



Black-throated Gray Warbler

NOVEMBER/
DECEMBER 2015
Volume 79 Numbers 11 & 12

Warbler

Swifts
in Decline?
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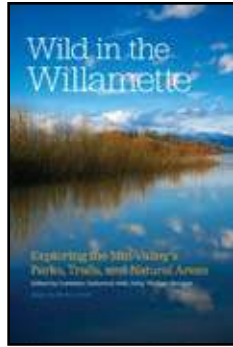
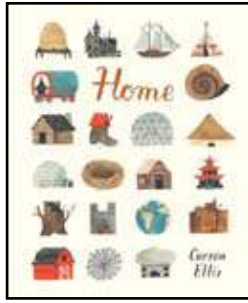
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Deb Steele



Amanda Houston

Portland's Environmental Health Is on the Line — Time to Get Involved

by Bob Sallinger,
Conservation Director

In the coming months, Portlanders will be faced with an unprecedented series of environmental decisions that will determine the city's environmental trajectory for decades to come. Some of these decisions have been years in the making while others have only recently entered the public consciousness. Together, however, they add up a landscape- and community-defining moment. Will we perpetuate our city's legacy of green or will we cave to big money interests that want our city to make decisions that would undermine the health of the environment for generations to come? What we do here not only affects our local communities; it can reverberate at a global scale. Recent events in Portland have drawn the attention of the Pope and President.

I encourage all of our members to get involved. We are over 15,000 households strong! Write a letter, send an email, attend a hearing. Join Audubon's activist network to get regular updates on how you can have a real impact (audubonportland.org/issues/activists-form).

Following is a road map for some of the biggest environmental decisions looming before our community.

Portland Harbor Superfund

The final 11 miles of the Willamette River are a toxic soup of contaminants including PCBs, dioxins, DDT, and other chemicals. This is the legacy of decades of industrial activity: many corporate shareholders got rich while our river got polluted. Now it is time for responsible parties to clean up the mess they have made. Many of those parties are still around. Others are long gone but subsequent property owners are also legally liable for the contamination under federal law.

In 2000, the Portland Harbor was listed as a federal Superfund Site, a designation reserved for the most contaminated sites in the United States. Portland Harbor is one of the largest and most complex with over 150 parties identified as responsible for the pollution. After nearly a decade and a half of process, the Superfund process is reaching its final stages. This spring the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will release a recommended cleanup plan for a 60-day public comment period. Shortly thereafter it will adopt a final record of decision (ROD). The decisions that

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Wild Arts Festival

November 21–22

Presented by Backyard Bird Shop

Now in its 35th year, Audubon Society of Portland's **Wild Arts Festival**, the Northwest's premier celebration of nature in the visual and literary arts, is only a couple of weeks away. A signature fundraiser for Audubon, last year's Festival raised \$175,000 for our conservation and environmental education programs.

Once again, Wild Arts will be held at beautiful **Montgomery Park, 2701 NW Vaughn**, on the weekend before Thanksgiving, **Saturday, November 21st and Sunday, November 22nd**. Festival hours are **Saturday 10am–6pm** and **Sunday 11am–5pm**. Tickets are \$8 (ages 16 and under free) and **2-for-1 coupons** can be found with this article and at our website, wildartsfestival.org.

For 2015, Festival organizers have gathered an amazing group of authors and artists, along with a complement of exciting additional attractions.

Artists

The Art Fair is always a highlight, and again this year a variety of arts and crafts will be represented — **painting, photography, textiles, weaving, sculpture, jewelry, ceramics, glass art** — whatever your pleasure, you're sure to find something beautiful at Wild Arts. Among the many

Festival favorites returning this year are **Babette Harvey** (ceramics), **Amanda Houston** (oils and pastels), **Jim Piper** (wood), and **Sara Wiener** (textiles and upcycled materials). But don't forget to check out all the incredible artists joining us for the first time! They include **metal sculptor Dan Chen, woodworker Glenn Burleigh, jeweler Robbie Curnow, painter Diane Culhane, ceramicist Jennifer Mannila, and fiber sculptor Claudia Paillao**. The Art Fair is always gorgeous, and is a collector's paradise — not to mention a wonderful place to do some holiday shopping! Check out wildartsfestival.org for a full list of our talented artists.



Sachiko Quinn. Photo: Portland Audubon

Authors

The author lineup this year features a wonderful mix of returning Festival favorites and newcomers. We are thrilled to welcome **Ursula K. LeGuin** back to the show, just one year after she received the **Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters** from the National Book Foundation. Ursula has received many other honors and awards, including recognitions from Hugo, Nebula, National Book Award, and PEN-Malamud. Her most recent publications are *The Unreal and the Real: Selected Stories of Ursula K. Le Guin* and *Steering the Craft: A 21st-Century Guide to Sailing the Sea of Story*. She's joining lots of Festival favorites with their new publications, including **Brian Doyle** with *Martin Marten*, **Floyd**

Skloot with *Approaching Winter*, and **Nikki McClure** with *In*. Joining us for their first visit in recent years are **Thor Hanson** with *The Triumph of Seeds*, **Gerrit Vyn** with *The Living Bird*, and **Carson Ellis** with her beautiful new *Home*. But this is just a fraction of the authors who will be at the show! For a full list, check our Festival website.

Silent Auction

Every year, the Wild Arts Festival's Silent Auction features a huge variety of items and experiences, including **original paintings, photography, jewelry, garden art, pottery, weavings, sculpture, metalwork, birdhouses**, and much more. Many participating artists donate their work to the Silent

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Wild Arts Festival

Nov 21 (Sat), 10am–6pm
Nov 22 (Sun), 11am–5pm

Montgomery Park
2701 NW Vaughn, Portland

\$8 admission (16 and under free); also see 2-for-1 coupon on p.12 and at our website

More information at wildartsfestival.org



Audubon Society
of Portland
5151 NW Cornell Road
Portland, Oregon 97210

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View this Warbler and many past issues in full color on our website! Go to audubonportland.org/about/newsletter and enhance your enjoyment of our popular newsletter!

From our Executive Director

Taking Stock

by Nick Hardigg

As the year's end looms near at Audubon House, it's time to take stock of recent happenings and reflect on our future. Gazing out my window, the stream of hikers has slowed to a trickle, the buzz of summer campers replaced by the Varied Thrush and Dark-eyed Junco. Our Sanctuary is never more beautiful, as a flare of yellow brightens the leaves of alder and big-leaf maple. The rains arrive tomorrow.

Indoors, our Nature Store just won a national award — **Nonprofit Retailer of the Year** (see page 9) — inspiring our visitors' love of birds and the great outdoors. Our conservation director, Bob Sallinger, is being honored with a **River Hero Award** from Columbia Riverkeeper for his decades of work protecting wildlife at the forefront of our conservation program. Our summer camp and Backyard Habitat programs are reporting their busiest seasons ever, inspiring minds and creating habitat one

nature lover and plant at a time. The Wildlife Care Center is having its second-busiest year ever. As demand for our programs grows, our team has also evolved, welcoming several new faces to serve the Audubon mission.



Pulling ivy at Gateway Green.

Taking stock of nature is both more complex and concerning. Down the hill and into town, the annual Vaux's Swift migration at Chapman School saw many nights where people far outnumbered birds, with its month-long count recording the least visits since our citizen scientists began counting there seven years ago (see chart on page 5). While we should not extrapolate use of a local migratory roost to regional populations, I have learned that **Swift numbers nationally have fallen by more than 50% in 50 years.**

Looking to other species we're actively protecting, like the Marbled Murrelet, a major University of British Columbia study published in July showed a **70% decline in monitored seabird populations since 1950.** Clearly, the need for citizen science and informed policy has never been greater. We currently have 12 projects active at different times of year to inform advocacy for the most effective bird and habitat protection efforts possible.

A new year brings with it many opportunities, ranging from cleanup of the Willamette River's most polluted Superfund sites to shaping Portland's Comprehensive Plan for land use. That said, our best long-term strategy for protecting wildlife is to grow the size and strength of the conservation movement: to inspire more people from all walks of life to enjoy, understand, and protect nature. And so, like the natural systems around us, Audubon will continue to evolve and to lead.

All of these efforts are made possible only through the generous dedication of our members. Thank you.

The Portland Christmas Bird Count wants YOU...

by Wink Gross, Outgoing Portland CBC Compiler, and Joe Liebezeit, Avian Conservation Program Manager

...to count birds on Saturday, Jan 2, 2016! Whether spending an entire day in the field or even just an hour watching your bird feeder, you can contribute significantly to our knowledge of bird life in the Portland area — even if you're a beginning birder. The Audubon Christmas Bird Count is the longest running "citizen science project" in North America. The results have provided critical information on the status and changes in bird populations over the 116 years it has been conducted. Please help out this year!

Begun in 1900 as an alternative to the traditional wanton slaughter of anything that flew during Christmas Day "side hunts," **hundreds of Christmas Bird Counts are now conducted throughout the Western Hemisphere,** and they continue to contribute valuable scientific data to the longest existing record of bird population trends. Naturally, everyone likes the idea of contributing to science, but the real reason they've exploded in popularity? They're so much fun!

All over the Americas, birders will be participating in **one-day counts between Dec 13, 2015 and Jan 4, 2016.** This winter, our **90th Portland Count will be held on Saturday, Jan 2.** The Audubon Society of Portland conducted its first Christmas Count in 1926. Last year 229 field observers and 146 feeder watchers found 121 species. Those 375 participants made the Portland CBC the largest in the U.S. and second only to Edmonton in the Americas. Please join us this year!

The best way to participate in the Christmas Bird Count is as a field observer. It's a great way for birders of all levels to enjoy a day outdoors and sharpen their birding skills. You will also have the opportunity to meet others who share your interest in birds, and you'll discover some good local spots to find birds. And you will contribute to scientific knowledge. In fact, the Christmas Bird Count is an excellent way for the amateur birder to advance ornithology: **The data are sent to the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, where over the years Christmas Bird Count records have been used to study changes in bird populations and wintering ranges.** A quite amazing bibliography of Christmas Bird Count research and the entire historical record of all Christmas Bird Counts may be found at <https://www.audubon.org/content/christmas-bird-count-bibliography>.

If you want to participate as a field observer, look at the map of the Portland CBC circle on this page and pick an area you would like to help cover. **Contact the area leader, who will tell you where and what time to meet on January 2.** The area leaders will put together teams to balance birding skills and cover as much of their area as possible. Most teams go out for the whole day, 7am–5pm, but you can usually make arrangements if you need to stop earlier. Can't decide which area? Contact Candace Larson at candacelarson.audubon@gmail.com (503-720-4010).

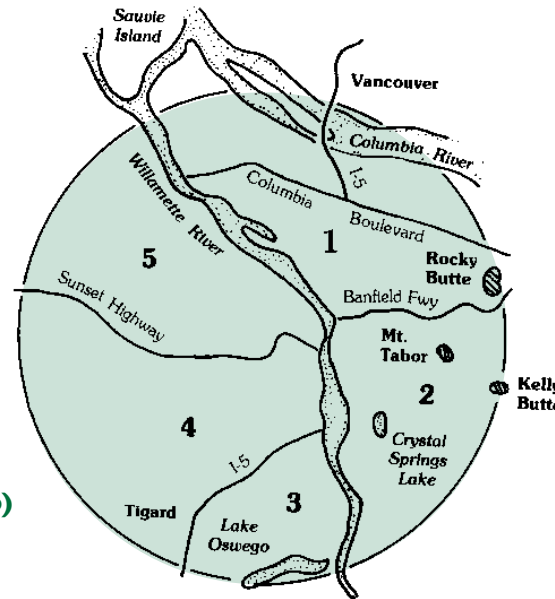
Another important way to participate is as a **Feeder Watcher.** Even if you can **watch for only an hour,**

Area Leaders for Portland Count (Saturday, Jan 2, 2016)

Area 5 (Northwest Hills/Forest Park)
Eric Scheuering
971-222-6119 or 503-381-0846
escheuering@audubonportland.org

Area 4 (Beaverton)
Lori Hennings
503-797-1940
or 503-329-5003
lori.hennings@oregonmetro.gov

Area 3 (Lake Oswego)
Lynn Herring
503-442-8973
lynnhe@outlook.com



Area 1 (Columbia Riparian)
Colby Neuman
801-598-4367
colby.neuman@gmail.com

Area 2 (Southeast Portland)
Dan Strong
971-717-1538
dancbcpdx@gmail.com

For up-to-date Christmas Bird Count info, see audubonportland.org/local-birding/cbc.

A few of Oregon's Winter Residents



Mountain Chickadee © Scott Carpenter



Townsend's Warbler © Scott Carpenter



Red-tailed Hawk © Scott Carpenter



Green-winged Teal © Jim Cruce



Great Blue Heron © Scott Carpenter

your observations will be helpful. If you want to be a Feeder Watcher, check your location first at tinyurl.com/26pmpf to be sure the feeder you'll watch is within the 15-mile-diameter CBC circle and download the Feeder Watcher checklist at audubonportland.org/local-birding/cbc. Remember, only birds seen on January 2 "count"!

Need to brush up your identification skills? Eric Scheuering, Portland Audubon's Adult Education Director, is offering a special class in field identification of birds expected on the Count. See the "Christmas Bird Count Preview/Review" class announcement on page 7.

Can't do the Portland Count on January 2? In addition to the Portland Count, roughly 50 other Counts will be conducted in Oregon and SW Washington during the

three weeks surrounding the holidays. A list of Counts in NW Oregon and SW Washington can be found at audubonportland.org/local-birding/cbc — and it'll be updated regularly as Counts are added. Pick one that suits your schedule and contact the Count leader directly. This site will be updated frequently, so check often!

What to bring: Binoculars, of course! Be prepared for a day outdoors in Oregon in the winter. That means warm clothes, rainwear, and waterproof shoes. The Counts are generally held as scheduled, rain or shine. **Bring a bag lunch and snacks.** Last but not least, bring an enthusiastic attitude and a **willingness to search quietly and patiently for birds.** All Christmas Bird Counts are free.


Wink's photo by Becki Marsh




Wink Gross has been Portland Audubon's Christmas Bird Count compiler for ten years but is ready to pass on the torch. During that time he helped build the program from 101 field observers and 18 feeder watchers in 2005 all the way up to 229 field observers and 146 feeder watchers in 2014. Hats off to Wink for making this Count the biggest in the country!

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

November 12 (Thur), 8am–11am Jackson Bottom

Join **Dena Turner** and **Bonnie Deneke** as we view the marsh and forest birds. We will also visit the Interpretive Center which has an Eagle's nest on display. Go to Hillsboro on Hwy 8 and turn left on Hwy 219. Jackson Bottom is located at 2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy. We will meet in the parking lot. Questions: Bonnie at 503-644-7335.

November 15 (Sun), 8am–12pm \$ Rentenaar Road, Sauvie Island

Join **Ron Escano** for a waterfowl and winter sparrow adventure on Sauvie Island. Meet at 8am at the East Side Check Station Parking Lot on the corner of Reeder and Rentenaar Roads. We will walk Rentenaar Rd and back (1.6 miles round trip). **All vehicles will need a Sauvie Island parking permit.** From the Sauvie Island bridge take Sauvie Island Rd north 2 miles to the intersection with Reeder Rd. Turn right on Reeder and continue north 9 miles to the Eastside Check Station and Rentenaar Rd on the left (allow **25 minutes** to drive from the bridge to the Check Station). **Registration is required** with Ron at 503-771-3454.

November 21 (Sat), 9am–12pm Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

Join **Candace Larson** and **Patty Newland** for a walk around Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge in southeast Portland. We'll explore wetlands and woodlands, talk about the history of this amazing urban wild space, and look for resident songbirds and wintering waterfowl. Meet at the Sellwood Park parking lot on SE 7th Ave at Malden St at 9am sharp. Expect to walk 2–3 miles on both paved and uneven dirt trails. Questions: Candace at acecandace@gmail.com.

December 5 (Sat), 9am–11am Brown's Ferry Park, Tualatin

Sarah Swanson and **Max Smith** will lead a walk to look for waterfowl, woodpeckers, and other winter birds in this compact Clackamas County park. From I-5, take Exit 289, follow SW Nyberg St east, and turn left onto Nyberg Lane. Meet in the parking area on the left at 5855 SW Nyberg Lane, Tualatin. Questions? Call Max at 503-720-9730.

December 10 (Thur), 9am–11am Dawson Creek Park

Join **Mary Ratcliff** and **Richard Arnold** for a walk through Dawson Creek Park. December is a great month for seeing lots of wintering ducks, and we could get a good selection of Hooded Mergansers and Wood Ducks. Meet at the north end of the parking lot of the Main Library at 2850 NE Brookwood Parkway in Hillsboro. Questions? Call Caroline Arnold at 503-746-4640.

December 12 (Sat), 8am–11am \$

Join **Ron Escano** to scope the lake for water birds then explore the riparian woodland for White-throated Sparrows. Meet at parking lot in front of middle bathrooms. Take Exit 1-D (4th Plain Blvd), go west on 4th Plain through Vancouver onto SR-501 (Lower River Rd). After 3.5 miles on SR-501, continue straight for 0.6 miles to Vancouver Lake Park (possible \$3.00 entrance fee). **Limited to 15 participants; registration is required** with Ron at 503-771-3454.

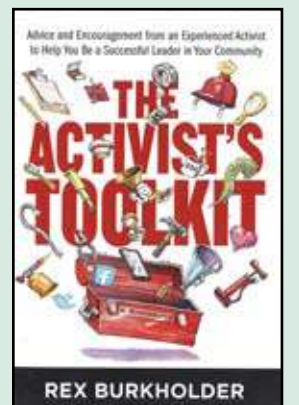
Keep those binoculars handy – we've got a lot planned for 2016!

In the coming year, we plan to visit all our favorite birding spots, and even add a few new ones.

Nature Store Holiday Open House

**Saturday, Dec 5, from 10am–6pm
& Sunday, Dec 6, from 10am–5pm**

Join us for the Nature Store's **free** annual Holiday Open House to kick off the solstice season. A welcoming fire, delicious treats, warm beverages, and our great selection of holiday gifts and cards await your arrival! Highlights include Audubon volunteer **Stephanie Baldrige** performing winter-themed Native American stories, local environmentalist **Rex Burkholder** signing his book *The Activist's Toolkit*, and music courtesy of the **Oregon Bluegrass Association**. More details to come in our special December holiday issue of the *Warbler!*



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!

Restoring Portland's Rivers: A Chance to Turn the Tide with Bob Sallinger and Travis Williams

**Tuesday, November 10
7pm Heron Hall**

The Willamette and Columbia Rivers flow through the City of Portland, forming a nexus of beauty, recreation, and transportation, all while providing the ecological lifeblood for the region. They serve as some of the most important habitat for wildlife including salmon, river otters, and Great Blue Herons — right within sight of downtown Portland. These amazing waterways need our care and our help to recover from years of contamination and habitat degradation. In the next six months, Portlanders will have unprecedented opportunities to set our urban rivers on a course to health.

Join **Bob Sallinger** and **Travis Williams**, two of the rivers' strongest advocates, for this special Nature Night focused on these wonderful rivers. Learn about the rich history of our urban waterways and what you can do to get involved in protecting and restoring them!

Current concerns include contamination so severe that the final 11 miles of the Willamette are listed as a federal Superfund Site, along with the constant encroachment by industrial development. New threats include the potential siting of fossil fuel export facilities, and the danger posed by existing fuel tank farms in the event of an earthquake — situations that are not only unhealthy for the people, fish, and wildlife that use the river, but also very real threats to our local communities.

But there is also hope. The next 6 months represent a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to turn the tide. The EPA will release its draft plan for cleaning up North Portland Harbor. The City of Portland will adopt a long-term Comprehensive Plan which will determine whether the most important natural resources along the river will be protected. And the city will also adopt a fossil fuel export policy that will determine whether dangerous storage and transport facilities will continue to proliferate next to our rivers and our communities. (See story on pages 1 & 4.)

Conservation Director Bob Sallinger has worked for Audubon Society of Portland since 1992, directing Portland Audubon's local, regional, and national conservation policy initiatives.

Travis Williams has been Executive Director of Willamette Riverkeeper since 2000, and has worked in river conservation since the 1990s.



Willamette River near the Tilikum Crossing bridge. Photo by Travis Williams/Willamette Riverkeeper



Bob Sallinger, Portland Audubon's Conservation Director, releasing a rehabbed Bald Eagle. Photo by Tom Schmid



Travis Williams, Executive Director of Willamette Riverkeeper. (submitted photo)

Freeway and Phantom: Birding I-5 and the Great Gray Owl with Harry Fuller

**Tuesday, December 8
7pm Heron Hall**

The Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) is a huge owl of the boreal forest and western mountains. It's the tallest owl in North America yet is rarely seen. Getting a glimpse or a photo can be a daunting quest for any birder or biologist. Journalist and expert birder **Harry Fuller** spent countless hours in the field searching for this elusive owl. And while living in northern California and southern Oregon for many years, Harry also became deeply familiar with great birding areas located just minutes from the Interstate Highway 5 (I-5) corridor.

Join us for a Nature Night talk and book signing on December 8th as Harry shares his knowledge of both subjects: the Great Gray Owl and birding along I-5. Using photos and colorful stories, Harry will discuss several birding hotspots along I-5 in southern Oregon — all within 20 minutes of a freeway exit. He'll explore the biology and breeding range of the elusive Great Gray Owl in that same area. Harry will share maps of the owl's true breeding range on the Pacific Slope and explore what effects climate change may have on this species.

Harry Fuller has been leading birding trips and teaching birding classes on the Pacific Slope for 20 years. A retired TV and Internet journalist, he is the author of two birding books. *Freeway Birding* (2013) covers the I-5 corridor from Seattle to San Francisco. *Great Gray Owl: California, Oregon and Washington* (2015) contains a summary of what we now know about this owl — and some of what we don't know. It includes original, detailed range maps and over 100 photographs by co-author Peter Thiemann. In addition to being president of the Board of Klamath Bird Observatory and co-founder of the Mountain Bird Festival in Ashland, Oregon, Harry is a trip leader for Partnership for International Birding. He and his wife recently settled in McMinnville.

Both of Harry's books will be available for sale in the Nature Store and he will be signing them after the talk. So buy a book, grab a seat, and join us for a fascinating evening!



Great Gray Owl. Photo by Harry Fuller



Harry Fuller (submitted photo)

Conservation

Portland's Environmental Health Is on the Line — Time to Get Involved

Continued from front cover

the EPA makes regarding how the river will be cleaned up will determine whether our river and the communities that depend on it are restored to health, or whether our children and children's children are greeted by warning signs at the river's edge telling them that it is dangerous to eat the fish.

Audubon serves on the EPA's Citizen Advisory Group and we have reviewed the different alternatives under consideration by the EPA. None of the current alternatives currently under consideration, even the most aggressive options, are sufficient to protect our rivers and communities. Even the most aggressive alternative leaves pollution in place in approximately 65% of the Superfund area.

The EPA is under tremendous pressure from both polluters and politicians to keep costs down. In the coming months you will hear a lot about a price tag that could be in excess of \$2–\$3 billion. Remember that this is a huge site — the more than 150 responsible parties include huge multi-national corporations, oil companies, the Port of Portland, and federal, state, and city governments — and those costs will be spread over 20–30 years. Know that just four of the responsible parties, ConocoPhillips, Bayer CropScience, Chevron, and ExxonMobile, have combined profits of more than \$312 billion per year. It is time to hold polluters accountable and shift the debate from accommodating polluters to restoring our river to health. The river is the lifeblood of our community and it is time to clean it up!

Portland Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is the city's long-range land use plan. It determines how our landscape will develop in the coming decades and how we will prioritize competing community goals. Audubon served on several committees that helped develop the plan. The city has lots of plans, but this is the one that really matters. The update process has spanned three mayors but after more than a year of hearings, a draft recommended plan has been forwarded by the Planning and Sustainability Commission to City Council for final hearings and adoption. Thanks to outstanding community testimony, there are a lot of good things in the draft plan regarding equity, parks, and green infrastructure that need to be supported as it moves to council.

The most contentious issues before council will regard protecting natural resources along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. The urban portions of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers are already heavily degraded, but industrial interests made a very strong push to convert the last remaining significant natural areas at places like West Hayden Island to industrial use and to limit or even roll back existing environmental protections along the river's banks.

Thanks again to very strong community testimony, the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) said "no." Instead of converting our last natural acres to industrial

use, the PSC recommended a plan that focuses on intensifying use of the existing industrial land base, cleaning up and restoring to productive use Portland's more than 900 acres of contaminated brownfields, and limiting conversion of industrial lands to other uses. The PSC determined that West Hayden Island is likely not needed for industrial use for the life of the 20-year plan.

We expect industrial lobbying to undermine the PSC's recommendations will be intense. It is much cheaper to destroy natural areas than it is to clean up the messes they have made and improve efficiency on the existing industrial land base. The Community has already spoken loudly on this issue, but it will need to speak even more strongly as the plan enters its final stages: industrial interests need to make better use of what they have, not further degrade our already severely degraded rivers. The first hearing at City Council will be on November 19 at 2:00pm, and hearings will continue into the winter.

Climate Export Policy

Earlier this year, our Community was galvanized by the battle over the proposed Pembina Propane Export Facility. This export facility would have placed our communities at a real increased risk of explosions both from the facility itself and from a huge increase in the fossil fuel trains moving through our neighborhoods. It would have increased Portland's local CO₂ emissions by an astounding 0.7% and global CO₂ emissions as much as 0.01%. At a time when we need to be rapidly moving toward energy sources that leave fossil fuels in the ground, we would have been helping to create the next generation of fossil fuel export infrastructure that would have helped perpetuate fossil fuel extraction for decades to come.

The Community fought back with thousands of emails, protests, and overflow hearings, and our voice was heard. In May 2015, Mayor Charlie Hales made a bold and brave decision and withdrew his support for the Pembina Project, announcing, "At some point, those of us in power have to listen to those who put us there." It was a message that he would soon have the opportunity to carry to the Pope and the President. What we do in Portland can reverberate at a global scale — if we remain bold.

At the same time, Portlanders have become increasingly aware of the risks we already face from the existing sea of fossil fuel tank farms bordering our rivers. Local and national media have raised awareness that we have created a monumental hazard by placing these structures directly in the path of a large subduction zone earthquake that is likely to occur in the coming decades. Building more tanks would only add to this incredible liability.

Mayor Hales has announced that he would like the city to adopt a fossil fuel export policy by the end of 2015. This is a momentous opportunity for Portland to stand up and codify



In the months ahead, Portland will have the opportunity to make once-in-a-lifetime decisions about the health of our communities and the health of our rivers. Please get involved. Photo by Travis Williams/Willamette Riverkeeper

the overwhelming public sentiment expressed during the Pembina debacle. Portland does not want to be part of the fossil fuel export industry. It is time for Portland to adopt policies that will prevent a new generation of hazardous fossil fuel infrastructure from being built within our city. Then we need to turn our sights to addressing the hazards we have already permitted to pervade the banks of our rivers. This process will be fast moving and heavily contested by fossil fuel companies that know that the tide is starting to turn.

Trees and Ecoroofs

Portland has long been a leader in "green infrastructure." People come from all over the world to see our green streets, urban tree canopy, and green roofs. However, Portland has been resting on its laurels in recent years; some progressive green programs have been reduced or eliminated, and new initiatives have been minimal to non-existent. Vanessa Keitges, President and CEO of local Columbia Green Technologies and an advisory to President Obama on green building, has written:

"There is a real gap between the myth and reality of what is going on with 'green' commercial development and we can see why other progressive cities have surpassed us. Portland is ranked one of the highest for heat island effect and yet PDX installed the same amount of green roofs in 2015 as they did in 2008. We are going backward not forward..."

More viscerally, the battle over three giant sequoias that were almost cut down by a developer in Southeast Portland has raised awareness that Portland's famous green canopy is at real risk. There is very little protection in place for our biggest trees.

In the coming months the city will consider new regulations to protect big trees and to require ecoroofs on buildings in the central city. These are critical steps to restoring our leadership in green infrastructure and the green economy.

Please do get involved! We live in an amazing place, but it is at risk. We have immediately before us once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to clean up our river, protect our most valuable natural resources, reduce hazards in our communities, strike a major blow against the fossil fuel export industry, and promote our green economy. We need your voice and we need it now! Please join Audubon's activist network at audubonportland.org/issues/activists-form for regular updates on how you can have a real impact on the environmental health of the Portland region.

Portland Urban Coyote Project: Informing the Community about Our Urban Trickster

by Bob Sallinger

One of the most common phone calls at our Wildlife Care Center is about urban coyotes. The calls range from people who are excited and intrigued by the presence of these wild canids to people who are concerned and want them removed. One common thread, however, is that most people think that sightings of coyotes in their neighborhoods is something new and extraordinary. But these sightings aren't unusual — coyotes have been present in Portland neighborhoods for decades.

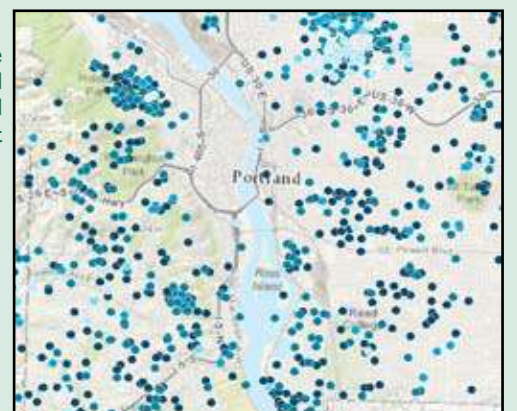
The Portland Urban Coyote Project (portlandcoyote.com) is an exciting effort by Portland State University's Geography Department, in collaboration with the Audubon Society of Portland, to explore how humans and coyotes interact on the urban landscape. Professor Barbara Brower and her graduate students Zuriel Rasmussen and Jennifer Grant have put together this outstanding website which provides interactive educational information, a tutorial, sighting maps, information on their research, and ways to get involved.

Among the most intriguing elements of the website are the

maps of coyote sightings in and around Portland. These maps, based on citizen reporting, show hundreds of coyote sightings scattered across virtually the entire urban area, with the downtown area of the central city being the one exception. The maps confirm what we have known anecdotally for decades: Coyotes are very well established in Portland and can be found nearly anywhere on our urban landscape. Whether we realize it or not, we are living with coyotes!

For the most part, coyotes share our landscape without triggering complaint or even comment. In fact, problems are remarkably rare given the degree to which they inhabit our urban neighborhoods. Their populations stay relatively stable because they are territorial pack animals and the packs guard the territories against new coyotes. However, when removal occurs, pack structure is disrupted — then new coyotes quickly fill vacated areas, and more coyotes within the remaining pack breed to compensate for the losses. The result is that, even under tremendous control pressure, coyotes will persist. Stopping coyotes is like trying to stop the wind; it is best to learn to live with them.

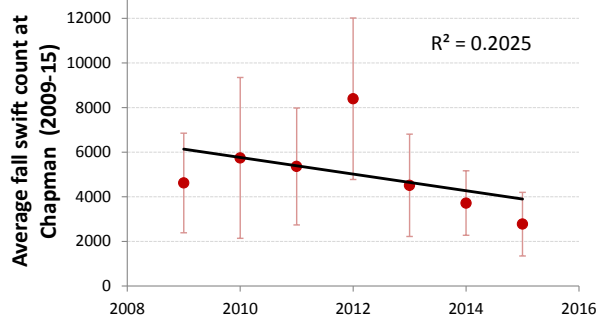
Reported coyote sightings in Portland 2010–2015 © Portland Urban Coyote Project



The Portland Urban Coyote Project will provide valuable information and research about these adaptable animals. You can also get information at Portland Audubon's Living with Coyotes page at audubonportland.org/wcc/urban/coyotes. For neighborhoods interested in a presentation and discussion, Audubon offers a Living with Coyotes presentation. Contact Micah Meskel at mmeskel@audubonportland.org.



Coyote in inner eastside Portland neighborhood. Photo by Bob Sallinger



Chapman Swifts: In Decline?

7-year citizen science program raises questions

by Joe Liebezeit and Candace Larson

Since 2009, our volunteer swift monitors have been diligently counting Vaux's Swifts as they enter the Chapman Elementary School chimney on most September evenings. What the numbers tell us over the last seven years is of some concern. During this time, the number of swifts using the chimney has declined from an average of 6,000 birds on a given night to 4,000 (see graph). Could this trend be a signal of a real range-wide decline, or could there be another explanation?

We can't draw a population level conclusion from one site, but this pattern does reflect a wider declining trend in Vaux's Swifts documented in Breeding Bird Survey data over the past 40 years across the Northwest. Veteran swift counters tell stories of having seen as many as 40,000 birds entering the Chapman chimney as recently as the mid-1980s. Yet there could be other explanations: Are the birds selecting other sites to roost in during migration? Are changing climatic patterns shifting their migration schedule, with more swifts using the Chapman chimney in August before we begin monitoring, or are they even bypassing Portland altogether as they head southward?

Our swift-counting efforts help Audubon track population changes in the Portland area and promote awareness of Vaux's Swift conservation efforts region-wide. By contributing our swift data to a Pacific Flyway-wide effort (vauxhappening.org) and to publicly available continent-wide databases (e.g. eBird), we are helping foster a better understanding of this species and its habitat needs, so we can all help these birds thrive and we can continue to enjoy the fall swift migration spectacle at Chapman School.

Consider joining in as a swift counter or participating in one of Audubon's other citizen science projects. Contact Joe Liebezeit, Avian Conservation Program Manager, at jliebezeit@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6121.



Vaux's Swifts at the Chapman chimney © Scott Carpenter

Forage Fish Protections: Federal Process Takes Important Step toward Finalizing Regulations

by Joe Liebezeit, Avian Conservation Program Manager, & Paul Engelmeyer, Ten Mile Sanctuary Manager

For the past three years, Audubon Society of Portland has worked with partners, including Pew Charitable Trusts and California Audubon, to increase protections on forage fish species like Pacific Sandlance and various smelt species. These species had "slipped through the cracks" of existing fishery management plans and were left unprotected in federal waters (3–200 miles off the west coast). Seabirds like the imperiled Marbled Murrelet depend on these species for survival, and a growing body of research indicates that declining forage fish populations are a major factor in subsequent declines and nest failures in dozens of seabird species around the world. Increasing interest in fishmeal and fish oil products threatens to open up commercial fisheries on these species in the near future.



Joe Liebezeit. Photo by Tinsley Hunsdorfer



Marbled Murrelet with a Pacific sandlance. Photo by Wayne Hoffmann

At the September Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting, the Council unanimously voted to adopt the draft regulatory language for these fish that was proposed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). This decision ensures that no directed commercial fisheries can begin until and unless the Council has adequate scientific information to consider impacts on the species considered as well as to existing fisheries, fishing communities, and the greater marine ecosystem. This decision was made despite pushback from a few of the advisory committees to the Council. We thank the Council for recognizing the importance of moving forward with the regulatory process. This decision builds on earlier successes, most recently at the March 2015 PFMC meeting when the Council designated these species as "ecosystem component species," opening the door for prohibition of new directed fisheries of these species without a full analysis.

With this most recent step the Council has completed their part of the process in protecting forage fish species. Now it's up to NMFS to initiate rulemaking and formalize these rules in the Federal Register. This process will take place over several months and there will be a public comment period. With the federal forage fish protections process nearly complete, we turn our attention to protecting forage fish in state waters (0–3 miles from shore). Unlike California and Washington, Oregon currently has no forage fish management plan. The Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) expects to have a draft forage fish plan by early 2016, and Audubon will work to ensure this plan is effective and helps to protect seabirds that depend on these small but important fish. For more background and updates on this issue, visit audubonportland.org/issues/species/sea/seabirds.

We thank many of our members and other Oregon Audubon chapters for providing comments to the Council to help make forage fish protections a reality. Stay tuned for more opportunities for public comment as the federal process is finalized and the draft state forage fish management plan sees the light of day.

Wildlife Care Center



Murres being released at the Oregon coast. Photos by Wendy Shoemaker



Common Murre recovering at Audubon's Wildlife Care Center. Photo by Ali Berman

Starving Common Murre Brought Back to Full Health and Returned to the Wild

by Ali Berman, Communications Manager

In August our Care Center took in three Common Murres, marine birds that some might mistake for penguins due to their black and white feathers. These birds, though not brought in at the same time, all suffered from the same issue. Each one was emaciated and found in various states of distress by Good Samaritans along the Oregon coast.

Two were too far gone, but one of the birds, with the help of a feeding tube, a daily water bath, a trampoline, and much TLC, recovered nicely in the Wildlife Care Center. Why the trampoline? Spending too much time on a hard surface can cause sores to form on the keel bone, an extension of the breastbone on the front of the bird. The small trampoline gave the Murre a nice soft space to safely rest while recuperating.

To us, bath time looked to be a highlight for the seabird. As soon as the juvenile Common Murre entered the water, the swimming, splashing, and preening began.

Sadly, emaciated Common Murres are no rare sight along the coast these days. Media reports of die-offs for the species have been published from California up through Oregon and into Alaska. The birds have been washing up on shore, many already dead from starvation, and others, like the ones we cared for, have been taken in by rehabilitation facilities.

As the Audubon Society of Portland is some distance from the coast, we haven't received as many calls about starving birds. During the height of these incidences, one of our partners, the Wildlife Center of the North Coast (coastwildlife.org), took in approximately 12 birds a day, and 90% of those were Common Murres. Those were the ones who were able to get help. Many more never made it to a wildlife rehabilitation facility.

In nature, dead birds may not be that unusual, but the number of dead birds has lately exceeded normal levels.

"Every bird we're seeing is starving to death," Joe Saranpaa, assistant director of the Wildlife Center of the North Coast, told the *Daily Astorian* (dailyastorian.com/Local_News/20150825/scientists-searching-for-answers-in-bird-die-off). "It's pretty bad."

Why are these birds starving? Scientists have a few theories on what might be causing the problem. It could be that the fish which the birds would normally feed on are going in search of cooler waters. It could be climate change. What isn't up for debate? Something is seriously wrong and many species have been affected.

We are happy to report that the Common Murre we cared for was released back to the wild on October 5 in Astoria,

OR. It couldn't have been a more perfect day for the release. Wendy Shoemaker, a Portland Audubon volunteer, went out with the Wildlife Center for the North Coast. The juvenile Murre in our care was released with a group of 10 juvenile Murres the WCNC had rehabilitated. As is often the case, once the carriers were opened, the birds were out of their enclosures and back in the wild in seconds.

"Our guy was the first in the water," said Shoemaker. "The murres all dove beneath the surface quite a bit as they swam away from the beach, then quickly were caught by the outgoing tide and floated under the bridge toward the ocean. I watched until I could see them no more and they were all still mostly in one area, separated a bit into two smaller tight groups."

As the volunteers and rehabilitators watched the birds return to the water, they also saw a group of sea lions in the distance. And to add to the magic of the day, a humpback whale breached in the distance.

Educational Trips

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

A portion of your fee is a tax-deductible donation to the Audubon Society of Portland. View more International and Domestic trips at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/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.

Borneo

February 24 – March 10, 2016

New price!



Diard's Trogon.
Photo by Charles Ryan

Borneo... a land of rugged mountains, ancient people, and dense jungles teeming with wildlife and birds that defy the imagination... Explore the world's third largest island and many of the unique habitats on this 15-day adventure through the Malaysian state of Sabah located in the north of the island.

The first two nights of the trip will be in Kota Kinabalu, the capital of Sabah, exploring and birding this interesting city as we adjust to the new time zone and the culture. From there we head directly to Mt. Kinabalu, where we will bird the flanks of the highest peak in Southeast Asia in search of species such as the **Whitehead's Trogon**, **Gray-throated Minivet**, **Indigo Flycatcher** and perhaps even the rare **Crimson-headed Partridge**. From here we travel to Sepilok, where we'll visit the **Sepilok Rainforest Discovery Center**, famous for its canopy towers and walkways that offer premier birding opportunities and views of the treetops in the otherwise dense rainforest. This region is known as a birding hotspot and is perhaps the best location to spot the **Bornean Bristlehead**, one of the most sought-after of Borneo's endemics.

Next it's off to the Sukau Rainforest Lodge, where more than birds await our group of intrepid travelers. This region along the Kinabatangan River is the home of the strange **Proboscis Monkey**, a rare species of primate found only in Borneo, and the **Bornean Pygmy Elephant**, whose mysterious origins are still in debate. The fascinating bird life of this region will not disappoint! Many beautiful species await our discovery, including the **Hooded Pitta**, **Rhinoceros Hornbill** and **Blue-eared Kingfisher**, to name just a few. Lastly we'll venture into

the Danum Valley, and stay at the comfortable Borneo Rainforest Lodge where a vast tract of lowland rainforest is home to the legendary "man of the forest," the **Orangutan**. Sightings of this massive primate are all but guaranteed, but not so for other mammals such as the **Palm Civet**, **Slow Loris** and strange bug-eyed **Western Tarsier**. Before leaving Borneo, we'll have three days to bird this fantastically rich area as we search for **Sooty-capped Babblers**, **Purple-naped Sunbirds**, **Long-billed Spiderhunters**, and a multitude of other avian denizens of Borneo's glorious rainforest.



Banded Broadbill.
Photo by Charles Ryan

After one last night in the town of Kota Kinabalu to catch our breath, repack our gear, and enjoy our camaraderie over dinner, we'll fly home with enough memories of this magical island to last a lifetime.

Contact Dan van den Broek at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org to sign up or if you have further questions.

Leaders: **Dan van den Broek**, Trip Leader and Educator, and **Tim Donner**, Environmental Educator

Fee: \$5995* members / \$6295* non-members

Deposit: \$3400 required to secure your place on the trip

TEXAS: RIO GRANDE VALLEY

February 14–21, 2016



Great Kiskadee. Photo by Tess Thornton

Join us for a winter trip to southern Texas and the Rio Grande Valley to one of the hottest birding regions in the country. This subtropical part of the U.S. is famous for being the northern limit for many tropical species including the **Great Kiskadee**, **Plain Chachalaca** and beautiful **Green Jay**. We'll explore such well-known locations as Santa Ana and Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuges, Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, as well as many other hotspots. February is an ideal time of the year to see the many species that winter in southern Texas. This gateway to the neotropics is sure to impress the most avid birder and beginner alike! Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or escheuering@audubonportland.org for more information.

Leaders: **Eric Scheuering**, Adult Education Programs Manager, and **Patty Newland**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

Fee: \$2295* members / \$2495* non-members

Deposit: \$1200 required to secure your place on the trip

THAILAND

January 15–30, 2016

2 spaces remain!



Green Bee-Eater.
Photo by Asim Patel

In this country of Buddhist traditions, temples and images, the Buddha can be seen in nearly every corner, as can offerings of flowers and incense at Animistic spirit houses to provide the promise of good fortune. Known as the 'land of smiles,' Thailand 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 *wai*.

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. 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**. Known as the roof of Thailand, Doi Inthanon is at the eastern end of the Himalayan Mountains, and along the slopes of the highest peak in Thailand we'll find an amazing variety of birds in habitats from cloud forest to deciduous Dipterocarp.

Next we fly to the metropolis of Bangkok to experience first-hand its famous markets and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. After searching the coast 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 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 and gaze 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. If you would like more information, or to reserve a spot, please contact Dan van den Broek at **971-222-6105** or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

Leader: **Dan van den Broek**, Trip Leader and Educator

Fee: \$4175* members / \$4475* non-members

Deposit: \$2000 required to secure your place on the trip

Ice Age Floods April 10–16, 2016

Join the Audubon Society of Portland as we explore the route of the Ice Age Floods from western Montana, across the Channeled Scablands of eastern Washington and through the Columbia River Gorge. We will follow the path of the floods from Missoula to Portland and witness the many kinds of evidence they left on the landscape, from giant current ripples to slack-water deposits known as rhythmites. April is a beautiful time of year to be on the path of the floods and we'll make plenty of time for hiking, botanizing and wildlife viewing. Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or escheuering@audubonportland.org for more information.

Leader: **Ivan Phillipsen**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

Fee: \$1295 members / \$1495 non-members

DEATH VALLEY April 4–8, 2016

Death Valley National Park is the lowest, driest, and hottest place in North America and the largest National Park in the lower 48 states. Along with the extreme climate comes the opportunity to explore a unique, striking landscape with hidden pockets of flora and fauna. While we will always be birding, a large part of our time in Death Valley will focus on the spectacular geology of the area and the adaptations of the drought-tolerant plants. Destinations outside the park will contrast the higher elevations of the Spring Mountains and some of the best wildlife-viewing locales such as Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. Birding opportunities will focus primarily on migrants and vagrants and some of the local desert species. Contact Eric Scheuering at **971-222-6119** or escheuering@audubonportland.org for more information.

Leader: **Kirk Hardie**, Portland Audubon Trip Leader

Fee: \$1395* members / \$1595* non-members

Deposit: \$700 required to secure your place on the trip

COMING SOON: Australia and Oaxaca!

See our Natural History Ecotours brochure for more information at audubonportland.org/files/ecotours-brochure.

Our measure of a great trip is how many birds were seen well by all participants, and we strive to create a positive group dynamic so everyone feels comfortable and informed. We model best practices in the field and interact with nature in a respectful manner. Most importantly, we want participants to be safe and have fun!

***Fee includes:** Ground transportation, **double-occupancy** lodging, meals *except dinners*, entrance fees for planned activities and the services of your leaders.

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 Marissa Duncan 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 Marissa Duncan (971-222-6131) or our Nature Store (503-292-WILD) to pay over phone. We accept VISA, MasterCard, and Discover.

Contact Marissa Duncan, Education Program Assistant, at mduncan@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6131.

Check our website for upcoming classes not listed here!
audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes

Beginning Birding I

(Session H): Nov 5 (Thur), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall
Nov 8 & 15 (Sun), 8am-11am: Local Field Trips

Join **Laura Whittemore**, long-time birder and teacher, for an introduction to bird watching that takes the mystery out of the country's most popular hobby. You will learn to recognize birds by shape, behavior, plumage, and more; and how to use binoculars and field guides to zero in on the identity of that mysterious little brown (or yellow or red or green) bird. Sign up now to learn about birds with the patient guidance of an experienced birder.

Class with Field Trips, limited to 14 participants: \$45 members / \$60 non-members

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

Lava Flows and the Missoula Floods: Geology of the Columbia Gorge

Nov 18 (Wed), 7pm-8:30pm: Class in Heron Hall (the Field Trips are both Full — space still available in Class-only Option!)

The beautiful Columbia River Gorge has been shaped by violent natural forces over millions of years. Lava flows,

volcanoes, giant floods, and landslides have all played their parts. Join naturalist **Ivan Phillipson** to learn about the origins of the cliffs and waterfalls of this awe-inspiring region.
Class-only Option: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

Waterfowl I.D. for Beginners: Mallards to Wood Ducks

Dec 3 (Thur), 7pm-9pm: Class in Heron Hall
Dec 6 & 13 (Sun), 9am-12pm: Local Field Trips

The Willamette Valley is home to more than 25 species of waterfowl. Join **Laura Whittemore**, long-time birder and teacher, and learn how to identify some of the more common and abundant waterfowl species using shape, plumage, habits, and habitat as guides. Then practice your skills at some of the best spots for finding these species in the Portland metro area. Experience the satisfaction of mastering identification of a notoriously difficult family of birds!

Class with Field Trips, limited to 14 participants: \$45 members / \$60 non-members

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

Winter Gull I.D.

Dec 11 (Fri), 7pm-8:30pm: Class in Heron Hall
Dec 12 (Sat) 8am-5pm: Coast Field Trip (transportation provided)

We will come right out and say it: Most gulls are actually pretty easy to identify. You just need to know what to

look for. In the evening class, local guide and author **John Rakestraw** will show you how to recognize our local wintering species by size, shape, and plumage. Then take part in a full-day field trip to the coast and visit gull hotspots to practice your new skills. Let go of your fear and embrace your inner gull lover!

Class with Field Trip, limited to 12 participants: \$85 members / \$105 non-members

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

Christmas Bird Count Preview/Review

Dec 17 (Thur), 7pm-8:30pm: Class in Heron Hall

Have you thought about participating in a Christmas Bird Count but are worried that as a beginner birder you'll get left behind? Have you done several counts in years past and are ready to take on the role of a team leader? Join **Eric Scheuering** in this refresher course to get ready for this year's Christmas Bird Counts. We'll preview what species to expect and review key field marks for identification of those species. For some fun, we'll split into teams at the end and "count" birds in a short simulation.

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

Winter Break Classes 2015

Register online at www.audubonportland.org — or call Marissa Duncan at 971-222-6131.
All classes run 8:45am-4:15pm unless otherwise stated.

MONDAY, DEC. 21	TUESDAY, DEC. 22	WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23
<p>Winter Wildlife Art Grades: 1-2 Explore the forest searching for wildlife and signs of animals. Use your observations and imagination to create clay animal sculptures and a mixed media Wildlife Sanctuary model based on some of the animals and the habitats you've seen. Fee per person: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Animal Tracking Grades: 3-4 Have you ever wondered what animals do when we're not looking? Have you ever wandered through the woods looking at tracks on the ground and searching for their meaning? Come along as we track the flood plains of the Sandy River at Oxbow Regional Park. Through detailed observation, we will unravel the mysteries of wildlife tracking through basic track identification and sign interpretation. Fee per person: \$70 member/ \$80 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park</p> <p>Snowshoe & Hot Cocoa Adventure Grades: 5-8 Join the Audubon Education Team on this adventure as we journey onto the snow-covered slopes of Mt. Hood on snowshoes. We'll traverse the beautiful wilderness area of White River Canyon (weather dependent). We've been leading these snowshoe trips for over 14 years and cannot wait to guide another. Along the way, we'll nestle down under the trees and warm up with some hot cocoa. <i>Fee includes snowshoe rental.</i> Fee per person: \$75 member/ \$85 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park Time: 8:45am-5:00pm</p>	<p>Snowshoe Hares to Polar Bears Grades: 1-3 Have you ever wondered how the smallest birds handle the winter weather? How about the largest bears? Come spend a day journeying within the Audubon Sanctuary, exploring the amazing and unique adaptations that animals use to cope with the harsh winter weather. We'll scour the woods for animal sign and end the day working with the Audubon specimens that can teach us the most about the wonderful world of winter animal survival. Fee per person: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Jr. Raptor Road Trip Grades: 4-8 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 so you can lead your family on the official Road Trip in February! Fee per person: \$70 member/ \$80 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park</p>	<p>Creatures of the Night Grades: 1-2 Do you ever wonder what animals roam the Audubon Sanctuary at night? Hike along the trails of our own Wildlife Sanctuary searching for clues that the nocturnal animals have left. Learn about these night-time hunters and create a colorful art project based on your observations. Fee per person: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Wild Wings — Bird Art Grades: 3-4 Explore some clay, wire, and paper shaping techniques and create an imaginative mixed-media sculpture inspired by some of the birds you'll see while hiking in the Wildlife Sanctuary and visiting the Wildlife Care Center. Observe an amazing variety of bird behaviors, habitat, nests, and eggs. Fee per person: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Wolves! Grades: 5-8 Come experience the thrilling world of Wolves as we travel as a pack to the Wolf Haven Sanctuary located near Tenino, Washington. With a Portland Audubon Naturalist as your Alpha Wolf and journals in hand, you will learn about these majestic predators in an up-close and personal way. Fee per person: \$70 member/ \$80 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park</p>
THURSDAY, DEC. 24-FRIDAY, DEC. 25 NO CLASS DUE TO HOLIDAY		
TUESDAY, DEC. 29		WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30
<p>Keeping kids in touch with nature!</p> <p>Hoots There? Grades 1-3 Meet Julio and Hazel, Audubon's resident owls. Investigate the amazing adaptations of these avian predators as you handle talons, skulls, nests, wings, and feathers. Listen to owl calls, dissect an owl pellet, and hike in owl habitat. Fee per person: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Junior Wildlife Vet 102 Grades: 4-8 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. Fee per person: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park</p>	<p>Expedition: Winter Gnomes Grades: 1-3 Step into the world of the fabled Gnomes of the Pacific Northwest as we explore the mystery and folklore of these mythical creatures. Prepare yourself to scour the forest searching for the elusive woodland Gnomes, build homes to attract these little creatures, and make your very own Gnome hat. Equipped with magnifying glasses, campers will search Audubon's Sanctuary for any and all signs of Gnomes. Fee per person: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Elk Extravaganza Grades: 4-8 Jump on board for an old-fashioned hayride as we study the Roosevelt Elk at Jewell Meadows Wildlife Preserve. Learn to track as we follow Elk trails through the woods and meadows of the coast range. Participate in an Elk feeding program and safely see these marvelous mammals up close. Fee per person: \$70 member/ \$80 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park</p>	<p>Audubon's Winter Rangers Grade 1-3 Spend your day becoming an Audubon Winter Ranger! Learn to be a quiet presence in the forest. Venture deep into our Sanctuary to learn the secrets of local plants and animals. Come join the ranks of Audubon's Winter Rangers! Fee per person: \$60 member/ \$70 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Gorge-ous Photography Grades: 4-8 Join Audubon educators on an awe-inspiring adventure into the heart of the Columbia River Gorge to capture images of some of the spectacular natural wonders that lie less than an hour away from Portland! Discuss the basics of composure, lighting, subject, and color as you sip hot cocoa and snap pictures of jaw-dropping panoramas, icy waterfalls, mossy canyons, delicate leaves, and much more. Be sure to bring along a camera and get ready to tell a story in pictures! This one-day camp will cover just the basics of photography but all skill levels are welcome to join! Fee per person: \$70 member/ \$80 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park</p>
THURSDAY, DEC. 31		
<p>Junior Wildlife Vet 101 Grades: 1-3 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. Fee per person: \$65 member/ \$75 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Audubon House</p> <p>Winter Survival Grades: 4-8 Come join us as we explore the forests and snowfields of Mt. Hood as we search for the creatures that survive in this wintery landscape. We will use our knowledge of winter animals to discover ways that we can survive in colder environments. Look for animal tracks in the snow, learn how to build snow shelters to stay warm, and then use them for protection during a snowball battle! Before heading back to the city, enjoy the views with a cup of hot cocoa to wrap up a fun day on the mountain! Fee per person: \$70 member/ \$80 non-member Pick Up and Drop Off: Upper Macleay Park Time: 8:45am-5:00pm</p>		
FRIDAY, JAN. 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR! NO CLASS DUE TO HOLIDAY		

Field Notes

by Harry Nehls

Broughton Beach Area a Birding Hotspot

Broughton Beach along the Columbia River north of the Portland Airport has become a major birding hotspot in the past couple of years. The Columbia River is rather wide here with several uninhabited islands in the area. The open meadow-like airport may also be an attraction.

Visits to the beach in earlier years seldom found much of interest. The sharp upswing in sightings recently may be because of the more intense attraction to the area with each unusual bird reported.

Heavy birding this summer and fall have brought an all-time high of unusual birds recorded here. It all started this summer on August 11 when Jen Sanford spotted a **Whimbrel** in the area. Then looking for the Whimbrel the next day, Andy Frank and Jen Sanford found two **Long-billed Curlews**. On August 15 Beverly Hallberg saw three curlews there and a small tern that attracted a lot of comment. It was accepted as a **Common Tern**. On August 16 John Powell reported a **Pacific Golden-Plover** on the beach. It remained for several days for many to see.

Sightings

On September 4 Beverly Hallberg heard the distinctive loud calls of a **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** coming from the cottonwood woodland at the north end of Ross Island in Portland. This would be the second report of a Yellow-billed in the Portland area this summer.

Other out-of-place birds this spring were seen: A **Rock Wren** photographed by Dwight Porter on September 30 near the Oregon Episcopal School in SW Portland; on August 8 Louis Fredd found a couple of **Brewer's Sparrows** at the Tualatin River NWR; Bob Flores watched a **Parasitic Jaeger** September 13 flying over the Columbia River west of Vancouver.

Sauvie Island provided good birding this summer. On September 7 Zack Schlanger spotted a **Black Swift** among a swallow flock. Steve Nord watched a **Franklin's Gull** September 9 flying over Sturgeon Lake. On September 29 Nikki Chapman and Jill Ward reported that a flock of 75 **Snow Geese** arrived on the island. Philip Kline reported a flock of 500 **White Pelicans** on the island. Pelicans have been reported flying all over the Portland area this summer and fall.



Lapland Longspur. Photo by Reago&McClarren

On August 18 John Rakestraw and Tait Nitens photographed two **Red Phalaropes** there. That day Beverly Hallberg spotted a **Sanderling** on the beach. The next day Andy Frank checking the beach found four Sanderlings and a **Semipalmated Sandpiper**. Then on August 24 Andy Frank noted a **Black-necked Stilt** and two **Avocets**. On September 26 Andy Frank watched a **Sabine's Gull** flying over the river there. That day Richard Leinen found the first **Lapland Longspur** of the season. The species will probably be seen off and on there through the winter.

Broughton Beach, the nearby Troutdale Airport area, and the Sandy River Delta have provided excellent birding in recent years and should be covered more regularly. Across the river is the Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge area that has also produced excellent birding. Being along the Columbia River and at the western end of Gorge, these areas should provide many more unexpected sightings for visiting birders.



Sandhill Crane. Photo by Steve Emmons/USFWS

As usual there have been several conspicuous goose and crane movements this fall. The first wave of **Cackling Geese** arrived during mid-September, and Cacklers were quite common by the end of the month. **White-fronted Geese** arrived during the same period with a major spectacular movement September 20 and 21. On October 2 Lona Pierce observed a major movement of thousands of **Sandhill Cranes** high-flying toward the southeast over Scappoose Bottoms.

Reflections of Another Successful Year of TALON

by Gladys Ruiz, Eastside Conservation Education Coordinator

As I signed on to our TALON Facebook page, I was thrilled to find a few TALON members online. In fact, it's the reason I'd signed on at 10 pm. Queuing up chat boxes for all of them, I asked them a simple question, "What has been your most memorable TALON moment?"

In its third year, the 2014 TALON program has continued to Teach, Advocate, Lead, Observe, and Nurture youth of color living in East Multnomah and North Clackamas County. Co-creating an inclusive and empowering learning community has been essential in combining four alumni with the eight newly recruited members to establish the 2015 TALON team. Through 10 weeks of training and 10 weeks of paid work at Portland Audubon, TALON has inspired young people to become conservation leaders in their communities, build long-term relationships to extend learning and leadership development, and support mentorship and job skills development — all in an effort to help diversify the future of the environmental movement.

With the inclusion of a four-day overnight camping experience at Cape Perpetua, TALON members were able to learn about the conservation efforts around marine reserves. Conservation apprentice **Salvador Pacheco-Pasalle** reminisced, "Going to the coast for a week was one of my most memorable moments. I had never seen the coast, much less the ocean... The vast ocean gave me a new perspective on how big the world really is and how I come into play in all of it."

Working alongside Salvador in a conservation apprenticeship was **Ariadna Falcon-Gonzalez**. "Working with Jim [Labbe], Nikkie [West], and Joe [Liebezeit] was inspiring," she says, "going to give testimonies with Jim

and participating in community outreach in Nadaka, certifying backyards with Nikkie, and bird watching with Joe. Working in the Conservation Department gave me hope for the future, that I too can follow this career path... that is filled with helping low-income communities and their access to nature."

Sydne Scott, who worked in our Wildlife Care Center, said "My most memorable moments of TALON were the new experiences I got every day in the Wildlife Care Center. It opened my eyes to what I want to be. Oooh, also creance flying with the eagle!"

For many, summer camp was the backdrop for their Audubon experience working as Camp Counselors of onsite, overnight, and our community camps programs. Many members of TALON expressed gratitude for these opportunities. **Halima Abdullahi** reflected, "The education apprenticeship gave me the opportunity to work with kids. I had preferred working with infants and toddlers since I had more training in that. Now I want to work with kids of all ages."

While this only reflects a small fraction of the amazing stories of the 2015 TALON members, TALON has also had a long-term impact on its alumni. **Tamara Layden**, one of TALON's first-year members, sent a message, "My most impactful TALON moment of ALL TIME would be when I scribed my very first Point Count. At that moment, I realized all that I had learned that summer. That moment, and the many other moments within TALON, continue



Volunteer of the Month: Toni Rubin

by Nancy Mattson, Nature Store Manager



Photo by Ali Berman

Toni Rubin began volunteering for Portland Audubon in the spring of 2009, and since then has amassed over 800 hours of volunteer time and received our Mamie Campbell Award for outstanding volunteer contributions along the way. How has she accumulated so much time? Toni volunteers for a regular shift in the Nature Store, serves as a member of the Wild Arts Festival Book Fair and Education Department committees, works as a docent, serves on the Volunteer Council, and just picked up a receptionist's shift at the Wildlife Care Center. These are just her current duties! She has also volunteered at many special events. Here at the Nature Store, Toni is one of our resident optics experts, knowledgeable about both binoculars and sighting scopes.

Born in Buffalo, New York, Toni attended college in Washington, DC. In 1976 she moved to Los Angeles and soon began a long affiliation with UCLA as both a graduate student and employee. Retiring in 2009, she moved north with her husband David Holbert, settling in Northeast Portland. Toni's new life even led her to complete a Shamanic Healing Apprenticeship.

Looking for a nonprofit environmental organization to support, she quickly connected with Portland Audubon's mission. At a New Member Reception she met Aristophanes, the WCC's resident Raven, and felt inspired to become an Audubon volunteer. Impressed by the quality of Deanna Sawtelle's volunteer training program, she dove in. As an active member of the Volunteer Council, Toni has helped to train hundreds of other volunteers.

Toni says, "What is remarkable about volunteering at Portland Audubon is the openness of staff to new ideas. If you have an idea, just bring it up. The staff is almost always ready to give something a try." At Toni's suggestion, Sarah Swanson, then of our Education Department, began accepting volunteers as summer camp assistants for the Bienestar Summer Camp Program, a position that Toni quickly filled. While she enjoyed that program, Toni's favorite children to work with are 5-year-olds, prompting her to volunteer as a reader for Audubon's Storytime program for young children. Like our staff, Toni also is willing to give anything a try. We truly appreciate all you've done for us. Hey Toni, what's next?"



2015 TALON Team. (Left to right, front row:) Ruth Doti, Sydne Scott, Educator Gladys Ruiz, Ariadna Falcon-Gonzalez. (Back row:) Dre Dabbs-Umtuch, Halima Abdullahi, Julianna Deckter, Seajay McCoville, Sam Daniel, Ani Bandas, Ken Lee. (Not pictured: Martina Avandano, Salvador Pacheco-Pasalle). Photo by Gerard Gonzalez

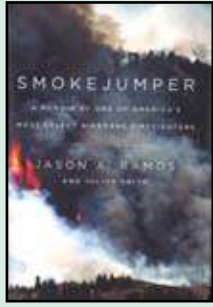
to remind me what it is I am working toward and who I want to be. TALON gave and continues to give me the motivation, strength, and confidence I need in order to pursue my education and attain the ultimate goal of becoming a Conservation Biologist. Thank you, TALON."

As we move into our fourth year of programming, we are happy to announce that with the help of a Metro Nature in Neighborhoods conservation and education grant, along with our amazing ongoing funders (Paul and Kathleen Box, Derek Holmgren and Michael Traylor Fund of Equity Foundation, Ellen Fader, Ralph and Adolph Jacobs Foundation, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service), we will be expanding our program to provide year-round paid opportunities to current members and alumni of the TALON program. We are thrilled by the support of the community and are excited about the potential for our future leaders.

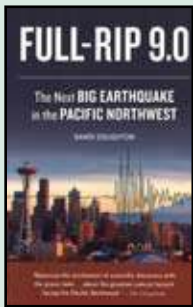
Nature Store Highlights

Fall into Some New Books

At last the autumn rains have returned, and the fire danger of our long hot summer will finally be receding. The men and women who do our wildland firefighting are the focus of the new title *Smokejumper: A Memoir by One of America's Most Select Airborne Firefighters* (William Morrow Books, \$24.99), a fascinating insider's look at an incredibly dangerous occupation. Imagine parachuting out of airplanes to drop into rugged backcountry landscapes, and then face fires raging out of control. Vividly written by Jason Ramos, a Winthrop, Washington-based smokejumper, with additional material by Portlander Julian Smith, *Smokejumper* provides a visceral thrill-ride to a world most of us will never directly experience. This book is in the tradition of such Northwest classics as Norman Maclean's *Young Men and Fire* and *The Big Burn* by Timothy Egan.



Other natural phenomena featured in recent books include *Rain: A Natural and Cultural History* by Cynthia Barnett (Crown Books, \$25.00) and *Full-Rip 9.0: The Next Big Earthquake in the Pacific Northwest* (Sasquatch Books, \$18.95) by Seattle journalist Sandi Doughton. Barnett's book is a delight for the senses, capturing the essence of rain in human experience. And Doughton gives all of us in the Cascadian Subduction Zone both frightening predictions for the future and amazing stories about earthquake research. All of these books are currently available in the Nature Store.



Nature Store named Retailer of the Year

Congratulations to the Audubon Society of Portland's Nature Store, which received the Retailer of the Year Award at the 2015 Wild Bird Expo sponsored by *Birding Business* magazine and Goldcrest Distributing. Thanks so much to our staff and wonderful volunteers who earned this special award for Portland Audubon — and to all of our awesome customers for your support!



Nature Store Clerk Sally Loomis (left) and Nancy Mattson, Store Manager, proudly display the Retailer of the Year Award. Photo by Ali Berman

Special Family Events in November

Origami Workshop

Looking for a fun crafting activity for the whole family on the Veterans Day holiday? The Nature Store hosts a special midweek origami workshop **Wednesday, November 11 from 10:30am–12:00pm** with local artist and origami expert **Eileen Holzman**. Eileen teaches origami for **all ages** and levels of ability, with an eye for combining artistic expression with the science of animal anatomy.

Eileen Holzman is a veteran of 35 years of art education and art therapy, both in Oregon and New Jersey. Her art has been featured in juried and solo shows in Northeast states and here in Oregon. Her origami workshops at Multnomah County Library branches are popular events. **Pre-registration is recommended.** There is a \$15.00 per family fee requested the day of the event. Please call the Nature Store at 503-292-9453 to register or for more information.

Storytime

Our regular **free** Saturday storytime event makes a scheduling change in November. To avoid a conflict with the Wild Arts Festival and other special November events, we'll be hosting storytime on **Saturday, November 14**. Come enjoy a children's story in our interpretive center, performed by Audubon volunteers. This month we explore other cultures with stories from *The Barefoot Book of Earth Tales*. You may learn "Why the Sun is Far Away" from Nigeria, or how the birds helped create "The Magic Garden" from Kazakhstan, or what happens to "Grumpy Gecko" from Bali. We start at **12:30pm**, and will have a repeat performance at **1:30pm**, both with a matching craft or nature activity. Children **ages 4–8** and their parents are encouraged to drop by! Call us at the Nature Store if you have questions.



Digiscoping with Doug Porter

Does taking highly magnified photographic images with your sighting scope sound like fun? Have you been held back by the fact that your scope doesn't come with an adapter? **Doug Porter** is the resident digiscoping expert at Novagrade®, an innovative company that makes the world's highest quality universal adapters right here in Oregon. Doug and his daughter Renee can often be found throughout the Northwest taking photos and testing new designs. They recently swept the top three places in the phone and tablet photo-digiscoping competition at the Winter Wings Festival in Klamath Falls.

Free Digiscoping Seminar
Saturday, November 14
10:30am • Heron Hall



Digiscoped image of an immature Black-crowned Night-Heron © Doug Porter

Doug will join us for a **free Digiscoping Seminar** on **Saturday, November 14 at 10:30am** in **Heron Hall** to demonstrate Novagrade's recently introduced universal digiscoping adapters that allow you to attach cell phones and (a first!) tablets to nearly any sighting scope. Because the adapters are universal, there is no need to buy a new adapter when you upgrade to a new cell phone or tablet. Just a few simple adjustments and you're ready to get back out in the field! They also have adapters available for Nikon and Canon SLR Cameras for taking professional-quality images.

Sanctuaries Happenings

Falling into Autumn's Rhythm

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

In the Pacific Northwest each season brings with it its own unique and powerful energy and feeling. The nourishing rains of winter replenish our stores of water while the trees sit dormant in the cool, foggy forest. Spring brings a return of light and energy, the scents of wildflowers and the hum of the bees stir our souls awake. Long summer days drive us to bask and play in the healing rays of the sun. But for me no season stirs my senses and awakens ancient memories as does the autumn.

Only a few weeks into autumn proper and I have had the fortune to harvest pears on the eastern flank of Mt. Hood and frolic with my family in the pumpkin patches of Sauvie Island. Misty, cool maritime air greets me each morning as I pedal along the Willamette, and leaves crunch underfoot as I walk the forested hills of the city. The early season rains seem to cleanse the air, and the high energy state of summer gives way to a slower, more relaxed pace as we move through the harvest season.

If you have ever had the (good?) fortune to do trail work with me, you have likely heard me talk ad nauseam about the massive amount of debris that falls to the forest floor each autumn. Of course this debris is part of the natural cycle and an integral component of a healthy forest — but as far as trail maintenance goes, the sheer volume alone causes problems. Jon Luoma writes in *The Hidden Forest*, "In a year, onto a single acre of old-growth forest, some five tons of litter will fall." Luoma points to ecologist Elliott

Norse, who describes this forest litter as "the capillary system of the forest, removing wastes and conveying food to the legions of consumers below."

Luoma writes of the massive variety of material that makes up this duff: bits of caterpillar frass, fungal spores, various droppings, shreds of spiderweb and bits of exoskeletons, not to mention the more obvious variety of plant matter. And this litter supports a rich diversity of life; Luoma notes that researchers at the Andrews Experimental Forest outside Eugene estimate that more than 8,000 species of insects inhabit the forest floor in a typical Northwest old-growth forest, in densities that can reach millions of insects per square foot. These consumers, in return, help make the nutrients found in the wastes of autumn available to the roots of the forest plants. The complexity and intricacy of these natural cycles is truly astounding, and a primary goal in our restoration projects is to create the conditions necessary for these natural cyclical processes.

Autumn is also planting season; the cool climate and short days induce dormancy in our native flora, making it an ideal time of year to move plants around and put them in the ground. With our native perennial wildflowers underground and asleep for the winter, it is also the ideal time of year to work off-trail.

This autumn will conclude our seven-year partnership with Friends of Trees Gift Tree Program, which has led to over 6,000



Volunteers sort through nursery stock to be planted in the sanctuaries. Photo: Portland Audubon

native trees and shrubs being planted in our sanctuaries. This has been an exciting and almost effortless partnership; Friends of Trees is the best at leading volunteer plantings, and it has been a privilege to work with their dedicated and skilled staff during the course of this partnership.

The sanctuaries program is also lending its services to the Backyard Habitat Certification Program once again this fall to help distribute native plants to program participants. The past two years we have distributed over 10,000 plants per year to local residents in the program, which is a remarkable benchmark for localized restoration on private property. It is exciting to think of all of these plants finding new homes in the area, and even more exciting to think of them 20 years from now — thriving and mature, and right about this time of year dropping their leaves to the ground, adding to the duff which sustains the ongoing cycle of nature.

Meet the New Faces at Portland Audubon

In the late summer and early fall we welcomed some friendly new faces at Portland Audubon, many of whom are replacing former staff who have recently retired or moved. We are excited to introduce you to these dedicated individuals, now part of the Audubon Society of Portland story.



New Audubon staff, left to right: Ali Berman, Roger Bond, Keia Booker, Tajsha Carlson, McKenzie Joslin-Snyder. (Not pictured: Marissa Duncan.) Photo © Portland Audubon

Communications Manager: **Ali Berman** is excited to help bring Portland Audubon's message to a broader audience. Before coming to the organization, Ali spent nine years working as the Communications Coordinator at HEART, helping to bring human rights, animal protection, and environmental ethics issues into classrooms. She believes that if we teach the public to stand up for people, animals, and the environment, more people will feel empowered to change the world for the better.

IT Support Specialist (part-time): **Roger Bond** joined Portland Audubon after running his own information technology company for the last 13 years. Roger started his career in the U.S. Navy's nuclear propulsion program, leading him to become a nuclear reactor operator. He served as an Engineering Watch Supervisor and an instructor, and helped setting up an initial reactor startup, nuclear physics testing, and sea trials aboard the USS Louisiana. After 12 years in the Navy, Roger was hired by Intel, working in the Logic Technology Development division where he helped create a variety of microprocessors.

Executive Assistant/Office Coordinator: **Keia Booker**'s background is in theater and the arts, receiving her BFA in theater and film from the University of Oklahoma. She is the former manager at Stumptown Coffee Roasters and private event coordinator at Loyly Sauna & Steam, as well as din din Supper Club. It is her privilege to serve the community's conservationists, artists, naturalists, birders, and people just interested in the beauty of our surroundings.

Development Assistant: **Tajsha Carlson** has been solving the Raiser's Edge puzzle for over 14 years. After working with a variety of nonprofits, Taj is excited to put her skills to work here at Audubon Society of Portland. Having watched the swifts every year since she was 12, she was thrilled to become part of the Audubon team who officially counts swifts! When not working in databases, Taj loves to build communal art projects and participate in festivals.

Education Assistant: **Marissa Duncan** has had a long history with Portland Audubon. Starting as a camper in her early teens, Marissa worked as an intern for Portland Audubon's summer camp and most recently as a seasonal Environmental Educator. After graduating with a degree in biology from the University of Oregon, Marissa worked in marine research, advocacy, and conservation.

Nature Store Buyer: **McKenzie Joslin-Snyder**, a native of Eugene, graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in Environmental Science. After moving to Portland, she worked at Powell's City of Books as a merchandiser, developing a knack for making displays and identifying sales trends. McKenzie is not a new face at Audubon, since she is a veteran of three years of volunteering at the Wildlife Care Center.

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!**

Nikon Binocular Seminar December 12 10:30am

Thinking of purchasing a new pair of binoculars or giving one as a gift? If you don't understand all those specification numbers, how "High Density Glass" improves your viewing or what size is best for your needs, we have a seminar for that! Mike Freiberg of Nikon Optics will be back to offer a **Free Binocular Seminar on Saturday, December 12 at 10:30am** in Heron Hall that answers all your questions. He's also bringing along some free goodies from Nikon for participants. Please join us for this fun, free event!



Mike Freiberg. Submitted photo

Wall, Desk, and Engagement Calendars are here

Our full selection of calendars for 2016 has arrived. Favorites from Audubon, Sierra Club, Wendy Morgan, Charley Harper, and many more!



Swarovski and Carl Zeiss Optics sales & rebates end in mid-November.

Call the store for details on some "unadvertised" specials for members!

Bob Sallinger Wins River Hero Award

The Audubon Society of Portland's Conservation Director, Bob Sallinger, was honored by Columbia Riverkeeper for his exceptional work to protect Oregon's most cherished natural resources. On October 17 Bob was presented with the River Hero Award, and was lauded for his efforts to stop industrial development on West Hayden Island, block the Pembina propane terminal, restore the Peregrine Falcon population in Portland, and protect avian nesting colonies in the Columbia River Estuary and in river floodplains throughout the state. Bob's tireless work over the last 23 years at Portland Audubon has helped shape the city and state, making Oregon a place we can all be proud to call home.



Photo by Ali Berman

"I knew we had an amazing partner, not only with Bob but with his other colleagues at Audubon," said Jasmine Zimmer-Stucky, Senior Organizer for Columbia Riverkeeper. "It was a pleasure getting to work with people who are so smart, so earnest, so hardworking, and so humble about the skills they bring to the table."

Frequent Flying — a great way to go!

Easier than remembering to renew, and better for the planet because it saves resources, monthly giving through our Frequent Flyer program is an effortless way to help us protect native birds and other animals and their wild places. Frequent Flyers provide the Audubon Society of Portland with a much-needed, dependable stream of income that we use to take care of injured and orphaned animals, teach people to understand and enjoy nature, and protect the habitats that we all need to thrive.

You can set up your Frequent Flyer monthly gift to be charged from a credit card or debited from a bank account, conveniently contributing to protecting the environment in more ways than one! Your membership will be automatically renewed, saving resources and your time, and you can change your monthly gift amount or discontinue at any time by just calling our membership office.

Become a Frequent Flyer by going to audubonportland.org/support/give, or contact us at 503-292-6855. Or send in the handy form below.

Become a Member

- I want to become a member
 Please renew my membership

Your Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

- Sign me up for the monthly e-newsletter, The BirdWord.

- I want to give a Gift Membership to:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

We will send a card to the new member notifying them of your gift.

Membership Levels

- \$25 Introductory \$100 Goldfinch
 \$35 Individual \$250 Warbler
 \$45 Family \$500 Owl
 \$60 Wren \$1000 Great Blue Heron
 \$_____ per month Frequent Flyer
 (first check or credit card number enclosed)

Payment Method

- My check, payable to Audubon Society of Portland, is enclosed.
 Please charge my: Visa MasterCard
 Discover
 Card # _____
 Expiration Date: ____ / ____

Banking for Birds

Three ways to bank with Audubon partner, SELCO Community Credit Union, and protect birds across Oregon! Through the month of November 2015, SELCO is running a promotion that benefits Audubon Society of Portland!

When you open a SELCO Select Checking Account with linked direct deposit, open or refinance an auto or RV loan with SELCO, or open a home equity line of credit — and mention the word "birds" — SELCO will gift \$75 to Portland Audubon and deposit an additional \$75 into your SELCO account!*

Visit a branch, call 800-445-4483, or check out **selco.org** to participate. Don't forget to mention the promo code when talking with them!

SELCO Community Credit Union believes in giving back to the communities they serve. Since 2012, SELCO has been an Audubon Society of Portland Business Alliance member, providing much-appreciated support to our Explorador Community-based Summer Camp and as an Eagle Sponsor of our Wild Arts Festival.

\$75 for you. \$75 for Audubon.*
 Visit selco.org/selcocares to learn more!

SELCO
 COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION
Live a Good Life.

*See selco.org/selcocares for details. Federally Insured by NCUA.

*Membership and credit qualifications apply. Only one participating transaction per member. Must be 18 or older. For qualifying loan transactions, \$75 will be deposited into Membership Shares the next business day after funding. Existing SELCO debt and indirect loans not eligible. For qualifying new checking accounts, \$75 gift will be deposited into the account on the next business day after first direct deposit of at least \$100 USD. Participating charity partner will receive their donation within 60 days from promotion month-end. Promotion code must be mentioned or entered during the application process. See selco.org for additional details.



Steve Berliner at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, part of William Finley's conservation legacy. Photo © Steve Berliner

Leadership Giving Profile: Steve Berliner

Our New Leadership Giving Program Takes Flight

Conservationist and award-winning bird photographer **Steve Berliner** has kicked off the Audubon Society of Portland's new Leadership Giving program with an increased gift and a rallying call for others to join him.

Berliner made his first gift in 1988, when income as cofounder of Leatherman Tools gave him the capacity to help. His sense of affinity grew as he led restoration of riparian habitat in the Mt Kellogg-Scott Creek watershed and practiced wildlife photography. He loved the deep immersion in nature he experienced as a wildlife photographer, and began to win awards with his images. One photo he donated to the Wildlife Care Center helped identify an injured Bald Eagle by the tiny numbers on its band, and a happy ending ensued: the bird was rehabilitated by the Wildlife Care Center and released.

Berliner's commitment to higher annual giving to Portland Audubon comes at a time when he and his wife Karen Bjorklund are focusing their support on a smaller number of organizations, to make a greater impact on the people and places they love. They've seen the Portland metro area population increase by 150,000 since the first gift — growth which has increased conservation challenges but also means that more people are able to give more generously.

We recently spoke with Steve about his latest gift and love for Audubon.

What made you decide to increase your level of giving, and be our first new leadership gift donor?

"As I approached 65, I decided I wanted to give to Audubon Society of Portland in a deeper way, and I talked to Ann Takamoto, the Development Director. I was so glad to learn that new levels were about to launch. It takes resources to be a leader, and will take a greater funding base for Audubon to expand its role in the Portland metro area."

What attracted you to the Audubon Society of Portland when you first gave in 1988?

I've had a love for birds in the natural world since childhood. There's no other environmental organization in our area with a 100-year record of speaking out on behalf of birds and wildlife.

What kept you donating steadily for 27 years?

Portland Audubon has earned its reputation for independence and authority on wildlife issues. We get the satisfaction of seeing the organization's long-term accomplishments and knowing we were part of that.

Anything else you would like to share?

If the Audubon Society of Portland is an organization that embodies your beliefs, please step up with me to support it. The time is right.

Note: Steve's photography can be seen at pbase.com/sberliner. We greatly appreciate his artistic contributions for numerous issues of the Warbler.

Following Finley's Footsteps

Steve Berliner and his wife Karen Bjorklund have a special connection to an earlier conservationist and photographer, William Finley, who helped found the first Audubon Society in Oregon in the early 1900s: they live on the Milwaukie riverside land that was owned by Finley and preserve his home there.

Leadership Giving Circle

Founding Members Empower Leadership at a Critical Time

Many bird and nature lovers join in Audubon Society of Portland's mission through an annual contribution of \$1,000 or more. These leadership gifts help to deepen our impact on bird and wildlife conservation in the Portland metro area and beyond.

Portland Audubon is introducing three new giving levels to strengthen our capacity to lead, and to achieve conservation priorities as Portland grows. As the year-end giving season nears, please consider making a special commitment to keep Portland green and to build a region where people and wildlife can flourish together.

Leadership Gift Levels

Great Blue Heron: \$1,000 – \$2,499

(Leadership level for many years)

Benefits include acknowledgment in our annual report and the opportunity to attend exclusive events.

Peregrine: \$2,500 – \$4,999 (New)

Above benefits, plus a personal tour of Portland Audubon programs and biannual updates from Executive Director Nick Hardigg highlighting the specific impacts of your support.



Osprey: \$5,000 – \$9,999 (New)

Above benefits, plus invitations to annual informational events on conservation and environmental education issues impacting our region.

Eagle: \$10,000 (New)

Above benefits, plus a meeting with Executive Director Nick Hardigg to discuss the impacts of your support and strategies for the future.



Donations at any level may be made in full, or put on monthly or other schedules. Audubon Society of Portland is pleased to acknowledge the leadership donors who do so much to ensure the stability and growth of our organization. Donations may also be made anonymously or in honor of others.

"We get the satisfaction of seeing the organization's long-term accomplishments and knowing we were part of that. If this is an organization that embodies your beliefs, please step up with me to support it."

— contributor Steve Berliner

For more information about leadership gifts, please contact Ann Takamoto, Development Director, at 971-222-6117 or atakamoto@audubonportland.org.

Audubon Society of Portland Participates in Willamette Week's Give!Guide for a 6th year

We are excited to announce our inclusion in Willamette Week's 2015 Give!Guide. The Give!Guide is a holiday season fundraiser that generates donations for a number of Portland-area nonprofit organizations.

The goals of the Give!Guide are:

- to encourage people age 18–35 to get involved in philanthropy,
- to attract new donors and/or volunteers to these causes, and
- to provide publicity and exposure for a variety of local nonprofits.

Organizations included in the Give!Guide represent a cross section of nonprofits across the following sectors: Animals, Arts, Community, Education, Environment, Health & Wellness, Social Action, Youth. Last year the Give!Guide readers gave \$3,145,015 to 136 local nonprofits, and an amazing \$40,000 to Portland Audubon's conservation and education work!

Donate through the Give!Guide and you'll be rewarded with all sorts of good will as well as great incentives, like discounts from local merchants, gift bags, and the chance to win \$1,000 for donors 35 and under, and much more — check out the entire list at giveguide.org. Also look for

Give!Guide's Big Give days, when one lucky donor giving on each of these days will win a great incentive from one of the Give!Guide's corporate partners.



This year, Portland Audubon is thrilled to partner with the **Wild Salmon Center** in a Give!Guide event on **December 10**. Hosted by **Patagonia**, join us for food, drink, and raffle items, with a special incentive offered to those who donate that night. Follow our Facebook page for more information.

This year our *wonderful* business partner, **Wonderland Tattoo**, will be providing a match for the first \$1,000 in donations received through the Give!Guide.

Donations are accepted from the date of the Give!Guide's publication (Wed, **Nov 4**) through midnight on Thur, **Dec 31**. Make your contributions online at giveguide.org. Look for Audubon Society of Portland in the "Environment" category, and spread the word! Follow us on Facebook for announcements and incentives at facebook.com/portlandaudubon.

Thank You to:

- Ainslie Farms for food for the Wildlife Care Center birds
- Jim Cruce for 42 framed and 1 matted professional wildlife photographs
- Art Douglas and Jill Bonzer for 2 Bausch & Lomb binoculars, 8x36 and 10x40, for the Education Program
- Linda Ficere for assorted international birding guides and field guides for the Education Program
- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Hatchery Program, and Coastal Chinook Research & Monitoring Program, for 1500 pounds of fish for the WCC
- Lou Parrett for ten birdhouse ornaments to be used as merchandise for the Nature Store
- Ginnie Ross for refreshments for Volunteers & supplies for the International Vulture Day event; and material for refurbishing the Education Bird enclosure for Syd
- Deanna Sawtelle for decorations for the Halloween Night Flight event

Our Wish List

- For All Departments:** Ergonomic Office Chairs
- For Wildlife Care Center:** Science Diet Kitten Growth Bleach
- For Sanctuary:** Loppers, Hand saws, Work gloves, Dawn Dishwashing Detergent, Exam gloves (latex or latex-free), Paper lunch bags, Small leather work gloves
- For Wild Arts Festival:** Easels (floor & table), Kevlar animal handling gloves

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.

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

In Memory

Tony Bojanowski

Helen Wallace
Becki Buskirk & Tony's
Coworkers

Carol Karlen

Linda Hofman
Dave Moughmer
Marilyn Stinnett

Orcilia Zuniga Forbes

Tammy & Charles Wilhoite

Tom Potts

Anonymous
Barbara Bauer
The Wildlife Care Center
Staff and Volunteers

Helen Goldhammer

Grace Kent

Enid Griffin

Angela Steiert

Mariam Tranes

Edward & Elizabeth Neuwelt

Joyce Kraft Hamreus

Pam & John Milne

In Honor

Owen Abrahams

Yana Little
Roman & Jameson Parker

Ginnie Ross

Deanna Sawtelle
Sue Wetzel

Andrea & Denise Kelsey

Christa Von Behren &
Ben Pollak

Deanna Sawtelle

Ginnie Ross

Amy Valentine &

Lynda Garner
Roberta Recken

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

Wild Arts Festival

Continued from page 1

Auction. You'll be able to bid for **stays at beach houses and lake cabins, kayak trips, and a Columbia River geology tour.** Also available are a **handwoven wool rug and other textiles, a glass art class** by Festival favorite Ann Cavanaugh, several **one-of-a-kind pottery pieces**, and the ever-popular **"Bird, Wine, and Dine Tour" provided by Mike Houck and Seratto Restaurant.** The list of auction items is extensive so make sure to **come up to the 3rd floor of Montgomery Park and take a look!** You may be one of the lucky bidders to win a treasure... at a very attractive price.

6x6 Wild Art Project

Hard to believe, but the ever-popular 6x6 Project celebrates its ninth year at the Wild Arts Festival, with another collection of "birdy" and affordable **6-inch-square canvases** donated by a diverse group of wonderful community artists as well as some of the Festival headliners. We are grateful to **Blick Art Materials** for their support. Year after year, people line up when the doors open Saturday morning to get first dibs on their favorites, so be sure to stop by early!

Other Festival Highlights

We're pleased to welcome **Oregon College of Art and Craft** back to the Festival as our educational institute art booth. This year, woodworking students from the college will be carving and painting with alumna Hilary Pfeifer, who will be signing her beautiful new book *Alphabird*. Don't miss original artwork from the book on display!



Nikki McClure. Photo: Portland Audubon



Chris Moench

Getting Involved

- **Volunteer** — be a part of the fun! If you're interested in helping out, visit the volunteer page at wildartsfestival.org or check with our Festival volunteer coordinator Jill Nelson-Debord at wafvolunteers@gmail.com.
- Consider **sponsoring** the Festival at one of our many levels. Contact Development Director Ann Takamoto at atakamoto@audubonportland.org for more information.

And of course, Save the Date! Mark **November 21st and 22nd** on your calendar and join us at Montgomery Park for the 2015 Wild Arts Festival.

November 21 & 22, 2015
Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5

Montgomery Park
2701 NW Vaughn
Admission \$8
www.wildartsfestival.org

ART | BOOKS
SILENT AUCTION

Wild Arts Festival
presented by Backyard Bird Shop

Audubon Society of Portland
Founded in 1902

2 for 1 Admission
Admits two for the price of one

Dining Options

Montgomery Park's **Food in Bloom** café will be open during the Festival. You can purchase delicious soups, salads, sandwiches, and more at their second floor location.

Thank You to our Sponsors

Special appreciation goes to our Presenting sponsor, **Backyard Bird Shop**, Eagle sponsor **Selco Community Credit Union**, and Hawk sponsor **Miller Paint**. Our Great Blue Heron sponsors include **Elk Cove Vineyards, Grow Construction, McCoy Foat and Company PC, Morel Ink, New Seasons Market, and John Osborn**. Special thanks to **Bill Naito Company** for generously donating use of Montgomery Park for the Wild Arts Festival. Additional sponsors are listed at wildartsfestival.org.

Thanks to our 2015 Wild Arts Festival Sponsors:



Elk Cove Vineyards
Grow Construction
McCoy Foat & Company PC
Morel Ink

New Seasons Markets
John Osborn
Audubon Society of Portland Board of Directors

Audubon Society of Portland
Inspiring people to love and protect nature since 1902

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

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

SANCTUARIES
Dawn to dusk every day

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

WILDLIFE CARE CENTER
503-292-0304
9am to 5pm every day

INTERPRETIVE CENTER & LIBRARY
Same hours as store

RARE BIRD ALERT
503-292-6855 • www.audubonportland.org

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

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BUSINESS ALLIANCE

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



Audubon Society of Portland
NATURE STORE

antler gallery & store
Backyard Bird Shop
Bob's Red Mill
Columbia Sportswear
David Evans and Associates
The eBike Store
Elk Cove Vineyards
Ferguson Wellman
Grow Construction
Jackson Welch Mediation/
Arbitration PLLC
Kruger's Farm Market
McCoy Foat & Company PC,
CPAs

Miller Nash Graham
& Dunn LLP
Miller Paint
Morel Ink
New Seasons Markets
NW Natural
Portland Audubon Nature Store
Portland General Electric
PosterGarden
Sauvie Island Coffee Company
SELCO Community
Credit Union
Vernier Software