

“THE SCIENCE OF WHERE” TO BE APPLIED TO EDMONDS MARSH STUDY

By *Cindy Easterson*
President

The project to monitor how birds are utilizing the Edmonds Marsh as habitat for breeding, foraging, and refuge has kicked off, and although we’ve had a slow start due to protocol adjustments, early data results have been rewarding. Among many typical marsh species, we’ve documented several of our most beloved urban species such as American Goldfinch, Anna’s Hummingbird, Black-capped Chickadee, Bushtit, and Yellow Warbler exhibiting breeding behavior within the marsh.

One survey effort for this Edmonds Marsh project yields multiple, complex data points. Sorting out how to map the results in a way that is appealing and palatable for the public can sometimes be a challenge, but thanks to Audubon’s new partnership with ESRI, we now have an ArcGIS platform for providing beautiful story maps that visually share exactly that kind of information. ESRI bills itself as the “the science of where” because it provides a way to display special information such as bird detections across an area map. Discussions for using ESRI for this project are just beginning, but we are looking forward to utilizing this technology to provide compelling information on behalf of bird conservation. Keep watching. There is more, much more, to come! ✧

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NO PROGRAM MEETING IN AUGUST

Join us for the ANNUAL POTLUCK PICNIC AND BIRD WALK

Sunday, August 6, 2017

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

North Creek Park

1011 183rd St SE, Bothell, WA 98012



Join us for the annual potluck picnic and bird walk at North Creek Park on Sunday, August 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. PAS President Cindy Easterson and Vice President Terry Nightingale will lead a bird walk from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The potluck picnic beginning at noon will be at the main shelter area. Bring a favorite dish to share; everything else will be provided by PAS.

Feel free to bring your friends and family, and enjoy one of our county parks. Directions can be found at <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/North-Creek-Park-and-Water-Retention-Fac-103>.

[map](#)



GO BIRDING AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Are seabirds in Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca increasing or declining in numbers? Which species are changing their range? Help us find out.

You can contribute to vital seabird science by joining the eleventh season of Seattle Audubon's Puget Sound Seabird Survey. We are now recruiting enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to help us monitor the status of our local wintering seabirds.

Training on survey methodology will be provided at a location near you in September; the first seabird survey will be conducted on October 7, 2017. Volunteers should be able to identify Puget Sound's seabird species and be available on the first Saturday of each month, October through April, to conduct a 30-minute seabird



Doug Schur-

survey. If determining between Lesser and Greater Scaup is a challenge, we'll team you up with more knowledgeable surveyors.

Learn more, including training dates, at www.seabirdsurvey.org and email Toby Ross, Science Manager (toby@seattleaudubon.org) if you would like more information or to take part. ✧



Autumn Seed Sale October 18

More info in September *Profile*

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 425.610.8027.

The monthly Profile is available online at

www.pilchuckaudubon.org

Board of Directors

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BIRDING CLASSES

Winter/Spring 2017 Classes
Taught by Candy Brown

BACKYARD BIRDS

Enhance your understanding of common birds, and improve your ability to identify them. Includes basics of anatomy, migration, reproduction, foods, and foraging. We will also discuss the best ways to attract birds to your yard. Designed for adult beginning birders, but children ages 12+ are welcome.

**Tuesday, September 12, Edmonds
at Frances Anderson Center**

6:30-8:00 p.m.

\$17 for residents, \$19 for non-residents

To register, call 425-771-0230

OWLS AND RAPTORS

Class participants will learn more about the most common owls, hawks, and eagles that live here at different times of the year—or all year long. We will also discuss the habitats in which to find them.

**Tuesday, October 17, Edmonds
at Frances Anderson Center**

6:30-8:00 p.m.

\$17 for residents, \$19 for non-residents

To register, call 425-771-0230 ✧



Short-eared Owl – Rex Guichard

MORE BIRDATHON PHOTOS

Our 2017 Birdathon was a big success. The goal of \$5,000 was surpassed by pledges totaling \$5,850. Thank you to everyone who competed and pledged.

Photography Contest

We had a record 10 photographers submit 44 photographs in two categories. All the photographs will be posted on our website under Programs, Birdathon. Two of the winners are shown below. ✧



Category: Big Year, Big World – Great Gray Owl by Rex Guichard



Category: Viewer's Choice – Western Grebe by Ken Longley



You Are Invited to Feast on the Farm

Please join Pilchuck Audubon Society for our annual Feast on the Farm to help support our Smart Growth Program, working every day to continue connecting the importance of protecting our county's farmlands, forests, wildlife habitat, and rural communities while creating healthy communities.

Wednesday, August 30, 2017

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

**Craven Farm
13817 Short School Road
Snohomish, WA 98290**

Tickets are \$50 per person — RSVP by August 25

If you would like to be a sponsor, please email Kristin Kelly, and she will provide you the details.

To pay on line go to www.pilchuckaudubon.org, then click on **Join/Donate/Volunteer**; then click on **On-Line Secure Link**, fill out the form and make sure to **Apply Donation to Feast on the Farm** in the dropdown box.

OR

RSVP to Kristin Kelly at execdirector@pilchuckaudubon.org and then pay by check payable to Pilchuck Audubon Society.

Mail to Kristin Kelly
Smart Growth Executive Director
Pilchuck Audubon Society
1429 Avenue D, #198
Snohomish, WA 98290

Our annual Feast combines the talents of our local guest chefs who use local farm products to create delectable bites, complemented by local wines, brews, and spirits. Live music and dancing provided by The CD Woodbury Trio.

GUEST CHEFS: Andy Gibbs--Andy's Fish House; Anne Dottai --Grilla Bites; Cindy Sherwood--French Creek Manor; Dana Daniel; Marilyn Rosenberg--Café Zippy; Roger Edyt— Roger's Riverview Bistro; Terra Kelly--The Hungry Pelican; Cody Castiglia—Della Terra Catering; Mary Rollins; Joanne Hays.

EARLY FARMERS AND PRODUCERS: Bailey's Vegetables; Bright Ide Acres; Caruso Farm; Cherry Lane Eggs; Craven Farm; Darigold; Farmer Frog; Garden Treasures; Kelso Meats; Mollie Bear Farm; Red Barn Community Farm; Skipley Farm.

EARLY WINERIES/BREWERIES/DISTILLERIES: Randolph Cellars; Van Camp Cellars; SnoTown Brewery; Big E Ales; Sound to Summit Brewery; Skip Rock Distillers, Chateau St. Michelle.

TASTING SPONSOR: Snohomish Conservation District.

CHEF'S CHOICE SPONSORS: State Senator Guy Palumbo; State Representative June Robinson; Snohomish City Council Member Karen Guzak; Klesick Family Farm; Julie Meghji; Michelle Gundersen and Randy Whalen.

INDIVIDUAL HOSTS: County Executive Dave Somers; Mukilteo Mayor Jennifer Gregerson; State Representative Mike Sells; Nancy Dawson; Steve Aslanian; Kathleen Gamble.

PAS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. ✧

TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website at www.pilchuckaudubon.org for the latest information



Tuesday, August 1 Stevens Pass Area

Meet at 7:00 AM at Monroe Park & Ride on Highway 2, one-half mile west of the fairgrounds. Trying for summer birding success at higher altitudes. Will visit the Old Cascade Highway, maybe the ski slopes, Smithbrook Road, Fish Lake, and Lake Wenatchee. Warblers, grouse, sparrows, flycatchers, ravens, nutcrackers, chipmunk, and hare. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)

Tuesday, August 8 No scheduled trip

Tuesday, August 15 Deception Pass Area

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). Maybe seabirds, shorebirds, LBJs, etc. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)

Tuesday, August 22 Blaine, Birch Bay, Semiahmoo, Drayton Harbor

Meet at 7:00 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). We previously birded this area only in winter. Let's see what summer holds. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leaders: Virginia Clark, [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)
Wilma Bayes, [360-629-2028](tel:360-629-2028)

Tuesday, August 29 Samish Flats

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). Want to see what this area offers in summer? Come along. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750) ✧

CHELAN RIDGE HAWK MIGRATION FESTIVAL

Memorial Park, Pateros

September 16, 8 AM to 3 PM



Join the Chelan and Entiat Ranger districts, North Central Washington Audubon Society, and HawkWatch International this fall for the eighth annual Chelan Ridge Hawk Migration Festival! This family event combines free activities in Pateros Memorial Park with trips to Chelan Ridge to learn about and celebrate raptors as they journey to winter territories.

Prior to the festival, on Friday night, September 15, we will offer a workshop with an expert about raptor migration and field identification to prepare you for your trip up to the ridge. On Saturday, free shuttles to Chelan Ridge will leave from Memorial Park throughout the day, lasting four hours. Participants will get to see migrating raptors, and they will get up-close views of banded raptors being released. At the park there will be vendors, live raptors, interpretive booths, and projects for kids. A field trip to Wells Wildlife Refuge will leave at 8 and return about noon.

More information and on-line registration for the shuttles, field trip, and workshop will be available August 1 at www.ncwaudubon.org.

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Scranton at rscr4350@yahoo.com. ✧

Put Your Birding Skills to Work in Support of Pigeon Guillemots

At the July program meeting held in Stanwood, PAS members were treated to a delightful program all about Pigeon Guillemots and the long-term study being conducted by the Guillemot Research Group out of Whidbey Island Audubon Society. The monitoring work being completed by citizen scientists is yielding some fascinating results for this local breeding species.



As they expand their study to Camano Island and beyond, they are in need of additional volunteers. Please consider signing up and adding your skills and ability to this valuable project. They offer full training, and you would be part of the core team for collecting their research data. Although recruitment is most needed in the spring, you can find out more information at their website (<http://pigeonguillemot.org/get-involved/>) and start gearing up for the 2018 season. ✧

SAVE THE DATE

August 6

Annual PAS Potluck Picnic and Bird Walk at North Creek Park



UPCOMING EVENTS, CLASSES, and FESTIVALS *farther afield*

Compiled by Rick Brauer

North Cascades Institute Classes

Dates below

Various Locations

Aug 5: Mt. Baker Geology 2: Artist Point Scott & Marca Babcock
Sep 16-17: Hawkwatching at Chelan Ridge Kent Woodruff
Sep 22-24: Wildlife Tracking Marcus Reynerson

Information for these classes and more at: <https://ncascades.org/signup/programs/classes>

Southwest Wings

Aug 2-5

Sierra Vista, AZ

Sierra Vista, located at 4600-foot elevation, lies at the foot of the Huachuca Mountains, only minutes away from some of the most famous birding spots in the United States—places such as Garden, Sawmill, Huachuca, Ramsey, Carr, Miller, and Ash canyons. These canyons are known for their great biodiversity, not only of birds, but of butterflies, and other insects, as well as mammals and reptiles. The Huachucas have close to 1000 species of plants. This festival offers a plethora of guided trips, lectures, and other birding fun unique to the region. <http://www.swwings.org/>

Padilla Bay Beach Seine

Aug 3 or 25 Padilla Bay Interpretive Center; Mount Vernon, WA

What are those birds eating in there? Here's a chance to find out firsthand: experts will pull a fish net through the water at Bay View State Park beach and share their knowledge of what they capture. You will need a Discover Pass for the park, and be willing to get your feet wet. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/all-ages-beach-seine-no-registration-necessary-tickets-33961350313>

The Art of Photographing Birds

Aug 5

Edmonds Community College; Edmonds, WA

You will learn about exposure, photography techniques, and bird-sighting skills. This class will discuss the best equipment, in-the-field ethics, how to "find" the shot, and great birding locations. There will be plenty of time for questions. The day (10am-4pm) will be 3 hours of in-classroom learning and 3 hours of in-the field-experience.

Teacher: Karen Ulvestad. <http://www.campusce.net/edmondsarts/course/course.aspx?C=429&pc=71&mc=82&sc=0>

Mud Flat Safari

Aug 5 or 22 Padilla Bay Interpretive Center; Mount Vernon, WA

What are those birds eating out there? Here's a chance to find out firsthand: fearless guides will lead you on a trek into the seldom-seen world of the estuary's mud flat. The program begins at the Interpretive Center, and ends at Bay View State Park. You will need a Discover Pass for the park, and appropriate footwear for primordial ooze.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/all-ages-mud-flat-safari-tickets-33685254503>

PSBO Banding Class

Aug 18, 19, 20, 26, and 27

Edmonds, WA

Christine Southwick will teach a beginner's banding course at the Willow Creek Hatchery in Edmonds, where the PAS Native Plant Garden and the Edmonds Marsh support a variety of resident and migrating birds. Instruction follows the North American Banding Council guidelines and includes five full days of classroom/field instruction. Class focus will be on developing skills to safely extract birds from mist-nets, proper banding techniques, and the accurate collection and documentation of data. This is an introductory course which covers netting and trapping techniques, removal of birds from mist nets, proper handling, processing, data management, relations with the public, and banders' code of ethics. No previous experience required. Ages 16 to 100.

<http://pugetsoundbirds.org/>



Oregon Shorebird Festival

Sep 1 - 3

Charleston, OR

The Cape Arago Audubon Society invites you to their big event for birding and habitat tours. These include a pelagic trip more than 30 miles offshore, paddling trips by kayak and canoe, and land-based field trips throughout Bandon, Coos Bay, and Charleston. Other activities include art and photography displays and classes. Speakers include Noah Strycker, sharing stories of his world-wide Big Year record of over 6,000 species.

<http://tourism.bandon.com/events/details/oregon-shorebird-festival-466> ✧

BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

May 26, 2017 to June 25, 2017

Our newest bird reporter is Dianna Davis from Snohomish. I missed her first report ending May 24 last month. She listed 10 Dark-eyed Junco, 5 Mourning Dove, 2 Red-winged Blackbird, 10 American Robin, 5 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 6 Barn Swallow, 2 Trumpeter Swan, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, 3 White-crowned Sparrow, 12 Black-headed Grosbeak and 2 Red-tailed Hawk flying with a rabbit in talons, for a total species count of 44.

Dianna's report for June included 2 Dark-eyed Junco, an Anna's Hummingbird, 3 Black-capped Chickadee, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Steller's Jay, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Song Sparrow, a House Finch, 2 Black-headed Grosbeak and 2 Brown-headed Cowbird, for a total species count of 11.

Carole and Larry Beason's report from Lake Bosworth included 8 American Robin, 3 Barn Swallow, 12 plus Brown-headed Cowbird, 8 Black-headed Grosbeak, 4 Canada Goose on the lake, 4 Cedar Waxwing, a Great Blue Heron on the lake, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 18 Mallard on the lake, 2 Muscovy Duck, an Osprey over the lake, 8 Purple Finch, 2 Red-breasted Sapsucker, 18 Red-winged Blackbird, 2 Swainson's Thrush, 2 Turkey Vulture, and a Wood Duck on the lake, for a total species count of 45.

Reporting from Snohomish, Debbie Dern listed 3 Anna's Hummingbird, 4 Rufous Hummingbird, 4 American Goldfinch, 9 Red-winged Blackbird, a House Sparrow, 2 Spotted Towhee, 2 Northern Flicker, 3 Band-tailed Pigeon, a Song Sparrow, 2 Red-breasted Sapsucker, 2 Bushtit, 3 Hairy Woodpecker and 5 Brewer's Blackbird, for a total species count of 26.

Hilkka Egtvedt's report from her home in Mukilteo included 2 California Quail, 2 Rufous Hummingbird, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, a Downy Woodpecker, a Pileated Woodpecker, 4 Steller's Jay, 5 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Bushtit, 3 Western Tanager, a White-crowned Sparrow, 5 Purple Finch, 8 House Finch, 2 Pine Siskin, and 4 American Goldfinch, for a total species count of 25.

Reporting from Stanwood, Mary Sinker listed 11 American Goldfinch, 25 American Robin, 10 Anna's Hummingbird, 3 Barred Owl at the tree farm, 11 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Cedar Waxwing, 6 Downy Woodpecker, 1 Great Blue Heron at the creek, 17 Mourning Dove, an Olive-sided Flycatcher, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 5 Red-winged Blackbird, 4 Tree Swallow, 2 Western Tanager, 2 Wilson's Warbler, and 2 Yellow-rumped Warbler, for a total species count of 41.

Reporting from my home in Marysville, I listed 4 American Robin, 4 Downy Woodpecker including 2 juveniles, 2 Rufous Hummingbird, 5 Spotted Towhees including 3 juveniles, 5 Steller's Jays, 2 Eurasian Collared Dove, 2 American Goldfinch, 2 White-crowned Sparrow, 6 Evening Grosbeak, and 2 Common Raven flying over, for a total species count of 26.

If you are interested in joining our team of bird reporters, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a message on my cell phone at (425) 750-8125. ✧

Public Invited to Provide Input on Draft Olympic National Park Mountain Goat Management Plan

The National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife invite the public to review and provide input about proposed alternatives for managing non-native mountain goats in the Olympic Mountains.

The draft alternatives are described and analyzed in the Draft Mountain Goat Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which can be reviewed at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/OLYMgoat>. The plan's purpose is to allow Olympic National Park to reduce or eliminate environmental impacts from non-native mountain goats, and reduce potential public safety issues associated with the goats' presence in the park. Mountain goats are not native to the Olympic Peninsula and cause impacts to park resources and create safety risks for park visitors.



The plan alternatives include actions proposed to occur within Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest, and associated actions proposed by the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife to translocate mountain goats to the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie and Okanogan Wenatchee National Forests in the Cascades.

A population survey of mountain goats in the Olympic Mountains conducted in summer of 2016 showed that the population increased an average of eight percent annually from 2004-2016. If this rate of population growth were sustained, the population would increase by 45 percent over the next five years. At the same time, mountain goats are native to the North Cascades, but exist in low numbers in many areas. Both the U.S. Forest Service and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife have long been interested in restoring mountain goats to these depleted areas.

The National Park Service announced its plan to develop a Mountain Goat Management Plan/EIS in July 2014. Public workshops were held in August 2014 and public comments were invited. Approximately 100 pieces of correspondence were received and used in developing the Draft Mountain Goat Management Plan EIS.

A series of public meetings (Olympia, Port Angeles, Everett, and Seattle) are scheduled for mid-August, and the public is invited to participate. Information for the Everett meeting follows.

Wednesday 8/16: Everett

Everett Public Library Auditorium

2702 Hoyt Ave.

Everett, WA 98201

[425-257-8000](tel:425-257-8000)

Time: 5-7 p.m.

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



**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.

- New Member \$28
- Renewal \$28
- Lifetime Member \$1,000
 - 10 monthly payments of \$100
 - 4 quarterly payments of \$250
 - 1 payment of \$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.

Mark Your Calendar

PAS Picnic @ North Creek Park	August 6
Feast on the Farm	August 30
Swift Night Out	September 9
Puget Sound Bird Fest	September 15-17
ACOW, Sequim, WA	October 14
Bird Seed Sale	October 18