



Black-throated
Gray Warbler

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Warbler

In this issue...

- Online WWC Auction ends March 6th! See page 5
- VOTE NO on Water District Initiative See page 4
- Native Plant Sale April 12-13 See page 8

Birdathon 2014

Counting Birds Because Birds Count!

Registration for our most important fundraising event of the year begins March 15th!



The Bus Passerines © Mary McWilliams

Join the Biggest, Baddest Birdathon this side of the Mississippi! Be part of the fun — enjoy some of our region’s birding hotspots, AND help raise money to protect birds and habitat across Oregon! Birding experience isn’t necessary — you’ll have a great time, as each team is led by one or more of our expert Birding Leaders.

Now in its 34th year, Birdathon is the Audubon way to raise funds for its conservation and education programs. Like a walkathon, but instead of counting miles, we count birds!

To participate, register for one of our many exciting Audubon-guided teams (listed here and on our website) and invite your friends and family to come along or support you with a donation! Be eligible for great prizes for the most species seen, the most pledges received, and the most money raised. **Participants are asked to raise a minimum of \$35 in pledges unless otherwise indicated.**

Birdathon 2014 Teams

Here’s a partial list and a synopsis of Half-Day, Full-Day, and Gonzo Trips (2+ days). Visit audubonportland.org for additional trips and more details.

NEW TEAM! The Bloggerhead Shrikes — a Virtual Team!

Do you enjoy birding and love to share your adventures online complete with dramatic photos and pithy posts? If the answer is *YES!*, join local bird enthusiast and photographer **Jen Sanford**, better known as the “*I used to hate birds*” blogger, on our first-ever virtual team! Count birds and use your blog, Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, or Instagram account to reach out to your followers to build awareness and raise funds for Portland Audubon.

Half-Day Trips

Soggy Bottom Birders: May 3 (Sat), 9am–4pm
Join Portland Audubon Education staff **Ian Abraham**, **Tim Donner**, and **Laura Newton** for an exclusive birding tour of wetlands of the Greater Columbia River Basin. We’ll stop at Smith and Bybee, Ridgefield and, if time allows, Steigerwald Lake NWR. Ideal for people of all ages who appreciate birding in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. Transportation provided. **A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.**

Whittemore’s Whatzits: Two trip dates: May 4 (Sun) or May 31 (Sat), 8am–Noon

Popular Beginning Birding and Birding By Ear instructor **Laura Whittemore**, and Birdathon Coordinator **Mark Fitzsimons**, will guide this Steigerwald Lake NWR trip. Songbirds, raptors, and waterfowl abound — we expect to see 50 species! **A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.**

Clackamas Creepers: May 17 (Sat), 8am–3pm
Bird Clackamas County sites with Portland Audubon educator and long-time local birder **Dan van den Broek**. We check out some of the best Willamette floodplain wetlands for Cinnamon Teal, oak woodlands for migrating Warblers and Flycatchers, and the Cascade foothills for Bluebird and Solitaire. **A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.**

NEW TEAM! Millennial Falcons: May 18 (Sun)
Under 30, anyone? Young adult birders, join **Brandon Lampkin** and **Robin Juskowiak**, professional bird geeks and naturalists, for a casual half-day of birding. Explore Cooper Mountain Nature Park and Tualatin River NWR for raptors and waterfowl and end at a pub to celebrate a day well spent, raising funds to help these places thrive!

Great Big Sit: May 24 (Sat), 8am–Noon
The perfect Birdathon experience for beginning birders! **Bonnie Deneke**, **Dena Turner**, and **Phyllis Wolfe** welcome you to a leisurely morning at the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. Bring a lawn chair, sit back, and relax as the birds come to you; 35–50 species frequent this idyllic setting!

Bicycling Birdos!: Date TBD
Bring your kids, bring your curiosity, and bring your bike! Bicycling Birdos are a family-friendly, kids-encouraged team that welcomes birders of all levels of experience. **Jeff Walker** of Splendid Cycles and Audubon staff lead this short, easy, bike birding tour, visiting Oaks Bottom, Holgate Slough, and Sellwood Riverfront Park before heading to Sellwood Park for a picnic. This ride is 99% on bike path, flat, slow-paced, and tremendously *FUN!*

A Song in the Morning: Date TBD (Wed), 7am–9am
Spend the morning with **Gerard Lillie** and **Tom McNamara**, Mt Tabor’s renowned birdsong experts, and work on an impressive list of residents and spring migrants by identifying their songs and calls! Join this special “Birdathon Edition” of Audubon’s spring series of morning “Bird Song Walks.”



West Hayden Island saved! © Bob Sallinger

On January 8th, the Port of Portland announced that it was withdrawing its application to annex and rezone West Hayden Island for industrial development. This is a huge win for our communities and our environment, and demonstrates the power of grassroots activism in Portland. Conservation groups, tribes, and neighborhoods have opposed this development for decades. Now it is time to take the next step and permanently protect this amazing natural area. The following is Audubon’s vision for a permanently protected West Hayden Island (more on page 4).

A New Vision for West Hayden Island

by **Bob Sallinger**,
Conservation Director

We envision a fully restored 800+ acre Wildlife Area and Nature Park at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers: A place that **provides habitat for more than 200 species** including Bald Eagles, Western Painted Turtles, and federally listed salmon and steelhead — and offers extraordinary **opportunities for people to hike, paddle, and enjoy nature in an urban environment.**

Visitors will explore a mosaic of wetlands, grasslands, beaches, and one of the largest intact bottomland hardwood forests left on the Lower Columbia River. A new nature center will provide programs for children and adults about the unique role that the confluence area plays in the migratory cycles of our imperiled fish and wildlife populations and the cultural history of indigenous populations. Our local green economy will be supported by nature-based recreation, restoration projects, and establishment of a regional mitigation bank to allow for marine industrial development in more appropriate locations.

West Hayden Island will symbolize our commitment to restoring balance to our urban landscapes and leaving the land better than we found it for future generations.

Inside this issue

| | |
|------------|--|
| Page 2 | From the Director |
| Page 3 | Audubon Outings |
| Page 4 & 5 | Conservation Wildlife Care Center |
| Page 6 & 7 | Trips, Tours & Classes |
| Page 8 | Nature Store & Sanctuaries |
| Page 9 | Field Notes & Sightings |
| Page 10 | Board Election Statements |
| Page 11 | Thank you, Volunteers! |
| Page 12 | Map/Hours/Sponsors |

Continued on page 12

From the Executive Director



Meryl Redisch

Another Tool for Protecting Portland's Large Trees

I can't imagine starting this column with anything other than thanking everyone who showed up to help Portland Audubon keep West Hayden Island from being developed by the Port of Portland. And, I can't imagine not recognizing Bob Sallinger, our Conservation Director, who doggedly spearheaded this decade-plus campaign by keeping his and our eyes on the prize. And what a prize it is — an urban wildlife refuge the size of Central Park that supports native deciduous forest and open meadow habitats. The West Hayden Island victory demonstrates how Portland Audubon and the grassroots community can “build a region where people and wildlife flourish together.”

If West Hayden Island is the grand prize for Portland because of its size, regional location, and ecological importance, I submit that Portland's urban trees are the runners up! Often overlooked, the city's urban canopy is valued at about \$6 billion and is worthy of our attention. While this is the cost of replacing the 1.5 million street and park trees that are the backbone of Portland's green infrastructure system, what's not calculated in this price tag are the hundreds of thousands or more of big, healthy, native trees growing in your backyard and mine. We don't yet know the replacement cost of these neighborhood assets but I would bet their value is in the billions as well. I have never taken trees for granted. Not when I lived in New York City as a kid and hung out in my neighborhood “forest” which was actually a pitiful path that connected a schoolyard to a developed park. Not during my stint in Salt Lake City where I ran a statewide community forestry nonprofit organization and planted as many slow-growing oaks as possible. And not today, where towering Doug Firs and Bigleaf Maples are the staples of my southwest Portland neighborhood. Even after ten years in Oregon, I never worry about becoming oblivious to trees. What I fear is losing large, healthy, native trees for any number of legitimate or non-legitimate reasons.

While the city has made real advances in growing the urban forest to meet its 33% canopy target, the protection

of existing trees, particularly large natives, has not been given sufficient attention... until now. In 2011, the City Council and Mayor approved a new Citywide Tree Code that, among other things, aims to clean up a very messy patchwork of a tree permit system current today and to be consistent, fair, and streamlined. It was developed to deliver a higher caliber of customer service so that calls to the bureaus about tree-related matters are handled effectively and efficiently. And it was developed to protect our large, healthy trees, many of which are in backyards or undeveloped lots across all parts of Portland. Unfortunately, the implementation of the new code was delayed due to budget cuts.

I was on the Urban Forestry Commission at the time of the rewrite (and still am) and was impressed by the overwhelming support for the revised code, which included new language for regulating trees on private property. The *Oregonian* Editorial Board would like you to believe differently. The new code is not cumbersome, it's not a waste of taxpayer money, and it doesn't preclude homeowners from removing trees, even large ones, on their property. What it does do is to require the homeowner to get a permit and plant another tree somewhere else on their property or pay for it to be planted at another site. It allows city staff to track and monitor canopy loss and plan for the future. I view this as a reasonable way to more equitably manage what is essentially a shared natural asset that benefits humans as well as other living things. The new Tree Code is coming to Portland at the right time. According to a study published in the journal *Nature* and highlighted on a recent National Public Radio report, trees don't actually stop growing once they reach maturity. Scientists from around the world did research on close to 700,000 trees and discovered that while trees did stop getting taller once they reached maturity, they continue to add mass and, with that, additional carbon storage capacity.

We are fortunate to live in a city where thousands of large, healthy, native trees still thrive. Let us not take for granted the abundant environmental, social, aesthetic, and economic benefits they offer — and act now to protect them for our enjoyment and for future generations by supporting the code. Look for Portland Audubon action alerts and help us advocate for and implement the new tree code.

FREE EVENT!

Welcome Back Vulture Day

is coming to Leach Botanical Garden!

Saturday,
March 8, 2014
Noon – 3 p.m.



Ruby the Turkey Vulture
photo: Tom Schmid

Leach Botanical Garden
6704 SE 122nd, Portland, OR 97236
Parking is limited. Please carpool if possible.

Did you notice you see Turkey Vultures in the metropolitan area only in the spring and summer? That's because they migrate to warmer climates in the winter, but it's time to welcome them back. We're lucky to still have good populations of Turkey Vultures in Oregon. Around the world vultures are facing hazards in the wild and their numbers are dwindling. As “Nature's Recyclers,” they play an important role in reducing disease — and it's up to us to help save them.



Welcome Back Vulture Day is filled with fun and educational activities:

- Meet Ruby, Portland Audubon's Turkey Vulture, up close (along with many of Audubon's other Education Birds)
- Compare your “wingspan” to that of a California Condor
- Make a crafted vulture and mask
- Play “Upchuck Chuck!”
- Learn fun vulture facts
- Find out the differences between Old and New World vultures
- Discover why vultures are important

Come and help us celebrate the beauty of vultures!

SAVE THE DATE! Marbled Murrelets talk re-scheduled for THURSDAY, June 5th!

Heavy snow forced us to cancel the Feb 11 Nature Night presentation on Marbled Murrelets by Paul Engelmeyer and Maria Mudd Ruth. Don't miss this important event!

NATURE NIGHTS

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.

FREE and open to the public!

Keeping Oregon's Eagles Soaring with Jeep Pagel Tuesday, March 11 7pm Heron Hall

Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles are iconic raptors in the Pacific Northwest. Their beauty as they soar over Oregon's landscape is an inspiring sight for hikers and naturalists alike. But that penchant to course and soar over the landscape, riding on thermals generated by changing topography, makes them vulnerable to collisions with horizontal axis wind turbines. An alarming number of these magnificent birds are known to have been injured or killed at wind power facilities in the United States.

Join Dr. Joel E. (Jeep) Pagel as he discusses eagle natural history and ecology and how this relates to mortalities at wind facilities. Dr. Pagel will present the results of research that he and a team of scientists conducted that looks at available eagle mortalities at wind facilities from 1997 to 2012.

Jeep Pagel has been a raptor ecologist with the federal government for over 30 years, currently with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. He has specialized in Peregrine Falcon ecology, concentrating on research and management of the species in the Pacific Northwest, California, and several national parks. His work has included almost 1,000 nest entries to band young, collect contaminant samples, and enhance nest ledges. He currently works to help understand and subsequently lessen the impact of renewable energy, habitat loss, and human disturbance to Golden Eagles. He received a Doctorate in Ecology from UC Davis, and very much enjoys being in the backcountry of the PNW watching peregrines and other raptors. *Note: The findings and conclusions within the paper, and at this Audubon presentation, are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.*



Golden Eagle © DeeDee Gollwitzer



Photo © Scott Thomas

“Modern Families”: How Monogamous are Birds? with Michael Murphy

Tuesday, April 8 • 7pm Heron Hall

Our understanding of the mating systems and social dynamics of birds has changed radically over the past quarter century. The introduction of molecular methods to study parentage has shown that extra-pair paternity is often found even in broods of socially monogamous bird species, especially among migrants. It is hard to exaggerate how shocking this finding was to the ornithological world — long-held views of bird biology dissipated overnight.

The socially monogamous Eastern Kingbird, *Tyrannus tyrannus* (including the population that breeds at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge), is a feisty, long-distance Neotropical migrant with a frequency of extra-pair paternity at least double that recorded in most other species. Why are they so extreme?

Join ornithologist Dr. Michael Murphy as he uses ten years of data gathered from studying kingbirds at Malheur NWR to address questions which ornithologists struggle to answer: Why do pairs engage in extra-pair relations? Is this a female- or male-driven behavior? Are all males equally likely to gain and lose paternity, or do females have clear preferences for certain males? If females are selective, how do they make choices? Can males detect losses of paternity and respond by withholding care?

Dr. Murphy will describe the natural history and mating system of kingbirds, as well as his studies using geolocators to track their migratory behavior between North and South America. He will share tales and photos of his field research at Malheur — a wonderful but always challenging environment to its visitors.

Currently a Professor of Biology at Portland State University, Michael Murphy began working on kingbirds in graduate school at the University of Kansas where he received his PhD in 1985. He was Editor-in-Chief of *The Auk*, the quarterly journal of the American Ornithologists' Union, from 2009 to 2013. Please join us for this engaging presentation.




Photo © Sarah Cancellieri





Eastern Kingbird
© Lucas Redmond

Audubon Outings — Wild in the City and Beyond

Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome!

 = Mostly weekday excursions

 = Sign-up needed

 = Fee involved

March 4 (Tue), 9am–11am Fernhill Wetlands



Join **Dudley Thomas** for a walk around Fernhill Wetlands. We expect to find wintering waterfowl, gulls, sparrows, and raptors, some early migrants, and perhaps some surprises. Meet in the Fernhill parking lot. No sign-up needed; contact Dudley at 503-317-1663 or dbthomas70@gmail.com with any questions.

March 11–14 (Tue 5pm – Fri 9am) Klamath Falls



Join leaders **Dick Demarest** and **Denny Graham** as we look for raptors and large flocks of wintering waterfowl. Trip is limited to 20 people. **Registration is required** with Dick at 503-407-7912 or rdd@demarests.com. The trip is wait listed, so call for availability.

March 15 (Sat), 8am–12pm Rentenaar Road, Sauvie Island



Join **Ron Escano** for a waterfowl and winter sparrow adventure on Sauvie Island. Meet at the Eastside Check Station parking lot on the corner of Reeder & Rentenaar Rds. We'll walk Rentenaar Rd and back (1.6 miles round trip). All vehicles need a Sauvie Island parking permit (purchase at store near bridge). From the Sauvie Island bridge take Sauvie Island Rd north 2 miles, turn right on Reeder Rd, and continue north 9 miles to the Eastside Check Station and Rentenaar Rd on the left (allow 25 minutes to drive from bridge to check station). No sign-up needed; call Ron at 503-771-3454 with questions.

March 15, 16; April 12, 13; May 10, 11 Saturdays and Sundays, 8am–5pm Wildflower Walks at Catherine Creek



Join naturalist **Marsh Sly** on a hike (or both hikes) in March, April, and/or May at a premier Columbia Gorge wildflower site, where displays from March to May are ever changing. Catherine Creek is on the gorge's Washington side about 1.5 hours from Portland. The pace is slow but you must hike 2–3 miles round trip with major elevation changes. Limit 12 per hike. **Registration required for each hike** with Marsh at marshsly1@gmail.com.

April 5 (Sat), 8am–11am Powell Butte Nature Park

Join leader **Ron Escano** for a walk exploring the unique habitats of Powell Butte. We will be looking for early spring rarities like the Say's Phoebe. Meet at parking lot at top of the butte. **If parking lot at top of the butte is still closed**, meet at 8am at Rose Bowling Center parking lot at SE Powell & 164th Ave. No sign-up needed; call Ron at 503-771-3454 with any questions.

April 12, 13 see March 15, 16 Wildflower Walks at Catherine Creek



April 13 (Sun), 7am–2pm Sooty Grouse search trip, northern Coast Range



Join **Stefan Schlick** for a Sooty Grouse search trip in the northern Coast Range based out of Banks. We will also look for Northern Pygmy-Owl and other residents. Prepare for cool temperatures and inclement weather, and wear sturdy boots. We may be hiking steep trails for up to 2 miles. Trip limited to 12 people. **Registration is required** with Stefan at greenfant@hotmail.com.

April 13 (Sun), 9am–12pm Tualatin River NWR, Sherwood



Join leaders **Max Smith** and **Sarah Swanson** for a trip to Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge on Highway 99W near Sherwood. Spring is a busy time at the refuge, with waterfowl and shorebirds in the ponds and nesting activity in the forest. Trip limited to 13 participants. **Registration is required** with Sarah at sarahlovesbirds@gmail.com.

April 15 (Tue), 9am–3pm Tillamook Bay



All-day trip. Meet **Ken Chamberlain** and **Dick Demarest** at NW corner of parking lot at Safeway (4th St and Stillwell Ave) in Tillamook. We'll bird some or all of the following: Barview Jetty, Three Arch Rocks, Oyster Plant, Tillamook Wetlands, and Bayocean Spit. Target species include Wrentit, shorebirds, ducks, raptors, and early spring migrants. The Bayocean Spit part of the trip will require walking over uneven but mostly flat terrain. Bring lunch; trip limited to 20. **Registration is required** with Dick at 503-407-7912 or rdd@demarests.com.

April 23 (Tue), 9am–11:30am Whitaker Ponds



Join **Dena Turner** and **Bonnie Deneke** as we walk the half-mile loop trail and observe at the pond's docks and Whitaker Slough, viewing waterfowl and songbirds. The park is located at 7040 NE 47th Ave (0.25 mile north of Columbia Blvd; TriMet bus #75). No sign-up needed; call Dena at 503-236-6937 if you have questions.

April 27 (Sun), 8:30am–12pm Sandy River Delta

Please join **Tim Shelmerdine** on this trip with primary focus on early songbird migrants and lingering overwintering birds. Meet by the restroom at Sandy River Delta parking lot. From Portland, take I-84 to Exit 18, just east of Troutdale. At the stop sign turn right and loop under the freeway. We'll walk 2–3 miles on easy trails. No sign-up needed; call Tim at 971-221-2534 with any questions.

May 1 (Thu), 7:30am–11am Mt. Tabor



Join **Denny Graham** for a morning walk at Mt. Tabor, one of Portland's prime spring migration hotspots. We will be listening to and looking for spring migrants. Meet at the Mt. Tabor Volcano parking lot. No sign-up needed; call Denny at 503-659-1245 with any questions.

COMING UP:

June 3–6 (Tue–Fri) Malheur NWR



Contact **Shawn Schmelzer** at shawnbirder@yahoo.com.



Townsend's Warbler © Steve Berliner. Remember, you can see these images in full color on our website at audubonportland.org/about/newsletter.

Bird Song Walks 2014

7 a.m. Mon–Fri, various sites: **FREE!**

Audubon Society of Portland is proud to sponsor the 2014 season of weekday-morning Bird Song Walks! From beginners to advanced birders, anyone who is fascinated by the sounds of birds should take advantage of these volunteer-guided walks to the metro area's prime spring migration hotspots. By starting with the earliest trips you can become familiar with the songs of the common resident species and then keep pace with the migrants as they arrive.

These Bird Song Walks begin at 7 a.m. No pre-registration required. Leave whenever you like. Bring binoculars and a field guide, and be sure to dress properly for the weather: Spring mornings can be surprisingly chilly. **Steady morning rain cancels a walk.**

Try taking the bus if available. Go to trimet.org or call **503-238-RIDE (7433)** for route information. For natural history information, maps, and directions for these natural areas, see the *latest edition* of **Wild in the City: Exploring the Intertwine**, available at Portland Audubon's Nature Store. Websites are provided here for each locale.



White-crowned Sparrow
© Don Baccus

Mondays April 7, 14, 21, 28

Tryon Creek State Park

Leaders: Rick and Stephanie Wagner

11321 SW Terwilliger Blvd, Portland, OR 97219. Take the Terwilliger Blvd exit off I-5 and head south on Terwilliger toward Lewis and Clark College. Stay on Terwilliger past the intersections with Taylors Ferry Rd and Boones Ferry Rd. At the traffic circle, continue past the entrance to Lewis and Clark Northwest School of Law and follow the brown sign to Tryon Creek State Park, about 1 mile ahead on the right. Meet at the Nature Center. More at tryonfriends.org.

Tuesdays April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Cooper Mountain Nature Park

Leaders: Bonnie Deneke and Sue Carr

18892 SW Kemmer Rd, Beaverton, OR 97007. Please be aware that Cooper Mountain has steep terrain. Directions: **From Highway 217**, take the Scholls Ferry Rd exit and head west on Scholls Ferry past Murray Blvd. At 175th Ave, turn right and go north, uphill, about 1.8 miles and turn left on Kemmer Rd. The park entrance is on the south side of Kemmer. **From the north (Hwy 26 or Hwy 10)**, turn south on 185th (which will become Gassner Rd), turn left on 190th Ave and left on Kemmer Rd. Cooper Mountain Nature Park is a partnership between Metro and Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District. More on Cooper Mountain programing at thprd.org.

Wednesdays April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Mt. Tabor Park

Leaders: Gerard Lillie and Tom McNamara

From SE Belmont, go south on SE 69th two short blocks. Just into the park, turn right and drive as far as possible to gate, and park along street. Mt. Tabor Park is closed to vehicle traffic on Wednesdays, so be sure to use this entrance. [TriMet bus #15 stops at SE 69th & Yamhill.] **Please be part of a group awareness of bicyclists on Mt Tabor! Make room and share the road!** More on Portland Parks at portlandoregon.gov/parks.

Thursdays April 3, 10, 17, 24

Camassia Preserve

Leader: Jackie Wilson

Drive S from Portland on Hwy 43 (SW Macadam Ave) through Lake Oswego to West Linn — OR drive S from Portland on I-205 to West Linn Exit #8 and turn left at end of exit ramp and pass under I-205. Just before the gas station, turn right onto Willamette Falls Dr, go uphill 1 block then left 90 degrees to follow Willamette Falls Dr. Veer right in 1/4 mile onto Sunset Ave, still going uphill, cross I-205, and immediately turn right on Walnut St. The preserve is at the end of Walnut St. More on this and other Nature Conservancy preserves at nature.org.

Fridays April 4, 11, 18, 25

Pittock Mansion

Leader: Wink Gross

3229 NW Pittock Drive, Portland, OR 97210. Follow W Burnside about 1.2 miles west of NW 23rd and turn right onto Barnes Rd. Follow the well-marked signs through the neighborhood for another 0.7 mile, and meet at the Pittock parking lot. [TriMet bus #20 stop #687 at W Burnside & NW Barnes is closest stop.] More at pittockmansion.org.

Conservation

A New Vision for West Hayden Island

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

On January 8th, the Port of Portland announced that it was withdrawing its application to the City of Portland to annex West Hayden Island for Marine Industrial Development. Audubon has opposed industrial development on West Hayden Island for nearly three decades. Public advisory committees have repeatedly reaffirmed the ecological importance of this natural area and raised legitimate, unanswered questions about the need for development.

We believe that because of its size, complex mosaic of habitat types, and location at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers, West Hayden Island represents an irreplaceable resource whose loss cannot be fully mitigated. Our urban waterways are severely degraded, and preservation of the few remaining large intact sites like West Hayden Island is critical to restoring health to our river. The proposed development on West Hayden Island would have destroyed hundreds of acres of meadows, bottomland forests, floodplains, wetlands, and shallow-water salmon habitat. It also would have tripled air toxics levels and reduced the livability of the surrounding community, including Oregon's largest affordable-housing manufactured home community.

The Port has criticized the City for proposing a mitigation package that it considered to be too high. In fact, the proposed mitigation only partially addressed the actual impacts of this project and it was based on years of sound scientific analysis that is far more precise, rigorous, and reliable than the economic forecasts on which the Port

bases its own development aspirations. We applaud the City for standing strong in the face of pressure to allow the Port to externalize the negative impacts of this development. It is time to move beyond the era where industrial development is tantamount to degradation of our environment and our most vulnerable communities.

The Port has also suggested that the region will now have to expand the urban growth boundary to find industrial land. The assertion is false. The West Hayden Island decision in no way necessitates blowing out the urban growth boundary. The City is not required to find 600+ acres of industrial land. It is required to accommodate job growth and there are plenty of ways to achieve that objective other than destroying natural areas. The fact is that West Hayden Island, even under best case forecasts, would never have been a big job generator, producing at best a measly three jobs per acre. Even those estimates may have been inflated given the growing impact of automation on Port facilities, exemplified by the ongoing labor strife that threatens to destroy the Port's existing facility at Terminal 6 (T-6).

It is time for the Port to take a new approach. It can start by taking a leadership role in cleaning up more than 900 acres of contaminated brownfield in Portland, many of which the Port itself owns. These 900 acres represent more than enough land to meet the industrial land deficit. Second, the Port can take a leadership role in promoting more intensive use of the existing industrial land base in Portland and encouraging more collaboration and efficient land use throughout the entire Columbia River Port System.



Photo © David Redthunder

Finally, nobody should forget that the Port itself played a major role in creating the industrial land deficit, selling Terminal 1 to a developer to build low rise condominiums and converting huge tracts of industrial land at Cascade Station to make way for another big box shopping mall.

For now the Port retains ownership of West Hayden Island and while current development efforts have been abandoned, there is always a risk of future attempts. The one thing that is certain is that any future efforts will continue to be met with fierce community opposition. This is the wrong place for industrial development. We hope that the Port will choose a different path forward. Thank you to all the people who came out, hearing after hearing, year after year, to oppose this development — your voices made all the difference.

A Strategy to Address Industrial Land Demand in Portland

by Bob Sallinger

As part of the Portland Comprehensive Plan Update, the City will address issues related to demand for industrial land. Although there are many important issues the City will need to wrestle with as part of the update, the industrial lands issue, driven by industrial lobbying groups, has received a disproportionate amount of the City's attention and planning resources to date. Industrial interests have long promoted a false paradigm which demands that the City choose between upzoning openspace and rolling back environmental regulations on one hand, or forcing the region to expand the urban growth boundary on the other. This paradigm provides industry with cheap land, allows it to avoid the expense of cleaning up polluted industrial sites, and externalizes the costs of environmental and community impacts. It is great for corporate shareholders, but it is lousy for the health of our communities, our environment, and ultimately our economy. It is the antithesis of a sustainable approach, predicated upon the idea that it is okay for industry to simply trash sites and then move on.

It is time for a new industrial lands paradigm for Portland, one in which industry maximizes use of the existing industrial land base, restores contaminated sites to productive use, and internalizes the costs of impacts to the surrounding community and environment. We believe that the following 10 points should provide the basis for a sustainable industrial lands strategy for Portland.

1 Clean up the Portland Harbor Superfund Site: The first 11 miles of the Willamette River have been designated as a federal Superfund Site due to industrial contamination. River Industry needs to stop stalling and dodging on Superfund. It is time for them to clean up their messes and get out from under the liability that has the working river paralyzed.

2 Clean up Brownfields outside the Superfund Process: Portland has over 900 acres of brownfields scattered throughout the city. We need a real brownfield strategy (outside of Superfund) to clean up these sites and restore them to productive use. To date industry has basically focused on public subsidies — corporate welfare. The City should develop a carrot-and-stick approach that includes increased enforcement, land condemnation, and incentives to get things moving on the 900 acres of brownfield in this city.

3 Intensify use of existing Industrial Lands: Far too much of Portland's existing industrial land base is used inefficiently. We need a real consolidation and intensification strategy for industrial lands in Portland.

4 Restrict the ability of industrial landowners to upzone their land for other uses: Industrial landowners need to hold themselves accountable for conversion of industrial land. They complain perpetually about upzoning of industrial lands, but are first in line to seek upzoning if there is a buck to be made. The Port's conversion of industrial land at Terminal 1 (T-1) to low-rise condos, and at Cascade Station to make way for a big box shopping mall, stand as cases in point.

5 Establish a new model for cooperation and potential unification of Columbia River Ports to ensure the most efficient use and operation of the Columbia River Port system: The Columbia River Ports need to form real collaborative relationships and explore unification. The worst-kept secret on the river is the way in which the ports compete rather collaborate. Until they develop an efficient, sustainable model that has them competing with Tacoma and Seattle rather than one another, they are all going to be in jeopardy. They have gotten away with saying "it is too hard" for too long.

6 Tie public investment in industrial infrastructure to job creation: If the public is going to invest in infrastructure to support industry, those industries should be held accountable for delivering jobs. When Audubon urged tying public investment to jobs on West Hayden Island, the Port rejected that concept outright. Colwood Golf Course is another case in point. Audubon supported converting the top third to industrial use on the condition that there actually be some job targets or job incentives built into the upzoning. Portland industrial interests were... silent.

7 The Port of Portland needs to resolve the conflicts at Terminal 6 and ongoing disputes with unions in general: The biggest immediate threat to blue-collar jobs in Portland is the Port and the unions themselves. The long-term conflict between labor and the Port threatens to shut down Portland's largest terminal and drive the cargo industry from Portland.



The top priority to find new industrial lands in Portland should be cleaning up more than 900 acres of contaminated sites across Portland, including the Portland Harbor Superfund Area ©Willamette Riverkeeper

8 The City should move the River Plan forward: River industries continue to fight the River Plan but it actually gives them two things they have always wanted: flexibility and a higher level of certainty. They fought it because it also holds them accountable for their environmental impacts. They can continue to rage against the concept of internalizing the costs of environmental impacts and wallow in stagnation, or they can develop some real leadership which recognizes that they need new models with a higher level of environmental accountability.

9 Industry should stop trying to pass regulations that cut the public out of the decision-making process: Portland-area industries continue to focus resources on efforts to bypass public process rather than developing meaningful strategies to engage the local community and address legitimate concerns about the impacts of industrial development. Senate Bill 766 stands as a case in point. The public will not support investments in projects where they are excluded. These kinds of strategies are toxic to industry's long-term interests.

10 Industry should work with the city and environmental stakeholders to develop a permit streamlining process like the one the City of Portland has developed for its own projects when it needs state or federal approval: This approach does NOT cut the public out of the process or bypass review. What it does is get all the parties together early in order to maximize efficiency and coordination. It has cut significant time off the City's permitting efforts. Unfortunately industry has rejected this approach in favor of strategies that focus on bypassing public process (see point #9).

Huge Win for Marbled Murrelets and Old-Growth Forests on State Lands

by Bob Sallinger

On March 5th, Audubon Society of Portland, Cascadia Wildlands, and the Center for Biological Diversity announced the settlement of a long-running lawsuit which the three organizations had brought against the State of Oregon for violations of the Endangered Species Act. The lawsuit followed decades of futility trying to get the State to reform its clear-cutting practices — considered to be by far the worst of any public land management agency on the West Coast.



Marbled Murrelet on nest © Thomas Hamer / Hamer Environmental

The lawsuit alleged that logging practices on the Elliott, Tillamook, and Clatsop State Forests authorized by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) harmed Marbled Murrelets, protected as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Marbled Murrelets are unique among seabirds in that they nest on the wide branches of large, old trees, making a daily trip of up to 35 miles inland to bring fish to their young. Logging of their forest homes is the primary threat to their survival.

Under the terms of the settlement, the State has agreed to cancel 28 timber sales in habitat for the threatened Marbled Murrelet on the Elliott, Clatsop, and Tillamook State Forests, and improves future management practices to ensure the rare seabird is not harmed. On the Elliott State Forest the State has predicted that this will reduce timber harvest from a projected 40 million-plus board feet per year to approximately 15 million board feet.

Under the settlement agreement, the State will now have to protect more habitat for murrelets on state forests. This habitat is key to protecting the species, as current research in the Pacific Northwest shows that murrelet populations

June 5 (Thu), 7pm
Marbled Murrelet presentation
 by Paul Engelmeyer
 and Maria Mudd Ruth
 See Box on page 2

are declining by approximately 4% per year. Clear-cutting of older forest on the three coastal state forests is a contributing factor.

In addition to providing habitat for imperiled species, these forests have a mandate to generate revenue for county and state services.

Rather than clear-cut older trees in the three forests to help fund schools and roads, the conservation organizations have long encouraged the State to pursue beneficial opportunities. They recommend protection of the forests for use in carbon markets, a timber program that focuses on restoration thinning of dense plantation forests, the sale of key habitat to land trusts or other conservation interests, or a combination of these mechanisms.

This is a huge win for Marbled Murrelets and other species that depend on older forests. The number of canceled sales speaks to how out of alignment the State's practices were with the law. Hopefully this marks the beginning of a new era of responsible and sustainable management of our state's forests.

The three conservation organizations on the suit are the Audubon Society of Portland, Cascadia Wildlands, and the Center for Biological Diversity. The groups were represented by Daniel Kruse of Eugene, Tanya Sanerib of the Center for Biological Diversity, Nick Cady of Cascadia Wildlands, Chris Winter of the Crag Law Center, Susan Jane Brown of the Western Environmental Law Center, and Scott Jerger of Field Jerger LLP.



Image submitted by Bob Sallinger

Please Vote NO on the Water District Initiative

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

In May 2014, Portland voters will vote on an initiative that would strip the Bureau of Environmental Services and the Water Bureau from the City of Portland and place them under a new water board. Audubon Society of Portland and a huge coalition of conservation and community groups oppose this measure and urge you to VOTE NO.

The Portland Water District Initiative would transfer control of more than \$15 billion in public assets, including control of our precious Bull Run Watershed, to a new unproven board that is inexperienced and much more susceptible to corporate influence. Bizarre conflict-of-interest provisions would eliminate tens of thousands of Portlanders from serving on the new board, but notably the initiative does nothing to limit the influence of regulated corporate entities and industrial polluters. A judge had already ruled that the manner in which the new districts were mapped by the initiative backers would exclude East Portland (20% of the city's population) from voting for Water District board members, even though they would still have to pay water and sewer bills.

The backers of this initiative would like the public to believe that this initiative is a populist revolt. It is nothing of the sort. Leadership behind this initiative includes the lawyer who led the fight **against** campaign finance reform in Oregon and the executive director of the Industrial Water Users Coalition. More than 90% of the funding raised to date came from 5 large corporate entities with \$55,000 coming from a Superfund polluter, Siltronic, and another \$50,000 coming from forest clear-cutting baron Harry Merlo. Less than 1% of the funding came from grassroots contributions of under \$100. Not a single community group has endorsed the initiative since the day it was announced more than 6 months ago. People backing this initiative are the last people we should be trusting to remake our government.

This initiative is underpinned by a strong anti-environment agenda. The backers of this initiative have also sued the City of Portland, arguing that its core environmental programs including tree planting, Superfund clean-up, and watershed protection programs are all illegal. The backers have been unsuccessful in their efforts to gut the City's environmental programs at City Council so they have now turned to the initiative process.

Finally, the initiative backers have suggested that this initiative will lower rates. In fact, it does absolutely nothing to lower rates — there is not a single mention in the initiative of mechanisms that would lower rates. What it does do is explicitly eliminate all oversight by the elected city auditor, and it creates a new layer of government that will have to duplicate expensive existing legal, administrative, and auditor functions. It jeopardizes the city's outstanding bond rating. It will require anybody seeking a permit for water or sewer work to seek permits from two different governments rather than one.

The groups opposing this measure have long histories of working with local government when possible and challenging local government when necessary (go to the Audubon website, audubonportland.org, to see a list of opponents). This initiative is not about reform — it is a cynical attempt to take over our water, sewer, and stormwater systems by a small group of self-serving corporations. Please VOTE NO on the Portland Water District initiative.

Wildlife Care Center

Preparing for Spring

by Lacy Campbell, WCC Operations Manager

Spring is in the air and the birds have definitely noticed. Many birds like Great Horned Owls and Anna's Hummingbirds are already busy rearing their young and more animals are right around the corner. This also means that the busiest time of the year is about to hit the Wildlife Care Center. **Baby bird season usually lasts from Memorial Day to Labor Day and will require 5–6 extra volunteers and 1 extra full-time staff person per day.** Last year we received over 1,109 baby birds, each needing anywhere from 30-minute to 1-hour feedings during daylight hours. Each of those animals are weighed, cleaned, medicated, and fed (a lot) every day. Some young birds like Red-tailed Hawks or Peregrine Falcons must be fed by a person in disguise so the bird does not become used to people.

While we all look forward to baby bird season, it is the most resource intensive part of our year. That is why this year we have decided to use proceeds from our **Call of the Wild Online Auction** to support all the young animals that come in. Just like human children, early development is a crucial time not only for physical growth but for self-identification, song learning, and getting foraging skills needed to be a successful, functional member of the flock. The money from the Call of the Wild Auction will go to directly care for the animals we receive from various hazards like cat attacks, loss of parents, or those who have been "rescued." (Don't forget that a baby bird on the ground doesn't mean it is abandoned.) With the

proceeds we will buy more incubators: every hatchling, nestling, and early fledgling must be housed in an incubator because many can't maintain heat without their feathers. Money will also go toward "feeding puppets" for the animals like the Red-tailed Hawks, Peregrines, Crows, and Herons that need a surrogate so they don't imprint on people. We will also build a Vaux's Swift "Chimney" so the birds can get practice flocking together and coordinating landing in a roost spot.

Don't forget, though: these animals eat a lot! Money from the auction will also go toward feeding all the babies. Did you know that a Barn Owl chick will eat about 5 mice per day? At \$0.65 each, it costs \$3.25 per day to feed one Barn Owl baby — then take into account that we can have as many as 20 in our care at one time and the costs keep going up. If you want to help support the Wildlife Care Center and are interested in donating, please go to our auction website, pauldubonauction.dojiggy.com, where you'll find a myriad of experiences offered by experts, including glider rides, beach houses, photography lessons, cougar-keeper shadowing, and my personal favorite: Shadowing a Wildlife Rehabber (me!). All the proceeds go to the Wildlife Care Center, **but hurry — the auction ends March 6th at 9pm!**



Peregrine nestling with feeding puppet © Bob Sallinger



A benefit for Audubon Society of Portland's Wildlife Care Center

Note: Auction CLOSSES on MARCH 6 (Thur) at 9pm
View auction items and bid at pauldubonauction.dojiggy.com

To help pay the costs of animal rehabilitation at Portland Audubon's Wildlife Care Center, we offer unique experiences in our 4th annual Call of the Wild auction:

'Job-Shadow' Oregon Zoo Keeper **Michelle Schireman** at the Cougar and Mountain Goat exhibits.

Silent, motor-less **glider flights** in a 2-seater sailplane with commercial pilot **Gary Gross**.

Professional **wildlife photography** instruction in the field with **Scott Carpenter**.

Other auction items include guided bird walks, field trips, and nature hikes, a "Learn to be a Tracker" experience, a Raptor Release, weekend getaway homes, and more.

Educational Trips

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

THAILAND

January 10–25, 2015

A country of Buddhist traditions, temples, and images, the Buddha can be seen in nearly every corner of Thailand, as can offerings of flowers and incense at Animistic spirit houses to provide the promise of good fortune. Known as the 'land of smiles,' this is a country full of natural beauty and friendly people who, without fail, greet you with a slight bow, palms pressed together in a polite way.



Buddha statue © Dan van den Broek

We begin our journey in the north of Thailand, in the city of Chiang Mai, where the night market and the magnificent temple of Wat Phra That Soi Suthep will whet your appetite for culture and tradition. Around our hotel we'll be introduced to some of our first Asian birds such as **Zebra Dove**, **White Wagtail**, **Red-whiskered Bulbul** and **Oriental Magpie Robin**. Our first birding foray will be along the Thai-Myanmar border where we'll spend an unforgettable day in the vast forested hills that are home to **Giant Nuthatch**, **Mrs. Gould's Sunbird**, **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler**, **Red-faced Liocichla** and **Red-flanked Bluetail**. Next we'll head to the mountain of Ang Khang where we will explore the experimental gardens at the Royal Agricultural Station and may find **White-headed Bulbul**, **White-browed Scimitar-Babbler**, **Scarlet Rosefinch** and **Ashy Drongo** among the Rhododendron and Flowering Plum.

Known as the roof of Thailand, Doi Inthanon is at the eastern end of the Himalayan Mountains. Along the slopes of the highest peak in Thailand lives an amazing variety of birds in habitats from cloud forest to deciduous Dipterocarp. Along waterfalls and streams we hope for good views of the secretive **Slaty-backed Forktail** and **White-capped Water-Redstart**, and while exploring the slopes of this granitic massif we hope to encounter **Purple Sunbird**, **Asian Barred Owlet** and **Green Bee-eater**, to name just a few.

Next we fly to the metropolis of Bangkok to experience first-hand its famous markets and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. We'll head south for a day along the coastal salt pans, rummaging through flocks of shorebirds such as **Red-necked Stint**, **Marsh Sandpiper** and **Lesser Sand-Plover** to search for the critically endangered **Spoon-billed Sandpiper**. It is believed that less than 200 remain of these intriguing little birds with spatulate bills, and Pak Thale is the most accessible place in the world to see them.

After searching the coast for more unusual species such as **Nordmann's Greenshank**, **Asian Dowitcher**, **Chinese Egret** and more, we'll head to the mountains and the Kaeng Krachan National Park where we'll have our best chance of seeing a variety of mammals. The musical call of **White-handed Gibbons** will herald our arrival in the park and troops of **Dusky Langur** and **Pig-tailed Macaque** will sound like wild teenagers romping through the forest, shaking branches and breaking limbs. If we are lucky we'll encounter **Asian Elephants**, the lumbering giants of the forest, and a massive avian resident, the **Great Hornbill**.

The last days of our trip will be in the coastal town of Hua Hin, where the view from our bungalows is of white sand beach, giving us time to reflect as we relax while looking out over the Gulf of Thailand.

This amazing trip features some of the best wildlife viewing in the world and exploration of world-famous Buddhist temples. For more information or to reserve a spot, please contact **Dan van den Broek** at 971-222-6105 or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

Leaders: Steve Robertson, Education Director, and Dan van den Broek, Trip Leader and Educator

Group size: Limited to 14 participants
Fee: \$3995 members / \$4395 non-members
Deposit: \$2000 required to secure your place



Rufous-bellied Niltava © Dan van den Broek

Fee includes: All ground transportation within Thailand, 14 nights **double-occupancy** lodging, breakfasts, lunches, local guide fees and tips, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your skilled leaders. **Not included:** Dinners, and airfare to & from Thailand and Chiang Mai to Bangkok.

TEXAS GULF COAST April 9–17, 2014

Leaders: Dan van den Broek and Patty Newland
Fee: \$2295 members / 2495 non-members
Contact Dan at 971-222-6105 for details.



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/adult. 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 unless approved beforehand by trip leader.

California Condors & Big Sur Coast

September 22–26, 2014

Join us to view North America's largest bird, the **California Condor**, in the wild! The central California coast and inland areas offer excellent opportunities to see these majestic birds as well as a wide variety of other species. We begin the trip with a visit to the marshes of San Francisco Bay to see what shorebirds are migrating through before heading south to Pinnacles National Monument, a unique volcanic landscape that is home to **Condor**, **Peregrine Falcon**, **Prairie Falcon**, **Yellow-billed Magpie**, and **Acorn Woodpecker**. Lush canyons of Live Oak and Chaparral alive with **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** lead us toward the High Peaks where Condors are frequently seen. Next we travel to the stunning Big Sur Coast south of Monterey where coastal hills of forest and grassland plunge into the sea. The scenery is breathtaking and the chances of seeing Condors at roost or soaring above the rugged coastline are very good. We'll visit the world-famous Monterey Bay Aquarium and take in the sights of Old Town Monterey during our two nights there. On our final day we explore our way back to the Bay Area in search of **Red-shouldered Hawk** and **White-tailed Kite**, and we plan to look for **Northern Elephant Seal** as well! **Contact Steve Engel** at 971-222-6119 or sengel@audubonportland.org for more information.

Leaders: Kirk Hardie, Portland Audubon Trip Leader, and Bob Sallingier, Portland Audubon Conservation Director

Fee: \$895 members / \$1095 non-members
Deposit: \$400 required to reserve your place

Group size: Limited to 9–14 participants

Fee includes: All ground transportation, 4 nights **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, entrance fees for planned activities, and the services of your leaders. **Not included:** Dinners, and airfare to & from California.

Steens Mountain & Alvord Desert

October 8–12, 2014

Steens Mountain is one of Oregon's most spectacular natural areas. Rising to almost 10,000 feet in the southeast corner of the state, it presides over alkali desert, oceans of sagebrush, and the wildlife-rich marshlands of the Malheur basin. From our base in Frenchglen we'll spend three full days exploring this diverse landscape by van and on foot as we venture around all sides and on top of the mountain itself. On past trips we've seen approximately 80 bird species including **Townsend's Solitaire**, **Mountain Bluebird**, **American Pipit**, **Horned Lark**, **Northern Goshawk**, **Golden Eagle**, and **Prairie Falcon**. We search for and often spot **Bighorn Sheep** along the high peaks, sometimes distant and sometimes near. **Coyote** and **Mule Deer** are often sighted and you never know when a **Porcupine** is going to waddle into view. Conditions permitting we will venture out to Borax Lake, home of the unique and endangered **Borax Lake Chub**, and we'll visit the Alvord Desert. **Contact Steve Engel** at 971-222-6119 or sengel@audubonportland.org for more information.

Leader: Steve Engel, Adult Education Programs Manager

Fee: \$795 members / \$895 non-members
Deposit: \$400 required to secure your place

Group size: Limited to 14 participants

Fee includes: Ground transportation from & to Portland, 4 nights **double-occupancy** lodging at the Frenchglen Hotel, meals *except dinners*, all entrance fees, and the services of your leaders. **Not included:** Dinners.

BELIZE & TIKAL!

Tentative Dates: February 19–28, 2015

Join experienced naturalists from Portland Audubon on this adventure to Belize, one of the most remarkable countries in the world. You'll bird vast wetlands and tropical forests and visit Mayan ruins, all in a country about one-tenth the size of Oregon! **Contact Steve Engel** at 971-222-6119 or sengel@audubonportland.org for more information.

Leaders: Steve Engel, Adult Education Programs Manager, and Local Guides

Tentative Fee: \$2695 members / \$2995 non-members

Group size: Limited to 14 participants

Deposit: \$1200 required to secure your place

Birds & Wildlife of Brazil

Tentative Dates: April 11–25, 2015

Travel with experienced naturalists from the Audubon Society of Portland and local guides into some of the most incredible bird habitat in the world as you explore the avian wonderland that is Brazil. Regions to be visited include the Pantanal and Atlantic Rainforest. **Contact Steve Robertson** at 503-292-6855 ext.118 or srobertson@audubonportland.org for more information.

Trip Leaders: Steve Robertson and Local Guides

Fee: \$3695 members / \$3995 non-members
Deposit: \$1500 required to secure your space

Group size: Limited to 14 participants and 2 Audubon guides

HOW TO REGISTER Choose one of 3 ways to register for Adult Classes:

1. 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, MasterCard, 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 2

This class meets 3 times:

March 8 & 15 (Sat), 8am-11am: Local Field Trips

March 23 (Sun), 8am-4pm: Field Trip (transportation provided)

See website for more information.

Fee: \$95 members / \$105 non-members

Limited to 14 participants

Birding By Ear with Laura Whittemore

Learn to identify birds by their songs! There's no time like now to begin developing this very enjoyable and important bird-watching skill.

Fee per Session: \$80 members / \$95 non-members

Each class limited to 14 participants

Birding By Ear: Resident Birds (Session A)

April 9 & 23 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Classes, Heron Hall

April 12, 19, 26 (Sat), 7am-10am: Field Trips

Birding By Ear: Resident Birds (Session B)

April 10 & 24 (Thu), 7pm-9pm: Classes, Heron Hall

April 13, 20, 27 (Sun), 7am-10am: Field Trips

Birding By Ear: Migrant Birds

May 7 & 21 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Classes, Heron Hall

May 10, 17, 24 (Sat), 7am-10am: Field Trips

Diving Birds with Harry Nehls

March 18 (Tue), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall

Join local birding expert Harry Nehls for an evening exploring the world of diving birds. Did you know that 3 types of Loons hang out in Oregon? Did you know that a variety of colorful Grebes nest in the desert marshes of eastern Oregon? Harry will share his knowledge about the Loons, Grebes, Cormorants, and other diving birds that grace our coast, lakes, and rivers.

Fee: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Free for active volunteers

Little Brown Birds

March 19 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall

March 22 (Sat), 8am-12pm: Field Trip

At first glance, all those little brown birds flitting through the brush look alike. But with a little practice, you will learn to recognize the great variety of sparrows, finches, and wrens found in the Portland area. In this class, local author and guide John Rakestraw will help you learn the field marks and behaviors that make all these birds unique. On Saturday, we will visit some local "sparrow patches" to see and hear these birds in person.

Class & Field Trip Fee: \$25 members / \$40 non-members

Field Trip limited to 15 participants

Class-Only Fee: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Nature Journaling the Spring

March 29 & April 5 (two Saturdays),

10am-4pm: Class in Heron Hall

See website for more information.

Class Fee: \$75 members / \$90 non-members.

Limited to 16 participants

Ice Age Floods of the Gorge

April 6 (Sun), 9am-5pm: All-Day Bus Tour

Join Scott Burns, Professor of Geology at Portland State University, for a fascinating bus tour of the Columbia River Gorge. Scott is an enthusiastic student of the floods and a co-author of the recently published 2nd edition of *Cataclysms on the Columbia*, one of the best books on the ice age floods, also known as the Bretz Floods, Spokane Floods, and Missoula Floods.

Fee: \$35 members / \$50 non-members

Limited to 40 participants

Spring Shorebirds

April 22 (Tue), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall

April 26 (Sat): All-Day Field Trip to Oregon Coast

Spring shorebird migration along the Oregon coast can be spectacular. Identifying these hormone-driven, arctic-bound shorebirds can be challenging since they are

fast, small, and similar in shape and color. Shawneen Finnegan and Dave Irons will illustrate the field marks that distinguish Western and Least Sandpipers and how to recognize Red Knots, Dunlin, and more. Field Trip transportation is provided.

Class & Field Trip Fee: \$75 members / \$95 non-members

Field Trip limited to 12 participants/van

Class-Only Option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Warblers & Flycatchers ID

April 30 (Wed), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall

May 3 (Sat), 7am-11am: Local Field Trip

This class will focus on two groups notorious for giving the bird watcher a stiff neck and bewildered stare: warblers and flycatchers. On Saturday morning we'll visit a local migrant hotspot to solidify our new skills.

Class & Field Trip Fee: \$30 members / \$45 non-members

Field trip limited to 15 participants

Class-Only Fee: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Introduction to Bird Photography

May 1, 8, 14, 27, 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall

May 17 (Sat): Half-Day Field Trip

Local photographer Scott Carpenter teaches this class. Visit our website or call Steve Engel for more information and to register.

Fee: \$80 members / \$95 non-members

Limited to 15 participants

The World of Birds 2014


The World of Birds is the Audubon Society of Portland's program for birders who want to increase their ID skills and their knowledge about birds. Each series consists of three Classes and three Field Trips. Visit our website for details on upcoming summer and fall classes: **Understanding Bird Song, Theories on Migration, Bird Names.** Audubon trip leader and educator Dan van den Broek is your instructor. Contact Dan at 971-222-6105 or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org for more information and to sign up.

Spring Break Camp 2014 at the Audubon Society of Portland

To register, go to audubonportland.org for online registration or to download a registration form.

Call 971-222-6120 to save a place if you are mailing your form. Spring Break Camps run 8:45am-4:15pm unless otherwise noted.

Register now for both Spring & Summer Camps!

| MONDAY, MARCH 24 | TUESDAY, MARCH 25 | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26 | THURSDAY, MARCH 27 | FRIDAY, MARCH 28 | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Newts and Boots <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>Strap on your mud boots and head out to Portland Audubon's own Balch Creek in search of salamanders and reptiles. Springtime is truly amphibian time and we'll search for the egg masses in Portland Audubon's pond to figure out which salamander and frog laid them. We'll also be on the lookout for other native amphibians and reptiles, and we'll safely collect, study, and release them into the wild.</p> <p>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>R.O.U.S.'s (Reptiles of Unusual Size) <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>This camp will be like a journey back through time to the era when Mega-Reptiles ruled the earth. You'll travel with Steve Robertson, Education Director, to Brad's World of Reptiles in Corvallis, Oregon where you'll get to see and handle some of the largest reptiles in the world. Help hold (with at least 12 other kids) a 15-foot-long python. Pet a giant Snapping Turtle while expert handlers hold it, and see a massive King Cobra. Learn the threats facing these impressive creatures and what can be done to save them.</p> <p>Fee: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member</p> <p>Trip Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director</p> | <p>Aquatic Art <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>What creatures live in your local creeks and ponds? We'll look in Balch Creek and the pond in Audubon's own Wildlife Sanctuary to find mayflies, trout, and maybe even a crayfish! Get to know the plants and animals that live in this watershed and turn your observations into imaginative paintings and clay sculptures.</p> <p>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Jr. Raptor Road Trip <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>Grab your binoculars — we'll bring the scopes and treats! Join us for a road trip through Sauvie Island as we trace the path of the annual Raptor Road Trip put on by Portland Audubon and other organizations. Our trip explores all of the Road Trip's sites in search of the magnificent Bald Eagles, hawks, and falcons that spend the winter in the Portland area. Learn the route and all the cool things that raptors have to teach us so you can lead your family on the official Raptor Road Trip in February!</p> <p>Fee: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member</p> <p>Trip Leader: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator</p> | <p>Junior Wildlife Vet 101 <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.</p> <p>Fee: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member</p> <p>Coil Basketry <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>Have you ever wanted to make something beautiful using all-natural materials? Learn to create an elegant basket simply from ponderosa pine needles gathered from the forest floor! In this ancient art of basket making, pine needles are assembled into bunches and sewn in spiraling coils that gradually grow into a unique basket. Spend a day at Portland Audubon's Wildlife Sanctuary, adventuring through the forest, playing games, and of course creating your very own basket to take home!</p> <p>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator</p> | <p>Forest Mask-erade <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>Come dressed in your own camouflage as we investigate how animals hide themselves in the forest. We'll learn new skills as we search our Sanctuary for hidden homes of forest creatures. Make and take home your very own forest mask.</p> <p>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Find us on Facebook</p> <p>www.facebook.com/audubonkidspdx</p> </div> | <p>AMBUSH! <i>1st-3rd grade</i></p> <p>To ambush, to lie in wait, to surprise or to be in a concealed position. This will be our goal as participants divide into clans and use the Audubon Sanctuary to focus on the art of disappearing. We'll sneak through the woods trying to stay undetected by other clans, as maps that lead to bounty guide our way. Come with us for a sneaky adventure into the art of camouflage.</p> <p>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</p> <p>Junior Wildlife Vet 102 <i>4th-8th grade</i></p> <p>Join other animal lovers for a day devoted to learning about the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We'll go behind the scenes of Audubon's Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about.</p> <p>Fee: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member</p> | |
| THURSDAY, MARCH 27 - FRIDAY, MARCH 28 | | | | | |
| | | | <p>Corps of Discovery <i>6th-9th grade</i></p> <p>Can you imagine traveling across the United States on foot and by canoe? In 1805, a small team led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark set off, traveling thousands of miles, experiencing lands, rivers, and peoples that no Americans ever had before. Come join us as we spend two days along the Oregon Coast learning about their adventurous journey as we visit some of the sights and walk in the footsteps of these iconic explorers. We'll visit Fort Clatsop and the Salt Works, and hike along Ecola State Park. After a fun-packed day we will spend the night in cabins as we make our own salt to flavor our food! We look forward to having you as part of our expedition that will help history come alive!</p> <p>Fee: \$125 member/ \$145 non-member</p> <p>Trip Leaders: Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator, and Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator</p> | | |

Keeping kids in touch with nature!

Sanctuaries Happenings

18th Annual Native Plant Sale

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

In the past few weeks I have received several calls regarding Nandina, or Heavenly Bamboo (*Nandina domestica*). This plant has received a lot of attention lately due to reports that its berries can be toxic to birds. While we have not seen cases of Nandina poisoning in the Pacific Northwest, elsewhere in the country there have been reports of bird mortality due to the berries of Nandina.

We have seen similar situations in the Northwest with berries from English Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Holly, like Nandina, will keep its berries through the winter, providing a source of food for birds at a time of the year when food can be hard to find. Birds, often times Robins and Cedar Waxwings, will gorge themselves on the berries. The berries can ferment or metabolize into toxins and cause erratic behavior, and sometimes death.

It is not clear whether the problem results from the inherent toxicity of the berries, from fermentation, or simply from gorging on an indigestible food source, but the result is the same nonetheless: death by berry. What is clear is that these problems tend to occur when native bird species find themselves pressed for native habitat and start feeding on plants which are not native. Regardless of whether or not it is an issue of toxicity, non-native plants do not provide suitable habitat for the birds and other wildlife that live in our region.

This is a big part of why we put so much effort into advocating for landscaping with native plants. Native plants are well suited to survive in our climate and soils, and our local wildlife populations have evolved and

adapted over time to survive with the habitat and sustenance provided by native plants. Non-natives such as Nandina and Holly can cause trouble for local wildlife and over time they also can become highly invasive, displacing native vegetation and compounding the problem.

And what better time to begin work on converting your home landscape into ideal native habitat than at the Audubon Society of Portland's 18th annual **Native Plant Sale on Saturday & Sunday, April 12 & 13, 10am–4pm both days**. As always, over 100 species of native trees, shrubs, herbaceous perennials, bulbs, grasses, and vines will be available for sale.

**Native Plant Sale
April 12 & 13
(Sat & Sun)
10am–4pm**

We strive to make our plant sale as user friendly and accessible as possible by providing a cadre of native plant experts to help you select the plants that will suit you and your property best.

Long-time volunteer and Sanctuaries Committee member Gregg Everhart will once again provide her assiduously prepared shopping lists, providing a wealth of information on all of the plants available: typical size, growing conditions, habitat value, and even the color of the flower and fruit type. You can use the shopping list to find out what will grow in that moist, shady back corner of your yard, or which plants will help you attract butterflies and hummingbirds. More comprehensive information on individual plants is posted above plants themselves, including photographs of the plant in bloom.



Lewisia © Tammi Miller



Photo © Rick Meyers



Vanilla Leaf and Yarrow © Tammi Miller

Last year's shopping lists will be made available in the lobby of the Nature Store in March and April. With a few exceptions you can expect the same selection of plants at this year's sale. We apologize but digital copies of the shopping list cannot be made available.

In addition, Portland Audubon's Sanctuaries Committee members, in partnership with Oregon State University's Master Gardner Program, will be on hand to answer your questions about native plants, with information specifically geared toward:

- Why native plants improve habitat
- How to plant and care for native plants
- Help with determining appropriate native plants

Audubon staff and volunteers will also be on hand at the sale with information on our Backyard Habitat Certification Program.

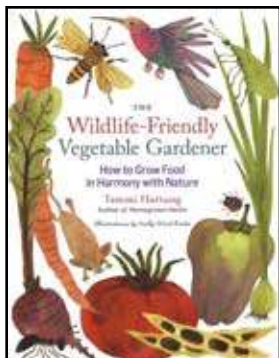
Come get the big picture on naturescaping, rain gardens, invasive plant removal, and more. Turn your own yard into a wildlife sanctuary! And if you want to learn more and come up with a more comprehensive plan, the Portland Audubon Nature Store stocks a wonderful collection of books on native plants, wildlife, and naturescaping.

Nature Store Highlights

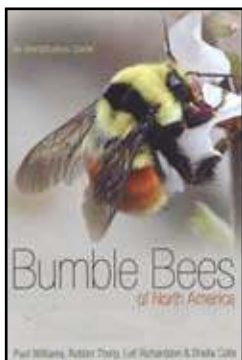
by Sally Loomis, Book Buyer

Spring is almost here! You gardeners out there are probably ready to get your hands dirty. Before you do, however, come visit the Nature Store and see our selection on natural gardening and the creatures in your back yard. Here are three of our new titles.

The Wildlife-Friendly Vegetable Gardener by Tammi Hartung (Storey, \$16.95) gives you inspiration on how to welcome wildlife into your yard and still have a productive kitchen garden. She gives lots of practical advice for following a strategy of "peaceful coexistence."

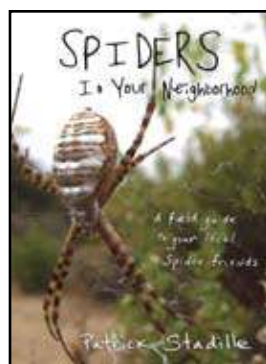


Many people were deeply disturbed by the huge bumble bee die-off last year in Wilsonville. You can learn to become a better advocate for these important insects by using the new field guide **Bumble Bees of North America: an Identification Guide** by Williams et al (Princeton University Press,



\$24.95). This is a comprehensive guide to all 46 North American species, and full of useful information for the general reader.

Spiders often get an undeserved bad rap for ickiness. These are fascinating and often misunderstood creatures that play a critical role in your backyard habitat. **Spiders in Your Neighborhood: a Field Guide to Your Local Spider Friends** by Patrick Stadille (Heyday, \$5.95) is a great introduction to common spider species and their behavior.



More Things for the Garden!

You can create more wildlife habitat with seed mixes from **Renee's Garden**. We feature two assortments — one for **hummingbirds**, the other for **butterflies**. While not native seeds, these are colorful blends of easy-to-grow annuals that will draw hummers or butterflies to your yard, especially if planted in a sunny patch. Either mix sells for \$6.79.



Rufous Hummingbird © Scott Carpenter



Authors at Audubon: Marcy Cottrell Houle April 3 (Thurs), 7pm

Portland writer and wildlife biologist **Marcy Cottrell Houle** will speak at **Heron Hall** on **Thursday, April 3 at 7pm** to celebrate the reissue of her classic work, **Wings for my Flight: The Peregrine Falcons of Chimney Rock** (University of New Mexico Press, \$24.95). The event is free and open to the public. Marcy will be available to sign books after her presentation.



Photo © John Houle

Originally published in 1991, the book recounts her years as a young field biologist studying some of Colorado's last surviving Peregrine Falcons in the 1970s. Author and environmentalist Bill McKibben calls it "An absorbing account of field biology — and also of field anthropology, of the struggle to convince humans that other species count too." In the nearly 40 years since Marcy began her research, the Peregrine has made an amazing comeback. The updated edition includes new material describing the conservation issues involved in the survival of the Peregrine and its triumphant recovery.

That same evening, **Finnegan, our resident Peregrine Falcon**, will be on hand in our **Interpretive Center** from **6pm–7pm**. His handler will talk about how Finnegan came to be one of our Education Birds, and the role of Portland Audubon in the protection of Peregrines in the Northwest.

Marcy Cottrell Houle is also the author of a Nature Store best-seller, **One City's Wilderness: Portland's Forest Park**, as well as **The Prairie Keepers: Secrets of the Zumwalt**. She is a tireless advocate for the preservation of Forest Park, and a frequent participant in Portland Audubon's Wild Arts Festival. Please call the Nature Store at 503-292-9453 if you have questions or would like to have a book reserved for you.

Portland Audubon at Yard, Garden, and Patio Show February 28 (Fri) – March 2 (Sun)

This year Portland Audubon is participating in the **Yard, Garden, and Patio Show**, Portland's premier spring gardening show, held at the **Oregon Convention Center** from **Fri, February 28 – Sun, March 2**. The Nature Store has a booth (#1597) featuring bird nest boxes and metal garden art. The showcase garden **Abundant Nature**, designed to offer food and forage for humans and wildlife in an easy-care, self-supporting natural system, will be **certified by our Backyard Habitat Certification Program (BHCP)**! To learn more, attend the free seminar "The Birds and the Bees — and the Bugs!" on **Sunday, March 2 from 2:30–3:30pm** (see ygpsshow.com/seminars-sun.php) featuring local experts including **Nikkie West**, our BHCP Coordinator, on the how and why of beneficial insects, birds, and bees. More on the showcase garden at ygpsshow.com/highlights.php and ygpsshow.com/pdf/AbundantNatureGardenPlan.pdf.



Photo © Deanna Sawtelle

Volunteer of the Month: Alan Locklear Integrity to a “T” (and an “I”)

by Ann Takamoto,
Development Director

Early Tuesday mornings before the office officially opens, the volunteer station in the administration building is already abuzz with activity. Data entry. That phrase, so daunting to many because of the sheer implication of size and complexity, luckily for Portland Audubon is not the case for our Volunteer of the Month, **Alan Locklear**. Like most of our wonderful volunteers, Alan takes this job very seriously — every month he diligently transfers membership reports from National Audubon Society into our database, helping to assure that our membership rosters are current and accurate.

Does that sound dry? Not to Alan! Again, luckily for us, Alan is extremely meticulous (which is the way you have to be when working in databases) with each entry, assuring that memberships are renewed, names are spelled correctly, addresses are updated and zip codes are USPS standard. Often the sleuth, Alan has his ways to find errant address information and pertinent giving history, all to assure the accuracy of our information. Most weeks he will put in a full 8-hour day and often comes back if additional time is needed to get the job done. He is our stalwart data master!

Alan believes in Portland Audubon’s mission to connect people to nature and finds assurance in our growing membership — strength in numbers and a stronger voice for conservation in Oregon! We find it hard to believe, but he has been managing this job for over 13 years, when our membership was around 8,500. Now over 14,000 members, the Audubon Society of Portland is the largest affiliated chapter of the National Audubon Society. That’s a lot of data!

Alan has participated in Birdathon for the past 13 years and in recent years on the Gonzo team, the Wild Turkeys, often receiving prizes and accolades for the most donations received or the neatest pledge form. Also a Great Blue Heron and Legacy Circle member, Alan not only gives his time, talents, and expertise, but also his wonderful financial support, along with his wife, Marie Valleroy, who volunteers with Portland Audubon’s Backyard Habitat Program.

A lifelong conservationist and believer in grassroots advocacy, Alan also volunteers for Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV) and works part-time at Food Front doing — you guessed it — data entry! An avid reader and gardener, he’s apt to engage you in a discussion about the current tome in which he is immersed — or offer you a bag full of kiwi fruit or a sprig of bay leaves from his home garden.

“Audubon Society of Portland is Portland’s (and Oregon’s) premier environmental organization. I am proud to be assisting this group in communicating with its large membership and raising funds for conservation,” says Alan. We are so fortunate to have Alan Locklear and Marie Valleroy amongst our volunteers and friends, and are happy to celebrate Alan as our amazing volunteer of the month. Thank you, Alan, for your dedication and contributions to Portland Audubon and to conservation.

Two Cases of Terribly Successful Species Introductions

In 1852 Eugene Schieffelin, a rich influential New York businessman, noticed an outbreak of caterpillars in the trees near his home in Manhattan. He imported and released several **House Sparrows** to combat the insects. His introduction was successful and the birds soon expanded through the city. Later introductions in other parts of the country added to the expanding population. The House Sparrow soon occupied all suitable habitats in North and Central America.



House Sparrow
© Steve Berliner

Encouraged by his successful sparrow introduction, Schieffelin enlisted fellow businessmen to form the American Acclimatization Society. The main aim of the society was to bring to America all the songbirds mentioned by Shakespeare. By 1877 the society was regularly releasing European songbirds into New York’s Central Park. Among the large number of species released was the **European Starling**. During the spring of 1890 Schieffelin released 60 Starlings in Central Park. The next spring he released another 40 birds to the flock. The introduction was successful. It is believed that all the Starlings we see today are descendants of these Central Park birds.

Smaller, less financed groups were organized to introduce foreign birds into the United States, but few matched the efforts of the New York organization. The German Song Bird Society of Portland, Oregon, founded by wealthy Portland businessmen Frank Dekum and Charles Pfluger,

was one of the more successful organizations. The chief aim of this society was to introduce German songbirds to comfort homesick German immigrants that were then pouring into the city. From 1889 to 1907 the society introduced 19 species involving 400 pairs of German song birds, including 35 pairs of Starlings. Most of these were released into the downtown Portland City Park. Later the name of the group was changed to the Portland Song Bird Club and their efforts were expanded into the entire Willamette Valley. In a letter to Schieffelin, Charles Pfluger reported that almost all released species were doing splendidly and that the Skylark could be heard singing all over Oregon.

Pfluger’s letter to Schieffelin was probably highly exaggerated. If it was or not, every species released by the society soon disappeared including the Starling. The expansion of the New York Starling releases reached Oregon about 1943 and quickly swamped the state. Despite the expenditure of time and effort, many thousands of dollars, and the displacement of hundreds of birds, of all the foreign species introduced by the New York and Portland organizations and other smaller groups, only the Starling and House Sparrow were successfully introduced.

In 1900 the Lacey Act was passed prohibiting the introduction of foreign plants and animals without a thorough scientific study of the effects on local populations. In 2013 the act was revised to effectively abolish all introductions of foreign plants and animals.

Sightings

December and January weather was mostly clear, sunny, and dry. Although rather cold, it was perfect for wintering birds as long as food was available. Most of the wintering birds remained through the period without moving too much.



Mandarin Duck © Jim Cruce

The Hillsboro wintering **Rusty Blackbird** remained into February and although appearing badly injured in mid-January apparently recovered in good shape. The small group of **Cinnamon Teal** wintering at the Scappoose Sewage Ponds was seen again January 8 by Don Coggsell. Steve Nord found one at Hagg Lake February 3. Construction at Westmoreland Park displaced many of the wintering birds. At least one pair of **Eurasian Wigeon** moved over to Crystal Springs and the golf course.

Waterfowl on the Columbia River in North Portland were not as conspicuous as last winter, but Phillip Kline saw a male **Barrow’s Goldeneye** off Hayden Island January 5. On January 2 Andy Frank found a **Red-breasted Merganser** off Broughton Beach. On January 20 Randy Hill and Lyn Topinka found a male and a hybrid **Tufted Duck** at Vancouver Marine Park, and Lyn saw another Male on Lacamas Lake in Camas. On January 27 Steve Nord observed a male **Tufted Duck** and male **Eurasian Wigeon** at Fernhill Wetlands.

On January 4 Jen Sanford saw and heard five **Trumpeter Swans** flying over Northeast Airport Way. Two **Ross’s Geese** were regularly seen this winter at Tualatin River NWR. Andy Frank found a **Brant** on Sauvie Island January 26. Vance Kimball reported a male **Mandarin**

Duck February 5 in Beaverton — a good reminder to watch for hybrid Mandarin/Wood Ducks this summer.

Up to 270 **Sandhill Cranes** were seen this winter on Sauvie Island. The Rentenaar Road sparrow hedges were not as spectacular as last winter, but Wink Gross did observe a **Chipping Sparrow** there January

14. Don Coggsell saw an **American Tree Sparrow** at the Scappoose Sewage Ponds January 29. On February 4 he saw a **Goshawk** near Warren. It may have been the same bird Bob Archer saw in the nearby North Unit of Sauvie Island January 25.

Michael Medina noted a **Harlan’s Red-tailed Hawk** in Washougal February 1. On January 7 Don Coggsell saw a **Snowy Egret** on Sauvie Island. Dave Irons and Shawneen Finnegan have watched a **Tricolored Blackbird** among a McMinnville blackbird flock throughout the winter. Dave also heard a **Black-crowned Night-Heron** fly over McMinnville January 21.

The sunny weather in January allowed some early migrants to drift northward into the Willamette Valley. When the weather turned again most probably drifted back south. On January 23 Jean Baecher Brown watched a **Turkey Vulture** float over Portland’s West Hills. Steve Nord encountered a flock of 17 **Tree Swallows** at Hagg Lake February 3. On January 4 Jin Johnson saw a **Barn Swallow** along Elrod Road in North Portland. The same day Andy Frank saw one near the I-205 bridge east of the airport.

Thank You to:

- Sheila Barnhart for an ergonomic mesh office chair
- Jim Cruce for 65 Holiday cards with 4x6" wildlife photos inside each; a wildlife photo album; 41 8x10" & 32 11x16" wildlife photos with covers and boards; and 6 11x14" & 2 16x20" framed wildlife photos
- Gregg Everhart for 6 one-gal Tall Oregon Grape plants and 24 one-gal False Solomon’s Seal for the Sanctuaries
- Tim Irving for 5 buckets, 5 carabiners, 5 scrubbers, 5 spray bottles, and a bottle of bleach for the Wildlife Care Center
- Leslie Labbe for the generous gift of a spotting scope and several pairs of binoculars for the Education Department
- Megan Legernes for Science Diet Kitten Food and Dawn Liquid Dish Detergent for the Wildlife Care Center
- Helen Mills for 68 large Audubon bird prints from calendars from the mid-1970s
- Murdoch Collections for William Finley photographs, letters, and ephemera

Our Wish List

For All Departments:
Ergonomic Office Chairs

For Sanctuary:
Loppers
Hand saws
Work gloves

For Wildlife Care Center:
Science Diet Kitten Growth Bleach
Dawn Dishwashing Detergent

For East Portland Office:
10 Binoculars

If you can donate these items, please first contact Audubon Society of Portland at 503-292-6855 ext. 102, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.

2014 Board Elections

CANDIDATES FOR 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Statements edited
for brevity

BOARD OFFICERS

David Mandell, President

David is the Special Advisor on Early Childhood to Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek and holds a PhD in Political Science. He has been an active birder since age 5 and has led ocean birding trips off the Oregon coast for The Bird Guide for nearly a decade. David has been actively involved with Portland Audubon since moving to Portland 14 years ago, leading field trips and participating in Birdathon. "As father of an 8-year-old, the legacy we leave to our children has taken on new significance for me. Audubon's leadership in conservation and environmental education is key to preserving that legacy. I believe that my experience in public policy and nonprofit work will help advance Audubon's mission."

John Osborn, Vice President

John's background is in corporate finance in several different industries, and he is currently Vice President of Strategic Finance and Supply Chain Management at nonprofit Cambia Health Solutions. He has been fascinated with birds since growing up in rural Indiana, and enjoys birding and nature photography. With over 34 years of diversified work and professional experience, John believes his skills and competencies can contribute greatly to Audubon's conservation and education mission. John's recent board focus has included the long-range strategic planning for the Wildlife Care Center. "I am committed to making Portland Audubon a top priority and will strive to contribute in achieving its goals and objectives."

Jay Withgott, Secretary

An author of three leading college and high-school environmental science textbooks, member of the Oregon Bird Records Committee, and a former director of Western Field Ornithologists, Jay has also helped lead the Wild Turkeys Birdathon Team. A lifelong birder, Jay brings writing skills, communications and media experience, and field trip leading abilities. "I strongly believe in the organization's mission, values, and activities. Portland Audubon is, quite simply, an organization in which I feel at home. Moreover, it's one that is vitally important, fulfilling many essential roles in our community."

Michael Ryan, Treasurer

In addition to legal experience, Michael brings extensive nonprofit board experience to Portland Audubon's Board. He has served on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Friends of the Columbia Gorge (including serving as Treasurer for several years) for two decades. Other volunteer experience includes the Program Management Committee of the Metro YMCA and chair of its Scholastic Committee. "I have been a member of Portland Audubon for decades and would like to make a more meaningful contribution to an organization that I have long respected."

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Merril Kean

Merril is a business attorney with the law firm of Miller Nash LLP whose practice covers general business transactions, international business and trade, and compensation matters. As a lawyer, Merrill frequently works with nonprofit organizations and is well acquainted with their unique issues. Merrill enjoys birding (especially in her backyard) and Portland's natural areas. A Portland native, she has benefited from Portland Audubon's work since childhood. "Portland Audubon helped shape my appreciation for our birds and wildlife, and I am committed to doing my best to further the organization's mission and impact within the community."

Koto Kishida

A Nonpoint Source Specialist for the Watershed Management Section of the Dept of Environmental Quality, Koto is a long-time birder, Portland Audubon member, and Birdathon volunteer ("Go Feathers!"). She has expertise in environmental regulations and programs related to water quality, forestry, and agriculture. A member of Portland Audubon's board, she serves on the Executive and Education Committees. Koto is also an African Immigrants Mentorship Program volunteer for Immigrants and Refugees Community Organization, and shares her NE Portland garden with Urban Farm Collective. "Having worked in the environmental field for over a decade, I appreciate Portland Audubon for empowering conservation supporters to have a strong voice in public processes, and for its continued commitment to diversity."

Ruth Morton

Ruth holds a PhD in Community and Human Resources, and is responsible for organizational development at NW Natural. She joined the Portland Audubon Board in 2013, and her many years of other board experience include serving as past president of two other Portland-area nonprofit boards. She has been an avid birder and outdoor enthusiast since she heard bird song recordings in her 3rd grade classroom. Ruth and her husband are also members of Tucson Audubon, and she leads volunteer service trips to Hawaii through the Sierra Club national outings program. "I've enjoyed many field trips and classes through Portland Audubon over the years, and look forward to the South Africa trip this coming fall."

Lorena O'Neill

As a lifetime outdoor enthusiast deeply captivated by the wonders of the natural world, including birds' adaptability, Lorena has studied Environmental Law and has experience in the Green Energy sector. She is a Portland Audubon Volunteer Council member and Backyard Habitat Program Volunteer Technician, and also volunteers with the Nature Store, Wildlife Care Center, Swift Watch, Welcome Back Vulture Day, and Native Plant Sale. Lorena earned Backyard Habitat Platinum-level Certification for her yard, saying it's an experience that has transformed her household. "I have deep admiration for Portland Audubon's conservation efforts, and its community involvement awoke a passion in me to join in the expansion of its mission to new audiences."

2014 Board of Directors Election Ballot

If you are a current Audubon Society of Portland member, you are eligible to vote for the organization's officers and directors. If you are an Individual Member, you are entitled to one vote per candidate. If you have a Family Membership or higher level, you are entitled to two votes for each of the candidates. You must sign your ballot for it to be counted. Write-in votes will be disregarded.

Members may vote by mail, but we must receive your ballot by **6:30pm on March 20, 2014**. Please mail to:

Board Nominations Committee
5151 NW Cornell Rd
Portland, OR 97210

Members may choose to vote in person at the March Birders' Night or Nature Night. Please note that this year's Board Meeting will take place at **Leach Botanical Garden at 6704 SE 122th Ave** (leachgarden.org) on Thursday, March 20 at 7pm.

Your Name (please print): _____

Your Signature: _____

Membership Level:

- Individual (entitled to one vote per candidate)
 Family or higher (entitled to two votes per candidate)

Position

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| President (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> | David Mandell |
| Vice President (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> | John Osborn |
| Secretary (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jay Withgott |
| Treasurer (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael Ryan |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Merril Kean |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Koto Kishida |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruth Morton |
| Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lorena O'Neill |

(a) term ends 2015 (b) term ends 2017

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these thoughtful gifts:

In Memory

Kathy Daehler
Marianne Phillips

Thea Linnea Pyle
Robert Michael Pyle

Radha Deodato
John & Sita Belbute

Barry Shapiro
Wendy Shapiro

Margie Harrell
Cathy Howell

Ron Spencer
Esther Spencer
Tammy Spencer & Richard O'Connor

Russell Donald Humberston
Ann Takamoto

Robert Stevenson
Ruth Hughes

Bill James
Christine Demoll
Louis DeMoll

Donna Vinje
The Gaglione Family

Ann Mann
Diane Mitchell

William W. Wessinger
Audubon Society of Portland

Gregory Paul Martin

Dawn Rosa/ People to People Ambassador Programs
Steve & Lisa Hetzler
James & Louise Weiss

In Honor

David R. Archibald
Kathryn Archibald

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Portland Christmas Bird Count — Bigger than Ever!

by Wink Gross, Portland CBC Compiler



American Dipper photo: Dave Menke/USFWS

“What is that? Ice crystals? — No! Snow Geese!” we exclaimed as a flock of hundreds of frosty-white birds soared stratospherically high over Beaverton. Lit up by the winter sun against the clear blue sky, they were a stunning sight on the **Portland Christmas Bird Count**, which was held Saturday, January 4. Multiple teams in Beaverton, Southwest Portland, and Lake Oswego enjoyed them. Allowing for repeated counts of the same birds, we estimated there were at least 350 — far more than the previous record for the Portland CBC.

It was a beautiful day to be outside, and a record 262 field observers took advantage of the sunshine and relatively mild temperatures to participate in the Count. They and the 153 feeder watchers (also a record) combined to find 123 species, a little below average for the last 4 years. As usual, all 5 sectors of the count contributed unique species to the total. Highlights were Red-breasted Merganser, Gray Jay, Mountain Chickadee, Barn Swallow, and Black-headed Grosbeak. Karen Harris won the coveted “Eagle Eye Award” for the Count’s best bird with an **American Dipper** in Tryon Creek State Park.

New for this year, our first “**Family Friendly**” Count for kids ages 8–14 was led by **David Mandell** at Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. Nineteen enthusiastic participants enjoyed the ducks, geese, herons, and raptors. We will definitely do this again next year!

In addition to the record number of Snow Geese, a number of species set new highs for the count, including Barrow’s Goldeneye, Horned Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Red-tailed Hawk, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Barn Owl, Anna’s Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Steller’s Jay, Western Scrub-Jay, Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, Bushtit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick’s Wren, Townsend’s Warbler, Song Sparrow, and Lincoln’s Sparrow.

On the other hand, numbers of Killdeer, Mew Gull, and Eurasian Starling (the lowest since they were first reported in 1960) were below average. Pine Siskins were way down. No Red Crossbills or Evening Grosbeaks were recorded. For a summary of the 88-year history of the Count, with details for the last 10 years, go to audubonportland.org/files/cbc/88.

With 415 participants, the Portland Christmas Bird Count is the largest in the United States. Fielding such a large team would not be possible without the hard work of the Area Leaders: **Tony DeFalco**, **Dan Strong**, **Lynn Herring**, **Lori Hennings**, and **Steve Engel**. Thank you for a job well done!

Members Receive a Discount at the Nature Store!

Audubon Society of Portland’s Nature Store is the headquarters for naturalists in the Portland-Vancouver metro area. We feature nature books, hiking & field guides, binoculars & spotting scopes, bird feeders & seed, plus gifts & toys for adults & children, all with a nature theme. **Portland Audubon members receive a 10% discount off regular prices.**



New 2014 Manfrotto Tripods are here!

The redesigned **Manfrotto 190 series** tripod legs have arrived and they are strikingly different! The first thing you’ll notice is the jazzy red color on the center column. Three cheers for those Italian designers!

The **updated Q90 rotation mechanism** is sleek and compact (this device allows photographers to flip the center column from “portrait” to “landscape” mode). The fliplocks on the legs, now called **Quick Power Lock (QPL) levers**, have a great new ergonomic feel and offer more powerful locking of each section, making the tripods **more stable**. The leg warmers on the aluminum models have also been changed to a rugged, ribbed rubberized material.

Tubing used in the legs has been strengthened in all models and the maximum leg length has increased from 57" to 63". The added height and heavier tubing have increased the weight of the entire 190 series a bit, but new magnesium die-castings used in the carbon fiber models help to counter some of the weight gain.

Spring is on the Way!

When you stop by this month to check out the new Manfrotto designs, you’ll also have a chance to see many of the great new products we discovered at the Atlanta, Seattle, and San Francisco Spring Gift Shows!

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS! You Make It All Possible!

by Deanna Sawtelle, Volunteer Manager

April is “Volunteer Month” so the Audubon Society of Portland wants to thank all our volunteers who contribute their valuable time and talents. Their efforts help us fulfill our mission to inspire people to love and protect nature. We are deeply indebted to the individuals who give graciously of their energy to ensure that people and native wildlife flourish together. We would not be able to accomplish the work we do without their help. This list includes Portland Audubon’s key volunteers who dedicate a substantial amount of time, weekly or monthly. We also appreciate the many volunteers who help out on annual events and one-time projects, though space limitations prohibit listing them here.

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We would also like to thank the following veterinary hospitals that volunteer their time and services:

- Cornell Center Animal Hospital
- Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital
- VCA Northwest Veterinary Specialists
- VCA Rock Creek Veterinary Hospital
- Susan Kirschner, The Animal Eye Doctor

Birdathon 2014

Continued from front cover

NEW TEAM! Wrenegades: Date TBD, 8am–Noon

Join **Elaine Murphy**, known for her Backyard Bird Shop walks and classes, to explore the five different habitat types along the year-round trail at Tualatin River NWR — an important stopover where migrating waterfowl, songbirds, and shorebirds stop to rest, refuel, and raise their young. Appropriate for birders of all ages and abilities.

Full-Day Trips

Mult Madness: May 3 (Sat), 6am–7pm

Wink Gross and **Andy Frank** lead a tour of great birding hotspots in Multnomah County. We'll begin at Vanport Wetlands, then to Mt Tabor for migrant fallout, on to Larch Mountain for pygmy-owl and grouse, to Eagle Creek for dipper, goldeneye, and Harlequin Ducks, to Troutdale airport for Wrentit, and finish up at Sauvie Island. Expect 95–110 species.

The Joy of Birding: May 3 (Sat), 6:30am–9:30pm

Paul Sullivan and **Carol Karlen**, former leaders of Audubon's popular "Birding Weekends," lead this sunrise-to-sunset adventure. Visit Mt Tabor, Sauvie Island, Forest Grove, Killin Wetlands, and the Tillamook area, returning in the evening. All are welcome! You can expect to see about 110 species.

The Bus Passerines: May 10 (Sat), 7am–7pm

Birdathon by Public Transportation! Join **Steve Engel**, Audubon's Adult Education Programs Manager, on an all-day tromp to prime birding sites in the Portland area: Mt Tabor, Vanport Wetlands, Tualatin River NWR, and Oaks Bottom, all by MAX, bus, street car and feet! All levels of birding experience are welcome.

Magpies: May 15 (Thu), 7am–4:30pm

Your expert leaders, **Denny Graham** and **Dwight Sangrey**, will start the morning on Mt Tabor to search for migratory songbirds. Then, on to Ridgefield NWR for fantastic birding the rest of the day, visiting both units at Ridgefield and covering a wide range of habitat and species. A relaxing yet very productive trip!

The Paddy Wagon: May 18 (Sun), 8:30am–3pm

WANTED: Every living bird in Washington County! Join **Patty Newland** and the Paddy Wagon posse! We'll visit Hillsboro Library, Jackson Bottom, and Killin Wetlands,

rounding up the usual suspects and "kingpins" like American Bittern and Acorn Woodpecker.

Feathers of Color: May 18 (Sun), 9am–6pm

Feathers of Color was formed in 2010 to encourage birders of color to enjoy birding and Birdathon! **Gladys Ruiz** and **Koto Kishida** guide this tour of east Portland that's ideal for families and beginner birders. See migrating and resident birds at Mt Tabor, Powell Butte, Sandy River Delta, Vanport Pond, and Leach Botanical Garden.

The Murre the Merrier: May 31 (Sat), 7am–8pm [Wait List only]

Sarah Swanson and **Max Smith**, authors of *Must-See Birds of the Pacific Northwest*, lead this day-long trip beginning in Portland for wetland species then heading east in search of dry-side birds. **A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.**

NEW TEAM! Put An Owl On It: Date TBD

Join avid birder, professional photographer, and owl enthusiast **Scott Carpenter** for a full day of birding in the Portland area, with the primary goal of hearing and/or seeing owls: Northern Saw-whet, Barred, Northern Pygmy, Western Screech, Barn, and Great Horned. We'll start before sunrise and finish after sunset, visiting multiple locations in the Portland metro area.

Raven Maniacs: Date TBD (Fri), 6:30am–6:30pm

Join **Steve Robertson**, Portland Audubon Education Director, for a day of birding from the city to the sea! Visit a dozen birding hotspots from Portland to Tillamook and back, hoping for at least 100 species. Transportation is provided. **A minimum of \$50 in pledges is requested.**

Red-breasted Winesuckers: Date TBD, 8am–6pm

(Open to Wildlife Care Center Volunteers only.) Join **Deanna Sawtelle** and **Candy Plant** as we head out for a full day of fun and birding. We'll start the day with some backyard bird watching and a light breakfast, and then carpool over to the coast.

Gonzo Trips: 2+ days

Wild Turkeys: June 6–8 (Fri–Sun)

Join **Mike Houck**, **Ron Carley**, and other notorious birders for the ultimate gonzo Birdathon experience. A once in a lifetime, desert to coast, mountains to valleys



Whittemore's Whatzits
© Molly Sultany



Soggy Bottom Birders
© Tinsley Hunsdorfer

birding experience, we'll start near La Grande, exploring the foothills of the Willowa and Blue Mountains for Veery, Gray Catbird, Great Gray Owl, Common Nighthawk, Bobolink, and more. Transportation and lodging are provided. This trip fills quickly! **A minimum of \$700 in pledges is required.**

Lager Head Shrikes: June 6–8 (Fri–Sun) [Wait List only]

Dan van den Broek and **Mark Greenfield** will guide this 3-day trip to Willowa and Union Counties, including Zumwalt Prairie. Our focus is on quality, not quantity, but we expect to see 100–150 species. Transportation and lodging provided. **A minimum of \$600 in pledges is required.**

Roadrunners: Date TBD

Join Audubon staffer **Micah Meskel** on a 25-mile "birding-by-bike" ride. Beginning and ending at Columbia Wastewater Treatment Plant, Splendid Cycles staff will transport gear by cargo bikes! Suitable for any level of bicyclist: most of the route is off-street, flat bike paths. Ride just the day — or continue to Sauvie Island for dinner and a night beneath the stars, then bird the morning around the Island. **A minimum of \$600 in pledges is required.**

More trips will be available on our website, and find out how you can create your own team — or just fly solo! To register and download all you need for gathering pledges, visit audubonportland.org.

Thanks to everyone's efforts, Birdathon raised over \$157,000 last year — a record breaker! We hope you'll help make Birdathon 2014 another fund-raising success as we keep growing and more folks get out there and COUNT because BIRDS COUNT!

Questions? Feel free to contact Mark Fitzsimons, Birdathon Coordinator, at mark.birdathon@gmail.com.



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.

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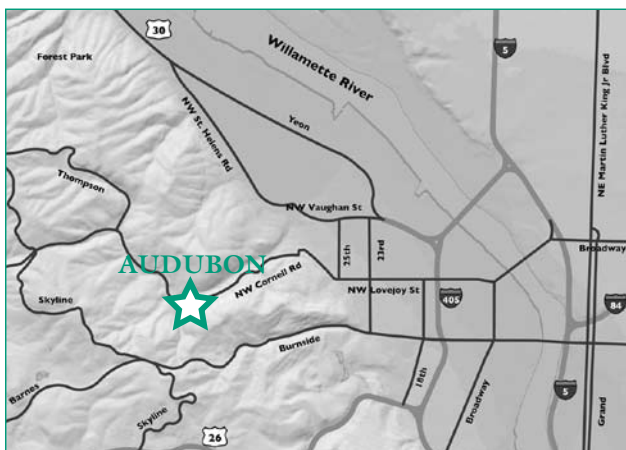
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