

# Black Hills Audubon Society

Olympia, Washington

Volume 38,  
Number 5

September/October 2007



## Sightings

On June 24<sup>th</sup> Steve Irving from North Cascades Audubon, and myself, attended a Global Warming Advocacy Training with the National Audubon office in Washington D.C., along with 16 other enthusiastic chapter leaders from several states. Here is our story:

The purpose of this training was to begin putting our leadership to work with the grassroots network and strength of our chapters. It was also intended to teach us the appropriate way to visit with, and lobby about, the urgency of passing Global Warming legislation.

We learned that global warming might cause up to 50% of all animals and birds to be extinct by 2050 if global warming is not addressed in a serious way. To people who have spent much of their lives standing up for birds, animals and habitat this was dire news indeed! Twenty three states have already passed legislation to reduce carbon emissions and mandate some percentage of renewable energy—Washington State is at 15%. The average is 20% with a couple of states at 25%.

Federal legislators recently passed a bill to mandate higher fuel efficiency standards for our vehicles, but

*Continued on page 3*

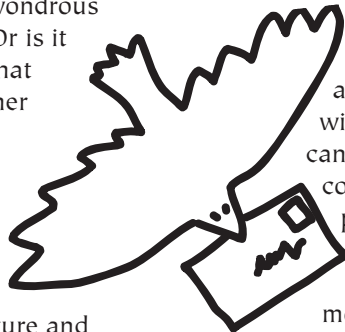
*Thursday, September 20*

## What is the Wolf?

Why does this creature fascinate us so? Is it because the wolf is such a beautiful animal with its blazing gold eyes? Is it because the wolf is so powerful? Is it because of one the most wondrous sounds in nature, the howl of the pack? Or is it because of all of these things and more that the wolf grips our imagination like no other creature?

Why are some people so terrified of this mystical creature? The amusing thing about this irrational fear is that the wolf is justifiably terrified of people.

Come and learn about this mystical creature and explore the world of the wolf with Jim Ashley. Jim has been a very successful tour leader at Wolf Haven International, and has assisted that organization with fundraising and outreach. He is a certified animal rehabilitator, having been named Paws Wildlife Volunteer in 2004. He has written extensively and lectured widely on wolf conservation.



*Thursday, October 18*

## Meet the Port Commission Candidates

All candidates for the Port of Olympia Commission have been invited to a question-and-answer program. Come with your questions and hear how each candidate, if elected, would respond to concerns about dioxin in Budd Bay, proposed warehouse installations, the Weyerhaeuser proposal, the economics of the Port of Olympia, and many more. The program is co-sponsored by Black Hills Audubon and SPEECH/South Sound Green Pages.

*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.*

## Restore and Protect – ACOW's Conference Theme

Tidepools, shorelines, bays, the outer coast, wildlife refuges, old growth forests, wild and scenic rivers, glaciers, wildflower meadows, and many of the areas in between...what do these diverse habitats have in common? Answer: The need to protect these ecosystems for future generations to enjoy and appreciate, and for the sustainability of our planet. Restoration of degraded or misused areas is necessary too.

That is why the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (OPAS) has selected "Restoration and Protection of Washington's Natural Areas" as the theme for the upcoming Audubon Council of Washington's (ACOW) semi-annual conference. This three-day event will be held at the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Center in Blyn on October 19, 20, and 21. More than 100 leaders from the 26 Audubon chapters in our state, along with National Audubon's Washington State office staff, will share what's being protected and restored in their region. And global warming is, of course, very high on Audubon's agenda—both nationally and locally.

During the conference, participants will have the chance to visit one of three special places

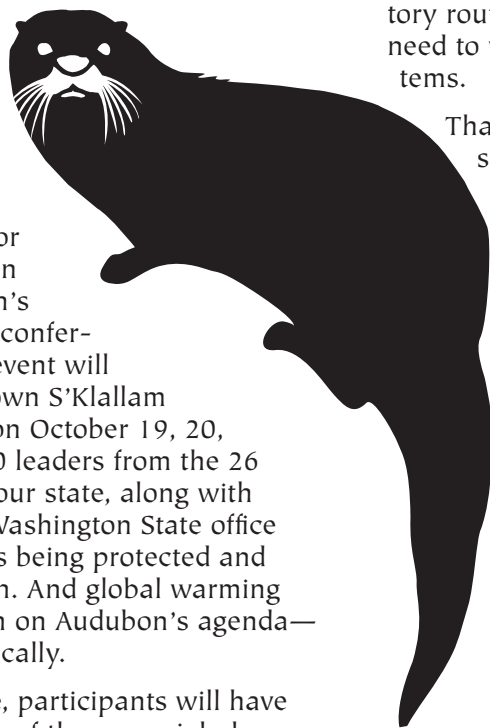
to see outstanding examples: the restored Jimmycomelately Estuary; the Dungeness River

engineered log-jam installation; or the future Elwha River double-dam removal project.

Each Audubon chapter has been asked to bring a portable display

showcasing an important conservation project in their region. Sometimes we become so isolated or busy within our own region that we forget that all areas are connected (bird migratory routes, for example) and we frequently need to work together when protecting ecosystems.

**Sometimes we become so isolated or busy within our own region that we forget that all areas are connected (bird migratory routes, for example) and we frequently need to work together when protecting ecosystems.**



That is what ACOW's esteemed feature speaker is doing—bringing together a partnership of many entities to accomplish a huge goal for our state: Cleaning up Puget Sound. Nationally renowned William D. Ruckelshaus, appointed by Governor Gregoire as chairman of the Puget Sound Partnership's Leadership Council, will speak at the conference's Saturday night salmon BBQ banquet. This Puget Sound cleanup effort will go a long way towards "Restoring and Protecting Washington's Natural Areas."

Please visit [www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org](http://www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org) for more conference information. 🦫

—Sue Chickman

### Bird ID courses

The Education Committee is in the process of developing several Bird ID courses for the community. We are hoping to begin the series by offering a Hawk ID class in October; however, the logistics are not in place at this time.

Please call the BHAS office at 360.352.7299 if you

are interested in the Hawk ID program and we will contact you regarding the particulars. There will be a charge for each program. We hope to notify the community of the availability of the bird programs by members helping to spread the word. These programs can only be successful if we have enough interested participants. 🦫

—Connie Christy

## Field Trip Report

# Paradise, Mt. Rainier

On Saturday 8/4/7, Kristin Stewart of the Black Hills Audubon led a field trip at Paradise, Mt. Rainier.

The mountain remained in the sun for most of the morning, but by 1 pm, clouds starting moving in. We started the morning with a stop at Longmire, where we had 3 **Red Crossbills**, 4 **Vaux's Swifts**, **Chestnut-backed Chickadees**, **Gray Jays**, and one **Hutton's Vireo**.

We then arrived at Paradise about 8am. Our group was treated to one **Evening Grosbeak** and 7 Black-tailed Deer right next to the parking lot. The group of deer consisted of one doe and six bucks ranging from a spike to a 4-point.

We hiked out of Paradise and went up the Golden Gate Trail. Along the way we had another buck, this one was a 5-point, two **Rufous Hummingbirds**, and **American Pipits** with lots of immatures.

At the intersection of the Golden Gate Trail and the Skyline Trail we had several **Pine Siskins**. We hiked about another 1/2 mile up the



Skyline Trail to where the trail cuts back to the left and starts going up. We heard "cluck" noises. We walked a little further up to where we could look down in the wet meadow, with a small stream, and spotted a female **White-tailed Ptarmigan** with

four chicks. Around the corner of the trail where the Lower Skyline Trail "T"'s into the Skyline Trail, we heard

**Gray-crowned Rosy Finches**, but we were unsuccessful finding

them. We ate our lunch at the rock outcropping along the Lower Skyline Trail before heading back down. On the way back, we once again checked for the **Ptarmigan**, and found them closer to the trail down below. The wildflowers were great, but

still not prime time. The Lupines are just getting ready to bloom. As for the butterflies, only 6 species: California Tortoiseshell, Milbert's Tortoiseshell, Edith's Checkerspot, Silvery Blue, Arctic Blue, and Arctic Fritillary. 🦋

—Dave Hayden

## Sightings

*From page 1*

the Senate failed to pass any comprehensive bill to cap carbon emissions and place a reduction timeline at 80% by the year 2050. There is similar legislation in the House of Representatives and we hope they can do better as the science of global warming is definitive and we are already seeing climate change occurring in numerous settings.

It was very interesting to go to the Capital in D.C. and visit the offices of Senators Murray and Cantwell and Representatives Baird and Larsen. We did not feel a sense of urgency from either Senate office and that was a bit disappointing. They did indicate however, that passing anything is extremely tough for this Congress and in time, good legislation would get passed. However, our experiences with our Congressman were better, especially Baird's policy aid. He was much more positive and we had a good discussion and follow-up.

We were treated grandly by the Audubon staff during our visit to Washington D.C. and got a renewed respect for the job they are doing at National Audubon. One of the highlights of the trip was meeting and talking to John Flicker, President of National Audubon. He had great praise for the staff of Audubon Washington!

We hope that we were successful in persuading the members of Congress that too much good time has passed already and that we must act now! This process has already given us new tools to work effectively at the municipal, county and state level as well as the National level to affect change. We hope, in fact dream, that we can all begin to understand that our **earth** is indeed our **mother**, and she is in trouble. And so it is that we must now fix what we have so egregiously broken, and in the process heal the hearts of humanity as well. 🦋

—Linda

# BHAS calendar

## September:

**Saturday, September 8th.** Migration on the Coast, 7 am to early evening. Leave Mud Bay park & ride at 7:00am. Dress for beach weather, bring food and water. Call trip Leader Phil Kelley to register at 360-459-1499.

**Wednesday, September 12th.** BHAS Board meeting 5:30 pm at Audubon Washington office.

**Thursday, September 20th.** BHAS Membership meeting 7:00pm social 7:30pm program begins. State Capital Museum Carriage House, 211 W. 21st. (behind).

**Saturday, September 29th.** Tokeland and other stops along the way. 8:30am to late afternoon. Meet at Mud Bay park & ride no later than 8:25am. Limit of four cars or 15 people. Dress for weather, bring food and water. Call Trip Leader Scott Morrison at 360-412-1260 to sign up.

## October:

**Wednesday October 10th.** BHAS Board meeting 5:30pm at Audubon Washington office.

**Saturday, October 13th** Exploring Capital Forest. 9:00am to afternoon. Meet at Mud Bay park & ride at 9:00am. Limit of three cars. Leaders Jim Pruske and Lonnie Somer. Call BHAS office to register 360-352-7299.

**Thursday, October 18th** Membership meeting: 7pm social, 7:30pm program begins. Port of Olympia candidates forum. State Capital Museum Carriage House, 211 W. 21st. (behind).

## Board of Directors 2006-2007

### Officers

President: Linda Johnson ..... 503-957-1812  
lindashair@comcast.net  
Co-Vice Presidents:  
Kris Schoyen .....360-754-1710  
kshoyen@hotmail.com  
Sam Merrill.....360-866-8839  
smerrill@zhonka.net  
Secretary: Susan Markey .... 360-438-9048  
slmarkey@comcast.net  
Treasurer: Mike O'Malley....360-943-2369  
michael.omalley@comcast.net

### Board Members At Large

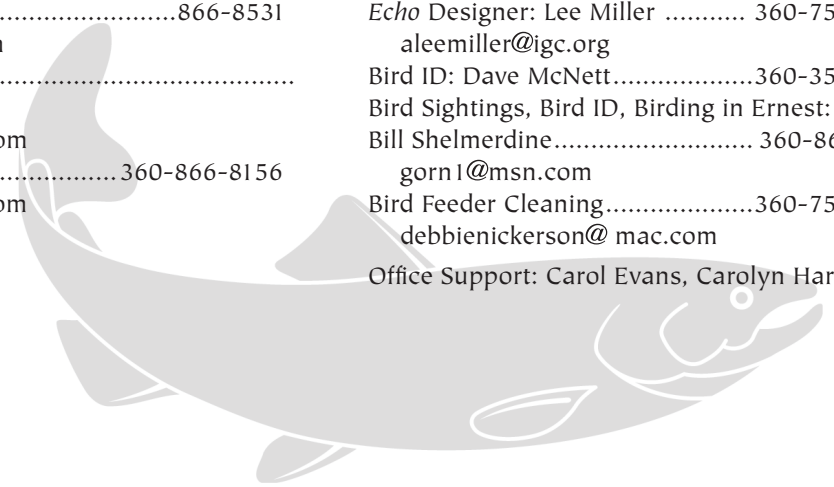
Connie Christy..... 360-570-1214  
Christy.c@comcast.net  
Carol Evans .....866-8531  
carollouh@msn.com  
Debbie Nickerson .....  
360-754-5397  
Debranick@gmail.com  
Whittier Johnson ..... 360-866-8156  
Whittierwj2@aol.com

## Committee Chairs (Board Members)

Membership: Margery Beeler .....360-943-5709  
mswampcat@aol.com  
Conservation: Sue Danver.....360-705-9247  
sdanver7@aol.com  
Webmaster: Deb Jaqua ..... 360-491-3325  
djaqua@comcast.net  
Field Trips: Kristin Stewart .....360-456-5098  
kristinstewart01@comcast.net  
Programs: Kris Schoyen ..... 360-754-1710  
kshoyen@hotmail.com  
*Echo* Editors: Bill and Linda Johnson .....  
503-957-1812  
lindashair@comcast.net

## Member Volunteers

Forest Issues: David Jennings ..... 360-866-7551  
nativeforest@gamil.com  
*Echo* Designer: Lee Miller ..... 360-753-0942  
aleemiller@igc.org  
Bird ID: Dave McNett.....360-357-3695  
Bird Sightings, Bird ID, Birding in Ernest:  
Bill Shelmerdine..... 360-866-9106  
gornl@msn.com  
Bird Feeder Cleaning.....360-754-5397  
debbienickerson@ mac.com  
Office Support: Carol Evans, Carolyn Harmon



### Black Hills Audubon Society

1063 Capitol Way So., Rm 205, Olympia, WA 98501  
Phone: 360-352-7299  
Website: [www.blackhillsaudubon.com](http://www.blackhillsaudubon.com)  
E-mail: [bhas@blackhillsaudubon.org](mailto:bhas@blackhillsaudubon.org)

**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 21<sup>st</sup> 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. Editors: Bill and Linda Johnson. 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](mailto:lindashair@comcast.net)

Deadline for the November/December 2007 issue is **October 10, 2007.**

# Upcoming Field Trips and Events

Field trips chair: Kristin Stewart  
(360) 456-5098

## September 2007

**Saturday, September 8th. Migration on the Coast, 7 am to early evening.**

**Leader: Phil Kelley**

Phil leads a trip each fall to the coast of WA to see migrating shorebirds, other fall visitors, and resident birds. Leave the Mud Bay Park and Ride at 7:00 to head west, probably stopping at the John's River Wildlife Area before arriving at Bottle Beach by 10:30. Phil and the group will then move on to Westport and the Midway Beach area, and end the day in Tokeland.

The itinerary may change based on specific bird reports just prior to the trips. As usual, be prepared for any weather at the beach. Bring food and water. FRS radios might come in handy as well. Call Phil at 360-459-1499 to register.

**Saturday, September 29th. Tokeland and other stops along the way.**

**8:30 am to late afternoon.**

**Leader: Scott Morrison**

This is another trip to the coast, but what a difference 3 weeks can make! At this later date there should be late migrants, godwits in the harbor, and the first of the wintering birds. As usual, prepare for a variety of weather possibilities, and bring food and water. This trip will be limited to 4 cars or 15 people. Meet at the Mud Bay Park and Ride and plan to leave there by 8:30 am. Call Scott at 360-412-1260 to sign up.

## October 2007

**Saturday October 13th**  
**Exploring Capital Forest,**  
**9 am to afternoon.**

**Leaders: Jim Pruske and Lonnie Somer**

Spend the day exploring Capital Forest to see what birds might be there at this time of the year. Gray Jays and Mountain Quail are resident, as are woodland birds. Also there should be mushrooms, and Jim is our resident mushroom expert. This trip is, in part, preparation for a spring trip when warblers

and other breeding species will be present.

If anyone has specific knowledge or tips about Capital Forest, please feel free to contact Jim (459-3655) or Lonnie at [wheelermombi@comcast.net](mailto:wheelermombi@comcast.net).

Meet at the Mud Bay Park and Ride at 9 am. This trip is limited to 3 cars. Call the BHAS office at 360-352-7299 to register.

## And later...

**Saturday, December 1st,**  
**9 am to noon.**

**Downtown Ducks, Part 1.**  
**Leader: Burt Guttman**

Large numbers and many species of waterfowl winter in the downtown Olympia area. It is an excellent place to see ducks, and learn about them, and Burt is an excellent person to help you sort them out. This is primarily a trip for beginners, but anyone who would like to attend is welcome. Meet Burt at the Tumwater Historical Park. Prepare for winter weather (disposable toe warmers inserted in your shoes are dandy for this kind of day), and bring a spotting scope if you have one. Call the BHAS office at 360-352-7299 to register.

## Goodrich Pond and Chehalis River

**Discovery Trail**

**Saturday Dec. 8th, 8am-early afternoon**

**Leader: Dave Hayden**

The Goodrich pond, along with the newly opened river trail, has made this area the hot spot for birds in Lewis County. Dave hopes to find a variety of waterfowl, possibly some swans, raptors, shorebirds, and any other possible wintering surprises. The trail is approximately 2 miles round trip. Dress for the weather. Meet at the Labor and Industries parking lot in Tumwater at 8 am. Call the BHAS at 360-352-7299 to reserve your spot. 🦋

## ID website

For those needing help identifying birds, Wild Birds Unlimited has suggested this website:  
[www.rightbird.com](http://www.rightbird.com).

# From the Membership Chair

There seems to be some continuing confusion about the options for membership in Black Hills Audubon.

*You now have two options:*

## National Audubon Society Membership:

You are also a member of Black Hills Audubon Society. You receive *Audubon Magazine* from NAS and *The Echo* from BHAS. Your dues go almost completely to NAS and national programs. Your renewal reminders come from NAS.

## Black Hills Audubon Society Chapter Only Membership:

You are not a member of the National Audubon Society. You do not receive *Audubon Magazine*. You do receive *The Echo*. Your dues go completely to BHAS.



Your renewal reminders come from BHAS. The new option for **Chapter Only Membership** was authorized by NAS when they decided they could not afford the past level of dues-sharing. NAS membership thus provides only a small level of support to BHAS. The Chapter Only category is intended to recognize the desire of some to have all of their dues/contributions support local initiatives.

If you have any questions, feel free to call Margery Beeler @ 943-5709. 🐦

—Margery Beeler

---

**Birdwise**, the locally produced, thirty-minute video program recently won an honorable mention in the Best of the Northwest Community Media awards for informational programs in 2006. **Birdwise** is a 30 minute program about birding produced through the assistance of BHAS volunteers. This program can be seen on **Sundays at 1:00pm** and **Thursdays at 8:30pm on TCTV Channel 22**. We encourage all our members to tune in to this fine program. 🐦

---

## Join Audubon! We Welcome New Members!

There are a couple ways for you to join Black Hills Audubon:

▶ **Chapter members** receive chapter benefits for a year, including our newsletter, *The Echo*. **Please make check payable to Black Hills Audubon.** All of these dues contribute to our efforts at the local chapter level.

\$20 Member

\$15 Senior or full-time Student

▶ **National members** receive national and chapter benefits for a year, including *Audubon* magazine and our chapter newsletter, *The Echo*. **Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.** Most of these dues contribute to national efforts.

\$20 first-time member

\$15 Senior or full-time Student

▶ **Newsletter subscription**—receive our chapter newsletter, *The Echo*, for a year without becoming a member. **Please make check payable to Black Hills Audubon.**

\$10

▶ **Additional contribution:** support our programs of conservation and education. **Please make check payable to Black Hills Audubon.**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*BHAS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible!*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

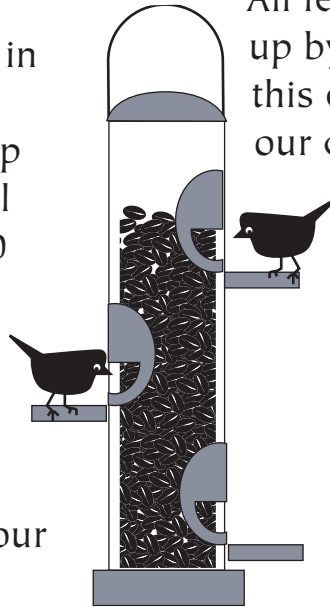
**Mail completed form with your check(s):**

Membership, Black Hills Audubon Society, PO Box 2524, Olympia, WA 98507

**Y12  
7XCH**

# Fall Bird Feeder Cleaning October 6th

Cleaning your bird feeders is especially important in preventing deaths of songbirds from bacteria build up in feeders. Our chapter will clean your feeder for \$5.00 (slightly more if especially large or extra dirty) on **Saturday, October 6th** from 9am to 3pm at Wild Birds Unlimited on Cooper Point Road. Drop off your feeder and pick it up later that morning or afternoon.



All feeders need to be picked up by 3:30pm. Proceeds from this event go to maintaining our conservation and education work. We still need volunteers to help clean that day. If you can spare any amount of time and wish to mingle with fellow Audubon members please call **Debra Nickerson at 754-5397** to volunteer.

Black Hills Audubon Society  
PO Box 2524  
Olympia WA 98507-2524

Nonprofit Org.  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Olympia WA  
Permit #87

