

In this issue...

New Optics at the Nature Store See page 8

The Mysterious **World of Bats** See page 3

Autumn on Steens Mountain See page 7

West Hayden Island: **Trouble Ahead, Trouble Behind...**

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

n August 14th, the City of Portland released revised draft annexation documents for West Hayden Island. The release comes almost exactly 2 months to the day after Portland Audubon resigned from the West Hayden Island Citizen's Advisory Committee in protest of a backroom agreement developed between the Port of Portland and the City that completely failed to address longstanding community concerns about the development's impacts on the environment, public health, livability, and transportation. The problems were compounded by a hearing schedule that would have railroaded the agreement through to adoption.

Under pressure from diverse stakeholders including Audubon and other conservation groups, the local community, Yakama Nation, and Planning and Sustainability Commission, the City recognized fundamental inadequacies in the original draft documents as well as the hearing schedule. The first Planning and Sustainability Commission adoption hearing has now been pushed back from July until the end of October to give the City time to remedy these deficiencies. The agreements will not reach City Council until November and December.

Unfortunately, it remains unclear, despite the elongated schedule, that much has actually changed. The newly revised annexation documents that were released in August show little forward progress. Despite a plethora of red ink, the new documents fundamentally fail to remedy the primary deficiencies of the earlier draft. Among the most critical failures are the following:

• Community Health Impacts: The City and Port inexplicably decided to wait until virtually the end



of the 2-year West Hayden Island process to begin analyzing potential community health impacts from this development — as it stands now, a Community Health Impact Assessment (HIA) won't be completed until mid-October. This is foundational information that should have fundamentally informed these documents. Instead the Port and City are literally trying to develop the HIA after the fact and then shoehorn it into the documents as an afterthought. The process should be suspended until this foundational information is developed.

• Environmental Impacts: The documents fail to provide anything close to adequate mitigation for natural resource impacts. The City has abandoned its commitment to seek full mitigation for the environmental impacts of this project. The result if this plan goes forward will be that our already degraded urban waterways will deteriorate even further. In addition, the plan allows the Port to begin filling the island's floodplains and cutting down its forests immediately after annexation — even though, by the Port's own admission, development is uncertain and at least a decade away. Finally, the agreement allows the Port to continue to place contaminated dredge materials in the natural area, an issue that has already resulted in litigation.



Barn Owl Release: On a recent Friday evening, we sfully released four young Barn Owls. The birds literally ne sunset at the beautiful Luscher Farm community gardens, where they'll help control the rodent population Γhe orphaned owls were found in a hay bale earlier this year. eathers grew in, then were moved to Portland Audubon's flight cages for a few weeks. This gave the young birds time to practice their flying skills before heading back into the wild.

• Floodplain Impacts: West Hayden Island is almost entirely in the floodplain and was under water in 1996. The development of West Hayden Island will result in Portland's largest loss of floodplains in decades. However, the agreements completely ignore floodplain impacts. Any other developer filling a floodplain in Portland would be subject to strict local regulations including "balance cut and fill," but in an act of pure political concession, the City and Metro have chosen to exempt the Port from local floodplain protections. In an age of global climate change, it is critical that the Port be held to the highest standards, not given a free pass.

continued on page 4

Swift Watch 2012

e are anticipating the return of the Vaux's Swifts to the Chapman Elementary School chimney in NW Portland, as well as other sites in the area, again this fall. Thousands of swifts gather in the air space above the school before sunset during

the month of September. Once the sun sets the birds funnel into the chimney and spend the night there clinging to the walls. This behavior is known as communal roosting.

Swifts began using the chimney as a roost site sometime in the late 1980s. For years the students and staff of Chapman School helped to protect their school's colony of Vaux's Swifts (Vaux's rhymes

with boxes) by waiting to turn on their furnace until after the swifts departed on their southward migration, usually by early October. In 2000 Audubon Society of Portland stepped in to help the school protect the swifts by raising the money to renovate the chimney and heating

system. Thanks to generous contributions from the Collins Foundation, the Metro Central **Enhancement Grant Committee**, and the **Autzen Foundation**, over \$60,000 was raised to make the structural changes need to accommodate the swifts. Northwest Natural helped by providing engineering expertise. Chapman School's heating system was converted from oil to natural gas with a new chimney installed for the gas furnace, and the old chimney was brought up to current earthquake

safety codes with seismic stabilization.



Vaux's Swift, aka "Flying Cigar" © Greg Gillson

Portland Audubon. **Vaux's Swifts with Steve Engel** at Leach Botanical Garden Manor House

Portland Audubon volunteers will be present at

Chapman School throughout September. Visit our

table to view specimens of swifts and their nests, receive

a swift fact sheet, and learn more about the activities of

September 5 (Wed), 7pm-8pm

Steve Engel, Adult Education Programs Manager, will give a presentation on the biology and habits of Vaux's Swifts, and things to keep in mind when viewing them. Please register with Jim Labbe at jlabbe@urbanfauna.org.

Audubon Night at Kruger's Farm Market — See page 2



Before you go:

on when to go,

swiftwatch.

what to bring, and

what to expect; see

audubonportland.

org/local-birding/

Visit our website for

important information

<u>Inside this issue</u>

Page 2 Page 3	From the Director
Page 4 – 5	
	Wildlife Care Center
Page 6 & 7	Trips & Tours & Classes
Page 8	Sanctuaries
Page 9	Field Notes
	Volunteers
Page 10	New Members
Page 11	Important Bird Areas
Page 12	Map/Hours/Sponsors

View this Warbler and past issues at www.audubonportland.org/about/newsletter.

From the Executive Director

Nature is a Social Determinant of Health

promoting the direct link between human health and a healthy environment for a long time. We advocated for including a community

grants program as part of Metro's Natural Areas, Parks & Trails bond measure nearly a decade ago, and now are taking a hard line to have the City and Port of Portland follow through with an environmental health impact study on the West Hayden Island community. Both of these examples demonstrate our commitment to bringing more resources to communities that typically are underserved and underrepresented in public policy arenas.

In the early 1960s, Rachel Carson sounded the alarm that widespread pesticide use endangers both wildlife and humans. Environmentalists have been beating that drum ever since. While there has been additional literature published and more people thinking about this link, I am more hopeful that this message is becoming a practice and the practice is becoming institutionalized. Here is what I see as promising. The United States and global organizations alike are now including categories such as nature, community planning, transportation, and agriculture as factors that contribute to the Social Determinants of Health. The World Health Organization defines the Social Determinants of Health as "the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age, including the health system. The social determinants of health are

mostly responsible for health inequities — the unfair and avoidable differences in health status seen within and between countries." Where we live affects our health and chances of living flourishing lives. Among the many recommendations are promotion of physical activity and economic and social policy responses to climate change and other environmental degradation that take into account health equity.

I have been interested in learning whether the factors that contribute to the Social Determinants of Health include benchmarks around things like access to parks and natural areas or, even more specifically, access to healthy and diverse ecosystems. I hadn't uncovered a lot that I could point to until recently, when I came across a U.S. government website called Healthy People 2020. Healthy People 2020 is a ten-year plan for health promotion and disease prevention that was a result of a multiyear process reflecting input from a diverse group of individuals and organizations. According to the website, this initiative is science based and strives to improve the health for all Americans through established benchmarks that 1) measure and monitor collaboration across communities and sectors, 2) empower individuals toward making informed health decisions, and 3) measure the impact of prevention activities.

Although this national program has been in existence for over three decades, a new component highlights

the physical determinants of health and calls out the natural environment such as trees and parks and the built environment like bike lanes and sidewalks. The Social Determinants of Health inform public policies at all scales and, optimally, allocate funding for implementation. It's this kind of recognition from health care professionals and policy makers that can potentially serve as a game changer for our region and beyond. It's this kind of qualitative data that can help the conservation community build a stronger case for increased funding toward ecosystem protection and restoration and highlight the importance of doing this in urban environments, where the bulk of people live.

Our region's populace has made parks, natural areas, and most recently environmental and health equity a priority. Noting that parks and trees are Social Determinants and are part of what constitutes health equity is a good start. But it's not enough. The World Health Organization is also calling for economic and social policy responses to climate change and other environmental degradation that take into account health equity. In my view, this is a link that can have some far- reaching and impactful on-the-ground results for people and for birds. With your support and encouragement, Portland Audubon intends to keep sounding the alarm.



Audubon Night at Kruger's Farm Market

17100 NW Sauvie Island Rd, Portland Friday, September 28, 5:00pm – 10:00pm

elcome the fall migration with fun for everyone at the Howl at the Moon Harvest Night at Kruger's Farm Market!

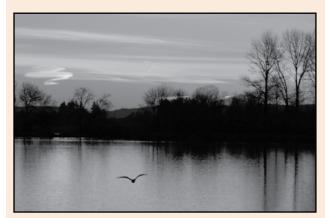
Just \$10 per carload benefits Portland Audubon

- Live Music by Jawbone Flats
- Trips through Kruger's Crazy Corn Maze
- Hay Rides
- Face Painting
- Harvest Bonfire
- Portland Audubon Activities
- Portland Audubon Education Birds



Take a hay ride on Audubon Night. © Tom Schmid

Rain or shine, help us celebrate the nearly full moon and bring your friends and family for a fun-filled evening that benefits the Audubon Society of Portland. The farm stand will be open, and food and beverages will be available for purchase. Please, no dogs!



Sunset at Fernhill Wetlands © Clean Water Services

Exploring The Intertwine: Birds & Beer at Fernhill Wetlands October 6 (Sat), 4:30pm-6pm

oin **Mike Houck**, **Eric Brattain** from Friends of Fernhill Wetlands, and staff of **Clean Water Services** on a birding foray that combines birding and a tasting of McMenamins' newly released *Fernhill Pale Ale*. The trip celebrates the inaugural release of *Fernhill Pale Ale* and improvements to one of the region's premier birding spots, especially if you're into shorebirds and waterfowl and Bald Eagles at Fernhill Wetlands, the crown jewel of Forest Grove's "Emerald Necklace." Efforts are afoot to connect the wetlands to trails along the Upper Tualatin River and Gales Creek, and ultimately to the Banks-Vernonia Linear Trail.

Recent improvements at Fernhill Wetlands include a new information kiosk and benches and, at long last, a restroom and picnic shelter near the parking lot. While these enhancements are great for human visitors, the most exciting development will be Clean Water Services' future creation of a world-class demonstration wetland with water features designed by renowned landscape architect Hoichi Kurisu to cool and aerate the water that will spill into Fernhill Lake.

Meet promptly at 4:30pm at Fernhill Wetlands on SW Fern Hill Rd, one-half mile south of the intersection of Hwy 47 and Hwy 8. Look for the parking lot on your left just south of the water treatment plant. Bring binoculars and scopes, and dress for the weather, rain or shine.

After birding we'll gather at McMenamins Grand Lodge (3505 Pacific Ave, Forest Grove 97116) for our celebratory tasting of *Fernhill Pale Ale*. If you migrate to Fernhill from near or far, look for special overnight packages at the inimitable Grand Lodge.

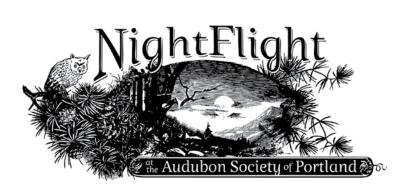
Birdfest Nature Festival 2012

October 13–14 (Sat–Sun) ridgefieldfriends.org

ome to **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge**, just 25 minutes north of Portland, for a two-day celebration of nature! Walk on



Audubon-led bird and plant tours, see **Portland Audubon's Education Birds** (schedule at ridgefieldfriends. org), and visit **Audubon's Nature Store booth at the Birders' Marketplace**. Reserve a spot on a tour to view Sandhill Cranes flying, or to kayak on a guided paddle tour. Visit an authentic replica of a plankhouse, see demonstrations on how Native Americans lived, and sample salmon at a traditional salmon bake. Watch your children have fun for free while learning about nature at the craft stations, storytelling tent, and children's bird walks. Go to **ridgefieldfriends. org** for all the details.



Mark your calendars for this family-friendly Halloween event!

Saturday, October 20, 2012 5:00pm – 8:30pm

\$12.50 covers registration and participation for first member of your group, \$10 per person for other members Recommended for kids 5-12

ome celebrate Halloween and learn all about the creatures of the night. Come face-to-face with Portland Audubon's Great Horned Owl, Northern Spotted Owl, Turkey Vulture, and Raven. **Trick-or-Treat with naturalists and enjoy a night walk to investigate what creatures haunt the sanctuary at night**. Event will go rain or shine.

Pre-registration is required. You can register online at **audubonportland.org/about/events/halloween** or call 503-292-6855 ext.108 for more information. Space is limited for event and walks, so register early!

Audubon Outings — Wild in the City and Beyond

Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome! = Mostly weekday excursions

= Sign-up needed

International

September 6, 13, 20, 27 (Thu), 7am-9am October 4, II (Thu), 7:30am-9am **Pittock Mansion Fall Migration Walks**

Everybody loves spring migration, but actually the most interesting birding of the year at Pittock Mansion is in September and October. With all the confused immature birds migrating through, you never know what might show up! Wink Gross will lead morning bird walks here on Thursdays, beginning Sept 6 and lasting through Oct 11. Note that **Sept walks start** <u>7am</u> and **Oct walks start 7:30am**. The walks will go to 9am or whenever you need to leave. Meet at the Pittock Mansion parking lot. Follow W Burnside 1.2 miles west from NW 23rd and turn right onto Barnes Rd. Follow the well-marked signs for Pittock Mansion for 0.7 mile to the parking area. TriMet bus #20 (Burnside/Stark) stops at NW Barnes Rd.

September 12 (Wed), 8am-11:30am Ridgefield NWR, Washington

Join us on a walk on Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge's Kiwa Trail looking for rails and bitterns. Meet at the Kiwa Trailhead parking lot on the River 'S' Auto Tour Route. The trail is a flat 1.5-mile walk and closes October 1st. From I-5 in Washington, take Exit 14 (Pioneer St/ Washington SR 501) and head west toward Ridgefield. At the traffic circle continue on Pioneer St for 1.8 miles and turn left on S. 9th Ave. Go 0.9 mile and turn right onto S. Refuge Rd. Follow it to kiosk area, purchase your pass, grab a map, and proceed on the one-way auto route to trailhead, about 2 miles on the right. Questions: **Ron Escano** at 503-771-3454.

September 17 (Mon), 8:30am-4pm **Bonney Butte**

Visit HawkWatch International's hawk watching and banding site on Bonney Butte in Mt Hood National Forest. We'll meet at the north end of the Clackamas Fred Meyer parking lot. Bring lunch and dress for Mt Hood area weather forecast. Registration required with Lou Fredd at 503-655-1856 or louisfredd@msn.com.

September 18 (Tue), 7:30am-Noon **Sauvie Island Shorebirds**

Portland Audubon and Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife have been working to restore shorebird habitat on Sauvie Island. Join **Wink Gross** as we walk through grassy fields and pastures to explore Coon Point and Racetrack Lake shorebird habitat. Meet at Coon Point parking lot (opposite Sauvie Island Kennels). All cars need a Sauvie Island Wildlife Mgmt Area parking pass, available at the Cracker Barrel Store near the bridge. Go north on Sauvie Island Rd for 2 mi and turn right on Reeder Rd. Drive 3.1 mi to parking lot on the left. Questions: Wink at winkg@hevanet. com or 503-351-0204.

September 27 (Thu), 8:30am-11:30am **Tualatin River NWR**

Join **Barbara Allen** for a 2-mile walk through a variety of habitats at this local National Wildlife Refuge to look for waterfowl, migrating shorebirds, raptors, rails, and other local birds. Meet at the refuge parking lot located just north of Sherwood off Hwy 99W. Questions: Barbara at 970-209-9209.

October 13 (Sat), 8am-11am **Whitaker Ponds Nature Park**

Meet leaders **Dena Turner** and **John Nikkel** at the park entrance, 7040 NE 47th Ave (0.25 mile north of Columbia Blvd). TriMet bus #75 stops at 47th & Columbia, from which you can walk to the entrance. If you drive, park outside the entrance as the vehicle gate may close without warning. We'll walk the one-half mile nature trail and observe the ponds, hoping to see both resident and fall migrant songbirds, shorebirds, and waterfowl.

October 14 (Sun), 9am-11am **Dawson Creek Park, Hillsboro**

Join Max Smith and Sarah Swanson for a walk through the brilliant fall foliage of Dawson Creek Park. We'll watch Acorn Woodpeckers store their winter's crop, look for migrating waterfowl, and practice our songbird identification skills. Meet at north end of Hillsboro Library parking lot at 2850 NE Brookwood Parkway. Questions: Max at 503-720-9730.

October 17 (Wed), 8:30am-Noon Sauvie Island

We will meet at the General Store. Parking permits are required on the island. We'll arrange carpooling at 8:30am, as the roads are very narrow. Registration required with **Dudley Thomas** at dbthomas 70@gmail.com or 503-317-1663 before 6pm.

October 20 (Sat), 8am-Noon Rentenaar Rd, Sauvie Island

Join **Ron Escano** for a waterfowl and fall sparrow adventure on Sauvie Island. All vehicles need a Sauvie Island parking permit (allow 25 minutes to drive from bridge to meeting place). Meet at Eastside Check Station parking lot at corner of Reeder & Rentenaar Rds. We'll walk Rentenaar Rd and back (1.6 miles round trip). From the Sauvie Island bridge off Hwy 30, take Sauvie Island Rd north 2 miles to Reeder Rd intersection. Turn right on Reeder and continue north 9 miles to the Eastside Check Station and Rentenaar Rd on the left. Questions: Ron at 503-771-3454.

FREE EVENT!

Vulture Awareness Day **Vulture** Awareness Day

Sat, Sept I, Ilam-3pm **Heron Hall — Free**

Vultures play an important role in reducing disease, but their numbers are dwindling. It's up to us to help save them. Here are a few of the day's activities:

- Meet Ruby the Turkey Vulture up close!
- Make a crafted vulture and mask
- Make a pledge to help vultures survive

Come help us celebrate the beauty of vultures!

NATURENIGHTS

Second Tuesday of the month from September to May. If you have a suggestion for a Nature Night presentation, contact Pam Meyers at pmeyers@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855 ext.130.

Restoring Life to a Tidal Marsh

Tuesday, October 9 7pm, Heron Hall

with Roy Lowe

thriving tidal marsh is more than just a pretty place. This valuable component of the coastal



Tidal salt marsh in Coquille River

FREE and

open to the

ecosystem is enormously productive, supporting a rich array of invertebrates, fish, birds, and mammals. Tidal marshes offer shelter and food for wildlife, ranging from young salmon to shorebirds and songbirds using the Pacific Flyway along Oregon's

Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge contains the largest remaining tidal salt marsh within the Coquille River estuary. Located on the southern Oregon coast, it is an oasis for migrating shorebirds, waterfowl, and coho salmon. Many decades ago, the 418-acre section of Bandon now known as the Ni-les'tun Unit had been diked and turned into pastures, ruining the marsh habitat.

Renowned coastal Refuge manager **Roy Lowe** will tell the heartening story of the restoration of the Unit to the historic salt marsh habitat that existed there more than 100 years ago. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its many partners pursued the goal of restoring Ni-les'tun for over a decade, completing the restoration in September 2011. This complex project is the largest tidal marsh restoration project ever constructed in Oregon, and doubled the amount of tidal salt marsh habitat within the estuary. Roy will share photos of the restoration process and the wildlife of a healthy marsh.

Roy W. Lowe is the Project Leader for the Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex, and has been based in Newport, OR since 1985. The Complex includes six National Wildlife Refuges (Three Arch Rocks among them) and two Wilderness Areas along 320 miles of the Oregon coast. Roy received his BS degree in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University, and has been employed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the past 35 years, with previous experience in Alabama and San Francisco.

Please join us for this enlightening presentation!

Wings in the Night: The Mysterious World of Bats with Pat Ormsbee

Tuesday, September 11 7pm, Heron Hall

ats are so cool. Bats are the only flying mammals, they live a long time — and they wash behind their ears!

They can fly 20 to 30 miles per hour and use echolocation to get around in the dark. These hardworking animals can fly over 100 miles in a night, and eat 1,200 mosquitoes and other insects — each — per hour!

Bat expert **Pat Ormsbee** will talk about these and many other aspects of these fascinating creatures. Using photos and video of bats in action, she will provide a primer on the bats of the Pacific Northwest and share some amazing information about bat natural history including their flight, echolocation, roosting habits, reproduction and pup rearing, habitat, and conservation issues. Pat will also cover the latest scientific bat research, human social attitude toward bats, and their evolution and diversity.

Pat Ormsbee has two degrees from Oregon State University: her undergraduate work was in forest natural resource management and her Masters was in wildlife science, conducting one of the first radiotelemetry studies on bats in the Pacific Northwest. She has worked a number of wildlife and wilderness management jobs in her 30-plus years with the U.S. Forest Service, and is currently the USFS and BLM Bat Specialist for Oregon and Washington. A primary focus of Pat's work has been developing, testing, and implementing survey methods for inventorying and monitoring bats in the Pacific Northwest and providing training to field biologists to conduct these surveys.

White Nose Syndrome has also become a recent focus of Pat's work; she is the Regional Team Lead for the PNW Interagency White Nose Syndrome Response Team, and sits on the National WNS Surveillance Committee, Population Monitoring Committee, and decontamination protocol team.

Join us in the mysterious world of bats!

Conservation

Tough Year for Portland's Peregrine Falcons

by Bob Sallinger

udubon has completed its 19th year of monitoring Portland's Peregrine Falcon population. All told more than a dozen volunteers gave more than 150 hours to track our growing population. The 2012 data will be incorporated into statewide and national surveys that are done every 3 years to ensure that populations of this once critically endangered species remain healthy. Portland Audubon was instrumental in ensuring that these surveys required by the Endangered Species Act were actually conducted — in 2001 we brought a lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service after it failed to come forward with a monitoring plan on its own. As a result of that lawsuit, a robust monitoring plan is now in place.

Unfortunately, 2012 was not a good year for our local falcons. Out of 10 sites we monitored, only 3 produced a total of 6 known young. This is significantly lower than what we typically see in most years. The Fremont Bridge, which was Portland's first nest site and which as far as we know has produced more young than any other site in Oregon since peregrine recovery began, continued to be productive, fledging 4 young. This brings the total number of young produced at this site since 1994 to an amazing 58 birds!

Overall, Peregrine Falcon populations in Portland, across Oregon, and nationwide appear to be doing well, so a single



© Mary Coolidge



© Bob Salling

Images from Peregrine Falcon banding on the Fremont Bridge



© Mary Coolidge

year with low local success is not necessarily significant. However, it speaks to the need to remain vigilant and ensure that peregrine populations, which we spent decades recovering from the brink of extinction, remain healthy.

Thanks to the following volunteers to their contributions to the 2012 Peregrine Watch: Trish Cox, Pat Crane, Mary Doak, Laurie Frajola, Kay Koestler, Karen Kruse, Glenda Martin, Michelle Mintmier, Jacqui Parker, Karen Schaeffer, Cynthia Zemaitis, and Ann Zawaski.

West Hayden Island

continued from front cover

- Best Management Practices: The Port has repeatedly assured the community that it would build a state-of-the-art "green" facility and include a strong suite of best management practices in the annexation agreements. However, the majority of the best management practices that were included simply require the Port to meet the minimum requirements of the law.
- Community Impacts: The City is requiring the Port to pay \$25,000 per year into a community fund (\$40,000 per year during construction and potentially subject to limited increases if traffic projections are exceeded). This is far below the actual annual impacts the community will suffer if this project moves forward. To put the agreement in perspective, \$25,000 is less than half the annual raise that the Port Commission voted to give to the Port's Executive Director in 2010, in part for his efforts to develop West Hayden Island.
- Transportation Impacts: The Transportation Plan is predicated on the CRC being built as per its already discredited 2011 design and will run upwards of 600 trucks a day through downtown Janzen Beach. North Hayden Island Drive will be re-designated as a "major truck route" and taxpayers are on the hook for paying millions of dollars to subsidize road improvements on the island. The City and Port have repeatedly ignored concerns raised not only by the local community but also by independent consultants ECONorthwest about transportation impacts.
- Natural Area Ownership, Management, and Funding: The documents fail to address long-term management, funding, and ownership of the remaining natural area on West Hayden Island. These issues have simply been kicked down the road.
- **Economic Concerns**: The documents fail to address significant concerns about the economic benefits of developing West Hayden Island raised by independent consultants ECONorthwest. For example, ECONorthwest wrote that while land consumption and cargo increased in Portland Harbor between 2002 and 2008, jobs have been decreasing due to automation and other factors. Notably, while the Port justifies this project based on job creation, it has simultaneously rejected any provisions that would tie public investment to actual job creation. After previewing the ECONorthwest report, the Portland *Tribune* wrote that their response to development on West Hayden Island was "tepid," "lukewarm," and "tossed cold water on the Port's plans to develop new marine terminals" (from "Port Plan for Island gets Tepid Response: Consultant Urges Use of Vancouver Site, Not West Hayden Island," Portland Tribune, March 29, 2012). However, the ECONorthwest reports are virtually invisible in the City's own analysis of this project.
- Alternative Sites: The City continues to ignore ECONorthwest's conclusion that "Given the most recent forecasts of demand, and reasonable assumptions on current capacity and the likely size of new terminals, it would appear that the Port of Vancouver has a surplus of vacant industrial land to accommodate their likely future demand, and should the Port of Portland be unable to accommodate forecast growth, the Port of Vancouver could accommodate some (and perhaps all) of that growth." Instead the City allows the Port to perpetuate a competitive system that results in inefficient land use and duplicative facilities, and which has resulted in ports along the Columbia River considering coal facilities to fill their vacant land.
- Long-term Public Participation: The draft agreements defer many of the most important decisions on West Hayden Island to future processes. In 2011, however, the Port of Portland strongly supported passage of Senate Bill 766, legislation which severely restricts the public's ability to participate in decision-making on industrial lands designated as "regionally significant." The City and Port continue to reject inclusion of provisions in the annexation agreements that would preclude the Port from seeking SB 766 protection and excluding the public from future decisions.

In addition, the process continues to be marked by an excessive number of meetings, often scheduled with

continued on page 5

Bich Trinh Moves On

by Jim Labbe, Urban Conservationist

ur East Portland Office Communicator, Bich Trinh, is moving on to new opportunities. She was hired in February 2011 and has done a spectacular job coordinating events, leading outings, and conducting outreach in East Portland for the last year and a half. Bich recently got a full-time teaching job with Portland Public Schools, and we will miss her greatly. But she will stay in the neighborhood; her teaching position is at Harrison Park Elementary School on SE 87th and Harrison. Thank you, Bich!



Bich Trinh (far right) leads a paddle trip on the Columbia Slough with youth from the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO). © Kathy Wai

Marbled Murrelet at sea.

Photo: R.Lowe/USFWS

State of Oregon Suspends 10 State Forest Timber Sales in Marbled Murrelet Habitat in Response to Lawsuit

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

In May we reported that Portland Audubon, Cascadia Wildlands, and Center for Biological Diversity had filed a lawsuit in federal court to stop logging in Oregon's Elliot, Tillamook, and Clatsop State Forests that was harming federally listed Marbled Murrelets. The lawsuit alleges that the state's logging practices in the Tillamook, Clatsop, and Elliott State Forests are illegally "taking" the imperiled seabird in violation of the Endangered Species Act. The litigation is already having a significant impact.

In July, the State of Oregon agreed to suspend 3 timber sales and agreed to hold off on auctioning 7 additional sales to give the case time to move through the court system. While the delay is only temporary pending the outcome of the case, it is none the less significant — much of this habitat, constituting more than 800 acres, would already be gone if not for this lawsuit.



of scientifically

management plans

for our coastal state

supported

forests.

Murrelet chick © Peter Halasz

develop habitat conservation plans (HCPs) for the 3 forests that would have given it a federal permit for limited impacts to Marbled Murrelets in exchange for habitat protection measures designed to enhance the bird's conservation.

Rather than improving habitat protections, the

Rather than improving habitat protections, the state turned its back on murrelets and other listed species altogether by walking away from the HCP process. The lawsuit seeks to force the state to develop a plan that will protect murrelets and the mature forests on which these birds and other species depend.

The suspension of the timber sales is an important interim measure while the litigation proceeds. However it is important for the state to realize that these and other sales

Marbled Murrelet nesting © Thomas Hamer

in murrelet habitat are still at real risk of proceeding in the future. Ultimately we are asking the court to permanently stop the worst of the state's timber sales, and encouraging Governor Kitzhaber to initiate the development The most recent status review of Marbled Murrelets by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found the birds have been declining at a rate of approximately 4% per year and that this decline likely relates to continued loss of habitat, primarily on state and private lands.

Oregon recently abandoned its decade-long attempt to

The conservation organizations are represented by outside counsel Daniel Kruse of Eugene, Tanya Sanerib and Chris Winter of the Crag Law Center, Nick Cady of Cascadia Wildlands, Scott Jerger of Field Jerger LLP, and Susan Jane Brown of the Western Environmental Law Center.

PSU Conducts First-Time Study of Backyard Habitats

by Nikkie West, Conservation Program Assistant

ow do Certified Backyard Habitats contribute to biodiversity? Since 2005, more than 1,300 yards in Portland and Lake Oswego have enrolled in the Backyard Habitat Certification Program — and about 450 of those have met the certification criteria and are proudly displaying their Backyard Habitat sign.

But what difference has it made to native moths, butterflies, and birds? Is the difference more pronounced if your habitat is close to a park or greenspace or to another backyard habitat? We would expect that a greater abundance of native plants would result in a greater abundance of native insect herbivores like caterpillars. About 96% of terrestrial birds rear their young on insects, so increased abundance of insects on any landscape would be meaningful for declining local bird populations.

With support from the Backyard Habitat Certification Program, faculty and researchers from Portland State University, National Phenology Network, and Oregon State University are studying the cumulative impacts from backyard habitats. This research project is the first of its kind in the Portland region and, with enough momentum and funding, could lead to results that are impactful on a national scale.

continued from page 4

minimal notice and held before key documents are actually available for discussion. The City appears to be attempting to remedy the bad process to date by overwhelming the community with a multitude of additional ineffective meetings, rather than establishing a reasonably sequenced process with adequate notice and spacing to allow for real stakeholder participation.

The Port of Portland continues to steadfastly refuse to do what is necessary to mitigate for impacts to the community and the environment. Backed by a cadre of industrial lobbying groups, they claim that taking care of the community and the environment simply does not pencil out.

The community, though, has every reason to be skeptical of the Port's claims of poverty. In August, while Port staff was contesting every nickel and dime on West Hayden Island, the Port of Portland Commission blithely voted to voluntarily pay up to \$4.7 million in public funds to ITCSI, a company located in the Philippines that it contracts with to run Terminal 6. The payment is a voluntary gift to a company nearly 6,700 miles away which is owned by a billionaire and which turned a \$130.5 million profit last year, in order to compensate it for financial losses that it may have suffered due to the recent longshoremen strike. In 2010 when the Port originally hired ITCSI, it assured the community that the contract would protect our local jobs and local economy and reverse years of unprofitability at Terminal 6. Two years later, their management has resulted in a strike, shippers bypassing Portland, and a voluntary gift of \$4.7 million in public funds flowing out of our local economy. When it comes to paying their industrial partners, the Port seems to have money to burn, but when it comes to protecting the community and the environment, the Port cries poverty.

In the coming weeks the community will hear a great deal of rhetoric from the Port and industrial lobbying groups arguing that the Port bought West Hayden Island with the expectation that it would be allowed to develop. In fact the Port took West Hayden Island from a private landowner using its powers of condemnation, knowing full well that West Hayden Island was neither annexed nor zoned for industrial development and that there was strong public opposition to industrial development at this site.

The annexation and rezoning process is a completely appropriate place for the public to weigh in, raise concerns, and challenge a change in land use that will adversely impact our communities and our environment. The Port's repeated assertions to the contrary show a fundamental disrespect for the public process. The fact is that the Port speculated when it took West Hayden Island for purposes that were not allowed under the current land use designations. If the Port remains unwilling or unable to move forward in a manner which adequately addresses legitimate environmental, community, transportation, and economic concerns, the community should reject their request.



This spring, PSU faculty member Marion Dresner contacted Audubon to see if the BHCP would be interested in supporting this research. In the months that followed, Dresner and a small group of graduate students began working with BHCP staff to identify target neighborhoods, design the study, and conduct preliminary surveys.

During this study, Backyard Habitat Program sites in the Laurelhurst and Hillsdale neighborhoods are being monitored for native species and compared with control sites not subject to restoration. Each site's proximity to the nearest greenspace, either Laurelhurst Park (Laurelhurst) or Keller Woods (Hillsdale) is also being considered, as well as the proximity of the sites to each other. The project is attempting to determine the degree to which the native foodweb is being restored through our community-based restoration efforts.

On a recent Saturday evening, participating property owners carefully arranged a series of traps for moths and flying insects. In the morning, a group of ecologists with the Ecological Society of America, PSU graduate students, Master Gardeners, community members, and an Oregon





Images from the Hillsdale bioblitz © Robin Jensen

Public Broadcasting film crew conducted a "bioblitz" of target sites. We walked from home to home and collected the contents of each trap. The group returned to a central hub in each neighborhood and spent the afternoon sorting and identifying hundreds of moths and other flying insects.

So what did we find? The preliminary results are no surprise; yards that have native plant habitat and are close to naturally maintained greenspaces have higher species richness of moths and birds compared to yards farther from greenspaces and yards without native plant habitats.

Where do we go from here? All of the work done to date is to build momentum for a proposal PSU will submit to the Nation Science Foundation to fund a more long-term and comprehensive study that would investigate the long-term impacts of backyard habitats both ecologically and socially. Wish us luck and stay tuned!

Wildlife Care Center

Fledgling Cooper's Hawk Reunited with Family

by Lacy Campbell, Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager

ne the most important decisions in any wildlife rehabilitation situation is determining whether an animal needs to be rescued in the first place. In early July the Wildlife Care Center received a call from a concerned citizen about a young hawk: "Help, we have a baby Cooper's Hawk on the ground and it can't fly. I'm afraid that cats, dogs, coyotes, or birds of prey might find it and hurt it. What do I do?"

Cooper's Hawks are medium-sized hawks that mainly eat

birds. They are agile fliers who are at home hunting in woodland forests but can make a good living in a tree-abundant suburb and even on our more urbanized landscapes. They will usually only produce one clutch per year and lay anywhere from 2 to 6 eggs. Nests are primarily built by the male and set in pines, Douglas-fir, oaks, and beeches, to name a few, and are built about 20–25 feet off the ground.

Generally the best thing to do in these situations is to leave the young on the ground and let the parents take care of them. It is not uncommon for birds to emerge from their nest before they are actually able to fly; this can happen because nests are destroyed either by weather, predators, or poor construction. More often it is simply because the birds become increasingly active as they approach their first flights. As they stand at the edge of their nest, flapping to build their wing strength, a gust of wind or a simple misstep can easily take them prematurely over the side. It's not uncommon for many species to spend several days on the ground before they actually become airborne.

This is a period of great vulnerability but it is also a critical part of their development. During this process the parents will continue to care for them and teach them valuable information: how to find food, how to recognize and avoid predators, and how to live around humans and other predators. They will come by to feed the young periodically but there will also be extended periods where they are left alone.

Often the first instinct of people is to rescue these ground-bound birds. However, despite the hazards they face on both urban and wild landscapes, it is important to leave them in the wild. The skills that they will learn over the next several weeks are critical to their long-term survival, and it is a process that birds have gone through since time immemorial. No matter how hard we try, we can never train a young bird to survive as well as its own parents can teach it these skills.

In particularly hazardous situations, we can often reunite

parents with their young by building a makeshift nest, putting the bird in it, and placing it somewhere near where the parents were last seen. This buys them some time, but keeps them wild and with their family. The problem, in this case, was that the callers weren't sure if the parents were around. They hadn't seen any activity near the young hawk for a couple of days.

We decided to have them bring in the young hawk for an exam. After looking the bird over and checking hydration level, alertness, and for any broken bones, we determined the young bird to be a healthy fledgling. The next step was to scout where the bird came from to see if we could find any nest or parents around. The following day the donors who had brought the bird to us called and informed us that they had seen parents in the area looking for their baby. We immediately went into action. We made a makeshift nest out of a cardboard box and some sticks, and took the bird out to the location it had been found. We affixed the box to a tree about 15 feet off the ground to keep the young bird away from any terrestrial predators like neighborhood cats. We then climbed the tree again with the young Cooper's Hawk in hand and put the bird in the makeshift nest, leaving some food in case it took the parents a few hours to come back, and then we left it alone. Throughout this process we could hear adult Cooper's Hawks calling around us.



Cooper's Hawk fledgling in box © Lacy Campbell

One the most important

decisions in any wildlife

rehabilitation situation

is determining whether

be rescued in the first

an animal needs to

place.

Lacy Campbell places makeshift nest in tree © Deb Sheaffer

A few days later we received a call from the donors saying that the parents had come back and that the baby was doing great.

This case was a success for many reasons. Everyone involved acted quickly for the best interests of the young hawk. With the cooperation of the donors, we were able to quickly and accurately act on the situation and reunite this young hawk with its family.

Educational Trips

These trips are popular. We recommend that you book early. Trip deposit required to secure your place on the trip.

A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible donation to the Audubon Society of Portland.

View more International and Domestic trips at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adul

Portland Audubon's International Tours now include a Carbon Offset contribution that will go directly for the stewardship of our 150-acre Forest Park Nature Sanctuary. A flat fee of \$50 per person is included in the cost of these tours and will be used to maintain our trails, plant trees to help grow our native canopy, and sustain this special place for future generations. Thank you.

Portland Audubon tours are a lot of things, but one thing they are not are photographic tours... so please, no lens over 400mm.

GREECE

April 29 - May 11, 2013

reece — a land of ancient culture and famous ruins that hearkens back to the very dawn of modern civilization. Join **Steve Robertson**, Education Director, and **Stefan Schlick**, Avid Birder, on this 12-day birding trek through one of the most enchanting and historic countries in the world.

We arrive in *Athens*, take an evening to catch our breath and meet the group, then head off to bird the slopes of *Mt. Parnassos*, where we should find a good number of forest birds like



Parthenon detail. Photo: Thermos

Coal Tit and **Mistle Thrush**. We'll keep a sharp eye for **Alpine Chough**, **Northern Wheatear**, and **Black Redstart**. Then it's off to **Delphi** where, with a little luck, we won't need the Oracle to find the **Rock Nuthatch**, **Cirl Bunting**, and **Subalpine Warbler**.

Back in Athens, we'll take time to search for **Hoopoe** and **Alpine Swift** on the *Akropolis grounds* before flying to the *Evros Delta*, one of Europe's most significant wetlands. Over the next few days we will search for **Great Reed Warbler**, **Short-toed Lark**, **Isabelline Wheatear**, and **Long-legged Buzzard**. We'll visit the nearby *Dadia Forest*, where 36 out of Europe's 39 raptor species can be found.

Finally, we drive across northern Greece to *Lake Kerkini*, one of the top birding locations in Europe. Amongst stunning lake country scenery we will look for **Penduline Tit**, **Pygmy Cormorant**, **Roller**, and **Dalmatian Pelican**.

You may be wondering how the current downturn in Greece's economy might affect travel within the country... well, Stefan recently returned from Greece and reports his trip went very smoothly, without a hitch. Tourism is down in Greece, to be certain, but that just means fewer crowds to contend with! Contact **Steve Robertson** at **503-292-6855 ext.118** or srobertson@audubonportland.org for more information and to register.

Leaders: Steve Robertson and Stefan Schlick **Group size**: limited to 14 participants

Tentative fee: \$3295 (may vary slightly as final arrangements are made)

Deposit: \$1500 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation, all lodging based on **double occupancy**, meals *except most dinners*, entrance fees, excursions, tips for local guides, and the services of your experienced leaders. *Not included*: *Airfare to & from Portland and most dinners*.

BIRDING COSTA RICA

April 13-26, 2013

adventure to the verdant world of Costa Rica. You are sure to be impressed by the beauty of this small country where more than 800 species of birds live. The Carara Biological Reserve is home to **Boat-billed Heron**, **Fiery-billed Aracari**, and **Scarlet Macaw**. We'll visit the cool Savegre River valley, where the **Resplendent Quetzal**, considered by many as the most beautiful bird in the world, may be seen. At



Grey-necked Wood-rail © Dan van den Broek

the La Selva Biological Station we'll hike the lowland rainforest to seek out mixed-species flocks containing **Snowy Cotinga**, **Streak-headed Woodcreeper**, and **Green Honeycreeper**, to name just a few. In Tortuguero, "the Amazon of Costa Rica," we'll boat along canals where **up to 6 species of kingfisher** might be found. Tenorio Volcano, its slopes enshrouded with mist, is home to colorful warblers, tanagers, hummingbirds, and more.

Expect to see over 250 species of strange and colorful birds on this trip, plus amazing mammals, colorful butterflies, and fascinating reptiles. Contact **Dan van den Broek** at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org for details and to register.

Leader: Dan van den Broek

Group size: limited to 14 participants **Fee**: \$3595 members / \$3895 non-members **Deposit**: \$1800 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation within Costa Rica, 13 nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except some dinners*, local guide fees & tips, entrance fees, excursions, and the services of your skilled leaders. *Not included*: *Airfare to & from Portland and some dinners*.

Colombia

January 4-18, 2013

olombia is home to more bird species than any other country in the world. Be prepared to be in awe of the spectacular avifauna as we explore Colombia's lush cloud forests, wetlands, high mountain plains, and coastal lowlands.



Emerald Toucanet © Chris Calonje

Join **Dan van den Broek** and Colombian bird experts on Portland Audubon's first visit to this dynamic birding destination. Our first 3 nights are in the western range of the Andes, exploring spectacular cloud forests while searching for **Multicolored Tanager**, **Green-and-black Fruiteater**, and **Golden-headed Quetzal**.

Next we'll descend to the tropical lowland forests of the Choco bioregion. We will search for **Jet and Immaculate Antbird** plus **Pacific Antwren** in the San Cipriano Reserve, which can only be reached by rail. We continue on to the Coffee Triangle where we'll spend 2 days in the Rio Blanco Reserve, host to more stunning species such as **White-capped and Grass-green Tanager** and **Golden-faced Redstart**. Next we climb into the mountains of the Nevado del Ruiz. Here we'll look for **Bearded Helmetcrest**, **Scarlet-bellied Mountain-tanager**, and **Black-backed Bush-tanager**. The chance to soak in warm mineral springs awaits us once we are back at our comfortable hotel.

We end the trip with 2 days of birding in the Santa Marta Mountains, the highest coastal mountain range in the world, and 2 nights at the village of Taganga on the shores of the Caribbean. Contact **Dan van den Broek** at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org for details and to register.

Leaders: Dan van den Broek, and local guides **Group size**: limited to 14 participants **Fee**: \$4395 members / \$4695 non-members **Deposit**: \$2000 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation, all lodging based on **double occupancy**, meals *except some dinners*, entrance fees, excursions, and the services of your experienced leaders. *Not included*: *Airfare to & from Portland*, *flights within Colombia*, *some dinners*.

Klamath Basin Birding Expedition

March 21-24, 2013

njoy some of the best birding in the West on this fantastic voyage with **Bob Fields** and the Audubon Society of Portland. The Klamath Basin contains 6 national wildlife refuges and is one of Oregon's designated Important Bird Areas. A variety of habitats including freshwater marshes, open water, grassy meadows, coniferous forests, sagebrush and juniper



Snow Geese © Jim Cruce

grasslands, agricultural lands, and rocky cliffs and slopes are found here. Bob Fields, former manager of the Klamath refuge system, knows the lay of the land and will guide us to the best spots and share his knowledge gained from years of experience working on this and other refuge systems.

The spectacular spring migration of **Snow**, **Ross's**, and **Greater White-fronted Geese** should be in full swing. **Bald Eagles** winter in the basin in large numbers and other raptors like **Rough-legged Hawk** and **Prairie Falcon** are likely to be seen. Showy ducks like **Barrow's and Common Goldeneye**, and uncommon birds like **Townsend's Solitaire** and **Lewis's Woodpecker**, have been seen on previous Klamath trips. Contact **Steve Engel** at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org to learn more and to register.

Leaders: Bob Fields, former refuge manager, and Steve Engel, Audubon staff **Group size**: limited to 14 participants

Fee: \$595 members / \$795 non-members

Deposit: \$300 required to secure your place

Fee includes: Van transportation from Portland, all lodging based on **double occupancy**, meals *except dinners*, entrance fees, and the services of your leaders.

New Zealand - Land of the Kiwi

December 1-16, 2012

Fee: \$4895 members / \$5195 non-members (*based on double occupancy*) Contact **Steve Engel** at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org.



Adult Classes

I. Register and pay online: Visit class description at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow registration link.

OR: Contact Steve Engel via phone or email to be put on the roster. If class has limited enrollment, wait for confirmation and then...

- 2. Mail in your check: make payable to Audubon Society of Portland. Include with payment: class name, your name(s) and, if this is your first class with us, your full contact information.
- 3. Credit card payment: Call Steve Engel (971-222-6119) or our Nature Store (503-292-WILD) to pay over phone. We accept VISA, Master Card, and Discover (3% fee charged).

Contact Steve Engel, Adult Education Manager, at sengel@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119.

Be sure to check our website for upcoming classes not listed here! audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes

Beginning Birding I

Sept 10 (Mon), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall Sept 16 & 23 (Sun), 8am-11am: Local Field Trips Join **Laura Whittemore** for her ever-popular introduction to bird watching. You will learn about field gear such as binoculars and field guides, how to recognize birds by groups, and how to identify species by their field marks, behavior, and sound. This is the perfect class for you if you've ever wanted to "get started" in bird watching. This

Fee: \$45 member / \$60 non-member

Class with Field Trips: limited to 14 participants

class is likely to fill quickly, so don't hesitate to sign up!

Birding Oregon Hotspots: Tillamook Bay

Sept 12 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall Sept 15 (Sat), 8am-5pm: Field trip to Coast, transportation provided

An easy day-trip from Portland, the area around Tillamook Bay has a great diversity of habitats, which attracts a great diversity of birds. Join John Rakestraw for an exploration of this prime birding destination along the Oregon Coast. We'll look for 3 Cormorant species and have good chances for as many Loon species. Plus "Rockpipers" and Sandpipers, Raptors, Wrentits, and Waterfowl, and early arrivals of wintering Gull species. In the class we'll learn about the best birding sites and review some of the expected species. On Saturday, we will visit these sites to experience the autumn migration firsthand.

Class & Field Trip Fee: \$75 member / \$95 non-member (transportation provided)

Class-Only Fee: \$10 member / \$15 non-member Field Trip limited to 12 participants.

Harry Nehls on: Diving Birds

Sept 18 (Tue), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall Tonight local author and bird expert Harry Nehls will share his knowledge about the Loons, Grebes, Pelicans & Cormorants that grace our coast, lakes, and rivers.

Fee: \$10 members / \$15 non-members Free to active volunteers!

Hawk Identification

Sept 19 (Wed) 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall Sept 22 (Sat), 9am-5pm: Field Trip to Bonney Butte, transportation provided

Helping beginning bird watchers recognize and identify raptors of all kinds is the focus of this class. On the Saturday field trip to Bonney Butte, a hawk migration study site near Mt Hood, we will see many migrating birds and practice newly learned identification skills. Steve Engel teaches this class.

Class & Field Trip Fee: \$50 members / \$70 non-members (transportation provided)

Field Trip limited to 12 participants. A second van may be added if needed.

Class-Only Option: \$10 members / \$15 members Class is free to active volunteers.

Nature Journaling the Seasons Fall: Sept 29 & Oct 6 (Sat), 10am-4pm

Do you already keep a nature journal but would like to take it a step further? Have you always wanted to begin one but didn't know how? Then let artist, author, and botanist Jude **Siegel** set you on your way! Whether you have some art experience or none at all, you are welcome to join in this special two-day class. With simple & effective exercises she will encourage you to draw, use watercolors, and write in ways that help you capture the feel of the seasons on your pages. Each seasonal class is two consecutive Saturdays in Heron Hall and the Audubon Sanctuary. We will be outside for part of each day, and Jude will include some ethnobotany on our group observation walks. There will also be time to go off by yourself and find what charms you. With two days of instruction, your skill and confidence levels will grow and your individual style will emerge. Jude is the author of A Pacific Northwest Nature Journal and has taught her techniques for over 12 years. "Jude provided just the right balance of structure and free exploration; gracious to all, from just-starting participants to the most accomplished." (Margaret

Bates, winter student) Fee per class: \$75 member / \$95 non-member (plus materials)

Class size: limited to 16 participants See our website for more details and supply list.

Beginning Field Birding & Sauvie Island Exploration

Saturdays, 8am-Noon Oct. 6, Nov. 3, and Dec. I

Saturday morning explorations at one of Oregon's most accessible Important Bird Areas — Sauvie Island Wildlife Area, managed by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife — continue with **Greg Baker**! This class series is perfect for those interested in developing and sharpening their birding skills under a variety of field conditions with the tutelage of an expert birder.

Fee: \$60 members / \$75 non-members **Class size**: limited to 15 participants

Beginning Birding 2

October 21 & 28 (Sun), 8am-11:30am: Local Field Tribs

November 3 (Sat), 8am-5pm: Field Trip (transportation provided)

Take your new birding skills to the next level with **Laura Whittemore**. This class is designed for those wanting more time in the field practicing and improving their birding abilities. Two morning field trips to local sites and an allday van trip will help familiarize you with some of the best places to visit for bird watching in town and farther afield. Transportation provided by Audubon for the all-day field trip only.

Fee: \$75 members / \$95 non-members **Class size**: limited to 12 participants

Ducks. Geese. Swans

November 20 (Tue), 7pm-9pm in Heron Hall Waterfowl: small, medium, large — or big, bigger, biggest!

However you look at them, the Willamette Valley is the place to find waterfowl this winter. Join local bird expert and author **Harry Nehls** to learn about the many species of wintering waterfowl that can be found in the Portland area. Harry will talk about their behavior, how to recognize different species, and where to look for them. Harry is the author of several regional birding books, including Birds of the Willamette Valley Region with Tom Aversa and Hal Opperman.

Fee: \$10 members / \$15 non-members Free to active volunteers!

AUTUMN ON STEENS MOUNTAIN October 17-21, 2012

teens Mountain is one of Oregon's most spectacular natural areas. It presides over alkali desert, oceans of sagebrush, and the wildlife-rich marshlands of the Malheur Basin. Spend 3 full days enjoying the birds, geology, and scenery of this diverse landscape. Townsend's Solitaire, Mountain Bluebird, American Pipit, Horned Lark, Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, and Prairie Falcon might be seen. We search for and often spot **Bighorn Sheep** along the high peaks of the mountain. We'll visit the Alvord Desert and grab a milkshake at Fields Station and, conditions permitting, venture out to Borax Lake. Contact **Steve Engel** at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org to register.



East slope of Steens Mountain. Public

Leader: Steve Engel **Group size**: limited to 14 participants

Fee: \$745 members / \$945 non-members **Deposit**: \$400 required to secure your place

Fee includes all ground transportation, 4 nights **double occupancy** lodging at the Frenchglen Hotel, all meals *except dinners*, all entrance fees, and the services of your experienced leaders.

Ice Age Floods April 16-21, 2013

oin the Audubon Society of Portland on a 6-day adventure exploring the route of the Ice Age Floods across the Channeled Scablands of eastern Washington and through the Columbia River Gorge. We will explore Palouse Falls, the Drumheller Channels, Dry Falls, and other Tramatic flood features in eastern Washington. April is a beautiful time of year here and we'll make plenty of time for hiking, botanizing, and bird watching. We hope you will join us! Contact **Steve Engel** at **971-222-6119** or sengel@audubonportland.org to learn more and to register.



Dry Falls near Coulee City, WA Photo: NARA-294037

Leader: Steve Engel, Adult Education Programs Manager **Group size**: limited to 14 participants

Fee: \$875 members / \$1075 non-members **Deposit**: \$400 required to secure your place

Fee includes: All ground transportation from Portland, 5 nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, all entry fees, and the services of your leaders.

nersion Course

Thether you want to spot hidden animals, read faint tracks, see the intricate connections in an ecosystem, quit worrying about getting lost, or learn to interact with a bear without panic, this unique course can help. If you seek a new, deeper level of comfort, connection, and awareness in nature, we invite you to enroll in this unconventional immersion course. Your instructor, **Cader Olive**, has decades of experience in teaching and living the content of this course. See our website for more details.

The **Wilderness Immersion Course** is a new offering of our Adult Education Programing, similar in design to the Portland Audubon School of Birding. It consists of three quarters: fall 2012 and spring & summer 2013. Each quarter is composed of 8 meetings and an overnighter. Ideally participants attend all 3 quarters for maximum benefit, but the course may also be taken one quarter at a time with the exception of summer 2013.

Fall Quarter: Saturdays, 9am-Noon September 8, 15, 22; October 6, 13, 27; November 3, 17

Locations: Portland Audubon & local natural areas **Fee**: \$495 per quarter

Class size: limited to 14 participants

To register: Contact Steve Engel at 971-222-6119 or sengel@audubonportland.org.

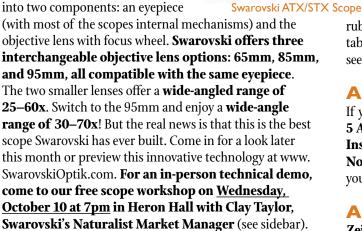
Nature Store Highlights

by Nancy Mattson, Nature Store Manager

Fall is the perfect time to get out and enjoy nature! Great **new optics (& rebates!)** arriving this fall at the Nature Store will give you new dimensions in viewing pleasure!

New Swarovski ATX/STX Spotting Scope!

In mid-September Swarovski's all new ATX/STX modular spotting scope will arrive. On this unique scope, the zoom is located next to the focus knob instead of the eyepiece. It easily adjusts with one hand! Next, the scope separates into two components: an eyepiece



New Vortex Razor HD Binocular!

The all-new Vortex Razor HD is an ergonomic dream. Light-weight and delightful to hold, Vortex has completely rethought how a binocular should balance in your hand! Your fingers wrap fully around the barrels and the focus knob is right where it should be for quick and responsive action. You have to feel them to believe

them. And the optics? **Crisp, clear perfection with high-density field flattening lenses**.

Vortex Razor HD

New Zeiss Victory HT Binocular!

Incorporating an **all new HT-Glass** engineered by their sister-corporation Schott Glass, these new **Zeiss Victory HT binoculars offer nearly 95% light transmission**, making these officially "**The World's Brightest Binocular**!" They are slated to arrive in September.

New Redfield Spotting Scope from Leupold!

The **Redfield Rampage** is a tough scope with a tough name but a mellow price tag of **only \$325** (**member price \$292.50**). Check these features: waterproof, fog-proof, angled body, 20–60 zoom eyepiece, big 80mm objective lens, and sleek black rubber armoring. Extra perks: a leave-on protective case, tabletop mini-tripod, cordura carrying case. You can easily

A \$50 Nikon Rebate!

If you'd love to own a pair of the popular **Nikon Monarch 5 ATBs**, now is the time. The "**Monarch Madness Instant Rebate**" is available between **September 20 and November 20**. You'll **instantly receive a \$50 discount** on your purchase of these affordable, quality binoculars.

see why we're so excited to offer this new entry-level spotter!

A \$100 Zeiss Rebate!

Zeiss offers a \$100 rebate on their new Conquest HD binoculars until December 31. The popular Conquest HD is the first full-sized Zeiss binocular for under \$1000. With the added bonus of a **\$100 Prepaid American Express Reward Card**, you'll have a seriously good deal on world-class European optics!

And a surprise from Kowa!

Love your iPhone? Love your Kowa Scope? Love to be able to take 60x pictures through your scope with your iPhone? The new Kowa TSN-IP4S adapter lets you use your iPhone 4/4S to take photos through the eyepiece of your Kowa scope or binoculars! Also fits some other brands. How cool is that?

Sanctuaries

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

In the Trees

n August 9 & 10 the Audubon Society of Portland teamed up with Ascending the Giants (ATG) and the Pacific Northwest chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) to host a Forest Ecology Tour and Tree Climb in our NW Portland Sanctuary. This event coincided with the ISA's 2012 Conference and Trade Show and the International Tree Climbing Championships.

Longtime Audubon volunteer-extraordinaire Mandy Sims greeted tour participants with a tour of our Wildlife Care Center, introducing many of our Education Birds and the stories of their rescue and rehabilitation. Sanctuaries staff

guided participants on a walk through our trails and discussed the variety of issues that affect forest and wildlife management in the urban environment. The third element of the tour was a vertical exploration of our ancient grove of Douglas-fir and the surrounding forest of Western Red-cedar, Western Hemlock, Grand Fir, and Bigleaf Maple.

"With the loss of our last remaining giant trees, we are courting not only a loss of biodiversity, but the loss of our collective ability to be awed by nature."

—Will Koomjian, Ascending the Giants cofounder

The tour was advertised to bring participants 180 feet into the canopy of our Sanctuary alongside PhD Ornithologist Dr. David Anderson. After several long days of rigging the trees for a safe and non-invasive climb, the ATG crew was able to set lines close to the tops of two of our oldest and

largest Douglas-firs, bringing participants over 220 feet into the canopy! In addition, a host of local wildlife experts joined the party, with Eric Forsman, Jimmy Swingle, Bill Price, and others joining tour participants for the ride up to the top.

Eric Forsman (right) and a tour participant start the ascent. © Tinsley Hunsdorfer



A bird's-eye view of the Sanctuary from 220 feet.
© Tinsley Hunsdorfer

Over 45 people participated in the tour, many of them visiting arborists from around the world, with participants from every continent except Antarctica (where there are few people and fewer trees!). From my perspective, one of the most amazing aspects of the tour was how many arborists — those who spend their lives and make their livelihood climbing trees — were blown away by our forested sanctuary and our grove of remnant old-growth giants.

I was particularly excited that several of our local Audubon members and a few of our staff were also able to participate in the tree-climbing portion of the tour. Few arborists ever get to go this high into the trees, so this was a truly a treat for those who dared to sign up. It certainly gave me

a newfound appreciation for the beauty of the forests in the Cascade region and the importance of protecting the last of our remaining old-growth forests. This was once the land of giants, with Douglas-fir regularly growing 300–350 feet tall and the occasional tree reaching an astounding 400 feet. With continued perseverance in our conservation and restoration efforts, future generations will have the opportunity to experience trees and forests of this magnitude for themselves.

About Ascending the Giants:

"We do not focus on controversial topics associated with deforestation. Alternatively, we seek to showcase champion trees through photography, videography, and adventure in a non-confrontational approach to advocate for old-growth forest conservation."

Audubon Nature Store presents a Swarovski Optics Workshop with Clay Taylor Wed, October 10, 7pm

in Heron Hall



Clay Taylor

ome see Swarovski's newest generation of spotting scopes and binoculars. The new ATX/STX spotting scopes offer modular flexibility, ergonomic design, and user friendliness to bring about a real revolution in spotting scope design (see article at left).

During this free workshop, **Clay Taylor, Swarovski Naturalist Market Manager**, will demonstrate
the ATX/STX modular components and redesigned
digiscoping adapters, which allow you to take topquality high-magnification images directly through the
scope eyepiece using a digital camera. He'll also discuss
the full line of Swarovski optics, their design techniques,
and the materials and special coatings they use to keep
Swarovski always on the innovative cutting edge of
binocular and spotting scope design.

Wish List & Thank Yous

Thank you to:

- Ann Bakkensen for two 90-oz. bottles of Dawn dish detergent for the WCC
- Maryka Biaggio for a rustic bench for the Sanctuary
- Katherine Burns for several packages of gauze, eye pads, steri drapes, & applicators for the WCC
- Cedar Hills Crossing New Seasons Market's Nancy Parent (Produce), Cody McLane (Seafood), and Steve Kelly (Store Manager) for weekly donations of fruits and vegetables, fish culls, and sometimes eggs for the WCC
- Julie Corbett for a set of face paints
- Jim Cruce for 25 framed 4x6 and 5x7 bird photographs; two framed and six unframed 8x10 photographs; one framed and two unframed 11x14 bird photographs; a book of two hundred 4x6 bird photographs; and a book of forty 4x6 bird photographs
- James Davis & Sally Loomis for a small portable Peavey microphone amp and power cord
- Raylene Eilers for 2 donations of food for the WCC, including salmon, tuna, ground lamb, beef chunks, berries
- Eddie Greenly for 4 large photographs of the Education Birds Aristophanes, Hazel, Julio, and Ruby
- John Hammerstad for 3 bottles of Carabella Pinot Noir for the Legacy Circle event
- Mike Hawkins for 2 high-resolution film cassettes and several packages of needles and syringes for the WCC
- Nancy Jones for a paper shredder, vertical file, Gorilla shelving, 3 Pergo tables, office supplies, and a Skil 4.5-amp drill and drill bits
- Edward Kirschbaum for a MacBook Pro laptop computer
- Alan Locklear & Marie Valleroy for 4 large jugs of bleach for the WCC
- Becky Magnuson for Kitten Science Diet and Purina One cat food for the WCC
- Helen Ramatowski for 2 large boxes of excellent nature and birding books for the Education Department
- David Smith for a KOWA TSN 821 scope and 20x60 zoom eyepiece, and a Swarovski tripod with a Manfrotto tripod head, for the Education Department
- Paula Squire for 5 large bottles of bleach for the WCC
- Bobby Wilcox for a 20-pound bag of sunflower seed

For Education:

Laptop with dual core

processor or greater

Powerpoint Projector

Flat-Screen Monitor

Our Wish List:

For East Portland Office:

10 Binoculars

For Sanctuary:

Loppers • Hand saws Work gloves

For Wildlife Care Center:

Science Diet Kitten Growth • Bleach Dawn Dishwashing Detergent • Camper/Trailer Water bottles & exercise wheels for small rodents

If you can donate these items, please first contact Audubon Society of Portland at 503-292-6855 ext. I 02, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.

Field Notes by Harry Nehls

all is an exciting time of year for bird watchers, especially beginning birders. Although the birds are not in their bright spring plumage and are not singing, there are a lot more of them than at other times of the year, and they are much more conspicuous. Many are young and inexperienced, just as interested in looking at you as you are in looking at them. They often allow close approaches and remain long enough for the bird watcher to study them for a few minutes.

Post-Breeding Dispersal Patterns

Many of the birds that visit western Oregon in the fall breed in the prairie states, California, or Mexico. Most of the **Great Egrets** seen here breed in California and move northward after nesting. **Heermann's Gulls** and **Brown Pelicans** that occur in large numbers along the coast breed primarily on islands off the Mexican coast. Doublecrested Cormorants nest in colonies along our coast and east of the Cascades. None appear to nest in the Portland area, but soon move in when the young can fly. They are common wintering birds here.

Ducks that breed in other areas begin arriving during August, but most of the Canada Geese that nest in Oregon move northward into Canada to molt with geese that have gathered there from other areas. Most do not return to the south until October. Quite a number remain to molt on Sauvie island and other local areas and do not move any farther north.

Such moving about is not regularly reported as a migration but is called "post-breeding dispersal." Most bird species have a period just after the young are fledged when they scatter out in all directions. Some go just a short distance and do not leave their regular range, while others travel long distances. Usually the dispersal is random, but often there is some plan. Most waterbirds and some landbirds disperse northward more than to the south. Most migrant songbirds scatter in all directions with many heading for the high mountains. They soon find themselves gathering into flocks and drifting southward.



The birds breeding in Oregon usually begin their post-breeding dispersal around mid-July. Many of the birds that breed in the southern United States and in Mexico nest earlier and are often found in Oregon during the early summer. Dispersals often take birds well away from their regular range, so fall is the best time MacKenzie/USFWS of year to look for rare and unusual birds.

Birds have a very strong sense of place. Birds that disperse far from their regular range will still migrate in the right direction and most likely winter at or near the usual winter range of the species. Some out-of-range birds have faulty navigation skills and are soon eliminated from the gene pool.



You Went Where?

by Steve Engel, Adult Education **Programs Manager**

t often comes as a surprise to people when I tell them I'm leading an ecotour to North Dakota. That's just not a jazzy destination like Belize or Alaska. Yet in 2010 and in 2012 it was no problem filling our trips — Bird the Badlands and Spring Birding on the Northern **Great Plains** — to capacity. This means that 30 Portland Audubon members have now experienced the birds, beauty, and wonder of my home state. Some things that surprised them were: the ever-present and overwhelming expanse of sky stretching above a landscape seeming to crouch beneath the wind; the genuinely friendly people you can meet in a small town cafe or while in the field; and the birds! We recorded approximately 150 species on each trip. Some were prairie specialties like Baird's Sparrow or Chestnut-collared Longspur and some were migrants still northbound, like Blackpoll Warbler and Stilt Sandpiper.

It was often a particular combination of people, birds, and landscape that made a day especially memorable. In 2010 we didn't plan to see Gray Catbird, Orchard Oriole, and nesting Eastern Peewee on the homestead of 80-yearold Ken DeKrey, but while chatting with one of our group members in the Pettibone Café, he learned he was talking to the doctor of his son who lives in Happy Valley, Oregon. Before we knew it, we had an invitation to drop by his place and so we did. In 2012 a local birder, Jack Lefor, spotted more people who were carrying binoculars than he's ever seen in the remote badlands of western North Dakota. He just had to stop to see what was going on — and we spent the rest of the day together during which he led us to a singing Ovenbird, Field Sparrows, a Black-and-white Warbler, and many more cool birds. Then he scouted for, found, and led us to Lark Buntings before dinner that evening.

Each of our trips to North Dakota has had slightly different itineraries and timing. In 2012 we went more than a full week earlier in the season. Our hopes were to catch the amazing warbler migration that can happen through the Red River valley — 25 species in a day! We weren't as lucky as we would have liked, but our timing did allow us to catch the very end of the Greater Prairie Chicken season. Northbound shorebirds were also still abundant; I saw my first-ever Sanderling in alternate plumage! In 2010 we included the Turtle Mountains, a land of forests and lakes perched 800 feet above the surrounding prairie on a glacial moraine of epic proportions. Common Loon, Red-throated Grebe, and Northern Waterthrush were some of our rewards for driving all those extra miles — almost to Canada!

And each trip tends to have its own (hopefully) unrepeatable moments. Getting a van stuck on a narrow dike road versus enduring an entire day of 45-degree overcast with 25-mile-an-hour winds... hmmm, I'm not sure which I would pick if I had to choose. But it's the people and their attitudes in the face of such supposed hardships that make the trip in the end — and Portland Audubon travelers are the best! We hope to see you on an ecotour soon.

Last summer a pair of Eastern Kingbirds and 2 pairs of Black Phoebes nested at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. Randy Hill reports that they successfully nested there again this summer. Black Phoebes have been reported from many local areas this summer but there have not been any other nesting attempts. Eastern Kingbirds and Western **Kingbirds** are again nesting at the Sandy River Delta. On June 18 Rick DeTroye found both at Steigerwald Lake NWR across the Columbia River, but did not see any signs of nesting.

On June 29 Steve Mlodinow saw a bright male **Indigo Bunting** along Lower River Road near Ridgefield NWR. Eric Gropp and Anne Sammis reported July 15 that a bright, singing male Indigo was hanging out with the Lazuli **Buntings** at the Sandy River Delta. It remained into August.

Red-eyed Vireos were again conspicuous at the Sandy River Delta. Andy Frank found them July 6 singing at the Wapato Greenway on Sauvie Island, and Wayne Weber saw them on June 29 at McIver Park near Estacada. **Wrentits** continue to expand into this area. The Troutdale Airport birds are still in the area. Clayton Crofton reported one from Tualatin River NWR July 9 and Chris Adlam found a pair in Gopher Valley near Sheridan.

Jim Danzenbaker reported 5 late **Black Swifts** over Battleground June 5. Pam Otley saw 2 at Jackson Bottom June 8, and Adrian and Christopher Hinkle and Em Scattaregia saw 2 on June 9 at the Sandy River Delta. That day they spotted the lingering Troutdale Airport Loggerhead Shrike.

Common Nighthawk sightings continued through June in the Portland metro area and in the Willamette Valley. No indication of nesting was reported, however. They do

regularly nest in the

foothill clearcuts.



Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Photo: Mdf

On July 1 Scott Carpenter saw an **Ash-throated** Flycatcher at Ridgefield NWR. Howard Horvath and Mary Oppenheimer visited Smith & Bybee Lakes June 21 and found a bright male Rose-breasted Grosbeak near one of the blinds. Wink Gross can top that as on July 20 he spotted a female **Painted Bunting** at Oak Island on Sauvie Island.

On July 12 John Gatchet distinctly heard a Yellow-billed Cuckoo calling at the Sandy River Delta. Many birders swarmed the area but it was not relocated. Cuckoos have been reported from here in other years. The Yellow-billed **Cuckoo** is a bird of great concern to Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife and nationally. Any sightings or heard birds should be reported immediately.



So what has kept Lani at Audubon for so long? She says she loves watching the young animals grow to release age and become successful adults back in the wild. And once she got to release a Bald Eagle that was a long-term project, which was a glorious and majestic reward for all that hard work. But most important, says Lani, "the Care Center is always advancing in technique, treatment methods, and equipment, but the one constant is that the Care Center staff members are always so generous in taking the time to teach and explain things to volunteers. There is always something new to learn — about animals and about helping the public deal with wildlife issues." In response, what all of us at the WCC would say to Lani is that volunteers like you keep Audubon and the WCC alive and help make our jobs not only easier, but a pleasure.

Thank you, Lani, for all you give to Audubon!

Volunteer of the Month: Lani Bennett

by Deb Sheaffer, WCC Veterinarian

umor has it that **Lani Bennett** could run the Wildlife Care Center (WCC) by herself. Or maybe it's that she has run it by herself, which no doubt has happened on occasion in her 21 years as a Care Center volunteer. Lani has been on the same 4-hour Sunday afternoon shift for almost half of her life. In addition to being an incredibly hard worker, Lani readily takes on any task with a smile and a great sense of humor. For several years she provided home care for baby mammals and would even take them to work with her to get in the feedings every 2 hours. She has trained numerous volunteers such as Bob Sallinger, who went on to become the Wildlife Care Center Director and now is Portland Audubon's Conservation Director. Bob comments, "I think Lani over the long haul has arguably contributed as much as any volunteer in WCC history."

Lani's volunteer energies aren't confined to her shift in the WCC. Over the years she has also been a great help at the Wild Arts Festival, the annual Native Plant Sale, and Swift Watch. She also managed a station at the Wildlife Care Center's Annual Open House. Always ready to lend a hand to help Audubon, Lani was fittingly awarded the Mamie Campbell Award in 2005.

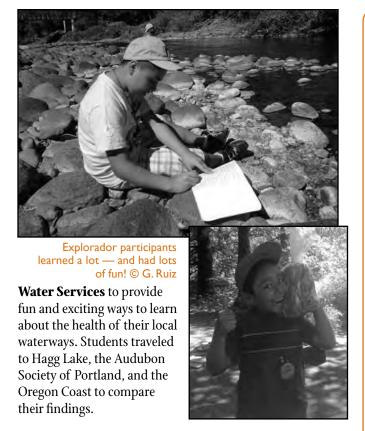
Explorador: An Overview of Audubon's Outreach

he Explorador program for this summer 2012 worked with three different community development corporations and served campers between the ages of 8 and 15.

Rose CDC Explorador served the outer Southeast neighborhood. This week-long camp served 22 children. Participants canoed with the **Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership** and visited many local sites learning about plants and animals in the Pacific Northwest, ending their week with a fishing trip to Mt. Hood.

Hacienda CDC Explorador served the outer Northeast, Northeast, and North Portland neighborhoods. The two separate week-long day camps served 24 campers each week. With the help of **Metro**, this Explorador team helped to rid Smith and Bybee Lakes of many invasive plants. They also helped paint a mural in their local community at Whittaker Ponds with the Columbia Slough Watershed **Council** and spotted many interesting animals along the way, including a black bear on Mt. Hood.

Bienestar Explorador served the Hillsboro, Aloha, and Forest Grove communities. The three separate week-long day camps served 24 campers each week. Focusing on water quality, this year's Bienestar Explorador program partnered with Jackson Bottom Wetlands and Clean



The Audubon Society of Portland would like to thank the Hoover Family Foundation, PGE Foundation, REI, **Gray Family Foundation, The North Face Explore** Fund, NW Natural, Templeton Foundation, Autzen **Foundation**, and **PacifiCorp** for their generous support of all of our Community-Based Camps.

Buy a Habitat Conservation Stamp: Support Wildlife

uy an annual stamp to benefit conservation of Oregon's native species and habitats. The new stamps sell for \$40 a year and include a free Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife "Wildlife Area Parking Pass" (a \$22 value). Revenue will be used for restoration of the native habitats that are home to the state's fish and wildlife consistent with the Oregon Conservation

and Oregon Nearshore strategies. Go to dfw.state.or.us/ conservationstrategy/habitat_conservation_stamp.asp for details about ordering stamps and limited edition prints.

The 2012 ODFW Habitat Conservation Stamp features a Western Meadowlark by Sara Stack. © ODFW



Paul & Arline Rains

Anna, Amelia & Al Reverman

Pramela Reddi

Shawn Reiton

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

In Memory

Lillian Anderson Stacy Crawford

Dorothy Clark Jeff Bergen Paul & Phyllis Otto Paul Otto, Jr.

Richard B. Forbes Orcilia Z. Forbes

Ellen Magette Allan Karsk

Bill Parmenter Rick Brown & Ruth Robbins

Arlie "Pat" Rosier Bob Burman Janet Niemann Vern & Beth Pautz & Family Roger Tyree Shirley, Melanie, Lesley, Celia & Christopher Williams

Tom Sherman & **Darrell Sherman** Pamela Mitchell

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Ruth Morton Carolyn & Kris Gorsuch

> Sophia Wexler Joshua Bransford

You can honor a special person with a gift to Audubon Society of Portland. Your gift will help fund a future of inspiring people to love and protect nature. You can make an Honor or Memorial gift online at www.audubonportland.org or by calling 971-222-6130. A songbird card acknowledging your thoughtful gift will be sent to the honoree or family.

Welcome, New Members!

Camille Dull

John Ecker

ortland Audubon is a force in conservation thanks to its strength in membership, standing together since 1902. We appreciate each and every one of our members and celebrate our membership by welcoming our new members in each *Warbler*. Thank you for joining our vibrant and growing community!

Jane Allen Lori Alton Harris Ambinder Mary Anderson Chris Anderson Robert Archer Amy Arnett Richard & Caroline Arnold Allison Asbock Shawn Ashbaugh Miles Atchison Clennin & Kathleen Baker James Bass Lyn Ann Beck Craig Benben DMD Marcia Bennett Michelle Bickley Tara Blake Mariah & Jared Blodgett Rebecca Bower Michelle Bradley Beverly Brenneman Gary Brentano Rosemary Brewei Bryan Brock Linda Brown Rebecca Brunet Karen Buehrig Tamara Butle Sarah Carl Quealey Carpenter Ed Casey Sharon Chesney Richard & Elaine Clough John & Cindy Conlin Terry Coons Steve & Sandy Corden Creative Science School 2nd Grade Christi Crutchfield

Sandy Crutchfield

Brandi Danika & Jason Pinkerton

Misty Cummings

Brooke Daniel

Judith Dauchy

Anna DeGrauw

Debra Dimone

Iris Dowd

Tedra Demitriou

France & Alice Davis

Roger & Roberta Ehlert Shellane Ehlert Peter Enticknap Maisie Faciana-Smith Alejandra Favela Jane Favela Elizabeth Field Kristi Findley Pamela Firks Donna Fleming Kathleen & Cale Fleming Gwendolyn & Charles Foss Susan Fowler Cory & Stephanie Freeman Valerie Garrett Julie & Perry Garrison Judy Geisler Julia Gisler Alison Goerl John Gomez Chris Gomez Maggie & Jeff Gordon Esther Gottfried Jennifer Graevel Kaaren Graham Susan Gray Patricia Greendale Carolyn Gregg Amber Groffe Peter Gzowski Courtney Halbart David Hamilton Pamela Hansen Anne Harper Jennifer & Christopher Healey Ruth Heath Amy & Seth Hersch Sabrina Hickerson Lucian Himes Christina Hindman Andrew Hoffman & Linda Morrison David Hopkins Jeff Hough Kevin House Pamela Houston Michael & Nancy Hsu

Leslie Hunt

Jan Hurst

Michelle Huss Jean Johnson Sharon & Casey Jonquil Jessica Jubin Laurie Jupe Paula Keady Daniel Kearns Calen Kennett Sara King Wayne & Nancy Kline Betsy Kolasky Jill Kondilis Richard Koontz & Lawanna Dailey Karen Lee Rowland Leep Kenneth & Mary Leon Cheryl Lewis Jeff Lexa Kristin Lidbom Ginny Link Richard & Beverly Maass Judy Magee Erika Magill Roz Martinez Larry & Sara Mason Shane McKinney John Meier Paul & Grace Merchant Michael Metscham Lily Michaud & Arati von Behren Jason Milham Daniel & Linda Mille Christy Miller Emma Miller Faye Moore Catherine Morrissey Constance Newvine Linda Nishi-Strattner James Nusrala Mary & Christopher O'Connell Mary Oppenheimer Cordelia Oswald

Kathy Reynolds Curtis Robinhold Stuart Robinson Ian Rose Colin Ryono Katelyn Sanders Julie Saugstad Barbara Schnacky Janis Schnell Jacqueline Sella Fred Sexsmith Lynn Shaker Cameron Shaw Audrey Sherman & Darren Weirnick Karen Sherman Zoe Sherman-Bundy Valerie Shuman Vlasta Slovincova Sonny's Concrete Pumping Service Doug Sottoway Barbara Stedman Robert Strebin Jr Peter Symes Elizabeth Thielman Julie Trana Kelsey Turner Jan Van Raay Sandra Vermilya Holly Wahlstrom Jan & Jody Ward Virginia Waters Chris Weer Kathleen Welch Bernice Wery Maya Wilde Patrick Wolfert Samuel & Eugenia Pardue Mesha Wood Herbert Park Xuemei Wu Jill & Destin Young Elizabeth Pepper Fiona & Jesse Yun Judy Picard Jennifer Zarnoch & Tony Peters Murali & Dharshini Pillai Kevin Zieglei

If you would like to join us or have any questions about membership, please contact Pam Meyers at pmeyers@ audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855.

The Audubon Society of Portland has been rated a 4-star charity by Charity Navigator. This top rating is awarded to organizations that exceed

CHARITY NAVIGATOR $\star\star\star\star$ **Four Star Charity**

industry standards and outperform most charities in their field. Tax ID# 93-602608

A portal to birding Oregon — **Audubon Birding** Weekends 2012

Join Paul Sullivan & Carol Karlen for an Audubon Birding Weekend. Please go to audubonportland.org/adult/ weekends (or contact paultsullivan@ onlinenw.com or 503-472-5306) for information about how the trips work, how to register, and the new cancellation policy. Note: no Birding Weekend in December.



Schedule

September 22-23 — Malheur NWR

We'll look for fall migrants and unusual vagrants, as well as enjoy the spectacular fall colors on Steens Mountain. **Base: Burns**

October 13-14 — Central Cascades

We'll focus on waterfowl at Hatfield Lake, Wickiup Reservoir, and other high lakes, and look in burns for Black-backed and Three-toed Woodpeckers.

Base: Bend

November 17-18 — Columbia River We'll check out the fall migrants on the Columbia River

from above the John Day Dam to Hood River, hoping for unusual loons, scoters, etc.

Base: The Dalles

Important Bird Areas

A Citizen Scientist's Dispatch from Oregon's Marbled Murrelet Hotspot

by Meg Ruby, Training/Survey Participant

n mid-July, under silent starry skies, we gather quietly in small meadows and openings in the old-growth forest's canopy. Led by Oregon State University biologist Kim Nelson, 30 citizen scientists are here in the middle of the **Marbled Murrelet Important Bird Area** to survey known Marbled Murrelet—occupied stands. Dawn surveys are the best opportunity to observe vocalizing adults who are returning from the sea to feed their chicks a tiny fish. Notoriously enigmatic, cryptic, and speedy (murrelets can fly up to 50 mph), early scientists guessed this seabird required large, contiguous stands of ancient forest to nest. However, the first nest was only discovered in 1974.

Anticipating the return of these robin-sized birds, I strain my ears and repeatedly scan the pre-dawn horizon above silhouetted spruce, hemlock, and fir. Suddenly, I hear them. From the west to the east, a pair rockets by, repeatedly calling an emphatic "keer keer" as they speed their way to a chick waiting on a massive bough of a very tall old-growth tree.

And so it went for two hours. All forest survey sites had success, most with multiple audio and visual detections.

After breakfast, we fanned out again to multiple sites for sweep surveys of the near shore. Paul Engelmeyer, manager of Audubon's Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary and organizer of this **7th Annual Citizen Science Training and Survey**, stated, "This event was a great success with over 30 participants, including 9 from Audubon Society of Portland, as well as local citizens and

representatives of partner conservation groups and state and federal agencies. We observed adult murrelets (in cryptic plumage) and a fledged juvenile (bright black and white plumage) in the near shore. A Northern Fulmar and a Parasitic Jaeger were also sighted as well as over 300 Surf Scoters."

Paul continued, "We are delighted that **this year's surveys occurred adjacent to the newly designated Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve, Marine Protected Area, and Seabird Protection Area**. Encompassing Oregon's State waters 0–3 miles from north of Yachats to south of Heceta Head, this area is one of the five recently established marine reserves in Oregon's waters."

Marbled Murrelets face double jeopardy as a seabird nesting in coastal ancient forests. In fact, murrelets are among the most endangered birds in the world. At sea, commercial fisheries deplete their prey of "forage fish" such as eulachon, herring, and Pacific sardine, forcing murrelets to eat lower on the food chain, which results in decreased fitness. On land, despite federal and Oregon

ESA designations as a Threatened Species, Marbled Murrelets' suitable habitat of large stands of contiguous old-growth forest continues to be destroyed, especially in State forests and on private/commercial lands. Once forests are fragmented, nest predation by corvids (ravens, crows, jays) is a major threat.



Marbled Murrelet at sea © Kim Nelson/Dan Cushing

Kim Nelson said, "We are still learning a lot about this bird and the forage fish they depend on. There is an unfounded assumption that the Northwest Forest Plan is working perfectly for the Marbled Murrelet. And that's just not the case. Unfortunately, in terms of management resources and habitat protection, the murrelet continues to take a back seat to the Northern Spotted Owl."

In May of this year the Audubon Society of Portland (with Cascadia Wildlands and the Center for Biodiversity) sued the State of Oregon in federal court, charging that the State of Oregon's clearcutting practices illegally harm threatened Marbled Murrelets within the Tillamook, Clatsop, and Elliott State Forests in violation of the Endangered Species Act. The lawsuit presents evidence that logging on the three State forests is harming murrelets by destroying and fragmenting their nesting habitat. The State recently suspended 10 recent or new timber sales in July in preparation for the legal battle.

13,000 Strong: A voice for birds, wildlife, and habitat in Oregon

On land, despite federal and Oregon

Species, Marbled Murrelets' suitable

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and on private/commercial lands.

ESA designations as a Threatened

by Ann Takamoto, Development Director

arlier this year, the Audubon Society of Portland reached a notable milestone: we surpassed 13,000 members and remain the largest affiliated chapter of the National Audubon Society! That's not a small task, considering there are larger metropolitan areas around the country. Our most recent new member reception filled Heron Hall almost to the brink, welcoming new members with a bit of history, some snacks, and a presentation of our Education Birds — we've really got something here!

A lot of things factor into making Portland, Oregon the perfect place for an Audubon chapter. First of all, an amazing number of bird species live in or pass through our area: over 230 species are regularly seen in and around Portland, while 500 traverse the state. You've enjoyed the spring and fall avian activity that Oregon has to offer — we do live on the Pacific Flyway.

Secondly, Oregon is amazing. We live in a beautiful state and we want to keep it that way. Ocean, mountains, forests, desert, water... we have it all! Think about it: what is your favorite place to experience nature or go birding? Everywhere? How about your own backyard?

Audubon & Portland Audubon

Lastly, and most importantly, we have an amazing community — there are a lot of bird and nature lovers here that believe in the work that we do. You, our members, make Portland, Oregon and Portland Audubon a great place to be. Together, we are an incredible force for birds, wildlife, and habitat in Oregon. **Thank you for being a part of our flock!**

We are often questioned about the difference between membership with National Audubon Society and the Audubon Society of Portland. We are our own entity — setting our own initiatives, policies, priorities, agendas, programs, operations, everything we do. National Audubon has its own issues and agendas. As an affiliate of National Audubon, we provide National members that live in our area with local information, sending our *Warbler* to everyone; we want everyone to know about the issues impacting us locally. The difference comes in where the membership dues go: National Audubon membership dues support National Audubon's work, while Portland Audubon membership dues work here in Oregon, on local issues that involve birds and places we see right here. Membership in both National Audubon and Portland Audubon is a great investment for the future of birds.



Coots with young © Jim Cruce

The Audubon Society of Portland Legacy Circle:

People sustaining a brighter future for birds in Oregon by including the Audubon Society of Portland in their estate plans

eave a legacy that will last for generations to come. Your estate gift will leave a lasting impact on the environmental health of our region and the future of the programs, services, and activities we provide. We would be happy to discuss your giving options with you in confidence and with no obligation.

Contact Ann Takamoto, Development Director, at 503-292-6855 ext.117.

It's Wildwood Week at the Nature Store September 25-30!

ill Curtis ever return to his grieving family?
Will Prue return to the Impassable Wilderness?
What's up with the new science teacher? Stay tuned for answers to these questions and many more...

We're excited to report that the second book in the "Wildwood" trilogy by Portlanders (and Audubon members!) Carson Ellis and Colin Meloy will be released on September 25th. *Under Wildwood* (\$17.99) continues the adventures of Curtis and Prue in the magical (yet strangely familiar) land of the Impassable Wilderness, which just might be Forest Park in a parallel universe. The paperback edition of *Wildwood* (\$8.99), the first book in the trilogy, will be released the same day (both from Balzer & Bray/Harperteen).

We want to celebrate this occasion, so we're declaring **September 25–30 is Wildwood Week at the Nature Store!** Come dressed as your favorite character or send us a photo of yourself in costume* to be eligible for the

drawing for a \$50 Nature Store Gift Card. We'll have special activities on hand, as well as lots of **signed** copies of the new books available for purchase. Please join us to celebrate a uniquely Portland publication. We'll also take your telephone orders to reserve a copy at 503-292-9453!

*Email your photos to sloomis@ audubonportland.org. Please put "Wildwood" in the subject line.



PORTLAND AUDURON'S NATURE STORE

5151 NW Cornell Road • Portland, OR 97210 503-292-9453 • store@audubonportland.org

Open 10am-6pm Monday through Saturday 10am-5pm Sunday

Calendar at a Glance

For the most up-to-date information, visit audubonportland.org.

Septemb	oer	
1Sat	. I I–3pm	Vulture Awareness Day (p.3)
I-30 Daily	Evenings	. Swift Watch (p. I)
3 Mon	—	Labor Day: Admin &
		Nature Store closed
4 Tue	7:30pm	Birders' Night
6 Thu	.7–9am	Pittock Mansion Fall
		Migration Walk (p.3)
8 Sat	9am–Noon	Wilderness Immersion
		Course begins (p.7)
10 Mon	.7–9pm	Beginning Birding I class
		(p.7)
	7pm	Nature Night: Bats (p.3)
12 Wed	8-11:30am	Ridgefield NWR outing
		(p.3)
12 Wed	.7–9pm	(p.3)Birding OR Hotspots:
		Tillama a alc Dave alaga (n. 7)
13 Thu	.7–9am	Pittock Mansion Fall
		Migration Walk (p.3)Birding OR Hotspots:
15 Sat	. 8am–5pm	Birding OR Hotspots:
		Tillamook Bay FT (p.7)
16 Sun	8-11am	Beg. Birding FT (p.7)
17 Mon	8:30am–4pm	Bonney Butte outing
		(p.3)
18Tue	.7:30am–Noon	Sauvie Isl. Shorebirds (p.3)
		Diving Birds (p.7)
19 Wed	.7–9pm	Hawk ID class (p.7)
20 Thu	.7–9am	Pittock Mansion Fall
		Migration Walk (p.3) Nikon Monarch Instant
20 Thu	—	Nikon Monarch Instant
		Rebate begins (p.8)
		Board Mtg, Heron Hall
		Hawk ID field trip (p.7)
22 Sat	—	Birding Weekend begins
		at Malheur (p.10)
23Sun	.8–11am	Beg. Birding FT trip (p.7)
		Wildwood Wk (p.11)
2/ Thu	/–9am	Pittock Mansion Fall
a		Migration Walk (p.3)
2/ I hu	8:30–11:30am.	Tualatin River NWR
		outing (p.3)
28 Fri	.5-10pm	Howl at the Moon
20 0	10 4	Harvest Night (p.2)
29 Sat	10am-4pm	Nature Journaling the
		Seasons: Fall (p.7)

Birders' Night

Join us on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in Heron Hall for Birders' Night, a gathering of local birders sharing recent sightings, a slideshow, and discussion.

October

2	. Tue	. 7:30pm	Birders' Night
			Pittock Mansion Fall
			Migration Walk (p.3)
6	. Sat	. 8am–Noon	Beg. Field Birding &
			Sauvie Isl. Exploration (p.7)
6	. Sat	. 10am-4pm	Nature Journaling the
		·	Seasons: Fall (p.7)
6	. Sat	. 4:30-6pm	Birds & Beer at
		·	Fernhill Wetlands (p.2)
9	.Tue	.7pm	. Nature Night:
			Tidal Marsh (p.3)
10	Wed	7pm	Swarovski Optics Wkshp
			with Clay Taylor (p.8)
11	. Thu	. 7:30am–9am	Pittock Mansion Fall
			Migration Walk (p.3)
13	. Sat	. 8am–11am	Whitaker Ponds
			Nature Park (p.3)
		. Various	\
		. Various	
			Dawson Creek Park (p.3)
			Sauvie Island outing (p.3)
17	. Wed	.—	Autumn on Steens Mtn.
		_	trip begins (p.7)
18	. Thu	. 7pm	Board Meeting at
••	_		Leach Botanical Garden
20	. Sat	. 8am–Noon	
			Sauvie Island (p.3)
20	Sat	. 5–8:30pm	
21	•	0 11 20	Halloween event (p.2)
			Beg. Birding 2 FT (p.7)
28	LIID	8_11:3()am	Rog Rinding) El (p./)
	. Juii	. 0—11.30a111	Beg. Birding 2 FT (p.7)

November

3	Sat	8am-Noon	Beg. Field Birding &
			Sauvie Isl Exploration (p.7)
3	Sat	8am–5pm	Beg. Birding 2 FT (p.7)

Save the Date!

The Portland Christmas Bird Count will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2013.

We will need both field counters and feeder watchers. Watch for details in the November/ December issue of the Warbler and on our website.

Volunteers Needed for Audubon's Biggest Show:

Wild Arts Festival on November 17-18, 2012

he Wild Arts Festival, Portland Audubon's most elaborate production, will open in just a couple of months. The Festival is scheduled for **November 17–18**... and the best way to get a backstage look at the event is by volunteering. It's also a great way to connect with Audubon friends, old and new.

Volunteers are needed to set up Wild Arts on Friday, November 16th; to **run the event** on Saturday and Sunday; and to **strike the set** on Sunday afternoon and evening. Over 150 volunteers are needed during

Visit the Festival website at wildartsfestival.org!

the course of the weekend, for tasks as diverse as helping artists load in; helping to check in volunteers; staffing the 6x6 Wild Art Project **exhibit**; **booth-sitting** for artists; working the **admission desk**; helping with the **Book Fair**; and filling a couple dozen **other slots**. If you're interested in being a volunteer, check out the volunteer page on the Festival website at wildartsfestival.org or check with our Festival volunteer coordinator Roberta Lampert at wafvolunteers@gmail.com.

Other Ways to Help

Don't have time to volunteer... or maybe you'd like to do more? Not to worry. Other ways you can support the Wild Arts Festival are suggested

- Consider **sponsorship**: become one of Wild Arts' "**40 Friends**."
- If you're a business owner or an individual who loves the event as much as we do, consider **sponsoring the event at a higher level**.
- **Donate to the Silent Auction**. If you have access to weekend getaways, event tickets, gift certificates to intriguing restaurants or stores, items of interest to naturalists... or any arts, crafts, jewelry, and other appropriate *objets d'art* lying around the house, consider a donation to the Silent Auction. Contact Marilyn at mswestlinn@comcast.net for donation information.
- Visit the **Wild Arts Facebook page**. "Like" us, and share your thoughts and Wild Arts experiences.
- And of course, mark your calendar for November 17 and 18, and don't miss our biggest show!

Other ways to assist with all things Wild Arts can be found at wildartsfestival.org.



Audubon Society of Portland

Inspiring people to love and protect nature since 1902

Audubon Society of Portland promotes the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native birds and other wildlife and their habitats. We focus on our local community and the Pacific Northwest.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

5151 NW Cornell Rd • Portland, OR 97210 503-292-6855 • Fax: 503-292-1021 9am to 5pm, Mon. - Fri.

SANCTUARIES

Dawn to dusk every day

WILDLIFE CARE CENTER

503-292-0304 9am to 5pm every day

NATURE STORE

503-292-9453 10am to 6pm, Mon. - Sat. 10am to 5pm on Sunday

INTERPRETIVE CENTER & LIBRARY

Same hours as store

RARE BIRD ALERT

503-292-6855 • www.audubonportland.org



The Audubon Society of Portland is a member of Earth Share of Oregon. For more information, contact Earth Share of Oregon at 503-223-9015 or on the web at www.earthshare-oregon.org.



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Through their business practices and financial contributions, the following businesses are helping advance our mission and protect Oregon's birds, natural resources, and livability. If you would like to become a member of the Audubon Society of Portland Business Alliance, please contact our Development Director at 971-222-6117.



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