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# The Quail

News from Lane County Audubon Society



## From Our President

Maeve Sowles, 541.343.8664, audubon@laneaudubon.org

## Many Thanks to Our Supporters and Volunteers!

We truly appreciate our members who send in donations and local membership fees to help keep us operating financially. As a result of our annual request for support, we can continue with our various outreach activities. These include: Programs at the Campbell Center, the Lights Out Campaign with window clings (signs) to give to participants, the *Quail* newsletter, Audubon phone, website and other social media platforms. The Audubon Adventures kits are well supported by loyal members who donate every school year! Our Audubon in the Schools volunteers will resume activities in the spring.

The 2023 year has brought us new volunteers who are contributing

time and energy in many ways. New volunteers have stepped in to help us as Board members, bird outing leaders, and booth volunteers! We are happy to have two UO student interns helping with our Bird Friendly City project and with our technical set up for Zoom programs. We can always use more help, so please check out the specific positions available on page 4 and on the website.

Looking forward to 2024 we hope to expand some of our outreach

efforts, but everything we do is done by volunteers. Our conservation and education teams are hard at work with many issues and projects, for which we could use extra energy and effort from those of you who would like to help us make a difference. We hope to expand the Bird Friendly City program by networking with our statewide Oregon Audubon Council cohorts. Each community can utilize this model to do more with respect to protecting the environment for birds, other animals, and people as well.

We truly value your support in whatever way you can help. Our members keep us ticking along with donations of money or time. Thank you to each of you who support Lane Audubon!



Lane County Audubon Society

541.485.BIRD

laneaudubon.org

P.O. Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405

facebook.com/Lane-County-Audubon-Society-330177413824/



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## Conservation

Debbie Schlenoff, 541.685.0610, debschlenoff@gmail.com

# Share Your Opinions on This State Park Proposal



photo: Michael Rivera, Wikimedia

**O**n the state level, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) is **seeking input on drone regulations** at state parks. Please use the following information to weigh in before December 29 at: [oregon.gov/oprd/PRP/Pages/PRP-drone-workgroup.aspx](https://oregon.gov/oprd/PRP/Pages/PRP-drone-workgroup.aspx)

Drones have been shown to stress and scatter birds, interrupt feeding, disturb nesting, increase the vulnerability of eggs and nestlings, and sap energy through response attacks. Raptors, especially, will defend territories. Other states, such as Texas, Florida, and Arizona, simply ban drone use in their State Parks, as does the National Park Service, yet this option does not appear to be under consideration in Oregon. Currently, they are providing a generic map sample of where drones are allowed, but it is essential that details of every state park's drone map be made available for public comment. This will ensure that local knowledge is integrated, so that birds and other wildlife are protected where they occur.

- It is concerning that rather than prohibiting drones in areas where wildlife concentrates for migration,

breeding, nesting, or wintering, “conditional permits” will be allowed for drone use. Wild bird populations in the continental U.S. and Canada have declined by almost 30% since 1970 with billions of common birds lost. The OPRD should aim to protect all birds and wildlife from harassment by drones, not just state- or federally-protected species.

- Areas containing critical habitat for state- or federally-protected species will also allow permitting. It should be assumed that areas that contain critical habitat for wildlife may also contain the species themselves, and drone use should be prohibited.
- OPRD should not allow the proposed small islands for drone use within larger prohibited and conditional zones. These smaller

- drone use areas will negate any protections for surrounding areas.
  - At a minimum, drone take off and landings should be allowed at only a handful of parks per region, to ensure there are sufficient spaces for park users to enjoy quiet recreation, including bird and wildlife viewing.
  - When considering comments, OPRD should give greater weight to input from Oregonians versus out-of-state respondents organized by the drone user groups. Oregonians recreate in state parks every day of the year and are the people who pay for these parks.
  - OPRD should reassemble the stakeholder workgroup to review public feedback and adjust mapping criteria accordingly.
  - For the long-term, OPRD needs to include in its drone policy a formal adaptive management plan, with adequate public participation, to allow adjustments to take-off and landing areas as new issues arise.
- Express your opinion at the link above. Then go listen to birdsongs and connect with nature in one of our parks. It's good for us on so many levels.

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## These Fall Interns Have Accomplished Much



*A big shout out to our UO Environmental Science Interns, Bella Lee and Jill Taylor, for all their contributions and their stellar help with our Lights Out Campaign. Thank you!*

Lane Audubon is fortunate to participate in the University of Oregon's Environmental Science (ENVS) Internship Programs. ENVS students may register for the internship program “class” and receive credit for working with non-profits in the area. In addition to academic credit, this satisfies the “Practical Learning Experience” requirement for majors. This program is a win-win. It introduces students to issues that non-profits address, provides a platform

*continued on page 4*

## Field Notes: October 2023

Tom and Allison Mickel, atmickel@gmail.com

# Mountain Chickadee, Prairie Falcon, Lapland Longspur, Snow Bunting, Orchard Oriole

A mostly wet month except for a cold, sunny week at the end. High elevation/northern breeding birds appeared to be moving into the lowlands this fall/early winter. Mountain Chickadees and Pygmy Nuthatches have already been reported in the area. The Portland area had a report of Pine Grosbeaks, so keep your eyes and ears open for these unusual species in the valley.

### Abbreviations:

Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

Ross's Goose	Oct 16	FRR	JS	First report for the winter – uncommon
Tundra Swan	Oct 27	FRR	JS	First report for the winter
Eurasian Wigeon (2)	Oct 8	SJSR	DF,RF	First report for the winter
Sandhill Crane	Oct 15	FRR	MW	Rarely found at this location
American Golden-Plover	Oct	SJSR	M.ob.	More commonly found than usual
Pacific Golden-Plover	Oct	SJSR	M.ob.	More commonly found than usual
Red Phalarope (30)	Oct 8	SJSR	DF,RF	Earlier than normal for this migrant
Iceland Gull	Oct 20	Florence	AC,TJ	First report for the winter
Prairie Falcon	Oct 29	Junction City area	EG	Very early for this uncommon winter species
Mountain Chickadee	Oct	Eugene/Springfield	M.ob.	Many reports around town – quite unusual
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (75)	Oct 13	North Sister	PR	Large number, but usual location
Lapland Longspur (4)	Oct 24	Siltcoos River mouth	LH	Unusual migrant along the coast
Snow Bunting	Oct 30	Siltcoos River mouth	LH	Unusual migrant along the coast
Swamp Sparrow	Oct 14	Mt Pisgah	JS,NB	Earlier than normal
Orchard Oriole	Oct 20	SJSR	JS,NB	Third record for Lane Co – all in last 3 yrs
Yellow Warbler	Oct 24	South Eugene	AC	A couple weeks later than normal

AC Alan Contreras, DF Daniel Farrar, EG Emily Grossman, JS John Sullivan, LH Lars Hove, MW Madeline Wainscott, NB Neil Bjorkland, PR Peter Ralph, RF Rachael Friese, TJ Tye Jeske, M.ob. signifies many observers.



Photo: Mike's Birds, Wikimedia Commons

Mountain Chickadee



Photo: Bill Bouton, Wikimedia Commons

Prairie Falcon



Photo: Omar Rundfisson, Wikimedia Commons

Lapland Larkspur



Photo: Mike Pennington, Wikimedia Commons

Snow Bunting



Photo: Dan Pancamo, Wikimedia Commons

Orchard Oriole



# LCAS Volunteer Positions Available

**L**CAS recruits new volunteers for our many outreach efforts and initiatives. Whether you have a lot of time to give or just a little, we always welcome your help. For information on any of the following positions, contact Ron Renschler, [christyandron2@gmail.com](mailto:christyandron2@gmail.com), 541.345.0834. Visit [laneaudubon.org/volunteer/](https://laneaudubon.org/volunteer/) for a more complete listing of our volunteer needs.

**Booth and tabling coordinator:** This person schedules and sets up the LCAS booth or table at local events both large (booth) and small (table). All materials for both types of events are kept in a storage unit and can be loaded into your vehicle at your convenience. A booth staffing schedule is set up in advance, with an email list of volunteers provided. The time commitment for this position is about 3-4 hours 3-4 times per year. Shadowing with the current coordinator will be provided, so orientation for this position is spread

out over the year.

**Booth and tabling staff:** Our booth provides local festival attendees with info on LCAS's bird outings and bird-related presentations, as well as educational and conservation efforts. Two-hour time slots are usually scheduled, with two volunteers scheduled at the same time. No experience is necessary; training will be provided. The time commitment for booth staffers is about 2 hours 3-4 times per year. Join our email list today and we'll let you know when and where you can volunteer for LCAS's next booth or tabling event!

**Display coordinator:** Schedule our bird, nest, and egg displays at local libraries, schools, and other sites. A list of potential display sites will be provided. Set up and take down the displays. No experience is necessary; orientation sessions will be provided. Time commitment: 2-3 hours per month. For a more complete

description of this position, see page 7 of the September 2023 *The Quail*: [laneaudubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Sept23-Quail\\_web.pdf](https://laneaudubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Sept23-Quail_web.pdf)

Thanks in advance for volunteering!

## Reminder: It's Not Too Late to Give

Although the November issue of *The Quail* contained LCAS's annual fundraising request, it's not too late to give to the organization if you haven't yet done so. You can donate either by mailing your tax-deductible check to LCAS, PO Box 5086, Eugene OR 97405, or going to the LCAS donation web page at [laneaudubon.org/donate/](https://laneaudubon.org/donate/).

Thank you if you've already given, and thank you in advance if you plan to donate before the year's end!

### Conservation *continued from page 2*

for their engagement, and gives them on-the-ground experience.

In turn, non-profits benefit from their engagement, perspective, and assistance. In advance of fall term, we put out a call for interns to help with some of our initiatives, especially our Lights Out and Bird Friendly City programs, and received a robust response from interested students. We were lucky to recruit Bella Lee and Jill Taylor, who have made important contributions as interns for fall term. They have helped with tech set-up during our hybrid monthly programs, helped spruce up our bird- and pollinator-friendly gardens at two area schools, assisted with social media outreach, and helped launch our

Lights Out Campaign.

Here's a partial list of some of their accomplishments in advancing the Lights Out Campaign. They created a survey to gather information from people about light issues and to address concerns about light reduction. They helped spread the word through outreach to other student organizations on the UO campus, posting informative handouts and Lights Out Campaign fliers in a number of locations. They started a monitoring program to identify areas around town and on campus in need of light mitigation. This included a picture and description of each local business, highlighting businesses that leave all their lights on through the night,

staying brightly lit even after business hours.

This information will help us as we reach out to community members in order to raise awareness about light pollution and how to reduce it. They have also participated in a "lights" tour on campus with Whitey Lueck, who is helping to educate community members about this issue. See: [sites.google.com/site/whiteylueck/outdoor-lighting](https://sites.google.com/site/whiteylueck/outdoor-lighting). As a followup, Bella and Jill are in the process of working with Whitey to create YouTube and TikTok videos.

We are so appreciative of their productivity, as well as the passion, intelligence, and creativity they have brought to this project!

## LCAS Program—In Person and Zoom Tuesday, January 23, 7:00 pm

Dennis Arendt, 541.221.3691, dennisarendt@gmail.com



Photo: Magnus Persmark

*Black-and-Red Broadbill*



Photo: Magnus Persmark

*Rafflesia*



Photo: Magnus Persmark

*Crimson-headed Partridge*



Photo: Magnus Persmark

*Long-tailed Macaque*



Photo: Magnus Persmark

*Orangutan*



*Magnus Persmark*

In April of 2023, Magnus Persmark and his wife, Rosie Hammond, joined a small group led by a local guide, that explored the Malaysian part of Borneo for several weeks. Although focused on birds, Magnus will share some of their overall experiences there in this presentation.

Borneo, the third largest island in the world, straddles the equator. From the alpine meadows of Mount Kinabalu, at 13,400 feet the highest point between New Guinea and the Himalayas, montane rainforests fan out towards the lowlands. Here they meet peaty swamps, mangrove flats, and a lowland rainforest dominated by dipterocarps, a tree family with a center of diversity in Borneo, but also found in the tropics around the globe.

This lowland rainforest formed around 140 million years ago, making it the second oldest on Earth after Australia's Daintree. With 3,000

tree species plus 12,000 plants that include orchids, pitcher plants, and the remarkable *Rafflesia*, these forests are astoundingly rich in fauna. Only the Amazon basin supports more species. This is in part due to the island having repeatedly become part of, then separated from, other parts of Southeast Asia over geological time. The unique biotopes include “sky islands” along the mountainous spine that are home to several very restricted and endemic plant and animal species.

However, the greatest floral and faunal diversity is found in the lowland rain forests. Due to infertile soils, these vast forests remained inhabited by only small numbers of tribes known for head-hunting, along with such charismatic mammals as the Orangutan, Borneo Pygmy Elephant, Sumatran Rhino, Proboscis Monkey, and Cloud Leopard.

Together with numerous smaller, nocturnal, strange, and little-known creatures like Flying Foxes, Civet Cats, Slow Lories, strikingly plumaged birds, electric-colored butterflies, and huge beetles, Borneo has long intrigued naturalists. Arguably the most notable is Russell Alfred Wallace, an English naturalist, explorer, geographer, anthropologist, biologist, and illustrator whose formulation of the theory of evolution and natural selection predated Charles Darwin's more famous published contributions.

While huge tracts of virgin forests have been felled over the last half-

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# 2023 Eugene Christmas Bird Count

By Dick Lamster, Count Coordinator

The 2023 Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC) is on Sunday, December 31, 2023. Yes, this is New Year's Eve, but we will be done by dusk, which will give you plenty of time to still party hardy. The date is our regular day within the normal three-week Count Period and will be our 82nd Christmas Bird Count. Guidelines for social distancing will be up to the Team Leaders and each team member. Please be respectful of other's safety concerns.

For the fourth year in a row, we will not have a Chili Feed Countdown at the end of the day. In the past, this was a really fun ending to a long day of birdwatching. In the years immediately preceding the pandemic, more than 100 people had attended. We hope we will all feel safe enough to return to a similar in-person, inside Chili Feed Countdown next year.

Our 27 Teams will be looking for birds in their assigned areas within our designated 15-mile diameter Count Circle. Each Team Leader will manage their team according to what works best for them. If you were on a team last year, the Team Leader should be contacting you with information for this year. If you have not heard from the leader by the first week of December, contact him, her, or Dick Lamster at [maeveanddick@q.com](mailto:maeveanddick@q.com) or 541.343.8664. Other birders wanting to participate in the Count this year can also contact Dick. If you'd prefer to count birds from the comfort of your home, see the **Home Count** article below.

Last year the weather was quite warm with no rain for the ECBC. When the lists of all 153 people who were in the field all day were combined

with the 102 Home Counters, we had identified 133 species! Five more species were seen during Count Week. These three figures were about average for our count over the past two decades.

We recorded 80,801 individual birds last year. This is encouraging because it was the highest total in the past five years except for 2019, which included an unusually high number of starlings, and perhaps indicates a new upward trend in the number of individual birds seen.

You can view results of last year's ECBC as well as all the other CBC's in North America at [christmasbirdcount.org](http://christmasbirdcount.org). Our count code is OREU.

We hope you can join us for this year's ECBC. We look forward to sharing this fun and important endeavor with you on Sunday, December 31, 2023.

Enjoy watching birds?  
Want to have fun?

Join the  
Lane County Audubon Society for the  
2023 Eugene Christmas Bird Count

# 2023 ECBC Home Count Information

By Marcia Maffei, 2023 Eugene Christmas Bird Home Count Coordinator

If you'd prefer to not participate on a Eugene Christmas Bird Count field team this year, consider being an ECBC Home Counter. From the comfort of your own home, you can record the birds you see at your feeder, in your yard, or overhead. Your bird count will be included in the final report to the National Audubon Society.

To participate as a Home Counter, first, check to see if your home is in the official Count Area: [laneaudubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Eugene-CBC-A-Count-circle.pdf](http://laneaudubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Eugene-CBC-A-Count-circle.pdf)

If your home is in the circle, register online by December 30 at this address: [form.jotform.com/230036318206142](http://form.jotform.com/230036318206142)

FMI: contact Marcia Maffei, [birds2count@gmail.com](mailto:birds2count@gmail.com) or 541.501.1280. Please leave a message. (Editor's note: Should you happen to take any clear photos of birds at your feeder, you are invited to submit them to [quailkaren1@gmail.com](mailto:quailkaren1@gmail.com) for possible publication in *The Quail*.)

## Thanks to LCAS Booth Volunteers



*Festival-goers and LCAS booth volunteers, Mt. Pisgah Mushroom Festival, October 29*

The morning was cold, but the day warmed up as hundreds gathered at the Mt. Pisgah Mushroom Festival on Sunday, October 29. More than 200 festival-goers stopped by the LCAS booth to visit and learn more about the birds in our area. Thanks to those who volunteered to staff the booth: Mary Arendt, Ash Berry, Barbara Bryson, Cecelia Hagen, Katie McInness, Mary Ann Petersen, and Debbie Schlenoff. Your help was much appreciated!





## Oakridge CBC December 29

New and experienced volunteers are welcome to join the Oakridge Christmas Bird Count in late December! As this issue of *The Quail* goes to press, the Oakridge Count will be Friday, December 29.

This Count surveys a 15-mile-diameter circle roughly centered on the town of Oakridge. It includes the nearby town of Westfir, most of Hills Creek Reservoir, the upper end of Lookout Point Reservoir, and High Prairie. Vast areas of Willamette National Forest inside the circle provide almost unlimited possibilities for hiking, mountain biking, or snowshoeing/skiing at higher elevations where there can often be snow.

Forest birds expected on this count include grouse, Mountain Quail, owls, accipiters, woodpeckers, jays, dippers, nuthatches, chickadees, kinglets, crossbills, and siskins. Loons, grebes, ducks, geese, and other water birds may also turn up in the reservoirs, as well as on ponds around town. In the more open habitats around the golf course and up on High Prairie, we sometimes find shrikes and open-country raptors.

FMI: To join or for details and updates, please check with the compiler, Joel Geier, [joel.geier@peak.org](mailto:joel.geier@peak.org) or call 541.745.5821.

## Cottage Grove CBC set for December 30

By Grace Fowler-Gore, Cottage Grove CBC Coordinator and Compiler

You are invited to join the Coast Fork Birders in the Cottage Grove Christmas Bird Count! All levels of bird enthusiasts are encouraged to take part in this annual Count. It's an opportunity to contribute to a worldwide citizen science project.

Participants will gather at 6:30 am for a breakfast meeting at the Vintage Inn Restaurant, 1590 Gateway Blvd, Cottage Grove. After organizing into teams led by experienced Coast Fork Birders, they will head into the field by 7:30 am. For the end-of-the-day Countdown, teams will gather at 4 pm at El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant & Cantina, 725 E. Gibbs Ave., Cottage Grove.

Be sure to bring your birding gear, weather-appropriate clothing, lunch, and snacks to get you through the day. To participate, please email [GraceLovesBirds1@gmail.com](mailto:GraceLovesBirds1@gmail.com) and provide a contact telephone or email. Phone Grace at 817.975.4936 as soon as possible to optimize placement into a birding sector of your preference.



## Florence CBC Set for December 16

This year, the Florence CBC will be held on Saturday, December 16. The Florence CBC has had a long history as a significant count area. Its Count Circle includes both inland and coastal areas, covering very diverse habitats that attract and support a correspondingly

## Two Midwinter Eagle Counts in January

Saturday, January 20, 2024

### Morning Count

9:30 am, Dorena Reservoir Park in the Walmart parking lot (close to Outdoor Living)

### Afternoon Count

2 pm, Cottage Grove Reservoir Park at Lakeside Park

You can join us at either one or both. If you want to survey both reservoirs, be sure to bring lunch and water (or a hot beverage) for yourself. Dress warmly and be prepared for the weather. Carpooling will be organized at the parking locations for Dorena & Cottage Grove Reservoirs

All species of birds observed will be entered on eBird. Alison Center will continue her decades of leading this eagle count research.

Please contact Grace Fowler-Gore at 817.975.4936 or [GraceLovesBirds1@gmail.com](mailto:GraceLovesBirds1@gmail.com) with any questions.

# Lane County Audubon Society



*The Quail* is the newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society, a chartered chapter of National Audubon Society. Local members of National Audubon Society receive a free subscription to *The Quail* but are encouraged to voluntarily join Lane County Audubon Society.

### The Quail Subscriptions

Contact Tim Godsil at 541.915.8852 or tgodsil@gmail.com

### The Quail Upcoming Content Deadlines

February: January 1

March: February 1

Submit material to Karen Irmischer at quailkaren1@gmail.com

Nine issues published per year (Feb., Mar., Apr., May-June, July-Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec.-Jan.)

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## Lane County Audubon Society Officers & Board Members

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## Lane County Audubon Society Welcomes You—Join or Renew Today!

We ask you to become a local member of Lane County Audubon Society and support our grassroots efforts in the local community. Your membership dues for National Audubon Society no longer fully cover the costs of a membership in your local chapter. 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! We appreciate your support. — *Maeve Sowles, President*

### Lane Audubon Membership Benefits

- *The Quail*—9 issues/yr.
- Field trips and bird walks
- Program meetings
- Educational publications
- Conservation issue representation
- Answers to questions: 541.485.BIRD
- Website: laneaudubon.org

### Lane County Audubon Society Yearly Membership

- 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).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

To pay by PayPal, go to [laneaudubon.org/support/join](http://laneaudubon.org/support/join)

I am a  Current National Audubon member  Don't know

Please contact me regarding

Gift memberships  Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer to receive the e-Quail newsletter by e-mail.

I would like to receive e-mail alerts about conservation issues.

I would like to volunteer for Lane County Audubon activities.

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

Mail this form and your payment to: Lane County Audubon Society, P.O. Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405





## Olympic BirdFest 2024

Sequim, Washington, April 11-14, 2024

Grab your binoculars and join the **Olympic Peninsula BirdFest** at the newly expanded Dungeness River Nature Center (formerly the Dungeness River Audubon Center), Thursday-Sunday, April 11-14, 2024.

Discover the spectacular landscapes of the Olympic Peninsula. Enjoy guided birding trips with local experts in varied habitats, from bays and estuaries along the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the forests of the Dungeness Recreation Area.

Join a boat tour around a protected island bird sanctuary, go for a longer trip to the San Juan Islands, or join a car caravan to the Makah Reservation for extraordinary bird-watching and the Makah Cultural & Research Center Museum. You just might go home with a new bird for your life list!

Online registration opens January 1, 2024, and fills up fast. Go to [olympicbirdfest.org](http://olympicbirdfest.org).

FMI contact the River Center at 360.681.5636 or [Info@OlympicBirdFest.org](mailto:Info@OlympicBirdFest.org)

## Borneo, continued from page 5

century for lumber and conversion to oil palm plantations, it is still possible to find undisturbed tracts of primeval forests. For birders, the nearly 60 endemic species hold particular interest. They include one monotypic endemic family, the Bristlehead, plus birds both odd (Dulit Frogmouth, Bornean Ground-cuckoo, and Bare-headed Laughingthrush) and striking (Bulwer's Pheasant, Whitehead's Trogon, Hose's Broadbill, and Bornean Banded Pitta). Borneo is also home to a range of other Southeast Asian species like hornbills, trogons, kingfishers, barbets, woodpeckers, flycatchers, bulbuls, babblers, flowerpeckers, and sunbirds.

Magnus was born in Gothenburg, Sweden, and spent much time outdoors; the ancient Swedish law of common access to private lands made it easy and safe for kids to roam. Birds captured a particular interest and continue to fascinate. Magnus moved to the US in the late '80s to pursue biochemistry graduate work. He and his wife have enjoyed living and birding in Eugene since 2005.



*Banded Pitta*

Photo: Magnus Persmark



*Arboreal ratsnake*

Photo: Magnus Persmark

**Our Programs are open to all!** Please plan to join us at the Campbell Center (155 High Street) near Skinner Butte. The East Hall has comfortable seating and a big screen, or you can enjoy the program from home over a Zoom link, which will be available about a week before the meeting on the LCAS website. Past program meetings are posted on our website within a week or so after each meeting.

## Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group

"Exploring New and Unusual Fruiting Plants for the Willamette Valley"

Tuesday, January 9, 7 pm  
Unitarian Universalist Church,  
1685 W 13th Ave, Eugene

Sam Hubert, Nursery Manager at Portland's One Green World Nursery, will give a presentation about new and promising species and cultivars of edible plants for the Willamette Valley.

FMI about the Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group or this event, visit the website at [thehardyplantgroup.org](http://thehardyplantgroup.org) or email [info@thehardyplantgroup.org](mailto:info@thehardyplantgroup.org).

## LCAS Is Co-sponsoring This Event with the Eugene Natural History Society

Friday, December 8, 7 pm, Zoom only

The Eugene Natural History Society and LCAS are jointly sponsoring Gina Roberti, speaking on Mt. St. Helens and bird-life recovery after the eruption. Join Gina as she guides us on a tour through the diverse mosaic of habitats created by the 1980 eruption, and learn where to see some of Mount St. Helens' signature birds. Gina Roberti is a geologist, naturalist, and educator at Mt. St. Helens Institute in Amboy, WA.

FMI: See our website for the Zoom link.



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See page 8 to renew!



## LCAS Saturday Bird Outings & Events

Lalla Pudewell, [tolalla@gmail.com](mailto:tolalla@gmail.com)

### No Outings Scheduled for December

If you'd like to join in our Christmas Bird Count, contact Dick Lamster at [maeveanddick@q.com](mailto:maeveanddick@q.com) or 541.343.8664. Or join the Home Count Team by contacting Marcia Maffei, [birds2count@gmail.com](mailto:birds2count@gmail.com) or 541.501.1280.

### First Saturday Bird Outing, January 6

Our First Saturday Bird Walks, created in celebration of the Lane Audubon Inclusivity and Diversity Statement, are meant to hold intentional space for women, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA+ birders. Birders of all levels and backgrounds are welcome to join, particularly those who may have felt intimidated at the thought of birding alone or on other guided walks. Location and leader TBA.

FMI or to sign up, contact Sarah: [1stsatbirdwalks@laneaudubon.org](mailto:1stsatbirdwalks@laneaudubon.org)

### Third Saturday Bird Outing, January 20

Our Third Saturday Bird Walk continues to be open to all participants. TBA.

FMI: [audubon@laneaudubon.org](mailto:audubon@laneaudubon.org) or check the Lane Audubon website and/or the Lane Audubon Facebook page close to the walk date.



Photo: Lalla Pudewell

## Summary of Third Saturday Bird Outing, October 21

By Lalla Pudewell

We had a cool, misty morning for our October's Third Saturday Bird Outing at Luper Cemetery. Many large flocks of Cackling Geese were flying across the cloudy sky and one large flock landed in a nearby field. We saw a beautiful coyote crossing a field and pausing to take a look at us. Many birds were heard foraging in the dense brush and autumn leaves. Varied Thrush called from the trees. We observed Townsend's Warblers, Black-capped Chickadees, American Kestrels, Northern Flickers, and a Black Phoebe. Rachael Friese did a wonderful job scouting this location and leading the outing.

There were 14 attendees at the outing. The coyote photo was taken there.

Luper Cemetery, Lane, Oregon, US; Oct 21, 2023 7:59 am - 10:07am; Protocol: Walking 1.91 miles, 37 species identified