

The Skagit Flyer

Skagit Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

www.skagitaudubon.org

Vol. 31 No. 6

SUMMER FIELD TRIPS

By Libby Mills

About the field trips

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

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

Fri. – Sun., June 15 - 17, 2012 Annual Klipchuck Campout Klipchuck Campground Mile 175, State Route 20

Each summer members and friends of Skagit Audubon gather in this USFS Campground off Highway 20, 1.2 miles up a side road on the north side of the highway near Highway mile 175, at elevation 2,900 ft. There are usually plenty of sharp eyes in our group and the birding is great right on the campground loops as well as on nearby trails and birding areas further down in the Methow Valley. There is no schedule or plan beyond a Saturday night dinner potluck. Informal groups form to look for birds, or folks go out

Field Trips continued on page 5

JUNE MEETING AND PROGRAM

The Copper River International Migratory Bird Initiative

By James Chu, U.S. Forest Service International Programs

Tuesday, June 12, 2012
7:00 Social; 7:30 Program
Padilla Bay Interpretive Center
10441 Bayview-Edison Road
Mount Vernon, Washington



Copper River Delta

The Copper River watershed is a highly productive ecosystem that spans boreal forests, complex wetlands, and coastal barrier islands, and it is home to millions of birds from all over the world. The 700,000-acre delta that lies at the base of this watershed comprises the largest continuous wetland on the Pacific Coast of North America. The Copper River Delta is a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network—Hemispheric Site, a designation given to the most important shorebird sites in the world.

Worldwide shorebird habitat loss is extensive. Shorebirds depend on a few key stopover sites, making these species very vulnerable to habitat loss. In recognition of this, the Copper River International Migratory Bird Initiative (CRIMBI) was created in order to link the Copper River Delta to the rest of the Western Hemisphere through conservation of its migratory birds.

The US Forest Service manages the Copper River Delta as part of the Chugach National Forest. Please join CRIMBI Coordinator James Chu to learn more about these international efforts to connect Pacific Flyway birds and their habitats.



SKAGIT AUDUBON

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Clark's Grebe

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, *The Skagit Flyer*, 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/State _____ Zip _____

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 form below 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 Membership Form

Annual membership to the National Audubon Society includes a subscription to *Audubon* magazine. Membership includes all members of your household.

\$20 for one-year introductory membership with one chapter affiliation

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. _____

Clip form/Mail to/Payable to:

National Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Data Center Y21
P.O. Box 422246-2246
Palm Coast, FL 32142
www.audubon.org

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 JUNE MESSAGE:

By Tim Manns

Mid-May, when I'm writing, always presents such dramatic reminders that the creatures and habits of the wild world endure. On a planet somehow accommodating 7 billion of us, birds still perform astounding migrations, in diminished numbers but as they have for many thousands of years. If we're attentive enough to the departure of wintering birds and the arrival of their replacements from warmer latitudes, we can feel immersed in this age-old, annual phenomenon. The Swainson's Thrush singing in Hillcrest Park early this morning descends from migrants making the annual trip from the Andes' eastern slopes long before our own ancestors arrived on this continent. May's nightly vigils at Northern State counting returning Vaux's Swifts mark the survival of a half-ounce bird that spends all day on the wing and finds old industrial chimneys passable substitutes for the hollows of vanished giant trees. Our 7 billions have left few places wild, but in their adaptable way, many birds have endured.

Interest in birds encourages attention to geography and to conservation of wild habitat both here and far away. Some of you sent off National Audubon cards to the Bureau of Land Management urging that the new management plan for Alaska's National Petroleum Reserve give strict protection to Teshekpuk Lake near the Arctic Coast. My friend Jerry tells me that while doing graduate work there decades ago he heard Long-tailed Ducks yodeling. The ones we watched wintering on Fidalgo Bay by Anacortes may be there soon. Those Rough-legged Hawks gracing the winter raptor spectacle on Samish Flats? Some you admired in December may nest this summer on cliffs above the Colville River in the same reserve (which has less petroleum than once imagined and offers the chance to protect breeding grounds of myriad birds and mammals plus subsistence for an ancient culture). Tundra Swans have left Skagit for the Arctic Coast, Fir Island's Snow Geese are bound for Russia's Wrangel Island, and the Trumpeters that wintered here on corn, potatoes, and marsh plants are paired off on Alaskan and Canadian ponds.

Some shorebirds wintering further south pass us Arctic-bound with a brief refueling stop. Port Susan and Skagit Bays are important resting and feeding places, recently designated part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Vaux's Swifts have been as far south as Panama while we were wintering here. And high-tech gadgets strapped on a few Black Swifts in Colorado revealed these dramatic North Cascades breeders whiling away the winter catching bugs above lowland Amazonian jungle in western Brazil. The lines traced by bird migration go so many places, each essential to the continued existence of these other lives, all vulnerable as our population grows and shifts and climate changes. We're living when there's still a chance to make a difference for the wild world. Small steps matter. Contribute to the Skagit Land Trust's Barney Lake Campaign. Help the San Juan Preservation Trust buy Vendovi Island. Support organizations finding creative ways to protect tropical habitat. Tell agencies and elected officials how you want your Alaskan public lands managed. Bird migration began long before our brief lives. We surely want it to endure.

SKAGIT AUDUBON FIELD NOTES

By Pam Pritzl

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 for the September Flyer to:
ppritzl@frontier.com or 360-387-7024.

WATERFOWL

Greater White-fronted Goose 9 on Fir Island on 5-11-12 (JP)

Cackling Goose 2 on Fir Island on 5-11-12 (JP)

Brant 3000 at March Point on 4-28-12 (GB)

Trumpeter Swan 1 at Mud Lake on 5-16-12 (TM)

Blue-winged Teal 1 near West Kamb Road on 5-13-12 (JA)

Cinnamon Teal 2 at Green Road Pond on 4-22-12 (GB); 2 on Cascade Trail on Minkler and Harrison Roads on 4-28-12 (DW); 1 near West Kamb Road on 5-13-12 (JA)

Ring-necked Duck 3 on Samish Island on 5-13-12 (RM)

Hooded Merganser female with 10 babies at Van Horn Pond on 5-12-12 (GB)

RAPTORS

Northern Goshawk 1 at Corkindale on 5-2-12 (RM)

Rough-legged Hawk 1 late individual, Farm-to-Market Rd on 4-28-12 (GB)

Golden Eagle 1 at Newhalem on 5-2-12 (RM)

RAILS

Sora 1 heard on Dike Rd, Conway on 4-28-12 (TM); 2 on Minkler Flats on 4-30-12 (GB)

SHOREBIRDS

Black Oystercatcher 3 at March Point on 5-12-12 (JP)

Lesser Yellowlegs 1 at the Skagit Game Range on 4-21-12 (GB)

Solitary Sandpiper 1 just south of Conway near the Skagit River dike on 4-29-12 (TM); 1 at Martin Rd, Rockport on 5-1-12 (RM); 1 at Estes Road, Samish Flats on 5-12-12 (RM)

Whimbrel 24 at Stanwood sewage ponds on 5-6-12 (JP); 188 on Stubb Rd (near Norman Rd) on 5-13-12 (JA); approx 500

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Skagit Field Notes continued from page 3

have been reported on Tweeters on Camano Island from 5-13 to present.

Marbled Godwit 2 at March Point on 4-22-12 (RM)

Sanderling 24 on Whidbey Island on 3-24-12 (JP)

Semipalmated Sandpiper 1 at Samish Flats on 5-1 and 5-6-12 (RM)

Least Sandpiper 4 at Sauk Prairie on 5-6-12 (RM)

Pectoral Sandpiper 3 on West Kamb rd on 5-14-12 (GB)

Short-billed Dowitcher 2 at Skagit Game Range on 4-28-12 (GB)

Dowitcher species 3 near West Kamb Rd on 5-13-12 (JA)

Wilson's Phalarope 2 female on the Stanwood sewage ponds on 5-6-12 (JP); 2 (pair) at Channel Dr on 5-12-12 (JP); 6 near West Kamb Rd on 5-13-12 (JA)

GULLS

Bonaparte's Gull 1290 on Samish Island on 5-3-12 (RM)

Herring Gull 1 on Samish Island from 5-3 to 5-12-12 (RM)

Thayer's Gull 1 at La Conner on 4-23-12 (RM)

OWLS

Northern Pygmy-Owl 2 on Lake Cavanaugh Rd on 5-6-12 (JP)

Barred Owl 1 at Lake Shannon on 5-12-12 (GB); 1 in Anacortes forestlands on 5-12-12 (JP)

HUMMINGBIRDS

Calliope Hummingbird 1 at Diablo on 5-6-12 (RM)

FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher 3 at Secret Harbor, Cypress Island on 5-17-12 (TM)

Western Wood-Pewee 1 at Debay Slough on 5-16-12; 1 at Secret Harbor, Cypress Island on 5-17-12 (TM)

Hammond's Flycatcher 1 at Martin Rd on 5-5-12 (GB)

Gray Flycatcher 1 at Corkindale 5-1 to 5-2 and 5-12-12 (RM)

Dusky Flycatcher 9 Upper Skagit Valley 4-29-12 (RM); 12 Upper Skagit Valley on 5-2-12 (RM); 6 at Newhalem on 5-2-12 (RM); 1 at Barnaby Slough on 5-5-12 (GB); 1 at Everett Lake on 5-12-12 (GB)

Pacific-slope Flycatcher 1 at Cockreham Island on 5-5-12 (GB)

Western Kingbird 1 on Minkler Flats on 4-22-12 (GB); 1 at Newhalem on 4-29-12 (RM); 3 at Corkindale on 4-29 and 5-2-12 (RM)

VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo 1 at Camano Island home on 5-1, 5-2 and 5-17-12 (PP); 1 on Lake Cavanaugh Rd on 5-6-12 (JP)

Warbling Vireo 2 at Minkler Lake on 5-5-12 (GB); 4 at Anacortes forestlands on 5-12-12 (JP)

SWALLOWS

Bank Swallow 1 at Corkindale on 5-12-12 (RM)

BUSHTIT

Bushtit 4 at Newhalem on 5-12-12 (RM)

WRENS

Bewick's Wren 1 at Corkindale on 4-22-12 (RM)

House Wren 4 at Secret Harbor, Cypress Island on 5-17-12 (TM)

DIPPER

American Dipper on active nest on Lake Cavanaugh Rd on 5-6-12 (JP)

THRUSHES

Mountain Bluebird 2 at Marblemount on 5-2-12 (RM)

Townsend's Solitaire 1 at Northern State Rec Area on 4-21-12 (SAS); 2 on Martin Rd on 5-5-12 (GB); 1 at Martin Road, Rockport on 5-12-12 (JD, TM, LF)

Swainson's Thrush 5 at Rockport State Park on 5-12-12 (GB); 2 at Camano Island home on 5-17-12 (PP)

WARBLERS

Nashville Warbler 1 at Rockport on 5-5-12 (GB); 3 at US Bank parking lot in Mt. Vernon on 5-5-12 (JP)

TANAGERS

Western Tanager 1 at Bryson Rd, Sauk valley on 4-29-12 (RM); 1 at home on Camano Island on 5-17-12 (PP)

SPARROWS

Chipping Sparrow 1 at Fidalgo Bay Resort, Anacortes on 4-27-12 (TM); 1 at Van Horn on 5-12-12 (GB)

Brewer's Sparrow 1 at Diablo on 4-13-12 (RM)

Vesper Sparrow 1 at Diablo on 4-20-12 and 1 at Diablo from 4-29 to 5-6-12 (RM); 1 at Sauk Prairie on 4-20-12 (RM); 1 at County Line Ponds on 4-29 and 5-2-12 (RM); 1 at Martin Rd on 4-29 and 5-1-12 (RM); 1 at Corkindale on 4-29-12 and on 5-6-12 (RM); 2 at Newhalem on 5-2-12 and 1 at Newhalem on 5-6-12 (RM); 1 at Van Horn Pond and 3 at Corkindale on 5-5-12 (GB)

White-crowned Sparrow 330 (Gambel's) at Martin Rd on 5-1-12 (RM)

Black-headed Grosbeak pr at Camano Island home in May (SP)

Lazuli Bunting 2 males at home in Sedro-Woolley on 5-15-12 (DW)

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES

Western Meadowlark 4 at Northern State Rec Area on 4-20-12 (TM)

Yellow-headed Blackbird 1 at Sauk Prairie on 4-29 and 5-2-12 (RM); 4 on Samish Island on 5-1-12 (HA); 2 near Cockreham Island on 5-4-12 (GB); 1 at Skagit Game Range on 5-13-12 (KC, MC)

Bullock's Oriole 4 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park on 5-12-12 (GB); 1 at March Point on 5-12-12 (JP)

FINCHES, WEAVER FINCH

Red Crossbill 3 in Anacortes on 5-12-12 (JP)

(HA) Howard Armstrong; (JA) Jean Ashby; (GB) Gary Bletsch; (KC) Kathryn Cavit; (MC) Morty Cohen; (JD) John Day; (LF) Lin Folsom; (RM) Ryan Merrill; (TM) Tim Manns; (JP) Joshua Parrott; (SP) Sheila Pera; (PP) Pam Pritzl; (SAS) Skagit Audubon Society Field Trip; (DW) Dana Wheatly.



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on their own with binoculars or cameras. Klipchuck is a magnet for warblers and vireos, flycatchers and woodpeckers, hummingbirds and wildflowers. A trail to Driveway Butte leads up the hill right out of the campground for the ambitious hiker. Deer are usually fawning around the campground so dogs are not recommended and must be kept on leashes. It's about 6 miles to Mazama, the nearest store, so come with what you need or plan to drive a bit further to re-supply.

There is a modest overnight campground fee. Vault toilets and water are available. If you plan to hike from a trailhead be sure and bring your USFS parking permit, available from USFS offices in Sedro-Woolley and Winthrop. There are also places in the valley where you will want your Discover Pass to park. Questions contact: Tim Manns phone 360-336-8753 or bctm@fidalgo.net

Thursday, June 21

Big Four area ~ East of Granite Falls

Birding, Walk/Hike

6:30 a.m. to Noon

Meet at 6:30 a.m. at Exit 212 Park n' Ride off I-5 for carpools or meet at the Big 4 picnic area on Mountain Loop Highway 92 at 8 a.m.

The Big Four area lies along the south fork of the Stillaguamish River east of Granite. The birding is exceptional in June and the picnic area has spectacular views of Big Four Mountain and Hall Peak. Another bonus is the diversity of alpine wildflowers along the trail.

The 1 mile trail takes you on a boardwalk across a fresh water marsh (expect to see Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Flycatchers, Warblers), across a bridge over the south fork of the Stillaguamish River (look for Dippers, Common Merganser, Harlequin Ducks and Spotted Sandpiper), into the forest (Winter Wrens, Brown Creepers, Western Wood-Pewees and Varied Thrushes are common) and eventually to a huge cirque that ends at a lookout area (we'll plan to eat lunch here). Wear hiking boots suitable for snow travel, assuming it may not be completely melted out. Expect to walk a leisurely 2 miles round trip, with a 200' elevation gain. The trip will be over in early afternoon. It's beautiful and popular, which is why we go on a week day. Bring your binoculars and cameras (wildflowers!) Don't forget a filled water bottle and trail snacks or a lunch. Everyone is welcome!

Leader: Pam Pritzl, ppritzl@frontier.com 360-387-7024. If you plan to go, please contact Pam for trail and road conditions and any updates.

You will need a USFS parking pass or Golden Age/Eagle Passport. These are federal recreation passes, NOT the state Discover Pass.

Saturday, July 7

Dragonfly Field Trip, Anacortes, Smiley's Bottom

Field Trip time to be announced

(For this field trip it is essential you get in touch with Jim Walker, jswphys@aol.com, and get on his dragonflyers email list.)

You will learn about these beautiful insects and have a chance to view them with binoculars, scopes and cameras. Imagine seeing creatures with names like Eight-spotted Skimmer, Dot-tailed Whiteface, and Western Forktail. Lots of interactions have been observed between the various species such as Dot-tailed Whitefaces chasing Four-spotted Skimmers, Four-spotted Skimmers chasing Eight-spotted Skimmers, and California Darners feasting on Northern Bluets.

This from Jim Walker:

"With all this activity, it's time once again to explore the world of the Happy-face Dragonfly. I hope you can join us for a dragonfly field trip. The field trip will take us to one of the best dragonfly hotspots in the area. Should be a lot of fun. Hope to see you there!"

Dragonflies, and all insects are picky about the weather, and if the heat doesn't arrive, the dragonflies keep too low of a profile.

Leader: Jim Walker, jswphys@aol.com

Saturday, August 18

Pelagic Birding with Westport Seabirds

6:00 a.m. to mid-afternoon (Westport, WA)

For many years Westport Seabirds has offered pelagic birding trips out of Grays Harbor providing birders with a rare look at off-shore species and compiling valuable information about these birds. To experience this special kind of birding with other Skagit Audubon members, make your reservation early for this regularly scheduled trip (\$135). The company website (www.westportseabirds.com/) has detailed information including options for lodging or camping the night before. The destination is Grays Canyon, 35 nautical miles west of Grays Harbor on the edge of the North American continental shelf. Black-footed Albatross and Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel are among the species regularly seen. Marine mammals are possible too. At least 2 of the company's expert spotters/leaders will be aboard. Space is limited, so make your reservation early and directly with the company. Let Tim Manns (bctm@fidalgo.net or 360/336-8753) know if you plan to participate and are interested in possible carpooling.

SKAGIT AUDUBON HIKING SUMMER By Joan Melcher

NOTE: This summer hiking schedule was prepared on May 16, 2012. As of this time the following hikes appear to be a "go" in the sense that we should be able to drive to the trailheads. However, there is a chance that one or more of the hike destinations will be changed due to unforeseen circumstances. If a hike destination is changed, the meeting time and meeting place will remain the same.

Skagit Audubon Summer Hiking continued on page 6



Skagit Audubon Summer Hiking continued from page 5

• WILDERNESS HIKES:

- For information on the various “Wilderness Hikes” contact **Joan Melcher 360-424-0407** or jdmelcher@comcast.net.
- **Northwest Forest Pass** (parking permit) required. Questions? Call **Joan Melcher 360-424-0407**.
- **Adopt-A-Trail** work parties with Dan Rogers are on Mondays. Wear old clothes and have gloves, fluids to drink, and lunch. Tools are provided.
- All the hikes are on Wednesdays **EXCEPT** for Wednesday, July 4th, which will be on Thursday July 5th.
- Dogs are discouraged on Audubon-sponsored hikes. If dogs are on a hike, they must be on a leash at all times.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2 NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Celebrate trails! Go for a hike or walk with family and/or friends. The Pacific Northwest Trail Association will sponsor trail work at Deception Pass State Park. Contact Joan Melcher (above) for details if interested.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6 ROSS LAKE, WEST SHORE

Hike down to Ross Dam and beyond along the west shore of Ross Lake as far as the Big Beaver if you wish. There are many turn-around points. The hike is up to 13 miles round trip, and up to a 1,800 ft. total elevation gain. There are two return times: 4:30 p.m. for those who wish to hike to Pierce Creek or Big Beaver and 3:00 p.m. for those who turn around before. Car pooling will depend upon what return time you select. Meet at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot.

MONDAY, JUNE 11 ADOPT-A-TRAIL work party with Dan Rogers, Ed Rogers son, in the Okanogan National Forest. Wear old clothes, have gloves, a lunch, and fluids to drink. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. Work will be the removal of trees and debris from the Ruby Creek Trail.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13 BAKER RIVER Hike along the Baker River to Sulfide Creek, entering the North Cascades National Park along the way. Dogs are not permitted on the National Park section of the trail. The hike is 5 miles round trip, with a 300 ft. elevation gain. Meet at 8:30 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. A Northwest Forest Pass (parking permit) is required. If you do just the river hike, return to the trailhead at 1:30 p.m.; 2:00 p.m. if you also walk south to Hidden Creek on the north Baker Lake Trail.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20 OLD SAUK RIVER TRAIL

This hike is along the scenic Sauk River. On this low-elevation trail, you will walk through patches of old growth Douglas firs. The hike is 6 miles round trip with little elevation gain. When all the people in your car have returned to the trailhead, you may leave. Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Mount Vernon Safeway.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27 BAKER LAKE TRAIL FROM THE SOUTH

Hike to Maple Grove and Anderson Point, which are 8 miles round trip, with a 620 ft. total elevation gain. If the weather is clear, there are beautiful forests and views of Baker Lake, along with views of Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan. Meet at 8 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot. Return to the trailhead at 2:30 p.m.

THURSDAY JULY 5 HEATHER LAKE Hike to and around a scenic lake at an elevation of 2,400 ft. The hike is off the Mountain Loop Highway near Mt. Pilchuck and is a 4.8 miles round trip with a 1,000 ft. elevation gain. Meet at 8 a.m. in the Mount Vernon Safeway parking lot. Seattle/Snohomish Co/Camano Island

hikers can go directly to the trailhead. Fast hikers return to the trailhead at 1 p.m. Slower hikers return at 2:30 p.m.; carpool accordingly.

MONDAY, JULY 9 ADOPT-A-TRAIL with Dan Rogers in the Okanogan National Forest. The work site is to be announced. Wear old clothes, have gloves, a lunch, and fluids to drink. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11 WILDERNESS HIKE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18 HAPPY CREEK MILL SITE and THUNDER KNOB We will first hike to the Happy Creek Mill site above Ross Dam. It is about 3 miles round trip with about a 500 ft. elevation gain. We will then drive to the Colonial Creek Camp Ground and do the Thunder Knob hike, which is 3.6 miles round trip with a 635 ft. elevation gain. When your car-load of people has returned to each trailhead, you may leave. Meet at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25 WILDERNESS HIKE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1 WILDERNESS HIKE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8 WILDERNESS HIKE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15 SAUK MOUNTAIN This hike is 4.2 miles round trip, with a 1,200 ft. elevation gain. There is also an option to walk down to Sauk Lake, 7.2 miles round trip, with a 2,400 ft. elevation gain. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion. For those who go only to the summit, return to the trailhead at 12:30 p.m. Return at 2:30 p.m. for those who do both the summit and Sauk Lake. Carpool accordingly. Add hikes in Rockport State Park after the Sauk Mountain hike, if you wish.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20 ADOPT-A-TRAIL with Dan Rogers in the Okanogan National Forest. The work site will be determined. Wear old clothes, have gloves, a lunch, and fluids to drink. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion parking lot.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22 BAKER LAKE

TRAIL FROM THE NORTH Hike over the Baker River Bridge, the Blum Creek Bridge, and along the northern section of the Baker Lake Trail to Noisy Creek and back.

It is a 9.2 mile round trip, with a slight elevation gain. Meet at 8 a.m. on the east side of the parking lot at the Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion. A Northwest Forest Pass parking permit is required. At 3 p.m. return to the trailhead

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5 WILDERNESS HIKE



Summer 2012 Calendar

June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30 Hike: Orcas Island	May 31	1	2 NATIONAL TRAILS DAY Deception Pass State Park
3	4	5 SAS Board Meeting: 7:00	6 Hike: Ross Lake, West Shore	7	8	9
10	11 Adopt-A-Trail Work Party	12 General Meeting: Social 7:00 PM/ Meeting 7:30 PM	13 Hike: Baker River	14	15 Klipchuck Campout	16 Klipchuck Campout
17 Klipchuck Campout	18	19	20 Hike: Old Sauk River Trail	21 Field Trip: Big Four Area	22	23
24	25	26	27 Hike: Baker Lake Trail from the South	28	29	30

July 2012

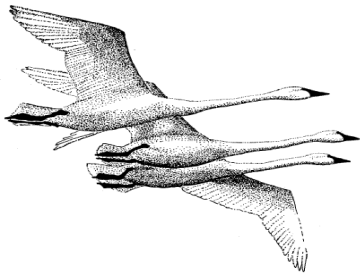
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 July 4th	5 Hike: Heather Lake	6	7 Field Trip: Dragonfly ~ Anacortes
8	9 Adopt-A-Trail Work Party	10	11 Hike: Wilderness Hike	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Hike: Happy Creek Mill Site & Thunder Knob	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Hike: Wilderness Hike	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Hike: Wilderness Hike	2	3	4
5	6 Adopt-A-Trail Work Party	7	8 Hike: Wilderness Hike	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Hike: Sauk Mountain	16	17	18 Field Trip: Pelagic Birding Deadline SAS September Flyer
19	20 Adopt-A-Trail Work Party	21	22 Hike: Baker Lake Trail from the North	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Hike: Wilderness Hike	30	31	Sept. 1
Sept. 2	Sept. 3	Sept. 4 SAS Board Meeting: 7:00	Sept. 5 Hike: Wilderness Hike	Sept. 6	Sept. 7	Sept. 8



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



Check your
address label
for membership
expiration date!

*Summer 2012 Calendar
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ONE Discover Pass Can Be Used for Two Vehicles

The annual Discover Pass is now transferable between two vehicles. For passes already printed, use **ink** to legibly write in a second license number, either in the license plate box or in a blank spot on the front of the pass. In the future, passes will be printed with two lines for license numbers. The pass is still only good for one vehicle at a time.

Field trip attendees need to purchase the **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 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.

Welcome New National Audubon Members

The Skagit Audubon Society welcomes new National Audubon Society members by sending complimentary copies of our newsletter for 3 months. Join us at our monthly programs on the second Tuesday of the month.

National dues do not cover the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter, so if you'd like to receive *The Skagit Flyer* after the complimentary 3 issues, please join **The Skagit Audubon Society**.

Visit our Web site at: www.skagitaudubon.org

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The Skagit Flyer is printed on recycled paper

