

### **Black Hills** Audubon Society

Olympia, Washington

#### Volume 38. Number 6

### November/December 2007

Sightings

As you read this edition of *The Echo*, we should be about done with our local elections. But, as I write this we still have our October membership meeting coming up this week.

We are excited to present to our membership an election Forum for Port of Olympia Commissioner positions. We have the League of Women Voters and the South Puget Environmental Education Clearing House as co-sponsors of this event.

BHAS feels it is very important at this point in time, that we try to get to the truth of some matters and dispel some of the un-truths. There seems to be two sides to every story these days and it becomes very frustrating for most of us to see what is real. Controversy swirls around our endeavors and produces so much angst. That, in turn, produces stubbornness as everyone digs in their heels, declaring their position ever more loudly, which then produces more anger and on and on we go.

I personally, would like to see us work more pro-actively and collaboratively at every step of the way. In my experience as a City Planning chair, I have seen the fantastic results of bringing all people to the table early on in any process that affects the community at large. It produces mutual respect, not only for the process itself and the laws we must work by, but also for the wisdom that comes from the people who are usually trying their best to do a good job for the community, as well as the intuitive wisdom of citizens.

I would like to encourage our membership to be involved, attend the Port Commission and City Council meetings. Work with BHAS to be out there with a stronger, yet kinder and more respectful voice. After all is said and done, we are all in this together. If we don't like the way things are going it is really up to us to help things go better. Let us be gentle like the animals and birds we so love, and preserve not only their environment, but ours as well. ⊁

-Linda

### Thursday, November 15 **Grizzlies**!

Will Patric from Conservation Northwest. an advocacy conservation organization, and Nan Landy, from the Grizzley Bear Outreach Project, an educational group, will do a tag-team presentation on grizzley bears. Nan is very knowledgable on bear biology and will give an overview with great visuals. Will then will zero in on Washington's own North Cascades mountain range and the plight of its remaining bears. Will and Nan will enlighten us on their work with state and federal agencies and communities around the recovery areas in an attempt to bring back a healthy population of this great animal in our wildlands.

### Thursday, December 20 **Holiday Party**

Come join us in a holiday party celebrating the successes of BHAS in 2007! Sometimes we don't have enough time set aside to share stories, gab, or just hang out with like-minded folk! Board members will be on hand to welcome new members and re-connect with staunch supporters over the years. Bring a favorite recipe or sample for our birdy friends who will be with us over the winter so we can exchange recipes—and hot cider and yummy cookies will be on hand for us bipeds.

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.

# Reflections

Have you ever wondered why a Steller's Jay does not plummet to the earth between its widely spaced wing beats? This species' flight seems in slow motion and ponderous, but amazingly, this jay stays aloft.

With a need to secure 15 credits to renew a teacher's certificate, I am doing an internship with The Nature Conservancy at its Shotwell Landing prairie nursery adjacent to the Black River, just south of Littlerock. During a break, it is sheer pleasure to absorb the beauty and wildlife of this unique slowmoving river and its riparian corridor that numerous agencies, jurisdictions, and non-profit groups have dedicated much time, money, and energy to protect. We should be very grateful for the efforts of so many to protect this area in western Thurston County.

# *Quality Rock Products asks to be heard by the Supreme Court*

Over six years ago, Black Hills Audubon Society (BHAS) began to contest a permit request submitted to Thurston County by Quality Rock Products (QRP) to expand a gravel mine and to locate an asphalt plant and concrete plant near the headwaters of the Black River. In the beginning, people suggested that the permit was a done deal. But BHAS, with remarkable support from its loyal membership, persisted and won in the Court of Appeals in February 2007 with a very solid decision.

The Court recognized that the Black River is closed to further water withdrawals in summer and that QRP had not adequately addressed its water usage for washing gravel, making concrete, and other water-intensive activities. (QRP does not have a water right.)

Nevertheless, in July 2007, Quality Rock Products requested that the Washington State Supreme Court hear its appeal. BHAS

responded to the QRP request. Then, in August, the Washington State Farm Bureau, Washington State Dairy Association, Washington Aggregate and Concrete Association, Association of Washington Businesses, the Pacific Legal Foundation, and three Washington building and contracting associations submitted three separate briefs asking to participate on behalf of QRP. The BHAS board retained Dave Bricklin and Devon Shannon to answer these three briefs with a second response brief. BHAS believes that the arguments presented by QRP (and friends) are weak. The Supreme Court will decide whether to take the case by spring 2008.

For one more winter, the Black River Corridor residents remain free from asphalt-tainted air. There will still be Steller's jays aloft.

#### South Sound Prairies are in Double Jeopardy

The protection of the Black River, adjacent to the Capitol Forest, is a conservation victory because extensive contiguous lands have been protected along a corridor. Connectivity of conservation lands enhances the movement of both plants and animals. The genetic pool for species improves with larger, contiguous areas of land—populations can die out on small, isolated "habitat islands."

Only three percent of Puget Sound Prairies remain; and Thurston County has a fair percentage of these prairies. Land trusts and state agencies would like to protect the high quality prairies that remain. Large tracts of prairies are desirable. Connectivity is also preferred so that butterflies, the Mazama pocket gopher, meadowlarks, streaked horned larks, and other prairie species can migrate.

However, there is competition for prairie lands. Only a few years ago, the gravels that underlie the prairies and which are essential for prairie plants and communities, were in high demand for construction. And suddenly, with the inundation of imported goods needing storage, Thurston County's relatively cheap, flat prairie lands are making warehouse developers salivate. Square miles of warehouses have been predicted for Thurston and Lewis Counties. South Sound prairies are in double jeopardy from the threats of gravel mining and warehouse development.

The Olympia Airport and the West Rocky Prairie, potential site of the South Sound Logistics Center, are two high quality prairies under imminent threat of development. This Echo issue will explore the Airport situation.

Continued on next page

#### *Olympia Airport—Formerly Bush Prairie*

In March 2006, the State of Washington listed some prairie species on its State Threatened and Endangered list. Two of these listed species have significant populations at the Port of Olympia Airport. They are the Mazama pocket gopher (State Threatened) and the streaked horned lark (sub-species, State Endangered).

The approximately 6,000 Mazama pocket gophers are the healthiest population in Washington, and are a likely source for the surrounding vicinity's smaller populations of pocket gophers. Most of the Mazama gopher population is located within a mile of the Olympia Airport. Scientists believe that the loamy, fine sand of the area suits this gopher.

At last count, there were 19 nesting pairs of streaked horned lark at the airport. An area of about 300 acres with a clear horizon seems to be a habitat characteristic that the streaked horned lark needs.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has been working on a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) for these two species. BHAS has been asking the Port of Olympia to curtail development for areas where the streaked horned lark and the Mazama pocket gopher are located until this plan has been released. Instead, the Port of Olympia continues to develop in a piecemeal fashion. In the past month, the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process to build a hangar on the west side of the airport was available for appeal. The SEPA for a parking lot for the Olympia Air Museum was open for comment.

BHAS and other environmental activists have asked the Port of Olympia to do an Environmental Impact Statement which would describe the cumulative effects of their plans for the extensive, nearly full, development at the Airport, mapped in a 2003 document. Instead, the citizens of Thurston County-the actual owners of these Port lands—are confronted with piece-meal development. We observe a nibble here and a bite there. Mitigations for wildlife loss have been minimal and/or non-existent for these two listed species. Who knows what nibbling, piecemealed project will be the straw that breaks the camel's back—what action will weaken either or both of these populations and result in their permanent loss? When will this stretch of habitat become an island too small for healthy populations to survive?

Over the year, BHAS has asked the Port of Olympia to halt further requests for development until an HMP with an effective mitigation plan is developed. The City of Tumwater is the jurisdiction which is responsible for approving development plans

> requested by the Port of Olympia. We ask the City of Tumwater to deny further development plans until a Habitat Management Plan has been approved by US Fish and Wildlife Service.

# Conservation and Restoration of Biodiversity

Let's return to the bliss of Shotwell Landing Nursery.

A raven croaks as it flies overhead. A kingfisher rattles from the distant river. A song sparrow chirrups in the Spirea-filled wetland as volunteers weed and care for prairie violet,

Indian paint brush, Lomatium, and other prairie plant seedlings. Thousands of seedling, from newly planted to over a year in age, reside in little yellow one-inch tube containers under three partially enclosed greenhouses. Thousands of hours and experimentation have been dedicated to the production of these precious prairie and sensitive plants.

The nursery manager explains that the ten of thousands of native prairie restoration plants that are cultivated here are used primarily in efforts to connect prairie patches. The thousands of plants are easily consumed by a small area of land. He explains that if efforts to restore prairies are going to succeed, then successful methods of propagating these species from seed will have to be developed.

As I weed prairie seedlings one plug at a time, I wonder why we allow intact prairies to be disturbed without first protecting some meaningful portion of the prairie habitat/community slated for development. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush, or Bush Prairie as the case may be.

-Sue Danver

### **Bird Count boat?**

If anyone has a boat they would be willing to take out for the day for the Christmas Bird Count, we would really appreciate your help. The boat would need to accommodate a small team of 2-3 birders.

Please contact George Walter at 360-459-8220 or Susan Markey at 360-438-9048. Thank you.

# **Christmas Bird Count**

This year's Christmas Bird Count will be held on

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. This event, sponsored by BHAS, needs volunteers to spend the entire day in the field counting birds in their group's assigned count area. This is a serious commitment and a whole lot of fun!! The day will include the traditional and convivial post-count chili feed shortly after dark at the Gull Harbor Lutheran church in Olympia, 4610 Boston Harbor Rd.

Our CBC is part of the National Audubon's 107<sup>th</sup> CBC. These events are more important than ever because the results are used as tools to monitor the status and distribution of bird populations across the western hemisphere.

Almost every year Olympia has the National-high count for the Golden-crowned Kinglet and the Winter Wren. This work is very important and very appreciated. To join in contact Susan Markey at 360-438-9048 or slmarkey@comcast.net.

### Wintering Seabird Survey

A recent study by Dr. John Bower at Western Washington University found that seabirds in north Puget Sound have declined dramatically since the late 1970's. **But what about wintering seabirds in central and south Puget Sound?** Well, we

honestly don't know and the volunteer Science Commitee at Seattle Audubon has declared it a priority to find out. We have established the framework for a citizen science project to take place this winter and for winters to come.

That's why we need your help. Might you be the birder we are looking for with a couple hours to spare every fourth Saturday this winter?

*Who:* A dedicated team of talented citizen scientists!

What: Wintering Seabird Survey

*When:* The first Saturday of every month, October through April. Count to take place within two hours on either side of high tide (4-hour window). Only 15 minutes per site.

*Where:* Central Puget Sound (eastern shoreline) from Edmonds Ferry Terminal south to Dash Point (south Federal Way). 28 survey locations have been mapped out, at least one mile apart.\* ► Would you like to help but live outside the Seattle area? Please contact Adam Sedgley at adams@seattleaudubon.org to learn more. The Seattle Audubon Science Committee is very interested in conducting surveys throughout central and southern Puget Sound. Take this protocol, find a site, visit it monthly over the winter and send us your data. It's that easy.

To learn more or to download the protocol, please visit http://seattleaudubon.org/science. cfm?id = 1168

> In field training with members of Seattle Audubon Science Committee, two possible dates:

Wednesday, September 19th, 6-8pm (at Golden Gardens in Seattle)

> Saturday, September 22nd, 10am-12pm (at Golden Gardens in Seattle)

Please let me know if you are interested in this survey and if so, which sites would you be able to visit, your birding ability, and which training session you will be able to attend. We would really appreciate your help.

#### Thank you.

Adam Sedgley, Science Associate,Seattle Audubon 206-523-8243 ext. 36 adams@seattleaudubon.org www.birdweb.org

### Field trip report Migration on the Coast

Under a bright sun, 15 of us assembled at the Mud Bay Park and Ride at 7 a.m. on Saturday, September 8, with trip leader Phil Kelley for the drive to the coast on the south side of Grays Harbor. Stopping first at the John's River Wildlife Area, we soon heard the deew-deew of the Greater Yellowlegs. saw several Long-billed Dowitchers, and looked up to see the first of several flocks of Greater White-fronted Geese fly overhead. Two immature **Red-tailed Hawks** took it easy in a dead tree. Later, a short walk across the road from Bottle Beach State Park produced a cooperative **Green Heron**. a Northern Harrier, and several wires full of Barn and **Cliff Swallows**, but none of the rails we had hoped for. Back at the Beach, our line of half a dozen scopes were trained on a group of Black**bellied Plovers**, from which a single **Red Knot** (not in breeding plumage) could be picked out, not to mention a nearby **Caspian Tern**. The Red Knot brought back my East Coast memories of seeing thousands of these shore birds gorging themselves on horseshoe crab eggs as they stopped over on Delaware Bay in route from the southern tip South

America to their breeding grounds in the Arctic.

We then headed to civilization at a marina in Westport where we found Surf Scoters, Red-necked Phalaropes, and Western Grebes. A second location in Westport yielded Brown Pelicans deliberately flapping their huge bodies just above the water, Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, several Brandt's Cormorants resting on a pier (although not on the pier with the California Sea Lion), and -only a few feet from all the human comings-andgoings-three Black Turnstones turning stones and a **Wandering Tattler**. Next stop was the windswept sand and dunes of Midway Beach. As our shirts flapped in the breeze, our scopes focused first on a pair of **Baird's Sandpipers**, then on a small flock of very active **Buff-breasted Sandpipers**, listed as rare in the Checklist of Gravs Harbor County. Our final destination of the day was Tokeland, where we saw a Whimbrel and several Willets, three Longbilled Curlews and heard Purple Martins. We watched a beautiful flight of hundreds of Marbled **Godwits** about the busy dock in the inner harbor, a fitting end for a wonderful birding day—but wait, several in the group went back to Midway Beach and found Pectoral Sandpipers and a Snowy **Plover**. All told, Phil's count for the day was 66 species. 🔭

-Sam Merrill

### Fall Bird Feeder Cleaning a Great Success!

True to traditional patterns, feeder-cleaning day dawned damp and cold. The mist and eventual rain did not hamper the assembly line however; we all stayed until the last feeder was cleaned and sanitized. It was a long day and I am so very grateful to all the volunteers who worked incredibly hard that day. We made \$1400.00 for the chapter, much needed funds to continue legal work on some local cases. I thank all those who brought in their feeders to be cleaned. Your support is much appreciated.

Those who gave their day to help out were: Margery Beeler, Deb Jaqua and her husband Jeff, Carolyn Harmon, Whittier Johnson, Sue Lederman, Susan Markey, Jean MacGregor, Maria Ruth, Jane Poole, Tina Peterson, Kris Schoyen, Andrew Smith, and Kristin Stewart. Your commitment to the cause is invaluable. It was a long hard day cleaning more than our normal number of feeders; it could not have been done without you.

Spring's Feeder Cleaning day is April 5th so

mark your calendars. We always need volunteers to scrub with us in the back so please call me if you wish to sign up to work part of the day. *Thank you!* 

-Debbie Nickerson 754-5397

### **Trip leaders potluck**

On Saturday, January 12, we are having a potluck dinner of field trip leaders to plan trips for the coming year. 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. Time to be decided by response.

# Upcoming Field Trips and Events

# Field Trips Chair: Kristin Stewart (360) 456-5098

# BHAS Office/Trip registration (360) 352-7299

#### Goodrich Pond and Chehalis River Discovery Trail Sat Dec 8th, 8am–early afternoon Leader: Dave Hayden

The Goodrich pond, along with the newly opened river trail, has made this area has been 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 8:00am. Call the BHAS at 360-352-7299 to reserve your spot.

#### Sunday, January 20, 2008 Port Susan Bay, Stanwood Area 7 am 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 possibleto 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 7pm. Please call BHAS to reserve your spot. 360-352-7299.

#### Sunday January 27th, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Downtown Ducks.

#### Leader: Burt Guttman.

Burt will continue his exploration of the waters of downtown Olympia in search of ducks, other water birds, and the passerines that inhabit the edges of the waterways. Olympia has been a wonderful spot for wintering ducks for many years. As usual these trips are designed for beginners, but anyone is welcome to attend. Dress for the weather, as it is often nippy along the water in January. On the other hand it is sometimes clear, even if cold, and the viewing is great. Meet at Tumwater Historical Park at 9:00a. m. Call the BHAS phone line at 360-352-7299 to register.

#### Sat. Feb. 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 5 1/2 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 Hood Canal Exploration Leader: Andrew Beelik

This is an early notice of Andrew Beelik's annual Hood Canal trip. The details will be in the January Echo.

#### Saturday, Feb 9, 2008 Skagit and Samish Winter Hawk trip Leader: Scott Morrison or Kristin Stewart.

Details to follow in the January newsletter.

### Satsop Christmas Bird Count

The Satsop CBC will be held on Wednesday, December 26, 2007. This bird count covers the area between Elma and Montesano north and south of the highway. It regularly tallies over 100 species and counters have found such rarities as Black Phoebe, Ruff, and Cinnamon Teal. Please contact Tom Schooley at schooleymccartan@comcast.net, or (360) 357-9170 for more information or to sign up.

# BHAS calendar

### November:

**Thursday, November 15th.** BHAS Membership meeting 7:00pm social, 7:30pm program begins. State Capital Museum Carriage House, 211 W. 21st.

There are no birding trips scheduled for November.

## December:

- Saturday, December 1st, 9am to noon. Downtown Ducks Part 1. Leader: Burt Guttman
- **Saturday, December 8th.** 8:00am to early evening. Goodrich Pond and Chehalis River Discovery Trail. Leader: Dave Hayden Meet at the Labor and Industries parking lot in Tumwater at 8:00am. Call BHAS at 360-352-7299 to reserve your spot.
- **Thursday, December 20th.** BHAS Membership Meeting Holiday Party 7:00pm social 7:30pm program begins. State Capital Museum Carriage House, 211 W. 21st. (behind).
- Wednesday, December 26th. The Satsop Christmas Bird Count. Contact Tom Schooley at <u>schooleymccartan@comcast.net</u> or 360-357-9170 for info or to sign up.

### January:

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

# February:

**Saturday, February 2nd,** 8:00am 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.

## **Black Hills Audubon**

Board of Directors 2007 - 2008

### Officers

President: Linda Carter 503-957-1812 lindashair@comcast.net
Co-Vice Presidents:
Kris Schoyen
kschoyen@hotmail.com
Sam Merrill
smerrill@zhonka.net
Secretary:
Susan Markey360-438-9048
slmarkey@comcast.net
Treasurer:
Michael O'Malley 360-943-2369
Michael.omalley@comcast.ne <u>t</u>

### Board Members at Large

### Committee Chairs (Board Members)

Membership: Margery Beeler ..... 360-352-5437 mswampcat@aol.com

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### Office Support:

Sheila Harper and Carolyn Harmon

#### **Black Hills Audubon Society**

1063 Capitol Way So., Rm 205, Olympia, WA 98501 Phone: 360-352-7299 Website: www.blackhillsaudubon.com E-mail: 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

Deadline for the January/February 2008 issue is **December 10, 2007.** 

#### Black Hills Audubon Society (BHAS)- Membership Form

Please fill out this form, and mail it with your check(s) to:

Membership Black Hills Audubon Society P.O. 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		All dues go to support <b>local</b> Black Hills Audubon	
	<ul> <li>\$35, Regular Member for 2 years NEW!</li> <li>\$50, Regular Member for 3 years NEW!</li> <li>\$15, Senior or full-time student</li> <li>\$25, Senior or full-time student for 2 years NEW!</li> </ul>			Receive the Chapter newsletter, <i>The Echo</i> , which describes local chapter conservation actions, events, and field trips.	
	<b>\$</b> 35, Senior or full-time student <b>for 3 years NEW!</b>				
	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			Most of the dues go to support national efforts.	
	Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.		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		Receive <i>The Echo</i> newsletter		
	Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.				
<ul> <li>I would like to help Black Hills Audubon's programs of education and conservation. Enclosed is an additional donation of</li> <li>IPlease make checks payable to Black Hills Audubon Society.</li> </ul>					
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:			City/State/Zip:		
Phone/E-mail:					
My check for \$ is enclosed.					

### Thank you for supporting the Black Hills Audubon Society!

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### In Memory of Patrick Sullivan

Patrick Sullivan was a superb birder, and an absolutely wonderful field trip leader. He and his mother led trips primarily for the Washington Ornithological Society, and for various Audubon chapters, including Black Hills Audubon. He was always attuned to helping everyone see the birds he saw or heard, he was always thoughtful and considerate. He paid careful attention to the cars in his caravans to make sure no one was left behind. He was a master at using FRS radios to keep track of cars, give directions, and point out birds seen along the way. Patrick also found many rarities around the region, and generously shared them with everyone. Patrick returned from every birding adventure to post detailed descriptions of the birds seen and their locations, usually accompanied by beautiful photos.

Patrick died on September 19, 2007. The birding community has lost a wonderful person, and an unparalleled resource. I, and many others, have lost a good friend.

Black Hills Audubon extends heartfelt condolences to his mother, Ruth of Fircrest. Contributions in Patrick's name may be made to Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge at 100 Brown Road, Olympia WA 98516, or the Patrick Sullivan Young Birder's Fund, Washington Ornithological Society, PO Box 31783, Seattle WA 98103.

*—Kristin Stewart* 

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

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