The Heron Herald



Rainier Audubon Society

December, 2019

Rainier Audubon Membership Meeting 7 PM December 16, 2019

"Brown Bag Auction, Photo Sharing and Cookie Exchange"

ring your favorite photos and videos to share on a thumb drive. Instead of having a speaker, there will be a photo show and auction.

Tickets for the brown bag auction are \$1.00 each, and there is no limit on how many you can buy. Of course, Rainier

needs people to donate items for the auction. Bird-related items are always popular, but you are not limited to them. Perhaps you got a gift card for Christmas last year that you haven't gotten around to spending: it would be great for the auction! Or, you could be a little creative and make a gift basket. The brown bag auction helps pay for Rainier's expenses, so we definitely want this year's event to be a success. If you are donating items, please have those items at the church by 6 PM the day of the event.

Bring your favorite cookie or bar or other goodie and enjoy a variety of snacks other folks have brought. You will be able to mingle, get an eyeful of some excellent bird pictures, bid on the items up for auction and have something yummy to munch on!

For more information, contact Heather Gibson, 206-226-2050.

Join us at 6:30 for conversation and refreshments.





Rainier Audubon programs are held at: Federal Way United Methodist Church 29645 - 51st Ave. So. Auburn, WA 98001 **RAS Mission Statement:** To conserve and restore natural ecosystems and protect birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and biological diversity in South King County and the world we live in.

Upcoming Programs

- 1/20/2020 Jerry Broadus "Birds of Borneo"
- 2/17/2020 Ben Silesky Survival by Degrees: 389 Species on the Brink"
- 3/16/2020 Marie West-Johnson, Barbara Petersen & Cheryl White, "Birds of Southern Africa"
- 4/20/2020 Kim Adelson "The Dinosaurs Amongst Us"
- 5/18/2020 Sally Vogel "Ethiopia Birds & Mammals"

Resources

- Rainier Audubon Facebook Page www.facebook.com/rainieraudubonsociety/
- Heron Herald is Available Online The current issue of the Heron Herald is always available to download from www.RainierAudubon.org. I will try to send an email on our mailing list as soon as it is posted.
- Rainier Audubon Email List You can join our email list bu going to groups.google.com and searching for "Rainier Audubon". You can then request to join the group. Alternatively, you can sign up on the www.RainierAudubon.org website.

Rainier Audubon Society Directory							
Position	Name	Board Member	Phone	email			
President	Jay Galvin	Yes	253-939-3094	gigalvin@comcast.net			
Vice President	Open						
Treasurer	Laura Lavington	Yes	253-941-7372	laura.lavington@gmail.com			
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Education Chair	Cindy Flanagan	Yes	253-941-3933	camcalcin@hotmail.com			
Program Chair	Dale Meland	No	253-946-1637	dmeland@hotmail.com			
Field Trip Chair	Heather Gibson	Yes	206-226-2050	hedder swedder@yahoo.com			
Publicity Chair	Open						
Backyard Habitat Chair	Marie West-Johnson	No	206-817-8754	crgrie123@yahoo.com			
Conservation Chair	Dan Streiffert	No	253-796-2203	dan_streiffert@hotmail.com			
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Hospitality	Sandra Embrey	No	253-517-3633	Sandra.emery@gmail.com			
Mailing	Debra Russell	No	425-802-4008	debrarussell94@comcast.net			
Lifetime Member	Max Prinsen	No	425-432-9965	max.prinsen@comcast.net			
Lifetime Member	Erin Wojewodski-Prinsen	No	425-432-9965				

Field Trips - Heather Gibson



Family Focused Seabird Trip

Saturday, December 14th 8:30am-11:30am Leaders: Calen Randall and Cindy Flanagan Brown's Point Lighthouse to Saltwater State Park

Marbled Murrelet, Harlequin Duck, Pigeon Guillemot, and Rhinoceros Auklet are highlight seabirds that you will likely see on our Puget Sound Seabird Survey adventure. If we are lucky, maybe even a White-winged Scoter and an Eared Grebe. Bring your family out to experience how we survey our Puget Sound for seabirds. We will start at Brown's Point Lighthouse Park in North Tacoma, then Dash Point State Park, next Dumas Bay Park and wrap up with Saltwater State Park. For those wanting to enjoy a hot drink and goodie afterwards (after 11:30 am), we will cap off our trip with a stop at Des Moine's famous Auntie Irene's Café.

Dress accordingly—cool by the water (hats, mitts and warm footwear recommended). Binoculars and scopes recommended; however, we will have scopes and binoculars for participants to use. All birding levels welcome. Total walking approximately 1 mile. Children must be accompanied at all times by a parent or guardian. Discover Pass or Day Pass needed for Dash Point State Park and Saltwater State Park.

Brown's Point Lighthouse Park Tulalip St. NE Tacoma, WA 98422

To sign up contact: Cindy Flanagan

Email: camcalcin@hotmail.com

Lewis County Raptor Trip

Sunday, December, 8th 8 AM - 4 PM Leader: Roger Orness

Optional scouting trip on December 1 **Both trips limited to 11 People**Signup with Roger at 253-312-6561

Weekly Birdwalks at Nisqually

Wednesdays 8 AM to 12 PM

Leader: Phil Kelley

Join Phil Kelley on his weekly bird walks as he counts the birds at Nisqually NWR. The group walks over to an area near the visitors' center to view the entry road estuary, and then takes the boardwalk/trail loop out to the Twin Barns, and the Nisqually overlook area. From there, the group walks the dike, and back to the Riparian Forest.

Bring: Good walking shoes or boots, rain gear, water, snacks, and \$3 for entry fee unless you have a pass. Scopes are welcome.

Meet: At the Visitor's Center Pond Overlook.

Directions: Take I-5 south from Tacoma and exit to Nisqually NWR at exit 114. Take a right at the light.

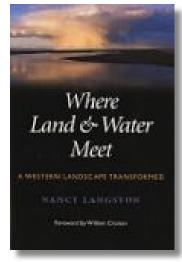
Sign-up is not necessary. Call or email Phil Kelley if you have questions. Phil Kelley, Lacey, (360) 459 1499, scrubjay323@aol.com

President's Corner - by Jay Galvin

have just finished a book by Nancy Langston titled "Where Land and Water Meet: A Western Landscape Transformed". Having traveled to the Malheur Basin with Dan Streiffert over the past several years, we both became intrigued with the history of this unique high desert landscape. Dan found this book and urged me to read it when he was finished. The book starts out with a brief history of the land when the only human inhabitants were the Paiute tribe. The Malheur Basin at this time was a huge, shallow wetland fed by three seasonal rivers. Because of this almost guaranteed water supply, the Paiute adapted to the abundant supply of game and marsh resources available. It is estimated before settlers started changing the landscape, the Malheur Basin was the premiere stopover for waterfowl and shore birds West of the Rockies.

Most of the book deals with what happens after settlers moved into the basin and started changing the landscape for farming and ranching in the middle 1800's. Through the next 150 years the Malheur Basin goes through several stages of change, most of them detrimental to the ecology of this fragile area.

Ms. Langstone does an excellent job of laying out the effects that state and federal interactions with ranchers, farmers, speculators, politicians, logging interests, and conservationists have done to this high desert landscape. The book finishes with some ideas on how to restore the balance between humans and a fragile habitat. University of Washington Press. 2003





Seen & Heard by Calen Randall

ecember is a time for flocking. For many, this means flocking to the stores in anticipation of Christmas and the New Year; but to me, I think of the thousands of waterfowl and other winter residents that flock to the waters and fields of the Pacific Northwest. December is also a month of counting, especially during Christmas Bird Count season. The two themes lead to a question I am often asked, "How do you accurately count birds in large flocks?"

When I attended the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Young Birders Event, I broached the subject with Ian Davies, eBird's Project Coordinator. Ian talked about one methodology, counting birds flying past based on flow rates. The theory works like this: when a flock is made up of hundreds or thousands of individuals, it is easier to estimate the number of birds flying past per amount of time (10 seconds, 30 seconds, 1 minute, etc) and time how long the period is that the birds are moving past. You can estimate the flow rate by every minute or so, counting how many of such species move

past you in the given amount of time and then averaging. Say you are trying to estimate the size of a "murder" of crows as they fly back to their roost. If, on average 100 crows fly overhead in 30 seconds and the crows take 5 minutes to all fly past, then you can estimate the total number of crows to be about 1,000 individuals.

lan has more experience counting large amounts of migrating birds than most. In Spring of 2018, lan was one of several birders at the Tadoussac Observatory in Quebec to witness the migration movement of the century. Over 700,000 warblers were counted traveling across the St. Lawrence River. Ian provided this commentary on his eBird post

"Movement rate estimates were made by looking through binoculars at a flight line, and counting the number of individuals passing a vertical line in that field of view, per second. This was repeated multiple times for each bin view, and repeated throughout the sky so that all flight at that moment was accounted for. The average birds/second was then used for that time period, until another rate estimate showed a different volume of movement."

To read more about the historic day check out their full eBird checklist at: https://ebird.org/checklist/S46117992

While this is an extreme case, it is important to remember not to get caught up in the details. The same number of birds don't always fly past every 30 seconds, but it is much better (not to mention easier) to have a good estimate, than to attempt to count every single individual in a flock of over 1,000 birds.

In early November, on a Puget Sound Seabird Survey, I came across a gargantuan flock of American Wigeons. Instead of all flying in one direction, like the birds in the previous example, the wigeon were mulling about on the waters of Dumas Bay. Some would disappear behind some banks into a creek and many were at a distance that made counting individuals a challenge. How would we count them all? In this case, it was easier to divide the flock into groups. For the spread-out wigeon nearby that could be counted with the naked eye, we could count individually. For some of the more dense groups nearby we counted in pairs, while the wigeons that required binoculars to count we counted in groups of five. Ian also had advice for counting in this scenario. Often there are more birds in a flock than there appears. Some may be crouched down low and you may only see part of them, so in most cases, estimates are conservative. Again, do not focus too much on the fact that you are not counting by individual. In our example, there were well over 900 wigeon moving about the bay; counting every duck is an impractical solution.

When scanning through a large flock, it can be easy to assume the flock is homogenous, but don't forget to check for any surprises. I was reminded of this in October on a visit to M Street. Well over 2,500 Cackling Geese covered the field and pond. Every few minutes another flock of fifty plus individuals would land, like a fleet of planes, the long field their runway. As I counted in pairs, I spotted an anomalous cackling goose, without a white cheek patch. To our surprise, it was a Brant! What was this saltwater-loving goose doing with this flock of Canadas in a farm field? Interestingly, this was the second time that a Brant had been sighted at M Street amongst a large flock of Cacklers as last April, Lonnie Sommer had identified a solitary Brant mixed in the flock. I do wonder if the flock I saw was the same flock that was seen last spring. The large flocks of Cackling Geese in the Green River Valley are great practice for spotting subspecies. The *minima* (purple-brown chest, "boxier" head, small triangular bill, common), Taverner's (light chested, may have bulge on lower mandible like a Snow Goose, common) and the *Aleutian* (long narrow bill, long slender bill, light breast similar to Taverner's, uncommon) Cackling Geese subspecies visit the Puget Sound. You can read more about these Cackling Goose subspecies in a paper written by several Washington and Colorado based biologists at: www.utahbirds.org/RecCom/IDhelp/Cackling_Goose-NAB.pdf

Continued on page 5

Bird of the Month: Wild Turkeys

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien

he Wild Turkey, Latin name Meleagris Gallopavo, is a bird with a long history. They originated in ancient Mexico where they were first domesticated by the Mayans around 800 BC. They were considered useful as a food source and also as a supplier of feathers for decoration and ritual purposes. The birds were then passed along to visiting tribes until they eventually made their way to North america and began to be used by the natives here starting around 1100 AD. From that point onward their distribution was rapid and expansive and they now inhabit every state in the United States except Alaska.

The male and female of this species are both very similar. The basic coloration is a uniform dark brown that appears on the feathers as a shimmery bronze-green iridescence. The large wings have a distinctive white bar while the rump and tail feathers are tipped with a rust, or white, band. The head of



both sexes are predominantly bald and may vary in color. The only noticeable difference is males have a bold red wattle. The general length of a Wild Turkey is 43-45" and the wingspan is an impressive 49-57". There is a slight variance in weight with males occupying a range of 11-24 LBS and females 5-12 LBS.

Due to their shining plumage and larger size, the spring mating dance of the males is quite striking. They puff up their feathers as much as possible, arrange their tales into large fan shapes and begin to strut (cue the BeeGees music). Nests are constructed on the ground and arranged around the bases of trees, under brush piles, and sometimes in open hay fields. A shallow depression of 1" is made in the ground and extends 9-13" long by 8-11" wide and lined with leaf litter.

In each nest a clutch of eggs is laid and can contain anywhere from 4 to 17 eggs. Only one brood is hatched per year and the young chicks, called poults, will incubate for loosely 27 days before they come out of their shells. Surprisingly they only need one day in the nest before they are off with mom to learn how to forage for their own survival. Favorite foods include fern greens, nuts, small seeds, berries, and the odd amphibian or lizard. All of these are available along the roads, fields, and mature forests they call home. It's very interesting to me that Wild Turkey numbers continue to grow despite them being such a common prey animal for most predators. However, I also can't imagine what nature would be like without the Wild Turkey so I hope they stick around.

Recent Sightings:

November 4th, 2019

Late one Monday night on my way to the University of Washington Light Rail Station, I took a whimsical walk through Sylvan Grove, a wooded strip, home to UW's famous theater and ionic columns. As I passed the pillars, I thought I heard a low hooting sound. I strained my ears but was met with silence. I continued on my way and, as I stepped out of the woods, a pair of wings flashed in the moon light. It was a **Barred Owl**, my first on campus in three years! The owl perched and turned away from me, but I could barely see that it had its head turned to stare at me. For a couple minutes we continued to eye each other. Suddenly, the owl leapt to the air, and glided, feet poised to pounce, to the ground. Though I was a mere fifteen feet away, its flight was completely silent. Thankfully, I was not the unlucky mouse it had spied. I circled around the path. I hoped to find where the bird had landed, but its dark camouflage blended in with the ferns and, as I turned away, I saw another flash of wings in the moon light, and the owl was back at its perch, mouse-in-claw. What a treat to watch such a stealthy predator!

November 13th, 2019

At 10:30 one night at home, I heard a piercing shriek. My sister called out from the other room, "That was an owl!" We ran to the front window and the long scream came again. It was the classic call of a **Barn Owl**! Several times we had seen or heard a Barn Owl in the 300th St & 61st Ave area in Auburn, but this was the first time we had heard one from our house!

Bio: After 20 years of searching in his backyard, Calen has yet to find his quest bird, Blue-footed Booby. Currently a student in Atmospheric Science at the University of Washington, Calen has spent the last 9 years turning in overdue Seen and Heard articles (I promise this year will be an improvement!). Calen loves exploring new regions of the Pacific Northwest, but always looks forward to returning home to familiar hotspots in the South Puget Sound.

The Butcher Watchman - Thomas Bancroft



ovement caught my eye, and I glanced up through the windshield. The flight seemed labored, heavy, something a little different, unusual in this robin-sized bird. The individual was 15 feet above the ground and flew across the grass field along Rawlins Road. It came right over the car. Maybe, it was headed for a large bush behind me. I stopped in the middle of this dead-end road on Fir Island, jumping out.

Sitting on a top of the bare bush was the unmistakable silhouette of a Northern Shrike, a plump body, a big head, upward stance. It glared out across the fields, moving its head back and forth. Last week, my birding group had found a juvenile individual along the dikes, not a quarter-mile from this location. I moseyed back along the road, keeping my eyes averted.

Sure enough, dark eye mask, the bill with a stout hook and a large tooth, black wings, scalloped cream breast feather, this was a perfect plumage juvenile. It was alert, hunting, but seemed to be ignoring me. This was my fifth trip to the Skagit in two weeks, and on each trip, we had spotted a Northern Shrike. On one trip, it was at Wiley Slough, on another at Hayton Reserve, once in the Samish Flats, and then here. These were probably four different individuals, and all had been juvenile birds. Possibly, this was turning into an irruptive year for shrikes.

These birds nest across Northern Canada and Alaska, coming south in winter. Most winters a few can be found in Washington,

but in some years, vast numbers will come south. Perhaps, this happens when they have had an exceptionally successful nesting year or when northern winters become particularly hard, or food supplies low.

These are voracious predators, capable of taking small birds and mammals. They store prey by sticking it on thorns or barbwire, coming back later to eat more of it. Often, they sit and wait for a prey item to show itself before darting off the perch. This species occurs in Europe and Asia, too.

The bird bolted from the branch, dropping down to just above the field and flying rapidly away from me. I couldn't tell if it was chasing something or just heading to another hunting spot. It probably makes the rounds of a series of good lookouts. Their scientific name is Lanius excubitor, which translates as "Butcher Watchman."



The new and improved Birds of North America is available

Cornell Lab of Ornithology (Lab of O) has updated its Birds of North America. If you are looking for a comprehensive reference for the life histories of over 760 bird species that

breed in Canada and the United States, Birds of North America is for you. The species accounts include in-depth summaries of scientific literature and media, as well as sounds, images, video and distributional maps and model output generated by eBird.

If you want to try Birds of North America to see if it is right for you, the Lab of O offers free species samples to review. Visit their website https://birdsna.org/Species-Account/bna/home
A monthly subscription is \$5/month and an annual subscription is \$42/year.

RAS Nature Book Group - Cindy Flanagan

o you love reading about the natural world and talking with others about your nature passion? Would a Rainier Audubon Book Group interest you? Our RAS would like to start a Nature Book Group and is reaching out to its members and guests to see if there is an interest.

Other Audubon chapters in Washington offer book clubs. Tahoma Audubon's book group model has been very successful and fun! The basic format could be modeled after Tahoma's which consists of a monthly discussion group that is facilitated by different group members each month and meets from September through May. Books are chosen twice a year by group members.

If you are interested, email Cindy Flanagan at camcalcin@hotmail.com or call 253-941-3933

Helpful feedback to include in your response:

- Would you like to participate in a daytime, evening or online book club?
- Are there any days of the week you would prefer to meet?
- Would you be interested in being part of the team that facilitates the meetings?
- Would you like to help choose the books?
- Would you prefer to meet at the same location or at roving library locations (such as Federal Way Library, Renton Library)?
- Do you have any other suggestions?

If you are keen to start reading something in anticipation that we may be able to have a January session, may I recommend reading Rare Bird: Pursuing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet by Maria Mudd Ruth.

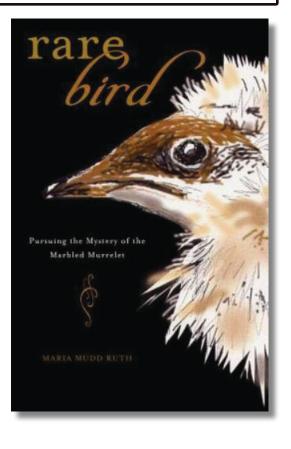
Maria is a member of Black Hills Audubon and has worked tirelessly to protect Washington's endangered Marbled Murrelet. Most recently she has been working with the Department of Natural Resource(DNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) on long-term conservation strategy for the Marbled Murrelet.

The following is an excerpt review of her book taken from www.goodreads.com:

Part naturalist detective story and part environmental inquiry, Rare Bird: Pursuing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet celebrates the fascinating world of an endangered seabird that depends on the contested old-growth forests of the Pacific Northwest for its survival.

"This chunky little seabird stole my heart." So confesses Maria Mudd Ruth, a veteran nature writer perfectly happy to be a generalist before getting swept up in the strange story of the Marbled Murrelet. This curiosity of nature, which flies like a little brown bullet at up to 100 miles an hour and lives most of its life offshore, is seen on land only during breeding season, when each female lays a single egg high on a mossy tree limb in the ancient coastal forest.

Ruth traces reports of the bird back to Captain Cook's ill-fated voyage of discovery on the Pacific Ocean in 1778, and explores the mindset of 19th- and 20th-century naturalists who — despite their best efforts — failed to piece together clues to the whereabouts of the bird's nest. Ruth ventures to coastal meadows before dawn and onto the ocean at midnight to learn firsthand how scientists observe nature. She interviews all the major players in the drama: timber company executives and fishing fleet operators whose businesses are threatened by conservation measures, as well as the so-called cowboy scientists who are devoted to saving the marbled murrelet from extinction. And, ultimately, Ruth puts her curiosity and passion for this rare bird onto the page for readers to savor.



Help Protect the Marbled Murrelet in Washington State.

(Written by Maria Ruth, Black Hills Audubon)

the DNR and USFWS extended the deadline for public comment on the Long-Term Conservation strategy to December 6th

In 2013, the Washington State Audubon Conservation Committee (WSACC) adopted a resolution to support science-based murrelet conservation strategies, planning, and policies to protect Marbled Murrelets in our state forests. Since then, individual Audubon chapters and Audubon Washington have been constant and strong advocates for our resolution. We have made a difference.

Now, DNR is asking for your input in the development of a revised set of conservation alternatives for their Long-Term Conservation Strategy for the Marbled



Murrelet. There are currently eight alternatives being considered and, unfortunately, most do not support murrelet recovery on state-managed lands and result in smaller populations after 50 years, even under the most optimistic conditions. Under these weaker strategies the murrelet will continue on its trajectory toward extinction in Washington within the next few decades and hinder chances of recovery across its range.

This is where your voice matters -The deadline for comments is Tuesday, December 6, 2018, at 5 p.m.

The Murrelet Conservation Coalition has developed a set of talking points for you to consider in your comment letters. Please choose one or more of the talking points below, personalize them, and/or write your own letter. For more information on the Marbled Murrelet Long-Term Conservation Strategy information visit, https://www.dnr.wa.gov/mmltcs

To: Washington Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service,

I'm writing to comment on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Habitat Conservation Plan Amendment for the Marbled Murrelet Long Term Conservation Strategy because I support recovery efforts for the endangered marbled murrelets in the state of Washington.

As a Washington resident, I believe we can provide sufficient conservation for murrelets that will actually result in larger, viable populations of murrelets in the state over the next 50 years while also developing solutions that reduce financial impacts on timber-dependent communities.

A meaningful conservation plan and HCP amendment should and must help meet the long-stated biological goals for this species: to stabilize and increase its population, to expand its geographic range, and to increase resilience of the marbled murrelet to natural and human-caused disturbance.

DNR's preferred alternative (Alternative H) doesn't do enough to support murrelet recovery primarily se it permits the harvest of too much of our mature and old forests over the next 50 years and does nserveenough habitat as mitigation.
Applying the most recent data available, DNR must protect all occupied sites, increase existing

□ No Long-Term Conservation Strategy should include a net loss of habitat. In the North Puget region, Alternative H anticipates a net loss of over 1,000 acres after 50 years. The LTCS should include a net

interior forest habitat, and establish buffers that will protect vulnerable murrelet chicks from predators.

increase in habitat for murrelets across our landscape

The LTCS should include more and larger murrelet-specific conservation areas to broaden the geographic distribution of murrelets in western Washington. Isolated conservation areas create and exacerbate murrelet population gaps that hinder the species' survival and recovery.	
The LTCS should lead to more murrelets across more of our landscape, not fewer murrelets in smaller forest patches. Broader geographic distribution helps reduce the risk that major human or natural	1

The plan must look to the future and protect murrelets from natural disturbances. DNR should more thoroughly evaluate the potential impacts of tree mortality, wildfire, windthrow, and our warming climate. Habitat loss and degradation from such disturbances should be accurately calculated and properly mitigated.

disturbances (logging, roadbuilding, wildfire, increased nest predation) will wipeout significant portions of the

The LTCS should also better protect murrelets from the impacts of human-caused disturbance, especially in areas where murrelets are known to nest (occupied sites), the forest buffers around those sites, and the "special habitat areas." Disturbance such as road construction and the use of heavy equipment may result in "take" of murrelets that is not properly mitigated.

A meaningful Long-Term Conservation Strategy must set aside enough current and future old forest to not only offset the habitat the DNR plans to log but also to *improve* forest habitat conditions for the murrelet, without putting the existing population at further risk. The Long-Term Conservation Strategy must truly support real conservation for the murrelets for the *long-term*.

Sincerely,

<<Your Name>>

murrelet population.



Rainier Audubon 39th Christmas Bird Count Sunday, December 29, 2019

The Rainier Audubon 39th Christmas Bird Count will be on Sunday, December 29,

2019. It's easy to join fellow birders for this important and fun effort. Participate as a citizen scientist for the day and visit hot birding locations you did not know about! Over 120 species were recorded during last year's CBC count.

How do I participate?

Sign up to go out with a field team to explore and count birds in our official Audubon circle. Teams will bird by car and by foot from 8 AM to 4 PM. If you prefer a shorter outing, just caravan with the survey team and leave when you prefer. Can't go out with a team but want to count birds at home or at your feeders? Easy! Sign up to participate in our CBC Backyard Bird Count. Join us afterwards to tally the day's species and enjoy our Rainier Audubon Dinner. Please contact Cindy Flanagan with any questions on how to participate.

Contact: Cindy Flanagan camcalcin@hotmail.com 253-941-3933

When Is the CBC dinner celebration?

Our CBC Dinner is a great way to celebrate the Christmas Bird Count. Dinner is provided and will begin at 5pm, with doors opening at 4 PM. There are always interesting stories and sightings to share as we summarize the day's sightings. The dinner is held at the same location as our monthly general meetings.

Federal Way United Methodist Church 29645 51st Ave, Auburn, WA 98001

What Happens to Our Count Data?

The results of our Rainier Audubon count are published in our newsletter. Along with hundreds of Audubon chapters nationwide, our results are sent to National Audubon for compilation. Audubon scientists use the results to study bird distribution and population trends and identify conservation priorities. Our observations help to describe bird species' range, which are then used in climate models to project the effects of climate change and to identify conservation priorities.



Rainier Audubon Society PO Box 778 Auburn, WA 98071

"It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."

Ansel Adams

Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Kent, WA 98031 Permit No. 441

Are you interested in:

• Volunteering?

• Field Trips?

• Classes?

(Please circle)

Rainier Audubon Membership Subscription or Renewal Form

One-year Membership in Rainier Audubon \$25—Individual Membership / \$30—Family Membership

Circle one New / Renewal For new members:

How did you hear about Rainier Audubon Society?

To join or renew, mail this application with your payment to:

PO Box 778

Auburn, WA 98071

Rainier Audubon Society - Membership

Name:_____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip ____

Phone Email _____

RAS Chapter membership includes 9 issues of the Heron Herald annually but does not include AUDUBON magazine