

# The Heron Herald



Rainier Audubon Society

September



**H**ow does a Sanderling that weighs on average 2-ounces fly 3,000 miles from Alaska to the Hawaiian Islands? How does a Bar-tailed Godwit fly from the Yukon Delta in Alaska to New Zealand, in eight days?

The program *Understanding Shorebirds, the Miracle of Migration* is about the epic migrations of shorebirds. Six of the forty-two common shorebirds found in Washington are discussed, as we explore the trans-ocean migration of Bar-tailed Godwits, Pacific Golden-Plovers, Sanderlings and other birds that cross the majority of the Pacific Ocean.

We'll look at where they migrate, why they migrate and how they are able to travel so far. These global migrants require global conservation and climate change solutions. In an effort to understand their remarkable journeys we need to look beyond the North American borders and see where shorebirds spend most of their lives.



Rainier Audubon Membership Meeting

## ***“Understanding Shorebirds - the Miracle of Migration”***

By Tim Boyer

7:00 P.M. September 17, 2018



Tim Boyer is a professional nature photographer with a primary focus on the birds of North America. Shorebirds are his favorite group of birds, and he spends a lot of weekends on the Washington Coast. Tim leads photography workshops throughout the year. He is a graduate of Seattle Audubon's Master Birder Program and author of the book; *Learn the Art of Bird Photography, The Complete Field Guide for Beginning and Intermediate Photographers and Birders*.

Join us at 6:30 for conversation and refreshments.

Rainier Audubon programs are held at 7:00 P.M. at the  
Federal Way United Methodist Church  
29645 - 51st Ave. So. 98001  
(in unincorporated Auburn)

## New Rainier Audubon Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/rainieraudubonsociety/>

## New Rainier Audubon Google Group / email list

We are combining the old Rainier Leaders email list with the ras-activities list into a new RainierAudubon google group.

The [ras-activities] group has been renamed to [RainierAudubon]. So if you were previously a member of this list, then you are still a member of the renamed group. The only difference being that when you send an email to this group, the address is [RainierAudubon@googlegroups.com](mailto:RainierAudubon@googlegroups.com)

If you did not get an invitation, you may request to join the group by going to [groups.google.com](https://groups.google.com) and searching for "Rainier Audubon". You can then request to join the group. Alternatively, you can sign up on the [RainierAudubon.org](http://RainierAudubon.org) website.

### 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.

### **BECOME OUR NEXT RAINIER AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Rainier Audubon is initiating its search for a new membership chair. Please consider volunteering for this very important and vital job.

The membership chair keeps our monthly membership totals up-to-date, invites members of national to join our chapter and is an essential link in insuring that our members receive their much-loved Heron Heralds.

Duties include:

- Receiving data each month from national and adding potential members to the data base
- Inviting these potential members via snail-mail or e-mail to join our local chapter
- Keeping membership data up-to-date monthly – adding new members, renewing members
- Sending the address list to the printers each month for the mailing of the Heron Herald
- Assisting, if needed, with readying Heron Heralds for mailing
- Reporting membership totals to the board each month
- Keyboarding and basic computer skills in Excel a plus.

Current membership chair will train and assist you. If interested, please contact Pat Toth, [h2opat@msn.com](mailto:h2opat@msn.com) or 206-767-4944

## Rainier Audubon Society Directory

Position	Name	Board Member	Phone	email
President	Heather Gibson	Yes	206-226-2050	<a href="mailto:hedder_swedder@yahoo.com">hedder_swedder@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President	Jay Galvin	Yes	253-939-3094	<a href="mailto:gjgalvin@comcast.net">gjgalvin@comcast.net</a>
Secretary	Open			
Treasurer	Laura Lavington	Yes	253-941-7372	<a href="mailto:laura.lavington@gmail.com">laura.lavington@gmail.com</a>
Membership Chair	Pat Toth	Yes	206-767-4944	<a href="mailto:h2opat@msn.com">h2opat@msn.com</a>
Education Chair	Cindy Flanagan	Yes	253-941-3933	<a href="mailto:camcalcin@hotmail.com">camcalcin@hotmail.com</a>
Program Chair	Dale Meland	No	253-946-1637	<a href="mailto:dmeland@hotmail.com">dmeland@hotmail.com</a>
Field Trip Chair	Barbara Petersen	Yes	253 389 3204	<a href="mailto:bpbatfan@aol.com">bpbatfan@aol.com</a>
Publicity Chair	Jay Galvin	Yes	253-939-3094	<a href="mailto:gjgalvin@comcast.net">gjgalvin@comcast.net</a>
Backyard Habitat Chair	Marie West-Johnson	Yes	206-817-8754	<a href="mailto:crgrie123@yahoo.com">crgrie123@yahoo.com</a>
Conservation Chair	Dan Streiffert	No	253-796-2203	<a href="mailto:dan_streiffert@hotmail.com">dan_streiffert@hotmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Dan Streiffert	No	253-796-2203	<a href="mailto:dan_streiffert@hotmail.com">dan_streiffert@hotmail.com</a>
Webmaster	Treesa Hertzell	No	253-255-1808	<a href="mailto:Autumn207@comcast.net">Autumn207@comcast.net</a>
Member at Large	Stephen Feldman	Yes	360-802-5211	<a href="mailto:stephanfeldman@gmail.com">stephanfeldman@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Sandra Embrey	No	253-517-3633	<a href="mailto:sandra.embrey@gmail.com">sandra.embrey@gmail.com</a>
Mailing	Debra Russell	No	425 829 4008	<a href="mailto:debrarussell@comcast.net">debrarussell@comcast.net</a>
Lifetime Members	Max Prinsen	Yes	425-432-9965	

# Field Trips - Barbara Petersen



## Weekly Birdwalks at Nisqually

**Wednesdays 8 am to 11 am**

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.

**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](mailto:scrubjay323@aol.com)

## Fall Color and Fall Birds

Leader: Steve Johnson  
Sat, October 27th, 2017  
8:00 AM to early afternoon

Sign up early for this popular annual trip with Steve. Visit picturesque parks and beaches in King County and Pierce County during a great time of year to look for returning fall birds. We'll travel to local parks and beaches along Puget Sound, searching for many species of sea birds and forest birds. This is a good time of year to encounter scenic views and fall color. Expect to walk short distances from the cars.

People who wish to leave early may do so.

**Bring:** Lunch, beverages, and warm clothes. A scope is very welcome.

**Meet:** 8:00AM at the Star Lake Park&Ride 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 (north) and go one block, then turn into the P&R on the right.

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

## Puget Sound Birdfest

**SEPTEMBER 14 - SEPTEMBER 16**

Puget Sound Birdfest in Edmonds, Washington is an annual fall celebration of birds and nature found on the beautiful shores of Puget Sound. The three-day event includes speakers, guided walks, land and water-based field trips, exhibits, and educational activities for children and adults. Plan to spend the weekend in Edmonds, birding and meeting other birders, naturalists, photographers, and people engaged in fascinating bird research projects.

<https://blackhills-audubon.org/event/puget-sound-birdfest-4/>

## Chelan Ridge HawkFest 2018

**Pateros, WA (City Park),  
Saturday, September 15,  
2018; 8:00 am – 3:00 p.m.**

Join the Chelan and Entiat Ranger Districts, North Central Washington Audubon Society, and Hawkwatch International this fall for the ninth annual HawkFest! This family event combines free activities in Pateros Memorial Park with trips to Chelan Ridge to learn about and celebrate raptors as they journey to winter territories. At the park, participants will find vendors, live raptors, interpretive booths, and projects for kids.

On Thursday night, September 13<sup>th</sup> in Chelan, and Friday night, September 14<sup>th</sup> in Pateros, Dr. Dave Oleyar from Hawkwatch International will offer a workshop on raptor migration and field identification. He will also highlight his research on Flammulated owls.

The trip to and from Chelan Ridge lasts 4 hours and includes seeing banded raptors released.

From 8 AM to noon, there will be a field trip to Wells Wildlife Refuge.

More information and on-line registration for the trip to Chelan Ridge, the Wells Wildlife field trip, and the 2 workshops is available at [www.ncwaudubon.org](http://www.ncwaudubon.org).

## MONROE SWIFT NIGHT OUT

**September 8 @ 4:00 pm-10:00 pm**

Frank Wagner Elementary School  
Monroe, WA

For this year's details, visit the Monroe Swift website. Eastside Audubon and other local organizations invite you to Swift Night Out, their annual festival held on a Saturday evening in September to celebrate the peak of the Vaux's migration in Monroe. Each September thousands of migrating Vaux's Swifts pause to roost in the old brick chimney at Frank Wagner Elementary School in...

**Several of us from RAS are planning to go. Contact a Board Member for carpooling.**



## Seen & Heard by Calen Randall

Entering my eighth year of writing the Seen and Heard, I have been reflecting on the years of stories I have written for the *Heron Herald*. I remember writing my first article at age twelve and describing my backyard as a “kinglet drive-thru” and creating the first Mystery Bird Challenge. I have been fortunate to explore many beautiful areas and share my adventures. The Seen and Heard stories have always featured a distinct Western Washington flavour, so to kick off this year, I’ve decided to share with you an Eastern Washington Seen and Heard adventure.

Normally when I travel through Eastern Washington I am beginning or concluding a cross country drive to Manitoba, Canada. Though I usually prefer rain forests and coasts to prairies and plateaus, I would not call myself averse to visiting the east side of the state. It is more of a tribute to the natural wonders of the west side that I rarely make it past Snoqualmie. That said, once June arrived this year, I decided it was high time to view the other half of the state. Our plan was to bird to Spokane down the I-90 corridor for four days to target hotspots like Sprague Lake, Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, and Gingko Petrified Forest. We were not disappointed. The birding was prolific and I look forward to returning to many hotspots soon.

We were welcomed to Eastern Washington with sweltering temperatures. At the Gingko Petrified Forest, tucked in on the Columbia River, we arrived in a toasty 100 degrees of heat. Were we even going to see a *bird* in this heat? My doubts were swiftly answered. At the boat launch droves of **Northern Rough-winged** and **Cliff Swallows** were perched on branches low to the water surface; some even standing and bathing on the shores of the river. We heard a call echo down from the rocky cliffs of the visitor center. Standing on a ridge in the shadows taking haven from the sun were several calling **Chukar!** We spent a few minutes watching them before they scurried up

the side of the hill. Interestingly, the heat had little effect on the stamina of the kingbirds and phoebes. For the entire hour that we gazed around the brush an **Eastern Kingbird** was at work flitting to and from a high tree branch catching insects. My mom, my sister, and I agreed, given the choice, we would all much rather be Chukars surveying the lands from our shady cleft.

Nesting season is vibrant during June and Eastern Washington is no exception. It was a treat to see so many of our wintering ducks, in breeding plumage and with a stream of young trailing behind them. The Sprague Sewage Lagoons were packed with flocks of breeding ducks. I particularly loved watching the **Redheads** and their young, as back home Redhead sightings are infrequent. Even the adult **Ruddy Ducks** in their beautiful bright crimson plumage were highlights. Nearby on Sprague Lake, we watched several species of grebe chicks fight for a spot on their mom’s back. One **Pied-billed Grebe** mother was teaching her chicks a hard lesson that they all could no longer fit on her back. Each chick attempted to swim up to her and hop on and each time the mother raised her wings in defiance as if to say “This bus is out of service”. My sister and I laughed; birds certainly grew up fast. Water birds were not the only ones hard at work; we viewed several passerines also working with young. In Spokane’s Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge we discovered a family of **Western Bluebirds** in a Ponderosa Pine snag. The whitewashing all below the nest cavity was a dead giveaway. Down the road, a **House Wren** perpetually cycled through flitting to the nest to feed her young and flitting back out to the neighboring brush to collect more food. Only when dark clouds rolled in and the rain cascaded down did the little wren take a pause.

The most exciting evening of the trip came when we searched the sagebrush fields north of Moses Lake for **Burrowing Owl**. We had found them in Phoenix but had never seen them in Washington. As we drove up Highway 17 towards Ephrata, we took a chance and pulled off down a gravel road through some agricultural fields. The habitat was perfect—scattered glacial erratic boulders and sagebrush—for our Burrowing Owl quest. It was not long before we spotted,

perched atop a boulder, its piercing yellow eyes staring back, our first owl, ten feet from the side of the road. Soon after another thrilled us as it swooped in front of the van to a nearby rock. Then, as we turned back onto the highway, it seemed the entire Burrowing Owl clan had lined up to say goodbye to us. Every mile, an owl was perched on a fence post. In total we tallied eight Burrowing Owls in one evening!

As we headed back up and over Snoqualmie Pass, I certainly had a new appreciation not only for the birds of the east but the environments that they inhabited. When driving through Eastern Washington, the expansive landscape can appear drab, dry, and flat, but the more you explore it, the more it begins to grow on you. I often speak of how differing the habitat is around the Puget Sound, from mudflats to Gary Oak prairie to lush rainforests, yet the east side features its own share of variety too. I enjoyed how the flat Columbia plateau gave way to the bumpy potholes and hills near Sprague, which in turn yielded to the ponderosa pine forests and swampy lakes; each specific ecosystem its own treasure trove of life. Like a coin, our state has contrasting sides of habitat, but no matter which side you land on, there is a hoard of natural beauty to be found, so long as you get outside to explore.

Are you looking to plan a fun birding trip, or want somewhere to stop along your travels? June is a terrific time of year to visit the east side of our state. There are numerous terrific hotspots to visit all within a half hour from I 90. The hotspots feature a variety of hikes or stationary birding. Looking for a stop in the Cascades? Northern Railroad Ponds is five minutes from the Cle Elum I 90 exit and offers a variety of western and eastern specialties. Want to combine bird watching with learning about the geologic wonders in our state? Pop in to the Gingko Petrified Forest Visitor Center, where you can view Chukar and explore the geomorphology of all sorts of petrified wood. Perhaps you’re looking for a fun loop to walk or a drive to see birds close up. Turnbull Wildlife Refuge is your place to visit.

Fall is also a great time to visit Eastern Washington, especially the Chelan Ridge Hawk Watch. The next two months are peak Fall migration periods with rarities

(Continued on [page 5](#))

*Calen is a 19-year-old birder entering his eighth year writing the Seen and Heard. Currently attending the University of Washington, Calen enjoys exploring new birding areas in Washington and familiar regions in South King County.*

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like Golden Eagle, Northern Goshawk, and Broad-winged Hawk passing through.

In case you are along the I 90 corridor and are interested in visiting a birding hotspot, here is a chart of spots to check out and some fun birds to see there.

Location	Highlight Birds	Description
Norther Railroad Ponds, Cle Elum, Kittitas	Pygmy Nuthatch Veery Western Bluebird	MacGillivray's Warbler Gray Catbird Calliope Hummingbird
Gingko Petrified Wood State Park, Vantage, Kittitas	Chukar Say's Phoebe Lazuli Bunting	Yellow-breasted Chat Eastern Kingbird Western Kingbird
Highway 17 & Rocky Ford, Ephrata, Grant	Burrowing Owl Vesper Sparrow Swainson's Hawk	Common Nighthawk Horned Lark Lark Sparrow
Sprague Lake and Sewage Lagoons, Sprague, Lincoln & Adams	White-faced Ibis Redhead Eared Grebe Wilson's Phalarope	Yellow-headed Blackbird Forster's Tern Black-crowned Night Heron American White Pelican
Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, Cheney, Spokane	Western Bluebird Least Flycatcher House Wren	Black Tern Blue-winged Teal Hammond's Flycatcher
Stevens Creek, Spokane Valley, Spokane	Dusky Flycatcher Nashville Warbler California Quail	Mountain Chickadee Flammulated Owl* Black-billed Magpie
McCain Ponds, Othello, Adams	Black-necked Stilt Cinnamon Teal	Tricolored Blackbird* Yellow-headed Blackbird

\*Denotes interesting birds that are there but we did not find

If you have an interesting sighting or story you want to share send your reports to me at [calenbrids@hotmail.com](mailto:calenbrids@hotmail.com).

## The Puget Sound Seabird Survey

**Go birding and make a difference!**

Are seabirds in the southern Salish Sea increasing or decreasing in numbers? Which species are changing their range? Help us find out. The Puget Sound Seabird Survey (PSSS) is a community and citizen science project managed by Seattle Audubon that empowers volunteer birdwatchers to gather valuable data on wintering seabird populations across the southern Salish Sea.

This season we will be expanding the project, yet again, this time north to the Canadian border and the San Juan Islands. We received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's National Estuary Program through the Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife to add 15-30 new survey sites, develop an oil spill plan and train volunteers on how to react to a spill.

You can contribute to this vital seabird science by joining the twelfth season of this exciting project. We are now recruiting enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to help us monitor the status of our local wintering seabirds. Training on survey methodology will be provided at a location near you in September and early October. Volunteers should ideally 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 survey. But, if determining between Lesser and Greater Scaup is a challenge, we'll team you up with more knowledgeable surveyors. To help us determine each volunteer's seabird identification skills, visit [www.seabirdsurvey.com](http://www.seabirdsurvey.com) to take our quick, fun Seabird ID quiz.



Learn more, including training dates, at [www.seabirdsurvey.org](http://www.seabirdsurvey.org) and email Toby Ross, Senior Science Manager [toby@seattleaudubon.org](mailto:toby@seattleaudubon.org) if you would like more information or to take part.

# Bird of the Month: Kinglets

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien

**K**inglets are tiny birds of the forest. The Ruby-crowned Kinglet is one of America's smallest birds. It is recognized by its constant wing-flicking. The male shows its red crown only infrequently.

Although the Ruby-crowned Kinglet is small, it lays a large clutch of eggs. Each egg weighs only .02 of an ounce but an entire clutch may weigh as much as the female herself.

Ruby-crowned Kinglets are most often found in spruce-fir forests in the northwestern United States and Canada. They nest high in the trees and prefer older, taller and denser stands to younger ones.

Ruby-crowned Kinglets prey on spiders and many types of insects including aphids, wasps, ants and bark beetles. They will also eat a small amount of seeds and fruit.

Ruby-crowned Kinglets build their nests gathering grasses, feathers, mosses, spiderwebs and cocoon silk for the outer structure and fine plant material and fur for the inner lining. The nest is elastic enough that it can stretch as the brood grows.

Golden-crowned Kinglets are small, continuously active birds most frequently found in coniferous woods. Golden-crowned Kinglets winter northward to Canada and Alaska.

The Golden-crowned Kinglet usually raises two large broods of young despite the short nesting season of the northern boreal forest.



The female Golden-crowned Kinglet feeds her large brood only on the first day after they leave the nest. She then starts laying the second set of eggs while the male takes care of the first brood. The male may have eight or nine young to feed and manages to feed himself and occasionally the incubating female, too.

Each of the Golden-crowned Kinglet's nostrils are covered by a single, tiny feather.

The Golden-crowned Kinglet eats small insects and their eggs.

Golden-crowned Kinglets build their nests with moss, lichen, spider webs and bark strips, lined with feathers, fine grasses, plant down, lichens and fur. The nest hangs from twigs in a tree.

## Mewsings from Millie

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien



**H**ello and Welcome back to my musings!

The seasons are changing and autumn is almost upon us. People often wonder if they should continue to fill their feeders as fall begins. Well, I'm here to tell you that feeding birds in the fall is not only important but it also can be very rewarding!

Autumn bird feeding in your backyard is important for a number of reasons: feeding in the fall provides a vital food source for those backyard birds who have been accustomed to using your feeders; the feeders are a valuable resource for food for migrating birds; it offers you the opportunity to view species who would not normally visit your yard.

Some people are concerned that backyard birds will be lulled into a false sense of security and not leave to migrate south before the winter weather arrives and they take their feeders down to force the birds to leave. However, natural instinct is a very dominating factor in wildlife behavior and there is no need to worry about preventing the birds from going south. Whether it be the shortening of daylight, cooler temperatures, or the natural diminishing of food resources, the birds will leave when they feel the urge and head south.

If birds have become accustomed to your feeders as a source of food, taking them down could cause them hardship. It may prevent them from building the necessary body fat they will need to supply them with energy and warmth during the coming colder months.

Migrating birds are preparing for their long journey south. They are trying to stock up on body fat and will frequent feeders more often and remain longer at the feeders to accomplish this task. Many migrating birds will stop

along the way to "re-fuel the tank" as they begin their journey.

Leaving your feeders out for your regular visitors and for migratory birds will perhaps give you the opportunity to see birds you do not normally see. Birds develop a route during the summer of several feeding stations they visit throughout the day. If other folks take their feeders down, you may end up enjoying the company of some of their customers!

Migrating birds offer all of us opportunities to see new and exciting species. Although some birds like the Western Tanager and many

of the warblers may not be that interested in your feeders, add some fresh, sparkling, moving water to your yard and watch them appear as if by magic!

If it happens that you may be away for a while, gradually reduce the amount of seed in your feeders and leave them empty for a few days before adding a little more seed. This will give the birds an opportunity to find other food sources.

So, leave your feeders out, keep them clean and fresh, sit back and enjoy all of the beauty and joy autumn bird feeding has to offer.

Until next time,

Millie,

The Muse of Mews









## THE PACIFIC FLYWAY - Pat Toth

**F**all is soon to be upon us and that means many migratory birds are preparing for their long journey south. In our part of the world, the Pacific Flyway becomes an integral part of this long and sometimes arduous adventure.

The Pacific Flyway is a “superhighway in the sky” that stretches for 10,000 miles from the Arctic to Patagonia and is home to 161 global important Birding Areas. Each year, more than a billion birds travel the Flyway on their annual migrations. These birds depend on a variety of habitats ranging from Arctic tundra and northwest rainforest to tropical beaches and mangroves. Along the way, they need stopover sites with suitable habitat and food supplies. The Suisun Marsh, adjacent to Fairfield and Suisun City and northeast of San Francisco Bay, provides a vital stopover for migrating birds as well as the 6 million waterfowl that call California home.

The highly anticipated Pacific Flyway Center, a major interpretive and educational facility, will introduce the public to the wonders of the Flyway and the Suisun Marsh.

The center’s main mission will be to inspire conservation of the Flyway. It will be located off of Interstate 680 and will highlight the Pacific Flyway and encourage wildlife conservation and land stewardship.

The main building, a two-story structure with a form symbolic of wings of flights, will feature exhibits such as a Suisun Marsh tide model and tropical bird and butterfly aviaries, food and retail, event spaces and a giant IMAX-style cinema to host educational programs and flight experience simulators.

Construction will be done in three phases over the next several years. The first phase, which will hopefully open in 2019, will include a marsh walk, enhancements of the marsh, wetlands and access roads.

The center is the vision of Ken Hofmann who made a significant commitment of funds and energy to acquire the property and allow for the planning, design and permitting of the center over the next three years through the Pacific Flyway Fund. Additional funding will be provided by public, private and matching dollars. The project also has strong partnerships with Ducks Unlimited, California Waterfowl Association, the National Audubon Society, the University of California, Davis and the Suisun Resource Conservation Board.

We will all be looking forward to the opening of this center and supporting the conservation of the Pacific Flyway which is so vital to the survival of billions of birds.

### ***King County Council approves Land Conservation Initiative!***

**J**uly 30<sup>th</sup> was an important day for King County land conservation. The King County Council voted 7-1 to approve key Land Conservation Initiative legislation. Council’s approval will help speed up the pace of open space preservation while ensuring communities throughout King County have more access to green space. The ordinance could bring in as much as \$148 million over the next four years to protect the most vulnerable open and green space – 65,000 acres for all. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/kclandconservation>

One of these key conservation lands is the 54-acre North Lake shoreline property on the historic Weyerhaeuser Campus in Federal Way. For the past two years our Rainier Audubon and Save Weyerhaeuser Campus coalition group has been working with Forterra, the city of Federal Way, and county, state and federal government officials to conserve this area. In May, King County Executive Dow Constantine kicked off his 2018 Land Conservation Initiative to save 65,000 acres of forests, farmlands, shorelines and trails.

In his press release he stated, **"We will save the forested lakeshore and trails of the former Weyerhaeuser Campus in Federal Way."** Having this area identified by King County as a key conservation piece means that we will be able to acquire funds through the King County Conservation Futures program sooner and this gives us a better chance of acquiring the land quickly before it becomes developed.

Green space and open space, clean air and water, and opportunity for a quiet space to reflect, or a place to take an uninterrupted walk or watch our children play, are core to our health and our quality of life. We’re proud of King County Council for taking a measure to accelerate the preservation of 65,000 acres and the remaining and most vital open space lands in King County.





"Truth isn't truth" - Rudolph W. Giuliani



## 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:

Rainier Audubon Society - Membership

PO Box 778

Auburn, WA 98071



Are you interested in:

- Volunteering?
- Field Trips?
- Classes?

(Please circle)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_