

The Skagit Flyer

Skagit Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

www.skagitaudubon.org

Vol. 36 No. 6

JUNE FIELD TRIPS

By Libby Mills

About the field trips

Beginning birders and 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.

June 16-18

Annual Klipchuck Campout Klipchuck Campground Mile 175, WA State Route 20

Each summer members and friends of Skagit Audubon gather in this U.S. Forest Service Campground off Highway 20. It is 1.2 miles up a side road on the north side of the highway near Highway Mile 175, at elevation 2,900 ft. There are usually plenty of sharp eyes in our group and the birding is great right on the campground loops as well as on nearby trails and birding

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JUNE MEETING AND PROGRAM

UNDERSTANDING SHOREBIRDS THE MIRACLE OF MIGRATION by Tim Boyer



Pacific Golden-Plover

Photo by Tim Boyer

Tuesday, June 13, 2017
7:00 Social; 7:30 Program
Padilla Bay Interpretive Center
10441 Bayview-Edison Road
Mt. Vernon, Washington

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, Sanderling 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 a effort to understand their remarkable journeys we need to look beyond the North American borders and see where shorebirds spend most of their lives.

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, and is a graduate of Seattle Audubon's Master Birder Program.



SKAGIT AUDUBON

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skagitaudubon@gmail.com



Sora

Seen and Photographed by
Jeff Osmundson
Port Susan Bay (See page 4)

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 <http://wa.audubon.org/audubon-locations/>. **To join Skagit Audubon Society** use the **1st** 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 **2nd** 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 at: <http://www.skagitaudubon.org/newsletter>. Membership includes all members of your household.

Check one: \$20.00 one (1) year \$40.00 two (2) years

Additionally, I wish to donate to Skagit Audubon Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, in the amount of \$ _____
Donations of \$100.00 or more receive a personal field trip by a Skagit Audubon field trip leader.

Check one: New Membership Renewing Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

SAS does not share your contact information.
Clip form/Mail to/Payable to: Skagit Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1101
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-1101

Use the form below to initially join the **National Audubon Society**.

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 _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Please mail chapter-created new membership forms to address below: (Payable to same)

National Audubon Society Y21
P.O. Box 97194
Washington, DC 20090-7194
Attn: Chance Mueleck

For membership related questions and address:
Email: customerservice@audubon.org
Phone: (844) 428-3826

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:

Pam Pritzl membership@skagitaudubon.org



Sunny Days of Summer in the Great Outdoors

June signals the end of the year for Skagit Audubon. The chapter takes a break from scheduled meetings and programs to enjoy the long, sunny days of summer in the great outdoors. There are opportunities to camp, hike and volunteer. The occasional field trip pops up too. Be sure your name is added to the email distribution list through Libby Mills, field trip coordinator, libbymills@gmail.com.

The Annual Klipchuck Campout, June 16-18, is the perfect time to kickoff your summer birding. Join Skagit Audubon members and friends as they seek out and enjoy the many species of warblers, vireos, flycatchers, woodpeckers and wildflowers in the area. You may even see a few butterflies too. The hikes and adventure unfolds depending on the group. Find more details under field trips.

Summer is prime time for hikers. The hiking group continues their scheduled Wednesday outings. Joan Melcher organizes this hardy group throughout the year leading hikes in weather conditions resembling the postal workers motto. Finally, summer promises fair weather and dry trails. Many hikes offer different options in routes and difficulty. If you have questions about hikes, contact Joan at jdmelcher@comcast.net.

There are several opportunities to volunteer with citizen science, education and conservation. Choose a Purple Martin Nesting Box site to observe and enjoy these amazing summer migrants. Purple Martins swoop in the sky gathering insects to bring back to hungry nestlings. Their chatter is an addictive summer chorus you will want to experience often. Recording your visits and observations will assist in our citizen science program. Skagit Audubon provides much needed habitat with nesting boxes installed at Ship Harbor, English Boom, Padilla Bay and Port Susan. Contact Irene Perry at irene@skagitaudubon.org to receive a monitoring form and additional information. The Education Committee has many programs and hikes scheduled for groups of all ages this summer. Our efforts to provide outreach, by connecting people with nature, continues to grow. If you would like to find out more, contact Sheila Pera at skagiteducation2@gmail.com. Staying on top of conservation issues never takes the summer off. There are always opportunities to assist in our efforts to advocate for birds, wildlife and the protection of natural ecosystems. Our conservation chair, Tim Manns, appreciates your willingness to help. Please contact him at conservation@skagitaudubon.org.

Enjoy your summer!

SKAGIT AUDUBON JUNE CONSERVATION REPORT**By TIM MANNNS**

On April 26th, President Trump ordered a review of all national monuments over 100,000 acres designated since 1996; i.e. by Presidents Obama, Bush, and Clinton. He referred to these acts of limiting development on national public lands “a massive federal land grab,” odd to say about places all U.S. citizens have long collectively owned. Of the 27 monuments under review, only Maine’s Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument had been private property, and it was donated to the people of the United States, not grabbed.

It has long bothered, even enraged, certain people that they or local office-holders lack authority over these lands. More often than not, there’s a profit motive. Decades ago, a vigorous effort to seize land from national public ownership was dubbed the “Sagebrush Rebellion” due to its strength in such states as Nevada and Utah. This movement never went away. Last year’s Malheur occupation thrust it back into the limelight. Then last November’s election reignited what could become a true land grab. The latest national move in this direction is the attempt to undo monument designations, something unseen since the Antiquities Act gave presidents designation authority in 1906. Secretary of Interior Zinke is accepting public comment on Trump’s mandated review of monument designations until July 10. To comment online, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter “DOI-2017-0002” in the Search bar, or send a letter to Monument Review, MS-1530, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240. The Utah delegation being especially hot about Bears Ears National Monument, designated after lengthy consultation with tribes to whom the area is culturally and spiritually significant, was given a comment period of, yes, 15 days, which ended in May. Feeling empowered? Since 1906, only two presidents have not created national monuments, which restrict development and resource extraction on our public lands with outstanding scientific or cultural values. Thank the Antiquities Act for the initial protection of Grand Canyon, Zion, and many other beloved North American places.

The Sagebrush Rebellion attitude lives in Skagit County too in our county commissioners’ dalliance with the American Lands Council (ALC) and the American Stewards of Liberty (ASL). The former’s stated mission is to transfer nationally owned public land to the states. Its organizational members are largely counties in Utah and Nevada with others scattered around the West. One Skagit commissioner proposed doubling our county’s membership to \$5,000 per year, but citizens spoke out, and the membership ended. Where such land transfers happen, the result is often the states selling the land for revenue, the public losing access, and any natural resources being converted to private cash. Privatization appears the real goal of the ALC and similar organizations. In short, a land grab. There’s much flag waving and talk of liberty, but following the money shows the true intent.

On April 24th, our county commissioners gave someone closely affiliated with ALC a public forum to deliver a long, fear-mongering presentation against restoring grizzlies to the North Cascades at even the proposed very low density. The same evening,
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the commissioners and their cohorts from other counties took advice from the executive director of another right-wing group, the “American Stewards of Liberty,” on ways to block implementing the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on 6 million publicly owned acres of the North Cascades Ecosystem. They lambasted employees of the National Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service doing their duty under the ESA, which is law. Ours is still a nation of laws. The commissioners have signed a contract to pay the “American Stewards” up to \$5,000 of our tax money for advice.

Among the great benefits all Americans share are idealistic laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the abundance of public land. Attempts to undo such benefits threaten so much that Audubon members value. Please support continued protection of public lands: national monuments, national parks, national forests, fish and wildlife refuges, wilderness areas. These are key habitat for America’s diverse wildlife. Resist any weakening of the ESA. For human action or neglect to cause extinction of species is not simply regrettable; it is immoral. We have a responsibility to all who come after us to not let the politics of the moment do literally irreparable harm. My friends, there is a world to save and we are the ones to save it.

SKAGIT AUDUBON FIELD NOTES: APRIL 19 TO MAY 17

By PAM PRITZL

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 birdsightings@skagitaudubon.org or 360-387-7024.**

For recent updates on bird sightings, check out [ABA Tweeters](#) and [Skagit County Ebird List](#) on the SAS website (Birding menu, Bird Sightings submenu)

WATERFOWL

Snow Goose 1 late bird on Samish Flats on 5-13 (GB)
Blue-winged Teal 1 at the Skagit Wildlife Area on 5-13 and 1 on Minkler Flats on 5-17 (GB)
Cinnamon Teal 3 on Minkler Flats on 5-10 (GB)
Bufflehead 1 late bird along Highway 20, Lyman on 4-22 (TM)

GREBES

Red-necked Grebe 1 hanging around in Burrows Bay, Anacortes week of May 14 (NOH)

PELICANS

American White Pelican 22 on E. March Point Road on 5-10 (CS); 16 at March Point on 5-13 (GB)

HERONS and ALLIES

American Bittern 2 at Northern State Recreation Area, Sedro-Woolley on 4-21 (TM)
Green Heron 1 at Northern State Recreation Area, Sedro-Woolley on 4-30 (SAS)

VULTURES

Turkey Vulture 4 perched in dead maple at east Fidalgo Island home on 4-23 (birds returned each morning for a few days)(RW); 1 at Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve upland trail on 5-13 (NOH)

HAWKS, EAGLES, and ALLIES

Northern Harrier 1 male on Peterson Road on 5-14 (AW)
Rough-legged Hawk 1 “wing tagged 5H”, east 90 Bayview/Edison Road on 5-2 (AW); 2 late individuals on Samish Flats (wing tagged) on 5-13 (GB); 1 “wing-tagged 5H” on Bent Needle Road (off Bayview/Edison Road) on 5-14 (AW); 1 “Vancouver Airport wing tagged OH” on Bayview/Edison Road on 5-16 (AW); 1 “Vancouver Airport wing tagged 5H” on Bayview /Edison Road, North 90 on 5-16 (AW)

RAILS and COOTS

Virginia Rail 3 heard at Northern State Recreation Area on 4-30 (SAS)
Sora 1 at Port Susan Bay, The Nature Conservancy (restricted area) on 4-28 and 5-15 (JO); 2 heard at Northern State Recreation Area on 4-30 (SAS)

STILTS and AVOCETS

American Avocet 1 at Leque Island, Stanwood on 5-15 and 5-16 (JE)

PLOVERS

Semipalmated Plover 1 from home on Alice Bay, Samish Island on 4-21 (HA)

SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES, and ALLIES

Whimbrel 4 off Green Point on 4-22 (GB); 1 from home on Alice Bay, Samish Island on 4-23 and 4-29 (HA,TA)
Marbled Godwit 4 at March Point on 4-19 and 2 on 4-22 (GB); 1 at March Point on 4-22 (JO)
Wilson's Snipe 1 at Northern State Recreation Area, Sedro-Woolley on 4-21(TM); 1 at Northern State Recreation Area, Sedro-Woolley on 4-30 (SAS)

GULLS and TERNs

Bonaparte's Gull 16 at Ship Harbor, Anacortes on 4-22 (GB)

OWLS

Great Horned Owl 1 female at east Fidalgo Island home on 5-11 (silenced the earlier calling Barred Owls) (RW)
Barred Owl pair calling at east Fidalgo Island home on 5-11 (RW)

SWIFTS

Black Swift 20 over Concrete on 5-14 (GB)

WOODPECKERS

Field Sightings continued on page 5



Red-breasted Sapsucker pair at Little Mountain Park, Mount Vernon on 4-19 (TM)

FALCONS

American Kestrel 1 male and 1 female on Peterson Road on 5-14 (AW)

FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher 1 at east Fidalgo Island home on 5-6 (RW); 1 at Camano Island home on 5-10 (PP); 1 at Washington Park, Anacortes on 5-12 (JH)

Hammond's Flycatcher 2 at Barnaby Slough on 4-23 (GB)

Pacific-slope Flycatcher 2 at Little Mountain Park, Mount Vernon on 4-19 (TM); 1 at Barnaby Slough on 4-23 (GB)

Western Kingbird 12 on Cochreham Island on 5-14 (GB)

VIREOS

Cassin's Vireo 1 at Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve upland trail on 5-13 (NOH)

Warbling Vireo 1 at Ship Harbor near Anacortes ferry terminal on 5-14 (NOH); 1 in Cap Sante yard, Anacortes on 5-17 (JH)

CORVIDS

California Scrub-Jay 1 in Mount Vernon on 5-13 (GB)

SWALLOWS

Purple Martin 1 at Port Susan Bay, The Nature Conservancy (restricted area) on 5-15 (JO)

BUSHTITS

Bushtit 2 at Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve upland trail on 5-13 (NOH); 1 at Ship Harbor near Anacortes ferry terminal on 5-14 (NOH)

WRENS

House Wren 2 on Pass Lake Loop Trail, Deception Pass State Park on 4-23 (TM)

THRUSHES

Swainson's Thrush 1 at birdbath at east Fidalgo Island home on 4-24 (RW) 1 at Camano Island home on 5-13 (PP)

WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler 9 on Pass Lake Loop Trail, Deception Pass State Park on 4-23 (TM)

Nashville Warbler 2 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 4-22 (TM); 1 male in birdbath at east Fidalgo Island home on 4-23 (RW); 1 at Ted Reep Trail

on 4-30 (GB)

Townsend's Warbler 7 on Pass Lake Loop Trail, Deception Pass State Park on 4-23 (TM)

Wilson's Warbler 1 on Pass Lake Loop Trail, Deception Pass State Park on 4-23 (TM); 1 at east Fidalgo Island home on 5-4 (RW)

TANAGERS and ALLIES

Western Tanager 1 at Hillcrest Park, Mt. Vernon on 4-24 (TM); 1 at suet at east Fidalgo Island home on 5-5 (RW); 1 at Padilla Bay, National Estuarine Research Reserve upland trail on 5-13 (NOH); 1 at Ship Harbor near Anacortes ferry terminal on 5-14 (NOH)

Black-headed Grosbeak 5 males at east Fidalgo Island home on 4-24 (RW); 4 at Padilla Bay, National Estuarine Research Reserve upland trail on 5-13 (NOH)

Lazuli Bunting 1 at Northern State Recreation Area on 5-9 (PP); 1 at home east of Sedro-Woolley on 5-14 (DW)

Lazuli Bunting 1 at Northern State Recreation Area on 5-9 (PP); 1 at home east of Sedro-Woolley on 5-14 (DW)

SPARROWS and ALLIES

Chipping Sparrow 1 at Anacortes home on 4-7 (KH)

Brewer's Sparrow 1 at Sutter Creek on 4-23 (GB)

Vesper Sparrow 1 at Sutter Creek on 4-23 (GB)

Savannah Sparrow 1 at Anacortes home on 4-7 (KH)

Fox Sparrow 1 at Little Mountain Park, Mount Vernon on 4-19 (TM)

Lincoln's Sparrow 1 at Lincoln Hill home, Mt. Vernon on 4-19 and 4-20 (TM)

White-throated Sparrow 1 in Cap Sante yard, Anacortes on 5-10 (JH)

Harris's Sparrow 1 near Cockreham Island on 5-14, 15 & 16 (GB)

BLACKBIRDS and ORIOLES

Yellow-headed Blackbird 1 on Minkler Flats on 4-22 (GB); 1 female at Skagit Wildlife Area on 4-30 (NOH)

FINCHES and ALLIES

Evening Grosbeak 2 at Northern State Recreation Area on 4-30 (SAS)

MAMMALS

River Otter 1 at Burrows Bay, Anacortes on 5-12 (NOH)

Harbor Seal 7, drawn to gull feeding frenzy at Burrows Bay, Anacortes on 5-12 (NOH)

(HA) Howard Armstrong; (TA) Thais Armstrong; (GB) Gary Bletsch; (JE) John Engels; (JH) Joe Halton; (KH) Kristi Hein; (TM) Tim Manns; (NOH) Neil O'Hara; (JO) Jeff Osmundson; (PP) Pam Pritzl; (CS) Cathy Scott; (SAS) Skagit Audubon Society Field Trip; (AW) Andrea Warner; (RW) Regan Weeks; (DW) Daria Wheatley

SKAGIT AUDUBON HIKING JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST

BY JOAN MELCHER

NOTE: This summer hiking schedule was prepared on May 18, 2017. As of this time the following hikes appear to be a "go" in the sense that we should be able to drive to the trailheads. *Hiking continues on page 6*



However, there is a chance that some hike destinations will be changed due to unforeseen circumstances. **If a hike destination is changed, the meeting time and meeting place will remain the same.** All the hikes are on Wednesdays. Dogs are discouraged on Audubon-sponsored hikes. If dogs are on a hike, they must be on a leash at all times.

WILDERNESS HIKES: The information on the various wilderness hikes is too lengthy to print here. For information contact **Joan Melcher** either at **360-424-0407** or **jdmelcher@comcast.net**. (Exceptions: see June 14 & 21 below)

SAT. – JUNE 3 – NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Celebrate trails! Go for a hike or walk with family and/or friends. SWITMO (Skagit, Island, Whatcom Trail Maintenance Organization) will sponsor trail work at Deception Pass State Park. **Contact Joan Melcher (contact information above) for details, if interested**

WED. – JUNE 7 – OYSTER DOME

Hike to the Oyster Dome on Blanchard Mountain. **OPTION 1:** Begin and end at the Pacific Northwest Trail trailhead on Chuckanut Drive near mile post 10. The hike is 9 miles with a 2,000 ft. elevation gain. **Meet at 9 a.m. at this location.** Hikers need to download the map and instructions from the SWITMO (Skagit, Island, Whatcom Trail Maintenance Organization) web site. Go to the “Great Hikes” page and under “Skagit County Hikes” click on “Blanchard, Oyster Dome from Chuckanut Drive and back.” If you wish, you may meet Joan Melcher at the Chuckanut Park-n-Drive by 8:30 a.m. to get a map and instructions.

At 2:30 p.m. return to the trailhead.

OPTION 2: Begin and end the hike at the Samish Overlook. **A Washington State Discover Pass is required at this location.** The hike is 6 to 7.4 miles with a 900 ft. elevation gain. **Return to the trailhead at 2:00 p.m.** There are opportunities for side trips to North Butte, Lily Lake, and Lizard Lake. **Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Chuckanut Drive Park-n-Ride, Exit 231 from I-5 on the east side of I-5.**

WED. – JUNE 14 – ROSS LAKE, WEST SHORE

Hike down to Ross Dam and beyond along the west shore of Ross Lake as far as the Big Beaver if you wish. There are many other turn-around points. There are up to 13 miles round trip, with up to a 1,800 ft. total elevation gain. There are two return times: 4:30 p.m. for those who wish to hike to Pierce Creek or Big Beaver and 3:00 p.m. for those who turn around before. Carpooling will depend upon what return time you select. Meet at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. **For questions, contact Terry Slotemaker at 350-293-6514.**

WED. – JUNE 21 – HEATHER LAKE

Hike to and around this scenic lake at an elevation of 2,400 ft. off the Mountain Loop Highway east of Granite Falls near Mt Pilchuck. The hike is 4.8 miles round trip with a 1,000 ft. elevation gain. Meet at 8 a.m. in the Mt.

Vernon Safeway parking lot. Audubon South hikers can drive directly to the trailhead. There is a 1 p.m. return to the trailhead for faster hikers; a 2:30 p.m. return for slower hikers; carpool accordingly. When your car load is safely back, you may leave. **A U.S. Forest Service Northwest Parking Permit is required—or a Senior Pass will also work. For questions on this hike contact Terry Slotemaker at 350-293-6514.**

WED. – JUNE – 28 - THUNDER CREEK

Hike up to 12 miles round trip with a 1,000 ft. total elevation gain on one of the best forest hikes in the North Cascades. **Meet at 7:30 a.m.** on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. **Return time is 3:30 p.m.**

WED. – JULY – 5 – WALLACE FALLS

This is a hike through forest and near spectacular waterfalls north of Gold Bar along the Stevens Pass Highway. **Meet at 8 a.m.** in the S.E. corner of the Mt. Vernon Safeway parking lot. Seattle/Snohomish County/Camano hikers can go directly to the trailhead. Car pool according to the option you choose below: **OPTION 1:** This is up to a 7 mile loop with a 1,400 ft. elevation gain to the top falls. **The return time is 2 p.m.** **OPTION 2:** This is a 9.8 mile to 14 mile loop with a 1,800 ft. elevation gain to Wallace Lake. **The return time is 4 p.m.**

WILDERNESS HIKES: WED. – JULY 12 & 19

WED. – JULY 26 - SAUK MOUNTAIN

OPTION 1: This hike is 4.2 miles round trip with a 1,200 ft. elevation gain, including an option to walk down to Sauk Lake, which is 7.2 miles round trip and a 2,400 ft. elevation gain. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion. For those who go to the summit only, return to the trailhead at 12:30 p.m. There is a 2:30 p.m. return for those who do both summit and Sauk Lake. Carpool accordingly.

OPTION 2: ROCKPORT STATE PARK TRAILS:

There are over 4 miles of trails in an old growth forest and out to the Skagit River and back..

The meeting time and place will be the same. Return time depends on those car-pooling together.

WILDERNESS HIKES: WED. – AUG. 2, 9, 16, & 23

WED. – AUGUST 30 – MAPLE PASS LOOP

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Hiking continued from page 6

This is one of Ira Spring's and Harvey Manning's "100 Classic Hikes in Washington". It is a 7.5 mile loop with a 2,000 ft. elevation gain. Meet at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. Return to the trailhead at 3:30 p.m.

A Northwest Forest Pass parking permit is required!

WED. – SEPTEMBER 6 –CUTTHROAT PASS

Do this hike on a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail as either a round trip of 10 or 11 miles, or as a one way hike, 10.5 miles. You have four options: (Contact Joan Melcher **BEFORE THE 30TH OF AUGUST** for the details which are too lengthy to print here. See page 5 for Joan's contact information.) Meet at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. At 4 p.m. return to the trailhead.

A Northwest Forest Pass parking permit is required!

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areas further down in the Methow Valley. There is no schedule or plan beyond a Saturday night dinner potluck. Informal groups form to look for birds, or folks go out on their own with binoculars or cameras. Klipchuck is a magnet for warblers, vireos, flycatchers, woodpeckers, hummingbirds and wildflowers. A trail to Driveway Butte leads up the hill right out of the campground for the ambitious hiker. Deer are usually fawning around the campground so dogs are not recommended and must be kept on leashes. It's about 6 miles to Mazama, the nearest store, and alternate lodging, so come with what you need or plan to drive a bit further to resupply. The overnight campground fee is \$12 per site. Vault toilets and water are available. **If you plan to hike from a trailhead be sure and bring your Northwest Forest Pass, Interagency Pass, or Senior**

Pass available from U.S.F.S. offices in Sedro-Woolley and Winthrop. If you need more information: **Contact Libby Mills at libbymills@gmail.com**

Thursday June 22, 2017

Big Four Trail and Wetlands

6:30 a.m. or 8:00 a.m. to Early Afternoon

Meet at 6:30 a.m. at Exit 212 off I-5 Park & Ride for carpools or 8 a.m. at the Big 4 Picnic Area on Mountain Loop Highway 92. The Big Four area lies along the south fork of the Stillaguamish River east of Granite Falls. Plan to hike around 2 miles, bring a lunch. We'll do a combo field trip with history, birds and plants. The birding is exceptional in June. The picnic area has spectacular views of Big Four Mountain and Hall Peak. We will break up in the early Afternoon.

A Northwest Forest Pass or Senior Pass parking permit is required! Leaders are: Pam Pritzl, 360-387-7024, & Jeff Osmundson

Summer July 2017 Calendar

See "June 2017 Summer Calendar" on page 8

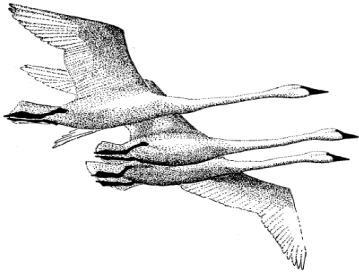
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28 Hike: Thunder Creek	June 29	June 30	1
2	3	4 4 th of July	5 Hike: Wallace Falls	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Hike: Wilderness Hike	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Hike: Wilderness Hike	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26 Hike: Sauk Mountain	27	28	29

Summer August 2017 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 30	July 31	1	2 Hike: Wilderness Hike	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Hike: Wilderness Hike	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Hike: Wilderness Hike	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Hike: Wilderness Hike	24	25	26
27 Sept. 3	28 Sept. 4	29 Sept. 5	30 Hike: Maple Pass Loop Sept. 6 Hike Cutthroat Pass	31	Sept. 1	Sept. 2



SKAGIT AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1101
MT. VERNON, WASHINGTON 98273



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Annual Klipchuck Campout
June 16-18, 2017
A Birding Weekend
Mile 175, WA State Route 20
More Information ~ Pages 1 & 7

Summer June 2017 Calendar
See "July & August 2017 Calendar" on page 7

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31 Hike: San Juan Island	1	2	3 National Trails Day
4	5	6 SAS Board Meeting: 7:00 PM	7 Hike: Oyster Dome	8	9	10
11	12	13 General Meeting: Social 7:00 PM/ Meeting 7:30 PM	14 Hike: Ross Lake, West Shore	15	16 Klipchuck Camping Trip June 16 ~ 18	17 Klipchuck Camping Trip June 16 ~ 18
18 Klipchuck Camping Trip June 16 ~ 18	19	20	21 Hike: Heather Lake	22 Field Trip: Big Four Trail Area	23	24
25	26	27	28 Hike: Thunder Creek July 5 Hike: Wallace Falls	29	30	July 1

Visit the Skagit Audubon Society Website at www.skagitaudubon.org The Skagit Flyer is printed on recycled paper
June, July, & August 2017

