



Black-throated
Gray Warbler

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Comment on the Portland Harbor Superfund Clean-up Plan

Portland is known as a green city, but its dirty little secret is that both its air and water are highly polluted. Air toxics have been in the news recently, but residents will also soon have an opportunity to ensure that our toxic river is restored to health. In 2000, a ten-mile stretch of the Willamette River, extending from the Broadway Bridge almost to the Columbia River and comprising more than 2,000 acres, was listed as a federal Superfund site—a designation reserved for the country's most contaminated and high-risk sites. It is so toxic that a healthy adult should not eat more than eight ounces of resident fish (about the size of a deck of cards) per month, and no amount of fish is considered safe for a pregnant or nursing woman.

After nearly 16 years of wrangling between the Environmental Protection Agency and the more than 150 parties responsible for this industrial pollution, the public will finally get its chance to weigh in. The EPA is expected to launch a 60-day public-comment period on a proposed clean-up plan in May and adopt a final clean-up plan by year's end. The EPA has been under tremendous pressure from polluters who want to minimize clean-up costs, and preliminary signs are troubling—the EPA has indicated that it plans to leave up to 90% of the Superfund site contaminated under what we consider a “do nothing” strategy, where contamination is left in place to be buried under other sediments or flushed downstream. Nobody living in Portland today has known anything other than a toxic river, and the strategy being proposed by the EPA is likely to leave our river contaminated for generations to come.

Sixty days is far too short a public-comment period for an issue this complex and this important. We are particularly disappointed in the City of Portland—it has joined with other parties responsible for the pollution in a pattern of working to delay and disrupt this process and intimidate the EPA into adopting a plan that puts the interests of polluters above the health and safety of our community and our environment. Audubon will be requesting a longer comment period, but regardless of length, it will be critical that the people of Portland send comments directly to the EPA and demand a healthy and safe river. Clean air and clean water are basic rights, not things to be compromised to serve the financial interests of polluters. Please speak up for our river! To receive updates on how to get involved, go to <http://bit.ly/1QgmG5m>

Audubon Summer Camp: Creating Connection

By Ian Abraham, Camp Director

Early each spring, long before the first camper arrives ready for an Audubon Summer, we host a two-week training for our summer seasonal staff of Environmental Educators, college-aged Interns, and high-school-aged Counselors and teach them how we run week-long Portland Audubon Summer Camps. We focus on curriculum development, safety protocols, and first-aid training; work together to develop practices that ensure each program is as high quality, safe, and FUN as possible and has a huge helping of natural history; and we work to ensure that each camp is experiential, inspirational, and science-based, with problem-solving and thought-provoking challenges presented daily. Whether we are developing new curriculum for our **Audubon East Explorers** (new east Portland expansion, see page 7) or redeveloping popular trips like **All the Way to Monterey** or **Destination: Redwoods** (page 7), the quality of the program begins and ends with Environmental Educators and their focused intention to inspire students of all ages.

During training, our Environmental Educators focus on the themes of their week-long camps to develop schedules and activities that enhance the personal character and growth of each participant, and they discuss, share, and develop new and exciting ways to connect Audubon campers to the natural world. This brainstorming enables us to create the most inspiring programs possible, and the teamwork and camaraderie that results is, in many ways, the backbone of our high-quality programs.

During these curriculum days, we discuss the effects that journaling activities might have on campers. We start our training with these activities to inspire our educators to not only journal for themselves, but to use journaling in their camps. By using reflective writing activities and/or drawings with different art mediums (depending on camper age), we help campers create a log documenting their nature experience. With each camp, we ask the campers to create their own journal and then draw or write about certain camp events in the best way they know how.

There is something quite amazing about a group of twelve third-graders sitting silently in the forest, crouched over their journals, pencils in hand, drawing or writing about the day's happenings. These journals help campers preserve their memories for a lifetime.

An Audubon Environmental Educator must consider how children feel about themselves and their time in nature to ensure positive memories—how students feel about their experiences during and after the program affects what they do with what they've learned. If campers feel safe and comfortable in the forest while at camp, they are much more likely to return to the woods of their own accord. We help each student build real and meaningful relationships with the natural world. Simply put, we want children to be fond of nature, not afraid of it. If successful, we accomplish Audubon's larger vision to inspire people to love and protect nature.

For one writing activity, I gave the campers a start: **I recognize that Orcas are special, and if I had one story to tell them...** The goal was for them to write as much as they could in fifteen minutes. The following was written during an Audubon camp in the San Juan Islands just hours after a sighting of about 22 Orcas moving through the Salish Sea. We thank Reed for sharing his journal entry.

An Orca's Tale
By Reed Wester-Ebbinghaus,
Seventh Grade

I recognize that Orcas are special, and if I had one story to tell them...it would be that of the history of humanity, a story very appropriate to tell due to their likeness to men. I would tell tales of how humans had created powerful empires but were still always at the mercy of the seas. I would explain the story of the city of Atlantis and of how it was so suddenly destroyed the night the seas rushed in and reclaimed the land and the lives of many men. I would even tell of how

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Audubon Society
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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

“Tree Breath”

My wife and I celebrated eleven years of marriage yesterday by taking a long, evening hike in Forest Park. Unencumbered by kids or technology, we wanted to reconnect with each other and the wilderness that brought us together a dozen years before.

Back then, we both had conservation jobs at the Grand Canyon. Karen had invited me on a trip to Portland to meet her parents, see her hometown, and experience the beauty of Oregon. She also brought me for one of my first hikes in a temperate rainforest. I can vividly recall her inhaling deeply and asking, “Can you smell that? That’s the scent of Oregon woods...I just love that!” Having come from the desert, the air seemed thick with moisture, with oxygen, with health. We named that scent “tree breath” and imagined uprooting ourselves from the desert to Portland.

I fell further in love with Karen, and also with Portland. Here, I sensed beautiful nature as well as community, and a need for conservation that exceeded the gateway Park Service communities I’d seen. Within six months, Karen and I were all-in: engaged to be married, resigned from our jobs, and loaded on a truck for Portland.

Twelve years have passed, and I still find Portland’s nature, sense of community, and need for conservation more compelling than ever. In this issue of the *Warbler*, you’ll learn how your voice is needed now to restore the Willamette River from a century of toxic waste dumping, as well as to stop the senseless killing of thousands of cormorants. You’ll find our call for participants and donors for Birdathon, our largest fundraising event of the year. And you can take pride in our latest success—Portland Audubon’s instrumental role protecting critical floodplain habitat for birds through a successful lawsuit that could have ripple effects for birds and their habitat nationwide.

We hope the stories of the *Warbler* capture the vitality of your Portland Audubon community. Like an anniversary hike in the woods, its inspiration awaits us whenever we take part. If a *Warbler* article inspires you to engage further in the enjoyment and protection of nature, then it will have achieved its purpose. Enjoy the “tree breath” that we protect together.



Nick and Karen in Forest Park

NATURE NIGHT

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!

The Mystery of Bird Song with David Lukas Tuesday, May 10 7pm Heron Hall

It’s May! Bird song is everywhere. From complex trills to simple melodies, chirps and chips, the range of their vocalization charms and astounds us. How do birds produce such beautiful songs and complex harmonics? And why do they produce so many different types of vocalization?



Singing Canyon Wren. Photo by David Lukas



David Lukas, submitted photo

At May’s Nature Night, naturalist and author **David Lukas** will help answer these questions and share some insights into the magical world of bird song. Using audio recordings, photos, and video, he’ll provide fascinating information about the anatomy of how birds produce song; the ways we study bird song; and some of the social behaviors that explain common bird vocalization.

David Lukas is a professional naturalist and well-known author. His connection to nature started as a child growing up on the Oregon Coast and as a high-school student exploring the natural world right here at Portland Audubon. A graduate of Reed College, David spent many years using the Bay Area as home base while traveling, exploring, and leading tours to wild areas around the world. He recently returned to Portland. His many books include the definitive guidebooks *Bay Area Birds*, *Sierra Nevada Birds*, and *Sierra Natural History*. His newest book is called *Language Making Nature*, which explores the art of creating new words for speaking of the natural world. Learn more at LanguageMakingNature.com. David’s books will be available for sale in the Nature Store and for signing after the talk.

Join us in the mysterious world of bird song just in time for the prime singing season!



There’s still time to sign!

Signature collection continues to qualify Outdoor School for All for the statewide ballot in November. Here’s volunteer Harriet Anderson handing in 50 signatures she collected. Learn more on our website, audubonportland.org



Paddling Ross Island. Photo by Mike Houck



Nesting pair courtship display. Photo by Mike Houck

30th Annual Great Blue Heron Week June 1–June 12, 2016

By Mike Houck, Urban Naturalist

Anyone who knows former Mayor Bud Clark will not be surprised that it was during his tenure (1985–1992) that Portland adopted the Great Blue Heron as its official bird. An avid canoeist and cyclist, Bud commuted to work by bicycle and still rides on our annual policy-makers bicycle ride at a spry 85 years young.

In the spring of 1986 Mayor Clark’s address at a West Coast gathering of fish and wildlife agencies was replete with references to his encounters with Great Blue Herons. His enthusiasm was clear as he waxed poetic about watching them glide by Portland’s downtown skyscrapers as they flew between their nesting colony on Ross Island and feeding grounds at Smith and Bybee Lakes.

This was clearly a great opportunity to further the cause of urban nature! Though Hinckley, Ohio, enjoyed the Turkey Vulture as its bird, a quick check revealed that few cities had an official avian icon, and none had yet appropriated the Great Blue Heron.

In his inimitable manner, Bud emitted several “Whoop, whoops” and said, “Hell, why not?” and a couple weeks later the City Council adopted the Great Blue Heron as Portland’s emissary to the natural world. Soon after, William Stafford penned “Spirit of Place” for the second annual Great Blue Heron celebration in 1987.

Spirit of Place: Great Blue Heron

*Out of their loneliness for each other
two reeds, or maybe two shadows, lurch
forward and become suddenly a life
lifted from the dawn to the rain. It is
the wilderness come back again, a lagoon
with our city reflected in its eye.
We live by faith in such presences.*

*It is a test for us, that thin
but real, undulating figure that promises,
“If you keep the faith I will exist
at the edge, where your vision joins
the sunlight and the rain: heads in the light,
feet that go down in the mud where the truth is.”*

– William Stafford, 1987, for Great Blue Heron Week

This year we will kick off the week by reading a Proclamation at the Portland City Council, which will be followed by a week of field trips and lectures focusing on city and regional efforts to protect, restore, and manage habitat for herons and other critters. For more details and to see a schedule of trips and events, visit audubonportland.org.

Mark your calendars for the week’s culminating event—the Ross Island Regatta. We will launch from Willamette Park boat ramp at 9am, Sunday, June 12, and circumnavigate the Ross Island archipelago to observe the Great Blue Heron nesting colony. More details to come.

Trip listings on page 10

Bird Song Walks 2016 7 a.m. Mon–Fri, various locations: FREE!

Audubon Society of Portland is proud to sponsor the 2016 season of weekday-morning Bird Song Walks! From beginners to advanced birders, anyone who is fascinated by the sounds of birds should take advantage of these volunteer-guided walks to the metro area’s prime spring migration hotspots.

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

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




Lazuli Bunting. Photo by Hayley Crews


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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

May 1 (Sun), 7am–2pm Northern Coast Range Sooty Grouse

Join **Stefan Schlick** for a Sooty Grouse search trip in the northern Coast Range beginning in Banks. We will also look for Northern Pygmy-Owl, other residents, and newly arrived breeders. Prepare for cool, possibly inclement weather and wear sturdy boots. We may be hiking steep trails for up to 1 mile. **Limited to 12 participants. Registration required** with Stefan at greenfant@hotmail.com.

May 5 (Thurs), 7:30am–12:30pm \$ Columbia County Slough

Join **Marilyn Abend**, **Karen Chaivoe**, and **Dena Turner** for birding in the Columbia County Slough and at several water treatment plants. We will look for spring migrants who are singing and settling into territories. Meet on Sauvie Island in the TriMet Park and Ride lot. Please plan to carpool and drive about 40 miles round trip. A \$3 parking fee required for the Port of St. Helens. **Limited to 18 participants. Registration required** with Marilyn at abendlaugher@gmail.com or Dena at denaturn62@gmail.com.

May 6 (Fri), 7am–9:30am Cooper Mountain Nature Park

Join **Sue Carr** and **Bonnie Deneke** to explore the park's forest, oak woodland, and prairie to find songbirds in their best breeding plumage. Please note that some trails are steep. The park is at 18892 SW Kemmer Rd, Beaverton, or call Sue at 503-313-8086 for directions.

May 7 (Sat), 8am–11am Larch Mountain

Join **Tim Shelmerdine** as we explore montane habitats in eastern Multnomah County looking for such interesting species as Gray Jay, Hermit and other warblers, and listening for booming Sooty Grouse. We'll meet at the Troutdale Outlet Mall at 8am. Dress for weather, beginners welcome. **Registration encouraged.** Call Tim at 971-221-2534 with questions and to sign up.

May 7 (Sat), 8am–11am Powell Butte Nature Park

Come celebrate the Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial and enjoy a bird walk led by local naturalists **Dena Turner** and **Mary Ratcliff**. A USFWS staff person will join us and discuss the landmark Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial celebration. We will explore the park's unique habitats looking for migrants and resident birds alike. Meet at 8am at the north parking lot (up SE 162nd from Powell Blvd). Bring binoculars and dress for weather. Families are welcome! **Limited to 25 participants. Registration required** at bit.ly/BirdWalk2016



May 12 (Thurs), 8am–10:30am Tualatin River NWR

The seasonal trails have just opened, so it's time to look for springtime birds on that part of the refuge. We'll have a good chance to see shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and migrant songbirds. We will also view the resident Bald Eagles' new nest to see if there are any eaglets. Meet leader **Barbara Allen** in the parking lot at the refuge's Wildlife Center (19255 SW Pacific Hwy) outside Sherwood on Hwy 99W. Questions: Barbara at 970-209-9209.

May 18 (Wed), All-day Trip White River Oak Woodlands and Rimrock Country

Interested in exploring the unique oak woodland and basalt rim rock country of North Central Oregon? This is your chance to see Lewis's Woodpecker, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Lazuli Bunting, Canyon Wren, and Golden Eagle. We will spend most of our time on the White River Wildlife Management Area around Tygh Valley (south of The Dalles). We will leave the Troutdale Outlet Mall parking lot at 7am. Plan on an all-day adventure, not getting back to Troutdale until after 6pm. **Registration required.** Call **Ron Escano** (503-771-3454) for details and to reserve a spot on this trip.

May 18 (Wed), 8am–noon Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve

Join **Dick Demarest** to search for spring migrants including shorebirds and warblers. The resident waterfowl should be trailing young, and of course the raptors will be hunting. Meet at the Jackson Bottom Nature Center (2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy) about 1 mile south of Hillsboro on Rte 219. Questions: Dick at 503-407-7912

May 19 (Thurs), 7:30am–1pm Ridgefield NWR

Join **Karen Chaivoe** and **Mary Ratcliff** for an early May exploration of Ridgefield to look for migrants, waterfowl, and with luck, Virginia Rail and Sora. We will walk the Oaks to Wetlands trail, then move to River S unit and walk the Kiwa trail. Meet at 7:30am sharp at Carty Unit (290th & N. Main Ave in Ridgefield, WA). **Limited to 15 participants. Registration required** with Karen at kchaivoe@comcast.net or 503-241-1251.

Mondays May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Tryon Creek State Park

Leaders: Rick and Stephanie Wagner

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

Tuesdays May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Cooper Mountain Nature Park

Leader: Hailey Walls

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

Tuesdays May 17 and June 7

Leach Botanical Garden

Leader: Ron Escano

Meet in Leach Botanical Garden Admin Annex parking lot at 6550 SE 122nd Ave (NOT at the Garden Manor House). Go south on SE 122nd from Foster Rd for about a block and turn left into driveway of white building (looks like a house) just before 122nd veers right and down the hill. More at leachgarden.org.

Wednesdays May 4, 11, 18, 25

Mt. Tabor Park

Leaders: Gerard Lillie and Tom McNamara

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

Thursdays May 5, 12, 19, 26

Pittock Mansion

Leader: Wink Gross

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

Thursdays May 5, 12, 19, 26

Rood Bridge Park

Leader: Steve Engel

Meet at Rood Bridge Park (4000 SE Rood Bridge Road, Hillsboro, OR 97123). For more information, call 503-681-6283 or visit the City of Hillsboro website.

June 1 (Wed), All-day Trip Pine Grove, Wasco County

Interested in exploring the unique habitats of western Wasco County? This is your chance to see Williamson's Sapsucker, Hermit Warbler, four species of hummingbird, and much more. We will leave Clackamas Town Center parking lot off Sunnyside Road (off I-205) at 7am. Plan on an all-day adventure, not getting back to Clackamas until after 6pm. **Registration required.** Call **Ron Escano** (503-771-3454) for details and to reserve a spot on this trip.

June 1 (Wed), 7am–5pm Conboy Lake NWR

Join **Kathy van der Horst** and **Sue Carr** to explore this diverse environment at the base of Mt. Adams, with a variety of birds from Greater Sandhill Crane to Calliope Hummingbird. Meet at Lewis & Clark State Park to start the 75-mile scenic trip. Take Exit 18 off I-84, turn south and watch for park entrance. Bring lunch and dress for Glenwood, WA, weather. **Limited to 14 participants. Registration required** with Kathy at kathyfrans@opusnet.com. Call her at 503-233-7143 with questions.

June 5 (Sun), 7am–4pm Lower Deschutes

Butterfly Exploration

Learn the difference between swallowtails, whites, sulphurs, brushfooted, blues, hairstreaks, and skippers as we search for 15 or more species in the mountains, dry canyons, and riparian areas east of the Cascades along the lower Deschutes River. **Dennis Deck** and **Dan van den Broek** will help you find Anise Swallowtail, Gray Hairstreak, California Tortoiseshell, Mourning Cloak among others, while the insects are hill-topping, nectaring, and puddling. **Limited to 14 participants. Registration required** with Dan van den Broek at dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org. More information, including carpooling, will be sent after you have registered.

June 9 (Thurs), 8am–5pm \$ Mt. Hood Lakes

Join **Kathy van der Horst** and **Karen Chaivoe** to search the beautiful slopes of Mt. Hood at Wildwood Recreation Area, Trillium Lake, and Little Crater Lake Meadows. We depart at 8am from the Olive Garden restaurant (8700 SE Sunnyside Rd, at the Clackamas Promenade). Bring lunch and insect repellent. Be prepared to share one \$5 parking fee. **Limited to 16 participants. Registration required** with Kathy at kathyfrans@opusnet.com. Call her at 503-233-7143 with questions.

June 15 (Wed), 8am–11am Powell Butte Nature Park

Join leader **Ron Escano** for a walk exploring the unique habitats of Powell Butte. We will be looking for nesting Lazuli Bunting and other open country species. Meet at 8am at the parking lot at the top of the butte. The park's entrance is on Powell Blvd at SE 162nd. Bring binoculars, dress for weather, and beginners welcome. **Registration required.** Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) to reserve a spot.

June 17 (Fri), 8:30am–11:30am Clackamas River

Join **Karen Chaivoe** and **Mary Ratcliff** to look for birds along the beautiful Clackamas River. We will meet in Estacada and carpool to two lovely spots to look for breeding birds that nest in the area. Meet in the parking lot at Mossy Rock gift shop at 8:30am (398 S Broadway St, Estacada). Questions: email Mary at mratclif@aracnet.com or Karen at kchaivoe@comcast.net.

Fridays May 6, 13, 20, 27

Camassia Preserve

Leader: Jackie Wilson

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

Conservation

Audubon Lawsuit Delivers Significant New Protections for Oregon's Floodplains

By Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

Floodplains are areas along rivers, streams, and shorelines that are regularly inundated with water. They provide important fish and wildlife habitat, increase flood-storage capacity, and protect water quality. In an age of climate change, floodplains provide critical landscape resiliency in the face of larger and more extreme flood events. Unfortunately, Oregon's floodplains continue to be developed at an alarming rate, in very large part because the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides low-cost, publicly subsidized flood insurance that allows people to build and rebuild in flood-prone areas.

In 2009, Portland Audubon and co-plaintiffs Northwest Environmental Defense Center, National Wildlife Federation, and the Association of Northwest Steelheaders represented by Earthrise Law Center brought a lawsuit against FEMA arguing that FEMA was violating the Endangered Species Act by fostering development in floodplains that harmed federally listed salmon and steelhead. Under the terms of the settlement of this case, FEMA agreed to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the federal agency responsible for overseeing recovery of listed salmonids.

On April 14, NMFS issued a biological opinion (BiOp) confirming the assertions made in our lawsuit. The BiOp determined that FEMA's flood-insurance program in Oregon violates the Endangered Species Act by threatening the continued existence of federally listed salmon, steelhead, resident southern killer whales, and eulachon (candlefish). It further found that FEMA's flood-insurance program results in the destruction and/or adverse modification of critical habitat for 16 listed species of salmon and steelhead. The BiOp includes a list of reforms FEMA should make to its flood-insurance program that will not only protect for salmon, steelhead, killer whales, and eulachon, but will also reduce flood risks to people and property.

Without federal taxpayers footing the bill to cover the inevitable damage to risky development in floodplains, much of this construction would not occur. Due to increased losses in floodplains in recent years, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is currently more than \$24 billion in debt. The NFIP identifies 251 communities in Oregon as flood prone. These communities have experienced damaging floods in 41 of the last 53 years. Since 1978, Oregon has made 5,299 flood claims under the NFIP totaling more than \$91 million. Since 1995, there have been 12 flood-related federal disaster declarations in Oregon. These are costs that were directly borne by taxpayers. Oregon currently has more than 31,600 NFIP policies in place totaling more than \$7.5 billion dollars.

The BiOp recommends a series of significant changes to the National Flood Insurance Program in order to comply with the Endangered Species Act and ensure that the NFIP does not push listed salmon and steelhead closer to the brink of extinction. The new guidelines tie eligibility for federal flood-insurance subsidies to better protection for floodplains, including restrictions on development, strong mitigation requirements when development does take place, and new mapping reporting requirements to ensure compliance.

The BiOp will not prevent floodplain development altogether, but it will provide local jurisdictions with strong incentives to reduce unwise development and mitigate impacts when construction does take place. FEMA will need to work with cities and counties to meet a timeline outlined in the BiOp to implement the new requirements in order to avoid violating the Endangered Species Act and



Coho salmon. Photo by Bob Sallinger

ensure that communities remain eligible for the National Flood Insurance Program. It was a long time coming, but these reforms should have a fundamental impact on how floodplains are developed in Oregon in ways that will ultimately prove beneficial for our economy, our communities, and our environment.

The Biological Opinion can be found at <http://1.usa.gov/1Wzwwqu>



Lower Klamath Lake bone dry even as lease lands on the refuge continue to receive water. Photo by Bob Sallinger

Comment on Klamath Wildlife Refuges Management Plans

In the next couple of months the public will have a critical opportunity to address chronic water shortages on the Klamath National Wildlife Refuges. Klamath Basin's wetlands represent some of the most important waterfowl habitat in the Western United States. An estimated 80% of Pacific Flyway waterfowl utilize the wetlands during their migratory journeys, and more than 260 species of birds have been observed on the refuges.

However, in recent years, wetlands in Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge have been allowed to go completely dry. This situation has precipitated disease outbreaks that have resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of birds, and millions more have not had their survival needs met as they pass through the Klamath Basin. A major source of the problem is that more than 22,000 acres of refuge land is leased for agribusiness and continues to receive water, even as the refuge wetlands go without water.

In 2014, Portland Audubon, WaterWatch, and Oregon Wild sued the US Fish and Wildlife Service to force it to complete Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) for the Klamath Refuges. These plans were required to be completed for all federal refuges in the United States by October 2012, but the Klamath Refuges ignored this mandate. The court ruled in our favor, and the Klamath Refuges are required to complete their CCP by August 1, 2016, just a few months away. The CCP will force the Klamath Refuges to make legally challengeable findings that the water allocations are compatible with the primary purpose of the refuge. We do not believe there is any way that the Fish and Wildlife Service can continue to justify the current water allocations.

We expect the draft CCP to be released for public comment any day in order to meet the August court-mandated deadline. It will be critical that the public weigh in strongly to ensure that lease-land farming is phased out and limited refuge water is used for the primary purpose of the refuge, providing habitat for waterfowl. To get involved: <http://audubonportland.org/issues/activists-form>

US Army Corps Begins 2016 Cormorant Slaughter on East Sand Island

On Wednesday, April 7, the US Army Corps of Engineers and US Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services began shooting Double-crested Cormorants near East Sand Island in the Columbia River Estuary. Federal agents in boats are using shotguns to shoot birds out of the sky as they fly and forage. The federal government initiated the 2016 killing season despite the fact that the federal district court in Oregon indicated that it hoped to rule on the legality of the lethal-control program before it began in 2016. Audubon and other conservation groups have sued the Corps, USDA Wildlife Services, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to stop the slaughter at East Sand Island.



Photo by Jim Cruce

The start of the killing also comes just a week after the federal government suffered a monumental loss in litigation over its lethal-control program in the Eastern United States. A federal district court in Washington, DC, struck down the analyses used by the federal government to justify exterminating tens of thousands of cormorants annually east of the Mississippi. That case has striking similarities to the one brought by Audubon and others in Oregon, including that the government failed to consider alternatives other than its preferred lethal-control option and failed to demonstrate any appreciable benefit to the fish that the lethal control was supposed to protect. The federal agencies shooting cormorants at East Sand Island point to the same management plan rejected by the DC District Court as the basis for the slaughter at East Sand Island.

The fact that the federal government would initiate killing cormorants at East Sand Island under these conditions demonstrates the degree to which the government remains fixated on scapegoating the birds for salmon declines regardless of any other factors. Federal agencies have ignored their own science as well as overwhelming public opposition to this mass extermination, so it comes as no surprise that they would also ignore the legal process.

Moving forward after being found to have illegally slaughtered tens of thousands of cormorants in the Eastern United States, and with a court ruling in Oregon pending, is simply unconscionable.

Under their current permits, the Corps will be allowed to kill 3,114 Double-crested Cormorants, 93 Brandt's Cormorants, and 9 Pelagic Cormorants, and destroy 5,247 Double-crested Cormorant nests at East Sand Island during 2016. During 2015, the Corps killed over 1,700 birds and destroyed more than 5,000 nests. The Corps' ultimate goal is to kill upwards of 15% of the entire population of Double-crested Cormorants west of the Rocky Mountains.

We hope for a ruling from the District Court in Oregon soon and that this senseless slaughter in the west will be brought to an end just as it was in the east. In the meantime, we will continue to pursue other avenues to end the carnage.

To stay updated on actions you can take to help, please sign up to be an Audubon Activist: <http://audubonportland.org/issues/activists-form>

Tough Time to be a Tree in Portland

By Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

It should not be this difficult to protect a tree in a city as green as Portland.

Back in September of 2015, Mayor Charlie Hales dispatched his own chief of staff, Josh Alpert, to intervene when a developer threatened to cut down three Giant Sequoias in the mayor's home neighborhood of Eastmoreland. Eventually a combination of protesters and political pressure resulted in the developer agreeing to sell the properties to the local community for approximately \$800,000. One of Portland's wealthiest and most well-canopied neighborhoods was able to retain three stunning trees nestled among blocks already renowned for their trees and greenspaces. At the time, the mayor's spokesperson refused to release details of the circumstances under which the mayor might intervene on behalf of trees—they did not want to encourage "copycat" "situations."

It has been downhill ever since, with the sound of chainsaws never far in the distance. Portland Audubon has been fighting a steady stream of bad tree proposals emerging from City Hall and city bureaus ever since. It has been literally a full-time job heading off the next proverbial chainsaw massacre. Watch out for falling trees, particularly if you live in one of Portland's lower-income neighborhoods.

Just a few examples:

The Eastmoreland Sequoia situation woke Portland up to the fact that our big trees have very little protection. The City responded to public outrage by initiating a process to establish interim protections for big trees until a full review of the City's tree-protection code can be initiated, possibly years in the future. In a process so convoluted that even the Planning and Sustainability Commission complained in its official comments, two different bureaus brought forward interim tree-protection proposals, and the City Council added a third. A confused public tried to testify on a continually moving target, and just when things seemed like they might turn out all right, the Council adopted a last-minute amendment that exempted affordable housing developers from the strongest interim protections. Then the Council took a bad situation and made it even worse by amending the amendment to exempt affordable-housing

developers from even demonstrating that cutting of large trees could not be avoided. The City's new policy regarding trees in its poorest, most tree-deficient neighborhoods—those in dire need of big trees to protect vulnerable populations against inequities like air pollution and urban heat islands—is best summed up as "trust and cut."

To be clear, nobody wants to drive up the cost of affordable housing, but the City had other alternatives. They could have put in rigorous protections to safeguard against unnecessary cutting in affordable-housing situations—instead, they waived those protections. They could have stepped in and used the City's tree fund to mitigate for trees lost in development situations. They did not even consider that suggestion. Instead, they set up a two-tiered system: wealthy neighborhoods with lots of big trees can rest assured that their trees will receive the strongest protections, but low-income neighborhoods with very few big trees now have far weaker protections.

It gets worse: In February, the City issued a programmatic permit to the Port of Portland to cut trees not only on its own property, but which also accidentally allowed the Port to cut trees on other people's property. The blanket permit waived many of the safeguards currently in code. Audubon paid a \$100 appeal fee and challenged the permit. To the City's credit, it recognized the permit was woefully deficient, withdrew it, and refunded our filing fee.

In March, Portland Parks and Recreation proposed a budget that reduced longstanding funding for Friends of Trees to plant trees, and cut funding for inoculations to protect the City's Dutch Elms from Dutch Elm disease—a decision that will result in the death of 3,500 of the City's largest and most beautiful trees in three to five years. Under pressure from Portland Audubon, the city indicated that the Dutch Elm cuts are unlikely to happen; no firm commitment has been made.

In April, the mayor and two commissioners added a last-minute amendment to the Comp Plan to convert 57 acres of wildlife habitat at Broadmoor Golf Course for industrial use. This site includes dozens of giant trees. Again under pressure



Trees at Broadmoor Golf Course, happily no longer on the chopping block thanks to Audubon activists! Photo by Bob Sallinger

from Portland Audubon, three commissioners—Fritz, Fish, and Novick—have now signaled that they will not support this amendment, but it required a massive outpouring of community opposition to get there.

In May and June, the City will take up consideration of the Central City Plan. This plan, developed by the Bureau of Planning and (not so) Sustainable Development, takes the city's newfound fear of trees to a new level of absurdity. It provides exemptions for river industry from tree-planting requirements along the river based on unsubstantiated industry assertions that trees heighten the risk of terrorism. It also eliminates requirements to plant trees in all seven of the designated habitat-restoration sites found in the central city based on the Bureau's belief that the public would prefer a barren, canopy-free environment when it enjoys the Willamette at riverside natural areas.

Sadly, the list goes on. We have already called on you, our membership, to push back on several misguided tree initiatives. In the coming months it will continue to be critical that people in Portland speak out on behalf of our trees and let our political leaders know that we want strong policies to protect our urban canopy.



The rescued owlet back in its nest. Photo by Scott Carpenter

Wildlife Care Center

When Does a Young Animal Need Help?

By Lacy Campbell, Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager

One of the more common reasons we see young animals in the Wildlife Care Center isn't because they are injured, it's because they have been kidnapped by well-intentioned Good Samaritans. This mistake may mean the young animal can't be reintroduced to the parent if they've been separated over 48 hours; the parent may get hurt if it spooks and flies/runs into traffic; or you might end up just taking the animal back where you found it. Don't want to be another statistic? Follow this easy flow chart:



The wildlife care center is open seven days a week. We treat only native injured or orphaned wildlife. For more information, please call us at **503-292-0304** or visit our website, audubonportland.org/wcc/about/nonnative.

Sometimes the answer isn't so clear-cut. Back in early March we received a baby Great Horned Owl that had been found with its dead sibling and destroyed nest in Vancouver, Washington. The bird was soaked, cold, and in need of our help. While it isn't uncommon to find young Great Horned Owls on the ground under their nest (they might get blown out, but they can climb back up!), this bird would have died of hypothermia if left alone. We warmed the bird up gently and made sure nothing else was physically wrong with it before working on our plan: get the parents to continue caring for it. How, you might ask?

First, make sure the parents are still in the area. Later that day one of our volunteers located the nest (or at least

where it had been) and attempted to spot the parents—they were both there. Great Horned Owls are such good parents that rehabilitators have been able to reunite owl parents with their babies (and in some cases even babies from other parents) after over a week of separation. Luckily it took us only a couple of days to stabilize our little patient and get it back to the tree.

Second, scope out the area, find an appropriate place to put the baby back, and do so. The initial tree was close to a high-traffic area, but there were other suitable trees nearby. We placed the young bird on the highest branch we could reach and promptly left the area. Though we did not see the parents at this time, they had been spotted the day before.

Third, go back to make sure the plan worked. The next afternoon another volunteer checked on the bird, and the parents were there! Three weeks later the owlet has tripled in size and is being cared for by the parents. Though the bird isn't out of the woods yet (most raptors don't make it through their first year of life), it got the chance many young ones in our care never do: to be raised by their parents. Young birds learn much from their parents that is difficult to impossible for us to teach them in captivity. If you think you have found a young animal that needs help, please call us first (**503-292-0304, seven days a week**) so we can make sure intervention is the right choice.

Educational Trips

These trips are popular. We recommend that you book early. Trip deposit required to secure your place on the trip. To register, visit our website at audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow the registration link

UGANDA ...THE PEARL OF AFRICA

February 25–March 10, 2017

Join us on this 14-day tour of one of the most environmentally rich and diverse countries in all of Africa. Perched on the equator, Uganda is truly a tropical nation, possessing a moist climate and lush, verdant forests abounding with life. Located between the rainforests of West Africa, the savannahs of East Africa, and the arid desert of the north, Uganda is in a transitional zone, and as such, its avian diversity is greatly enhanced.



Gorilla by Joachim Huber

With over 1,000 species of birds, a full 10% of which are regionally endemic, Uganda is sure to thrill both the novice and advanced birder alike. We'll fly into Entebbe then head for the southwestern region of the country, where wetlands are plentiful, and our chances are good of seeing such birds as the **Great Blue Turaco**, **Pink-backed Pelican** and the highly coveted **Shoebill**. We'll bird Lake Mburo by boat in hopes of spotting the **African Finfoot**, the **Red-faced Barbet** and the massive **Black-bellied Bustard**. Over the next several days we'll bird Mubwindi Swamp and Kibale National Park, famous to birdwatchers around the world. We'll keep an eye out for the **Bar-tailed Trogon**, the **Blue-headed Sunbird**, a myriad of warblers, and if lucky, the **Pink-footed Puffbird**.

Though birds will be a large focus, our trip to Africa will yield sightings of many mammals as well, including Zebra, Giraffe, Elephant and possibly even Lion and the elusive Leopard. Uganda is also home to no less than 19 species of primates, and we will spend time searching for these amazing animals. The **Olive Baboon**, **Vervet Monkey** and the **Blue Monkey** are sure to make their presence known, and we will do our best to find the beautiful **Black and White Colobus Monkey**. Finally, no trip is complete without searching for Great Apes, and we will traverse the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest in hopes of locating a troop of wild **Chimpanzees**, and of course, the rare, gentle, **Mountain Gorilla**. Please contact Steve Robertson at srobertson@audubonportland.org or 971.222.6118 if you are interested in participating or have further questions.

Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director
Fee: \$5695 members / \$6095 non-members
Deposit: \$2800 required to secure your place

BHUTAN

February 23–March 10, 2017

Join Portland Audubon on this journey of a lifetime to the fabled "Land of the Thunder Dragon." We will explore the country's subtropical forests and its high mountain passes of the Himalayas in search of iconic birds such as **Ibisbill**, **Black-necked Crane**, and **Beautiful Nuthatch**. We will visit a reserve where we have a chance to see the national mammal of Bhutan, the **Takin**, a strange, almost mythological beast that looks to be part goat and part bison. Finally, no trip to Bhutan would be complete without a trek to the incredible **Tiger's Nest**, a sacred monastery built on the side of a sheer cliff, offering breathtaking views of the enchanting countryside. Contact Dan van den Broek at dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6105 for more information.



Tiger's Nest. Photo by Arian Zwegers

Leader: Dan van den Broek, Trip Leader & Educator, and local guides
Fee: \$5395* members / \$5695* non-members
Deposit: \$2000 required to secure your place

Trinidad & Tobago April 28–May 8, 2017

With a lush, tropical climate, the twin island country of Trinidad & Tobago boasts the greatest avian diversity of any island country in the Caribbean—over 400 species, including **Scarlet Ibis**, **Red-breasted Blackbird**, and **Blue-crowned Motmot**. We will spend three nights at Asa Wright Nature Centre, where **Chestnut-colored Woodpeckers**, **White-bearded Manakins**, and the fascinating **Oilbird** may be found. Trinidad also hosts nesting **Leatherback Sea Turtles**, and this trip is timed for the peak season of nesting. After six nights we'll travel to Tobago, known for its truly Caribbean, laid-back vibe. We'll bird the hills and coast, then have time to swim and relax on the beach. Contact Steve Robertson at srobertson@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6118 for more information.

Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director
Fee: \$3295 members / \$3595 non-members
Deposit: \$1600 required to secure your place

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.

SOUTHWEST OREGON: ROGUE RIVER & SISKIYOU MOUNTAINS

June 2–5, 2016

This trip explores the natural history of the beautiful Rogue River watershed and the Siskiyou Mountains. The Rogue and its tributaries cut through the forested canyons of southwestern Oregon, providing glimpses into the region's geologic history. Farther south, the Siskiyou Mountains straddle the Oregon-California border, marking a transition between ecoregions to the north and south. On short hikes and easy walks we'll focus on trees, wildflowers, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies and other insects, and geology. And as always, we'll watch for birds! Contact Eric Scheuering at escheuering@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119 for more information..

Leader: Dr. Ivan Phillipson, Portland Audubon Trip Leader
Fee: \$595* members / \$695* non-members
Deposit: \$300 required to secure your place

Steens Mountain & Alvord Desert

October 5–9, 2016

Steens Mountain is one of Oregon's most spectacular natural areas. Rising to almost 10,000 feet high in the southeast corner of the state, this massive fault block presides over alkali desert, oceans of sagebrush, and the wildlife-rich marshlands of the Malheur basin. From our base in Frenchglen we'll explore this diverse landscape as we venture around all sides and on top of the mountain itself. On past trips we've seen approximately 80 species of birds including **Townsend's Solitaire**, **Mountain Bluebird**, **American Pipit**, **Horned Lark**, **Golden Eagle**, and **Prairie Falcon**. We'll visit the Alvord Desert and venture out to Borax Lake, home of the unique and endangered **Borax Lake Chub**. Contact Eric Scheuering at escheuering@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119 for more information.

Leaders: Patty Newland & Candace Larson, Portland Audubon Trip Leaders
Fee: \$845 members / \$1045 non-members
Deposit: \$400 required to secure your place

Australia!

November 12–23, 2016

The trip begins in beautiful Queensland, where we'll bird the area surrounding Cairns, the northern coast, and the Atherton Tablelands, regions renowned worldwide for their avian diversity. Within the first week, you will have explored the jungles, wetlands, and dry scrublands of this unique region in search of the 150+ birds we hope to see. But this is more than just a birding trip. We will also spend *three days and two nights* on the **Great Barrier Reef**, on a certified, live-aboard dive boat. We'll end our trip with two nights in the beautiful city of **Sydney**. This trip is designed to thrill the avid birder and novice alike. Tasmania Pre-trip November 5–12. Please contact Steve Robertson at 971-222-6118 or srobertson@audubonportland.org if you have questions or would like to sign up.

1 space remains!

Leaders: Steve Robertson, Education Director, and local guides
Fee: \$3895* member / \$4195* non-member
\$1995* member / \$2195* non-member (Tasmania pre-trip)
Deposit: \$2400 required to secure your place (\$1000 additional for pre-trip)

OAXACA, MEXICO

December 9–18, 2016

Oaxaca straddles the biological border separating the ranges of northern temperate and tropical birds and as a result is home to well over 600 species! In addition to its rich bird life, Oaxaca is renowned for its colorful markets, vibrant native cultures, and its relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

Our trip begins in Oaxaca City, located in a large inter-mountain valley at five-thousand feet elevation; it basks in a balmy, spring-like climate year-round. In the morning, we'll search for specialty birds of the valley such as **Berylline Hummingbirds**, **Red Warbler** and **Chestnut-sided Shrike Vireo**, and then visit artisan villages, famous for their handwoven textiles. These excursions will lead us through different elevations from pine/oak forest to humid cloud forest, and we'll encounter local species such as **Dwarf Jay**, **Aztec Thrush** and **Collared Towhee** along the way.

Finally, the trip continues to the west and the Sierra Madre del Sur and on to Puerto Escondido and the Pacific coast. We'll be on the lookout for species like the **Collared Forest-Falcon**, **Pheasant Cuckoo**, **Emerald Toucanet**, **White-throated Magpie-Jay**, and **Orange-breasted Bunting**. Contact Eric Scheuering at escheuering@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119 for more information.

Leaders: Eric Scheuering, Adult Education Programs Manager & Candace Larson, Portland Audubon Trip Leader
Tentative Fee: \$3195* members / \$3495* non-members
Deposit: \$1500 required to secure your place

*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

Birding By Ear

Laura Whittemore will help you learn to identify birds by their songs! There's no time like now to begin developing this very enjoyable and important bird watching skill. Three field trips provide the opportunity for repetition, repetition, repetition!

Fee per session: \$100 members / \$130 non-members

Each class limited to 14 participants.

Birding By Ear – Migrant Birds

May 11 and 25 (Wed), 7pm–9pm:

Classes in Heron Hall

May 14, 21, 28 (Sat), 7am–10am: Local Field Trips

Birding By Ear – Nesting Birds

June 1 and 15 (Wed), 7pm–9pm:

Classes in Heron Hall

June 4, 11, 18 (Sat), 7am–10am: Local Field Trips

Warblers & Flycatchers

May 6 (Fri), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall

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

This class will focus on two groups notorious for giving birdwatchers a stiff neck and a bewildered stare: warblers and flycatchers. Local author and guide John Rakestraw will show you how to identify these birds by sight and sound as well as posture and performance. The field trip will visit a local migrant hotspot to solidify your new skills.

Class with Field Trip FULL WITH WAITLIST

Class-only Option: \$14

Nature Journaling: Add Birds to Your Pages!

May 21 (Sat), 10am–3pm: Class in Heron Hall

Explore ways to add birds to your nature journal with Jude Siegel. Easy ways to see and get the essence of that bird! A combination of drawing techniques, simple watercolor, and writing, plus other fun ways to create a unique and interesting journal page! Add to your birding experience with a handmade record. No art experience required, just enthusiasm and willingness.

Fee: \$45 members / \$65 non-members

Limited to 16 participants.

Sketching Birds and Their Surroundings: Easy Ways to Capture the Essence!

Jun 11 (Sat), 10am–3pm: Class in Heron Hall

Artist and author Jude Siegel provides simple approaches for anyone who likes birds and wants to record them easily on paper! Along with some writing, try different ways to capture the gesture, or pose, explore “less is more” with your drawings, and play with a little paint to add some color, as you place your bird in its environment. We will use pen, graphite, and watercolor, simply and effectively, to create a handmade record of your love of birds! No art experience needed.

Fee: \$45 members / \$65 non-members

Limited to 16 participants.

PDX Rocks! Geology of the Portland Metro Area

(Session A): Jun 22 (Wed), 7pm–9pm:

Class in Heron Hall

Jun 25 (Sat), 8am–4pm: Field Trip (transportation provided)

-or-

(Session B) Jun 22 (Wed), 7pm–9pm:

Class in Heron Hall

Jun 26 (Sun), 8am–4pm: Field Trip (transportation provided)

Underneath the MAX lines, rose gardens, and coffee shops of Portland lies evidence of our region's wild geologic past. Thick layers of hardened lava, wind-blown sediments, and flood deposits were laid down over the last 20 million years by an assortment of geologic processes. Some of them, like the Missoula Floods of the Ice Age, were truly awesome in the scale of their destruction. Join naturalist Dr. Ivan Phillipson in the classroom and on a field trip around the city and learn how these floods as well as other events and processes have shaped our city's natural landscape.

Class with Field Trip, limited to 12 participants:

\$95 members / \$115 non-members (transportation provided)

Class-only Option: \$14

The World of Birds 2016

The World of Birds is back! Audubon Society of Portland's comprehensive program is for birders who want to increase their ID skills and their knowledge about birds. With new subjects offered each season, you can learn about taxonomy, migration, breeding behavior, avian physiology, feathers, plumage, and more over the course of a year. Take your skills and knowledge to the next level!

Introduction to the World of Birds

Classes: July 7, 14 (Thurs), 19 (Tues),

6:30pm–8:30 pm:

Field Trips: July 10, 17, 24 (Sun). Trips are two half-day and one full-day; destinations and carpooling TBA.

Learn some of the fundamentals of birding from the field guide to field craft. We will explore a holistic approach to bird identification and help you to build observation skills and get the most from your field experience.

Fee: \$160

Limited to 16 participants.

Ocean Shores, Washington

Class: Aug 17 (Wed), 6:30pm–8:30 pm

Field Trip: Aug 19–21 (Overnight, Fri–Sun)

Join us on this trip to one of the West Coast's birding hotspots, where you can expect to see a bevy of shorebirds and seabirds. A two-hour class on some of the species we hope to encounter will prepare you to get the most out of the adventure.

Fee: \$330, includes transportation and lodging

Limited to 16 participants.

Register online at audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes. For more information contact instructor Dan van den Broek at 971-222-6105 or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

Summer Camp 2016 at the Audubon Society of Portland

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

Call 971-222-6120 to save a place if you are mailing your form.

Grades 6th–8th

Destination: Redwoods

Week 6: July 24–29 (Overnight Sun–Fri)

Hidden coves and mysterious forests await as we explore the lesser-known shores of Southern Oregon and the awesome stands of Giant Redwoods in California's Jeddiah Smith Redwoods State Park. Campers on this unforgettable six-day camping adventure led by experienced Naturalists will travel to California to experience the magnificence of the huge Redwoods and investigate the unique ecosystem of this ancient forest.

Fee: \$430 members/ \$450 non-members

Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator

Grades 9th–12th

All the Way to Monterey

Week 7: July 30–Aug 5 (Overnight Sat–Fri)

Join us on this trip of a lifetime to explore California's spectacular coastline and the marine biology of Monterey Bay! We will fly to San Jose, travel down the coast to Monterey, tour the deservedly world-famous Monterey Bay Aquarium, and spend the first night sleeping next to its Open Seas aquarium. This amazing facility is perched right where land meets sea, overlooking an impressive array of tide pools.

We will venture into the bay on the Aquarium's 65-foot scientific research vessel and observe Sea Otters in their natural habitat, test the quality of the bay's water, and search

for invertebrates in samples from the ocean floor. Try your hand at sailing when you take a turn at the helm!

Along California's awesome shore we'll search for the California Condor, spend time watching Elephant Seals, and camp our way through the week. With a mix of academia and fun, this trip is guaranteed to be nonstop and super-fun, so jump on board!

Fee*: \$595 members/ \$615 non-members

(does not include airfare)

Trip Leaders: Ian Abraham, Camp Director, & Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator

*Includes all meals, lodging, land transportation, and guide fees.

Travel Note: Portland Audubon utilizes the services of Nob Hill Travel, and they will assist with securing airfare for this trip. All students and staff will be traveling on the same flights to ensure supervision and safety at all times. You will receive details on the specific flights we will be taking, airfare, etc. upon registration.

Audubon East Explorers

Audubon Society of Portland Environmental Educators are excited for their **first year** of offering fun, week-long summer camps on Portland's east side!

Portland Arthur Academy, 7507 SE Yamhill, Suite B, Portland, OR 97215
Programs run 8:45 am to 4:15 pm daily.

Grades 4th–5th

Wild in the City

July 5–8

Drawing from the pages of *Wild in the City: A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas*, we will explore unique and surprising places in one of the nation's most livable cities. We will navigate the city in search of urban greenspaces and wildlife. This camper-directed week is sure to amaze and inspire even the most savvy of urban-naturalist travelers.

Fee: \$295 members/ \$315 non-members

Grades 2nd–3rd

Let's Go Birding

July 11–15

Learn how to identify and appreciate the wonderful, colorful birds that call Portland home. Spend time learning how to use binoculars to search out our feathered friends, and build your own bird feeder to take home and attract them to your own yard. Take time with your new flock to create various art projects to complement your new bird knowledge!

Fee: \$295 members/ \$315 non-members

Grades 1st–2nd

Jr. Audubon Ranger

July 18–22

Learn to be a quiet presence in the forest as we sneak about and discover the secrets of local plants and animals. Hear the amazing history of your local forest, and become an expert on how to stay safe in the outdoors. If you love playing outside, learning about nature, and helping animals, this adventurous camp is for you!

Fee: \$295 members/ \$315 non-members

Field Notes

by Harry Nehls

The Barred Owl's Expanding Range

Birds extend their breeding ranges usually because acceptable habitat is open and available, and internal pressure from high population levels encourage individuals to move away from established population centers. One recent example has been the continuing range expansion of the **Barred Owl**.

Originally, the range of this owl was completely east of the Rocky Mountains. In August 1943 one was seen in northern British Columbia. During the summer of 1946 a pair nested in central British Columbia. By 1966 the species had reached the British Columbia coast. Since 1971 it has rapidly increased throughout the province.

The first Washington State record was on October 2, 1965, from Pend Orielle County in the northeastern corner of the state. Another was found October 15, 1968, near Spokane. Since 1973 there has been a steady increase throughout the state. The first Washington nesting record was in 1974.

The first Oregon records were during the summer of 1974 when nesting pairs were found near Troy and Pendleton, both in the northeastern corner of the state. Since 1979 they have moved into all parts of the state, reaching just north of the California border near Klamath Falls by 1981.

Sightings

Migrant **Tree Swallows** began arriving in the Portland area February 9. Randy Hill reported 200 at Ridgefield NWR February 17. Nick Mrvels spotted a **Violet-Green Swallow** among a flock at the Sandy River Delta February 21. Two were at Steigerwald NWR February 20. The main movement arrived a few days later. Randy Hill saw an early **Barn Swallow** at Steigerwald NWR February 20. The main movement arrived during late March along with some **Rough-Winged Swallows**. Wink Gross and Mark Greenfield found a group of **Purple Martins** on Oak Island on Sauvie Island March 28. Craig Tumer reported a **Vaux's Swift** April 3 among a swallow swarm over the Koll Center Wetlands in Beaverton.

There were no major movements of warblers until the last week of March when there was an increase in **Yellow-rumped Warblers** along with many **Orange-Crowned Warblers**. On March 27 David Lantz reported a good number of Orange-Crowns on Cooper Mountain. On March 23 Doug Craig saw an early **Black-Throated Gray Warbler** at the Tualatin NWR. **Common Yellowthroats** arrived in all areas around March 25.

Dottie Belknap and Dwight Porter reported an early movement of **Sandhill Cranes** over southwest Portland February 21. Chris Bennett noted 40 over Westmoreland February 24 heading toward Sauvie Island. Randy Hill reported that a group of 40 **Trumpeter Swans** wintered on

On October 18, 1995, a Barred Owl spent the day sitting in a tree in front of the Multnomah County Central Library in downtown Portland. It appeared to be as interested in the gathering crowd as the crowd was in it. The species has been regularly reported in the Portland Metro area each year since. On September 18, 1998, Jeff Gilligan observed a family group in the residential Laurelhurst neighborhood of northeast Portland.



Barred Owl by Adam Stunkel

Barred Owls can be aggressive compared to the other owl species that live in the Portland area. Occasionally they will dive at and even strike humans who wander into their nesting territory. The arrival of Barred Owls has also been controversial due to their impact on federally threatened Northern Spotted Owls and the Fish and Wildlife Service's experimental program to control Barred Owls in some areas of the Spotted Owl's range. Additional information about Barred Owls and Audubon's position on the federal control program can be found on our website.



Yellow-rumped Warbler by Jim Cruce

the Carty Unit of Ridgefield NWR this year. They were apparently the source of those seen on Sauvie Island from time to time.

A **Ross's Goose** remained at Meldrum Bar Park in Gladstone through early February for many to see. On February 26 Brad Bogus saw one on Sauvie Island. Beverley Hallberg spotted a distinctive **Tufted Duck** among a scaup flock on the Columbia River off the Sandy River Delta April 1. Gerry Ellis saw a **White-Winged Scoter** upriver from there February 7.

Randy Hill reported an early **Caspian Tern** at Ridgefield NWR April 1 and an elusive **Burrowing Owl** at Steigerwald NWR in late March. On March 19 Kathy van der Horst reported the first occupied **Great Horned Owl** nest of the season on Sauvie Island. Up to four **Mountain Bluebirds** were reported this spring at Powell Butte Park in Gresham. A few **Western Bluebirds** were also in the area.

Two **Say's Phoebes** were observed at Powell Butte Park during late March, suggesting possible nesting. Two **Black Phoebes** on Sauvie Island April 2 also suggested nesting.

On February 10 Erica Edwards photographed a bright **Hooded Oriole** at her southwest Portland feeders. On February 10, eagle-eyed Sylvia Maulding spotted a female **Tricolored Blackbird** within a blackbird flock on Sauvie Island. David Irons found a **Rusty Blackbird** among a flock at Woodland, Washington, February 28.

Volunteer of the Month: Kristin Jamerson

by Ian Abraham

Born in Maryland and raised in rural Illinois, **Kristin Jamerson** has become one of Portland Audubon's most dedicated volunteers. Not only has Kristin been an integral part of the Education Department's Sanctuary Tour program, leading tours for grades 2-5, she has given time to Audubon's Sanctuaries Department, taking advantage of volunteer opportunities that take her outside.

In her first year of volunteering, Kristin accrued over 111 volunteer hours participating in programs like Raptor Road Trip, the Backyard Habitat Program, Swift Watch, and the Wild Arts Festival.

After living in Seattle for 20 years and raising her daughter, Kristin moved to Portland and has become a real asset to our Sanctuary Tour program. Her enthusiasm for guiding students through our wildlife sanctuary

is contagious. Her dedication not only comes from her life experience as a life-long learner and birder of 20-plus years, but from the joy that she draws from "working with Audubon staff who are passionate and dedicated about their work."

Kristin's commitment to our Sanctuaries Department is evident in her time spent each Wednesday with staff on trail maintenance, hauling gravel, English ivy removal, and reclaiming the amphitheater for school programs.

Thank you, Kristin, for all of the hours you have given Portland Audubon and for your enduring positive attitude and cheering smile!



Photo by Jamerson Family

West Coast Forage-Fish Protections Mean Big Things for Seabirds

By Ali Berman and Joe Liebezeit

After more than three years of hard work, Audubon Society of Portland and our partners, including Pew Charitable Trusts, Audubon California, Oceana, and Audubon Washington, have secured a huge win for forage-fish species. As of May 4, 2016, dozens of forage-fish species will gain federal protection under a new rule from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The rule bans fishing on species like Pacific Sandlance, several types of smelt, herring, and squid. The new rule also limits allowable bycatch of these species in existing fisheries. These forage fish had slipped through the cracks of existing fishery management plans and were left unprotected in federal waters (3-200 miles off the coast). Seabirds that frequent federal waters off Oregon, such as the Sooty Shearwater, Black-footed Albatross, and Pink-footed Shearwater, depend on these species for survival.

This shift in fisheries management from a single-species approach to ecosystem-based management is great news for the health of marine life. Forage fish occupy a critical place in the marine food web by converting energy from lower trophic levels (i.e., plankton and other small animals) into food for larger fish, marine mammals, and seabirds. Effective management and protection of our marine resources can be done only by taking the entire food web into account.

A second important piece of the new rule is the acceptance of a precautionary approach to management, which reflects the principle that responsible management requires asking questions before a fishery opens rather than after. In the case here, fishery-management-plan amendments associated with the new rule ensure that no commercial fisheries can begin until and unless the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) has adequate scientific information to consider impacts on the species considered as well as on existing fisheries, fishing communities, and the greater marine ecosystem.

With federal forage-fish protections now secured on the West Coast, Portland Audubon turns its attention to protecting forage fish in state waters (0-3 miles from shore). Unlike California and Washington, Oregon currently has no forage-fish policy on the books. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) expects to have a draft forage-fish plan for public review in 2016, and Portland Audubon will work to ensure this plan is effective and helps to protect seabirds that depend on these small but important fish.

Thank You to:

- Barran Liebman LLP for legal services
- Cameron Winery for two cases of Willamette Valley Chardonnay for member events
- Jim Cruce for 28 framed professional wildlife photographs of various sizes
- Ann Littlewood for 36 native plants for the Sanctuary
- Ginnie Ross for 20 heating pads for the Wildlife Care Center

Our Wish List

For Conservation:

- Recreational Vehicle or Travel Camper in good condition for field work
- Small motor boat and trailer
- 4x8 foot exterior grade plywood
- Digital Video Camera

For Sanctuary:

- Loppers
- Pruning saws
- Work gloves

For Wildlife Care Center:

- Science Diet Kitten Growth Bleach
- Dawn Dishwashing Detergent
- Exam gloves (latex or latex-free)
- Paper lunch bags
- Small leather work gloves
- Kevlar animal handling gloves

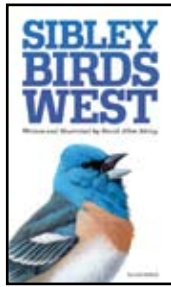
If you can donate these items, please first contact Audubon Society of Portland at 503-292-6855 ext. 102, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.

Nature Store Highlights

A Flock of New Bird Books!

The spring migration season has brought a great flock of new bird books into the Nature Store. We're featuring some particularly noteworthy titles here, but please drop by the store to see the full assortment. We're also happy to take your phone orders, so give us a call at (503) 292-9453 if you have questions or would like a book mailed to you. Your member discount applies to any of the list prices shown below.

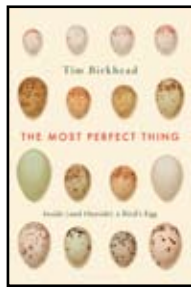
The long-awaited second edition of David Sibley's Eastern and Western regional guides are now available. With fully up-to-date taxonomic information and range maps, and Sibley's famously detailed illustrations, these are essential for the birder's library. The list price for either guide is \$19.95.



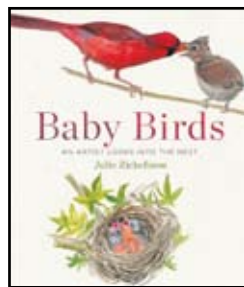
It's back! *The Backyard Birdsong Guide- Western North America* by Donald Kroodsma (Cornell Labs, \$34.95) is now back in print. This wildly popular title was unavailable for several years, so we're delighted to again have stock on hand. The book combines a push-button sound unit with illustrations and text descriptions of over 70 species of favorite birds of the western region. A version for the eastern United States is also available.



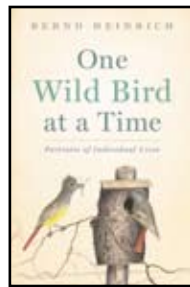
British ornithologist Tim Birkhead describes *The Most Perfect Thing: Inside (and Outside) of a Bird's Egg* (Bloomsbury, \$27.00), looking at fascinating aspects of bird reproduction. His previous work, *Bird Sense*, was a popular title in the Nature Store.



Prominent birding authors Julie Zickefoose and Bernd Heinrich both have new works describing the fascinating lives of common birds. Zickefoose captures the development cycle of nestlings in *Baby Birds: An Artist*



Looks into the Nest (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$28.00), while Heinrich considers *One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$28.00). Both books include wonderful illustrations from their authors.



Going from the commonplace to the extremely exotic, South African writer Vernon Head tells the tale of *The Rarest Bird in the World: The Search for the Nechisar Nightjar* (Pegasus Books, \$26.95), a bird so elusive it may only exist as a wing specimen.

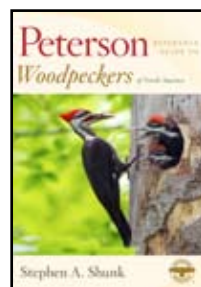
Science writer Jennifer Ackerman looks at the unique nature of bird intelligence in *The Genius of Birds* (Penguin Press, \$28.00), bringing many scientists' recent research on physiology and behavior into a compelling narrative about how birds perceive the world.



Pete Dunne's latest collection of essays is called *Bird Droppings: Writings About Watching Birds and Bird Watchers* (Stackpole Books, \$16.95). Consisting of 33 brief pieces, many of them humorous, Dunne sums up both the joys and frustrations of bird watching. You and your favorite birding friends may well recognize these situations.

His for Hawk, by Helen Macdonald (Grove Press, \$16.00), is now available in paperback. A bestseller in hardcover, it was named one of the 10 Best Books of 2015 by *The New York Times*.

We are blessed with wonderful woodpecker habitat here in the Northwest, especially in Central Oregon, where Bend resident Stephen Shunk is an expert on these iconic woodland birds. His new book *Peterson Reference Guide to Woodpeckers of North America* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$35.00) is a complete guide to North America's 23 species, with extensive photographs and illustrations to accompany Shunk's text.



Rite in the Rain Birder's Journal

Rite in the Rain is the original waterproof, field-tested journal from Tacoma, Washington. The 4"x7" *Birder's Journal* is designed specifically with birders in mind, with a handy anatomical reference on the front inside cover and unique page layout to accommodate trip notes and sketches. In addition, the Nature Store



carries Rite In The Rain field notebooks, memo pads, and waterproof pens.



Nesting Materials

No nest is complete without the appropriate nesting materials. Many species, including chickadees and nuthatches, prefer a layer of wood shavings on the bottom of their nest box. We carry wood shavings that have been screened of fine dust and are naturally soft and absorbent. Most birds are bedding opportunists and will collect a variety of soft fibrous materials to line their nests. Our **Hummer Helper** and **Birdie Bedding Buddies** are made from natural, untreated fibers, including alpaca hair, beloved by hummingbirds, finches, bushtits, and more. Even if you don't have space for a nest box, you can still witness bird activity by hanging one of these within sight during nesting season.



Cards and Gifts for Moms & Dads

Mother's Day is May 8th, and **Father's Day** follows on June 19th! Let the Nature Store help you out, whoever you're shopping for this spring. We've got cards to show your appreciation and gifts to suit almost any interest. Choose from our wide selection of jewelry, bird feeders, native plants, books, and other goodies.



Infant Tees and Onesies

Inspired by beauty, comfort, and simplicity, **Luna** clothing is designed and made in Portland, Oregon, by Karina Potestio. Growing up in Guatemala, Karina learned to sew by deconstructing her clothes to see how they were made. After moving to Oregon, she started sewing skirts for her children, giving sewn items as presents, and taking custom orders for her friends. Now her clothing is carried in shops around Portland, including the Nature Store! Her infant tees and onesies are cushy soft and made of 100% cotton. They retail for \$24.00 (\$21.60 for members).



In the Department of Archaic Technology, we chanced upon a **small** stash of *Familiar Bird Songs of the Northwest*, James Davis's cassette produced by Portland Audubon last century. There is nothing else like this valuable local resource, so if you still have a cassette player, consider picking one up for the very reasonable price of \$5.00, while supplies last.

The Nature Store Celebrates Children's Book Week, May 2-8, 2016, and Beyond!

The Portland Audubon Nature Store will participate in the national celebration of Children's Book Week with an afternoon of nature storytelling and activities on Saturday, May 7 from 12:30 to 2:00, as well as specials on featured children's books throughout the week. We're still planning the festivities, so check with the Nature Store at (503)292-9453 for more details!



We'll have additional storytime events scheduled for the first and third Saturday of each month. These **free** Saturday storytime programs will be available for families with small children through the summer. Come visit us on **May 7, May 21, and June 18**. We feature fun, nature-based children's stories and activities for children **ages 4-8**. Crafts and hands-on nature activities will complement the story, plus there may be a visit from one of our resident education birds!

As a special topic, on June 4 we'll participate in Great Blue Heron Week with the fun wetlands tale of *One Hungry Heron* by Carolyn Beck and Karen Patkau. Come help celebrate Portland's official city bird with kid-appropriate activities! Do the Heron-stick dance!



Join Our Flock — Become a Member

Your membership dollars support our Conservation, Education, and Wildlife Rehabilitation Programs! Memberships help us protect native birds and their habitats, and come with perks such as discounts on classes, camps, and trips and in our Nature Store. You can join online at audubonportland.org/support/membership, in our Nature Store, or send in this handy form.

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:

\$35 Individual
 \$45 Family
 \$75 Wren
 \$100 Goldfinch
 \$250 Warbler
 \$_____ per month Frequent Flyer (first check or credit card number enclosed)

\$500 Owl
 \$1,000 Great Blue Heron
 \$2,500 Peregrine
 \$5,000 Osprey
 \$10,000 Eagle

Payment Method

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

Great Blue Heron Week

continued from page 2

Wednesday, June 1

7pm–8pm: Birding the Willamette Greenway at South Waterfront

Meet **Mike Houck** for an evening heron watch along the temporary greenway trail at South Waterfront. Bring your binoculars and spotting scopes and dress for the weather. Meet on the greenway trail on the Willamette River side of the Meriwether anytime between 7pm and 8pm. Mike will be there with his scope. Take the Portland streetcar, bike, or drive to SW Moody and SW Curry Street and walk to the eastern end of SW Curry and onto the temporary greenway in front of the Meriwether condominiums.

Sunday, June 5

8am–11am: Birds of Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

Meet **Mike Houck** in the parking lot at the north end of Sellwood Park, SE Sellwood Boulevard and SE 7th Avenue at 8am sharp. Bring binoculars and, if you have one, a spotting scope.

Wednesday, June 8

8am–9:30am: Birding the Willamette Greenway at South Waterfront

See Wednesday, June 1, for location details.

Saturday, June 11

8am–10am: Herons of Rock Creek Greenway

Join **Mike Houck** on a hike along Hillsboro's Rock Creek Greenway and explore the wetlands and riparian habitat at the Norm Thompson corporate headquarters on Rock Creek. Norm Thompson is located at 3188 NW Alolek Drive in Hillsboro. Take Hwy 26 west to NW Cornell Road, head west on NW Cornell Road to NW Evergreen Parkway, turn right (west) onto Evergreen Parkway west



Birding the Springwater on the Willamette Trail at Oaks Bottom. Photo by Mike Houck

to NW Alolek Drive. Turn left (south) onto NW Alolek Drive. Turn into the driveway and proceed east through the parking lot and you will see 3188 on the side of the building. Meet Mike Houck promptly at 8am at the entrance to Norm Thompson's offices.

Sunday, June 12

9:30–1pm: Paddling Ross Island

Enjoy a morning on the Willamette River at the annual Ross Island Regatta! We'll paddle through the no-wake zone on the Holgate Channel and Ross Island lagoon, around Ross Island, and back to Willamette Park. We'll watch the Bald Eagle nest and heron nesting colony on Ross Island, listen for birds, and look for river otter. Meet no later than 9am at Willamette Park Boat Ramp to unload your canoe or kayak and get into the water by launch time. The boat ramp is located at SW Macadam and Nebraska St. and has metered parking.

If you are renting a canoe or kayak, make sure you leave plenty of time to get your craft and be in the water ready to paddle at 9:30am sharp. Rentals: Alder Creek Kayak, 503-285-1819, aldercreek.com. Portland Kayak Company, 503-459-4050, portlandkayak.com.



Birding Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. Photo by Mike Houck



Paddling Ross Island Lagoon. Photo by Mike Houck

Showcase Your Outdoor Cat Enclosure in the 4th Annual Catio Tour

In partnership with the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon (FCCO), we're accepting submissions for this year's Catio Tour, September 10, which will feature functional to fabulous outdoor cat enclosures. Be sure to submit your catio to be part of this popular event!

The tour seeks to inspire cat owners to build or buy an outdoor cat enclosure so their felines can safely exercise and bask in the sun. Backyard enclosures keep cats away from outdoor dangers and protect wildlife from cat predation.

Visit feralcats.com/catio-host by June 10 to submit your catio for consideration.

The Catio Tour is part of Portland Audubon and the FCCO's Cats Safe at Home™ campaign, which seeks to reduce the number of cats living outdoors in the Portland metropolitan area in a humane and environmentally responsible manner. Both organizations believe every cat deserves a safe home where they are loved, cared for, and kept free from hazards. For more information about the campaign, visit audubonportland.org/issues/hazards/cats or contact Nikkie West at nwest@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855



SAVE THE DATE!

2016 Wild Arts Festival November 19 and 20

Yes, we're already *wild* about Wild Arts! Planning for our 36th Annual Wild Arts Festival is well underway—the jury process of this year's artists is halfway complete (we'll announce artists in July), and the Book Fair committee has begun reaching out to authors to participate. Of course we hope that all local artists (professional or amateur!) are planning to participate in this year's 6x6 Project—always one of the most popular parts of the Festival—and that all art- and nature-lovers out there will consider volunteering, donating to the Silent Auction, or sponsoring the Festival as one of our "40 Friends" at the \$250 level. Learn more at WildArtsFestival.org, and stay tuned for further developments in the coming month.

Wild Arts
Fest by Anna
Campbell



Major Sponsors to Date



Morel Ink
SELCO Community Credit Union
Elk Cove Vineyards
Grow Construction

Audubon Summer Camp: Creating Connection

Continued from cover

merely a few drops of water can destroy the greatest human machine. They would laugh at the tale of the Titanic, for many humans could not survive the frigid waters Orcas call home. After hearing the story of humans, many would perhaps pity the landlubbers for their ignorance and inaccessibility of the great waters, and would gawk in disbelief if I told them of my experience in the sea (which I previously believed to be a lot!). Although the cetaceans would certainly ridicule the flaws of men, they would still relate, because they themselves had had pitiful experiences on solid ground, for as many human families had lost members to sea leading vessels, as had Orca pods incorrectly reading sonar and attempting to catch prey on land. They would certainly not laugh at the tale of the practices of humanity today—pollution, coral bleaching, poaching, and urbanization. The story of oiled seas, stripped ecosystems, and acidic waters would imminently spell danger and worry across their minds as all hope would seem lost. "But do not fear," I would explain. I would then tell the tale of conservation, the tale of beached whales rescued, that of bays being cleaned of litter, and those of constructed wildlife refuges. I would tell of the crowd of activists ready to bring the world to a better future, one step at a time. This is the story of hope, and the main tale I would tell to the cetaceans, the tale that all Orca-kind would pass on for generations.

Summer camps come in all shapes and sizes. Parents must wade through many exceptional activities offered by Portland-area camps and are constantly looking for the right fit for their child. At Portland Audubon, if we cannot deliver the highest quality with the lowest instructor-to-camper ratio (1 to 6), we will not offer the program. Our focus on these goals not only keeps Audubon campers connected to the natural world in real and meaningful ways but also creates a continuum that sees campers becoming Counselors, Counselors becoming Interns, and interns who are now Environmental Educators inspiring kids to love and protect nature.

Check out page 7 for **Audubon East Explorers, All the Way to Monterey, & Destination Redwoods**

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!**

Zeiss Optics Outdoor Family Days Promotion!

Zeiss Sports Optics is offering exciting **mail-in rebates from April 1 through May 30** on many of their birding and nature observation binoculars. When you **purchase a pair of Zeiss Terra ED or Conquest HD binoculars, you'll receive a \$50 prepaid Visa Gift Card.** The Terras are available in compact 8x25 and 10x25 models with bi-fold hinges (making them small enough to tuck into your pocket) as well as mid-size and full-size models. All have ED (extra-low dispersion glass), and are water- and fog-proof. Zeiss Conquests are a step up in quality, with European manufacturing and a 5-year No-Fault Warranty. They are available in both mid-sized (32mm) and full-sized (42mm) models.



Zeiss Terra 42mm

Purchase **Zeiss Victory SF binoculars, and receive a free pair of 8x42 Terra ED binoculars.** What a great opportunity to get Zeiss binos for yourself and another for a gift (perhaps for Mother's Day or Father's Day?). Check our website (bit.ly/1WbjkG) for models and prices, then hurry in to the Nature Store to claim your rebate!



Zeiss Victory SF

The Joy of Giving Lee Christie and Thomas Keffer Birds at the Center of the Web of Life

Thomas Keffer and Lee Christie of Hood River love to spend time in the great outdoors. Thomas is the founder of Rogue Wave Software, and Lee is an environmental educator and animal lover; both are now active in nonprofit work. They recently raised their annual giving to Blue Heron (\$1,000) level and put Audubon Society of Portland in their estate plan. We asked about their connection to our mission.

Why is Audubon Society of Portland important to you?

We love the big vision. Portland Audubon is effective statewide and it has what it takes to work with the local populace—big vision always comes down to individual action on the ground. We like the way it is involved in the political and regulatory picture, mobilizes members, and works to educate the public.

What is it about birds?

If there's anything we've learned in 40 years of environmentalism, it's how interlinked everything is. Birds are right in the middle of the web of life, in every kind of habitat, in every ecosystem. We like birds, but beyond that, they're a great way to approach a complicated, sprawling problem: they're indicative of the health of the whole ecosystem.

Thinking about buying or leasing a new vehicle? Help Audubon Society of Portland at the same time!

Toyota of Portland's Driving Communities Program

A shared vision to be involved in the community

A desire to give back and a love of Oregon, *drove* Jade Wolff, consultant, and Ishan Ray, digital marketing manager, to create Toyota of Portland's fabulous new **Driving Communities Program**. By creating long-term, mutually beneficial relationships to *drive* dollars back to the community in which they live and work, Jade and Ishan want Toyota of Portland to become the best place to buy a great vehicle AND support causes Oregonians care about.

"People will buy cars from us, and we can distribute money from their purchases. What I like about this program is that customers don't have to pay extra to participate—Toyota of Portland will donate a portion of the profits and help Portland Audubon raise awareness for wildlife and habitats," says Ishan.

Jade offers, *"As a birder and former environmental educator, partnering with Portland Audubon was an easy choice. I know what a great organization it is and I believe in the work they do, and their members care about the things I care about."*

General Manager Mike Kahn, who has supported many great causes through his dealerships, shares, *"The Driving Communities Program has the potential to create a lot of much-needed resources for Audubon Society of Portland and ultimately the community."*

The Importance of Estate Planning

Estate planning will help you achieve your personal and family goals now and after you are gone. Estate planning ensures that your wealth and property go where you want them to go, providing for others according to your values. Every adult should have a will. If no will is present, state law will dictate how your assets are distributed.

The Audubon Society of Portland Legacy Circle

Leave your legacy—a gift from your estate that will carry forward your compassion and love for Oregon's amazing birds and our beautiful lands. When you name the Audubon Society of Portland in your will, you will provide for the future environmental health of our region and the future of the programs, services, and activities we provide.

For over 114 years, the work of Portland Audubon members has resulted in the abundance of parks, forests, and other natural areas we enjoy now. Over the years we have seen how important a bequest can be. Literally thousands of native birds and wildlife have benefited

Lee Christie and Thomas Keffer. Submitted photo



In the 1960s and 1970s there were vast rafts of seabirds off the Oregon coast; now not so much. When you see that kind of decline in your own lifetime, it's shocking.

You increased your annual support recently. Why?

I (Lee) attended a volunteer training day to become a hands-on volunteer at the Wildlife Care Center. I was very impressed by the quality of the work and the caliber of the people—everything I saw at Portland Audubon. It turned out the drive from Hood River was too far to go weekly, but the direct exposure made us decide to give more.

What led you to join our Legacy Circle?

Good nonprofits come and go, but some are not mature and savvy enough to handle a bequest. Portland Audubon's longevity (114 years) means it has the heft to carry on: you can feel secure that your legacy will be cared for after you are gone.



Jade Wolff and Ishan Ray. Submitted photo.

If you are thinking about buying or leasing a new or used car, get in touch with Jade or Ishan with Toyota of Portland's new Driving Communities Program, whose mission is to "drive funds into the community through car sales, trade-ins, or loan refinancing. In addition to their many gas-powered models, Toyota offers a suite of five hybrids, including the 50 mpg Prius. You can participate in three ways:

1. Buy or lease a new or preowned vehicle, and Portland Audubon will receive 1% of the transaction.
2. Sell or trade in your vehicle, and we will receive \$250.
3. Refinance your vehicle loan, and we will receive \$100.

Audubon Society of Portland is excited to partner with Toyota of Portland, a dealership that believes in giving back to the community. To participate, contact **Ishan at 503-473-7617** or **iray@toyotaofportland.com**; or **Jade at 503-444-1561** or **jwolff@toyotaofportland.com** and tell them that Portland Audubon sent you! **toyotaofportland.com/toyota-driving-communities**

Anna's Hummingbird Female at Nest. Photo by Scott Carpenter



from estate gifts, providing us with strategic resources for education programs, for renovating and enhancing our wildlife sanctuary, and for funding our conservation work and Wildlife Care Center. Your legacy gift will help us serve Oregon into the next 114 years.

We would be glad to discuss your giving options with you in confidence and with no obligation. Contact **Ann Takamoto, Development Director**, at **971-222-6117**.

Welcome Our New Development Assistant, Avery Hurst

If you call with questions about your *Warbler* delivery or membership renewals, you may very well get on the line with our new Development Assistant, Avery Hurst. Avery joined Portland Audubon's development team following a move from her hometown of Chicago, Illinois, where she had



Avery Hurst by Claire Stringer

worked for the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance, in both the Development and Programs & Interpretation Departments, for five years. There, she advocated for the Conservatory's historical and unique tropical plant collection by immersing herself in nonprofit fundraising, membership engagement, environmental education and programming, and community outreach. Prior to the Conservatory, she worked for the Chicago Park District's Culture, Arts, and Nature department, leading summer camping programs around and outside the city for seven years. Avery holds a BS in Recreation Management and Tourism from the University of Vermont, with a minor in Spanish.

Avery enjoys travel and learning about different cultures, wildlife, and their habitats. She spent a semester studying ecotourism and natural history in Costa Rica, and followed her undergraduate studies with eight months backpacking across South America. In the past year, she has traveled around Southeast Asia eating, photographing, and scuba diving, and toured the southern United States camping and couch-surfing. She is very happy to settle in Portland with her partner and indoor cat, finding spare time to bike, swim, hike, play soccer, garden, and adopt the fastest growing outdoor sport as her newest pastime—birding. We are so happy to have Avery on our team!

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

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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.

Birdathon 2016— Counting 36 Years Strong!

Ever wish your hours spent birding could help save the lives of birds? Then join us for Birdathon! It's like a walk-a-thon, but so much better. Friends, family members, and coworkers pledge money for you to find and count birds...something you'll likely be doing anyway this spring. Register today and know that every bird you spot will raise funds for their protection!



The Wild Turkeys. Photo by Heather Wilson



Jackson Bottom Ramblers. Photo by Kathleen Kilkenny Moon

We'd love to see each and every Audubon Society of Portland member participate—join a team, make a pledge to a friend or relative, or simply make a Birdathon donation. Together we all **count** to protect birds and wildlife across Oregon:

Donate online at Birdathon.audubonportland.org, or use the pledge envelope included in this *Warbler*. **Join a team**—there are birding trips for any level of birder. See the great trips with available space below, find out how to create your own team—or just fly solo! Follow the links at Birdathon.audubonportland.org.

Half-Day Trips

NEW TEAM! The Fledge

Saturday, April 23, 9am–Noon

Fledgling birders and their families bird with **Xander Patterson, Greg Baker, Tim Grimes**.

NEW TEAM! Greater Peewees

Sunday, April 24, 7am–12:30pm

For new birders seeking to develop field skills with Sauvie Island expert **Greg Baker**.

The Great Big Sit

Sunday, April 24, 8am–Noon

The perfect Birdathon experience for beginning birders with **Phyllis Wolfe, Dena Turner, and Diane Stone**.

A Song in the Morning

Wednesday, May 4, 6:50am–9am

Birding by Ear on Mt Tabor with **Gerard Lillie**.

Whittemore's Whatzits

Sunday, May 8, 8am–1pm

Steigerwald Lake NWR with **Laura Whittemore** and **Mark Fitzsimons**.

Millennial Falcons

Saturday, May 14, 8am–Noon

A trip for birders 30 and under, with **Robin Juskowiak** and **Molly Sultany** at Fernhill Wetlands.

NEW TEAM! Ducking Responsibility

Sunday, May 15, 8am–12:30pm

A paddling adventure via your canoe or kayak led by **Mark Fitzsimons**, Audubon's Birdathon Coordinator.

NEW TEAM! Pintails to Pinots

Sunday, May 15, 8am–1pm

From Tualatin NWR's wetlands to Vista Hills Winery and a tasting, with **Patty Newland**.

The Bountifowls

Sunday, May 22, 9:45am–1pm

Attention birding foodies! A back-stage (or should we say –farm?) pass to a premier organic farm, Our Table Cooperative, with **Barb Grover**.

Jackson Bottom Ramblers

Saturday, June 4, 7am–Noon

Birding with former Audubon staffer **Steve Engel** at this Important Bird Area.

Full-Day Trips

Mult Madness

Saturday, May 7, 6am–7pm

Wink Gross and **Andy Frank** lead a tour of birding hotspots in Multnomah County

NEW TEAM! Weekday Warblers

Thursday, May 12, 6:30am–8:30pm

Sometimes birding can't wait for the weekend! Journey to the north coast with **John Rakestraw**, author of *Birding Oregon*.

The Joy of Birding

Saturday, May 14, 6:30am–9:30pm

A trip to the central coast for both beginners and experienced birders, with **Paul Sullivan**.

Soggy Bottom Birders

Friday, May 20, 9am–4pm

An exclusive birding tour of wetlands with **Ian Abraham, Tim Donner, and Laura Newton**.

Raven Maniacs

Saturday, May 21, 6:30am–6:30pm

Steve Robertson and **Hailey Walls** bird from the city to the sea!

Gonzo Trips

The Wild Turkeys

Friday, May 13–Sunday, May 15

Return to Malheur NWR with **Mike Houck, Ron Carley**, and other notorious birders for the ultimate gonzo trip.

NEW TRIP! Put An Owl On It! – A Blue

Mountain Adventure

Saturday, June 4–Sunday, June 5

A trek in search of owls and other breeding birds of the forest with **Scott Carpenter, Joe Liebezeit, and Rhett Wilkins**.

NEW TEAM! Owl Be Darned

Saturday, May 28–Sunday May 29

A "Sisterhood of Birding" experience in the Cascades with **Hailey Walls, Kayla McCurry, and Christine Jervis**.

Report your Birdathon adventures and follow us at **#BirdathonPDX!**

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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

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503-292-0304
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RARE BIRD ALERT

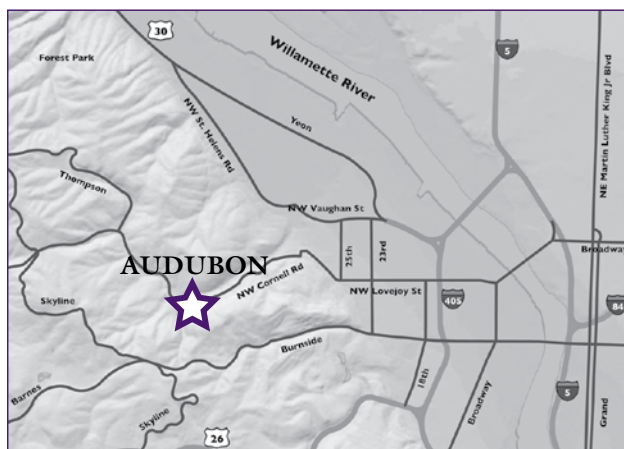
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www.audubonportland.org

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