

The Skagit Flyer

Skagit Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

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Vol. 29 No. 9

NOVEMBER FIELD TRIPS

By Libby Mills

About the field trips

Beginning birders and their friends are always welcome on Skagit Audubon field trips. Membership in Skagit Audubon is encouraged but not required for participation. Please be prepared for the weather with suitable clothing, and bring field guides, binoculars, and spotting scopes. Carpool whenever possible and contribute to the driver's expense. Watch the email reminders for the latest information, including any changes and/or additions to the field trip schedule. To be added to the email distribution list contact Libby Mills: libbymills@gmail.com

If you plan to join a field trip some place other than the described starting point, call the trip leader the day before to ensure a successful rendezvous. Trip plans may change.

Saturday, November 6
Blaine, Drayton Harbor
8:30 a.m. to Early Afternoon

This trip will go to Blaine and Drayton Harbor, then to Semiahmoo Spit, and perhaps Birch Bay looking for shore birds and sea birds. Seabird populations have remained relatively stronger in this part of the Salish Sea than in many Skagit County coastal areas. Bring your binoculars, and scopes, and whatever food you need; dress for wind and rain. Our morning target birds will include the Scoters, Loons, and Grebes as well as Black.

Blaine, Drayton Harbor and other
Field Trips continued on page 5

NOVEMBER MEETING AND PROGRAM

Exploring Panama's Rich Habitats

By Guido C. Berguido

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

7:00 Social; 7:30 Program

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center

10433 Bayview-Edison Road

Mount Vernon, Washington



Violet Sabrewing
Photo by Guido C. Berguido

We welcome Guido C. Berguido, our November speaker! Guido is native to Panama and has a degree in biology from the University of Panama. As a Certified Guide through the National Association for Interpretation (NAI-USA), he has for more than ten years led nature and bird watching tours and has been involved in environmental education and conservation activities with the Smithsonian Institution and the Panama Audubon Society.

Guido will explain the bio-diversity of the tropics and focus on how Panama's geographic location in the center of the Americas contributes to the diversity of its 960 different bird species. Also, discussed will be how Panama's rugged topography has created centers of endemism or "Sky Islands." If that isn't enough, Guido will conclude by illustrating how Panama acts as a funnel concentrating millions of migrating raptors and shorebirds in a tiny area. You won't want to miss this outstanding program!

Note: The members photo evening has been rescheduled to early next year, so there is still time to get your photos to Libby (libbymills@gmail.com).
The potluck is rescheduled for December.



SKAGIT AUDUBON

Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President: Tim Manns
bctm@fidalgo.net
360-336-8753

Vice President: Phil Wright
plwright@comcast.net
360-299-8212

Secretary: Jean Ashby
jashby66@frontier.com

Treasurer: Wendy Walker
wendy-walk@comcast.net
360-757-0539

Past President: Pam Pritzl
ppritzl@frontier.com
360-387-7024

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conservation: OPEN
Education: OPEN
Field Trips: Libby Mills
libbymills@gmail.com
360-757-4139

Hikes: Joan Melcher
idmelcher@comcast.net
360-424-0407

BIRD SIGHTINGS: Pam Pritzl
ppritzl@frontier.com

Membership: Sheila Pera
skagitmembers@gmail.com

Program Chair: Alice Turner
alicet2@msn.com

Publications: Jackie Boss
jackieaboss@yahoo.com
360-299-8067

Newsletter Distributor: Barbara Craner
craner2@vallevint.com
360-445-3118

REPRESENTATIVES

Bob Barry
dabarrybest@frontier.com

Ivar Dolph
pidolph@frontier.com

Hella Lee
hlee@fidalgo.net

Jack Middleton
herongate@frontier.com

Jean Trent
jean.trent@gmail.com

Hospitality: Jean Trent
jean.trent@gmail.com

Webmaster: Julie Bishop
msibishop@hotmail.com



Savannah Hawk

Photo by Ron Pera

MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTIONS

General membership meetings of the Skagit Audubon Society are held at the Padilla Bay Interpretive Center, 1043 Bayview-Edison Rd., Mt. Vernon, WA—7:00 PM Social/ 7:30 PM Program—on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June. The board of directors meets at the same location at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month.

Skagit Audubon Society (SAS) membership provides a local chapter affiliation and newsletter, **The Flyer**, for individuals who want all their funds to benefit their local chapter. Newsletters from additional chapters can be sought by contacting their websites and membership chairs from links at www.audubon.org/states/wa/. **To join Skagit Audubon Society** please use the form below.

National Audubon Society (NAS) membership is separate from SAS membership and includes Audubon magazine. National Audubon membership does not provide Skagit Audubon membership; however, NAS will assign you an affiliation with a local chapter. To change your chapter assignment call 800-274-4201. **To join National Audubon Society** use the form below.

Skagit Audubon Society is a Chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

Skagit Audubon Society Membership Form

Annual membership in the Skagit Audubon Society includes 10 issues of our newsletter, *The Skagit Flyer*, available on our website. Membership includes all members of your household.

\$20 one (1) year \$40 two (2) years

I wish to donate \$_____ to Skagit Audubon Society.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. _____ Email _____

Clip form/Mail to/Payable to:

Skagit Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1101
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-1101

Please do not share my personal information with National Audubon Society. (It is the policy of SAS not to share information with any other groups.)

Using the form below to initially join the **National Audubon Society** will ensure that the **Skagit Audubon** chapter receives a cost share to support local programs.

National Audubon Society Membership Form

Annual membership to the National Audubon Society includes a subscription to *Audubon* magazine. Membership includes all members of your household.

\$20 for one-year introductory membership with one chapter affiliation

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. _____

Clip form/Mail to/Payable to:

National Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Data Center Y21
P.O. Box 422246-2246
Palm coast, FL 32142

www.audubon.org

For members receiving a paper copy of *The Skagit Flyer*, the mailing label includes your membership expiration date in the upper right corner. If that date is highlighted in **orange** it is a reminder that your membership is about to or has expired. All other members will receive an email notice when their membership is about to expire. *The Skagit Flyer* is published monthly from September through June. Unsolicited material for the next month's *Flyer* should be sent to the editor by the third Saturday of the current month. For questions or problems about your *Skagit Flyer* subscription, contact membership chair: Sheila Pera, skagitmembers@gmail.com.



For the last few years Skagit Audubon has been able to make modest "Conservation Donations," as they're labeled in the society's budget. What has motivated this spending decision by the board is the realization that as a small, all-volunteer group, Skagit Audubon can further its mission by encouraging others with compatible purposes. We wish we could support more and hope you individually donate funds and time to these conservation causes or others.

Selecting 5 organizations for donations, the Skagit Audubon board has chosen to focus on local or regional groups active in our area. Here's a little information about them.

The **Padilla Bay Foundation** (www.padillabay.gov) raises funds and provides other support for the educational and research purposes of the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. It is the Reserve's facilities where Audubon meets at no charge, and the Foundation that is now raising money to complete the renovation of the aquarium room, including a bird exhibit. If you'd like to contribute to that good cause (with a 2.3 to 1 funding match from NOAA), contact Foundation administrator Kay Reinhardt at 360-757-3234.

The **Skagit Land Trust** (www.skagitlandtrust.org/) was formed in 1992 by Audubon members and others when a landowner approached our chapter about accepting land for preservation. Since that year the Land Trust has solely, or working with other organizations, preserved nearly 6,000 acres in Skagit County. Some is farmland, but for the most part, other organizations focus on that aspect of land preservation while Skagit Land Trust protects ecologically significant habitat for diverse plants and wildlife. This includes great birding spots!

People for Puget Sound (www.pugetsound.org/) works to restore and protect the saltwater environment at the heart of the great basin where we live. The Sound looks beautiful but is faced with profound environmental problems due to inadequately controlled runoff from farms and developed areas and past practices that didn't consider impacts on the Sound's rich life. Severe declines in certain wintering seabird populations are just one of the many signs that all is not well.

A number of Skagit Audubon members are very active supporters of the **Falcon Research Group** (www.frg.org/) under the leadership of long-time local resident Bud Anderson. This organization has contributed much knowledge about Northwestern raptor populations and behavior, has opened a window on the awe-inspiring migration of Peregrines, and continually advances public education about and enthusiasm for the raptors that are one of the great birding spectacles where we live.

Finally, Skagit Audubon supports the locally-based **Washington Brant Foundation** (www.wabrnt.org/index.html). Founded by Fir Island resident Maynard Axelson, the foundation focuses on research and education about Brant, the small goose that breeds in the Arctic and winters along the West Coast. Brant are one of the few animals that feed directly on eel grass. Watch for the unique gray-bellied population of Brant that winters in Padilla Bay grazing on its thousands of acres of this marine plant.

These are just a few of the conservation organizations helping make and keep our community and this area what we want them to be. Whether they consciously intend it or not, their work helps fulfill the Audubon mission! Thank you to all Skagit Audubon members who by your donations and volunteering help protect this special place we're privileged to call home.

*****Sunday, January 2, 2011 - Padilla Bay
Christmas Bird Count*****

It is time once again for the annual **Padilla Bay Christmas Bird Count**. Put the date **Sunday January 2** on your calendar! Then contact Bob Barry, 360-299-8443, daberrybest@frontier.com to let him know you're ready to take part in this important citizen science project. Help in this gathering of otherwise unknown data!

House Bill Starts to Pave the Way for Gulf Coast Restoration. *from www.audubon.org*

Public pressure to act after the BP oil spill disaster in the Gulf prompted the U.S. House to pass the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act (CLEAR). Two amendments to that bill mean big benefits for Gulf Coast restoration and habitat protection. The first amendment directs \$1.2 billion of the expected civil penalties from the BP spill to Gulf coast restoration, with Louisiana being the expected biggest recipient of that much-needed funding. Improvement #2 to CLEAR includes language to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Act, though projects will still have to be scrutinized and selected through the annual appropriations process. That pot of \$900 million will buy a lot of wetlands and other habitat at risk from development and other threats.

To stay on top of this critical wildlife habitat issue and others, please sign up to receive monthly Advisories and alerts at www.audubonaction.org. Thanks!



This column reports submitted sightings. Any rare sightings should be accompanied by detailed written documentation and if possible a photograph. A second person to verify rare sightings is extremely helpful. Do not hesitate to call any observer to help document unusual sightings. Also do not hesitate to call if you need clarification on locations.

Please submit your sightings to Pam Pritzl:
ppritzl@frontier.com

Greater White-fronted Goose 16 at the SWA on 10-10 (GB), 1 "Tule" in flock at Samish Flats on 10-4 (RM)

Snow Goose About 100 fly over home on 9/28 (K&JW), 300 on Fir Island on 10-02 (GB), 100 on Fir Island on 10-4 (RM)

Cackling Goose 1 at the SWA on 10-10 (GB)

Wood Duck 2 at DeBay's Slough on 10-09 (GB)

Eurasian Wigeon 1 at North Fork Access on 10-02 (GB)

Blue-winged Teal 1 at Rexville 10-4 (RM)

Cinnamon Teal 2 at SWA on 10-03 (GB), 5+ at SWA 10-4 (RM), 2 at Rexville 10-4 (RM), 1 at Rexville 10-11 (RM)

Ring-necked Duck 25 at DeBay's Slough on 10-09 (GB)

Harlequin Duck 2 on Camano Island on 10-2 (SAS), 1 adult male at Green Point in Washington Park on 10-10 (RK)

Red-throated Loon 1 at Iverson Spit on Camano Island on 10-2 (SAS)

Pacific Loon 1 at Samish Island Public Beach on 10-09-2010 (GB)

Common Loon 70 at March Point on 10-02 (GB)

Osprey 1 near Cockreham Island on 10-03 (GB)

Sandhill Crane 1 at Jensen Access on 10-4 (RM), 2 flyover Samish flats on 9-27 (BR)

Pacific Golden-Plover 1 at Jensen Access on 10-15 (RM)

Black Oystercatcher 7 at Green Pt in WA Park on 10-10 (RK), 18 at Washington Park on 10-11 (RM)

Greater Yellowlegs 40 at the SWA on 9-30 (GB)

Lesser Yellowlegs 20 at the SWA on 9-30 (GB)

Marbled Godwit 5 at Jensen Access on 9-19 (GB), 6 at Jensen Access on 10-15 (RM)

Red Knot 1 at Jensen Access on 10-4 and 10-11 (RM), 1 at Jensen Access on 10-15 (RM)

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper 1 on Samish Flats 9-15 (RM), 1 at SWA on 9-15 (RM), 3 at the SWA on 9-30 (GB), 1 at Jensen Access on 10-4 (RM), 1 at SWA on 10-4 (RM), 1 at Rexville on 10-4 (RM)

Dunlin 150 at Alice Bay on 10-09 (GB)

Ruff I at SWA on 9-26 (TW)

Short-billed Dowitcher 1 at the SWA on 10-10 (GB)

Long-billed Dowitcher 275 at the SWA on 9-19 (GB), 690 at Rexville on 10-7 (RM)

Wilson's Snipe 1 at SWA on 9-20 (TW)

Bonaparte's Gull 5 at Jensen Access on 10-09 (GB)

Marbled Murrelet 5 at Green Pt in Washington Park on 10-10 (RK)

Horned Puffin 1 at Green Point on 9-09; second county record (GB)

Great Horned Owl 1 at Telegraph Slough on 10-10 (GB)

Northern Saw-whet Owl 1 on Samish Island (HA, JBP)

Vaux's Swift 300 entering a chimney in downtown Sedro-Woolley on 9-27 (GB)

Willow Flycatcher 1 at the SWA on 9-19 (GB)

Black Phoebe 1 at the SWA on 10-02 (GB)

Northern Shrike 1 at the SWA on 10-10 (GB), 1 at SWA on 10-4 (RM)

Hutton's Vireo 1 at Samish Island Public Beach on 9-19; one at Nichol's Bar, SAS field trip on 9-25 (GB)

Western Scrub-Jay 1 in Samish Flats on 9-27 (TW), 1 at WSU Research Station, Mt. Vernon 10-12 (JM)

Bank Swallow 1 at SWA on 9-15 (RM)

House Wren 1 at Hayton Preserve on 9-19 (GB)

Varied Thrush 1 at home on Camano Island on 9-21 (PP)

Yellow Warbler 1 near Minkler Lake, SAS field trip on 9-25

Black-throated Gray Warbler 3 at Nichol's Bar, SAS field trip on 9-25 (GB)

Townsend's Warbler 3 at Nichol's Bar, SAS field trip on 9-25 (GB)

Common Yellowthroat 1 at the SWA on 10-10 (GB)

Wilson's Warbler 2 at Nichol's Bar, SAS field trip on 9-25 (GB)

Western Tanager near Minkler Lake, SAS field trip on 9-25 (GB)

Fox Sparrow 1 at home on Camano Island on 9-27 (PP)

White-throated Sparrow 1 at SWA on 10-4 (RM)

Western Meadowlark 5 on Fir Island on 10-02 (GB)

Yellow-headed Blackbird 1 at SWA on 9-30 (GB)

Brown-headed Cowbird 5 at Gardner Road on 10-09 (GB)

(SIBW) Samish Island Bird Walk (SAS) Skagit Audubon Society Field Trip (SWA) Skagit Wildlife Area, Wylie Slough (TW) Tweeters

(HA) Howard Armstrong (GB) Gary Bletsch (JBP) Joel Brady-Power (RK) Robert Kunz (RM) Ryan Merrill (JM) Janet Morgan (PP) Pam Pritzl (BR) Becky Rosencrans (K&JW) Keith & Jan Wiggers



Blaine, etc. and other Field Trips continued from page 1

Turnstones. Those who want to carpool can meet in Skagit County at the Park and Ride area just south of Cook Road, east of the I-5 exit. Be there promptly at **8:30 a.m.** and get out of cars to find one another. Meet at the south end of the row of cars south of Cook Road. Leader: Tim Manns (360-336-8753) bctm@fidalgo.net

**Saturday, November 13
North Whidbey Island Birding Route
8:30 a.m. to around 1:00 p.m.**

Join us as we bird an auto route visiting Dugualla Bay, Cornet Bay, Swantown, Penn Cove, and more. Meet at the Shell Park 'n Ride near Sharpe's Corner by Rt 20 at 8:30 a.m. We'll search North Whidbey Island hoping to find Canvasbacks, Long-tailed Ducks, Ruddy Ducks, Harlequin Ducks, and possibly 3 kinds of Scoters and 2 kinds of Scaup. We'll seek water birds both on fresh water and salt water and hopefully shorebirds, especially at Penn Cove. There will be minimal walking, mostly binocular and scope setting in coastal areas. The trip will end around 1:00. Dress for the weather and remember it can be cold in the wind this time of year. (hot thermos beverages are recommended.) Bring scopes, as many birds will be off in the distance. Leader: Ivar Dolph (360-293-5951) pidolph@verizon.net

**Saturday, November 20
Padilla Bay and Samish Flats
8:30 a.m. to around Noon**

Our trip is mostly drive-and-bird field trip across the raptor-rich Samish Flats and surrounding area. Though justly famous for its raptors, the flats also provide numerous opportunities to spot shorebirds, ducks, and songbirds. Don't forget the windbreaker and scope ,if you have one. Meet in the parking lot of the Breazeale Interpretive Center at Padilla Bay to arrange carpools. Please bring your Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife Recreational Use Permit (for parking at the West-90). We hope to find some winter migrants down from the north. Bring a little bakery money too, in case we pass through Edison in a deluge. We'll go birding in any weather. **Leader: Libby Mills, libbymills@gmail.com, Cell phone: 360-708-6975**

**No Field trip the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.
We'll go upriver to explore December 4th.**

Samish Island Bird Walks with Howard Armstrong

As weather and time permit, Howard Armstrong leads bird walks on Samish Island for beginners and experts alike. To be contacted when these walks are scheduled, send a message to Howard (godwits@wavecable.com) asking to be added to his e-mail notification list.

**Oil and Birds:
Too Close for Comfort
Louisiana's Coast Six Months
into the BP Disaster**

from: <http://gulfoilspill.audubon.org/oil-and-birds-too-close-comfort/>

Wednesday afternoon, October 13, 2010, Audubon released a new report on the status of birds, oil and the Louisiana Coast. Its findings – and its warning that the future of birds and the region's ecosystems remain uncertain because oil and other threats are still too close for comfort – are the result of recent field surveys conducted by a team of Audubon colleagues. They returned to Louisiana nearly six months after BP's Deepwater Horizon disaster began spewing oil into the Gulf to assess the health and overall condition of birds and coastal habitat, visiting some heavily oiled sites, and some that received little or no oiling.

The Audubon team, led by Tom Bancroft and including Reid Bishop, Melanie Driscoll, Paul Kemp, Bruce Reid, David Ringer and Karen Westphal, found plentiful birds that appeared both resilient and loyal to their normal habitats as the tragedy's six-month anniversary approached. But the team also found cause for concern, as expressed in David Yarnold's statement in the press release, excerpted below:

“People shouldn't be fooled into thinking that the danger to birds and the environment is over just because the oil stopped flowing,” said Audubon President & CEO David Yarnold. “It's going to take years of monitoring just to understand and start dealing with the long-term impacts of the oil—and they're just part of a much bigger threat.”

This report leaves no doubt that Audubon's ongoing work in the Gulf – both in direct response to the spill and to address long-term environmental threats facing the region – is more important than ever.

Oil and Birds continued on page 6



Oil and Birds continued from page 5

NPR's All Things Considered covered the report on Wednesday (see <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=130543282>) and additional media coverage is anticipated from the Associated Press and NPR's Living on Earth (on Friday, October 15). A pdf of the report, entitled "Oil and Birds: Too Close for Comfort – Louisiana's Coast Six Months into the BP Disaster," is available online at http://gulfoilspill.audubon.org/sites/default/files/documents/oilandbirds-toocloseforcomfort_october2010.pdf. It includes terrific photos taken by Kim Hubbard, photo editor for Audubon magazine; and Tom Bancroft, as well as acclaimed photographer Gerry Ellis. Hard copies will be available in a few weeks – watch for details from Chapter Services on how to obtain them or check the audubon.org Web site.

Best, Nancy Severance
Director, Marketing & Communications
Audubon

Birds Faithful to Risky Habitats

from http://gulfoilspill.audubon.org/sites/default/files/documents/oilandbirds-toocloseforcomfort_october2010.pdf page 4

The Louisiana coastal sites surveyed by Audubon science teams were alive with birds, representing the range of species typical of the region in September. Teams recorded species and numbers during walks of 23 separate one-kilometer transects (sample sections of habitat) and at multiple stationary locations. In all, they reported nearly 10,000 individual birds, including terns and large numbers of both mature and juvenile Brown Pelicans (recently removed from the endangered species list). The young were a welcome sight given the concerns generated by disaster coverage filled with images of oiled and dying pelicans. It is far too early to evaluate the success of the 2010 breeding season for this recovering species, but large numbers have successfully fledged to face the additional challenges that lie ahead.

Survey teams detected oil on only three birds during the September count (one Willet and two American Avocets). However, the lack of visible oil does not mean the birds they saw are safe. Overall bird health cannot be assessed through observation alone. Teams could not determine how many birds might have ingested or otherwise come into contact with oil, dispersants, or other disaster-related chemicals. The long-term implications of ingestion or contact are also unclear and may require years of monitoring and biological research to assess.

Whatever the risks, Audubon's survey revealed that birds continued to face ongoing exposure to oil and associated chemicals as the six-month anniversary of the disaster approached. The threat stems from what at first glance appears reassuring: the abundance of birds in the same places where they are usually found, mainly on the barrier islands near their food sources and far from land predators. Teams saw no indication that birds moved from their preferred habitat—even if it was oiled during the spill—to other oil-free areas. Indeed, surveyed western beaches that received little or no oil sheltered fewer birds, as would have been expected in any case because of their less varied array of habitats. In contrast, the spits and barrier islands in eastern sections of the Barataria-Terrebonne Important Bird Area—hard hit by oil and in varying stages of cleanup—were covered with resting and foraging pelicans, terns, gulls, skimmers, and shorebirds. Wintering species, including American White Pelican, Lesser Scaup, and Common Loon, had not yet returned when the surveys were conducted; they will reappear from late October through December. It is likely that they too will fail to detect any threats to lead them away from affected areas.

Birds' fidelity to their normal habitats puts them squarely where the oil was—and, as Audubon's researchers discovered, where the oil often remains.



The Brown Pelican from *Oil and Birds: Too Close for Comfort* page.14
http://gulfoilspill.audubon.org/sites/default/files/documents/oilandbirds-toocloseforcomfort_october2010.pdf

Five months before the BP oil disaster started, the Brown Pelican was removed from the U.S. endangered species list thanks to years of effective conservation measures. The banning of DDT, repatriating pelicans to Louisiana, and years of special stewardship efforts all contributed to the species' recovery from near extinction. Throughout the summer of 2010, repeated images of oiled and dying pelicans made the state bird of Louisiana familiar to many as a symbol of oil's deadly impact. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that hundreds of dead Brown Pelicans have been collected in the Gulf, making it second only to the Laughing Gull in confirmed spill-related deaths. Experience from previous spills makes it clear that the recovered birds represent only a fraction of the total that perished.

As Audubon's survey revealed, pelicans are not yet safe from the effects of the oil and the cleanup. Direct contact and disturbance, food-chain issues, and long-term toxicity all remain serious threats. The oil disaster struck sensitive nesting areas at the beginning of the pelican's breeding season. Though Audubon's survey showed that birds successfully fledged from nests in oiled areas, their long-term prognosis is uncertain. Many young in Gulf colonies were exposed to oil when their parents came back to feed them or when the juveniles first left the colony to begin feeding on their own. Only population monitoring will provide clues about the extent of impacts on the young and on breeding populations. Pelicans relatively lengthy maturation process means that the true toll of the spill on reproductive success and population stability will not be revealed for several years.



SKAGIT AUDUBON HIKING

NOVEMBER 2010

By Joan Melcher

Cold season hikes begin this month. We move from the high country to lowland hikes near the water and on the foothills. Hikes may be canceled or destinations changed due to weather, logging, construction or unforeseen circumstances. A hike will be canceled if there are high wind warnings, flooding conditions, or snowy or icy road conditions. Because this is hunting season, wear a bright-colored item of clothing. For information on or questions about the hikes, call JOAN MELCHER, 360-424-0407. All the hikes are on a Wednesday. Dogs are discouraged on Audubon-sponsored hikes. If dogs are on a hike, they must be on a leash at all times.

NOVEMBER 3 NORTH CHUCKANUT MOUNTAIN

Hike trails on the northwest side of Chuckanut Mountain. Take the opportunity to hike the Salal, Madrone Crest, Huckleberry, and Hush-Hush Trails that we normally have no time to do on other Chuckanut hikes. Basic loop of 6.8 miles; one can add up to 4.0 miles more. Up to 2,700 ft elevation gain. Meet at 9 a.m. at the North Chuckanut Parking lot located on the east side of Chuckanut Drive between the Old Samish Highway and California Street. This is about milepost 18.5. You may leave when your car-load has returned.

NOVEMBER 10 HOYPUS POINT, HOYPUS HILL, AND ALA SPIT

Hike the 3.5 mile loop trail on Hoypus Point, moderate difficulty, about 300 foot elevation gain. One can add

additional hikes in the adjoining Hoypus Hill area as well as hiking out to Ala Spit. The Hoypus areas are in Deception Pass State Park. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Similk Park-n-Ride. (At the stop light at the intersection of HWY 20 and the Christianson and March Point Roads, turn RIGHT and then an immediate RIGHT turn onto the frontage road and soon turn LEFT into the Park-n-Ride.) **OR** meet at 9:20 a.m. at the trailhead at Cornet Bay. You may leave when your carload is back to trailhead. Most people return between 12:30 and 1 p.m.

NOVEMBER 17 LITTLE CRANBERRY LAKE

Terry Slotemaker or his designee will lead the group around Little Cranberry Lake in the Anacortes Community Forest Lands. 6.0 miles, 670 ft. total elevation gain. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the trailhead located on "A" Ave. between 37th and 41st Streets in Anacortes. You may leave when all in your vehicle return to the trailhead. Historically, all are back by 1 p.m.

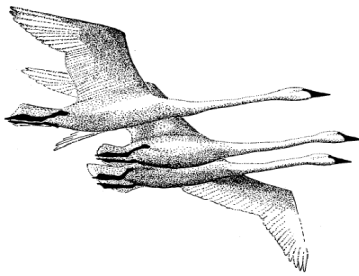
NOVEMBER 24 THANKSGIVING WEEK No hike

DECEMBER 1 EAST SHORE LAKE WHATCOM

The East Shore of Lake Whatcom hike is a fairly level hike among trees beside the east shore of Lake Whatcom. 6.25 miles round trip, little elevation gain. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the I-5/Cook Road Park-n-Ride. You may leave when you return to the trailhead..



SKAGIT AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1101
MOUNT VERNON WA 98273



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check your
address label
for membership
expiration date!

November 2010 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Oct 31	1	2 SAS Board Meeting: 7:00	3 Hiking: North Chuckanut Mtn.	4	5	6 Field Trip: Blaine, Drayton Harbor
7	8	9 General Meeting: Social 7:00 PM/ Meeting 7:30 PM	10 Hiking: Hoypus Point, Hoypus Hill and Ala Spit	11	12	13 Field Trip: North Whidbey Island
14	15	16	17 Hiking: Little Cranberry Lake	18	19	20 Field Trip: Padilla Bay, Samish Island Deadline SAS Dec. Flyer
21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Week – No hike	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28	29	30	Dec. 1 Hiking: East Shore Lake Whatcom	Dec. 2	Dec. 3	Dec. 4 Field Trip: Upriver Explorations!

Visit the Skagit Audubon Society Website at www.fidalgo.net/~audubon/

The Skagit Flyer is printed on recycled paper

