



# The Quail

April 2010

NEWS FROM LANE COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY

## From Our President



### Doing your part: inspiration from a loved one

Maeve Sowles

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At times, people ask me what the point is in trying to save habitat or working on education about the environment, because things seem hopeless, and the future is bleak. My answer is that doing nothing accomplishes nothing.

Last month, my dear aunt died at 92 years old. She lived her whole life in Modoc County, at the border of California and Oregon. She was a ranch wife and one of the hardest working people I have ever met. She was an original practitioner of sustainability by necessity, but she did not know that is what it is called. I spent summers in my teenage years helping on their ranch. Growing up in the city, this was high adventure for me, and my aunt was like a second mother. From her, I learned to bake bread, to garden, to compost, to cook a meal for unexpected company in an hour's time, to work hard, to play hard, and get up the next day and do it all again. Work on the ranch was relentless, but nature and beauty were all around and part of each day's rhythm. She gave me vivid memories and fleeting moments of appreciation amid the urgency of getting all the ranch chores finished in a given day. After dinner, we would sit out on the porch and watch the sunset behind the mountains with the afterglow reflected on Goose Lake. We could hear Sandhill Cranes down near the lake, and as the darkness approached, a Great Horned Owl would silently fly out of a big ponderosa pine at the base of the driveway.

My aunt's life was full of hard work, but she was a happy person and always had a flower garden—just because it was beautiful. In that juniper-sagebrush ranch landscape, she had butterflies and hummingbirds using her garden oasis for nectar. She would take care of things because it was the right thing to do, and she never looked for excuses or felt it was something someone else should take care of. She

*continued on page 3*



Debbie Schlenoff

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### The State of the Birds: 2010 Report

**T**he *State of the Birds: 2010 Report* was released this month and furthers last year's work, concluding that about one-third of the nation's 800 bird species are endangered, threatened, or in significant decline. The report confirms that climate change will have a significantly disruptive effect on bird species in all habitats, with oceanic and Hawaiian birds being hit hardest. Climate change will exacerbate the negative effects of habitat destruction, overhunting, pesticides, and loss of wetlands. "Just as they did in 1962 when Rachel Carson published *Silent Spring*, our migratory birds are sending us a message about the health of our planet," said Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior.

Climate change is causing many birds to shift ranges, which makes them more vulnerable to loss of habitat. An increase in the frequency and severity of storms will cause additional stress. Changes in water temperature and acidity will affect many of the food webs that birds rely on. Increasing temperatures will affect some arctic birds as well as species that depend on high altitude habitat. Mosquito-borne diseases will increase. Grasslands will become more arid, and forests will experience the effects of precipitation changes and face an

*"About one-third of the nation's 800 bird species are endangered, threatened, or in significant decline."*

increase in insect pests. Migratory birds will suffer a mismatch in the timing of food resources. For example, studies have shown that some insect populations are peaking earlier than in the past so that by the time migratory birds arrive and nest, they do not have enough food for their nestlings.

Data from various sources, including the Audubon Christmas Bird Counts, were used to rank the vulnerability of species to climate change based on factors such as how many young they produce each year, how well they are able to move to new habitats, and how specialized their food and nesting needs are. Oceanic birds, such as petrels and albatrosses, are species most at risk because they raise few young each year. They also face the challenges of diminishing food supplies from a rapidly changing marine ecosystem, and they nest on islands faced with flooding from rising sea levels. Birds in coastal, arctic, alpine, and grassland habitats generally show intermediate levels of vulnerability to climate change. Less vulnerable species, in general, are birds in arid lands, wetlands, and forests. This is relative, however, as about one-third of the 312 forest breeding species—especially aerial insectivores—still show high or medium vulnerability to climate change.

The report noted that climate change in all habitats may accelerate declines of species that are already of concern. Simultaneously, some birds that are abundant today, such as the American Oystercatcher, Common Nighthawk, and Northern Pintail, may become species of concern as the impacts of climate change intensify. The report stressed the importance of taking action that both reduces carbon emissions and maintains habitat. "Preservation of forests with the highest



*Black Oystercatcher*  
Photo by Roy Lowe

## The State of the Birds: 2010 Report, *continued*

carbon stores such as the moist mature and old-growth forests of the Pacific Northwest would prevent vast amount of carbon from reaching the atmosphere if these forests were logged,” the report stated. “Additionally, preservation of these forests provides habitat protection for the threatened and declining Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet.” The report also noted the potential impact energy projects can have on grassland ecosystems, and it is important to make proper siting decisions for projects targeting those ecosystems. “Habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation from the development of new wind farms and associated transportation corridors and power lines can cause direct mortality and indirect impacts to birds.”

*“Climate change will exacerbate the negative effects of habitat destruction, over-hunting, pesticides, and loss of wetlands.”*



American Avocet  
Photo by John Bendell

Other recommendations included in the report:

- Implement effective programs to monitor how birds respond to climate change
- Take immediate action to reduce carbon emissions
- Conserve carbon-rich forests and wetlands, and create incentives to avoid deforestation
- Manage vegetation for accumulation of biomass on site
- Increase restoration of native vegetation and wildlife habitats to sequester carbon
- Establish new farming practices with incentives in the Farm Bill that promote habitat diversity and result in healthier ecosystems, healthier farms and farm products
- Provide active land management especially of grasslands and wetlands
- Address threats such as “intensification of agriculture, overgrazing, invasive species, and suburban and urban development”
- Establish regulations to reduce bird kills in fishing operations
- Connect landscapes by creating corridors
- Create new wildlife refuges

*The State of the Birds* report was a collaboration between government wildlife agencies and scientific and conservation organizations. For more information, visit [www.stateofthebirds.org](http://www.stateofthebirds.org).

### Doing your part: inspiration from a loved one, *continued from page 1*

lived fully and was strong and stubborn about always wanting to do her part. I guess that is one thing I learned from her: jump in there and do your part. Do what it is that needs doing and don't expect someone else to do it for you.

We only have so many springtimes in our life to enjoy; we only have a limited number of years to see the fruit trees blossom and the swallows return. These are important things to appreciate, cherish, and share with others! Our lives are finite, and there is always more work to do.



The 5th Annual  
**FERN RIDGE**  
**WINGS & WINE**  
**FESTIVAL**



In Celebration of International Migratory Bird Day

**Domaine Meriwether • Veneta, Oregon**

Birding Walks • Canoe Trips • Live Raptors • Educational Speakers • Guided Birding Tour  
 Wine Tasting at Local Wineries • Children's Activities • Native Plant Sale  
 Some Activities Require Pre-Registration and Fees

**LANE ELECTRIC**  
ASSOCIATES

**BUCK'S**  
SALES & SERVICE

**EPOR**  
ORANGE COUNTY EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION

Grounds Open 10am - 4pm • See Full Schedule at [www.wingsandwinefestival.com](http://www.wingsandwinefestival.com)

In Association with Domaine Meriwether and the City of Veneta, the Lane County Audubon Society, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Travel Lane County, Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce, South Willamette Wineries Association & Cascades Raptor Center

For More Information: 541 935 8841

[www.wingsandwinefestival.com](http://www.wingsandwinefestival.com)

## A Message from Lane Audubon Board of Directors

Maeve Sowles, President

541.343.8664

president@laneaudubon.org



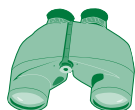
We ask you to become a local member of Lane County Audubon Society and support our grassroots efforts in the local community. All of your local dues stay here to help us work on local education projects and conservation issues related to birds and their habitats. With your support, we will continue to do the things you expect from us. We welcome your suggestions—this is your Audubon!

### Lane Audubon Membership Benefits



*The Quail*

- **The Quail**  
9 issues/year



- **Field Trips and Bird Walks**



- **Program Meetings**



- **Educational Publications**



- **Conservation Issue Representation**



- **Answers to Questions:**  
541.485.BIRD

Visit our web site:  
[www.laneaudubon.org](http://www.laneaudubon.org)

### Lane Audubon welcomes you—join or renew today!

Lane County Audubon Society needs your local membership dues to keep our various programs alive! This means that your membership dues for National Audubon Society no longer support a membership in your local chapter. Become a member of Lane Audubon today to help us continue our educational programs and our work in protecting birds, other wildlife, and their habitats in Lane County. We appreciate your support.

#### Lane Audubon membership dues

- ☐ Individual \$20 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Students and Seniors (65 and over) \$15 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Family \$25 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Lifetime Membership \$400 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I want to do more. Here's my tax deductible contribution for .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Total enclosed (check payable to Lane County Audubon Society) ....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you are a current National Audubon member ☐ Don't know

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you prefer to receive your newsletter by email.

*Lane Audubon will not release your personal information to other organizations. We will use it only for Lane Audubon communications.*

#### Please contact me regarding

- ☐ Gift memberships
- ☐ Volunteering for Lane Audubon activities
- ☐ Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program
- ☐ I'd like to receive email alerts about conservation issues.

#### Mail this form and your payment to:

Lane County Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 5086  
Eugene, OR 97405

facebook

## Check us out on Facebook

Lane Audubon is now on Facebook! Please join our page and stay informed about events, bird walks, news, and conservation issues. Share bird sightings, photos, links, events, nature news, and stories at [www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824](http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824).

## Electronic version of *The Quail* available!

Beginning in April, Lane County Audubon Society will offer an electronic version of *The Quail*. Each month, Lane Audubon will send a link to your email address that will take you to a pdf version of our newsletter. Of course, you still have the option to continue receiving *The Quail* in the mail. If you would like to begin receiving *The Quail* electronically or would like more information, please contact Jim Blick: [blick37@comcast.net](mailto:blick37@comcast.net).



*The Quail*

### Deadlines

May–June issue: April 10  
July–August issue: June 10

Submit material to  
Rob Hoshaw, editor  
[rhoshaw@gmail.com](mailto:rhoshaw@gmail.com)

*The Quail* is the newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society, which is a chartered chapter of National Audubon Society. Nine issues are published per year (May/June, July/Aug., and Dec./Jan. are double issues).

Local members of National Audubon Society receive a free subscription to *The Quail*, but are encouraged to voluntarily join Lane Audubon (see page 5).

**Subscriptions:** Contact Jim Blick at 541.683.4635 or [blick37@comcast.net](mailto:blick37@comcast.net).

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### Lane Audubon Officers and Board Members

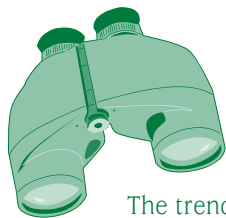
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## Field Notes: February 2010



- Say's Phoebe says yes to spring
- Red-shouldered Hawk: first one spotted in Mohawk Valley
- Black Scoter: elusive diver found on coast
- Wild Turkeys take to the trees at fairgrounds

The trend to warmer and drier weather than normal continued during February with some very springlike days! As is normal this time of year, some of the early migrants have already arrived or have been seen moving through the area. Many more migrants should be arriving, and most of the wintering species should be leaving over the next couple of months.

### WATERBIRDS

|                                  |           |                     |          |   |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------|---|
| Greater White-fronted Goose (23) | Feb. 7    | Eugene airport area | RR       | A large flock for non-migration time                            |
| Greater White-fronted Goose (8)  | Feb. 14   | N. F. Siuslaw River | B&ZS     | Not a normal wintering location                                 |
| Tundra Swan (2)                  | Feb. 15   | Deflation Plain     | B&ZS     | The last report for the area                                    |
| Eurasian Wigeon (2)              | Feb. 7    | Kirk Pond           | RR       | Always a good location for this species                         |
| Eurasian Wigeon (2)              | Feb. 8    | Fiddle Creek        | B&ZS     | They've been here all winter.                                   |
| Cinammon Teal                    | Jan. 2    | Fiddle Creek        | B&ZS     | An early migrant?   |
| Black Scoter                     | Jan. 3    | Bob Creek           | B&ZS     | Not easy to find along the Lane County coast anymore            |
| Horned Grebe                     | Jan./Feb. | Siuslaw River mouth | B&ZS     | They haven't been seen this winter when they're normally common |
| Clark's Grebe                    | Feb. 21   | Siuslaw River mouth | B&ZS     | Never common on the coast                                       |
| Brown Pelican                    | Feb.      | Florence area       | DF,LC    | Small numbers continued to be seen through the month            |
| Green Heron (2)                  | Feb. 24   | E. Regional Park    | DS,et al | Wintering birds or early migrants?                              |

### GALLINACEOUS BIRDS, RAPTORS, and CRANES

|                     |         |                    |       |  |
|---------------------|---------|--------------------|-------|--|
| Wild Turkey (20)    | Feb. 22 | Fairgrounds area   | DT,EM | Roosting in trees for the first time in the neighborhood   |
| Turkey Vulture      | Feb.    | Eugene/Springfield | m.ob. | Numerous reports during the last month; are they early migrants or just wintering birds moving around the area?  |
| Osprey              | Feb.    | Willamette River   | JC,AM | At least one has been seen near the river between Alton Baker Park and Marist H.S. most of the month             |
| Osprey              | Feb. 23 | Florence           | B&ZS  | Same bird seen on the Florence CBC?  |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | Feb. 11 | Mohawk Valley      | LMO   | First time this species has been seen in the Mohawk Valley   |
| Sandhill Crane (50) | Feb. 16 | Eugene             | SMc   | First flock seen during their northward migration and just a couple days earlier than avg. for the last 14 years |

### PASSERINES

|                    |         |                     |       |  |
|--------------------|---------|---------------------|-------|--|
| Band-tailed Pigeon | Feb. 28 | S. of Eugene        | MS    | About a 1.5 weeks earlier than avg. for last 14 years, but right on schedule for the last five years |
| Rufous Hummingbird | Feb. 19 | S. of Florence      | DF    | A normal time for their arrival  |
| Rufous Hummingbird | Feb. 19 | Hendricks Park area | MP    | Just a day earlier than avg. for the last 11 years   |
| Lewis's Woodpecker | Feb.    | FRR – Royal Ave     | m.ob. | They're still being seen in good numbers.  |

## Volunteer opportunities

### Audubon in the Schools

*Audubon in the Schools* will be recruiting instructors for the program this spring, with training commencing in early summer. Please consider joining this very active program. We depend on new instructors for our continued success.

To find out more about volunteering, contact Kris Kirkeby at 541.349.2439 or [k2kirck@comcast.net](mailto:k2kirck@comcast.net).

### Volunteers needed for Lane Audubon's booth operations

If you'd like to help Lane Audubon in a big way but don't have a lot of time available, here are a couple of ways to get involved. We need one or two people to take over the Lane Audubon booth setup and takedown, as well as someone to coordinate the scheduling of booth staffers.

Booth setup/takedown involves delivering and erecting our portable booth, tables, and display materials, and then dismantling them after the event is over.

If you're more comfortable indoors and have some basic computer organizational skills, such as sending e-mail messages and putting together staffing schedules, you could help Lane Audubon by sending out announcements alerting our volunteers of booth staffing opportunities.

Orientation and training for those volunteer positions will be provided.

*To learn more about booth volunteering, please contact Ron Renchler at 541.345.0834 or [christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net).*

## Field Notes: February 2010, *continued*

### PASSERINES, continued

|                   |         |                      |     |  |
|-------------------|---------|----------------------|-----|--|
| Black Phoebe (3)  | Feb. 5  | Waste Water Facility | JC  | Becoming more widespread each year                     |
| Say's Phoebe      | Feb. 19 | N. Eugene            | DS  | A couple weeks earlier than avg. for the last 11 years |
| Horned Lark (3)   | Feb. 22 | Cantrell Rd          | JHs | An area where they've been seen in the past            |
| Tree Swallow (40) | Feb. 9  | FRR – Royal Ave      | JHn | Just a few days later than avg. for the last 17 years  |

### Abbreviations

**E. Regional Park:** East Regional Park, Cottage Grove,  
**Waste Water Facility:** Eugene Waste Water Facility,  
**FRR:** Fern Ridge Reservoir, **m.ob.:** many observers,  
**N. F. Siuslaw River:** North Fork of the Siuslaw River,  
**deflation plain:** South Jetty of the Siuslaw River deflation plain

### Thank you, contributors!

**JC:** Jim Carlson, **LC:** Lydia Cruz, **JD:** Jim DeLapp, **DF:** Daniel Farrar,  
**JHn:** Judie Hansen, **JHs:** Jeff Hayes, **SMc:** Steve McDonald, **LMO:** Linda Mello,  
**AM:** Allison Mickel, **EM** Ed Murphy, **MP:** Magnus Persmark, **RR:** Roger Robb,  
**DS:** Don Schrouder, **MS:** Maeve Sowles, **B&ZS** Bill & Zanah Stotz,  
**DT:** Donna Taggart



*Ring-necked Duck pair*  
 Photo by Cary Kerst



## Community Calendar, Events, and Opportunities

*A service to Lane Audubon members*

### Signs of Spring Family Walk

#### Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

Come out to the Arboretum and see nature about to burst with life. Walk the trails with experienced Nature Guide Tom Bettman on this family oriented walk.

**Saturday April 3, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**

*Meet at the Arboretum Visitors Center:*

*Fee: \$5 Adults/\$2 Kids; FMI: 541.747.1504*

### Eggs and Nests

#### Willamette Resources Education Network (WREN)

Discover the beauty and wonder of wetland bird nests and eggs. During the program, participants will have the opportunity to paint an egg to take home.

**Saturday, April 3, 10:00–11:30 a.m.**

*Meet at the West Eugene Wetlands Yurt, 751 Danebo*

*Ave.; \$7 donation; FMI: Holly McRae at 541.683.6494 or*

*hmcrae@wewetlands.org.*

### Life Histories of Cascadia Butterflies

#### North American Butterfly Association

Speaker David James, professor of entomology at Washington State University discusses the ecology and life cycles of Cascadia butterflies. James recently completed a study of the rearing and life cycles of 160 butterflies.

**Monday April 5, 7:00 p.m.**

*EWEB Training Center, 400 E. 5th St., Eugene*

### Travel Photography

#### Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

Join photographer David Stone and learn how to bring back photos that tell a compelling story of your travels. Pick up tips on people, action, and location to create stunning and imaginative photos. The first educational session will end with an assignment to practice the techniques taught. In the followup session, bring your images for evaluation and further instruction. Digital and film cameras welcome.

**Saturday April 10, 1:00–4:00 p.m. and**

**Saturday April 17, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**

*Registration required (\$25);*

*Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center; FMI: 541.747.1504*

### Eugene Birder's Night

An informal gathering of birders sharing Lane County sightings. All levels of birding experience welcome.

**Monday, April 12, 7:00 p.m.**

*Conference Room A (across hall from Auditorium),*

*Sacred Heart Hospital, 1255 Hilyard St., Eugene*

### Wetland Wander, Tsanchiifn Trail

#### Willamette Resources Education Network (WREN)

Wetland Wanders are casual walks through various West Eugene Wetlands sites on the second Tuesday of each month. This month we walk along the Tsanchiifn Trail.

**Tuesday, April 13, 9:00–10:00 a.m.**

*Free! WREN will provide binoculars.*

*FMI: 541.683.6494 or [info@wewetlands.org](mailto:info@wewetlands.org).*

### Atlantic Coast Fresh Water Tidal Swamps

#### Eugene Natural History Society

Not all tidal swamps are filled with salt water. Some of the most fascinating ones, brimming with life, have only fresh water. These swamps will come alive when Dean Walton, UO ecologist and science librarian, gives a talk on the fresh water tidal swamps of the Atlantic Coast.

**Friday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.**

*Room 100, Willamette Hall, UO Campus*

### Devil's Staircase Wilderness

#### Oregon Wild Hike

Visit one of Oregon's most beautiful wild places, learn about how it is managed, and how you can help protect it.

**Saturday, April 17**

*FMI: Chandra LeGue at 541.344.0675, [cl@oregonwild.org](mailto:cl@oregonwild.org),*

*or [www.oregonwild.org](http://www.oregonwild.org)*

### Bird Walk: Birds in Transition

#### Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

Enjoy the morning chorus as experienced bird guide Davey Wendt helps you identify and appreciate the Arboretum's many feathered friends. We will look for early spring migrants such as Orange-crowned Warbler and Hutton's Vireo, and lingering winter species such as Varied Thrush and Golden and Ruby Crowned Kinglet.

**Sunday April 18, 8:00–10:00 a.m.**

*Meet at the Arboretum Visitors Center; \$5;*

*FMI: 541.747.1504*

### Medicinal Herb Walk

#### Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

Explore the world of northwest medicinal herbs with herbalist Sue Sierralupe. She will discuss the medicinal properties, folklore, traditional uses, and ecology of Southern Willamette Valley herbs.

**Saturday April 24, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**

*Meet at the Arboretum Visitors Center; \$5;*

*FMI: 541.747.1504.*

## Audubon Adventures

### 2009–10 Audubon Adventures: Last chance to sponsor!

Debra Eichner 541.607.6123 aceichner@msn.com

A few classes have not received sponsorship. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please mail a check of \$45 to LCAS at PO Box 5086, Eugene OR, 97405 and include a note indicating how you would like us to use your contribution. Your contribution is tax deductible.

#### Schools Needing Sponsors

| School                    | Grade     |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Guy Lee Elementary        | 4,5 blend |
| Ridgeview Elementary      | 6         |
| Meadow View School        | 6         |
| Willagillespie Elementary | 4         |

#### Thanks to a new sponsor:

| School      | Grade | Sponsor     |
|-------------|-------|-------------|
| Awbrey Park | 4     | Betsy Parry |

*Audubon Adventures* is a standards-based classroom curriculum supplement that focuses on science and conservation action. Content is rooted in the core elementary science, language arts, and social studies (civics) curricula. This year's kit features the theme "Action for Planet Earth" with lessons focusing on water, energy, and habitats. Thirty-five local classrooms are using this curriculum this year thanks to the generous support of Lane Audubon members.

## Annual Coast Conference Sponsored By Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition

### "Oregon Coast: Changes Coming"

The theme for the annual Coast Conference sponsored by the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition is "Oregon's Coast: Changes Coming." The conference takes place May 7–8 at Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC) in Coos Bay.

Speakers will discuss various aspects of climate change and how they are likely to affect Oregon's coast and ocean. The conference will kick off Friday evening with a slide presentation by internationally renowned photographer Gary Braasch, author of *Earth Under Fire: How Global Warming is Changing the World*. Saturday's speakers include geologist Curt Peterson, geoscientist Peter Ruggiero, Lesley Ewing of the California Coastal Commission, and Mayor Lori Hollingsworth of Lincoln City. An afternoon cruise aboard the Betty Kay will launch from Charleston and explore the bay as far as the Coos Bay waterfront.

Except for the cruise, a fundraiser for the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, the conference is free and open to all. For more information, see [oregonshores.org/coastwatch.php5](http://oregonshores.org/coastwatch.php5).



### Olympic Birdfest 2010 April 9–11, 2010 in Sequim, WA

**A bird watching vacation** for beginners to experts, from leisurely strolls to active hikes. Bird for a few hours, or all day ... from the dawn chorus to the evening owl prowl.

**Enjoy the show** from guided birding trips, boat tours, silent auction, salmon banquet, and more.

**Also this year!** Stay on for a three day, two night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands. Register at [www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org](http://www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org).

**BirdFest program information and registration can be found at** [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org).

## Program Meeting: Tuesday, April 27



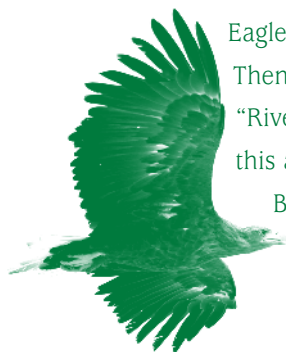
### Raptor Migration: From Bonney Butte to Veracruz

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Join local naturalist Rick Ahrens for a remarkable look at raptor migration. We'll begin the tour start here in Oregon at the Hawkwatch site on Bonney Butte near Mt. Hood where thousands of Cooper's Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Golden Eagles, and hundreds of Merlins pass through each fall. Then we'll travel to Veracruz, Mexico for the famous "River of Raptors". Four to five million birds pass through this area every fall. Veracruz is a migration hotspot for Broad-winged Hawks, Swainson's Hawks, Turkey Vultures, and Mississippi Kites.



#### PROGRAM MEETING

*Raptor Migration:  
From Bonney Butte to Veracruz*

*by Rick Ahrens*

**Tuesday, April 27**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High Street, Eugene**

### Wildlife Sanctuary Birdwatching Advisory 2010

Four units at Fern Ridge Wildlife Area are designated as wildlife sanctuaries following the end of duck season on January 31 and continuing through April 30. The seasonal access restrictions are in place to provide wildlife sanctuary. Of particular importance in the late winter and springtime period is providing rest areas for waterfowl and other wetland-dependent species prior to migration and nesting season. Recent morning fly-off counts of Canada Geese at Fern Ridge documented over 40,000 geese flying off the lake at sunrise. The birds congregate in various fields, and when a walker approaches the large flocks, the birds leave the area. When this happens several times each day by people entering closed areas, the geese leave the area and do not have an opportunity to forage and rest. The functional value of the wildlife sanctuary is diminished when the birds are not allowed to use the area undisturbed. Thank you for your cooperation at this time.

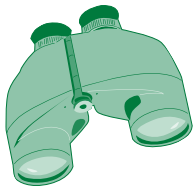
#### East and West Coyote Units, February 1–April 30

Open to public on Saturdays for birdwatching. Closed Sunday through Friday to all public access to protect wintering waterfowl. Dogs must be kept on leash at all times, and the discharge of firearms is prohibited. Exception: Designated trail to East Coyote unit viewing platform accessible from Nielson Road parking lot remains open daily year-round.

#### Fisher Butte and Royal Amazon Units, February 1–April 30

Open to public on Saturdays for birdwatching. Closed Sunday through Friday to all public access to protect wintering waterfowl. Dogs must be kept on leash at all times and discharge of firearms is prohibited. Exception: Royal Avenue and trail to Fisher Butte unit viewing platform remain open daily, year-round. Effective this year, the designated trail to the south Fisher Butte unit viewing platform accessible from Hwy 126 also remains open daily.

For questions, please contact: Wayne Morrow, Fern Ridge Wildlife Area Manager, at 541.935.2591.



## Bird Walks and Events

Leila Snow

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**Monthly Bird Walk:** Our monthly bird walks are usually held on the third Saturday of the month, but we often have additional walks or special trips. With knowledgeable leaders and many pairs of eyes to help spot birds, our trips are a great way to increase your birding skills while learning about Lane County birds and their habitats. All birders are welcome, from novice to expert. A \$3 donation is suggested.

## Welcome Back Swifts!

**Friday,  
April 16 and  
April 23**

It's springtime, and Lane Audubon is again hosting "Welcome Back Swifts!" events at sunset outside Agate Hall. We hope to see thousands of Vaux's swifts entering the chimney to roost for the night. The birds begin circling about 1/2 hour before sunset. Audubon will have information and answer questions.

*Agate Hall is at 1787 Agate Street. Park on Agate or 17th or 18th Ave. Look for the Lane Audubon banner.*

## Third Saturday Bird Walk: Warblers at Skinner Butte with Dan Heyerly

**Saturday,  
April 17**

Ah, Spring! Spring brings more light, earlier birding (note the 7:30 a.m. start time), and migration. There's no better place to view migrating warblers than Skinner Butte, a well known high point in the Willamette Valley that attracts migrating birds. Our leaders will help us find and identify these small birds of the treetops. All levels of birders are welcome, from first timer to expert.

*We will meet, rain or shine, at 7:30 a.m. at the South Eugene High School parking lot (19th and Patterson St.) and will return by 11 a.m. Please note: As a precaution, do not leave valuables in your parked car.*

## Program Meeting

**Raptor Migration:  
From Bonney Butte to Veracruz**

**by Rick Ahrens**



*Photo courtesy of US Forest Service*

**Tuesday, April 27**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High Street, Eugene**



NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
LANE COUNTY CHAPTER

*The Quail*

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