

The Skagit Flyer

Skagit Audubon Society

A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Vol. 30 No. 8

OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS By Libby Mills

The Discover Pass

Field trips attendees and all other Washington recreationists need to inform themselves about the new **Discover Pass**, issued by the state for parking on State Lands including State Parks, (Deception Pass, Bay View, Larrabee, Birch Bay) Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife lands like the Skagit Wildlife area and the West 90, as well as Dept. of Natural Resources lands. (Chuckanuts, Blanchard Mountain).

http://discoverpass.wa.gov/

The passes are issued specifically to a single car and can be purchased for a single day (\$10) or as an annual pass (\$30 -\$35) good for 365 days from day of issue. The new pass has become an essential fee in funding our State Parks for our day use, as well as other state lands. Please remember when you share a ride that sharing in the parking fee and gas costs are always welcome donations to the driver.

About the field trips

Beginning birders and their friends are always welcome on Skagit Audubon field trips. Membership in Skagit Audubon is encouraged, but not required for participation. Please be prepared for the weather with suitable clothing, and bring field guides, binoculars, and spotting scopes. Carpool whenever possible and contribute to the driver's expense. Watch the email reminders for the latest information, including any

Field Trips continued on page 5

OCTOBER MEETING AND PROGRAM

Panama Birding: 2011 By Ivar & Phyllis Dolph

Tuesday, October 11, 2011 7:00 Social; 7:30 Program Padilla Bay Interpretive Center 10433 Bayview-Edison Road Mount Vernon, Washington



Phyllis Dolph and Embera' Children
Photo by Ivar Dolph

Skagit Audubon Society members, Phyllis and Ivar Dolph travelled to Panama on a birding trip with Guido Berguido, a birding guide who presented a program here at Skagit Audubon. Two weeks were spent with ferocious birders from New Jersey Audubon and the last week was spent on an extension into the wild jungles of eastern Panama near Columbia. The last week was an unexpected experience right out of National Geographic magazine and a Gauguin painting We were taken care of by a village of Embera' natives in a once in a lifetime experience.

The program starts at 7:30 p.m., October 11, at the Padilla Bay Estuarine Research Center. Come at 7 for refreshments and visiting.



SKAGIT AUDUBON Board of Directors

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Double-crested Cormorant *Photo by Joe Halton*

MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTIONS

General membership meetings of the Skagit Audubon Society are held at the Padilla Bay Interpretive Center, 1043 Bayview-Edison Rd., Mt. Vernon, WA—7:00 PM Social/ 7:30 PM Program—on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June. The board of directors meets at the same location at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month.

Skagit Audubon Society (SAS) membership provides a local chapter affiliation and newsletter, **The Flyer**, for individuals who want all their funds to benefit their local chapter. Newsletters from additional chapters can be sought by contacting their websites and membership chairs from links at www.audubon.org/states/wa/. **To join Skagit Audubon Society** please use the form below.

National Audubon Society (NAS) membership is separate from SAS membership and includes Audubon magazine. National Audubon membership does not provide Skagit Audubon membership; however, NAS will assign you an affiliation with a local chapter. To change your chapter assignment call 800-274-4201. To join National Audubon Society use the form below.

Skagit Audubon Society is a Chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

Skagit Audubon Society Membership Form		
Annual membership in the Skagit Audubon Society includes 10 issues of our newsletter, <i>The Skagit Flyer</i> , available on our website . Membership includes all members of your household.		
\$20 one (1) year \$40 two (2) years		
I wish to donate \$ to Skagit Audubon Society.		
Name		
Address		
City/StateZip		
Telephone No Email		
Clip form/Mail to/Payable to:		
Skagit Audubon Society P.O. Box 1101 Mount Vernon, WA 98273-1101		
Please do not share my personal information with National Audubon Society. (It is the policy of SAS not to share information with any other groups.)		

Using the <u>form below</u> to initially join the **National Audubon Society** will ensure that the **Skagit Audubon** chapter receives a cost share to support local programs.

National Audubon Society Member	ship Form	
Annual membership to the National A Membership includes all members of		cription to Audubon magazine.
\$20 for one-year introductory member	rship with one chapter affiliation	
Name		_
Address		_
City/State		_
Telephone No	_	
Clip form/Mail to/Payable to:		
National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Data Center	Y21	

www.audubon.org

Palm Coast, FL 32142

For members receiving a paper copy of The Skagit Flyer, the mailing label includes your membership expiration date in the upper right corner. If that date is highlighted in orange it is a reminder that your membership is about to or has expired. All other members will receive an email notice when their membership is about to expire. The Skagit Flyer is published monthly from September through June. Unsolicited material for the next month's Flyer should be sent to the editor by the third Saturday of the current month. For questions or problems about your Skagit Flyer subscription, contact membership chair: Sheila Pera, skagitmembers@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S OCTOBER MESSAGE:

By Tim Manns

Watching 15,000 Vaux's Swifts converge above one tall chimney has a way of reviving a person's sense of wonder. Many of you have heard about the communal roost site swifts use at the old Northern State Hospital in Sedro-Woolley on their migration south. Next year, come have a look if you haven't already.

Vaux's Swifts nest from northern California up through British Columbia to southeastern Alaska. Wherever there are big hollow trees, the birds can be present because that's what they need for breeding. Vaux's Swifts make twig nests glued with saliva and attached to the inside walls of big hollow trees. Some have learned to nest in chimneys, but for the most part they need large trees, and as other species with this requirement, the Vaux's Swift population has been declining for some time.

In Washington State, this bird is a "candidate" for addition to the state's list of threatened and endangered species. That's one of the reasons it's important to have an idea of how they're doing and which places are important to them for nesting



Vaux's Swifts at Old Northern State Hospital
Photo by Jerry Eisner, M.D (9/13/11)

and wintering, and for feeding and resting during migration. When Vaux's go south to winter in the southern U.S., Mexico, and as far as Panama they converge each night on communal roost sites. Traditionally, these were large, hollow trees, probably similar to the ones favored for nest sites. But somehow, these birds learned that unused chimneys can serve just fine.

At some of these sites, Vaux's Swifts have died en masse when a cold day led to a building's heating system being turned on with disastrous results for the birds in the chimney. Fortunately, the stack at the Old Northern State Hospital (owned by Washington State but up for sale), is no longer needed for the heating system. It's also fortunate that this tall concrete tube is structurally stable unlike some brick smokestacks on which swifts depend further south along their route.

We hope that our counts will firmly establish the importance of the Northern State site and influence future decisions by the eventual property owners. There may also be the opportunity for this amazing phenomenon to increase the public's awareness of the wild world in our midst here in Skagit County. Soon Trumpeter and Tundra Swans will return from Alaska and Snow Geese from Russia. Raptors from the northland will be converging again on the flats. Right now, in late summer, Vaux's Swifts are the dramatic reminder that we share this county, this planet, with amazing creatures. You can learn a bit about Vaux's Swifts and the places important to them at the website maintained by Larry Schwitters of Pilchuck Audubon, http://www.vauxhappening.org/. For years now Larry has encouraged and organized efforts to learn more about and preserve these essential communal roost sites.

SKAGIT AUDUBON HIKING

OCTOBER 2011

By Joan Melcher

October can produce great hiking weather along with beautiful fall colors. However weather conditions, forest fires and smoke, logging, construction, or other unexpected circumstances may cause changes or cancellations. For all the hikes call JOAN MELCHER 360-424-0407 or email at jdmelcher@comcast.net for information on or questions about the following. All the hikes are on Wednesdays. Dogs are discouraged on Audubon-sponsored hikes. If dogs are on a hike, they must be on a leash at all times.

OCTOBER 5 RAILROAD GRADE

Hike to and up a moraine on the south side of Mount Baker. There are great views if the weather is good. There may still be snow patches on a portion of the trail, especially in Morovitz Meadows (upper meadows). The Railroad Grade itself should be snow-free. The hike is 6 to 8 miles round trip with 1,900 to 2,100 ft. elevation gain. There are significant streams to cross by rock hopping or wading. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot and 4 p.m. return to trailhead. A Northwest Forest Parking Permit required.

OCTOBER 12 IRON GOAT TRAIL

This trail, on the old Great Northern route, connects Wellington and Scenic. There are different starting and ending point options and a 1,000 foot elevation gain. If you hike uphill between Scenic and Wellington, shuttle cars if needed. It is 5 to 10 miles depending on the route taken. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Mt. Vernon Safeway. Flashlights are recommended if you wish to walk through the Windy Point tunnel. Seattle/Snohomish County/Camano Island hikers can meet the group at the Skykomish Ranger Station, located a few miles east of Skykomish on Highway 2 at 9 a.m. A Northwest Forest Parking Permit is required. 3 p.m. is the return to Scenic.

OCTOBER 19 HAPPY/PANTHER or SCOTT PAUL TRAIL

For both hikes, meet at 8 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. You may choose to do either one of the following hikes:

Hikes continued on page 6



This column reports submitted sightings. Any rare sightings should be accompanied by detailed written documentation and if possible a photograph. A second person to verify rare sightings is extremely helpful. Do not hesitate to call any observer to help document unusual sightings. Also do not hesitate to call if you need clarification on locations.

Please submit your sightings to Pam Pritzl ppritzl@frontier.com or 360-387-7024.

WATERFOWL

Harlequin Duck 6 on Thunder Creek on 8-8-11 (GB) Black Scoter 1 at March Point on 9-15-11 (RM, GB) Barrow's Goldeneye 4 on Thunder Arm on 8-22-11 (GB)

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

Ruffed Grouse 2 at Barnaby Slough on 8-15-11 (GB)

RAPTORS

Sharp-shinned Hawk 2 on Thunder Creek on 8-8-11 (GB)

SHOREBIRDS

Solitary Sandpiper 1 at the Skagit Game Range on 8-9; 1 at the Marblemount Fish Hatchery on 8-15 (GB) Whimbrel 18 at Jensen Access on 9-10-11 (GB) Ruddy Turnstone 1 at Jensen Access on 8-24-11 (GB) Black Turnstone 15 on Viti Rocks on 8-24-11 (GB) Surfbird 35 on Viti Rocks on 8-24-11 (GB) Sanderling 1 at March Point on 9-9-11 (GB) Baird's Sandpiper 1 at Channel Drive on 8-12-11 (GB)

Stilt Sandpiper 1 at Channel Drive on 9-3-11 (GB) Wilson's Phalarope 1 at Skagit Game Range on 8-24-11 (BK)

Red-necked Phalarope 2 at the Skagit Game Range on 8-9-11; 1 at Channel Drive on 9-3-11 (GB)

JAEGERS, GULLS

Franklin's Gull 1 juvenile at Jensen Access on 9-15-11 (GB)

DOVES, PIGEONS

Eurasian Collared-Dove 2 at home in Burlington the first week of September (LPE)

OWLS

Great Horned Owl 1 on Little Mountain 8-23 to 9-12-11 (BK)

Short-eared Owl 1 at Jensen Access on 9-3-11 (GB)

NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS

Vaux's Swift 15,700 at Northern State Chimney on 9-10-11 (JJ, TM)

WOODPECKERS

American Three-toed Woodpecker 3 along Pacific

Crest Trail between Rainy and Cutthroat Passes on 8-22-11 (GB)

FLYCATCHERS

Western Wood-Pewee 1at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM); 1 at Skagit Game Range on 9-10-11 (BK)

Willow Flycatcher 3 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

Hammond's Flycatcher 3 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

Eastern Kingbird 1 at the Skagit Game Range on 8-17-11 (GB); seen throughout August at the Skagit Game Range (JP)

VIREOS

Cassin's Vireo 3 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM); 1 at Marblemount on 9-10-11 (GB)

Warbling Vireo 20+ at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

Red-eyed Vireo 2 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

LARKS, SWALLOWS

Horned Lark 17 at March Point on 9-1-11 (GB) **Purple Martin** 2 at WA Park on 9-4-11 (GB)

CHICKADEES, BUSHTIT

Mountain Chickadee 10 along Pacific Crest Trail between Rainy and Cutthroat Passes on 8-22-11 (GB)

WRENS

House Wren 1 at Jensen Access on 8-24-11 (GB)

DIPPER

American Dipper 1 at Cranberry Lake, Anacortes (JBW)

THRUSHES

Swainson's Thrush 2 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM); 1 at Skagit Game Range on 9-2-11 (BK)

WARBLERS



Orange-crowned Warbler 20 (8+ were gray headed) at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport 9-2-11 (RM)

Orange-crowned Warbler
Photo by Joe Halton

Yellow-rumped Warbler, Audubon's 8 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

Field Notes continue on page 5



Field Notes continued from page 4

Black-throated Gray Warbler 25+ at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)



Black-throated Gray Warbler Photo by Joe Halton

Townsend's Warbler 5 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

American Redstart 1 female-type at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

Northern Waterthrush 1 at the Skagit Game Range on 9-11-11 (GB)

MacGillivray's Warbler 1 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM); 1 at the Skagit Game Range on 9-10-11 (BK)

Common Yellowthroat 12 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

Wilson's Warbler 2 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

TANAGERS

Western Tanager 3 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

SPARROWS

Vesper Sparrow 1 at Corkindale on 9-3-11 (GB) **Lincoln's Sparrow** 6 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM); 1 at the Skagit Game Range on 9-10-11 (BK)

Black-headed Grosbeak 3 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

Lazuli Bunting 2 at Corkindale on 9-3-11 (GB)

FINCHES, WEAVER FINCH

Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch 1 on Sahale Arm on 8-18-11; 4 on Sahale Arm on 8-26-11 (GB)

Red Crossbill 2 (Type 4) at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport on 9-2-11 (RM)

(GB) Gary Bletsch; (LPE) Larry and Pat Edwards; (JJ) Jim Johnson; (BK) Bob Kuntz; (TM) Tim Manns; (RM) Ryan Merrill; (JP) Josh Parrott; (JBW) Jim and Betsy Walker

Field Trips continued from page 1

changes and/or additions to the field trip schedule. To be added to the email distribution list contact Libby Mills: libbymills@gmail.com

If you plan to join a field trip some place other than the described starting point, call the trip leader the day before to ensure a successful rendezvous. Trip plans may change!

Saturday, October 1 Whidbey Island birding 8:00 a.m. to Mid-Afternoon

Meet at the Park-&-Ride at the west end of South March Point Rd. We will visit sites on the northern half of Whidbey Island to look for late migrants and early winter arrivals. Bring a lunch, snacks, drinks, and warm clothing. Depending on conditions it might also be wise to bring mud boots (for getting to the good shorebird areas). All skill levels are welcome to participate. Sign-up is not necessary. For more information call or email leader: Bob Kuntz, 360-424-9099, robert_kuntz@nps.gov

Sunday, October 9 Camano Island 8:00 a.m. to Early Afternoon.

Visit Iverson Spit Preserve and English Boom Preserve and other favorite birding haunts on Camano Island. Iverson Spit, located on Port Susan Bay, has extensive saltwater, mudflats, marsh and beach, with shrubs and cropland nestled against a forested hillside. English Boom, located on Skagit Bay, also provides diverse habitat. Meet at the QFC supermarket on SR

532 in downtown Stanwood to arrange carpooling. Plan to walk about 2 miles on easy terrain and bring water, lunch. Boots, binoculars and spotting scopes are recommended. Leader: Pam Pritzl (360)387-7024, ppritzl@frontier.com

Saturday, October 22 Lake Terrell, Sandy Point, Birch Bay, Semiahmoo & Blaine 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

(Vehicles will need a <u>Discover Pass</u> for Lake Terrell and Birch Bay. It can be purchased many places as you will see on the website, <u>http://discoverpass.wa.gov/.</u>)

Our focus will be on water birds and shorebirds, targeting all three scoters, a variety of ducks, grebes, loons, and shorebirds. Bring binoculars, scopes, lunch, and wind and rain gear.

If you are driving north to Slater Road from Skagit County and have extra room in your vehicle, please maximize carpooling at Cook Road as there is limited parking space at some stops on this field trip. Meet at 8:15 a.m. to arrange carpools at the Park-and-Ride lot on old Hwy 99 immediately southeast of Cook Road (Exit 232 from I-5). Cars will leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. We'll join the leaders, Joan Bird and Andrea Warner, at 9:15 a.m. at the Arco Gas Station on Slater Road. (There is nowhere to leave a car here.) Take I-5 Exit 260, turn right and you'll see the Arco station on your right. Leaders: Joan Bird (cell: 360-201-8418) or jbird202@hotmail.com, and Andrea Warner, ajwarner@msn.com



Hikes continued from page 3

- **I. HAPPY/PANTHER:** Hike this historic stocktrail-converted-to-foot trail that goes between Ross Dam (Happy Creek) and Panther Creek at its confluence with Ruby Creek. The hike is 6.34 miles one way with a 500 foot elevation gain. If you begin at the Panther Creek end, shuttle cars. At 2:00 p.m. return to trailheads. No parking permit is required.
- II. SCOTT PAUL TRAIL: Hike COUNTERCLOCKWISE on this trail, beginning at Schreibers Meadow, and hike up until you reach snow. Return the way you came UNLESS you have proper equipment to walk on snow. If you do the Scott Paul Loop, you must be prepared to walk on snow. You need to know that there is no bridge this year over Rocky Creek below Easton Glacier. Also, you may need to rock hop or wade over lower Rocky Creek as well. A Northwest Forest Parking Permit is required. There is a 3 p.m. return for those who hike to snow and return to cars; a 4 p.m. return for those who do the loop. Carpool accordingly.

OCTOBER 26 RUBY ARM and/or RUBY CREEK

For both hikes, meet at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. There is a 3 p.m. return to trailhead. No parking permit is required:

- **I. RUBY ARM:** Hike on the East Bank of Ross Lake Trail over a carpet and under a canopy of fall leaves. Kick leaves to your heart's content. Hike to either Ruby Arm, Hidden Hand Pass, or part way up Little Jack Trail. It is 7 to 8 miles round trip.
- **II. RUBY CREEK:** Hike the beautiful Ruby Creek trail from Panther Creek to Canyon Creek and back. It is 7 miles round trip with a 650 ft. total elevation gain.

NOVEMBER 2 NORTH CHUCKANUT MOUNTAIN

Hike trails on the northwest side of Chuckanut Mountain. Take the opportunity to hike the Salal, Madrone Crest, Huckleberry, and Hush-Hush Trails that we normally have no time to do on other Chuckanut hikes. There is a new route to Raptor Ridge that you may wish to try. The basic loop is 6.8 miles with up to 2,700 ft elevation gain. One can add up to 4.0 miles more. Meet at 9 a.m. at the North Chuckanut Parking lot located on the east side of Chuckanut Drive between the Old Samish Highway and California Street. This is about milepost 18.5. You may leave when your car-load has returned.

"THE BIG YEAR" GOES HOLLYWOOD THIS OCTOBER

• It's true! Steve Martin, Jack Black, and Owen Wilson are portraying to the American public what a competitive birder goes through to tally the most North American bird species in a year. If you've read the book, "The Big Year," by Mark Obmascik you are probably looking forward to seeing its film version. But the "real" Big Year took place in 1998. Author Obmascik points out that that was prior to smart phones. Remember, birders used phone booths in those days. Also, it was before air plane security checks. You could run through an airport and jump on a plane even as the door was slamming shut. Changes have been made to put the story in the present. Still, Obmascik hopes that like the book, the movie will inspire new beginners to explore the world of birding.

HELP SKAGIT AUDUBON SOCIETY GO GREEN
EACH PRINTED NEWSLETTER COSTS 70 CENTS TO PRINT & 44 CENTS TO MAIL.
TOTAL = \$1.14 @ NEWSLETTER X 10 = \$11.40 @ YEAR

WITH ANNUAL LOCAL DUES AMOUNTING TO \$20 THAT LEAVES JUST \$9.60 @ YEAR TO GO TOWARD CHAPTER EXPENSES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS.

HELP US SPEND YOUR DUES \$\$ ON SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT!

RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA THE INTERNET!

MAKE YOUR "GREEN DECISION" AND LET US KNOW AT skagitmembers@gmail.com



Income / Expense Report Fiscal Year July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

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National Audubon Baseline &	& Dues Share	\$1,489
CBC Participant Fees		\$163
Chapter Memberships		\$3,427
Coffee Can Donations		\$177
Fundraising		\$55
Bird Note Contributions		\$178
Member Donations		\$493
Interest Income		<u>\$19</u>
	Total Revenue	\$6,001

By Wendy Walker Skagit Audubon Society Treasurer

Expenses:	
Christmas Bird Count	\$345
Washington Audubon Working Group	\$750
Bird Note Contributions	\$250
Mt. Vernon High School Science Night	\$50
Conservation Donations	\$1,950
Hospitality – Monthly Meetings	\$95
Insurance	\$313
Office Expenses	\$119
Skagit Flyer	\$1,277
Padilla Bay Membership	\$100
Website	<u>\$118</u>
Total Expenses	\$5,368

Hitting the Sweat Ceiling?

Posted: 8/8/11 10:30 AM ET

David Yarnold, President, National Audubon Society

Hot enough for you? The oppressive heat that has engulfed much of the nation this summer has been dubbed "The Sweat Ceiling" by D.C. insiders obsessed with the debt ceiling debate.

If you like this summer, you'll love knowing that the deal brokered to avert economic disaster is likely to tip us even closer to the brink of environmental catastrophe. It could lead to a decade of spending cuts in environmental research, environmental regulatory programs, and land and water conservation funds. In the House, Republicans are expected to use the debt ceiling deal to savagely cut spending on all programs connected with climate change and regulation of the oil and gas industries. They can't wait to gut the EPA programs to measure, monitor, and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and pollutants like sulfur dioxide and mercury.

For months, anti-environment lawmakers in the House of Representatives have been working to dismantle the EPA and its protections for the air we breathe and the water we drink. In April, the spending bill passed by the House of Representatives included a massive and crippling \$3 billion cut to the agency's budget. That was followed by a series of votes aimed at weakening the agency's ability to control air pollution.

Meanwhile, Washingtonians complain about hitting the "sweat ceiling," and Dallas experiences its 32nd straight day of 100 plus degree temperatures. We are seeing severe tornadoes, mega-floods, and devastating droughts. We are in the midst of face-slapping, wake-up-and-smell-the-coffee bad climate disruption happening to our planet. And yet, Congress is acting as if the most important thing they can do is brutally cut environmental regulations that protect our health.

Blame Congress for the weather? No, but definitely hold them accountable for doing something about the future of the climate we're leaving our kids and their kids to come. It is time for Congress to feel the heat from an American public fed up with the ravaging storms, the brutal 100 degree heat, and lawmakers who are turning their backs on vital protections for the air our children breathe every day. Tougher air pollution standards are overwhelmingly supported by the American people. A recent poll showed 75 percent of voters support stricter EPA limits on smog, and 66 percent say EPA, not Congress, should set pollution standards.

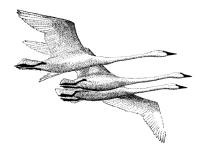
The next three months will reveal which of America's political leaders are serious about fixing the world's climate crisis and protecting our air and water, and which are worried about short-term political advantage and providing special favors for the oil and gas industry and other special interests.

So, who's in the hot seat? Write your representatives and senators. Tell them you are outraged at their failure to address the looming climate crisis. Demand that Congress pick wisely when making needed cuts -- and not sacrifice the health of our kids or the planet.

Follow David Yarnold on Twitter: www.twitter.com/deewhy2



SKAGIT AUDUBON SOCIETY P.O. BOX 1101 MOUNT VERNON WA 98273





October 2011 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sept. 25	Sept. 26	Sept. 27	Sept. 28 Hiking: To be announced	Sept. 29	Sept. 30	1 Field Trip: Whidbey Island Birding
2	3	4 SAS Board Meeting: 7:00	5 Hiking: Railroad Grade	6	7	8
9 Field Trip: Camano Island	10	11 SAS General Meeting: Social 7:00 PM/ Meeting 7:30 PM	12 Hiking: Iron Goat Trail	13	14	15 Deadline SAS November Flyer
16	17	18	19 Hiking: Happy/Panther or Scott Paul Trail	20	21	22 Field Trip: Lake Terrell, Sandy Pt, Birch Bay, Semiahmoo & Blaine
23	24	25	26 Hiking: Ruby Arm and/or Ruby Creek	27	28	29
30	31	Nov 1 SAS Board Meeting: 7:00	Nov. 2 Hiking: North Chuckanut Mountain	Nov. 3	Nov. 4	Nov. 5

Visit the Skagit Audubon Society Website at www.skagitaudubon.org

The Skagit Flyer is printed on recycled paper

