

# WILLAPA WHISTLER

*A Publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society*

Volume 43 // Issue 4

Winter 2017



**Pileated Woodpecker**- Image courtesy of Rob Whipple

## Darrel Whipple Given Top Conservation Award

By Steve Puddicombe

Willapa Hills Audubon founder and long time activist Darrel Whipple has been named this year's recipient of the ***Helen Engle Volunteer Of The Year Award***.

The award is given by Audubon Washington each year at the Fall ACOW banquet to a "volunteer who has contributed outstanding service to our Audubon cause at the chapter, state, regional, or flyway level."

The award was inspired by Helen Engle who was honored by National Audubon with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013. She has been a National Board member and a generational force for Audubon in Washington State.

Darrel, who co-founded WHAS in 1975, has crossed paths with Helen many times over the years. "I would see her at ACOW and at the Wenas Creek campouts," Darrel says, "and I had occasion to meet her at her home during the *Take Back Audubon* campaign," the effort by chapters to reform the funding changes instituted by National Audubon without chapter consent, an effort that took Darrel to the National Convention in Kentucky that year as a representative of WHAS.

So when Helen called Darrel with the news he had been selected for the award, he immediately responded with, "Well, hi, it's good to hear your voice!"

But if Darrel's bona fides in Audubon are indisputable (he has served as president, and chair of many committees over the years at WHAS), the main thrust of the award is for his legacy of effort in conservation, citizen science, and especially his dedication to the education of youth.

*...continued on page four*

## WHAS Officer Nomination

Nominations are now open for all officers on the WHAS Board.

*Please see page six for details*

## Christmas Bird Counts

Once again it is time to organize the annual Christmas Bird Count. This WHAS event gives all of us the opportunity to share birding with others.

If you are a novice, it provides a wonderful opportunity to learn from the more experienced birders. This citizen science program is in its 118th year and provides data used to understand and develop bird conservation programs.

Beginners provide extra eyes and experienced birders provide accuracy. If you are joining the group, come prepared for weather and an extended tour: raingear, field glasses, water, and lunch.

WHAS sponsors the following counts:

**Leadbetter:** December 16, 2017

**Wahkiakum:** December 29, 2017

**Cowlitz Columbia:** January 1, 2018

*...more info on page three*

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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 4 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 changes due to weather or other issues for WHAS programs and field trips.

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#### OFFICERS

**President:** Larry Brandt  
360-200-4580 president@willapahillsaudubon.org

**Vice-President:** George Exum  
503-849-4342 gexum@live.com

**Secretary:** Steve Puddicombe  
360-465-2205 secretary@willapahillsaudubon.org

**Treasurer:** vacant

**Director at Large:** John Gross  
360-425-0083 grossenuf@hughes.net

**Director at Large:** Darrel Whipple  
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**Director at Large:** Ann Cordero  
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**Conservation:** Charlotte Persons  
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**Conservation:** Steve Puddicombe  
360-465-2205 secretary@willapahillsaudubon.org

**Hospitality:** Gloria Nichols  
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**Program:** vacant

**Field Trip:** vacant

**Membership:** Carol Carver  
360-849-4324 carver.exum@gmail.com

**Education:** Chelsea Chandler  
chelsea\_chandler@live.com

**Finance:** vacant

**Newsletter:** Ludger Wöhrmann  
360-423-7004 newsletter@willapahillsaudubon.org

**Publicity:** Stephen Glucoft  
360-577-7720 sglucoft@comcast.net

**Indian Jack Slough Stdshp:** vacant

**Wildlife Sightings:** vacant

**Website:** Ludger Wöhrmann  
360-423-7004 webmaster@willapahillsaudubon.org

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\*

### WHAS Board Meeting

The Willapa Hills Audubon Society board will meet in December. Board meetings are open to members. If you would like more information contact any board member (see left).

### Olympic BirdFest 2018

Come Bird in Sequim, Washington, April 10-12, 2018. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction & raffle, gala banquet, and more. The featured speaker this year is: Bonnie Block. Join the festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 4-6, 2017. More info and BirdFest registration at [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org).

### Winter Wings Festival 2018

Klamath Falls Oregon, February 15-18, 2018. Enjoy winter birding and photography at its best in the scenic Klamath Basin located in Southern Oregon and Northern California. They are consistently rated as one of the best organized and friendliest festivals you will find. Come experience it for yourself at the 39th festival! More at <http://winterwingsfest.org/>

### Othello Sandhill Crane Festival 2018

For nearly two decades they have celebrated the annual return of nearly 35,000 sand hill cranes to Othello, Washington every March as they migrate north to their breeding grounds in Alaska. The Festival offers an incredible opportunity to view the cranes up-close, with tours led by local experts.

The 21th Annual festival will be held in March 2018. More info: <https://www.othellosandhillcranefestival.org/>

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### OTHER

## Christmas Bird Counts 2017



### Leadbetter CBC

This is the 118th annual Christmas Bird Count. The Leadbetter Count Circle includes the Pacific Ocean beaches on the Long Beach Peninsula, Willapa Bay's east shore mid-point on the peninsula to the tip of Leadbetter point on the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge and the west side of the bay from the Naselle River north to Bay Center, WA. (See map)

People with any level of birding experience can participate. It is a great opportunity to see shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors and songbirds. Novice birders will be accompanied by more experienced birders so that all data collected is accurate.

Citizen scientist's volunteers, who annually brave the wind and rain, to take part in the Christmas Bird Count makes an enormous contribution to conservation. Audubon and other organizations use the data collected in this longest-running wildlife census to assess the health of bird populations - and to help guide conservation action.

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

For the **Cowlitz-Columbia CBC**, count circle areas include East Oregon, West Oregon, South Washington, East Washington, West Washington, and North Washington. We will be out for an 8 hour period covering an area 15 mile diameter circle looking for any birds that will let us see them.

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



House Finches

*Image courtesy of WDFW*

### Ongoing Citizen Science at home "Project Feeder Watch"

Here is a fun opportunity to participate in bird related research, from the comfort of your home.

The **Project Feeder Watch with Cornell Bird Laboratory** will go from November until April, but one can sign up until the end of February. It runs for 21 weeks and involves counting birds at one's feeders or just in a bird-friendly habitat that one has provided. This is usually done in backyards. Birds are counted for two days every week or two (at least 5 days between a pair of counting days), and the results are submitted to the Laboratory for research and analysis. There is a \$18 participation fee which covers some materials.

You do not have to spend a lot of time watching; some people do it before and after work, or 5 minutes each hour, or whatever structure works for you.

For more information and to sign up, visit

<http://feederwatch.org/about/project-overview/>

See the box below for details about all Willapa Hills Audubon Society sponsored Christmas Bird Counts.

### CBC Where and When?

#### Leadbetter Christmas Bird Count:

**Saturday, December 16, 2017**

Because of the large area, and the fact that we access the west side of Willapa Bay on numerous pieces of private property, Participants will be organized into small groups.

If you want the challenge of counting shorebird, waterfowl, raptors and song birds this is your opportunity. Sometime we get some rare migrants like tropical kingbirds.

If you wish to participate in the Leadbetter CBC contact John and Margaret Green at [jgreen2317@aol.com](mailto:jgreen2317@aol.com) or call at 360-430-8569,

#### Wahkiakum Christmas Bird Count

**Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> 2017**

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

#### Cowlitz – Columbia Christmas Bird Count Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

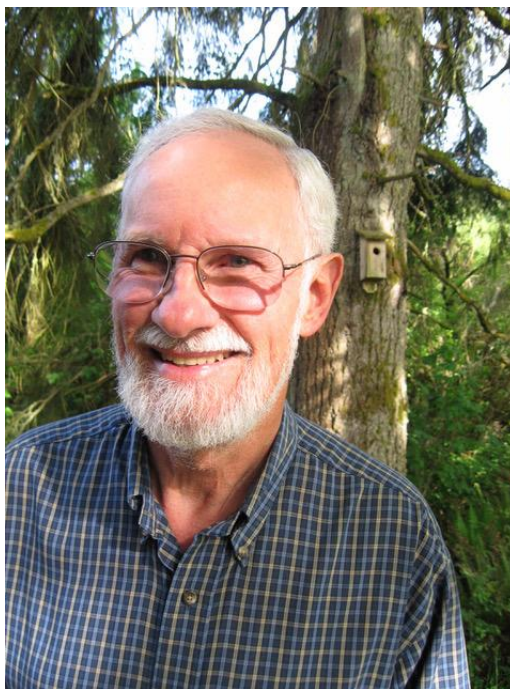
To sign up, call Bob Reistroffer 360-636-5125 or email [breistrof@aol.com](mailto:breistrof@aol.com) He'll form teams or **you can put together your own team for the area of your choice.** (Areas include Eastern Oregon, Western Oregon, Southern Washington, Eastern Washington, Western Washington, and Northern Washington.) Bob will get information to all participants by mid-December when teams are figured out. He has reserved space at Papa Pete's Pizza, 5614 Ocean Beach Hwy for the compilation meeting, arriving between 4:30 and 5pm and will get a map and driving directions to all participants. **HOPE TO SEE YOU 1-1-18 !**



**Continued from page one: Darrel Whipple wins award**

An abbreviated list of his accomplishments was noted in the nomination letter from the WHAS board:

- “Established and maintains leadership of the local mid-winter Bald Eagle Survey in January and the Bunker Hill Breeding Bird Survey in June.
- Chief monitor of the Vaux Swift roost at Carpet One in Rainier, OR.
- Founder of Friends of Fox Creek, established to protect the Fox Creek watershed and salmon-bearing stream in Rainier for the benefit of education, recreation, wildlife habitat and flood protection.
- Founded and directed Rainier School District Outdoor School, which continues to provide a five day resident outdoor experience for every sixth grade student in the district.
- Established the WHAS mounted bird collection and maintained our taxidermy license for years. The collection has featured in numerous educational venues in conjunction with Lower Columbia College.”



More recently Darrel organized Envision Columbia County, an effort to bring citizens together to protect Port Westward area

farms near Clatskanie, OR, from fossil fuel infrastructure development and to prevent unit train transport of coal and crude oil through five cities in the county. His conservation ethic and knowledge has made him a leading voice at hearings and in testimony opposing the many ill-conceived proposals to further industrialize the lower Columbia estuary.

Yet, his fellow birders know the joy he gets from spying a bird on the wing is the wellspring for all his efforts. In April Darrel led a birding trip to Brown Canyon, in Arizona, attended by several WHAS board members and even Darrel's young grandson.

Darrel, now 75, who lives in Rainier, OR, with his wife, Judy, remains a committed WHAS member; in the chapter he helped organize, that is, uniquely, the only chapter that incorporates counties in both Washington and Oregon. “I am so thankful for all the work, the grunt work, done by those who have kept WHAS going year after year. That is what enables individuals like myself to launch

new initiatives and to build projects over time. It also gives us a unified and more powerful voice to make a better future.”

Willapa Hills is pleased that Washington Audubon chose to acknowledge Darrel's achievements. But as we said in our nomination letter, “Darrel Whipple will honor the Helen Engle award as much as it will honor him” Thanks, Darrel.

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## Conservation Update

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By Charlotte Persons

**Exploratory Drilling at Goat Mountain** – Thank you to all who sent comments or signed Cascade Forest Conservancy’s petition on the draft decision by U.S. Forest Service to support issuing exploratory drilling permits to Ascot Resources. The next steps will be a final decision by USFS, perhaps before the end of December, and then a draft decision by the Bureau of Land Management, which is charged with issuing the permits.

**Long Term Conservation Strategy for Marbled Murrelet** – On Nov. 7 the Board of Natural Resources chose an alternative not previously seen in planning documents and not yet completely fleshed out by DNR staff. This new alternative is close to Alternative B, the one most favorable to timbering interests and unfortunately least likely to conserve the Marbled Murrelet over the next 50 years. While a disappointment, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has not yet chimed in on whether this plan will meet the requirements of the Endangered Species Act.

This will happen in spring 2018 after DNR prepares a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement assessing the preferred alternative and submits a draft Habitat Conservation Plan Amendment. So there will be two more opportunities for public comment before the BNR adopts a final MAMU LTCS.

Commissioner Franz will also “convene a group called the ‘Solutions Table’ to find ways to mitigate economic impacts on communities and create more opportunities to help the marbled murrelet outside of the HCPA, which cannot be the only tool used to help the murrelet.”

**Port Westward Expansion** – On Nov. 8 WHAS member Darrel Whipple testified at a public hearing against the Port of St. Helen’s modified application to rezone 837 acres of farmland to industrial at Port Westward near Cathlamet, OR. Stay tuned on this issue.

**Spirit Lake Access Route** - In March 2017 the U.S. Forest Service created a letter asking for input about a proposed route for UTV maintenance vehicles from the Windy Ridge Viewpoint to the tunnel at Spirit Lake in the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. Environmentalists and scientists opposed this route because it would encroach on on-going scientific studies in the Pumice Plain and invite hiking, ATV and snowmobile traffic on the fragile soils of the plain and vulnerable shores of Spirit Lake. An Environmental Assessment published in Sept. 2017 proposed an alternative UTV route from the Johnson Ridge Observatory parking lot, but it would have similar or worse problems. The USFS also failed to show that land access would be more effective than continuing to use

helicopters, which have been used successfully since the 1980's to make tunnel repairs. WHAS sent comments on this EA, and the USFS will make a final decision early in 2017.

**Skookumchuk Wind Facility** - Members of WHAS and other Audubon chapters have been attending meetings, both public and private, with RES-Americas, the proponents of a large wind facility project on Skookumchuk Ridge in Lewis and Thurston Counties. It is in the path of migratory eagles and near Marbled Murrelet breeding habitat in the Snoqualmie National Forest. A Nov. 30 email update from RES's project director Theresa Carrolls, stated that due to input from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, and Audubon chapters, the project may have some modifications. The draft Habitat Conservation Plan, part of applying for an Incidental Take Permit under the Endangered Species Act, will be published soon--we will alert you about sending comments.

**Longview Fertilizer Plant** - WHAS board suggested questions for an Environmental Impact Statement on many safety and environmental concerns in response to a City of Longview

scoping request for Pacific Coast Fertilizer's proposal to build a liquid anhydrous ammonia fertilizer plant. This plant will be on 61 acres in the Mint Farm Industrial Park less than .5 miles from homes and schools. Unfortunately, U.S. facilities have a bad record of explosions and leaks.

The plant would create demand for more fracking; it would use 45 cubic feet per day of natural gas from Wyoming and Montana, four times the amount of gas now used by homes in Washington. Production of CO2 and methane leaked along the pipeline would create more than 1.25 million tons of greenhouse gases per year, or over ten times the state's regulated amount for single facilities, and about the same amount as would be produced by the proposed methanol plant in Kalama. One hundred to two hundred tanker trucks per week would transport the liquid fertilizer to NW farmers, but the plant would only be profitable if it also transported product off-shore to Asia in Hanamax ships. We will let you know when the EIS is published, which may be early in 2018.

## Vaux Swifts in Rainier Oregon

By Darrel Whipple

This is the year that the southbound migrating Vaux's Swifts that drop in overnight at the chimney of Carpet One in Rainier, Oregon, blasted through their earlier record one-night count by more than a thousand birds!

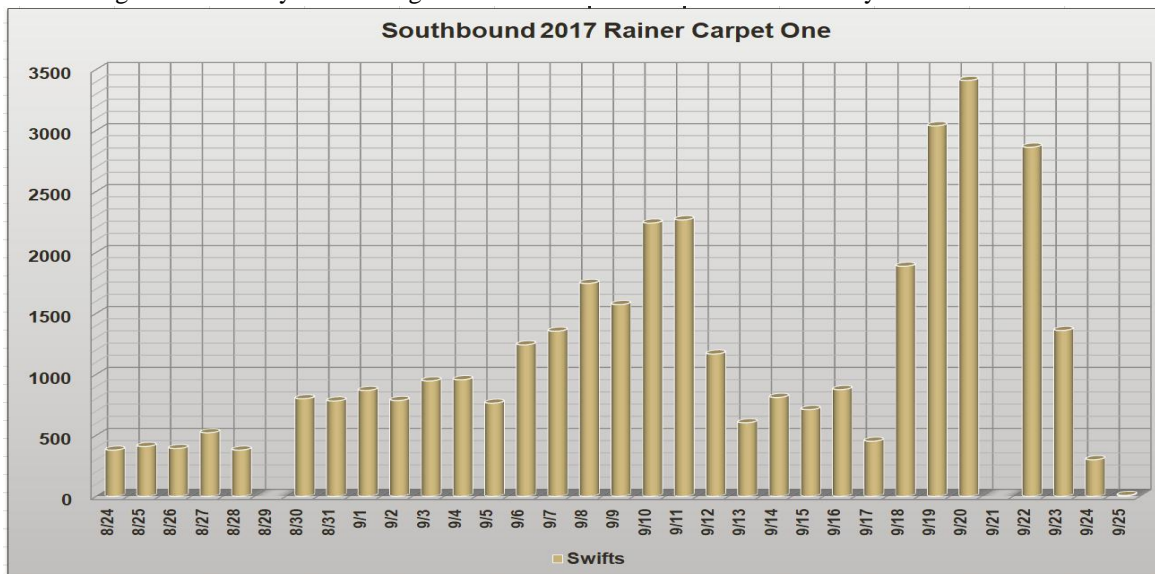
The record was achieved on September 20 when I counted 3,410 little feathered bodies spiraling into the short chimney on the front face of the Carpet One building at the corner of Highway 30 and First Street in Rainier.

The birds have used this chimney for decades during both southbound and northbound migrations. In May the arriving birds roost in available chimneys (or remnant hollow old-growth cedars!) by night and continue flying by day until finally pairing off and scattering into northwest forests for nesting in suitable tree cavities. After raising their young in the summer the parent birds reassemble with others in September and take all their "new recruits" with them to Mexico and beyond for the winter.

All along the way the population of this at-risk species is being monitored indirectly by volunteers documenting the number of "roostings" that occur on sample nights (mostly weekends) at target chimneys regularly used by the swifts. The monitoring is a project of Vaux's Happening and is coordinated by Larry Schwitters of Issaquah, Washington. He compiles my reports and

the reports of dozens of other swift-watchers in BC, Washington, Oregon, California, and Mexico, and compares the stats going back more than ten years. More information can be found at [www.vauxhappening.org](http://www.vauxhappening.org).

I had time to do daily — rather than weekly — observations this September, so I followed through at Larry's urging, in hopes of getting a better handle on whether Rainier's high counts seemed to follow a few days after high numbers were observed at Joint Base Lewis McChord. Are we seeing a kind of wave effect? No conclusions yet.



Larry sent me the accompanying graph of my team's observations ("team" being Linda Jennings, Bill and Juni Roberts, and I) for 2017's southbound roostings at Carpet One. Total roosting recorded here were 35,888.

A short video is available on our website at <http://willapahillsaudubon.org/>

## New Birding Website for Long Beach Peninsula

By Suzy Whitley

There is a new Birding Web Page for birders who want to do some birding on the Long Beach Peninsula. With information on; where to go birding, maps, helpful hints, Pacific County species list, links and bird photographs. Willapa Bay was recently recognized as a "Site of International Importance" for birds in the Western Hemisphere.

As a resident of Long Beach, WA and a member of

Willapa Hills  
Audubon Society  
I have for years  
had a dream to  
have a site where  
the public could  
locate  
information  
about birding  
Willapa Bay, the  
25 miles of  
Pacific Ocean  
beaches and  
dunes and Baker  
Bay on the  
Columbia River and places in between.

This dream became a reality when friends Cheri and Charlie Diehl of Discovery Coast Real Estate agreed to host the

web page as part of their website. You can reach the web page at: <http://discoverycoastrealestate.com/birdinglongbeachwa/>

Pacific County has a diverse eco-system with forest, meadows, seashore, rivers, lakes, marshes, and wetlands. Pacific County boasts over 350 species, and over 250,000 shorebirds birds migrate here. Fall and winter flocks consist of Sanderlings, Black-bellied Plovers, Dunlin, and Western Sandpipers to name a

few. Raptors include Bald Eagles, Peregrine Falcons, Merlins and an occasional winter sighting of Snowy Owls. The beach and dunes host the endangered Snowy Plover and the

Streaked Horned Lark.

It's time to get out your binoculars, field guides and winter weather gear and come to the Long Beach Peninsula to see all of the amazing birds!



### WHAS Officer Nominations 2018

By Charlotte Persons, Nominations Chair

Would you enjoy having a direct voice in running Willapa Hills Audubon Society? WHAS has begun the nominations process for the March 2018 election for members of its volunteer board of directors. The next two-year term for elected officers will begin after elections and the annual meeting, in late March. Besides their particular tasks and projects, board members attend four quarterly board meetings each year—other board business is conducted by email. We welcome members to run for any position or to nominate other members. Secretary and Director-at-Large are particularly good positions for newcomers to the board. The board would benefit from any number of talents and interests, and we hope you will contribute yours.

Please make your nominations by January 10 to fulfill the requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws and to be included in the March 1 Whistler. Clip out this form and mail to WHAS Election, PO Box 399, Longview, WA 98632 or send your nomination to [election@willapahillsaudubon.org](mailto:election@willapahillsaudubon.org)

For further information call 360-431-1174.

President \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Director-at-large \_\_\_\_\_

Director-at-large \_\_\_\_\_

Director-at-large \_\_\_\_\_

### Update on the Natural Resource Center for Willapa National Wildlife Refuge

By Charlotte Persons

For three years the Refuge has solicited public input through surveys, public meetings and a community task force to find out how to serve the needs of Long Beach Peninsula when creating its new headquarters. The result was a bright vision of a facility that will serve Refuge staff, attract tourists, and be a well-used community nature center. In September the Refuge published a draft Environmental Assessment for a plan for phase I (maintenance equipment storage/offices) and phase II (visitor center with views of the bay and areas for displays, large meetings, and classrooms).

Due to space and environmental concerns, the Tarlatt Unit location proposed in the 2011 Comprehensive Conservation Plan was not the preferred alternative in the EA. The new location is in the Riekkola Unit. Construction of phase I is still awaiting final planning and federal funding. Meanwhile Friends of Willapa Refuge has already begun raising funds for phase II. We call on you all to assist and to be generous. Please visit their website or contact

[info@friendsofwillaparefuge.org](mailto:info@friendsofwillaparefuge.org)



## Pollution into the Green River

By Charlotte Persons

On October 7, 2017, three WHAS members and four other people, members of Sierra Club, Washington Trails Association and Cascade Forest Conservancy (CFC), took a field trip to the area of the Green River/Goat Mountain proposed for exploratory drilling. We had some sun and a little light rain, and we enjoyed the brilliant fall color, spotting elk and mountain goats on Mount Margaret, and hiking along the eastern part of the Green River Trail near the horse camp.

Unfortunately, after lunch we discovered what appears to be a thick deposit of Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) pouring into the Green River from a small tributary near the access trail from the Green River Horse Camp. The area smelled of sulphur, a thick yellow/orange precipitate coated the shores and bottoms of both the tributary and the nearest part of the river, and for several hundred feet the river water was tinged deep red (possibly iron oxides) and aqua/turquoise (possibly



copper oxides).

The Green River Valley and Goat Mountain are littered with mines from the 1890's to 1920's and exploratory drilling holes from the 1980's. AMD is formed when sulfur-laden ores deep underground are exposed to oxygen through mining. AMD takes decades to develop in mines and exploratory drilling holes, leak into ground water, and appear in surface tributaries.

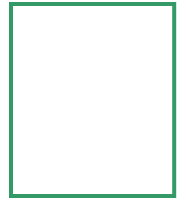
On October 10 CFC's Nicole Budine made an official report to WA Department of Ecology. This AMD pollution might have been present in some form for a while, but if so, no one had officially reported it. WA Department of Ecology forwarded the report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency because the pollution is on federal land, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. On the field trip we were not equipped with waders to follow the pollution up the tributary and attempt to find its source, nor did we have sampling equipment and protocols. On Nov. 29 CFC tried to return to the pollution site but was defeated by heavy snow on FSR 99.

We will continue to push for action because AMD destroys most life in immediate streambeds and leads to dissolved copper and heavy metals in the waterway. These metals can kill fish when present in extremely small concentrations and salmon and steelhead are especially sensitive to this type of pollution. The Green River is a state designated wild steelhead gene bank, and its usually clear waters are also important for hatchery and wild salmon downstream in the Green/Toutle watershed.

Fortunately, AMD can be stopped. One mile to the east of that part of the Green River is the Polar Star Mine, closed in 1910; in the 1980's AMD from this mine was discovered and stopped, so we are confident that this new pollution can be halted as well. WHAS will join other organizations in pressing the EPA and USFS to find the source and plug the AMD.



PO Box 399  
Longview, WA 98632



The *Willapa Whistler* is the quarterly publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society (WHAS), a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Complimentary copies are available for free on our website.

**TEMP -- RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Most WHAS activities and programs are open to the public.**

### **Send in your stories & photos**

Articles, information, wildlife sightings and artwork are most welcomed. The deadline for submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> of February, May, August and November. 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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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Willapa-Hills-Audubon/1386609461578276>

## **WHAS Programs and Field Trips**

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

Other plans will appear on our website and will be announced through our gmail alert system. More information about the alert system here: <http://willapahillsaudubon.org/index.php/member-services>

## **The Whistler Online**

Did you know that you can subscribe to the Willapa Whistler on our website? All the links are easy to follow. Go to <http://whistler.willapahillsaudubon.org> for this and past issues.

*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)**