

# The Skagit Flyer

Skagit Audubon Society  
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

[www.skagitaudubon.org](http://www.skagitaudubon.org)

Vol. 32 No. 3

## MARCH 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](mailto: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, MARCH 2

#### Cama Beach State Park

**8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

This field trip is different from others Skagit Audubon trips. We will be examining more than 25 different nicely mounted taxidermy waterfowl and other birds. This is a chance

Field Trips continued on page 7

## MARCH MEETING AND PROGRAM

### *The Clean Samish Initiative*

*by Rick Haley*

*Water Quality Analyst*

*Skagit County Public Works*

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

7:00 Social; 7:30 Program

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center

10433 Bayview-Edison Road

Mount Vernon, Washington



The Clean Samish Initiative is a multi-agency effort to reduce fecal coliform pollution in the Samish Bay watershed. Partners with Skagit County in the CSI include numerous local, state and federal agencies, local Indian tribes, shellfish growers, and interested citizens. While good progress has been made to find and remediate pollution sources, coliform levels are still too high in the watershed.

Pollution could come from humans, domestic animals, livestock, and/or wildlife. High levels of fecal coliform bacteria in the water can result in closure of shellfish beds to harvest and restrictions on recreational uses of water bodies.

The Clean Samish Initiative seeks to locate pollution sources through water quality monitoring and property inspections, and to provide educational, financial, and technical tools to landowners to eliminate pollution stemming from their property. As a last resort, formal enforcement tools are available at the County and State level to require pollution abatement.

This talk will focus on the findings of our water quality monitoring program as well as the progress and challenges associated with all aspects of the Clean Samish Initiative.



# SKAGIT AUDUBON

## Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

President: Tim Manns  
[bctm@fidalgo.net](mailto:bctm@fidalgo.net)  
360-336-8753

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[plwright@comcast.net](mailto:plwright@comcast.net)  
360-299-8212

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360-757-0539

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[ppritzl@frontier.com](mailto:ppritzl@frontier.com)  
360-387-7024

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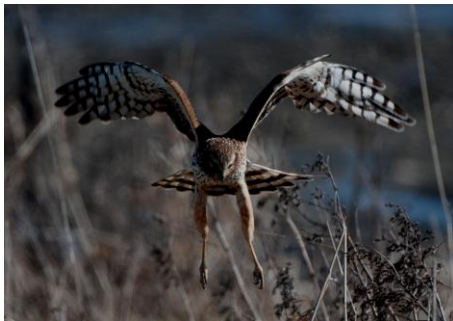
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Hospitality: Mark Perry

Webmaster: Julie Bishop

[msjbishop@hotmail.com](mailto:msjbishop@hotmail.com)



## NORTHERN HARRIER

### Hunting on the Skagit Flats

Photo by Joe Halton

## 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/](http://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](http://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](mailto:skagitmembers@gmail.com)*



Identifying places especially important for particular species of birds sounds like a sensible first step in protecting avian habitat. It's not surprising, then, that there is a program to do just that systematically and worldwide. It's what the "Important Bird Areas" program is all about. At Skagit Audubon board meetings, the abbreviation "IBA" has been coming up frequently because of the recent nomination of two Skagit County sites for this significant designation.

The Important Bird Area (IBA) program began in Europe in the mid-1980's as a project of the U.K.-based organization Birdlife International. In its initial years, scientific data gathered by land managers, scientists, and qualified volunteers led to designating hundreds of places in Europe that met the program's criteria. Important Bird Areas are sites that are essential habitat for rare species or places which a significant percentage of one or more bird species depends on during at least a portion of the year.

The IBA program grew as partners in over 100 countries partnered with Birdlife International. It came to the U.S. in 1995 when the American Bird Conservancy joined. National Audubon became a partner shortly after and split the responsibilities with American Bird Conservancy (ABC), the latter focusing on a shorter list of species in particular peril and National Audubon taking a broader, state-based approach to identifying potential IBA's. Audubon mobilized its network of hundreds of chapters and thousands of members to gather data for these scientifically-based designations. The division of responsibilities between ABC and Audubon has evolved and is a bit complicated. If you're interested in bird-related politics between sometimes rival conservation groups, read [www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/domestic/iba/two\\_IBAs.htm](http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/domestic/iba/two_IBAs.htm).

The point of designating IBA's is to motivate habitat protection by identifying key sites and to help set priorities for conservation. When the Deepwater Horizon oil spill occurred in the Gulf of Mexico, for example, rescue and clean-up efforts related to birds could be focused on the documented IBA's. In Washington State, the process of identifying IBA's slowed with the funding-related demise of the Audubon state office five years ago. Legislation in 2004 created a tie between the IBA program and the Department of Natural Resources' Natural Heritage Program but did not provide funding to further the program.

In 2008, the only IBA so far designated in Skagit County joined the list: Padilla and Samish Bays. Now, volunteers are reactivating the program here. Last year, Pam Pritzl, Skagit Audubon Past President, worked with Ruth Milner (WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife) to nominate Skagit Bay. Preliminary word is that these waters into which the Skagit River empties may meet the IBA criteria for "Globally Significant." This is because this bay supports over 5% of the North American population of at least the following 4 species during the course of the season or more than 1% at a given moment: Trumpeter and Tundra Swans, Lesser Snow Goose, and Dunlin. Also last year, Pilchuck Audubon's Larry Schwitters, Vaux's Swift expert and another great volunteer, nominated the smokestack at Old Northern State Hospital near Sedro-Woolley where up to 20,000 migrating swifts roost nightly. We hope that this year both these sites will become IBA's and, thus, priorities for conservation action, and that other important Skagit sites will soon join the list: Samish Flats, Barney Lake, and more.

### **Membership Expiration Dates Announcement**

For members receiving a paper copy of The Skagit Flyer, the mailing label includes your membership expiration date in the upper right corner. If the 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.

**If you have questions about your membership or a change of address, please contact:**

**[Skagitmembers@gmail.com](mailto:Skagitmembers@gmail.com)**



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](mailto:ppritzl@frontier.com)** or **360-387-7024**.

**WATERFOWL**

**Greater White-fronted Goose** in field with Canada Geese at Cascade Farm on Highway 20 on 1-9 (AW); 1 on Fir Island on 1-29 (RM); 8 in farm field with Trumpeter Swans on Camano Island on 2-6 (PP); 1 on Fir Island on 2-9 (GB)

**Canada Goose** 2 “lesser” on Polson Rd. on 1-29 (RM)

**American Wigeon x Eurasian Wigeon** 1 at Hayton Preserve on 1-29 (RM); 1 on Samish Flats on 1-29 (RM); 1 on Fir Island on 2-9 (GB)

**Eurasian Wigeon** 40 males on Samish Flats on 1-29 (RM)

**Surf Scoter** 3 pair along Tommy Thompson Trail near refineries on 2-8 (JA)

**Common Goldeneye** 120 at Jensen Access on 1-29 (RM); 3 pair along Tommy Thompson Trail near refineries on 2-8 (JA); 1 male at Green Road Pond on 2-10 (RH)

**RAPTORS**

**Red-tailed Hawk** 1 “leucistic” on the frontage road near Conway turnoff of the east side of I-5 on 1-21 (AW); 1 juvenile “Harlans” hawk at the West 90 on 1-29 (RM); 1 “Harlans” hawk on Person’s Rd. on 2-2 (AW)



**Rough-legged Hawk on the Skagit Flats**  
 Photo by Joe Halton

**Rough-legged Hawk** 25 at West 90 on 1-29 (RM) on 2-7 (MB)  
**Golden Eagle** 1 immature in Barney Lake area

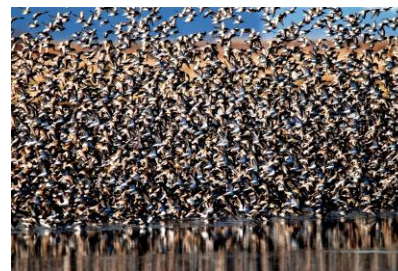


**American Kestrel**  
**March Point**  
**Skagit County**  
 Photo by Joe Halton

**American Kestrel** 1 male seen on Kelleher Rd. on 2-1 (RH); 1 female on Moore Rd. on 2-2 and 1 female on Maupin Rd. (red band on leg) on 2-2 (JB); 1 male on Person’s Rd. on 2-2 and 2-3 (AW)  
**Merlin** the Edison Merlin on 2-3 and 1 along Bayview/Edison Rd. north of Darcy Rd. on the west side across from the blueberry bushes on 2-3 (AW); 1 in Maiben Park in Burlington on 2-6 (LE)  
**Gyr Falcon** 1 juvenile on Skagit City Rd. on 1-21 (AW); 1 on Fir Island on 1-29 (RM); 1 adult along Bayview/Edison Rd, north from D’arcy Rd, on the east side of the blueberry bushes on 2-4 (AW); 1 on Samish Flats on 2-9 (GB)  
**Prairie Falcon** seen regularly at Eide Rd. near Stanwood since 2-8 (TWEE)

**SHOREBIRDS**

**Pacific Golden-Plover** 1 at Jensen Access on 2-9 (GB)



**Dunlins in Flight**  
 Photo by Jim Powell

**Dunlin** 10,000 at Port Susan Bay on 2-1 (SAS)

**GULLS**

**Western Gull** 2 adults at Jensen Access on 1-29 (RM); 2 on Fir Island on 2-9 (GB)  
**Herring Gull** 1 adult on Polson Rd. on 1-29 (RM)  
**Thayer's Gull** 2 adults on Polson Rd. on 1-29 (RM)

**OWLS**

**Barn Owl** 1 at night on Bayview/Edison Rd. near the Samish Island bridge on 1-8 (AW); 1 at the Skagit Game Range on 1-21 (GB); 1 at the West 90 on 1-29 (RM)  
**Western Screech-Owl** 1 near tanwood/Bryant Rd. during sighting period (AT)

**Field Notes continued on page 5**



**Field Notes continued from page 4**

**Snowy Owl** 1 at Jensen Access on 1-29 (RM); 4 at Port Susan Bay on 2-1 (SAS)

**Barred Owl** 1 on Bayview Edison Rd. near intersection with Farm to Market Rd. on 1-10 (AW)

**Short-eared Owl** 1 at Jensen Access on 1-29 (RM); 30+ at the West 90 on 1-29 (RM)

**SHRIKES**

**Northern Shrike** 1 on Fir Island on 1-29 (RM); 1 at Port Susan Bay on 2-1 (SAS)

**PIPITS**

**American Pipit** 11 on Samish Flats on 1-19 (SAS); 2 on Fir Island on 1-29 (RM)

**WARBLERS**

**Orange-crowned Warbler** 1 at Mt. Vernon feeder throughout listing period (JA)

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** 1 in Burlington yard on 1-26 (LE); 10 "Audubon's race" on Samish Flats on 1-19 (SAS)

**SPARROWS**

**Savannah Sparrow** 2 on Samish Flats on 1-19 (SAS)

**Lincoln's Sparrow** 2 at Lindegren Rd. on 1-21 (GB)

**BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES**

**Western Meadowlark** 4 on Fir Island on 1-29 (RM)

**Rusty Blackbird** 1 at Highway 530 x 7<sup>th</sup> Ave NE intersection near Silvana on 1-29 (RM)

**FINCHES**

**American Goldfinch** 1 at Jensen Access on 2-9 (GB)

(JA) Jean Ashby; (JB) Joann Bayne; (GB) Gary Bletsch; (MB) Mike Bowlin; (LE) Larry Edwards; (RH) Ron Holmes; (RM) Ryan Merrill; (PP) Pam Pritzl; (SAS) Skagit Audubon Field Trip; (AT) Alice Turner; (AW) Andrea Warner; (TWEE) Tweeters.

**Friends of Skagit Beaches Seeks Volunteers for TRAIL TALES**

Last season more than 200 people enjoyed interpretive walks along the Tommy Thompson Trail guided by volunteer Docents in the Trail Tales program. In addition to leading interpretive walks, Docents guide bike rides, staff informational booths and offer presentations to other groups interested in learning about the human history, flora and fauna, marine ecology and the Baywide Cleanup restoration currently underway along the shoreline.

To apply contact: Nancy Olsen, Prog.Coordinator

[nancy.skagitbeaches@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.skagitbeaches@gmail.com)

or visit

Friends of Skagit Beaches website:

<http://skagitbeaches.org>

**WOLF HOLLOW WILDLIFE REHAB CENTER**

**REPORT INJURED OR ORPHANED WILDLIFE IN SAN JUAN AND SKAGIT COUNTIES**

If you find a SMALL ANIMAL:  
Put in a covered box with air holes and soft material on bottom

Keep in a dark, quiet warm place  
Please, don't offer food or water  
Large/Difficult to Handle Animal:

Call us: (360) 378-5000

or

[www.WolfHollowWildlife.org](http://www.WolfHollowWildlife.org)

**11th Annual "Wings Over Water: Northwest Birding Festival"**

**Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m. - 5p.m**

I-5 Exit 275, Blaine Middle School Cafeteria, 975 H St Blaine WA

Great for avid enthusiasts and casual observers! Join this annual event held in one of the Pacific Northwest's premier bird viewing areas. Originally known as the Washington Brandt Festival, this festival focuses on the thousands of Brant geese and other birds that visit the shores of Blaine and Birch Bay on their annual migration.

*Wings Over Water Pacific Northwest Birding Festival, Downtown Blaine - I-5 Exit 276.*

**For more information on this event, please visit: <http://www.blainechamber.com/wow/>**





Four hikes are scheduled for March. Unexpected circumstances such as unforeseen trail problems, weather predictions of heavy rain and/or wind, snow, ice, landslides, floods, logging, construction, or road conditions may cause cancellations or changes in the following hikes. If you have questions or want information on any of the hikes, call JOAN MELCHER, 360-424-0407, or e-mail at [jdmelcher@comcast.net](mailto:jdmelcher@comcast.net). 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.

#### WEDNESDAY – MARCH 6 ANACORTES AREA:

Wendy Gray and Mac Madenwald will lead us on a walking tour featuring artwork and sculptures of Anacortes. Meet at 9 a.m. in the parking lot to the west of Anthony's. Anthony's is located along the waterfront across Q Street from Safeway. The walk will be eight or more miles.

#### WEDNESDAY – MARCH 13 WHISTLE & TOOT HIKE

Terry Slotemaker (360-293-6514) or his designee will lead us on a hike in the Anacortes Forest Lands. The hike will be 6.8 miles, with a 1,600 ft. elevation gain. A 3.41 mile self-guided option around Whistle Lake is also available. Meet at 9 a.m. IN THE Whistle Lake Parking Lot—instructions below. You may leave when you return to the trailhead.

Driving instructions to Whistle Lake Parking Lot:

1. From Hwy. 20 driving west to Anacortes, go all the way to Commercial Avenue and turn left (south) at the round-about. Continue south, uphill, to Fidalgo Ave.
2. At Fidalgo Ave. turn left (east). Continue east for 3 1/2 blocks to St. Mary's Drive.
3. At St. Mary's Drive turn left (north). Continue for 1 block to Hillcrest Dr.
4. Turn right (east) onto Hillcrest Drive. Continue east to Whistle Lake Road.
5. Turn right (south) onto Whistle Lake Road. Continue south until Whistle Lake sign.
6. Follow signs to the parking lot.

#### WEDNESDAY – MARCH 20 SHAW ISLAND

This loop hike on Shaw Island has a 300 ft. total elevation gain. We will be stopping for lunch at Hoffman Cove and visiting a San Juan Island County park. Depending on the route, there is anywhere from 5.6 to 8.4 miles. The round trip foot passenger fare is required. Meet at the Anacortes/San Juan Islands Ferry Terminal, at 2100 East Ferry Road (follow 12th west from Commercial Ave.). Allow ample time to find parking. One must pay to park at the terminal so you may wish to pool rides. The ferry departure time is 7:40 a.m. **NOTE THE EARLY FERRY TIME.** The return ferry times from Shaw Island to Anacortes are 12:20 p.m. or 4:15 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY – MARCH 27 GOOSE ROCK PERIMETER HIKE

Hike a loop that includes Cranberry Lake, beaches, the south side of Deception Pass, Cornet Bay and a 450 foot climb up Goose Rock. The total elevation gain for the day is 750 feet. Meet at 9 a.m. in the east side parking lot at Cranberry Lake near the main entrance to Deception Pass State Park. There are 6.2 miles for the basic loop hike; add 4.0 miles if you hike on the beach south to the naval station border (10.2 miles). You may leave when your carload has returned to the trailhead. **NOTE:**

**WA. STATE DISCOVER PASS IS REQUIRED**

#### WEDNESDAY – APRIL 3 GUEMES ISLAND

The hike is 6.3 or 7.3 miles round trip on Guemes Island, 4 or 5 miles are on the road shoulder and 2.3 miles on the new trail to the top of Guemes Island. We will take the 9:45 a.m. ferry from Anacortes to Guemes. The ferry is located at 500 I Avenue. Round trip foot passenger fare is \$2.50 or \$1.50 for seniors. There is no set return time.

#### *Beach Watchers Winter Lecture Series* **Designing a Healthy Salish Sea** by Dr. Joe Gaydos

*Friday, March 8, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.*  
**Northwest Educational Service District Building**  
**1601 R Ave., Anacortes**

The Salish Sea is being degraded by a multitude of human activities. Saving this marine resource from such an onslaught will not be easy. Come hear Dr. Joe Gaydos, Wildlife Veterinarian and Chief Scientist of the Sea Doc Society, talk about its current condition, share ideas and suggest ten ecological principles that can be a foundation for public education. and for designing a healthy Salish Sea. Lectures are free and open to the public.

**New lecture location:** Northwest Educational Service District Building, 1601 R Ave., Anacortes: from Q St., turn on Seafarer's Way, turn right onto R St. at the stop sign and go to the Northwest Educational Service District's parking lot. Lectures are free and open to the public. Sponsored by Friends of Skagit Beaches.

For more information contact Matt Kerschbaum:

**[cherrytree2@comcast.net](mailto:cherrytree2@comcast.net)**



**From: Audubon Advisory**

February 14, 2013, Vol 2013 Issue 2

**Audubon applauds nomination of Sally Jewell for Interior Secretary.**

Mike Daulton, V.P. of Government Relations for the National Audubon Society, praised President Obama's nomination of REI president Sally Jewell: "Audubon welcomes Sally Jewell's leadership to the top job in America dedicated to preserving our great national heritage. Sally Jewell received Audubon's Rachel Carson Award for good reason: She is a dedicated conservationist and a strong leader who understands that protecting our natural world goes hand in hand with a strong American economy." Sally Jewell is president and CEO of Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI), a national outdoor gear and apparel retailer dedicated to inspiring, educating and outfitting people for a lifetime of outdoor adventure and stewardship. Additionally, Jewell sits on the boards of the National Parks Conservation Association, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Initiative for Global Development and the University of Washington. She also served on The National Forum on Children and Nature Advisory Board, and the National Parks Second Century Commission.

In 2009 Jewell received Audubon's Rachel Carson Award. The prestigious award, launched in 2004, recognizes visionary women whose dedication, talent and energy have advanced environmental education locally and on a global scale. Other winners include Frances Beinecke, President of NRDC; Sigourney Weaver, actress and environmental activist; Bette Midler, founder of the New York Restoration Project; Teresa Heinz Kerry, chair of the Heinz Endowments and the Heinz Family Philanthropies; Majora Carter, founder and executive director of Sustainable South Bronx, and Laurie David, producer of *An Inconvenient Truth*.

Washington state-based REI is known for its conservation initiatives, including grants to several Audubon Centers to support diversity. It supports making nature experiences engaging and accessible for people of all backgrounds—including residents of underserved communities in Saint Louis, San Francisco, Brooklyn and Philadelphia.

**Field Trips continued from page 1**

to really see the body shapes and feather details of birds that we may normally only see through scopes and binoculars. As time allows we will look at birds off the bulk head at Cama Beach State Park, so bring scopes and binoculars. Meet at the SE corner of the QFC parking lot in Stanwood to carpool to Cama Beach State Park. **Bring your parking permit: Discovery Pass!**  
Leaders: Ron and Sheila Pera  
[skagitmembers@gmail.com](mailto:skagitmembers@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9**

**Deception Pass State Park and nearby areas**

**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

March is the last big month to see the diversity of Salish Sea wintering bird species. Red-throated Loons feed near West Beach while Pacific Wrens will sing from the forest sword ferns. There is a lot of great potential on this birding trip and you will learn some nice areas to further explore if you are new to the area. Beginners are

always welcome. Meet at the March Point Park and Ride near the refineries off S March Point Rd.

**Bring your parking permit: Discovery Pass!**

Leader: Ivar Dolph, [pidolph@frontier.com](mailto:pidolph@frontier.com)

**Friday, March 22, 2013**

**Samish Island Field Trip**

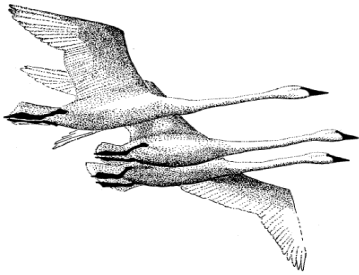
**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Meet at Howard Armstrong's home on Samish Island at 10833 Halloran Road. Feel free to park in Howard's driveway to leave room for public parking across the street. Plan to bird and walk about 3 miles at a slow pace. We'll look for the usual common land birds and seabirds with a chance for Peregrine Falcon and other raptors. This walk is good for beginners as well as birders of all abilities. Conditions permitting, you may have a chance to work on your bird song ID skills too as the sun pushes into the equinox. The exact itinerary will be determined by up to the day scouting. Dress for an outdoor walk, and bring your favorite birding gear.

Leader: Howard Armstrong (360-766-6657)



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



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check your  
address label  
for membership  
expiration date!

### March 2013 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Feb. 24	Feb. 25	Feb. 26	Feb. 27 <b>Hike:</b> Lily Lake Loop	Feb. 28	1	2 <b>Field Trip:</b> Cama Beach State Park
3	4	5 <b>Board Meeting:</b> 7:00 p.m.	6 <b>Hike:</b> Anacortes Area	7	8 <b>Beach Watchers</b> Winter Lecture Series	9 <b>Field Trip:</b> Deception Pass State Park & near-by areas
10	11	12 <b>General Meeting: Social</b> 7:00 p.m./ Meeting 7:30 p.m.	13 <b>Hike:</b> Whistle & Toot Hike	14	15	16 <b>Deadline: SAS</b> April Flyer Wings Over Water NW Birding Festival Blaine, WA
17	18	19	20 <b>Hike:</b> Shaw Island	21	22 <b>Field Trip:</b> Samish Island	23
24	25	26	27 <b>Hike:</b> Goose Rock Perimeter Hike	28	29	30
31	April 1	April 2	April 3 <b>Hike:</b> Guemes Island			

Visit the Skagit Audubon Society Website at [www.skagitaudubon.org](http://www.skagitaudubon.org) The Skagit Flyer is printed on recycled paper

