

**2018 Great Backyard Bird Count**  
February 16-19, 2018

Launched in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time.



In 2017, Great Backyard Bird Count participants in more than 100 countries counted more than 6,200 species of birds on more than 180,000 checklists.

Now, more than 160,000 people of all ages and walks of life worldwide join the four-day count each February to create an annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds.

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**FEBRUARY PROGRAM MEETING**

Friday, February 9, 2018 • 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

**SAGEBRUSH SONGBIRD SURVEY**

Everett Firefighters' Hall

2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett ([map](#))

Christi Norman, Audubon Washington Program Director, and Cindy Easterson, Pilchuck Audubon President, will take you on a virtual trip through Eastern Washington with volunteers from eleven chapters in the [community science breeding bird survey](#) covering the Columbia plateau to help conserve our shrub steppe birds and their habitats. Experience new adventures exploring the back country to survey for the focal species: Sage Thrasher; Sagebrush and Brewer's sparrows; Loggerhead Shrike, and more. This program, a partnership of Audubon and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), is in its fifth year and is the largest avian community science project in Washington.



Photo | Kathy Criddle

Cindy and Christi will show how chapter volunteers select sites through an Audubon ArcGIS on-line assessment. Surveys are conducted monthly during the spring breeding season to document species' presence or absence. Each site is surveyed three times during the last two weeks in April, the middle two weeks in May, and the first two weeks in June. Bird counts are entered into eBird, where the data is publicly accessible.

Christi Norman has been with National Audubon since 1997. She has managed the Washington Wetlands Network, the Great Washington State Birding Trail, and the Tribal Grasslands Project. She also managed the production of five publications including the *Important Bird Areas of Washington*. Christi is currently leading Audubon Washington's Sagebrush Steppe program incorporating bird population monitoring, bird-smart wind farms, and conservation engagement. Before joining National Audubon, she helped start Seattle Audubon's Neighborhood Bird program.

Cindy Easterson, current President of Pilchuck Audubon Society, has been a volunteer with this Sagebrush Bird Survey since it began and has surveyed at most of the sites in Eastern WA. She will share her on-the-ground experiences and will be recruiting PAS birders for this exciting Audubon project. ✧

## GBBC

Continued from Page 1

We invite you to participate! For at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count, **February 16-19, 2018**, simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see. You can count from any location, anywhere in the world, for as long as you wish!

If you're new to the count, or have not participated since before the 2013 merger with eBird, you must create a free online account to enter your checklists. If you already have an account, just use the same login name and password. If you have already participated in another Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you can use your existing login information, too. [Click here for more info on how to get started.](#)

During the count, you can explore what others are seeing in your area or around the world. Share your bird photos by entering the photo contest, or enjoy images pouring in from across the globe. You can even add photos and sounds to your checklist. [Read more.](#)

### Training for GBBC

On **Saturday, February 10**, from **10:00 a.m. to noon**, Alan Mearns will again be providing a **training session** on participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count **at the Edmonds Wildlife Habitat Native Plant Demonstration Garden**. The training will also include time to practice with your binoculars and bird identification of common backyard birds so **bring binoculars**. The workshop is **free** and will help first time GBBC participants and beginning birders. The Demo Garden is located on the NW corner of Edmonds Way (SR#104) and [Pine St. \(95 Pine St.](#) GPS) at the Willow Creek Hatchery building. Street parking on Pine Street; for those with limited mobility, there is parking down the driveway. ✧

## Wetland Secretive Bird Surveyors Needed for the 2018 Season

Puget Sound Bird Observatory conducts a spring broadcast survey effort to detect the presence or absence of secretive wetland bird species. This regional monitoring effort covers the Puget Sound trough to examine the breeding bird populations in our area wetlands for under-detected species, the American Bittern, Sora, Virginia Rail, and Green Heron.



American Bittern © Mick Thompson

We encourage new volunteers to attend one of two training sessions being offered March 17 and March 25. Surveys are conducted on any day of your choice within the following survey windows: April 5-17, 2018; May 3-15, 2018, and May 24-June 5, 2018. Survey sites are within the Puget Sound area and range from south Skagit County to north Pierce County.

For details on training or more information about the project, contact Cindy Easterson at [contact@pugetsoundbirds.org](mailto:contact@pugetsoundbirds.org) or by phone at (425) 876-1055. ✧

## 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](mailto:newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org) or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290. Submissions must be received by the 21<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org)

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# 2017 Edmonds Christmas Bird Count by Rick Taylor and Bob Schmidt, Co-compilers, Edmonds CBC

The Edmonds / South Snohomish County Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was held December 16, 2017. The CBC is conducted in a 15-mile-diameter circle centered just west of Martha Lake in Lynnwood. It is located mainly in south Snohomish County, but also includes a 2.5-mile section of north King County and a small area on the SE corner of Whidbey Island. Beginning in 1984, this was the 34th consecutive year that Pilchuck Audubon Society has sponsored this CBC circle.

The weather was good—above freezing, calm, and only a short period of light drizzle in the morning. Although nearly everyone commented on how quiet the day was and that they felt that they had seen fewer birds, the numbers tell a different story. 121 species were recorded on count day versus a ten-year average of 119 and a record high of 129. Three additional species (Greater White-fronted Goose, Ancient Murrelet, and Red Crossbill) were recorded during count week. 54,755 individual birds were observed versus a ten-year average of 42,715, and a high count of 61,848. There were 87 field participants in 36 field parties and a record 96 home feeder counters at 74 locations. No new species were added to the all-time Edmonds CBC list this year; however, we did find our first ever “Myrtle” Yellow-rumped Warbler. The only unusual species were 4 Common Redpoll and a Swamp Sparrow.



The boat party led by Duane Karna had a good day on the water with pleasant water conditions and excellent viewing. The boat party detected 43 species and 1,913 total birds. This sharp-eyed team even found three Anna's Hummingbirds from the boat!

As suburbs are the primary habitat in our circle, we think that

feeder counters are critical in our mission to survey the birds in the circle. The record 96 feeder counters detected 3,672 birds belonging to 48 species. They detected three species that were not seen by any field team: Townsend's Warbler, White-throated Sparrow, and Evening Grosbeak. The feeder counters found 70% of the Band-tailed Pigeons, 67% of the Anna Hummingbirds, 52% of the Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 62% of the Bushtits, and 68% of the Red-breasted Nuthatches. Overall, the feeder counters had a significant positive impact on the success of the count.

Dr. Douglas Wacker of UW-Bothell led five crow-counting teams and surveyed 15,064 crows as they headed to their night roost.

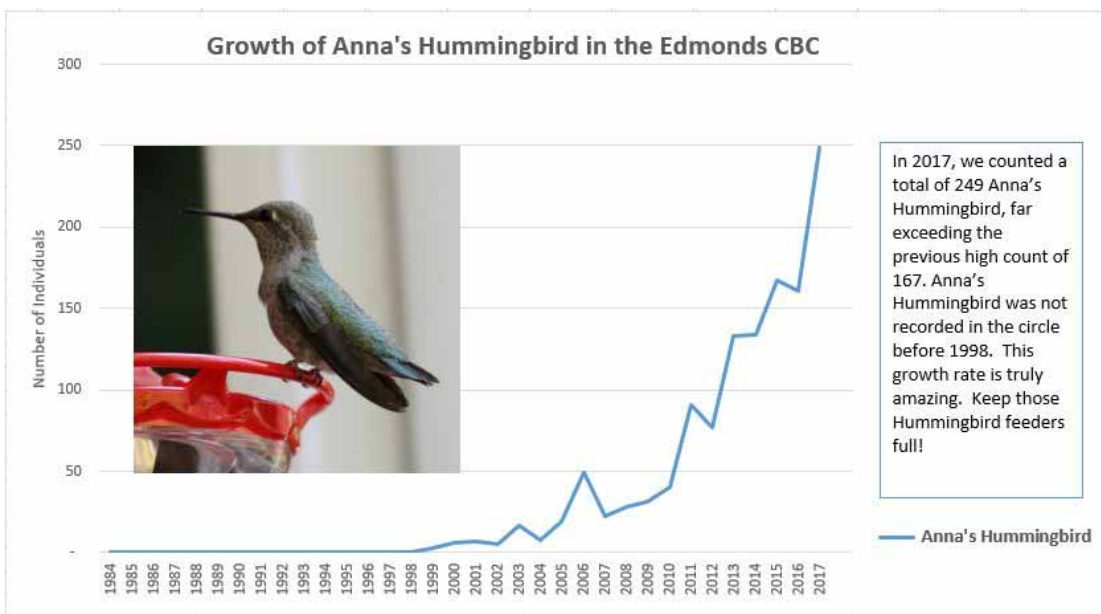
We had high counts of: Snow Goose (5,250), Cackling Goose (205), Red-Throated Loon (24), Common Loon (26), Horned Grebe (249), Cooper's Hawk (17), Black Turnstone (8), Marbled Murrelet (25), Great Horned Owl (9), Anna's Hummingbird (249), Downy Woodpecker (74), Hairy Woodpecker (37), Northern Flicker (256), Pileated Woodpecker

(51), Peregrine Falcon (4), Common Raven (5), and Red-breasted Nuthatch (105). Notable misses included:

Greater Scaup, Eared Grebe, Dunlin, Herring Gull, and Iceland Gull (Thayer's). A complete [analysis](#), breakout of [species by area](#), and [area descriptions and maps](#) can be found on the Pilchuck Audubon website.



Thank you to our team leaders, the field participants, boat party, crow counters,



and the feeder counters. Special thanks to Linda Phillips for hosting our post-count tally and her excellent homemade bread and hot soups. Bob Schmid just moved into his new home in Kitsap County, so this is his last year as co-compiler. Thank you, Bob, for all your hard work over the last three years. Next year, the Edmonds /South County CBC will be conducted on **December 15, 2018**.

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## SMART GROWTH REPORT

by Kristin Kelly

Executive Director, Smart Growth

### Shoreline Master Plan

Snohomish County will be starting its periodic review of their Shoreline Master Plan this month, to be adopted in 2019. The County will be holding an open house for the public to learn about the scope of this update. That open house will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, at the County Administration Building, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett. While the County's goal is to assure that the update complies with new state laws/rules that have changed since the SMP was last amended in 2012, the County will be addressing proposed code amendments that will address inconsistencies created by state changes and implementation issues identified



by staff. It will also be addressing removing annexations and tribal trust acquisitions, adding previously unmapped waterbodies, and reflecting natural changes and improved GIS data. While not part of the County's workplan for the SMP update, it is legal for other review of the current SMP to ensure it incorporates Best Available Science.

In charge of this update is Senior Planner Alison Hodgkin, who can be reached at [alison.hodgkin@snoco.org](mailto:alison.hodgkin@snoco.org) or 425-262-2975. The project website is <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/3996>.

I hope to see some of you there because the protection and use of our shorelines is important for birds and wildlife as well as people and property.

### UGA Expansions

In the March Profile, I will be highlighting more about the upcoming public hearings on Docket XIX that will determine if two large urban growth area (UGA) expansions will be adopted by the Snohomish County Council. This will also include consideration by the Council on amending the Countywide Planning Policies that would allow for UGA land swaps anywhere in the county. PAS is opposing both of these measures, and we will be actively seeking our membership support on action alerts. UGA expansions do not comply with the Growth Management Act. The UGA land swaps could give the Council legal backing to expand the SW UGA by reducing another UGA somewhere else, but it will also create a precedent that could

have unintended consequences throughout the county for long-range planning, environmental protections, traffic, and taxes.

PAS and Futurewise appealed Snohomish County's Critical Area Regulations that were updated in 2015. We lost at the Growth Management Hearings Board on a variety of issues. We decided to appeal just the landslide regulations (which went to Thurston County Superior Court) as we feel these regulations are not adequate to protect people and property, especially in light of the Oso tragedy. Unfortunately, the judge denied our appeal. We are not clear why, as no explanation was given. At any rate, we are assessing whether or not to initiate an appeal to the next level, the Washington Court of Appeals. ✧

## BIRDING CLASSES

Winter/Spring 2018 Classes  
Taught by Candy Brown

### WATERBIRDS

We will discuss several of the different kinds of ducks that live in the Puget Sound region as well as geese, gulls, blackbirds, herons, shorebirds, and others. We will see the unique nests they make and how their babies are very different from those of songbirds.

**Edmonds at Frances Anderson Center — Tuesday, February 13, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** \$15 for residents, \$17 for non-residents. To register, call 425-771-0230.

### MORE AMAZING BIRDS

Many interesting and beautiful birds visit our region at different times of the year or are permanent residents. We will look at and discuss the habits of sparrows, warblers, wrens, woodpeckers, cedar waxwings, and more.

**Edmonds at Frances Anderson Center — Wednesday, March 7, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** \$15 for residents, \$17 for non-residents. To register, call 425-771-0230. ✧

## TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website at [www.pilchuckaudubon.org](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org) for the latest information



### Saturday, February 3

### Two Trails in Lynnwood

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Lynnwood Transit Center, which is in the vicinity of I-5 Exit 181; come to Bay D1, which is near the southwest corner of the parking lot. We'll walk the Scriber Creek Trail, then carpool to the Golf Course Trail. Note that the ground along Scriber Creek may be wet; please wear appropriate footwear.

Trip Leader: Douglas Resnick, [425-776-4811](tel:425-776-4811)

### Tuesday, February 6

### Camano Island

Meet at 8:00 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5-Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. We will bird Triangle Cove, Eide Road, English Boom, Iverson Spit, and wherever else the leaders desire. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leaders: Wilma Bayes, 360-629-2028

Joyce Hershberger, [hershjoy@gmail.com](mailto:hershjoy@gmail.com)

### Tuesday, February 13

### 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 store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Expect Harlequin Duck, Long-tailed Duck, Brant, and lots of other sea-going avian species. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leaders: Wilma Bayes, [360-629-2028](tel:360-629-2028)

Joyce Hershberger, [hershjoy@gmail.com](mailto:hershjoy@gmail.com)

### Sunday, February 18

### Washington Park Arboretum Great Backyard Bird Count

Join Pilchuck Audubon, Academia Latina, and the North Sound Birders' Meetup for a kid's picnic and birdwalk as we take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count at the renowned Washington Park Arboretum. Meet at the Visitors' Center, 2300 Arboretum Dr. E., at 1:30 PM. From Highway 520 (Evergreen Point freeway), take the Montlake exit. If you come from the east via I-90, there is a toll on the Hwy 520 floating bridge. If you come from the west off I-5, there is no toll. From eastbound 520, exit at Montlake. Go straight across Montlake at the light onto Lake Washington Boulevard. If you come westbound via the toll bridge, exit at Montlake. Go south across the freeway. Turn left onto Lake Washington Bl. Once on Lake Washington Blvd, turn left on Foster Island Road. After a bend, there is parking on both sides of Foster Island Rd., plus possibly parking on the right on Arboretum Drive next to the Visitor's Center. Open to all. No reservations required. We will spend the afternoon exploring the park. Trip Leaders:

Jonathan Blubaugh, 425.244.7633, [aracfi@msn.com](mailto:aracfi@msn.com)

Terry Nightingale, 206.619.2383, [tnight@pobox.com](mailto:tnight@pobox.com)

### Tuesday, February 20

### Snoqualmie River Valley Monroe to Carnation

Meet at 8:00 AM at Monroe Park & Ride on Highway 2, one-

half mile west of the Fairgrounds. Expect a fun time and exciting birds. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leaders: Wilma Bayes, [360-629-2028](tel:360-629-2028)

Joyce Hershberger, [hershjoy@gmail.com](mailto:hershjoy@gmail.com)

### Tuesday, February 27

### Port Townsend

Meet at 7:10 AM at the Edmonds Wade James Theater Parking Lot. The theater's address is [950 Main St., Edmonds, 98020](http://www.edmonds-wade.com), just east of 9th Ave, on the south side of Main St. We'll take the ferry to Kingston, go through Port Gamble, and across the floating bridge. On the way, we'll visit Marrowstone Island and Indian Island with views of Admiralty Inlet, waterfowl, shorebirds, and seabirds. Previous year's trips have been memorable and rewarding. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leaders: Wilma Bayes, [360-629-2028](tel:360-629-2028)

Joyce Hershberger, [hershjoy@gmail.com](mailto:hershjoy@gmail.com)

### Saturday, March 3

### Lake Ballinger

Meet at 7:30 AM near the entrance to the parking lot of the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center

(<https://www.communitytransit.org/busservice/transit-centers-and-parking>). We'll carpool to Ballinger Park, then walk along Lake Ballinger's perimeter and inside the park. Trip

leader: Douglas Resnick, [425-776-4811](tel:425-776-4811) (cell: [206-617-0019](tel:206-617-0019)), [dresnick1@comcast.net](mailto:dresnick1@comcast.net) ✧

## KLICKITAT SPRING FIELD TRIP

For the past 10 years, PAS member Susie Schaefer has been arranging longer field trips to far-ranging locations in Washington and Oregon. So far this year there are plans for another trip to Klickitat County over the Memorial Day weekend, leaving Snohomish County on May 26 (Saturday) and returning May 29 (Tuesday). Plans for a six-day trip in June are started but not yet ready for publication.

Anyone who has ever been to Klickitat County understands why we head back down there year after year. The birds, butterflies, dragonflies, mammals, wildflowers, and scenery are spectacular in the spring. Over the years, we have had great finds and adventures and think it is worth the trip to this special place. This trip is not a guided tour but rather a group adventure. We work hard to keep costs down by sharing costs for food, gas, and lodging for the 4 days and 3 nights. The group is limited to 12 people and 3 cars. The owners of the three cars do not pay gas costs to make costs as fair as possible.

Sign-ups for this trip will start February 1, so send in your reservations and a statement about using your car (or not) for travel for four people. Send an email to Susie, [garden@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:garden@pilchuckaudubon.org), or text 425-478-9383, and be prepared for fun and adventure in Klickitat County.

Look for information about the longer trip next month. ✧

# CONSERVATION REPORT

by Allen Gibbs, Conservation Chair

Audubon Washington's three top legislative priorities are to: 1) establish a 100% clean energy standard, 2) establish a low carbon fuel standard, and 3) establish a carbon tax or fee. I'll focus on number one of the three priorities.

## Clean Energy

Carbon emission reduction bills are finally moving through both chambers of the state legislature this session.

**Senate Bill 6253** is key to establishing a new carbon pollution reduction policy. It accelerates 100% fossil-free electricity investments, avoidance of carbon emissions of nearly one million automobiles, and conservation of 1.2 billion gallons of water. It requires that all new investments in energy resources be fossil-free. It prioritizes energy efficiency, demand response, storage, renewable energy, and other solutions to reduce carbon pollution on the grid. It phases out coal by 2030, which would result in a 100% carbon reduction for electricity by 2045.

There was a Senate committee hearing January 23 but not yet a committee vote. Among its Senate sponsors in Snohomish County are Marko Lias (21st District), Marlayn Chase (32nd District), and Guy Palumbo (1st District). Thank them for their work, and urge committee passage!

**House Bill 2338** requires refineries to achieve a 10% carbon intensity reduction in fuels, cutting three million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in Washington. It supports expanded transportation electrification, which costs one-third as much as gasoline in Washington, keeping more energy costs in our pockets. This would support job creation in rural Washington and provide new economic opportunities for the agriculture, dairy, and forestry sectors. A House hearing was January 9. A substitute bill passed the House Environment Committee to the Transportation Committee. Derek Stanford (1st District) is a sponsoring Snohomish County representative. Thank him!

With a 60-day short session, it is so important for these bills to have hearings by February 6 and floor votes passing to the Senate by February 14. These policy bills will "die" this session if the benchmarks are not met.

Look for email "alerts" coming to Pilchuck Audubon Society members signed up to receive same. The alerts will be coming in the first two weeks of February, urging us to tell our legislators that we support these bills.



## Water Rights

Leading news out of Olympia in mid-January was passage of a water bill which, in part, rewrote some existing state water laws. The so-called *Hirst* Decision by the State Supreme Court in 2016 changed how counties approve or deny building permits that use permit-exempt wells for a water source on private land. Efforts to write legislation reversing, to some extent, that court decision failed in the 2017 legislative session. Water law in the West is inherently rife with complexity. Overlay that complexity with the federal government treaties that preceded establishment of the western states. That is especially so in western Washington where tribes reserved to themselves certain rights, e.g., rights pertaining to fishing in usual and accustomed places.

A special election last November to fill a vacant Senate seat previously held by a Republican was won by a Democrat, shifting majority control of the Senate to the Democrats. While this was not the only reason for eventual passage of the so-called "four-corner water deal" involving leadership of both parties in the Senate and the House, the new water law bill passed. Some Democratic senators and representatives voted against the "four-corner deal," saying the state is likely in violation of tribal treaties by not protecting in-stream flows. They predicted more water rights battles to come.

Once the new water law bill passed, the capital budget for 2017-2019 was passed, having been held hostage by the Republican Senate in 2017. The capital budget contains hundreds of millions of dollars to build new and upgrade existing schools, and to build and operate public mental health and dental clinics, public housing, water and sewer improvements, and conservation projects to protect wildlife habitat, etc. ✧

## BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

November 26, 2017 to December 25, 2017

Looks like It is going to be a really good year for birding from what I have seen so far.

First, Carole and Larry Beason's report from Lake Bosworth. They listed 3 Anna's Hummingbird, a Bald Eagle flying near the shore, a Belted Kingfisher on the dock, 24 Bufflehead on the lake along with 6 Double-crested Cormorant, 3 Golden-crowned Sparrow, a Great Blue Heron on the dock, 15 Hooded Merganser on the lake, 12 Mallard flying over, 24+ Pine Siskin, a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Purple Finch, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 10 Ring-necked Duck on the lake, and 100+ Trumpeter Swan near Marsh Road in Snohomish, for a total species count of 37.

Hilkka Egtvedt's total species count of 21 from her home in Mukilteo included a Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 5 Northern Flicker, 5 Steller's Jay, 5 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, a Bewick's Wren, 2 Spotted Towhee, 4 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 15 Dark-eyed Junco, 5 Pine Siskin, 6 House Finch, and a Pileated Woodpecker.

Reporting from Stanwood, Mary Sinker listed 7 American Robin, 9 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Bald Eagle, 4 Bewick's Wren, 20 Black-capped Chickadee, 4 Brown Creeper, 45 Dark-eyed Junco, 8 Downy Woodpecker, 2 Fox Sparrow (which are her favorite sparrows), 20 Mourning Dove, a Northern Goshawk, 2 Red-tailed Hawk, 11 Song Sparrow, 14 Steller's Jay, 5 Varied Thrush, and 5 Pacific Wren, for a total species count of 27.

My count from my home in Marysville included 5 Black-capped Chickadee, 100+ Glaucous-winged Gull in the fields along 100<sup>th</sup> St., 200+ European Starling in the trees and on the wires, 13 Mourning Dove, 5 Northern Flicker, 7 Spotted Towhee, 5 Steller's Jay, a Varied Thrush, 3 Great Horned Owl in the woods, a Cooper's Hawk perched on the feeders, 2 Song Sparrow, 100+ Mallard in the fields, and a Red-tailed Hawk, for a total species count of 21.

Debbie Dern's report from Snohomish listed 13 species. Her count included 3 Anna's Hummingbird, a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, a Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 3 Black-capped Chickadee, a Spotted Towhee, a male House Sparrow, 4 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 7 Dark-eyed Junco, 3 Downy Woodpecker, 2 Northern Flicker, a Fox Sparrow, and a Ring-necked Duck.

If you are interested in participating in our Backyard Birding count, please email me at [pricemara1@gmail.com](mailto:pricemara1@gmail.com) or leave a message on my cell phone at (425) 750-8125. ✧



Ringed-neck Duck | Eastside Audubon

## Audubon Lobby Day 2018

by Cindy Easterson, PAS President

I recently saw a bumper sticker that read, "The earth used to be cooler." National Audubon has alerted us to the threat of climate change for birds based on their landmark study of how changing temperatures and conditions might impact bird populations due to loss of either winter or breeding habitat. We also know that climate change may threaten our homes and the natural beauty of our own State of Washington. So on January 22, 2018, I joined 225 people from Audubon and key coalition partners in support of climate action by driving to Olympia, Washington, to meet with representatives and senators in support of important climate action legislation coming before the State



House or Senate. Audubon, along with supporters and staff from Climate Solutions, Carbon Washington, and Washington Women for Climate Action Now, filled the launch venue to learn more about three separate bills, SB6253 - 100% Clean Energy; SB6203 - Carbon Pricing; and HB2338 - Low Carbon Fuel Standard, which will help get us to where we need to be in order to halt the devastating impacts of carbon emissions.

We can see that across the country as well as the world extreme weather events and forest fires have destroyed homes and communities. Our reliance on fossil-fuel-generated power threatens our most cherished marvels of the Pacific Northwest. At Audubon Lobby Day, passions ran high, and the group was eager to advocate for action. We were grateful to have distinguished climate champions speak to us including Senator Lisa Wellman, Representative Joe Fitzgibbon, and, of course, Governor Jay Inslee. Constituents represented 44 out of 49 legislative districts, and there were more than 130 meetings held with state representatives to urge support for a 100% fossil free future!

We believe our voices were heard in Olympia, and we hope that our lawmakers will take a leadership role on climate action during this session of the legislature. ✧

## Noteworthy Events for Your Consideration

Program Meeting.....February 9

Port Susan Snow Goose Festival..... February 24-25  
 Pilchuck Audubon Society is a proud sponsor of the Snow Goose Festival. Our own Jonathan Blubaugh, Terry Nightingale, and Judy Hall will be helping with birding tours at the event. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please let Cindy Easterson know at 425-876-1055, or contact the Stanwood Chamber of Commerce by email at [stanwood-chamberwa@gmail.com](mailto:stanwood-chamberwa@gmail.com) or by calling 360 -629-0562. For more information go to [www.snowgoosefest.org/](http://www.snowgoosefest.org/) ✧



Lazuli Bunting © Mick Thompson

### 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

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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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS, CLASSES, and FESTIVALS farther afield

Compiled by Rick Brauer

**Valentine's Day Feb 14 Your Locale**  
 This is traditionally a big day for love-bird sightings in our region.

**Winter Wings Festival Feb 15-18 Klamath Falls, OR**

The Klamath National Refuge complex consists of six refuges including Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, the nation's first waterfowl refuge. The Klamath Basin is home to the largest concentration of wintering Bald Eagles in the lower 48 states, numbering some 500 to 800 birds typically. Other visitors include massive flocks of waterfowl and large numbers of wintering raptors on this major stopover of the Pacific Flyway. About 80% of the Pacific Flyway migrants make the Klamath Basin a stopover. Around 130 species of birds are counted each winter at the Festival.  
<http://winterwingsfest.org/>

**Class: Winter Visitors Feb 17 Lower Skagit Valley, WA**

*Birder's World* calls the Skagit Valley "one of the nation's best birding destinations." Join Libby Mills for a field excursion designed to celebrate one of the Northwest's natural treasures. This class will survey the area's bird life, with a focus on raptors, wintering waterfowl and shorebirds, and the relationships that bring these various species together in this particular place. <https://ncascades.org/signup/programs/winter-visitors-birding-the-greater-skagit-delta>

**San Diego Bird Festival Feb 21-25 San Diego, CA**

This is always a great festival, with a plethora of trips, cruises, seminars, and other fun events on BOTH sides of the USA/Mexico border. And if they build a wall, the birds will just fly over it! <https://www.sandiegoaudubon.org/events/bird-festival/general-information>

**Whooping Crane Festival Feb 22-25 Port Aransas, TX**

Still recovering and rebuilding from Hurricane Harvey, Port Aransas has rallied and is hosting the annual Whooping Crane Festival, now in its 22nd year. The Whooping Crane population is at a record high: an estimated 431 cranes wintered at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge last year. This summer, a record 63 Whooping Crane chicks fledged on the cranes' breeding grounds at Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada. 2018 promises to be an interesting year for the birds and for the region. <https://www.whoopingcranefestival.org/> ✧