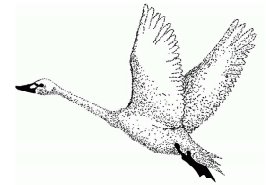


# WILLAPA WHISTLER

*A Publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society*

Volume 34, Issue 5

September/October 2008



## Raising Your Voice Against the Bradwood LNG Terminal

By Charlotte Persons, *President*

Sometimes we feel discouraged in the face of government decisions, such as when the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) placed the discussion for the LNG terminal at Bradwood on their July 17 meeting. It was subsequently removed from the agenda after FERC received many letters in protest. It is still widely believed that FERC will approve the project.

However, the battle is not lost. At the LNG Forum hosted by Rainier Chamber of Commerce on August 14, Dan Serres of Columbia Riverkeeper emphasized that the ball is now in the states' court. They must issue state permits before building can begin, and we can influence the state agencies' decisions.

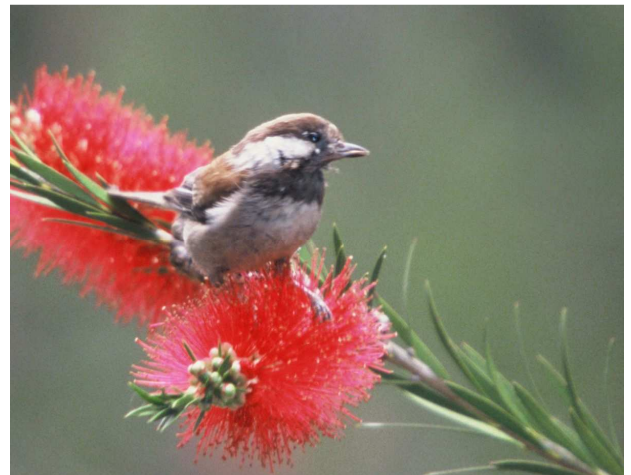
Most of the state permits must be issued by Oregon—a Clean Water Permit, permits under the Coastal Zone Management Act, a fish and wildlife mitigation plan, and surface and groundwater permits, to name a few. The final Environmental Impact Statement that addressed these issues was declared

by Oregon state agencies to be inadequate. While Gov. Kulongoski's request for a supplemental EIS to address these points was denied, your support of his decision will help strengthen his resolve and that of Oregon agencies and officials.

The state of Washington can also influence the decision to site the Bradwood Landing LNG project by exerting its authority under the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act. Many Washingtonians have weighed in against the Bradwood Terminal: Cowlitz County commissioners, both the Cowlitz Co. Democrats and the Cowlitz Co. Republicans, and WA legislators Brian Hatfield, Brian Blake, and Dean Takko.

How can you help? By writing key public officials to let them know how you stand on this issue, especially:

- Gov. Ted Kulongoski to support his decision to oppose the FERC's decision to accept the Final EIS.
- Rep. Ron Wyden to support S. Bill 2822, which he introduced to take the authority to site LNG terminals from FERC and return it to the states.
- Gov. Christine Gregoire to urge her to use Washington's authority under the Clean Water



Chestnut Backed Chickadee, photo: USFWS

Act and the Clean Air Act to closely examine permit applications and refuse to issue them until all environmental issues are addressed.

You can also join community groups that oppose the terminal, for example, LCSC—information is at [www.landownersandcitizensforasafecomunity.com](http://www.landownersandcitizensforasafecomunity.com). Finally, come join the rally Oct. 1 in Olympia—we need to get Gov. Gregoire on board! Contact WHAS Director-at-Large Gloria MacKenzie for details.

Letters, meetings, testimony and comments, letters to the editor—all these strategies over the past two years have been successful in getting the attention of elected representatives. Now we need to continue to let them know that we appreciate their support in opposing the Bradwood LNG project, so their resolve does not waiver.

### In this issue of the Whistler:

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## Support our mission, join WHAS today!

### Check type of Membership

- ☐ 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 the WHISTLER newsletter annually.

If you are also interested in the membership in the National Audubon Society, please visit <http://www.audubon.org/>.

Please make your check payable to: WILLAPA HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY and mail to

**WHAS, PO Box 399, Longview, WA 98632**

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

I prefer you contact me by

- ☐ Phone  
☐ Email  
☐ Mail

Please:

- ☐ contact me about volunteer opportunities  
☐ add me to your general discussion email list

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## Thank you for supporting the Willapa Hills Audubon Society!

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## WHAS Board News and Next Meeting By Charlotte Persons

As many of you may already know, we are losing two hard-working board members, Bea and Jim Harrison. They have been active with WHAS since they arrived from Texas two years ago. Unfortunately for us, they have decided to escape our rainy winters by returning to Texas during half the year. We will miss their board work, but they promise to come to field trips and other activities as much as possible when they are here during our sunny months.

Since Al Clark retired as newsletter editor, Bea has taken over his job. Starting with this issue of the Whistler, Ludger Woehrmann will be our new editor. Please send all Whistler submissions to him at [audubon@rivertimes.net](mailto:audubon@rivertimes.net).

The Nelson Creek Task Force is quite a big job to chair because of the many subcommittees and the hands-on work to collect baseline biological information. Jim and Bea have been quite active in keeping that work on-going; now the task force will be co-chaired by WHAS director-at-large Russ Kastberg and his wife Ann. Both have been busy on this project for years, so have swiftly grabbed the reins.

There are no WHAS Board meetings to report on here as we do not meet during summer; all interested are welcome to visit our next board meeting on October 4, Saturday, at 9:00 in the Riverstreet Room, 25 Riverstreet, Cathlamet (behind the courthouse).

## Bird Feeding Basics (Part 1)

From the National Audubon Society Website ([audubon.org](http://audubon.org))

Did you know that over 100 North American bird species supplement their natural diets with birdseed, suet, fruit and nectar obtained from feeders? Bird feeding can benefit birds and also provides great bird watching from your own backyard. The obvious time to feed birds is in winter when natural food supplies are scarce; however, additional species visit feeders during the spring and fall migrations, and also during summer while nesting.

To keep birds coming back to your feeders in any season provide them with the following three essential elements:

- Variety of quality seed.
- Fresh water for drinking and bathing.
- Ample cover, preferably provided by native plants. Native plants also provide potential nesting sites and a source of natural food.

Keep in mind bird feeders also present potential risks, such as window collisions, predation, and exposure to disease. Following are some topics and tips for safely attracting and feeding birds.

### Choosing a feeder

Following are a variety of feeders to accommodate specific types of birds and their diets. Choosing more than one will help attract more species and avoid feeder congestion.



#### Ground feeders

These simple screen-bottomed trays typically sit several inches off the ground or your deck and help to keep grain or seeds and bird droppings from coming in contact with each other. Some feeders have covers to keep out snow; others may have wire mesh to keep out squirrels and large birds like crows.

Ground feeding tables should be placed in open areas at least 10 feet from the nearest tree or shrub to give birds a chance to flee predators. Doves, juncos, sparrows, towhees, goldfinches and cardinals are all likely to visit ground feeders. Avoid using ground feeders if cats are likely to pounce from nearby shrubs.



#### Hopper feeders

Hopper feeders keep several pounds of mixed seed dry and ready for hungry birds. Birds hopping on the feeder trigger the release of seeds. Hopper feeders should be positioned on a pole about five feet off the ground and will draw all the species that tube feeders attract, along with

larger birds like jays, grackles, red-winged blackbirds and cardinals.

#### Sunflower-seed tube feeders

If you are going to put out just one feeder, this is your best choice. Be sure to select a model with metal ports around the



seed dispensers to protect the feeder from nibbling squirrels and house sparrows. Hang the feeder at least five feet off the ground and try to position it near a window where you can enjoy the visitors, which are likely to include chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, goldfinches, siskins and purple and house finches.

#### Suet feeder

Suet is popular with titmice, chickadees, nuthatches and woodpeckers. Wrens, creepers and warblers will also occasionally peck at suet. While you can hang suet chunks in a mesh onion bag, you can also purchase cage feeders. Some people like to make their own suet "puddings" by grinding the suet and adding seeds, and create homemade suet feeders by packing the mixture into the crevices of large pine cones. Suet feeders can be hung from trees, from poles near other feeders, or from a wire stretched between trees. Avoid feeding suet when temperatures rise into the 80-degree range, as it can turn rancid.



#### Thistle (nyjer) feeder

Especially designed to dispense thistle (nyjer) seed, these feeders have tiny holes that make the seed available only to small-beaked finches such as goldfinches, redpolls and pine siskins. Hang your thistle feeder from a tree or place it on a five-foot pole near other feeders. Squirrel baffles will help to protect the feeder. Choosing your feeder is just the first step. Be sure to read up on these other topics on keeping your feathered friends fed and safe!



### Birding Bits

By Russ Koppendrayer

...takes a break for this issue and will be back next time.

.....to be continued with maintenance and bird food!



## LNG Update and upcoming events

By Gloria G. MacKenzie

After helping arrange a small, but successful LNG forum for the Rainier Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to announce that the Chamber President, Hank Bartholomew has decided the Chamber should help support the cause against LNG on the Columbia River. With his 22 years of experience with the Department of Interior, he spoke eloquently and with knowledge of how the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should work with the public. He further stated: "Having observed how FERC

has handled the Bradwood proposal, I have to say I have never seen a more bungled bureaucratic disaster."

Kimbra Davis, a Community Assistant Technician, from the Pipeline Safety Office in Colorado, joined us for an informative discussion and we now have a contact to ask pipeline questions.

Visit the Rainier Chamber site at:

<http://www.rainier97048.org>

### Upcoming LNG Events to Note:

- Sept. 16: Referendum vote in Clatsop (To decide on pipelines through parks and open spaces)
- Sept. 28: World Rivers Day
- Oct. 1: RALLY IN OLYMPIA, 11:00 am (To get the attention of Gov. Gregoire, buses will be available.)
- Oct. 4: Columbia Riverkeeper fundraiser in Portland
- Oct. 18: 2nd annual Spirit of the River, 7:00 pm Astoria

## Impressions from the WHAS Annual Summer Picnic Potluck



Photo by Julie Tennis



Photo by Julie Tennis



Photo by Bea Harrison

Friends of WHAS shared some excellent food and good conversations. We thank Margaret and John Green for providing the space in the backyard of their home in Longview.

## Shade Coffee Is for the Birds

By Betty Mayfield



Image: Grounds for Change

For all of you who enjoy the sight of an Olive-sided Flycatcher, a Swainson's Thrush or a Western Wood Peewee on your summer birding hikes or like to mark your lists for other summer songbirds, here is a chance to help preserve their winter nesting places. Drink shade coffee! It will also help WHAS.

Seattle Audubon has partnered with Grounds For Change, a coffee roaster in Poulsbo, to contribute 15% of the price of the sale of their coffee to WHAS if we order correctly through the web page.

The migratory songbirds nest in the rain forest trees in Latin America (the Seattle blend comes from Peru), but are in decline as their habitat is lost while acres of the rain forest have been destroyed to allow industrial farming of sun coffee.

Drinking shade coffee is really a win-win-win-win situation. The bird lovers can help protect winter habitat and fight the declining populations. The coffee connoisseurs should know that the finest tasting varieties are grown in the shade, while inferior varieties are grown in the sun plantations. People hoping to practice organic consumption realize that there are no pesticides required on the shade farms - the birds eat the bugs! And social justice reformers can support the small farmers who grow shade coffee

instead of the huge agri-business enterprises that grow sun coffee.

Here's how to order:

- In your URL address bar type:  
<http://www.groundsforchange.com/partners/WHAS/>
- This leads to our page. There are two places to click, but both lead to the same page - one with 5 thumbnail pictures at the top.
- Click the picture for Blended Coffee, which leads to a page of varieties.
- Scroll down and click on Seattle Audubon. This leads to the order page.
- How many 12-ounce packages, at \$8.95 each, do you want and if you want whole beans or pre-ground. As a personal note, I would recommend whole beans, even if it means you have to buy a grinder at \$15 or so. Oxygen and moisture are the enemies of coffee flavor, and beans hold their flavor better than ground.
- Click to see the shipping rates. Here it gets more complicated: The minimum charge for a Washington UPS shipment is 2 pounds for \$4.85, so it would make sense to order two 12-ounce packages - the cost would be the same.
- An even better idea, which the company says many of its customers use, is for a group of friends to enter a group order. This cuts the shipping cost considerably. For instance, if 5 people each ordered one package, the total would weigh 60 ounces. And 4 pounds (or 64 ounces) would ship for \$5.45, or \$1.09 each.

## Elections are coming up!

If we want to protect the environment, we need to get more Washingtonians and Oregonians to vote. The problem is that too few of our citizens do. So what can we Audubon members do to get more citizens to vote (and especially vote for the environment)?

We can remind others of deadlines, encourage voter registration, and spread the word about environmental issues on the ballot to our friends, neighbors, colleagues, and community members. Many young people are not familiar with issues or uncomfortable getting involved in the political process. We can help them. Sometimes a gentle invitation is all they need.

As individuals, we can all do more to build an environmental electorate. It is important to inform ourselves about what is going on locally and nationally. We can look in our backyards for issues we think are important. Read the newspaper, talk to your local candidates, and ask questions!

**Please don't forget to get your ballot into the mail before November 4<sup>th</sup> 2008!**

## Creating a Healthy Yard

### From Palouse Audubon Society

Pesticides are designated to kill or repel perceived pest organisms; they are intentionally toxic substances. It is critical to realize, furthermore, that the vast majority of pesticides are toxic to organisms beyond the targeted pests. Whenever we use insecticides (for insect control), herbicides (for weed control), fungicides (for fungus control), rodenticides (for rodent control), or other pesticides, we must recognize that we are potentially exposing birds, beneficial organisms, pets, and people to risk.

It is estimated that seven million birds die each year because of exposure to lawn pesticides.

Pesticide use is rampant in this country. Homeowners apply an estimated 78 million pounds of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides per year to their homes, lawns, and gardens. Herbicide use is growing at a particularly rapid rate, with homeowners using over 50% more than they did 20 years ago.

As a consequence of such widespread use, pesticides have become pervasive in our environment. A US Geological Survey analysis of 20 major river basins and



Photo: wdfw

aquifer systems reveals that commonly used lawn and garden pesticides are routinely found in surface and ground water throughout the country.

Beginning in your backyard, you can do your part to reduce the amount of toxins that potentially end up in streams, soil,

and food chains. Before even contemplating pest control, make sure you have a pest problem. Learn your enemies. Equally important, learn your natural allies in pest control and welcome these beneficial organisms such as dragonflies, parasitic wasps, and lacewings into your yard.

Before reaching for the spray, dust, or turf builder, consider the many available alternatives. Encourage your neighbors to do the same since what they spray on their yard can drift to yours. If repeated infestations of your plants have you bugged, consider native plants – they're more resistant to pests and are adapted to withstand attacks.

Carefully assess the reason you consider pesticide use at all. If it is for the lawn or other strictly aesthetic uses, find a non-toxic alternative. Remember that birds and other wildlife that visit your yard will be in direct contact with whatever is applied to your lawn.

## Birding at the Beach is Better!

### Fall ACOW



WHAS members are invited to attend the Audubon Council of Washington meeting for fall on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The conference will be held at the Chautauqua Lodge located on the beautiful shoreline of Long Beach, Washington. This is our chance to attend an ACOW meeting that is

conveniently located, and to see fall shorebirds.

The three-day conference will begin with a light day Friday, allowing time to absorb the surroundings, explore the sand dunes and bike or walk for miles on the Discovery Trail following the

beach. Friday evening will include an Education Meeting followed by a reception and evening of festivities.

On Saturday, a field outing will bring you onto the beach to explore local ecology and habitat of shore birds. In the afternoon, a Conservation Meeting will be held at the lodge incorporating regional discussions of habitat preservation and restoration. Saturday evening, join your colleagues in an indulgent Surf and Turf dinner and banquet, followed by presentations from various individuals representing local, state and federal state agencies.

For more information and to download a registration form go to <http://www.discoverycoastaudubon.com>. Registration payment is due by October 1.



## Welcome to the World of Spiders

By Rod Crawford

Curator of Arachnids, Burke Museum, University of Washington.

Do you think you know something about spiders? The chances are good that nearly everything you think you know is a myth! Spiders (nearly all harmless to humans) are the earth's most numerous land predators. Our state is home to at least 900 spider species. This program will introduce you to spider diversity, habitats, and behavior - all fascinating subjects. The program is designed for first grade level through adults.

In addition to the program, a spider identification lab will be held at LCC in room Main 202 on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. Although the presentation is open to everyone and all ages, **space is limited** for the spider identification lab. (If interested please contact Louis LaPierre at [llapierre@lowercolumbia.edu](mailto:llapierre@lowercolumbia.edu) or 360.442.2884 to reserve a space -- all ages are welcome!). Everyone is encouraged to bring spiders from home that they'd like identified, whether or not they are able to attend the

identification lab. Please bring spiders alive or preserved in 70% isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol.

More information about the speaker:

Rod Crawford went to the University of Washington in 1970 as an undergraduate -- and never left. His interest in spiders led him to volunteer at the Burke Museum in 1971, and today he's the curator of arachnids there. He has published widely on spiders, harvestmen, and cave biology, and has edited Scarabogram (a newsletter of The Scarabs) since late 1985. Holding thousands of live spiders in his bare hands has brought him a lifetime total of two real spider bites, both insignificant. Nonetheless, people keep telling him that spiders (who knows why) crawl into their beds and bite them every night!

<http://crawford.tardigrade.net/bugs/authors.html#rc>

Coming on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm -- please check local newspaper, or [www.willapahillsaudubon.org](http://www.willapahillsaudubon.org), or [www.lowercolumbia.edu/calendar](http://www.lowercolumbia.edu/calendar) for the location.

## Special Exhibit in Seattle at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture

Arctic Wings: Miracle of Migration  
September 13 – December 31, 2008

Powerful images by acclaimed wildlife photographers tell the international story of the hundreds of thousands of migratory birds from across six continents and all 50 states that depend on the politically contested Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) for survival each year. Organized by the Burke Museum and Braided River, the conservation imprint of The Mountaineers Books.

For more information, see <http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/exhibits/>



Photo by Subhankar Banerjee

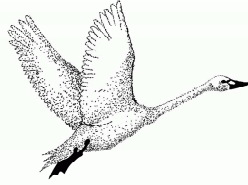
## BirdFest & Bluegrass 2008, Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

Saturday & Sunday -- October 11-12, 2008



Join the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) to celebrate the arrival of fall and the winter bird migration. Besides guided birding tours and walks, and tours to see the sandhill cranes, BirdFest & Bluegrass includes bluegrass and old-time music, children's activities, raptor show, bird market and art show, tours of the Cathlamet plank house replica. For more information, go to

<http://www.ridgefieldfriends.org/BF2008.html>.



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The *Willapa Whistler* is the bi-monthly publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Articles, information, wildlife sightings and black-and-white artwork are welcomed. The deadline for inclusion of material in the *Whistler* is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each even-numbered month. Complimentary copies are sent to organizations and prospective members. All WHAS activities and programs are open to the public. The *Willapa Whistler* is printed on recycled paper using soy based ink.

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## Upcoming Program

**Thursday, October 30, World of Spiders:** Presentation at 6:30pm -- for location check [www.willaphillaudubon.org](http://www.willaphillaudubon.org) or local newspaper. A spider identification lab will be held at 2:00pm. (See page 7 for more information.)

## Upcoming Field Trips

**Saturday, September 13, for Local Birding:** We will try to catch the tail end of the shorebird migration. The main focus will be the Longview Mint Farm Mitigation area, which has become a new birding hot spot. If time and energy allow, we may visit other local birding spots. To sign up, call Russ Koppendrayer at 360-636-3245 or John Green at 360-575-9238 (or email John at [jgreen2317@aol.com](mailto:jgreen2317@aol.com)). We will be meeting at the Longview Public Library, Maple Street side at 7:30 AM.

**Sunday, October 5, for a paddle trip with birding focus:** We are joining SW Washington Canoe Club in sponsoring a morning paddle (canoe or kayak) on Coal Creek Slough. If you wish to join us on the water, call John Green at 360-575-9238 (or email John at [jgreen2317@aol.com](mailto:jgreen2317@aol.com)). Participants must provide their own boat, flotation gear, and snacks. (Note: There are no wayside facilities on the slough.) Exact time and directions for meeting place will be given at sign up.

**Saturday, November 22, for third annual Lake Sacajawea Bird Walk:** This walk begins at 8:30 AM at the Green's house on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, heads to the lake for an hour or two of birding, and returns to the Green's for beverages and snacks, and some back yard birding. The focus will be winter waterfowl and other winter birds. Call Margaret or John Green at 360-575-9238 or email [jgreen2317@aol.com](mailto:jgreen2317@aol.com).

*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.*

<http://www.willapahillsaudubon.org>