

Black Hills Audubon Society

Olympia, Washington

Volume 39,
Number 1

January/February 2008



Sightings

The season of giving and receiving has been upon us!! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our brothers and sisters of Black Hills Audubon Society, who have given so kindly and generously to support our chapter. We could not be here without you. Our programs could not exist without you. Our conservation efforts would not move forward without each and every person who has supported these efforts for this year and all the years past. I speak for the entire Board of Directors when I say "We are truly grateful for our members and all they do for us".

As we move forward into 2008 we would like to grow, expand our work, do more education, have louder voices in the region of our chapter, save more habitat, birds and wildlife and become financially stable enough to do more than keep on keeping on. To do that takes ever increasing financial acuity.

To that end we have written and adopted a "Conservation Legacy Fund" policy which will guide our chapter to receive donations by bequest, direct cash or securities. These specified donations will be placed in a Conservation Legacy Fund account for long term growth and accumulated gain. This in turn, over time, will enable us to do more to affect positive change for the benefit of our stated goals.

As global climate change and the continuing increase of human impact on the health of Mother Earth and Her creatures continues, it becomes even more imperative that we act now, to the best of our ability and intent, to save and nurture the precious animals of this Earth. Because we don't know what is coming, how much loss of species we may sustain, or how much we can heal the wounds of our past, and sadly our present. But we must try to do more, to be more, to care more and to love more, all that we find precious upon this earth, and that includes you, our beloved members. Thank you, so very much! 🐦

—Linda

Thursday January 17th.

Challenges and Opportunities in Alaska

Taldi Walter's presentation will showcase some of the important natural areas and brilliant birds found in wild Alaska, exploring some natural treasures set aside decades ago. She'll highlight the imminent and compelling challenges and opportunities facing the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Tongass National Forest, Chugach National Forest, and National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. She works in the National Audubon Society's Public Policy Office in Washington, D.C as the Alaska Outreach Coordinator.

BHAS membership meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at the Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 W. 21st Street, in Olympia. Social hour is at 7pm, with programs beginning promptly at 7:30.

Thursday February 21st.

Wildlife Habitat Connectivity

Paul Waggoner from the Washington Dept of Transportation will update us on what's happening in planning current state projects factoring in wildlife needs. Their biologists' goals range from helping our critters from being splattered on the highway to keeping species from being in isolated populations separated by a major thoroughfare, always in the interest of enhancing wildlife habitat needs.

Evergreen Cities Legislative Campaign

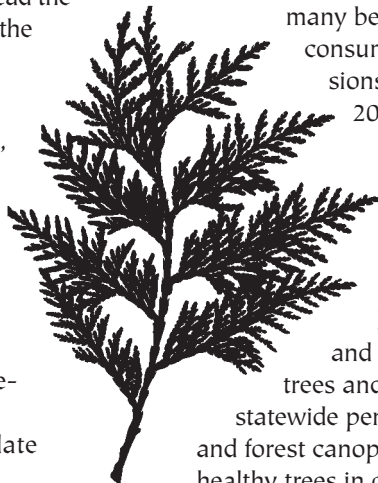
It is time to stop losing the trees and forests in our cities. Keeping existing trees and planting new ones enhances quality of life, increases property values and gives us cleaner water and habitat for birds and wildlife. In January, Auduboners across the state will spearhead the Evergreen Cities legislative campaign, one of the four top environmental priorities for 2008!

Some of our cities have innovative programs to retain, plant and maintain trees, but there is much room for improvement because only:

- 47% of our communities have tree ordinances
- 20% of our communities do routine tree care
- 12% of our communities have management plans, and
- 10% of our communities have up-to-date tree inventories

In 20 years 70% of some cities' public forest lands will be dead or dying due to poor maintenance and thousands of community forest acres will be removed for new development.

Washington's population is expected to increase



by 2.3 million by 2030. We need action today to support tree planning and management for cities to ensure the Evergreen State is full of Evergreen Cities.

Scientific studies show that trees in cities provide many benefits including reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, improved storm water management, 20% increase in property values, 12% increase in consumer spending, lower crime rates, and of course enhanced bird and wildlife habitat areas.

This legislation will provide funding and encourage partnerships to help local governments update ordinances and management plans to grow healthy trees and urban forests. The bill will establish statewide performance standards for tree retention and forest canopy goals, guaranteeing benefit from healthy trees in our communities. 🌲

To get involved contact Lisa Paribello at 360-786-8020 ext. 201 or lparibello@audubon.org, visit <http://wa.audubon.org>, or sign-up for Audubon's biweekly updates and action alerts at: www.audubonaction.org/washington.

The Washington Climate Action Bill

Last April, Governor Gregoire signed legislation that establishes goals to reduce the state's global warming pollution and increase the number of green jobs in the state. Winning legislative approval of that legislation—SB 6001—was a major victory not only for the environmental community, but everyone in Washington concerned about the threat of global warming to our state and our world.

But, the work is not done. The 2008 Legislative Session is fast approaching, and activists across the state are gearing up for a campaign to pass legislation that will make the goals set forth in SB 6001 a reality.

That effort will focus around the Washington Climate Action bill—the next important step our state can take to reduce global warming pollution, build the clean energy economy, create green jobs for all sectors of society and increase energy independence.

The Washington Climate Action Bill will have two important objectives:

Reduce global warming pollution: the bill will give the Washington Department of Ecology authority to implement the pollution reduction goals established

by SB 6001 by setting responsible limits on global warming pollution produced in the state. Washington could then enter into a regional market-based pollution trading system—like the one now being developed by six western states and two Canadian provinces. A “registry” will also be created to keep track of major sources of pollution in the state.

Create green jobs: addressing climate change offers a huge opportunity for investment, innovation and employment growth in tomorrow's clean energy economy. The bill will create a new training program to prepare Washington workers for good jobs in that clean energy economy, providing pathways out of poverty for lower-income communities. 🌲

To find out more about the Washington Climate Action bill, contact:

Meagan Dixon

Field Associate, Climate Solutions

1601 2nd Avenue, Suite 615, Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: (206) 443-9570 x23; Fax: (206) 728-0552

meagan@climatesolutions.org

Local Solutions to Global Warming

The choices that we make today about how we manage growth lock us into patterns that determine our global warming pollution for decades. In order to achieve the State's goal of significantly reducing climate emissions, we must make responsible decisions now so we can reduce driving and promote efficient, livable communities.

Poorly planned irresponsible development is driving global warming pollution

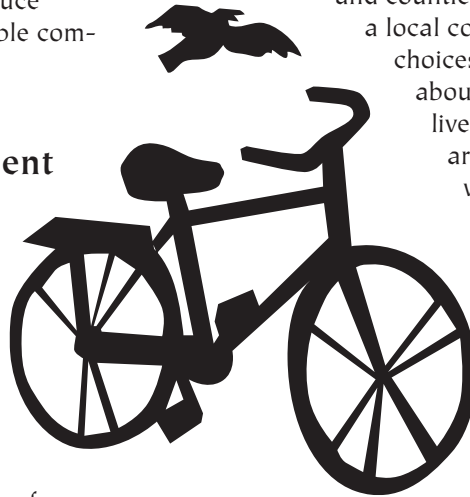
Poorly planned development creates auto-oriented neighborhoods farther away from jobs, schools, shopping, health care and other needs in our daily lives. The traffic which results from this development is Washington's largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, sprawling development is the leading cause of farm and forest conversion – another contributor to global warming. Washington loses ten acres of farmland every hour. Trees that have been cut down and farms that have been paved over lose their carbon sequestration function. Further, the loss of local farms results in increased greenhouse gases from hauling food across the country instead of across the county.

The first rule of holes: When you find yourself in

one, stop digging.

If Washington is serious about addressing our impact on global warming, we need to “stop the digging” by reducing irresponsible development in rural areas and on the urban fringe and by promoting higher intensity development in cities.

Our Growth Management Act (GMA) is an excellent framework for tackling global warming – most cities and counties are already required to develop a local comprehensive land use plan. The choices made in comprehensive plans about where a growing population will live and work and how they will get around have a huge impact on global warming emissions.



“Local Solution to Global Warming” would add a 15th goal of reducing climate impact to the GMA and identify reducing global warming as an important aspect of comprehensive planning. This provision would increase protections against land use decisions that increase global warming pollution

and would require local governments to proactively plan to minimize land use contributions to global warming. This approach will give local governments the tools and directive to make responsible choices about where we live, how we get to work, and how we do those with less impact on our climate. 🦋

For more information contact Futurewise Lobbyist April Putney; 206-343-0681 x120 or april@futurewise.org.

Local Farms–Healthy Kids

The Local Farms–Healthy Kids Priority addresses two major challenges facing our state: concerns about the diet and health of our children, and the well-being of our small and mid-sized farms. By getting more locally grown produce into our schools and food banks, we can improve children's health and create new and thriving markets for our farmers. Our schools and other institutions represent an enormous potential market for Washington's farmers, and the best vehicle for improving kids' access to healthy food.

The Local Farms–Healthy Kids proposal will increase access to local fresh fruits and vegetable for Washington's kids by:

- Easing restrictions that make it difficult for schools and institutions to purchase local food;
- Establishing a state “farm To School” program that will help connect schools with community farmers; and
- Providing much-needed dollars to low income schools and food banks to jumpstart efforts to get local fresh fruits and vegetables to the kids who need them most. 🦋

Kerri Cechovic, Organizer
206.622.8103, ext. 212
kerri@wecprotects.org
www.wecprotects.org

Upcoming Field Trips

Please call BHAS to reserve your spot:
360-352-7299.

Sunday, January 20, 2008
Port Susan Bay, Stanwood Area
Leave at 7am from
Martin Way Park and Ride.

Join Tom Schooley for a long day in the bird rich areas in northern Snohomish County. We'll start with the ducks on the Stanwood sewage ponds and work our way along the shores of Port Susan Bay. This is a central gathering spot for thousands of Snow Geese, hundreds of Trumpeter Swans, and tens of Ring-necked Ducks. There are raptors galore and the blackberry piles are full of sparrows. It is possible to find upwards of 80 species with cooperative weather. Dress for the weather, bring snacks and a lunch. If the group votes for an indoor lunch, Stanwood is nearby. Fortunately it gets dark early and we should return by 7:00 pm.

Saturday, February 2nd, 2008,
8 am to afternoon
Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge.
Leader: Phil Kelley

Phil will celebrate the end of hunting season, and the reopening of the full dike trail at Nisqually NWR. Winter visiting birds abound at this time of the year, and waterfowl are everywhere. Join Phil to see the usual suspects, and find any rarities that may be present. Enjoy the 5½ mile walk around the refuge, or just go as far as you would like, and return on your own. As usual, prepare for the weather, and pack food and liquids. Meet at the visitors' center at 8:30 am. Call Phil at 360-459-1499 to register.

Saturday, Feb 2nd, 2008
Hood Canal, 8:30 am to mid-afternoon
Leader: Andrew Beélik

We'll touch on the most promising estuaries in the Great Bend IBA, from Belfair to Potlatch, possibly also north to the Hamma Hamma.

Scouting in January will guide selection. This is one of the important wintering areas for waterfowl on inland salt waters, so we may count on up to 15 species of ducks, Brant, grebes, loons, Trumpeter Swans, Raptors, with luck a peregrine, and incidental passerines will add to the list. We'll meet at Twanoh State Park at 8:30 am, and depart from

there at 9:00. We'll be back to Twanoh by 3:30. Bring lunch and a telescope. Parking is tight along the canal, hence limit is 12 people, three cars. Call Andrew at (360) 426-6262 to make a reservation.

Skagit/Samish area Winter Raptor and Wild Goose Chase
Saturday, February 9th, 2008,
6:50 am to 6 or 7 pm.
Leader: Scott Morrison

This is our annual trek to the North to see wintering raptors and the spectacle of thousands of Snow Geese. There are many Bald Eagles, Rough-legged Hawks, the more common Red-tailed Hawks, and several falcons. This is the trip that we hope for a 5-falcon day, but that only occurs to the very lucky. Still, it is possible! We also look for Short-eared owls and Northern Shrike. There are lots of waterfowl, and the habitat for sparrows is good, as well. And did we mention there are Snow Geese?

Scott wants to leave the Martin Way Parking lot promptly at 7:00 am. The trip is limited to 3 cars, as the destination area is famous for narrow roads and few places to pull over. So that means 12-15 people depending on vehicle size. Call Scott at 360-412-1260 (he has dial-up internet so be intrepid) to register, and tell him if you are willing to drive and how many folks your car can handle.

It is a long day, so be prepared with food and liquids, and appropriate clothing. We typically return between 6 and 7 pm. 🐾

Field Trip report: **Chehalis Discovery Trail Trip**

Saturday, December 8th, I led a Black Hills Audubon field trip to the Chehalis River Discovery Trail in Centralia. The flood waters caused quite extensive damage, making most of the trail impassable. Washouts, fallen trees, and contaminants from septic shorted our trip on the trail. On the brighter side, we had sunny skies and a pond full of water with lots of waterfowl. A short walk back up the road to the slough produced even more birds. At the pond we saw lots of **Northern Pintails, American Wigeons, Green-winged Teal, Common Goldeneyes, Mew Gulls, one Ring-billed Gull, one California Gull, Black-bellied Plovers, and Dunlins.** Scanning the fields we saw 3 **Northern Harriers, 2 Bald Eagles,** and one **American Kestrel.**

Continued on page 7

Evergreen Cities for the Evergreen State: *Which do you prefer?*

This?



This?



or this?



This?



or Evergreen Cities?



Protect & plant millions of trees in Washington's cities.

It is time to stop losing the trees and forests in our cities. Keeping existing trees and planting new ones enhances quality

Continued on next page

of life for people, increases property values and gives us cleaner water and habitat for birds and wildlife. This proposal will help Washington's cities be evergreen.

2008 Legislative Campaign

Evergreen Cities for the Evergreen State
In Puget Sound, and statewide, declining water quality is compromising healthy communities and ecosystems. We are losing urban forests, and associated clean air and water, as our population increases and cities grow.

Washington's population is growing and by 2030 it will increase by 2.3 million or 37%. At that rate, Washington's urban footprint will expand by 29 new cities the size of Spokane or Tacoma by 2050.

Looking back since 1971, we lost over 800,000 acres (49%) of urban forest land surrounding Puget Sound. Environmental consequences are alarming: peak stormwater flows increased by 1.2 billion cubic feet (29%); 35 million pounds of air pollutants are pumped into the air annually; Lost tree cover in our cities has cost taxpayers over \$4 billion in stormwater and air quality management.

Urban forests are overrun by invasive plants. Many trees in these forests are at the end of their lifespan. Such dead and dying trees reduce forest habitat health, create hazards for citizens, impair ecological benefits and increase maintenance costs. Research shows 70% of the urban forests in Seattle and other cities will be ecological dead zones within 20 years. Proper forest planning, management and stewardship are necessary to reverse this trend.

It is time for Washington to stop losing urban forests. We must reverse this trend and increase our urban forests to clean up Puget Sound, clean our air and water, and to make our neighborhoods and cities attractive and livable.

The solution:

Restore our urban forests

- Develop a statewide performance standards and grants program to enable cities and counties to restore their urban forests.
- Require cities and counties to retain their urban forests through local ordinances and urban forest management plans.

What will the Evergreen Cities Act do?

- Statewide grants and funding for local governments
- Partnerships with volunteers to restore and maintain urban forests
- Statewide performance standards for tree retention and canopy restoration

- Local ordinances and plans to restore urban forests
1. Funding, Revenue, Costs & Partnerships
 - Amend RCW 80.28.300 to direct utility ratepayer contributions to local governments or their partners implementing this act with 1:1 state match.
 - Partnership with citizen groups for forest restoration, establishment and maintenance will be given preference in CTED's grant program.
 - Require DNR Urban Forest program coordination and alignment (i.e. grants and tech. assistance) to support with Evergreen Cities Act.
 - FY09 costs will be less than \$500,000 for CTED for rulemaking and Evergreen Cities grant program development.
 2. Community Trade and Economic Development will:
 - develop Evergreen Cities performance standards by rule by 2010
 - review and comment on local ordinances and management plans
 - provide grants to cities for ordinances, management plan, plantings, program development, implementation and maintenance
 - report biennially to legislature
 3. Cities and Counties will:
 - By 2011, adopt Evergreen Cities performance standards (ordinances) for:
 - tree retention, on-site replacement / mitigation,
 - total forest canopy goals, forest restoration/establishment
 - canopy / stand diversity for birds & wildlife
 - energy conservation, greenhouse gas emissions reductions / offsets
 - civil penalties for violating the ordinances
 - By 2015, cities complete and begin implementing urban forest management plans
 - By 2035, cities / counties will achieve *minimum* standards
 4. Counties will:
 - Apply city's ordinances to adjacent lands within urban growth areas
 - Use transfer or purchase of development rights programs to retain trees in rural lands outside of the Urban Growth Area
 - Not apply this statute or their ordinances to working farms or forest lands

Evergreen Cities Act — Frequently Asked Questions

What are urban forests?

RCW 76.15.020 defines urban forests as "land in and around human settlements ranging from small communities to metropolitan areas, occupied or potentially occupied by trees and associated vegetation. Community and urban forest land may be

planted or unplanted, used or unused, and includes public and private lands, lands along transportation and utility corridors, and forested watershed lands within populated areas”.

What is the urban forest canopy?

The total crown canopy formed by the leafy upper branches of trees within an urban forest.

Why do we need a statewide law?

Many cities have weak or no tree retention ordinances. Too often, developers consider violations of these tree ordinances as the “cost of doing business.” Trees are one of the most cost effective investments we can make to improve water and air quality. The state needs to provide leadership to ensure that The Evergreen State is full of Evergreen Cities.

What percent tree canopy goals are being considered?

Goals will be regionally appropriate. Equally as important are the strategic placement, establishment and management of these trees. In Western Washington, 65% canopy cover is prescribed to maximize stormwater management benefits. Urban ecosystems are dramatically different in E. Washington. Goals may be lower because water limitations to establish and maintain trees and because of lower natural tree species diversity.

How can this bill help cities reduce their greenhouse gas emissions?

Heating and cooling energy use can be reduced by 30% if trees are strategically planted around businesses and homes. By following CTED model ordinance, cities can dramatically increase their energy efficiency.

Does the bill amend the Growth Management Act?

No, it creates new Chapters in Title 35 RCW Cities and Towns and Title 36 RCW Counties, that will be consistent with GMA.

Does the bill apply to all cities and counties?

No. It applies only to cities whose population exceeds X,000* and counties exceeding X,000* or those adjacent to water bodies listed under the Federal Clean Water Act 303D list. Other local governments may “opt in” to be eligible for state funds.

Who currently supports this concept?

Audubon Washington, Avista Utilities, Cascade Land Conservancy, Conservation Northwest, Earth Ministries, Environment Washington, League of Women Voters; Pacific Forest Trust, People for Puget Sound, Sierra Club, The Nature Conservancy, Washington Environmental Council; Washington Conservation Voters; Washington State Audubon Conservation

Committee (26 Chapters), Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition...

How does this related to Green Cities Partnerships spurred by Cascade Agenda?

This bill is complimentary to programs like the Green Tacoma, Green Seattle and Green Kirkland Partnerships. Cascade Agenda is a key partner in this campaign. 🦋

**Complete figures unavailable at presstime.*

Chehalis Discovery

From page 4

During our short walk on the trail we saw **Yellow-rumped Warblers, Golden-crowned Sparrows, 2 Scrub Jays, Western Meadowlarks, and 2 Savannah Sparrows.** A **Merlin** made an appearance when we were at the parking lot, and later when we walked the road. Along the road and at the slough we saw 3 **Downy Woodpeckers, one Mourning Dove, one White-crowned Sparrow, 5 Wood Ducks, one Lesser Scaup,** and 3 River Otters.

Even though it was disappointing not to be able to continue down the trail, our group did tally 41 species in an area that was completely under water just four days prior. The parking lot has a small section that was beat up, which is not bad since it was under four feet of water. The trail will be completely closed until it is cleaned up, and this could take several months. 🦋

—Dave Hayden

Lobby Day

From page 12

representatives. Headquarters for the event will be United Churches, 110 East 11th Ave. in Olympia, opposite the Capitol Campus. There will be a reception in the evening.

Sign Up Today!

Register today so we can schedule meetings with all your legislators.

To register go to <http://pugetsound.org/index/lobbyday> or contact Rein Attemann at ratteman@pugetsound.org or 206-382-7007.

To learn more about the four priorities go to www.environmentalpriorities.org 🦋

Black Hills Audubon

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Black Hills Audubon Society is a non-profit organization. A member chapter of the National Audubon Society, it represents Audubon members in Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties.

Our goals are to maintain, restore and protect our ecosystems for future generations, and to promote environmental education and nature-based recreation.

General membership meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday evening of each month, September through June, at the Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 West 21st Street, in Olympia.

Board meetings are at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The site varies from month to month, so please call us at the office if you would like to sit in.

Phone and e-mail messages are welcome, but please remember that we are a volunteer-based organization, and it may take us a few days to get back to you.

The Echo is published bi-monthly. Editor: Linda Carter. Layout and design by Lee Miller. Graphics by Nature Icons/Ultimate Symbol unless initialed.

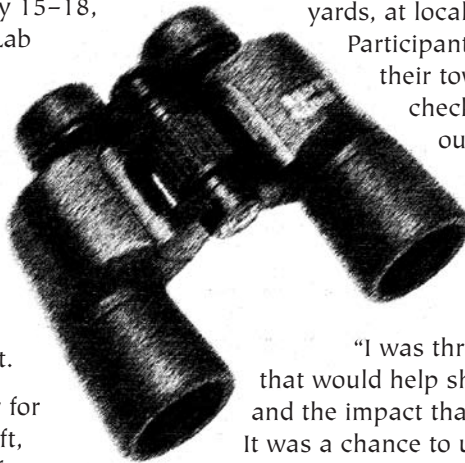
Material for *The Echo* should be sent to PO Box 2524, Olympia, WA 98507, or e-mailed to Linda Johnson at lindashair@comcast.net

Deadline for the March/April 2008 issue is **February 10, 2007.**

Great Backyard Bird Count is a Great Opportunity to Connect with Nature

Join millions of novice and accomplished bird watchers across North America to make your love of nature add up for science and for the future during the 11th annual **Great Backyard Bird Count** during “Presidents’ Day” weekend, February 15–18, 2008. Led by Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, anyone can count birds from wherever they are and enter their tallies online at www.birdcount.org and see the results within minutes. These reports create an exciting real-time picture of where the birds are across the continent and contribute valuable information for science and conservation about which species are declining and which are becoming more abundant.

“These volunteers are counting not only for fun but for the future,” said Tom Bancroft, Chief Science Officer for Audubon. “It’s fun to see how many different kinds of birds can be seen and counted right in your backyard or neighborhood park. Each tally helps us learn more about how our North American birds are doing, and what



that says about the health and the future of our environment.”

People of all ages and experience levels are invited to take part wherever they are—at home, in schoolyards, at local parks or wildlife refuges.

Participants can compare results from their town or region with others, as checklists pour in from throughout the U.S. and Canada. In 2007, participants sent in 81,203 checklists tallying 11,082,387 birds of 613 species.

From last year’s count:

“I was thrilled to be part of something that would help shed light on the environment and the impact that humans have on this earth. It was a chance to use my hobby for a greater good.” —Lauren, North Carolina

“Literally, there has never been a more detailed snapshot of a continental bird-distribution profile in history,” said John Fitzpatrick, Director of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. “Imagine scientists 250 years from now being able to compare these data with their own!”

Mark the date: February 15–18. Go to www.birdcount.org for more information. Just count the birds you see during these dates and enter the results online at the same website, either daily or at the end of the weekend. Get your friends involved and have fun! 🐦

Annual Dinner/Auction March 1, 2008

Guest speaker: Helen Engle
“Antarctica – Now and Then”

We hope you have already marked your calendars for our annual dinner/auction. If you are a member, you should receive your formal invitation in early February.

As the auction is a major fund-raising event for the chapter, please think about contributions to our auction. We are looking for:

- Good quality items, especially those with a connection to birds and other wildlife or the environment
- Field trip/Adventure opportunities
- Gift certificates for goods or services

We do need to know about your contribution before the event, so that we may record the information and publicize the item. Please contact Margery Beeler (e-mail: mswampcat@aol.com; 360-352-5437). Last minute items are a problem and we may not be able to include them. 🐦

Field Trip Calendar Planning

On Saturday, January 12, we are having a potluck dinner at 5:00pm to have a planning discussion for the 2008 Field Trip Calendar. If there are any folks out there in *Echo* territory who would like to offer their ideas or volunteer to lead a trip we have not previously offered, please feel free to attend. Also if you just want to begin to lead trips, even if they have already been done, we are always looking for new leaders. We will be meeting at Kristin Stewart’s home. Please call Kristin at 360-456-5098 or 360-402-1526. 🐦

BHAS calendar

Membership Meetings:

Thursday, January 17th. BHAS Membership meeting 7:00pm social, 7:30pm program begins. State Capital Museum Carriage House, 211 W. 21st. (behind).

Thursday, February 21st. BHAS Membership meeting 7:00pm social; 7:30pm program begins. State Capital Museum Carriage House, 211 W. 21st. (behind).

January field trips and events:

Saturday, January 12, 2008 5:00pm field trip leaders' pot luck meeting. Call Kristin Stewart at 360-456-5098 or 360-402-1526

Sunday, January 20, 2008 7:00 am to late. Port Susan Bay, Stanwood area. Leave at 7:00am from the Martin Way park and ride. Please call BHAS to reserve your spot at 360-352-7299.

Wednesday, January 23, 2008. Environmental Lobby Day

Sunday, January 27th. 9:00am to noon. Downtown Ducks Part Two. Leader: Burt Guttman. Meet at Tumwater Historical Park at 8am. Call BHAS at 360-352-27299 to register.

February field trips:

Saturday, February 2nd, 8 am to afternoon. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge. Leader: Phil Kelley. Meet at the visitor's center at 8:30 am to noon. Call Phil at 360-459-1499 to register.

Also On Saturday, February 2nd. Hood Canal 8:00am to mid afternoon. Leader: Andrew Beelik. Meet at Twanoh State Park at 8:30 am, depart at 9:00. Bring lunch and a telescope. 12 people, 3 cars only. Call Andrew at 360-426-6262.

Saturday, February 9th 2008, 6:50am to 6:00 or 7:00pm. Skagit/Samish area, Winter raptor and Goose Chase. Leader: Scott Morrison. Leave Martin Way Parking lot promptly at 7:00am. Trip is limited to 3 cars. Call Scott at 360-412-1260.

February 15th thru the 18th Great Backyard Bird Count. See article.

March:

March 1st 2008 Annual Dinner /Auction

Black Hills Audubon Society (BHAS) Membership form

Please fill out this form and mail it with your check to:

Membership
Black Hills Audubon Society
PO Box 2524
Olympia WA 98507

Black Hills Audubon Society is a 501-C-3 organization; your contributions are tax exempt.

Type of Membership

Yearly benefits

Member of Black Hills Audubon Society Chapter (BHAS) only

Singles or household—check appropriate box

- \$20, regular member
- \$35, regular member for 2 years **NEW!**
- \$50, regular member for 3 years, **NEW!**
- \$15, senior or full-time student
- \$25, senior or full-time student for 2 years **NEW!**
- \$35, senior or full-time student for 3 years **NEW!**

All dues go to support local Black Hills Audubon chapter efforts.

Receive the chapter newsletter, *The Echo*, which describes local chapter conservation action, events, and field trips.

Please make check payable to Black Hills Audubon.

Member of Black Hills Audubon Society Chapter and National Audubon (both)

Check appropriate box—singles or household

- \$20, first-time member price
 - \$15, Senior or full-time student
- Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.

Most of the dues go to support national efforts.

Receive the award-winning national magazine, *Audubon*, and the chapter newsletter, *The Echo*.

Subscription only—receive the chapter newsletter, *The Echo* (does not include membership)

- \$10 chapter newsletter only
- Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.

Receive the chapter newsletter, *The Echo*

- I would like to help Black Hills Audubon's programs of education and conservation.

Enclosed is my additional donation of \$_____

Renewals: please renew your National Audubon Membership by filling out the forms sent to you by National and sending directly to National Audubon. Thanks!

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/zip _____

Phone/Email _____

My check for \$_____ is enclosed.

Thank you for supporting the Black Hills Audubon Society!



Participate in Environmental Lobby Day, January 23

Black Hills Audubon is a co-sponsor of the 17th annual environmental Lobby Day, Wednesday, January 23 in Olympia. We have joined the state's leading conservation groups and hundreds of citizen lobbyists to push for the passage of the Priorities for a Healthy Washington legislative package. These four priorities include legislation for:

- Combating climate pollution
- Providing local governments local solutions to global warming
- Protecting and promoting urban trees in Washington's cities
- Bringing more locally grown produce into our schools and food banks

During Lobby Day last year, attendees participated in strategic briefings led by environmental organizers, had questions answered, joined ad-hoc teams, and practiced their powers of persuasion. Then they went to a 30 minute meeting with their respective representatives and senator.

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Olympia WA 98507-2524

Here's what one first-time participant last year had to say:

"I came home that night buzzing. I was on a high.... I felt the positive energy of grassroots organizing and empowering citizens to take action. And I felt empowered too! It was one of the most positive experiences I've had in a long time..."

—*Sylvia Moss, Seattle*

Sylvia and 250 citizens, representing 34 districts, last year visited 105 legislators at the State Capitol to promote four key environmental issues. In the 2007 legislative session Priorities for a Healthy Washington successfully passed ALL four of its environmental priorities:

- Governor's Puget Sound Partnership bill to restore and protect Puget Sound by 2020;
- Bill to eliminate the use of toxic fire retardant, PBDE;
- Securing \$100 million for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program;
- Clean fuels bill for energy independence;

On January 23, during the coming legislative session, the 17th annual lobby day, sponsored by the Priorities for a Healthy Washington and organized by People for Puget Sound, again will bring citizen activists from all over the state to Olympia to meet with their elected

Continued on page 7

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