

The Heron Herald



Rainier Audubon Society

September 2015

RAS Membership Meeting

September 21, 2015

“Murrelet Survival Project”

Kevin Schmelzlen

Meeting begins at 7:00 PM.



Kevin Schmelzlen, campaign coordinator for Murrelet Survival Project, will give a general overview of the life history of the marbled murrelet. He will explain why the species is in severe decline throughout its historic range, the work done and the policies implemented so far to help protect the species, the reasons for the creation of the Murrelet Survival Project campaign and what actions the campaign has taken to date. He will also tell us what concerned citizens can do to support the marbled murrelet. The Powerpoint presentation itself will generally take 40-45 minutes, with a Q&A period following.

Kevin Schmelzlen is campaign coordinator for Murrelet Survival Project, a campaign organized by several conservation organizations in Washington state to raise awareness for the marbled murrelet and implement a long-term strategy for the threatened seabird’s survival. He received his B.S. in Political Science from University of California, Irvine and worked in electoral politics and government until beginning his career in conservation as Education & Outreach Coordinator at California Wolf Center. After working in wolf conservation for three years, Kevin fulfilled his lifelong dream of becoming a landowner by purchasing 5 acres of forestland in Mason County, Washington. During his time in our state, Kevin has become involved with several political and conservation efforts, including his current position with Murrelet Survival Project. As campaign coordinator, he is responsible for recruiting and training volunteers, meeting with organizations, business leaders and elected officials throughout western Washington, leading media outreach efforts, and crafting the campaign’s messaging. When not working to protect the marbled murrelet, Kevin can be found hiking, spending time with his dog and two cats, or digging holes on his mini-farm.

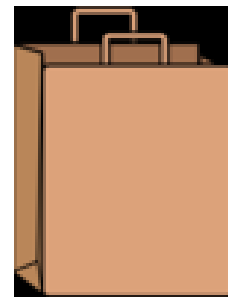


Join us at 6:30 for coffee and conversation.

Rainier Audubon programs are held at
Federal Way United Methodist Church
29645 - 51st Ave. So. 98001 (in unincorporated Auburn)



November 16 Brown Bag Auction / Show and Tell



Start your holiday shopping at the November 16 membership meeting. We will have a bag auction and, new this year, a Show and Tell. This is your chance to share your bird pictures with the rest of us. We know you take great pictures, so bring some with: prints, laptop, iPad, whatever your format. We'll have tables in place so that everyone can set up their pictures to show everyone else.

And while you are walking around sharing, the bag auction will be set up for you to do that holiday shopping. Bring some things you don't need (but which are in great condition), and go home with some new things. Donations accepted at the meeting. Bird related items bring in the most money for Rainier Audubon, but other items are okay too. Tickets for the bag auction will be \$1.00 each, and there is no limit on how many you can buy.

And did I mention food? We will have refreshments, of course.

This new event is going to be so much fun; you won't want to miss out!

If you are donating items, please have those items at the church by 6:30 pm the day of the event.

For more information, contact Treasurer Laura Lavington at 253 941 7372.

**The Board Meeting Night
has changed to the 2nd
Wednesday of each month.**

| Rainier Audubon Officers | | |
|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| President | Dan Streiffert* | 253-796-2203 |
| Vice President | Steve Feldman* | 360-802-5211 |
| Treasurer | Laura Lavington* | 253-941-7372 |
| Secretary | Heather Gibson* | 253-856-9812 |
| Program Chair | Dale Meland | 253-946-1637 |
| Field Trip Chair | Open | |
| Membership Chair | Pat Toth* | 206-767-4944 |
| Backyard Habitat Chair | Marie West-Johnson | 206-817-8754 |
| Conservation Chair | Dan Streiffert* | 253-796-2203 |
| Mailing Chair | Debra Russell | 425-271-0682 |
| Hospitality | Sandra Embrey | 253-517-3363 |
| Newsletter Editor | Dan Streiffert* | 253-796-2203 |
| Webmaster | Treesa Hertzell | 253-255-1808 |
| Education Chair | Annette Tabor* | 253-927-3208 |
| Christmas Bird Count Coordinator | Alex Juchems | 253-529-8996 |
| Board Member | Max Prinsen | 425-432-9965 |
| Board Member | Erin Wojewodski-Prinsen | 425-432-9965 |
| Publicity | Tom Sernka | 253-529-8970 |
| *Also serves as Board Member | | |
| Board meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Federal Way United Methodist Church, and are open to all members. | | |

Sign up for our Google email list!

The intent of this site is to assist in publicizing our activities to members and the general public relating to our club activities. Anyone may join or leave the group at any time. You may sign up on at:

<http://groups.google.com/group/ras-activites?hl=en>

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.



Olive-sided Flycatcher

Dan Streiffert



Pileated Woodpeckers

Dan Streiffert

Field Trips - We Need a new Chair!



Weekly Birdwalks at Nisqually

Wednesdays 8:00 am to Noon
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 visitor's 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.

Some may choose to continue on the new boardwalk extension which goes out toward the mouth of McAlister Creek. It has benches and covered viewing areas.

The walk totals 2.0 miles roundtrip to the boardwalk extension. In winter the estuary boardwalk will add an additional 1 3/4 miles total, so the whole walk including the boardwalk extension is up to 3 3/4 miles.

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

Point No Point and N. Kitsap Peninsula

Saturday, Sept. 26th at 7 AM - 6 PM

Leader Jim Flynn

We will bird primarily at Point No Point lighthouse and may also bird at Buck Lake, Foulweather Bluff Preserve, Salisbury Pt. Park, Kitsap Memorial St. Park

Targets include: Flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls, Common Terns, Parasitic Jaegers

and other waterbirds. We will spend some time walking beached and wooded trails in search of migrant and resident landbirds.

Discover Passes needed. Carpooling required

Meet: Star Lake Park & Ride at S. 272nd St and 26th Ave S., just west of I-5

Signup: Jim Flynn 206-399-6418, merlinmania@comcast.net

SEQUIM FIELD TRIP

Sunday, Oct. 18th 6:30 AM - 7 PM

Leaders: Jim Flynn & Marissa Benavente

Itinerary: Birding around Sequim, Diamond Pt. and Dungeness. October is a great time for all sorts of birds from gulls, to late shorebirds as well as ducks, loons and many other waterbirds and late migrating passerines. Traditionally, it is also a good time for rarities although our focus will be on enjoying the return of expected fall/winter birds. Please bring a Discover Pass if you have one. Carpooling required.

Meet: Star Lake Park & Ride at S. 272nd St and 26th Ave S., just west of I-5

Signup: Jim Flynn 206-399-6418, merlinmania@comcast.net

Visiting with Raptors:

Sixth Annual Chelan Ridge Hawk Migration Festival

Saturday, September 12, 2015.

This free family event combines activities in Pateros with a field trip to the Wells Wildlife Area and a shuttle to the Chelan Ridge HawkWatch site to learn about and celebrate raptors as they journey to winter territories. This all happens at Memorial Park in Pateros, Washington on Saturday, September 12, 2015.

You will get to visit vendors, see raptor demonstrations, and take a shuttle to the spectacular Chelan Ridge Raptor Migration Site. Shuttles will run from Pateros to Chelan Ridge to see migrating raptors. Chelan Ridge sits 5675 feet

above sea level along the flyway of migrating raptors. Biologists who live at the Ridge during the migration season will offer insight into what it is like to live and breathe raptors and show how the birds are banded and tracked. Beginning on July 1st please visit our website (ncwaudubon.org.) to learn more about the festival and to sign up for the shuttle.

Beaches And Parks - Fall Color and Fall Birds

Saturday, November 7th 8:00 AM to Early-afternoon

Leader: Steve Johnson.

Visit picturesque beaches and parks in King County and Pierce County during a great time of year to look for returning fall birds. We'll travel to Lake Fenwick, Weyerhaeuser Pond, and to local parks and beaches along Puget Sound, searching for many species of sea birds and forest birds. This a good time of year to see scenic views and fall color. Expect to walk short distances from the cars.

People who wish to leave early may do so.

Bring: Lunch, a thermos and drinks, and warm clothes. A scope is very welcome.

Meet: 8:00 AM at the Star Lake P&R north of Federal Way.

Directions: Take I-5 to exit 147 north of Federal Way. Exit onto S. 272nd St, and go west one block to the light. Turn right and go one block into the P&R on the right.

Sign-Up: Call or email Steve Johnson, (253-941-9852), johnsonsj5@msn.com

Book Reviews by Laura Lavington

This May my mom and I met up with my sister, Katie, in Europe for three weeks of vacation. We spent a few days in eastern France, but most of the trip was in eastern Germany and Poland. My trips to Europe are never specifically birding trips: I always take along my binoculars with the idea that I might catch glimpses of a few birds, but I never have particularly high expectations. This time, however, I made a major mistake: I took *so much* luggage, but I forgot my European bird book. It was the second time in one year that I'd gone out of the country and forgotten my bird book! I made the discovery well before we even got to Europe, but there was little I could do. Oh well, I had my binoculars, so I could still look at the birds... and it wasn't really a birding vacation, after all.

Once I knew I didn't have my Princeton Field Guides' *Birds of Europe*, I decided that I would try to photograph the birds with my point and click camera, and also I would take notes. Well, both tactics met with mixed success. Hiking at Hartmannswillerkopf, a World War One site in the woods of the Vosges Mountains in Alsace, I spotted a fair amount of woodland songbirds... but that was on one of the first days of the trip, and by the time I got home, I couldn't make sense of some of my notes. I *do* know that I saw a Eurasian wren, at least two Eurasian nuthatches, and a European robin that day.

The next birdwatching opportunity was on the raft trip through the Dunajec Gorge on the border between Poland and Slovakia. We sat low to the river, so we saw a fair amount of birds: some swimming along, and others swooping about, skimming the river's surface. I don't really have any pictures of the birds from that day, which is either because we were moving too quickly, or because I was enjoying floating down the river past cliffs on a wooden raft, and I just didn't feel like being a slave to my camera. So, I don't know what all the birds I saw were, but I enjoyed the raft trip very much. The most interesting bird from that day that I was able to later identify was the black stork: he had a bright orange bill!

I got ample bird photographs on the day in Kolobrzeg: at one point I even had to ask the birds *to get out of the pictures!* (Just kidding.) That was during our visit to the Polish Baltic coast, and there were both lots of wind and lots of gulls. The Baltic coast is supposed to be milder than the North Sea coast, but I bet on a winter's day that wind feels quite...



Hooded Crow



Black-headed Gulls



Jackdaw

invigorating. Well, my family likes to feed gulls, but on that day we did not have any bread or crackers, so we fed the gulls almonds. The black-headed gulls were actually able to catch the almonds on the fly, but the juvenile herring gulls didn't attempt it. Ah, gulls are so reliable. The woodland birds on other days may have flitted about the tops of trees too quickly for me to capture them with



my camera, but I got dozens of pictures of gulls on the beach in Kolobrzeg catching almonds.

Oh, I would be remiss in forgetting to mention the corvids and the (white) storks I saw during the three-week trip. The storks were in Alsace, where they hang out in fields, on roofs... pretty much anywhere. The corvids were my companions during our time exploring Poland's cities. Jackdaws, rooks, hooded crows... when one is on another continent, even the crows seem exciting. I think the jackdaws are absolutely adorable—such small crows—but I actually saw more hooded crows. One day in Wrocław I saw a hooded crow atop a pole near the river, and dozens of German tourists were standing around taking pictures of it! Of course, I was taking pictures, too, but it felt nice to not be the only one taking pictures of a city crow.

I think any trip abroad can include some birds, even when it is not officially a birding trip. I am definitely remembering my book next time, though!

Photos by Laura Lavington

Native Songbird Rehabilitation
featherhavensr@gmail.com
 P.O. Box 242, Enumclaw, WA 98022

Bird of the Month: Cedar Waxwings

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien

Cedar Waxwings are medium-sized, sleek birds with large heads, short necks and short, wide bills. They have a crest that often lies flat or droops over the back of the head. The wings are broad and pointed. Their tail is fairly short and square-tipped.

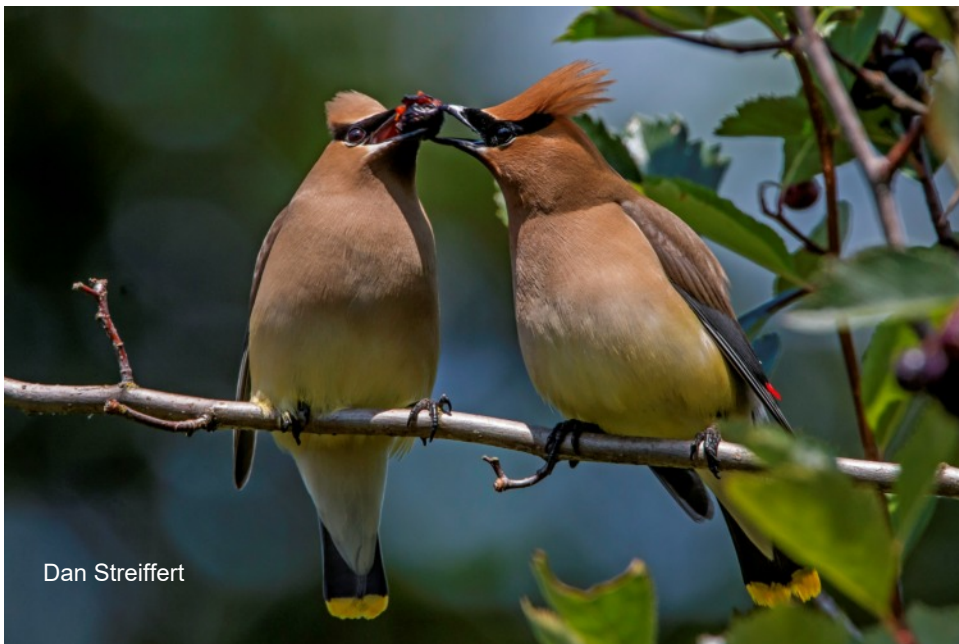
Cedar Waxwings are colorful bird with silky, shiny feathers of brown, gray and lemon-yellow. They boast rakish black masks, brilliant red "wax" droplets on the wing feathers, and a flash of bright yellow across the tips of their tails.

Cedar Waxwings are social birds that form large flocks and often nest in loose clusters of a dozen or so nests. Unlike other birds that separate out seeds and regurgitate them, when feeding on fruits Cedar Waxwings pluck them one by one and swallow the entire thing at once. When eating insects, waxwings either fly out from an exposed perch, or make long, zig-zagging flights over water. During courtship, males and females hop towards each other, alternating back and forth and sometimes touching their bills together. Males often pass a small item like a fruit, insect, or flower petal to the female. After taking the "gift", the female usually hops away and then returns giving back the item to the male. They repeat this a few times until the female eats the item.

Cedar Waxwings love fruit and feed on it year-round. In summer, they eat serviceberry, strawberry, mulberry, dogwood and raspberries. They eat cedar berries in winter hence the name. They also eat mistletoe, madrone, juniper, mountain ash, honeysuckle, crabapple and hawthorne and supplement their diet with protein-rich insects.

The name "waxwing" comes from the waxy red secretions found on the tips of the secondaries of some birds. The exact function of these tips is not known, but they may help attract mates.

Female waxwings do almost all the nest building. She builds a bulky cup about 5 inches across and 3 inches high out of twigs,



Dan Streiffert

grasses, cattail down, blossoms, string, horsehair and similar materials. Building the nest can take up to 5 or 6 days and may require more than 2,500 individual trips to the nest. It is typically built on the fork of a horizontal tree branch anywhere from 3 to 50 feet in the air.

The female will lay 2 - 6 eggs that are pale blue or blue gray sometimes spotted with black or gray. Incubation lasts 11 - 13 days and the new babies are naked, blind, helpless, weak and quiet. They will fledge in 14 - 18 days.

Look for Cedar Waxwings in deciduous, coniferous and mixed woodlands, particularly in areas along streams. They can also be found in old fields, grasslands, sagebrush and even along desert washes. In winter, Cedar Waxwings are most abundant around fruiting plants in open woodlands, parks, gardens, forest edges and second-growth forest.

FREE DISCOVER PASSES FOR MEMBERS OF RAINIER AUDUBON SOCIETY

To support our state parks – and to boost membership - the local chapter of the Audubon Society, called the Rainier Audubon Society, is giving away free Discover Passes to any new member who joins Rainier Audubon during 2014.

All you have to do is come to a meeting, join up and get your free Discover Pass. The cost of joining is \$25.00/individual and \$30/family. The cost of a Discover Pass is normally \$35.00 dollars so you've just saved \$10.00 and you have a year's membership in the Audubon Society and a year's free access to all of the state parks in Washington.

Each Discover Pass can be used for any two vehicles you own. Just fill out two license plate numbers on the Pass, hang it from the rear view mirror of whichever car you're taking, and you're good to go for a full year of state park recreation.

The Rainier Audubon Society meets monthly at the United Methodist Church in Federal Way, and presents programs on all aspects of nature, birding, conservation, outdoor photography, and many other topics that adults and children who love the outdoors enjoy. For more information go to www.RainierAudubon.org.

Mewsings from Millie

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien

Hello and Welcome Back to my Mewsings!

Molt. Molt! MOLT! What a funny sounding word! I heard one of my people using it and wondered what it meant.

I found out that it means when a bird replaces old feathers with new feathers.

A molt can be full or partial. A full molt means a bird replaces all of its feathers. A partial molt means it replaces some of its feathers. An example of this is the American Goldfinch. In the fall, it replaces all of its feathers. In the spring it replaces just the body feathers and the male becomes bright yellow in hopes of finding a mate.

Most backyard feeder birds molt from July to September. Some, like the Downy Woodpecker and Mourning Dove, molt through October. American Goldfinches can molt through December.

Typically, birds molt feathers in regular patterns or on specific parts of their bodies. It may take weeks or months for a bird to complete a molting cycle. During this time, every molting bird needs extra proteins to grow strong feathers for proper flight and effective insulation. They also

need extra fat for energy to grow the feathers and provide proper coloration.

Some birds, like ducks and geese, expend so much energy during molting that they are unable to fly making them vulnerable to danger and predators. So, watch out for them during molting time!

Protein is essential for growing strong feathers. Feathers are over 90% protein, primarily keratins. A bird's feathers contain 25% of the total protein found within its entire body.

Lipids are substances such as fat, oil or wax (usually from tree fruits). Dietary lipids supply energy, essential fatty acids and pigments and are essential for feather coloration.

The colors in feathers come from different pigments found in lipids: red, orange and yellow to violet come from carotenoid pigments; black, brown, gray and related colors come from melanin and porphyrin pigments; greens come from carotenoid and melanin pigments combined with structural feather elements; blue and white colors are not created by pigments but by reflections of light off a feathers structure.

If a bird's diet is low in proteins and fats, feathers may be improperly colored,



frayed or curved. This could make it difficult to attract a mate or seriously hinder flying or insulation abilities.

So, food is very important during molting time. If you are one of those people who like to feed birds, be sure to offer food that is high in fats and protein.

I, myself, can't imagine losing all of my hair and growing it all back again. That sounds totally exhausting!

Just another amazing aspect of birds.

Until next time,

Backyard 'n Birds - by Marie West-Johnson

September, my favorite month of the year. I love the cool mornings and warm afternoons. I love Fall migration and geese flying in a "V" honking over my yard. I love the way the shadows fall in my garden. So much to love about September!

The Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary and Garden Tour in June was fun and successful. Many people attended. My hopes for the tour in 2016 are to be even bigger and better organized. My desire is to form a committee of three or four people to start working on the tour as early as January 2016. I know there are lots of people out there with great ideas, so email me at crgrie123@yahoo.com or call me at 425-228-2194.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our first meeting this Fall.



**CHECK OUT THE NEW RAINIER
AUDUBON MEETUP GROUP AT**

<http://www.meetup.com/Rainier-Audubon-Society/>

Loss of Forest Snags in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Did you know that trees can be more important for wildlife dead than alive? When trees die, their wood softens and rots providing places for animals to create cavities that are used as nest and shelter sites. In the northwest, nearly 100 species of wildlife use snags including some of our favorite birds such as woodpeckers, bluebirds, owls, nuthatches, chickadees, wrens, ducks, swifts, swallows, and kestrels.

But did you also know that due to outdated policies, the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest allows the public to cut down snags? The Okanogan Wenatchee manages nearly 1.5 million acres and some of the most beautiful pine forests of the eastern Cascade Range. This forest is home to five at-risk woodpecker species in Washington State, including the black-backed woodpecker, white-headed woodpecker, Pileated woodpecker, Lewis' woodpecker, and American three-toed woodpecker. Other cavity-nesting birds threatened by snag-habitat loss include the flammulated owl, mountain bluebird, and pygmy nuthatch. Yet every year, hundreds to thousands of snags in these birds' home territories are cut down by woodcutters, hunters, and campers.

Join us in a campaign to educate land managers with the Okanogan-Wenatchee to let them know the value of snags in our forests. Let them know that snags are vital components of our forests and snag felling should not be permitted for healthy forest management.

- Nearly every other land management agency in Washington *prohibits* snag felling because of the value of snags for wildlife. Agencies that prohibit snag

felling include Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympic National Forest, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument, North Cascades National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, and Olympic National Park.

- The Okanogan-Wenatchee allows snag-felling under conditions of a [woodcutting permit](#). However, snag-felling is not regulated leading to overharvest of snags each year.
- Illegal woodcutting is common, includes other illegal activities such as off-road driving, cutting within streams and water, cutting in areas marked 'closed to woodcutting', and cutting of snags with white-headed and black-backed woodpecker nests.
- Woodcutting is allowed during the sensitive nesting season for birds and woodcutters are allowed to cut snags immediately adjacent to active nest trees. The noise and disturbance caused to nesting birds can be extreme and has led to nest abandonment in black-backed woodpecker, three-toed woodpecker, and bluebirds.

The collective power of the Audubon network in Washington can make a difference. Please consider contacting the local forest staff and let them know that the loss of snags means the loss of forest birds and the loss of

overall forest biodiversity and resilience.

Mike Williams

Forest Supervisor

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

215 Melody Lane

Wenatchee, WA 98801

Mrwilliams01@fs.fed.us

509-664-9323

Kelly Lawrence

District Ranger

Naches Ranger District

10237 US Highway 12

Naches, WA 98937

kellylawrence@fs.fed.us

509-653-1415

Contact information for Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Headquarters staff [can be found here](#).

You can also sign the online petition at <http://ow.ly/QSNfq>

For more information please contact woodpecker biologist, Philip Fischer, at pcfischer@gmail.com.

Sign the Petition!

Dear Mr. Pena: We are asking the U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest, which manages 25 million acres of public land, to ban snag-felling on all National Forest lands in its jurisdiction. The practice of snag-felling for home firewood use destroys hundreds to thousands of snags each year. These snags provide critical breeding habitat for sensitive wildlife, including bluebirds, woodpeckers, owls, swallows, and swifts. It also leads to the removal of downed wood important for mammalian forest carnivores and rodents used as prey for spotted owls, northern goshawks, and other at-risk raptors. The loss of forest snags means the loss of forest birds and the loss of overall forest biodiversity and resilience. We urge Region 6 of the U.S. Forest Service to ban the antiquated practice of snag-felling by the public, and to enact fines for individuals found felling snags.

Save Habitat And Diversity Of Wetlands
19th Annual
FROG FROLIC
 Saturday, September 12
 1pm - 5 pm
 Family Friendly - Guided Tours -
 Children's Activities - Entertainment -
 Food & Drinks - Raffle - Silent Auction
 A community celebration & benefit for continued wetland & habitat
 preservation, restoration, and environmental education
 in South King County.
SHADOW Lake Nature Preserve
 21656 184th Ave SE
 Renton, WA 98058
 Ph: (425)432 4914
 Email: info@shadowhabitat.org
 shadowhabitat.org
 @SHADOWhabitat

Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW) Annual Meeting on October 24th, 2015

Register now for the 2015 annual meeting of the Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW), hosted by Skagit Audubon Society and the NW I Chapters! ACOW is our annual state-wide meeting where members from all Audubon Chapters in Washington gather together for a weekend of information sharing, knowledge gathering, and fellowship. This year's meeting will focus on state and federal level policy actions around Audubon's climate initiative, as well as showcase chapter work being done to educate communities about the impact of climate change on birds.

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2015

Location: Best Western Plus, Skagit Valley Inn, 2300 Market Street, Mount Vernon, WA

Agenda and Information:

<http://wa.audubon.org/chapter-meetings>

Registration: \$40 at <http://ow.ly/QSS6w>

In an effort to curb the impacts of climate change on birds and people, Audubon is working to increase the use of renewable energy while reducing carbon emissions output. Learn about multiple carbon reduction action plans being proposed in Washington State including the Governor's carbon cap, the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy's cap-and-trade,

and Carbon WA's carbon tax (learn more at <http://wa.audubon.org/carbon-and-clean-energy>). We will also host staff from National Audubon's Policy Office in Washington, DC who will provide the inside scoop regarding federal action on



carbon emissions, and how Audubon's grassroots network can be effective advocates for change at the local, state, and national level.

Presentations from Kittitas Audubon Society and Black Hills Audubon Society will highlight just some of the exciting work being done by chapters on behalf of birds in Washington State. Take home tips and tricks on how to engage reluctant audiences in climate action, and how to transform your neighborhoods into a true

bird-friendly community, one backyard at a time.

Expect a dynamic day of discussion and collaboration around meaningful actions we can take together to augment our conservation impact, creating places where birds and people prosper. Additional weekend activities include:

WSACC Meeting – Friday, October 23rd at 4:30 PM at the Port of Skagit County

Audubon Works Tutorial – Saturday, October 24th at 7:30 AM before ACOW begins

Field Trips – Sunday, October 25th at 8:30 AM, Deception Pass State Park or Washington Park and Ship Harbor

A block of rooms at \$79 per night is being held at the [Best Western Plus, Skagit Valley Inn](#),

conveniently located at Exit 227 just off I-405. Hotel reservations may be made by calling (360) 428-5678. AUDUBON SOCIETY is the group name.

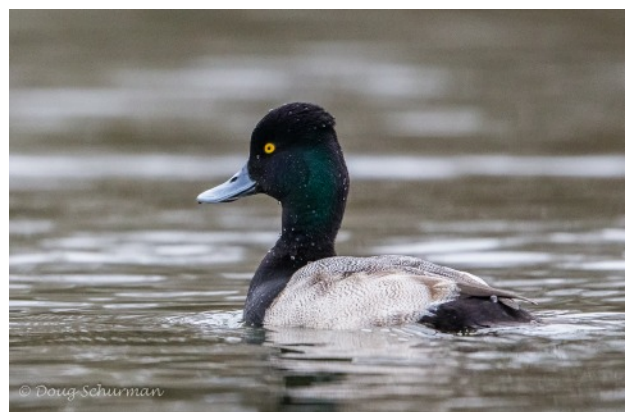
All meeting information, including the agenda, accommodations, and weekend logistics may be found on the Audubon Washington website at <http://wa.audubon.org/chapter-meetings>. See you there!

Go birding and make a difference!

Seattle Audubon's Puget Sound Seabird Survey

Want to contribute to vital seabird science in the Puget Sound and Strait of Juan de Fuca? The ninth season of Seattle Audubon's Puget Sound Seabird Survey kicks off on October 3rd, 2015 and we are now recruiting enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to help us monitor the status of our local wintering seabirds.

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 survey. Training on survey methodology will be provided at the end of September. 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 (tobyr@seattleaudubon.org) if you would like more information or to take part.





"Earth - Too big to fail"



Rainier Audubon Membership Subscription or Renewal Form

One-year Membership in Rainier Audubon

- \$25—Individual Membership
- \$30—Family Membership

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

Rainier Audubon Society - Membership
PO Box 778
Auburn, WA 98071



Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

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

Circle one New / Renewal