species when evaluating proposals for new solar and wind facilities
- Increased funding for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for non-game animals and fish.



At the County level, Snohomish County Council recently signed a letter to express support for the carbon Sequestration Forest Proviso and asked DNR to include Snohomish County in the proposal. We testified and our members submitted comments in support of increasing the tree canopy in the County.

At Pilchuck Audubon, we have multiple birding field trips every month and monthly programs.

We are working to increase our presence with all communities in our area. Our leadership has met with the Tulalip Tribes and are working on improving our relationship after donating our property on Jim Creek to the Tribes last year. In July of this year, we had a good time hosting a booth at the Nubian Jam at Forest Park.

We hosted Christmas Bird Counts centered in Edmonds and in Everett, Birdathon and photography contests, Swifts Night Out, Feast In The Forest, and other events. We received a grant and purchased backpacks with binoculars and bird books that can be checked-out at local libraries. We have purchased ten pairs of binoculars and bird books that can be checked-out at Padilla Bay Wildlife Sanctuary in honor of Virginia Clark.

There's more but that's enough for now.

A great big thank you to all of our volunteers and donors.

Thursday, November 16 @ 6 p.m.




**NATIVE PLANTS
FOR WILDLIFE**
with
**BRENDA CUNNINGHAM
and
BRIAN ZINKE**



Image by Christine Farrow

**Main Library
2702 Hoyt Ave.**



Washington Native
Plant Society



Join Washington Native Plant Society's Brenda Cunningham and Pilchuck Audubon Society's Brian Zinke to learn about how important native plants are to wildlife, and how you can support biodiversity by planting them. For more information, please visit the [Everett Public Library website](#)

**Audubon
Washington's
executive director,**

Deborah Jensen,

is migrating...



Snow Geese. Photo: Deborah Felmeý

It's fall migration season and Audubon Washington's executive director, Deborah Jensen, is migrating into retirement. National Audubon has asked me to step in to the role of interim executive director, and I'm glad to do so. We are grateful for Deborah's leadership over the past three years and wish her well in retirement.

During Deborah's tenure at Audubon, we successfully weathered the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and proved ourselves to be a resilient and resourceful team. We accomplished an incredible amount during this time, reaching ever-expanding audiences with our innovative programs at Seward Park. We worked closely with our chapter network to pass legislation in support of climate change and smart energy siting, securing record levels of funding for habitat restoration and management in Puget Sound and the Columbia Plateau. We also deepened our collaborative relationships across the state, making great strides in avian science and monitoring projects that will define the conservation work of tomorrow, and led the way in defending the needs of birds and nature in partner forums and land-use decisions.

We are well-positioned to lift our sights to the ambitious, hemispheric goals outlined in the new Flight Plan. In fact, I've just returned from meeting with conservation leaders from across Audubon and I couldn't be more excited to work with you and our staff to dig into what that looks like here in our corner of the globe. On behalf of myself and the rest of the Seward Park and Audubon Washington team, I want to thank you for your partnership and support.

-Dr. Trina Bayard, Audubon Washington Interim Executive Director and Director of Bird Conservation

2023 Christmas Bird Count Save the Date

Edmonds CBC
December 16, 2023

CBC Compiler: Brian Zinke
cbc.waed@pilchuckaudubon.org



Everett / Marysville CBC
January 1, 2024

CBC Compiler: Scott Atkinson
cbc.waev@pilchuckaudubon.org

For questions or to sign up to participate, please contact the appropriate CBC compiler above.

Audubon Washington's Advocacy Days December 4 to 8.

PAS members are encouraged to participate in this early stage of legislative contacts with some of our Washington State Senators and Representatives in Snohomish and Island counties.

Act Now: Sign Up



[Sign Up Now](#)

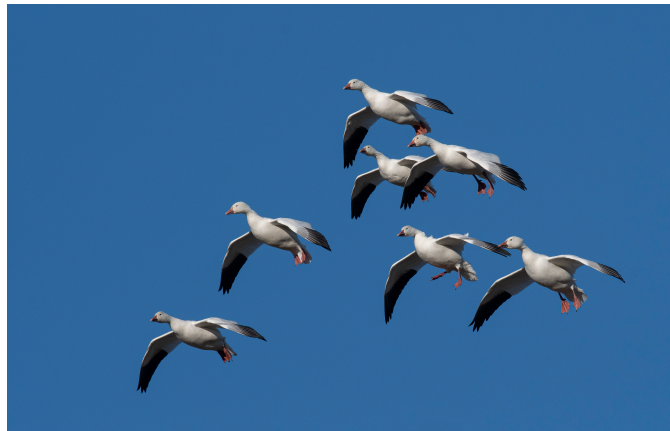
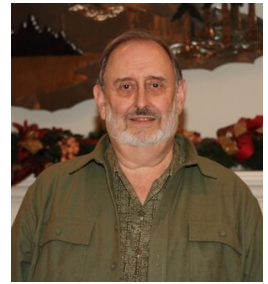


Photo of Snow Geese
by Walker Golder

We invite you to be the voice for birds and conservation at Audubon Washington's Advocacy Days, happening from December 4 to 8. Together, we will influence your state legislators – championing local conservation issues, Audubon's policy agenda, and Environmental Priorities Coalition (EPC) priorities.

Why Join?

- Advocate for birds, habitats, and vital policies.
- Connect with other conservation activists and become an effective advocate.

Your Role

- Share local priorities with state elected officials.
- Support climate resilience, Puget Sound, and Shrub-steppe habitat.

Join us in creating positive change for birds, people, and the environment.

Your voice makes a difference!



Adam Maxwell
Senior Policy Manager
Audubon Washington
5902 Lake Washington Blvd. S.
Seattle, WA

(206) 652-2444
wa.audubon.org

Bird Walk on the North Creek Trail in Mill Creek, October 7

Trip Report by Douglas Resnick

We met on a cool autumn morning at McCollum Park, in particular, at the temporary bus stop at the park's park-and-ride. It was cool enough to put dew on our windshields and float a bit of mist over the playfield. A short walk took us into Mill Creek and onto the North Creek Trail.

The trail runs south, keeping some distance from the creek itself, at least as drawn in Google Maps, but approaching the creek more and more closely the farther it goes from McCollum Park. For much of the way, there are trees and bushes beside the trail, and in various places one can view wetlands, ponds, and tributaries associated with the creek. Meeting a practical need, restrooms can be found minutes from the trail, at Mill Creek Sports Park and at City Hall South.

Individuals of several bird species kept us company along most of the walk, most often only heard. These included Black-capped Chickadees, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Song Sparrows, and Spotted Towhees. Occasionally, we'd encounter a burst of activity, which gave us opportunities to see these birds. Less often, we heard Pacific Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Red-winged Blackbird.

There were also a couple of real surprises. At one point, several of us heard geese. We looked around us and finally spotted a mixed flock of Snow Geese and Cackling Geese flying south, overhead. Much later on, we spotted an even larger flock flying north, this time exclusively of Cackling Geese. In the ponds, we were lucky to find several Wood Ducks and one Green Heron calmly foraging. In a livelier encounter, we observed six American Crows in the sky, harassing a Red-tailed Hawk.

The terminus of our walk was North Creek Park, just outside of city limits. By the time we reached this park, the temperature had risen considerably, as if in a resurgence of summer. The northernmost part of the park yielded a number of additional observations, including Belted Kingfisher, Canada Goose, and Killdeer. The goose flock also included some Cackling Geese, which made it easy to contrast the two species.

The walk ended around noon. We had walked about 4 miles and reported observations of 39 species. Several of the birders stayed together a while longer, having lunch at MonAmie Bakery. We returned to our vehicles at McCollum Park by boarding a bus on Community Transit's Swift Green Line.

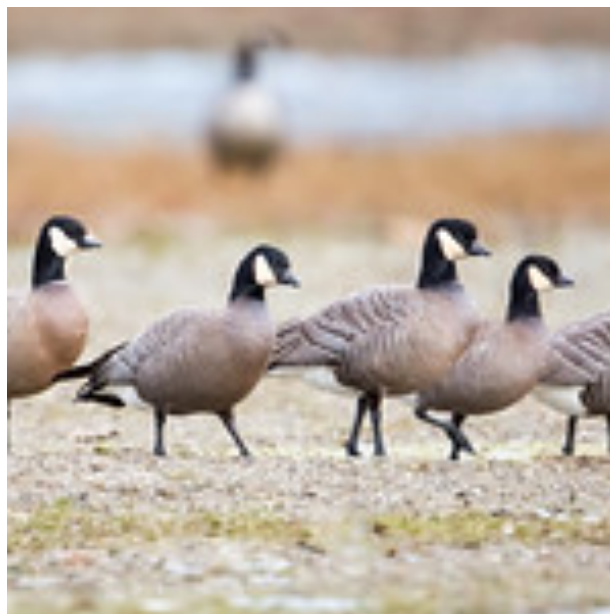


Photo by Mick Thompson

2ND ANNUAL EDMONDS NATIVE PLANT GIVEAWAY

Saturday Nov 18

11:00am - 2:00pm

RAIN OR SHINE

EDMONDS WILDLIFE HABITAT & NATIVE
PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

FREE NATIVE PLANTS!



Come join us for some fall family fun at the Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Native Plant Demonstration Garden! For one day only, the Edmonds Stewards will be hosting a native plant giveaway offering a variety of live stakes and other native plants for you to take home to help your garden grow native!



Red Flowering Currant | *Ribes sanguineum*



Help native insects and birds by planting local plants in your gardens! Our native plants are adapted to our dry summers, meaning they **DO NOT NEED WATERING** once they are established!

Edmonds Stewards will be on hand to help you choose the right plants for your space. Handouts with descriptions of full grown plants, their preferred habitat, and other care instructions will also be available.

EMBRACE A LOCAL, Go WILD!

PARKING

Located on the NW corner of the Pine Street and Edmonds Way intersection. Free parking is on Pine Street and for those with limited mobility there is parking at hatchery down the driveway on the north side of Pine Street.

PARTICIPATING GROUPS

Edmonds Wildlife Habitat & Native Plant Demonstration Garden
Edmonds Stewards
Sound Salmon Solutions
Pilchuck Audubon Society
City of Edmonds
Floretum Garden Club

Willow Creek Hatchery | 95 Pine Street | Edmonds WA 98020

BACKYARD BIRDING

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

August 26 - September 25, 2023

The Beasons are taking a break, so I will start with Sarah & Paul Bueren. Their report listed a Warbling Vireo, 2 Cedar Waxwings, 11 Dark-eyed Juncos, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, a Cooper's Hawk, 4 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 3 House Finches, 2 Song Sparrows, 5 Band-tailed Pigeons, a Golden-crowned Kinglet, 5 American Goldfinches, a Hairy Woodpecker, 4 American Crows, an American Robin, 2 Spotted Towhees, 2 Steller's Jays, a Pileated Woodpecker, a Hutton's Vireo, a Common Raven, a Townsend's Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, a Northern Flicker, 2 Red-tailed Hawks, and a Bewick's Wren for a total species count of 26.

Kriss Erickson's report from Everett included 16 Black-capped Chickadees, 8 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 8 Steller's Jays, 27 Bushtits, 6 American Crows, 6 Western Gulls flying over, 6 American Robins, 4 female and 3 male House Finches, 2 female and 2 male Spotted Towhees, 1 male and 1 female Downy Woodpeckers, 7 Northern Flickers, 6 Song Sparrows, a Cooper's Hawk flying over, 12 Dark-eyed Juncos, 1 female and 1 male Red-breasted Nuthatches, 3 female and 4 male Anna's Hummingbirds, a Common Raven, and 1 female and 1 male Black-headed Grosbeak for a total species count of 19.

Mary Sinker's report from Stanwood includes 15 American Goldfinches, 10 American Robins, 2 Bald Eagles, 16 Band-tailed Pigeons, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 15 Black-capped Chickadees, 11 Black-headed Grosbeaks, 14 Bushtits, 2 Brown Creepers, a Brown-headed Cowbird, 3 Cedar Waxwings, 10 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Cooper's Hawks, 2 Dark-eyed Juncos, 5 Downy Woodpeckers, a Fox Sparrow, 3 Golden-crowned Sparrows, a Great Blue Heron at the creek, 2 Great Horned Owls in the trees, 5 Hairy Woodpeckers, 14 House Finches, 2 House Sparrows, 2 Killdeer in the pasture, 15 Kinglet species, 25 Mourning Doves, 6 Northern Flickers, a Northern Pygmy Owl, 3 Olive-sided Flycatchers, 2 Pileated Woodpeckers, 4 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Red-breasted Sapsuckers, 2 Red-tailed Hawks, 4 Red-winged Blackbirds, 6 Rufous Hummingbirds, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, 9 Song Sparrows, 8 Spotted Towhees, 4 Steller's Jays, 2 Swainson's Thrushes, 2 Tree Swallows, 2 Western Wood-Pewees, 1 Western Tanager, 3 White-crowned Sparrows, 2 Willow Flycatchers, 2 Wilson's Warblers, 3 Winter Wrens, and a Yellow-Rumped Warbler for a total species count of 47.

My report from Marysville includes 4 American Crows, 4 American Robins, a Black-headed Grosbeak, 4 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, a Downy Woodpecker, 2 Dark-eyed Juncos, 7 House Finches, a Hairy Woodpecker, a Great Blue Heron, 2 Mourning Doves, 3 Northern Flickers, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Common Ravens, 2 Great Horned Owls, a Pileated Woodpecker, 12 Rock Doves, 2 Spotted Towhees, 8 Steller's Jays, a Song Sparrow, and a White-crowned Sparrow for total species count of 21.

If you are interested in joining our Backyard Bird count, please call my cell phone at (425) 750-8125. Or you can send a message to pricemara1@gmail.com.



Birding Field Trips

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

Saturday, November 4. Carkeek Park in Seattle

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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

This is a half-day trip. We'll spend the morning in Carkeek Park. This is a somewhat challenging walk. Boots are recommended. Further details will be provided to registered participants. After you have submitted your 2023 Field Trip Liability Release via <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips> please contact the trip leader to register for this trip.

Tuesday, November North Widbey Island

7:30 AM - 5:00PM

Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

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). Hidalgo Island and North Whidbey Island offer a variety of lake and waterfront settings, including March Point, Campbell Lake, Rosario Beach, Deception Pass and Dugualla Bay. There are great places to see our winter birds. Pack a lunch.

Saturday, November 11. Lake Cassidy and Gardner Lake

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Trip Leader: David Droppers, lycaenid@gmail.com

Join David Droppers in his first trip with Pilchuck Audubon. Meet at the Getchell Trailhead off 84th St. NE at 8:00 AM, Where we will walk approximately 1.5 miles south on the Centennial Trail, keeping an eye out for wintering songbirds, to Lake Cassidy, where we will look for various waterfowl. This area does not have a large number of checklists, so a surprise is always possible. For eager participants, we can carpool from the Getchell Trailhead to Gardner Lake in Granite Falls, which has even less data! Feel free to bring umbrellas, dress for weather, and bring snacks.

After you have submitted your 2023 Field Trip Liability Release via <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips> please contact the trip leader to register for this trip.

Tuesday, November 14. Montlake Fill - Magnuson Park

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

Meet at 7:30 AM at Walmart at 1400 164th St. SW in Lynwood. Park away from the store. Edmonds riders can drive directly to Union Bay Natural Area (Montlake Fill)

2023 Field Trip Waivers

All field trip participants must sign an annual liability waiver. This year's waiver is an online form, which can be found at the top of our [Upcoming Trips](#) page of our website or at this link: [2023 Field Trip Liability Release](#).

UPDATE: We have rescinded our previous COVID-19 requirements, and will be following the current County guidelines, which can be found here: <https://>

3501 NE 41st St. in Seattle. The itinerary likely will include Montlake Fill, Magnuson Park, Matthews Beach and Log Boom Park. Pack a lunch.

Saturday, November 18. Bob Heirman Wildlife Park

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Trip Leader: David Droppers, lycaeid@gmail.com

With hunting seasons begun, waterfowl look for a safe place to hide - the Bob Heirman Wildlife Park offers that. We'll look for waterfowl on the local lakes and Stillaguamish River in this no-hunting area, as well as resident raptors and songbirds, all with the pleasant background cadence of shotgun fire. Wear shoes you don't mind getting muddy - the trail along the river is usually a bit slick, as well as clothes that you don't mind getting snagged - the bramble here is affectionate! Expect a 2-3 mile round trip, with upwards of 30 species usually easily attained in this area.

Trip limit is 8 participants due to the narrowness of the trail.

After you have submitted your 2023 Field Trip Liability Release via <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips> please contact the trip leader to register for this trip.

Tuesday, November 28. Snohomish Area

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

Meet at 8:00 AM at the Snohomish Park and Ride on Avenue D just off Hwy 9 and Bickford Ave. We will explore the Blackman's Lake area, Riverview Wildlife Refuge, the Snohomish Flats and Ebey Slough. There should be lots of ducks and other waterfowl. We also anticipate seeing a variety of winter raptors and songbirds, and perhaps a shrike or two. Pack a lunch.

Saturday, December 2. Lynnwood Golf Course Trail

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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

This is a half-day trip. We'll walk the Lynnwood Golf Course Trail. This will be an easy way. Depending on circumstances, we may visit a second nearby site. Further details will be provided to registered participants. After you have submitted your 2023 Field Trip Liability Release via <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips> please contact the trip leader to register for this trip.

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 _____
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.

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| Communications | vacant | communications@pilchuckaudubon.org |
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| Education | Madelyn Voelker | education@pilchuckaudubon.org |
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Trip Calendar
Check our website: <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips>
for the latest information

Shop & Earn Donations for PAS!

For each purchase you make at the companies below, a portion of the sales will be donated to Pilchuck Audubon Society.



community rewards
Where shopping & giving unite

Link your Shopper's Card to Pilchuck Audubon and earn money for us each time you check out!

Shop from our page on [Bookshop.org](https://www.bookshop.org) and earn money for Pilchuck Audubon! Just make sure you see our logo on the top left of the page to ensure we benefit from your purchase.



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 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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