

## **Blaine and Semiahmoo**

February 27, 2024

Snow at home did not deter us, and the day's weather proved surprisingly good – cool, but relatively calm and dry. First thing, a Varied Thrush greeted us at Bow Hill rest area. At Blaine Marine Park, we were treated to a murmuration of several hundred Dunlin close to shore, plus several hundred Surf Scoter and a line of Brant offshore. Proceeding to the pier, we enjoyed seeing nice numbers of Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Black Oystercatcher, Common Loon and clam-swallowing White-winged Scoter. Harlequin Duck, Pelagic Cormorant, Horned Grebe and a Belted Kingfisher also were present. We failed to find a reported Whimbrel at Milhollin Boat Launch but did see about two dozen Great Blue Heron. At stops on the Semiahmoo Spit, new species included Black Turnstone, Red-necked Grebe, Red-breasted Merganser, Black Scoter, Long-tailed Duck and Pine Siskin. We also added more Harlequin. An Eared Grebe, several Red-throated Loon and better views of Long-tailed Duck highlighted our afternoon stop at Birch Bay. Lake Terrell provided views of Common Merganser, American Coot and Ruddy Duck. Nearby we spied a Northern Harrier, two American Kestrel and a Red-tailed Hawk. Our final bird was the resident Ruddy Turnstone at Sandy Point.

56 species (approx. qty.)

**Attendees:** Phil, Dianne, Rex, Ken, Pam T., Rick, Teri, Reg, Jane, Judy B., Pat, Marcia

### **CHECKLIST:**

**WATERFOWL:** Brant (355), Canada Goose (3), Trumpeter Swan (40), American Wigeon (81), Mallard (185), Northern Pintail (190), Green-winged Teal (57), Greater Scaup (320), Harlequin Duck (22), Surf Scoter (3050), White-winged Scoter (55), Black Scoter (6), Long-tailed Duck (8), Bufflehead (100), Common Goldeneye (70), Hooded Merganser (2), Common Merganser (15), Red-breasted Merganser (7), Ruddy Duck (4)

**LOON, GREBES:** Red-throated Loon (10), Common Loon (24), Horned Grebe (4), Red-necked Grebe (1), Eared Grebe (1)

**PELICANS, HERONS, IBIS:** Pelagic Cormorant (7), Double-crested Cormorant (120), Great Blue Heron (29)

**RAPTORS:** Northern Harrier (1), Bald Eagle (11), Red-tailed Hawk (5), American Kestrel (2)

**RAILS, CRANES:** American Coot (150)

**SHOREBIRDS:** Killdeer (8), Black Oystercatcher (19), Greater Yellowlegs (6), Ruddy Turnstone (1), Black Turnstone (47), Dunlin (1800)

**GULLS, TERNS:** Short-billed Gull (465), Glaucous-winged Gull (315)

**DOVES, PIGEONS:** Rock Pigeon (13), Eurasian Collared-Dove (2)

HUMMINGBIRDS: Anna's Hummingbird (1)

KINGFISHER: Belted Kingfisher (2)

WOODPECKERS: Northern Flicker (1)

CORVIDS: Steller's Jay (1), American Crow (42)

WRENS: Bewick's Wren (1)

THRUSHES: American Robin (5), Varied Thrush (1)

LONGSPURS, SPARROWS: Song Sparrow (3), White-crowned Sparrow (10), Golden-crowned Sparrow (23)

FINCHES, WEAVER FINCH: House Finch (2), Pine Siskin (8), House Sparrow (2)