

## **Birding Bits** *(Continued from Page 1)*

Besides the common lark sparrows, some birds I found in the sagebrush grassland areas included Brewer's, vesper, and sage sparrows, as well as hearing the wonderful song of the sage thrasher perched on a nearby bush. Above the coulee, in a grassland area, I came across a sparrow I never tire of watching sing. It's not the music of the tiny, flat-headed grasshopper sparrow that I enjoy, but rather the energy of head thrown back and the entire body quivering to belt out the barely audible insect-like buzz.

Farther up Moses Coulee, my attention was drawn to the water birds in the lakes and wetlands of the area. One wetland held some early returning shorebirds, including both yellowlegs and long-billed dowitchers. I still can't get over seeing my first fall migrants around Independence Day, but every year there they are again. I was very surprised to find two female Barrow's goldeneyes among the many ducks on these small lakes. Usually I find this cavity-nesting species surrounded by trees, but here they were in a lake without a tree in sight. Later, I found out that these birds are an anomaly, in that they nest in cavities in the cliffs nearby. One of the great pleasures of birding is this constant learning.

## **Proposed LNG Terminal at Bradwood**

*Updates from Gloria G. MacKenzie, Director at Large*

Support was requested from the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health. See document dated June 27, 2007 at <http://www.westcoastoceans.gov/documents/>

The July 10th Clatsop County Planning Commission public hearing was a full day of testimony from both sides. The main issues of the proposed zoning changes were addressed, as were many other issues not directly pertinent to the permitting process: safety, jobs, and pipelines.

The number of people wishing to testify (153 people against the project, and an additional 73 in favor) resulted in scheduling a second meeting for a week later, which ran an additional 8+/- hours.

The Clatsop County Planning Commission did a very credible and fair job giving both sides a chance to present their case.

A tie-in with NW Natural (and additional pipelines) was made apparent with a marketing representative

sitting next to Senior VP Gary Coppedge and the attorney for NorthernStar/Bradwood Landing [NSNG/BL].

Rebuttals to both sessions of public hearings were accepted until the 5th of August 2007 with NSNG/BL having a chance to respond up until 15 August 2007.

In addition to the Planning Commission Staff Report recommendation for Denial, PBS&J, the engineering firm performing a safety study, have also recommended Denial based on the unsuitability of Clifton Road.

Clatsop County Planning Commission will meet on 29 August 2007 at 10AM to formulate a recommendation to the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners.

Clatsop County is apparently retaining planning consultant Mitch Rohse until the end of the year. This would seem to indicate that they expect the matter to continue at least until then.

More coverage of the public hearing is at Daily Astorian blog site: <http://www.dailyastorian.com/main.asp?SectionID=133&SubSectionID=1034>

AUGUST 13 A six-day West Coast Convergence for Climate Action featured issues on climate change. During their stay, the out-of-town visitors used low impact camping systems in Skamakowa and the local area. On Monday, the event concluded with approximately 100 people from the edge of Puget Island to the low water mark of Bradwood, Oregon demonstrating against LNG and fossil-fuel. The event was covered by local television. Details at The Daily Astorian.

On 8/17/2007, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Washington D.C., published the following issuance:  
Docket(s): CP06-365-000  
CP06-366-000  
Description: Draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding the Bradwood Landing Project under CP06-365 et al.  
You can view the issuance at: [http://elibrary.FERC.gov/idmws/file\\_list.asp?accession\\_num=20070817-4000](http://elibrary.FERC.gov/idmws/file_list.asp?accession_num=20070817-4000).