

# WILLAPA WHISTLER

A Publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society

Volume 37 // Issue 6

November /December 2011

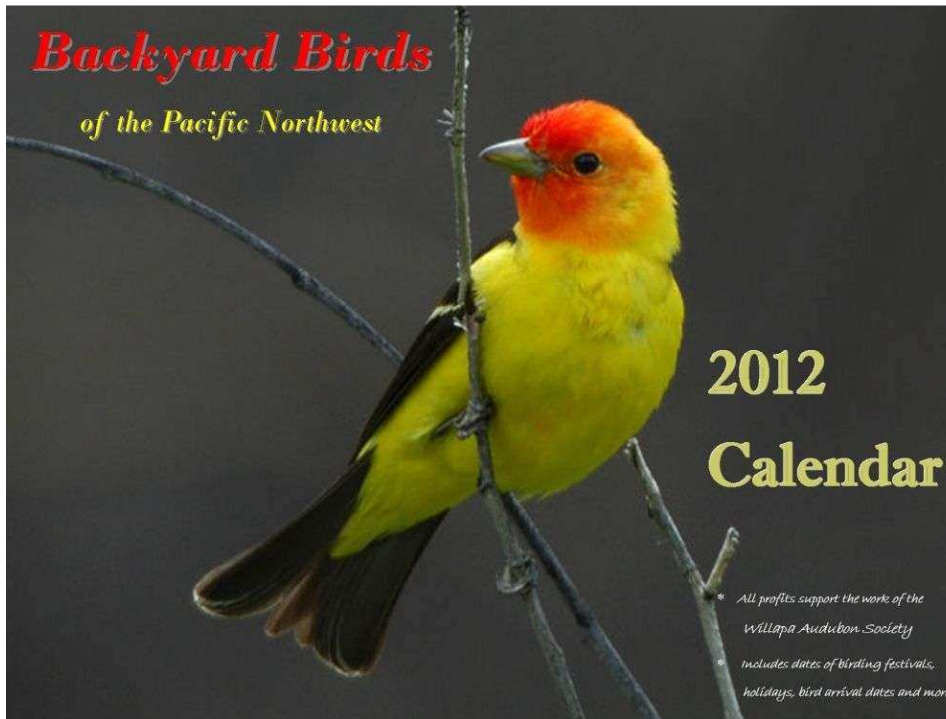


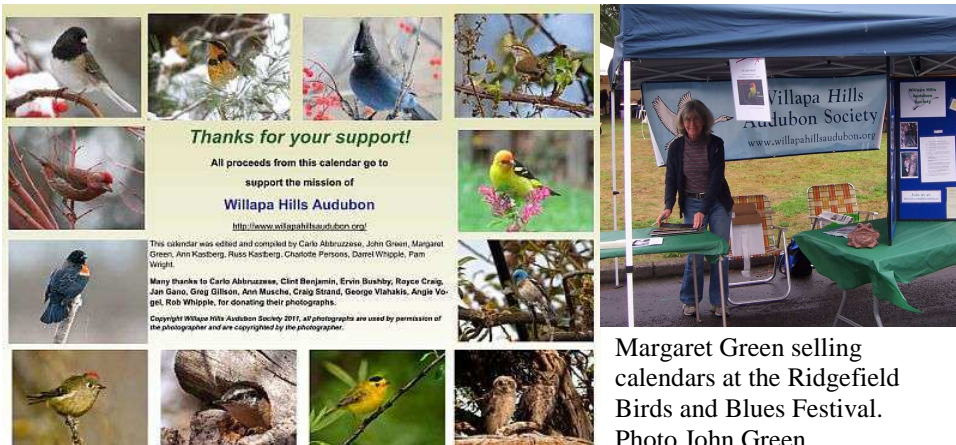
Image: Carlo Abbruzzese

## WHAS 2012 Backyard Bird Calendar

Our second annual calendar sale is now going on. You can help, as members of WHAS, by both buying and selling our calendar. Need a calendar yourself? Have a friend who needs a good calendar? Know someone who would sell calendars for us?

Calendars, only \$10, are available by contacting Margaret at 360-575-9238 or from local vendors. More information about the calendar is available by visiting [www.willapahillsaudubon.org/](http://www.willapahillsaudubon.org/).

The calendar is full-color, 13 months, featuring birds you are likely to see in your own backyard. There is lots of room for making notes, tips about how to attract birds to your backyard, and important dates, such as local bird events and when you can expect local birds to arrive for the season. The pictures were donated by local Northwest photographers. We thank you for your support. Funds raised will be used by your chapter for conservation and education activities



Margaret Green selling calendars at the Ridgefield Birds and Blues Festival. Photo John Green

## What's happening?

WHAS will again sponsor three 2011 Christmas Bird Counts in the local area. The counts are part of a larger effort led by Audubon chapters throughout the nation during a two-week window around the Christmas holiday.

The mission of each Bird Count is to identify, count, and record as many different bird species as you see in a particular area. You don't have to stay in one spot all day, nor participate all day long.

The success of the count depends on the intensive effort of participants willing to volunteer to spend the whole day in the field, regardless of weather, counting all the birds in their group's assigned count area. That's the ideal, but people have busy lives....come for a few hours if that is all you have time for. It's a serious commitment, and a lot of fun!

**Check page four for details about the local CBS's.**

November and December will bring some exciting programs and field trips. Listen to *Columbia River Gorge Commissioner Judy Davis in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area act*, enjoy *Noah Strycker's presentation about penguins in Antarctica* and attend the 5<sup>th</sup> annual *Lake Sacajawea Bird Walk and Social* in Longview.

**For more information about the events see the back side of the Whistler and watch our website.**

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## Support our mission, join WHAS today!

### Check type of Membership:

- ☐ New Chapter Membership **WHAS** (\$20 check for annual membership)
- ☐ Renewal Chapter Membership **WHAS** (\$20 check for annual membership)
- ☐ I would like to support the work of Willapa Hills Audubon Society.

Enclosed is my additional donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Membership includes 6 issues of our newsletter *WILLAPA WHISTLER* annually.

We are a 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation. All dues and donations are tax deductible

For membership in National Audubon Society visit <http://www.audubon.org/>.

Please make your check payable to:

WILLAPA HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY or WHAS and mail to:

**WHAS-Membership, PO Box 399, Longview, WA 98632.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Y14:7XCH rev. 2007

### Thank you for supporting your local Audubon chapter -- Willapa Hills Audubon Society!

We will not share your contact information with anyone.

\*) To announce **occasional** reminders and to communicate last minute schedule changes due to weather or other issues for WHAS programs and field trips.

\*\*) **Not active at this time** -- To allow members to announce and discuss items of general interest.

----- -Clip

Please indicate any **new** information:

I prefer you contact me by:

- ☐ Phone
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Mail

Other options:

- ☐ I prefer to receive the *WHISTLER* by email  
(Add your email address below)
- ☐ Contact me about volunteer opportunities
- ☐ Add me to your announcement email list\*
- ☐ ~~Add me to your discussion email list\*\*~~

#### OFFICERS

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**Wildlife Sightings:** **John Green**  
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360-423-7004 webmaster@willapahillsaudubon.org

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### OTHER

### WHAS Board Meeting

**By Larry Brandt**

The 4th quarter Board of Director's meeting will be held on Saturday, November 5 beginning at 10:00 AM.

This is an important meeting since we will discuss reformation of the Washington state Audubon.

What does WHAS want and need from a state Audubon?

Contact Larry Brandt for more information.

### Faked Renewal Notices for Audubon

**By Betty Mayfield**

Recently I received a renewal notice for Audubon asking me to make out a check to PBC and send it to Publishers Billing Center, 216 Lemmon Drive #357, Reno, Nevada 89506. This looked like a fraudulent billing, and I was getting ready to write a warning letter to Audubon when I decided to look up the company in Google.

There were several complaints that it was fraudulent, including one from Audubon itself, saying that at least five members had received this solicitation. Audubon also said that I should report it to my postmaster and attorney general and call the Audubon customer service number at 1-800-274-4201.

The Audubon warning said that there were nine companies with similar names sending out fraudulent membership notices. The ads seemed to be directed at small, special interest publications, not the general interest ones like Newsweek.



## Update on Indian Jack Slough / Nelson Creek

By Russ Kastberg

In 2007, Willapa Hills Audubon Society and Columbia Land Trust signed a partnership agreement to restore the Indian Jack Slough property, owned by CLT, in Wahkiakum County. Since then WHAS has spent hundreds of volunteer hours

surveying plants, amphibians, birds, mammals, invertebrates and fish populations. In addition, we have demolished buildings, built and installed bird houses, and planted native plants. A lot has happened!

The 185 acre site was an old farm dating back to 1900. Prior to that it was historically tidal wetlands associated with the Columbia River. About 20 acres, outside the dike at the east end, is the original spruce swamp, typical of what this area was like before the dikes were built. Deep drainage ditches were installed in order to farm the property. Eventually, the property was converted to a hybrid poplar stand, with mixed success. A majority of the property is now wetland covered with reed canary grass and poplar.



WHAS members Pam Wright and Linda Jennings receive survey protocol information from Dan Friesz, Columbia Land Trust Steward

The restoration goal is to create more natural wildlife habitat, focusing on Columbia white tailed deer, elk, and waterfowl. This fall marks the completion of Phase 1 of the restoration. 50 acres of hybrid poplar has been removed and

planted with native plants suitable for white tailed deer habitat. The planted area is temporarily fenced to protect the plants from elk damage. Approximately 4500 feet of ditches have been filled in and redesigned to a meandering course, draining into Indian Jack Slough. 5 to 10 acres of reed canary grass have been excavated to create associated shallow wetlands.

The August plant inventory survey showed the plantings are doing well despite competition from encroaching reed canary grass. The shallow wetlands and other newly cleared areas are recovering with native grasses, sedges, etc. contained in the native seed bank. It is

amazing that after over 100 years of farming how the native seed bank has survived to be released.

WHAS plans to continue baseline surveys in order to track changes due to the restoration activities. We want to thank Columbia Land Trust for their cooperation and look forward to more activities in the future.

## WHAS helps make Wake Robin Outdoor Learning Center accessible

By Darrel Whipple

At Wake Robin Learning Center along Coal Creek Willapa Hills Audubon members' interpreted bird and mammal features to Longview fifth graders during Forestry Days, October 12-13. WHAS has participated in this program for many years.

Twenty mounted specimens from the Lower Columbia River Wildlife Collection, sponsored by WHAS since the 1980s, were brought to Wake Robin for display from the Lower Columbia College biology lab. Volunteers for WHAS were Ann Cordero, Ann Kastberg, Russ Kastberg, Charlotte Persons and Darrel Whipple.

This year WHAS further benefitted the Wake Robin program by donating \$600 to help cover transportation of more than 450 students to the site. The forested acreage and building are the legacy of the late Joe and Eleanor Lammi, former WHAS directors and longtime members, managed by the Longview School District as an outdoor learning center.



## A message from our Co-Presidents

**By Larry Brandt, Co-President**

Effective immediately, the responsibilities of the Hospitality and Membership Chair positions will be handled by separate individuals. These are identified as separate Board positions in the WHAS Bylaws. Steve and I decided the reassignment of responsibility was necessary because both positions would require more work in the future. Gloria Nichols will be our hospitality chair. She has done a remarkable job of holding down both positions and we don't want to burn her out. We'd like to keep her around. Margaret Green has agreed to assume the membership chair position. Thank you Margaret! She will attend Board meetings as of the November 5th get-together. Her nomination must be approved by the Board.

Elections for new officers will occur in March 2012. We have asked Ludger Wöhrmann to be the Nominations

chair and his wife Deborah to participate as a committee member. Other chapter members are welcome to volunteer for nomination committee work. Please get involved by calling me or Steve! To be elected are the positions of president and vice president (or co-presidents), treasurer, secretary and three director-at-large positions. As you know, other chairs are nominated by the president and approved by the Board.

John Green has been appointed as co-chair of the finance committee due to some health problems of chairperson Betty Mayfield. We hope Betty gets back to form soon.

We thank all these people for supporting and participating in WHAS. For additional information, contact Larry Brandt or Steve Glucoft. See page two for the officer directory.

## Christmas Bird Counts Overview 2011

**By Larry Brandt**

The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is citizen-science at its best. You can help with this effort, whether you have ever gone bird watching or not. You will have the opportunity to meet new people with interests in birds, or spend time with friends from previous years. Observant eyes are needed for that day: the more the better. You can point out where you see birds and experts in your group can do the identifying; if you do know some of the birds in your area, so much the better. This is your chance to help collect the information which will direct decisions in the future, decisions which will affect how much natural beauty, including birds, remains for future generations.

Bring your binoculars if you have some, boots, warm clothes and a lunch, and join us for a day outside, looking closely at some of Nature's most interesting creatures, sharing the day with people who have similar interests.

**If you happen to live within the Count circle you can count birds at your feeder that day.**

For the Leadbetter Point CBC, on the east side of the Long Beach peninsula, for example, that includes the area north of about 195th Street, as well as the communities of Oysterville and Nahcotta, among others; on the west side of the peninsula, the towns of Klipsan Beach, Ocean Park, and others; the CBC circle also includes the Nemah and Palix River areas along the bay

For the Wahkiakum CBC, the area includes portions of the Skamokawa, Puget Island, Cathlamet, and Brownsmead areas.

For the Cowlitz-Coweeman-Columbia CBC, the area includes portions of Kelso-Longview and the surrounding area.

Contact the Count leader for more exact boundary descriptions, and to advise them that you wish to take part. **See the box on the right for details about all Willapa Hills Audubon Society sponsored Christmas Bird Counts.**

### CBC Where and When?

#### **Leadbetter Christmas Bird Count:**

**Saturday, December 18th, 2011**

To be placed in a group for the day, or to volunteer to count at your feeder, contact Larry Brandt, 360-200-4580 or email [birdcounts@willapahillsaudubon.org](mailto:birdcounts@willapahillsaudubon.org). In the field you have chances to socialize with your fellow counters, and when the counting is through, all counters (feeder watchers included) are invited to the Count-In Supper, a no-host dinner and compilation of everyone's results. This joyous event begins at 5 p.m. at the Hunters' Inn, Highway 4 at the east end of Naselle, on the evening of the Count.

#### **Wahkiakum Christmas Bird Count**

**Last Days of December 2011,**

For more information and/or to sign up contact Andrew Emlen (360-795-8009) or email [aemlen@centurytel.net](mailto:aemlen@centurytel.net)

#### **Cowlitz -Columbia Christmas Bird Count**

**Sunday, January 1, 2012**

**A THRILLING START TO 2012**

It is time to start planning for the Cowlitz -Columbia Christmas Bird Count. This will be our 28<sup>th</sup> official year and we hope it will be good weather. Our count will be a part of the 2011 International Christmas Bird Count. We will be out for an 8 hour period covering an area 15 mile diameter area looking for any birds that will let us see them. We hope to have very cooperative birds this year.

**Please plan to join us this year. It is a great way to start out the New Year.**

To sign up, contact Bob Reistroffer 360-636-5125 or [breistrof@aol.com](mailto:breistrof@aol.com). I'll form teams in mid-December unless you form your own team and sign-up as a team. I will get information to all participants when I have teams figured out. I will need good contact info. We will plan to have a compilation potluck at my house 146 Scenic View Dr., Longview at approx 5:00 or earlier if that is how it works out for you. I will get a map and driving directions to all participants.

If anyone is interested in taking over the job of Compiler I will gladly show you how and give you all my records. It is not complicated. Please let me know.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU 1-1-12 !**



## Winter Bird Feeding

Excerpt from [http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/winter\\_feeding/index.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/winter_feeding/index.html)

Winter can be a difficult time for wildlife. Most wild birds rely primarily on wild food sources for their survival. However, many species come to feeders to supplement their wild diet, especially during severe and extreme weather. Some of the hardships wildlife faces today come from changes in habitat brought about by human activities. Cities and towns have removed trees and shrubs where wildlife used to find food and shelter.

These changes have made survival more difficult for many birds. Although feeders can benefit individuals during weather extremes, they do not usually affect population numbers of birds. Nor can supplemental feeding compensate for the loss of habitat. But a feeding program at home, school, a hospital, or retirement home can add to personal enjoyment and sense of well-being, and foster an appreciation for nature and learning.

Birds, like people, have preferences for different foods. These foods can be offered individually or in combination to help attract or discourage certain bird species. Black-oil sunflower seeds appeal to the greatest number of species. Other popular choices are suet, peanuts, millet and corn. Check the table for more details. You can also participate in feeder research (see Project FeederWatch at <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw>).

**Table 1. Preferred foods of some of Washington's most common winter birds.**

Species	White millet	Red millet	Milo	Black sunflower	Hulled sunflower	Peanut kernel	Thistle (niger seed)	Cracked corn	Suet
California Quail	•	•	•					•	
Rock Dove (pigeon)	•	•	•					•	
Mourning Dove	•	•		•				•	
Woodpeckers									•
Steller's Jay				•		•			•
Chickadees				•					•
Bushtit									•
Nuthatches				•					•
Wrens									•
Starling			•						•
House Sparrow	•				•			•	
Evening Grosbeak				•					
House Finch	•			•	•				
Pine Siskin				•			•		
American Goldfinch	•	•		•	•		•		
Rufous-sided Towhee	•			•					
Dark-eyed Junco	•			•					•
White-crowned Sparrow	•			•					
Song Sparrow	•								

### Bird Feeder Maintenance

Diseases are easily passed along at feeders through droppings and moldy seed. To prevent disease, keep **feeders clean, dry, and mold-free**. About every other week remove all seed, fruit etc. and wash with warm soapy water, rinse in a solution of one part bleach to nine parts water, then rinse with fresh water and dry thoroughly.

Frequently remove all the seed from under the feeder to prevent bacteria and mold from growing, which can sicken the birds and attract rodents.

Good feeder management:

- Buy from sources that offer the proper varieties of fresh seed.
- Use feeders that can be easily cleaned and washed.
- Keep feeders (and birdbaths) clean.
- Put only one day's worth of food out on platform feeders.
- Keep stored seed dry.
- Use feeders that are covered or sheltered from the rain and snow, and types that don't allow birds to stand where their droppings will fall into the seed.

- Move the feeders periodically.

If too many birds are concentrated in a small area, they may suffer from stress and increased exposure to diseases. This can happen if too many feeders and an overabundance of food are placed in a single backyard. A large concentration of birds may also attract predators and cause problems with neighbors. Moderation is the key. Too much kindness may not be favorable to the welfare of the birds.

### When To Feed

The two most vulnerable times for birds are during severe winter weather and when young are being fed. For winter feeding, put food out late October/early November when natural food is becoming hard to find. Continue feeding through February and March when food supplies are lowest. If you live in an area with black bear, or in or near greenbelts, put feeders up only in the winter months and discontinue feeding in February.

Check the website mentioned above for more details about bird feeders and bird food.

## Wildlife Sightings

By John Green

It seems that suddenly, as if overnight, our "winter birds" have started appearing in local woodlands and fields, and at our backyard feeders. Dark-eyed Juncos, Golden-crowned Sparrows, White-crowned Sparrows, Fox Sparrows, Spotted Towhee, and Varied Thrush have joined the American Goldfinch who have hung out all summer. The Northern Flickers and American Robins are here from northern climes visiting suet cakes and berries on the holly and other ornamentals and any native fruit-bearing bushes you may have planted.

Soon the visiting waterfowl will begin arriving at our ponds, lakes, and on the rivers. Thousands of Canada Geese and hundreds of Sandhill Cranes have been spotted overhead going south for the winter. If you had your window cracked in the warmer days of mid-October, you may have heard the beautiful sound of Cackler Geese flying by.

So now is the time to listen and watch as nature reveals the change of the seasons through the wonderful wild creatures with whom we share the planet.

### Duckling sightings at Lake Sacajawea

It is unusual for ducks to have ducklings this time of year as well as for them to survive the raccoons which inhabit the lake area. There are perhaps a dozen eggs and 4 or 5 hatchlings as of October 12<sup>th</sup>. As of October 26<sup>th</sup>, three ducklings were still observed with their mother, who appears to be a feral domesticated duck.



Image: John Green

## WHAS will host Noah Strycker's presentation about penguins in Antarctica

By Bob Arnsdorf

Ice, penguins, and the cold comforts of living and working in Antarctica will be featured in a lively slide show by Oregon birder and author Noah Strycker, 25, at a special meeting of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society. The free one-hour "Among Penguins" event is scheduled for **7:00 pm on Thursday, December 1st at the Cowlitz PUD Auditorium**, 961 12th Avenue in Longview.

Strycker spent three months during the Antarctic summer researching and photographing a quarter-million Adélie Penguins. He slept in a tent in below-freezing temperatures, endured howling blizzards, and spent his days in the 24-hour sunshine watching loud, active, and smelly two-foot-tall penguins



go about their business nesting, fighting, incubating, waddling, feeding, napping, sliding, diving, and swimming. Strycker recounts his experiences on the coldest, windiest, driest, least populated, highest, and most remote continent in his new book, *Among Penguins: A Bird Man in Antarctica* (Oregon State University Press, 2011).

A magna cum laude Oregon State University graduate, Strycker serves as associate editor of the American Birding Association's *Birding* magazine, has published photographs and articles in all major birding magazines, has contributed to several books (including "Birds of Oregon: A General Reference" and "Good Birders Don't Wear White"), and works as a bird researcher in adventurous places around the world. Images courtesy of Noah Strycker.





## Book Review

**Moby Duck;**  
**Donovan Hohn;**  
Viking Press 2011

Recent headlines have announced the cargo ship Rena has foundered on the Astrolabe Reef off New Zealand, spilling fuel oil, and cargo containers. The consequences have included, already, dead and injured birds. Nick Smith, New Zealand's environmental minister calls it "the country's biggest maritime environmental disaster."

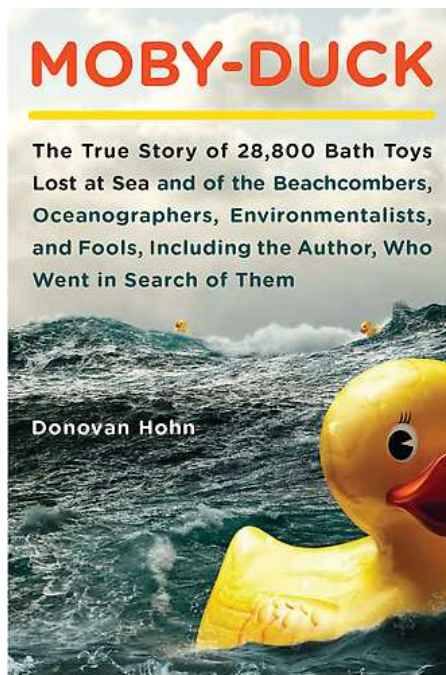
The news story I read did not identify the contents of the containers being set adrift as the boat moves into an ever steeper lean, but the story did put me in mind of a delightful book I have recently finished about another maritime accident in which high seas resulted in containers falling from a ship sailing from China. 28,800 rubber turtles, beavers, and ducks entered the sea that day and the story caught the attention and imagination of a Harper's editor, Donovan Hohn when,

By Carolyn Norred

three years later, they began making appearances on the coast of Maine. Moby Duck is the story of his consequent quest to learn the economic, environmental, and cultural story of these rubber bath toys.

From the Arctic Sea to a Chinese toy factory, Hohn follows the trail of the toys as it involves environmental science, oceanography, history, mythology, and economics. He suffers through horrendous weather aboard a vessel on the Arctic Sea and a sustained sense of guilt over an extended absence from his pregnant wife. His own childhood and his impending paternity weigh heavily in his quest, connecting the abstract of the map with the lived experience.

These connections bring respect and value to the places through which he travels and raises significant questions regarding our response/relationship to our earth and each other. More than a cautionary tale, Moby Duck is a humorous and adventurous journey through one man's psyche, sweet, smart, and well-informed.



## Backyard Birding

Larry Turner

It is transition time. The summer birds are mostly gone and the winter birds have not yet arrived. We have a few migrants and, of course, the residents. Now is a good time to consider cleaning up around bird feeders, and perhaps not cleaning up around gardens.

While backyard bird feeding is not generally a big concern about disease and bird health, it can be a factor. And birds like fresh clean feeders because that means they are more likely to find fresh clean seed and other foods that are put out. Of course, old seed should be removed regularly, but with reduced use of bird feeders in late summer and early fall, seed tends to get old and moldy more readily than when birds are numerous. So a good fall cleaning makes sense. Brushing, scraping and disinfecting are all valuable; especially in our rainy area, make sure any drain holes are clear. It is also neater to remove old hulls and other materials under feeders. We pick some of the volunteer sunflowers and put them in containers on the porch for decoration.

When it comes to gardens, birds prefer things a little messy. A well-cleaned yard may look good, but those old seed

heads, vegetable remains, and other plant materials can provide food. Perhaps as important is the cover that old plants and even weeds provide, including a few leaves left on the ground. A small brush pile, if feasible, can be very valuable to birds as cover from predators. A variety of migrants can be attracted to such food and habitat.

We have been keeping a backyard bird list here for only several years. But this year had a few nice additions. Flocks of Black-throated gray and Wilson's warblers coming through were a particular delight. And we had our first scrub jay – common at lower elevations but not up here in Rose Valley – as well as our first Red-winged blackbird, another common bird but not around our home.

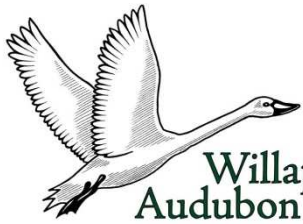
There are three backyard bird lists on Backyard Birding section of the WHAS website. We solicit additional ones. People who are new to the area or new to backyard birding find these very useful regarding what they can expect to see. If you have one that you are willing to share, please contact me at Lturner2@aol.com.

## Birding Trail's Puget Loop Debuts for Holidays



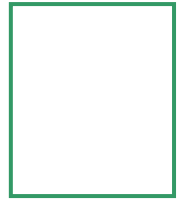
The seventh and final map of the Great Washington State Birding Trail, the Puget Loop, is here. Hot off the press Thanksgiving weekend, this signature route features 220 of 346 annually recorded bird species around Puget Sound from Seattle to Mt. Rainier, plus Lake Washington, Kitsap Peninsula; and Vashon, Bainbridge,

Whidbey and San Juan islands. Travel by car, bus or ferry, or bike or paddle to the Puget Loop's 42 main sites and 18 "more birding" locations for avian highlights: Bald Eagles, Pileated Woodpeckers, Pacific Wrens, Anna's Hummingbirds, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Pigeon Guillemots – and more. Order the Puget Loop, plus all six other routes of the statewide Birding Trail: <http://wa.audubon.org/birds> [GreatWABirdingTrail.html](http://GreatWABirdingTrail.html)



Willapa Hills  
Audubon Society

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Longview, WA 98632



The *Willapa Whistler* is the bi-monthly publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society (WHAS), a chapter of the National Audubon Society.

Complimentary copies are sent to organizations and prospective members. All WHAS activities and programs are open to the public.

Articles, information, wildlife sightings and artwork are welcomed. The deadline for inclusion of material in the *Whistler* is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each even-numbered month. Send your contributions to:

WHAS Whistler, PO Box 399, Longview WA 98632

or email them to

[newsletter@willapahillsaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@willapahillsaudubon.org)

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or pass it on to a friend.

TEMP -- RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## WHAS Programs and Field Trips

WHAS events are free and open to the public (Unless otherwise noted). Check the website for the latest information and updates.

**Friday, November 18: 7pm:** Columbia Gorge Talk in room PSC 102 at Lower Columbia College

Please join Willapa Hills Audubon Society and the Lower Columbia College Biological Society in welcoming *Columbia River Gorge Commissioner Judy Davis in celebration of the 25th anniversary this month of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area act.*

**Thursday, December 1: 7pm,** Cowlitz PUD Auditorium, 961 12<sup>th</sup> Ave in Longview WA

*Noah Strycker's presents about penguins in Antarctica*

Ice, penguins, and the cold comforts of living and working in Antarctica will be featured in a lively slide show by Oregon birder and author Noah Strycker, 25. Check page six for more information.

**Saturday, December 3:**

Join us for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual *Lake Sacajawea Bird Walk and Social*. Participants will meet at 8:30 AM, the morning of the walk. We will spend a couple hours walking the Lake observing winter waterfowl and other local birds. The group will then retreat to the warmth of the Green's for some backyard birding, warm beverages, snacks, and cheery talk. To sign up, call or email John Green at 360-575-9238 or [jgreen2317@aol.com](mailto:jgreen2317@aol.com)

**Saturday, January 21:**

We will explore the trails and the new boardwalk at *Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge*, just north of Olympia. Carpoolers will meet at 7:30 AM in Longview and can expect to return by mid afternoon. Participants should dress warmly and bring a lunch. To sign up, call or email John Green at 360-575-9238 or [jgreen2317@aol.com](mailto:jgreen2317@aol.com)

**Introducing the BI-MONTHLY Lake Sacajawea Bird Walk:**

Lake Sacajawea Park has a species list of 130 birds and is featured on The Great Washington Birding Trail. The Longview Parks and Recreation Department is joining Willapa Hills Audubon Society (WHAS) in sponsoring a bi-monthly bird walk beginning in January 2012. The walk will be held the second Saturday of odd months. (January 14 and March 10 are now scheduled). Participants should meet at Hemlock Square near the playground at 8:00 AM. No prior signup necessary. Bring binoculars for better viewing, though the leader will provide views through a spotting scope, and be sure to dress for the weather. The walks will last approx. 1 to 1 ½ hour.

*The Mission of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society is to support ecologically responsible ways of life, to help maintain biologically diverse habitats, and to promote environmental understanding and enjoyment of nature.*

**Check out our website at [www.willapahillsaudubon.org](http://www.willapahillsaudubon.org)**