

# Nisqually

April 11, 2023

We drove through heavy rain, but once at Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually NWR we had only a few drips and the sun arrived by mid-morning to make for a nice day of wandering the Refuge trails. Our morning began with singing Orange-crowned Warbler and Purple Finch. Near the orchard, we spied a Merlin high in a cottonwood. Numerous wigeon, shoveler, teal and coot swam in the wetlands. There also were several Greater Yellowlegs and Violet-green Swallow. The boardwalk was quiet, but we did see Wood Duck. Along the dike, we found two Common Yellowthroats and a Myrtle Warbler, while a Caspian Tern and Least Sandpipers joined Short-billed Gulls on the flats. At lunch, we were entertained by a male Hooded Merganser and a fish-eating Pied-billed Grebe. Our afternoon on the east boardwalk yielded Northern-rough Winged Swallow, Brown Creeper and Pileated Woodpecker.

58 species (approx. qty.)

**Attendees:** Phil, Rex, Dianna, Frank, Carol, Tari, Ed, Sue P., Denny, Rick, Graham, Catha, Lonnie

## CHECKLIST:

**WATERFOWL:** Cackling Goose (275), Canada Goose (6), Wood Duck (3), Gadwall (1), American Wigeon (45), Mallard (47), Northern Shoveler (89), Northern Pintail (13), Ring-necked Duck (34), Green-winged Teal (250), Bufflehead (11), Common Goldeneye (4), Hooded Merganser (2), Common Merganser (11), Red-breasted Merganser (1)

**LOON, GREBES:** Pied-billed Grebe (3)

**PELICANS, HERONS, IBIS:** Great Blue Heron (4)

**RAPTORS:** Cooper's Hawk (1), Bald Eagle (5), Red-tailed Hawk (1), Merlin (1)

**RAILS, CRANES:** American Coot (63)

**SHOREBIRDS:** Least Sandpiper (8), Greater Yellowlegs (14)

**GULLS, TERNS:** Short-billed Gull (100), Ring-billed Gull (1) Glaucous-winged Gull (25), Caspian Tern (1)

**DOVES, PIGEONS:** Rock Pigeon (1), Mourning Dove (1)

**HUMMINGBIRDS:** Rufous Hummingbird (2)

**KINGFISHER:** Belted Kingfisher (1)

**WOODPECKERS:** Northern Flicker (3), Pileated Woodpecker (1)

CORVIDS: American Crow (9), Common Raven (2)

LARKS, SWALLOWS: Northern Rough-winged Swallow (1), Tree Swallow (15), Violet-Green Swallow (25), Barn Swallow (3)

CHICKADEES, BUSHTIT: Black-capped Chickadee (5), Chestnut-backed Chickadee (1)

NUTHATCHES, CREEPER: Brown Creeper (3)

WRENS: Bewick's Wren (2), Pacific Wren (1), Marsh Wren (3)

KINGLETS: Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1)

THRUSHES: American Robin (18)

MIMIDS, STARLINGS: European Starling (1)

WARBLERS, CHATS: Orange-crowned Warbler (1), Common Yellowthroat (2), Yellow-rumped Warbler (5)

LONGSPURS, SPARROWS: Spotted Towhee (1), Song Sparrow (17), Golden-crowned Sparrow (2)

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES: Red-winged Blackbird (3)

FINCHES, WEAVER FINCH: Purple Finch (7), American Goldfinch (4)