



## Wild Arts Festival

November 23 & 24 • Pure Space in the Pearl

6

**Vote to Protect the Environment this November!**

YES on 26-203: Regional Greenspace Bond Measure and 26-204: Protecting Our Water





Nick Hardigg

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Historic Gift from an Understated Hero

by Nick Hardigg

The generosity and commitment of our supporters is quite moving. Our staff is honored to work here each and every day in service to our cause. Sometimes expressions of support for Portland Audubon's work leave us almost speechless. I say "almost" because of a recent act of generosity that warrants sharing with our community.

For the past four years, I've had the pleasure of getting to know avid birder and Portland native Ken Naito. Ken appreciates our advocacy work and efforts to engage more people with nature. He shared with me how a Catlin Gabel chemistry teacher, Paul Dickinson, made a difference in his life by igniting a lifelong passion for birding. Ken sought ways both to protect nature and to ensure that experience is available for future generations.

I shared that one of Portland Audubon's greatest challenges—not flashy, but nevertheless quite real—is responding to unforeseen challenges. Threats arise without warning, the economy shifts, foundation priorities change. While a for-profit company can raise capital to meet challenges, a nonprofit's work will screech to a halt without substantial operating reserves. Although reserves are critical for long-term effectiveness, they don't attract fanfare or celebration. Ken doesn't, either.

"In my family's company, operating reserves have been my mantra...keeping us strong in difficult times. I'd like to make that happen for Audubon." Last summer, Ken made the seemingly impossible a reality by establishing a million-dollar operating reserve in honor of his teacher, Mr. D. The fund is restricted for emergencies, must be replenished when used, and provides confidence that—with our community's continued support—Portland Audubon will continue its leadership role in Oregon conservation for the next 117 years. Thank you, Ken Naito, and thank you, Mr. D.

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 Wild Arts Festival
6 Vote to Protect the Environment this November
7 Marbled Murrelet Status in Limbo
8 Field Notes and Sightings
9 Winter Break Camps
10 Upcoming Events
11 Classes
12 Ecotours
13 Turkey Vulture Recovers from Lead Poisoning
14 Protect Rocky Shores
16 The Dire Situation for North American Birds
19 Nature Store



7



11



14



16



PORTLAND AUDUBON'S

Wild Arts Festival

Presented by Backyard Bird Shop

NOVEMBER 23 & 24

NEW LOCATION! PURE SPACE 1315 NW Overton St.

HOURS November 23 (Sat.) 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Happy Hour: 3-6 p.m. November 24 (Sun.) 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The annual Wild Arts Festival is back for its 39th year! This two-day Festival is the Northwest's premier art and book fair, showcasing regionally and nationally known artists and authors whose work celebrates the natural world.

Perfectly timed for the holidays, the Wild Arts Festival is an opportunity to shop for yourself or give unique and meaningful gifts—all while supporting Portland Audubon's efforts to inspire people to love and protect native birds, other wildlife, and their habitat across the Oregon landscape.

Join us at our new home at Pure Space in the Pearl and explore beautiful artwork, nature-inspired books, a phenomenal Silent Auction, our brand-new Tiny Birdhouse Community Art project, and much more.

Tickets: wildartsfestival.org • \$10 adults; children 14 and under, free

Volunteer: A few slots are still open to help at Wild Arts Festival! Interested? Contact Kate Foulke at wafvolunteers@audubonportland.org

GETTING TO PURE SPACE

With a new, central city location, Wild Arts Festival offers a variety of transit and parking options.

Drop-off We will have a curbside drop-off/pick-up spot on NW Overton between 13th and 14th, on the north side of the street.

Parking Street parking: Over 600 metered spaces are available within three blocks of Pure Space. Download Parking Kitty, the Portland Bureau of Transportation's parking app, for directions to nearby street parking spaces and for fast payment online.

Parking lots: Some offer low weekend rates. These are the closest:

- Lot #284, NW 15th and Overton
1574 NW Pettygrove St.
Lot #210, 1562 NW Pettygrove St.
1221 NW Hoyt St.

Public Transit Portland Streetcar: Pure Space is located one block from the Portland Streetcar's North-South line (NW 14th and Northrup) and about six blocks from the B Line (NW 11th and Marshall).

Tri-Met Bus: The nearest bus line is the #24, which loops down and back on NW 18th and 19th Avenues.





Meet and chat with renowned authors at the Book Fair.

# Wild Arts Festival

## ART FAIR

Artists appearing at the Art Fair will again present a wide variety of work, ranging from the huge, soaring sculptures of Gunter Reimnitz and the dramatic landscapes of Amanda Houston to palm-sized felted wool birds by Claudia Paillao and bright little metal birds by Julia Garrels. Besides those and other favorite Festival artists, the event will introduce 15 first-time exhibitors.

Find something that speaks to you as you browse through work by painters, sculptors, jewelers, photographers, woodworkers, textile artists, ceramicists, and glassblowers.

## BOOK FAIR

Book lovers will find favorite authors in a quiet, cozy Book Fair room this year, where they can chat with writers, get autographs, and buy books.

If you love to buy books for children, this is the place. New York Times best-selling children's author Nancy Tillman will be there, as will Portlander Zoe Burke, whose featured title, *Count the Birds*, is a counting book for little ones. Outdoor enthusiasts will find four authors of books about favorite hikes, including family-friendly ones. Plus, we will have thought-provoking books about nature, conservation heroes, and environmental issues.

Fourteen authors are scheduled to sign books from 12–4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Check the signing schedule on the Authors page of our website.

## RAFFLE

Some lucky attendee will win an amazing raffle item this year—a Swarovski Spotting Scope and Digiscoping Kit, a like-new factory demo valued at \$4,000! We will sell only 200 raffle tickets, priced at \$50 each—so be an early bird for your chance to win!

## TINY BIRDHOUSES

We're excited to debut our brand-new Community Art Project! Following a 12-year run of the 6x6 canvases project, Tiny Birdhouses are the new "canvas" for local artists who wish to create art to donate to our fundraiser. Artist and Craftsman Supply has generously donated the diminutive wooden houses, and artists are busy painting, decouping, and otherwise turning them into little masterpieces, which will be for sale at the Festival. Come early for the best selection!



## SILENT AUCTION

We have an incredible selection of more than 200 items including art donated by many of the Festival artists, a strong selection of optics, hiking and birding gear, gift certificates, international travel adventures, weekend getaways, and heirlooms.

In addition, we have many unique experiences like a tour of the Oregon Zoo's Condor Recovery Facility and a raptor release with our Wildlife Care Center! None of it would be possible without the generous companies, artists, and individuals who donated to support Portland Audubon. Follow the link to see a sample of what you'll find: [bit.ly/wafauction19](http://bit.ly/wafauction19)

## NATURE STORE

A perennial favorite, our Nature Store will have birdhouses, birdfeeders, new logo clothing, holiday ornaments, and more. The store will also offer a limited number of the hot new board game, *Wingspan*.

## FOOD, REFRESHMENTS, & SATURDAY HAPPY HOUR

Refreshments for sale at this year's event will be provided by Arthouse Café, including beer and wine for a Happy Hour from 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday.



Jim Piper



Kyoko Niikuni



Scott Macdonald



Dona Reed



Beth & Tom Poirier

Buy your tickets now at [WildArtsFestival.org](http://WildArtsFestival.org)

Portland Audubon's

## Wild Arts Festival

Presented by Backyard Birdshop



November 23 & 24, 2019  
Pure Space, 1315 NW Overton St.  
[www.wildartsfestival.org](http://www.wildartsfestival.org)

**2 FOR \$15 ADMISSION** (Admits 2 for \$15)

THANK YOU  
TO OUR  
SPONSORS





# Vote Yes on 26-203 and 26-204 to Protect Metro Greenspaces and Our Water

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

We have two important opportunities to protect water quality, wildlife, and habitat on the November ballot. Ballots are due by November 5, so please remember to vote and help us spread the word.

## YES on 26-203: Nature for All

**Measure 26-203** would renew the 2006 greenspace bond measure without any increase in taxes and would generate \$475 million to protect the most at-risk natural areas in our region. The greenspace bond measures are the foundation of efforts to protect the environment from our most urbanized landscapes to the edge of our urban growth boundary. We have come a long way thanks to prior bond measures in 1995 and 2006, but we still have many critically important habitat areas at risk of development and many communities with inadequate access to nature.

## YES on 26-204: Protecting Bull Run Watershed and Portland's Drinking Water

**Measure 26-204** would place protections for the Bull Run Watershed that currently exist only in city code, into the city charter. This is a much stronger level of protection, which can be changed only by a future vote of the community rather than a simple majority of council. Bull Run provides drinking water for nearly a million people, and it provides critically important habitat for Spotted Owls and other wildlife. Nothing is more fundamental to the health of our community than the quality of our water, and its protection belongs in the charter.

**Thank You!**

Become an Activist  
[audubonportland.org/take-action](https://audubonportland.org/take-action)



The Bull Run provides both clean water for Portlanders and old-growth habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl.  
Photo by Scott Carpenter.

# A Big Win for Marbled Murrelets...Will ODFW Do the Right Thing?

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

In June 2018, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission made a decision that was inexplicable even by the low standards this agency has too often set for protecting Oregon's wildlife. In a 4-2 vote, it reversed, without even the semblance of a coherent explanation, a decision it had made just four months earlier to move the Marbled Murrelet from threatened to endangered status under the State Endangered Species Act. The decisive factor in this reversal seemed to be aggressive lobbying by coastal county commissioners and timber lobbyists at a hearing held in eastern Oregon (300 miles from the nearest murrelet habitat).

The lobbying centered primarily on issues that are not allowed to be considered in listing decisions, at a hearing where reconsideration of the listing decision was not on the agenda. Two months later when people came to the next ODFW Commission hearing and attempted to testify on the surprise reversal, the Commission Chair preemptively threatened to have people removed by state troopers if they attempted to testify on this topic. In the chair's own rules, such testimony would have violated the "rule of germaneness."

Now an Oregon State Court has ruled against ODFW based on litigation brought by Cascadia Wildlands, Center for Biological Diversity, Portland Audubon, and other conservation groups. In August of 2019, Lane County Circuit Court Judge Lauren Holland found that the ODFW Commission failed to provide a written explanation for its decision and kicked the decision back to the ODFW Commission. Now the Commission must decide whether to go with its original decision to uplist the Marbled Murrelet or attempt to justify its subsequent reversal. We believe the science is clear—the Marbled Murrelet is heading for extinction in Oregon unless significant new steps are taken to reverse its decline. The ODFW Commission has not yet indicated how it intends to proceed.

“The science is clear—the Marbled Murrelet is heading for extinction in Oregon unless significant new steps are taken.”



Photo by Rich MacIntosh/USFWS

The decision by the ODFW Commission is one of several important upcoming decisions, in which Portland Audubon is actively engaged, that will affect this highly imperiled seabird that nests in mature and old-growth coastal forests:

- The Board of Forestry will consider new rules to protect Marbled Murrelet nesting habitat on private lands.
- A decision is pending in a lawsuit over a private timber company's efforts to log prime murrelet nesting habitat.
- The Department of State Lands and OSU are developing a long-term plan for the Elliott State Forest, which includes some of the best murrelet habitat left in Oregon.

The Tillamook and Clatsop State Forests are working with federal agencies to develop Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) to protect federally listed species, including the Marbled Murrelet.

This is a great time to get involved in helping to protect Marbled Murrelets and the mature and old-growth forests on which they depend—the decisions made next year could be the difference between extinction and survival for this species.



FIELD NOTES

by Harry Nehls

Cold-Weather Feathers

A bird’s body is surrounded by a thick coat of fluffy down that acts as insulation against the cold. The body is kept at a constant 105 degrees F.

Over the soft down is a layer of rather stiff, tough feathers that form a protective cover. These contour feathers are carefully tended by the bird so that they lie flat and overlap each other. Cleaning and waterproofing oils secreted from a gland at the base of the tail are liberally spread over the contour feathers, creating a sealant.

To keep the body warm, this outer layer is held tightly against the downy feathers so that warm air trapped against the body does not escape. During windy weather, birds will face into the wind to keep the contour feathers flat.



Dark-eyed Junco, photo by Mick Thompson.

The feet of most birds are not feathered but are covered by a thin layer of scales. Scales are not much protection from the cold and ice, but the feet are the main control of the bird’s body temperature.

Heat is distributed by warm blood coursing through the arteries to all parts of the body. It is then returned to the heart through the veins. The arteries and the veins lie close to the bones, with capillaries spreading warm blood to the extremities. During cold weather, the capillaries are constricted, keeping most if not all the warm blood away from the feet. Occasionally one sees a bird stuck to a tree limb or with its toes frozen open. By releasing some warm blood into the capillaries, the bird can warm the feet and solve these problems.

SIGHTINGS

by Brodie Cass Talbott

August and September are known to North American birders as shorebird season, as entire populations of birds move from their often far-north breeding grounds to their wintering grounds.

Fittingly, Sauvie Island featured many of the most exciting local birds of the season, including its first **Hudsonian Godwit** mixed in with a flock of **Marbled Godwit**, found by Colby Neuman. Tom Myers found a **Black-necked Stilt** as well as **Franklin’s and Sabine’s Gull** a bit farther north on the island. A **Harlequin Duck** found by John Powell on the Multnomah Channel was a Columbia County first.

Colby Neuman and Nick Mrvelj had a surprise **Upland Sandpiper** flyover at Smith and Bybee Wetlands, which also had **Stilt Sandpiper** and **Snowy Egret** reports. **Short-billed Dowitcher** and **Ruff** were both present at the nearby Vanport Wetlands. Jay Withgott and an off-leash dog (not his) found a **Whimbrel** at Broughton Beach, where Nick Mrvelj found a solo **Lapland Longspur**, and Audrey Addison reported **Sabine’s Gull**, **Common Tern**, and **Parasitic Jaeger**. Aaron Beerman put a nice bow on the season with an **American Golden Plover** found early October.

Larch Mountain had a busy fall with reports of **Northern Goshawk**, **Clark’s Nutcracker**, and **Black-backed Woodpecker**. Closing out a busy September, Sarah Swanson and Eric Carlson found a nice combo of **Clay-colored** and **Chipping Sparrows** at Oaks Bottom.

A number of statewide rarities were reported, most notable being a long-staying **Broad-billed Hummingbird** at Malheur HQ, and a **Nazca Booby** seen fifty miles offshore of Lincoln County, a first live record for the state. **Hawaiian Petrel** was runner-up for pelagic bird of the year, seen out of Newport.

As usual, the coastal counties had lots of exciting migrants, including **Orchard Oriole** and **Prairie Warbler** in Newport, and **American Golden Plover**, **Summer Tanager**, and **Tennessee Warbler** in Tillamook County Not to be outdone, Union county had its first **Tennessee Warbler**, along with **Northern Waterthrush** and **Blackpoll Warbler**. Other notables include a first **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** in Morrow County and a **Wandering Tattler** found at Big Lake, Linn County. First records of **Pygmy Nuthatch** were recorded in both Clackamas and Hood River counties

Those are only a few of the many rarities reported across the region. **For corrections, tips, and reports, email Brodie Cass Talbott at bcasstalbott@portlandaudubon.org.**



Photo by Abby VanLeuven.

Winter Break Camp with Portland Audubon!

Grades 1-8 | December 23-January 3

Whether campers are frolicking through the snow on Mt. Hood and staying overnight at our new Marmot Cabin, learning the art of candlemaking, visiting a wolf sanctuary, or making nature-inspired art, our educators are dedicated to helping every camper build an authentic and meaningful relationship with the natural world. During Winter Break, we offer day camps for youth grades 1-8 ranging from **\$65-\$185** per camp.

	Dec. 23	Dec. 24	Dec. 25	Dec. 26	Dec. 27
Grades 1-3	Snowy Gnomes	Wild in the Winter	No Camps	Hoots There!	Junior Wildlife Vet
Grades 4-8	Duck Duck Goose	Candle Crafting	No Camps	Wolves I	Raptor Road Trip
	Dec. 30	Dec. 31	Jan. 1	Jan. 2	Jan. 3
Grades 1-3	Winter Forest Art	Creatures of the Night	No Camps	Snowshoe Hares to Polar Bears	Frosty Fairies
Grades 4-8	Snowy Overnight Adventure		No Camps	Wolves II	Elk Extravaganza





Join us for Nature Night on December 1 to learn the story of the rarest eagle on earth.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Visit [audubonportland.org/events](https://audubonportland.org/events) for a full list of all upcoming events.

### NATURE NIGHT

#### Dan Roby: A Groundbreaking Technique That's Saving Endangered Species From Extinction

November 12 | 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Join retired Oregon State professor Dr. Dan Roby for an interactive presentation about how a controversial birding practice has emerged as a critical piece in conservation.

Where: Heron Hall, Portland Audubon



### Wild Arts Festival

November 23 | 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

November 24 | 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Join us for the Wild Arts Festival, the Northwest's premier show and sale of nature-related art and books.

Where: Pure Space, 1315 NW Overton St.

Learn more at [wildartsfestival.org](https://wildartsfestival.org)



### NATURE NIGHT

#### Screening: Bird of Prey at Hollywood Theatre

December 1 (Sunday) | 7 p.m.

World-renowned wildlife cinematographer Neil Rettig embarks on the most challenging assignment of his career: to find and film the rarest eagle on the planet.

Where: Hollywood Theatre



### Nature Store Holiday Open House

December 7 & 8 | 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Join the Nature Store for holiday cheer with gifts, cards, wrapping paper, and ornaments, as well as holiday treats. Portland Audubon members get an additional 5% off.

Where: Portland Audubon Nature Store



Don't miss Owls by Day in Walla Walla for a chance to see a Snowy Owl! Photo by Mick Thompson.

## AUDUBON BIRDING DAYS

Join Portland Audubon on affordable, full-day or multi-day bird trips to a wide variety of natural areas within a day's drive of Portland. Expert guiding and camaraderie provided!

### Willamette Valley Refuge Fall Series

November 23: Finley National Wildlife Refuge

November 30: Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge

December 7: Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge

The Willamette Valley Refuge System is a haven for thousands of wintering waterfowl, and a sanctuary for imperiled oak savanna habitat. In this series led by Portland Audubon naturalist Brodie Cass Talbott, we will visit each of the three important refuges as well as the surrounding areas for other notable birds. Register for each trip separately.

Fee: \$65 per trip | Transportation provided

Leader: Brodie Cass Talbott | Limited to 10 participants



### Okanogan and the Waterville Plateau

January 15–19

Join us for five days of winter wonderland and fantastic birds. This part of north-central Washington state is the best area in the Pacific Northwest for winter specialties such as Bohemian Waxwing and Gyrfalcon.

Fee: \$350 | Transportation NOT provided

Leader: Stefan Schlick | Limited to 10 participants



### Owls by Day in Walla Walla

January 24–26

Join this unique self-catering trip to see day-roosting owls, such as Northern Saw-whet, Northern Pygmy, Long-eared, and an occasional Snowy Owl.

Fee: \$200 | Transportation NOT provided

Leader: Stefan Schlick | Limited to 10 participants



 Cost Involved

 Public Transit Available

 Free

 Family Friendly

 Wheelchair Accessible



Learn the ropes of waterfowl ID in our Beginner's Duck class. Photo by Scott Carpenter.

## ADULT EDUCATION

## Classes

### Autumn Gull Identification

November 7 | 6:30–8:30 p.m. | Class in Heron Hall

November 9 | 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m. | Coast Field Trip

Let go of your fear and embrace your inner gull lover! Learn how to recognize our local wintering gulls by size, shape, and plumage.

Fee: \$110 members / \$130 non-members | Class only option: \$20

Instructor: John Rakestraw | Limited to 12 participants



### Owls of Northwest Oregon

November 14 | 6:30–9:30 p.m. | Class in Heron Hall

This is an introduction to the owls found in the Portland area. After the lecture, explore the Portland Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary in the dark to look and listen for resident owls.

Fee: \$35 members / \$45 non-members

Instructor: Brodie Cass Talbott | Limited to 20 participants



### Beginner's Duck: Waterfowl Basics

November 20 | 6:30–8:30 p.m. | Class in Heron Hall

November 23 | 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Field Trip

Learn the principles of bird identification by focusing on the ducks and geese that spend the winter in Portland. Apply what you learn at a local birding spot.

Fee: \$70 members / \$90 non-members | Class only option: \$20

Instructor: Sarah Swanson | Limited to 12 participants



### Raptors in Winter

December 11 | 6:30–8:30 p.m. | Class in Heron Hall

December 14 | 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. | Sauvie Island Field Trip

Join us for an exploration of the raptors that visit the Portland area in winter. In the classroom segment we will explore the natural history and identification of hawks, eagles, falcons, and harriers.

Fee: \$60 members / \$75 non-members | Class only option: \$20

Instructor: Brodie Cass Talbott | Limited to 12 participants



## FREE BIRD WALKS

## Outings

Portland Audubon offers free, volunteer-led outings across the Portland Metro Area. We strive to create a vibrant space for everyone to enjoy birds and wildlife while exploring our natural areas.

All skill levels are welcome!

You can find the full list of outings and sign up on [meetup.com/portland-audubon-outings](https://meetup.com/portland-audubon-outings).

Register for outings  
at [meetup.com](https://meetup.com)



## SAVE THE DATE



### Christmas Bird Count

January 4, 2020

The 94th Annual Portland Christmas Bird Count will be held on January 4, 2020. Save the date so you can participate! The Audubon CBC is the longest running community science project in North America. The results have provided critical information on the status and changes in bird populations over the past 118 years. It's a fun way to spend a day.

Visit our CBC webpage at [bit.ly/cbcpdx](https://bit.ly/cbcpdx) for more information or contact Joe Liebezeit at [jliebezeit@audubonportland.org](mailto:jliebezeit@audubonportland.org) or Candace Larson [clarson@audubonportland.org](mailto:clarson@audubonportland.org)





Scarlet Ibises in Trinidad. Photo via Flickr user Mike's Birds.

INTERNATIONAL ECOTOURS

India: Birds, Leopards & Lions

February 1–15, 2020

Come see the deserts, deciduous forests, estuaries, and salt pans of Western India and experience the cultures and cuisines of Rajasthan and Gujarat. From the Desert National Park to the Gir Forest, we'll search for mammals such as the Asiatic Lion and fantastic birds, such as the Serpent Eagle and the endangered Great Indian Bustard.

Fee: \$5,795 members | \$6,095 non-members  
Leaders: Dan van den Broek and local guides

Birding Costa Rica

February 4–18, 2020

Join us this February for an incredible adventure in Costa Rica! This unique trip will explore both coasts, from Oso Peninsula to the Caribbean, as well as the high mountains of the Talamanca Cordillera. Avian highlights will be Resplendent Quetzal, Scarlet Macaw, and up to six species of kingfisher.

Fee: \$4,295 members / \$4,595 non-members  
Leaders: Candace Larson, Mary Coolidge, and local guides

Trinidad & Tobago

April 7–17, 2020

Come bird, watch nesting sea turtles, snorkel, and simply savor the tropical paradise and cultural vibrancy of Trinidad and Tobago . We will be splitting our time between two nature ecolodges (including the world famous Asa Wright Nature Center), providing a unique opportunity to slow down and be intentional about learning neotropical birds in one of the richest birding countries per square mile.

Fee: \$4,995 members / \$5,495 non-members  
Leaders: Erin Law, Greg Smith, and local guides



Snow Geese in Skagit Valley, photo by Scott Carpenter.

INTERNATIONAL ECOTOURS

Amazon River Cruise

April 29–May 9, 2020

Join us on the Perla cruise ship, through the heart of upper Amazonia, in comfort and style. We will see an outstanding array of relatively easy-to-see birds and mammals on this exciting excursion to the Peruvian Amazon region.

Fee: \$5,495 members / \$5,795 non-members  
Leaders: Dan van den Broek and local guides

Machu Picchu & the Sacred Valley

May 9–15, 2020

The famous Peruvian destinations of Cusco and Machu Picchu are premier natural and cultural sites that should be on the list of any traveler. From the cloud forest and valleys to the high Andes, we will see an impressive assortment of birds and wildlife.

Fee: \$3,195 members / \$3,495 non-members  
Leaders: Dan van den Broek and local guides

DOMESTIC ECOTOURS

Skagit Valley

February 21–23, 2020

Experience the sights and sounds of tens of thousands of Snow Geese settling into their feeding grounds and enjoy a variety of raptors, such as a Gyrfalcon and Short-eared Owl.

Fee: \$645 members / \$745 non-members  
Leader: Stefan Schlick and April Brown

**Fee includes:** Ground transportation, double-occupancy lodging, meals except dinners, entrance fees for planned activities and the services of your leaders. Airfare not included.

Turkey Vulture Thrives After Treatment for Extreme Lead Levels

by Dr. Connie Lo, Veterinarian  
Steph Herman, Wildlife Care Center Manager  
Ali Berman, Communications Manager

In May, a Colton, Oregon, resident made a strange discovery: a Turkey Vulture flopping in the bushes. Knowing this bird needed help, he drove more than an hour to bring it to our Wildlife Care Center.

Normally we anesthetize animals to take x-rays, but this bird was in such poor condition it just lay still on the table. The x-ray revealed a telltale problem: three lead pellets in the gizzard.

Turkey Vultures, Bald and Golden Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, Common Ravens, California Condors, and other scavenging animals are vulnerable to lead poisoning. They are attracted to hunter-killed carcasses or discarded gut piles and unintentionally consume bullet fragments along with the meat. Other species, such as doves and waterfowl, consume lead pellets or fishing tackle inadvertently while foraging for food. Lead is absorbed as it moves through the digestive tract, causing anemia, decreased digestive function, neurological symptoms, and in severe cases, brain and heart damage that can prove fatal.

We tested this bird's blood for lead toxicity, and, after repeated error messages, thought our machine might be faulty. We sent the sample to an outside lab and were shocked by what we found. The vulture's lead level was 6.7 parts per million (ppm)! In people, greater than 0.1 ppm indicates possible lead poisoning. And most birds, such as Bald Eagles, will die with a lead level of over 1 ppm. Yet this vulture was more than six times above what it would take to kill an eagle.

After much work to pass the lead fragments out of the bird's system, eventually it became clear that the crop (part of the esophagus to temporarily store food) wasn't passing food, leaving meals and the bullet fragments stuck.

To help them pass, we put the bird under anesthesia and placed a feeding tube and a supportive wrap or "crop bra" to ensure adequate nutrition and move the food through the system. Five days later, x-rays showed that the lead was gone! Within a week, this bird, who had been so dull upon arrival, was growing stronger by the day.

Chelation therapy (the method we use to remove the lead from the bird's system) lasted two months, and



Veterinarian Connie Lo and Wildlife Care Center Manager Steph Herman treat the lead-poised Turkey Vulture.

by June, the lead level had dropped to 0.192 ppm. By August, it had decreased to 0.08, and this bird was ready to head to our flight cages where it could stretch its wings and regain strength.

Finally, 123 days after the patient entered our care, it was ready to leave. On a sunny September morning, we drove to the release site near a place we knew dead fish routinely show up, providing an easy food source. When we opened the box, the vulture immediately took off. Within a few minutes, the newly released bird was circling above with another Turkey Vulture, a beautiful sight to behold after a long and winding road to health.

Lead will continue to pose a risk to our wild neighbors as long as we use lead ammunition. Many species are affected, including the highly endangered California Condor, which could return to Oregon after more than 100 years thanks to reintroduction efforts in Northern California. While we are excited for the return of condors, we want to be sure they are adequately protected.

Eliminating the use of lead ammunition in Oregon is a priority for Portland Audubon. There is affordable and effective non-toxic ammunition available on the market right now that would help protect our wildlife as well as hunters families that consume game meat. On July 1, 2019, a full regulatory ban on the use of lead ammunition for hunting went into effect across the entire State of California. Oregon to date has adopted a slower voluntary approach to promoting the transition on non-toxic ammunition. Regardless of the approach, it is important that there is clear data indicating that this shift is occurring. We have known for more than a century that lead is toxic for birds and it is long past time to get the lead out of our ammunition.

2020

Feb. 21-23 Skagit Valley  
Feb. 21-23 Klamath Basin  
May 15-28 Poland  
May 30-June 3 Malheur

June 4-7 Central Oregon  
June 14-29 Mongolia  
July 9-12 Idaho's Cassia Crossbill  
Sept. 11-13 Grays Harbor

Sept. 15-19 California Condors  
Sept 24-27 NE Washington  
Sept. 30-Oct. 4 Steens  
Nov. 2-19 Colombia

Nov. 2-16 Madagascar  
2021  
Feb. 8-23 Ghana  
March 10-17 San Blas





Photo by Amelia O'Connor.

# Help Protect Oregon’s Iconic Rocky Coastal Habitats

by Joe Liebezeit, Staff Scientist and Avian Conservation Manager

The state of Oregon is currently updating its Rocky Habitat Management Plan, providing an opportunity to expand and bolster protections of these vulnerable habitats. Oregon’s iconic rocky habitats are both biologically and culturally important, making up 41% of the state’s 362-mile coastline. From famous Haystack Rock on the north coast to the numerous majestic sea stacks and headlands of the south, these rocky habitats support a wealth of marine life—colonial nesting seabirds, marine mammals, kelp and sea grass beds, and thousands of fish and invertebrate species. These breathtaking rocky features and headlands attract millions of visitors and recreationists each year.

It’s been 25 years since the original plan was developed, but a lot has changed since then. Growing impacts related to a changing climate (e.g., ocean acidification) and increasing human visitation have increased stress on these sensitive places. With the help of a Rocky Habitat Working Group, the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) is leading a process to update the plan, the intention being to balance site protections with human use. Currently DLCD is pulling together the most recent ecological, oceanic, and human-use information to create a Rocky Habitat Web Mapping Tool that will be an important resource to aid the development of site designation proposals. Current site designations include (1) Marine Garden, (2) Marine Research Area, and (3) Marine Conservation Area. Of these three designations, Marine Conservation Area will offer the strongest protection measures. Marine Garden will balance maintaining ecological integrity while prioritizing public access and education. Marine Research Area will maintain the natural system to support scientific research and monitoring. While many

of the sites in the original 1994 plan will maintain their designations, there are a suite of other sites that were considered potentially worthy of protection during the original planning effort but were left as “Not Yet Designated.” This includes places like Ecola Point, Seal Rock, and Devil’s Backbone.

DLCD’s Web Mapping Tool is expected to be completed by the end of 2019, and by spring of 2020 they will start to accept site designation proposals from the public and other entities to be reviewed for consideration. This is an excellent opportunity for evaluating and advocating for stronger protections for rocky habitats where deemed necessary. Portland Audubon has been tracking this process for over a year. Through public testimony and working with DLCD staff, we have helped expand designation consideration to subtidal rocky habitats, strengthened site designation definitions, and have pushed for relevant agencies to take a stronger role in site designation proposals as well as removing hindrances to make it easier for the eventual public-led site designation proposals.

Portland Audubon is working with coastal partners to increase outreach and engagement and educate on this process as well as evaluate a list of sites to consider for stronger protections. There will be multiple public comment opportunities on this process prior to the call for site designation proposals. To learn more visit our Rocky Habitat webpage: [bit.ly/ORRockyshores](http://bit.ly/ORRockyshores)

Contact Joe Liebezeit at [jliebezeit@audubonportland.org](mailto:jliebezeit@audubonportland.org) to get on our coastal marine supporter list and receive periodic updates and action alerts on this and other coastal marine issues.



Black Oystercatcher, photo by Scott Carpenter.

## IN MEMORY

Portland Audubon gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

- Eve and Roger Bachman**  
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Honor a special person with a gift to Portland Audubon. Your gift will help fund a future of inspiring people to love and protect nature. Make a tribute gift online at [audubonportland.org](http://audubonportland.org) or by calling 971-222-6130.

## IN HONOR

- Sharon L. Birrel**  
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Deanna Sawtelle
- Bob Sallinger**  
Timme and Jill Helzer
- Madalyn A. Utz**  
Maureen Utz





Rufous Hummingbirds are among the species impacted by climate change. Photo by Mick Thompson.

## The Dire Situation for North American Birds—And How We Can Make a Difference

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

This fall saw the release of two major reports describing the perilous state of North American birds. Together, they serve as a wake-up call for anyone concerned about not only birds, but the health of our planet.

In September the Cornell Lab of Ornithology published the report “Decline of North American Avifauna” in the journal *Science*, reporting a decline of nearly 3 billion breeding birds across every North American biome since 1970. This represents a nearly 30 percent decline in bird populations over the past five decades. The report used a variety of standardized long-term data sets to estimate population changes in 529 North American bird species as well as weather radar to estimate changes in biomass of night-migrating birds. The researchers found that 57 percent of the species reviewed are experiencing long-term declines, not only species that are considered imperiled, but also common species. Among the most hard-hit are grassland birds (53 percent decline), shorebirds (37 percent decline) and western forest birds (29 percent decline).

In October, the National Audubon Society published the report “Survival by Degrees: 389 Bird Species on the Brink,” showing that a 3 degree Celsius rise in temperatures would threaten two-thirds of North American bird species with extinction over the next century. National Audubon used more than 140 million bird records from more than 70 data sources as well as sophisticated modeling of current and projected

future habitat availability under different climate change scenarios to arrive at this conclusion.

These are startling and frightening conclusions, but there are ways to make a difference. Where we have taken decisive action, improvement has occurred. For example, many raptor populations have increased, largely due to the 1972 DDT ban, and many populations of waterfowl are increasing thanks to billions of dollars in wetland conservation and restoration. Huge challenges remain, but there are productive paths forward.

### What is Portland Audubon doing to protect birds?

Portland Audubon has been fighting for Oregon’s birds since 1902 beginning with advocacy to establish the first wildlife refuges in the west at Malheur, Klamath, and Three Arch Rocks and Oregon’s first bird protection law, the Model Bird Act of 1903. Today, our multifaceted approach focuses on protecting the most important bird habitat, reducing avian hazards, and recovering imperiled species.

The biggest threat to wild birds remains habitat loss and fragmentation, regardless. Our initiatives focus on marine, forest, grassland, desert (sage-steppe), wetland, and urban ecosystems to ensure that the most important bird habitats are protected and restored.

Among our top priorities in the coming years are restoration of two important bird refuge complexes on the Pacific Flyway at Klamath and Malheur, protection of remaining old-growth forests, and expansion of Oregon’s fledgling system of marine reserves. In the Portland Metro Region, we continue to build an interconnected system of natural areas using strategies including acquisition, regulation, and voluntary action.

While habitat is the top priority, we cannot ignore other anthropogenic threats that put additional pressures on already stressed bird populations. We have developed a number of cutting-edge hazard-reduction campaigns including Cats Safe at Home to humanely reduce the number of free-roaming cats, Birds safe Buildings to reduce window collisions, Lights Out to reduce light pollution, as well as campaigns focused on pesticides and poaching.

Imperiled species point us toward the most acute threats. Portland Audubon prioritizes working to recover Oregon’s most at risk species and the habitats on which they depend, including Northern Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets (mature and old-growth forests), Greater Sage-Grouse (sage-steppe), and Streaked Horned Larks (grasslands). As California Condors return to Oregon in the coming years, we will amp up our focus on the biggest threat to their recovery, the continued use of lead ammunition.

Beyond our focus on birds, we have prioritized combating climate change through opposition to new fossil fuel projects, reducing emissions, promoting landscape resiliency, and ensuring that new renewable energy facilities such as wind and solar farms are properly sited to minimize wildlife impacts.

### There are many ways to get involved. We need your voice and your energy:

- **Our Backyard Habitat Certification Program**, co-managed with Columbia Land Trust, is a great place to start. Over 40 percent of our urban landscape is residential, and joining the more than 5,000 people already enrolled is a direct way to improve the health of our urban landscape.
- **You can get involved in one of our many community science projects** that help research the status of Oregon’s bird populations, from her rocky shores in the west to her sage-steppe deserts in the east. Our Christmas Bird Count, now approaching its century mark, is part of a nationwide effort that provided some of the foundational data for both the Cornell and National Audubon reports.
- **Finally, please become an Audubon activist**—we need your voices to force the type of policy changes that are needed to make the changes fundamental changes to protect the environment on which both we and birds depend.

Become an Activist  
[audubonportland.org/take-action](https://audubonportland.org/take-action)



## WISH LISTS

### Education

- Leupold McKenzie 8x42mm binoculars
- New Thermarest NeoAir Venture sleeping pads
- New Thermarest BaseCamp sleeping pads
- Bushnell Trophy Cam Aggressor HD camera (2)

### Wildlife Care Center

- All Free & Clear laundry detergent pods
- Dawn Original dishwashing liquid
- Dish brushes
- Nitrile, powder-free, non-sterile exam gloves
- Rubber or vinyl dish gloves
- Wet-erase Expo pens in black, brown or blue
- Kitchen shears & knives (chef’s knives preferred)
- Hose spray nozzles
- Red-tailed Hawk flight cage funding (\$30,000)
- Great Horned Owl flight cage funding (\$30,000)
- Intensive care incubator funding (\$2,500)
- Mammal cage funding (\$10,000)
- Wellness Core Natural Grain Free Dry Cat Food Kitchen (Turkey & Chicken)
- Multicolored zip ties/table ties (4in and all sizes)
- EliteField 3-door folding soft dog crates (20’L x 14”W x 14”H)
- Portable oxygen generator

### Sanctuary

- Loppers & trowels
- New work gloves
- Auditory assistance devices
- Folding tables (3)
- OSHA-approved hard hats (5)
- Well-running pickup truck
- Metal storage rack (no larger than 5 feet tall, five feet wide, 2 feet deep)
- Portable car battery charger

### Conservation

- Recreational vehicle or trailer for field work
- Standing coat rack
- Unihedron Dark Sky Quality Meter (LU-DL)
- Used iPads and/or Chromebooks

If you can donate these items, please first contact Portland Audubon at 971-222-6129, Mon.-Fri., to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up. Check our website for the most updated wishlist.



BUSINESS ALLIANCE

Through their business practices and financial contributions, the following businesses are helping advance our mission and protect Oregon's birds, natural resources, and livability. If you would like to become a member of the Portland Audubon Business Alliance, please contact Charles Milne, Director of Development at 971-222-6117.



Backyard Bird Shop	McDonald Jacobs, P.C.
Bob's Red Mill	Miller Nash Graham & Dunn LLP
Cindy Thompson Event Production	Miller Paint Co.
Columbia Sportswear	Mountain Rose Herbs
The Commerce Group	Paxton Gate PDX
David Evans and Associates	Portland Audubon Nature Store
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Eyes on Broadway	Portland Nursery
Garden Fever	Pro Photo
Grow Construction	Sauvie Island Coffee Company
Inn @ Northrup Station	Selco Community Credit Union
JD Fulwiler & Co. Insurance	Silver Rain Massage
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Klamath Basin Audubon's  
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FESTIVAL

Save the dates!  
Feb. 13-16, 2020

4 days of field trips, workshops, & presentations  
for birders, photographers, & families  
Klamath Falls, Oregon

WinterWingsFest.org

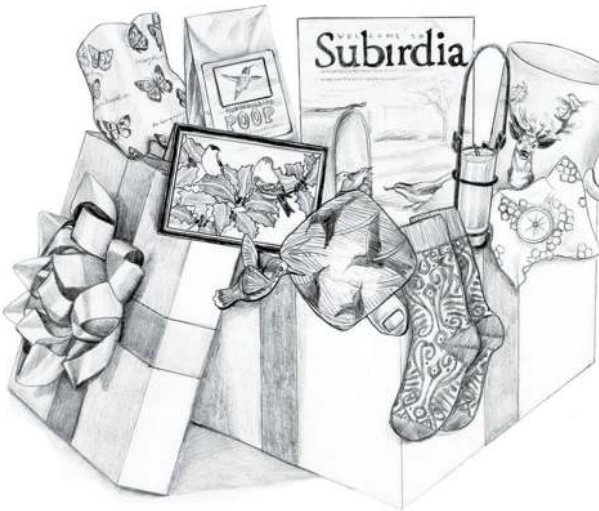


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Cozy up at Portland Audubon!

With the changing seasons in Portland, it can be easy to stay cooped up inside. But don't let the rain stop you from enjoying a bit of the outdoors. The Portland Audubon Sanctuary is the perfect spot for a quick hike! You can say hello to our education birds as you head down the trail, take shelter from the rain under a large old-growth tree, or listen for the song of a Varied Thrush ringing through the forest. Afterward, stop by the Nature Store to warm up by the fire and check out our wide selection of holiday gifts and backyard bird supplies.



Varied Thrush, photo by Clay Showalter.

Holiday Open House  
and Zeiss Digiscoping

December 7 & 8, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Mark your calendar for our annual Holiday Open House! The full holiday spread—gifts, cards, wrapping paper, and ornaments—will be on display, and please enjoy complimentary hot beverages and holiday treats. Portland Audubon members will receive an additional 5% off everything in the store (a 15% discount!).

Saturday morning, a very special guest from Zeiss Optics will be on hand to teach you about digiscoping—using your scope or binoculars to take pictures with your camera or phone. There will also be special deals on Zeiss binoculars and spotting scopes. Check our website for details!

Optics Focus

Vortex VIP Warranty

After researching, budgeting, and comparing models before choosing your new binocular or scope, a solid manufacturer warranty can make all the difference in the final choice. That's where Vortex's VIP Warranty has you covered. VIP stands for "Very Important Promise"—Vortex's pledge to customers that their investment is protected, no matter the cause. This is a true lifetime, no fault warranty. Vortex will repair or replace your damaged Vortex optic at no cost to you, forever. No registration, and no receipt needed. You simply fill out an online form, and send in for repairs. It couldn't be easier!



PNW Pick

Found & Rewound

The Nature Store loves to carry products made by local artists and vendors! We are always sourcing new products made in the Pacific Northwest, and love to support our local community.



Jordan Kim, owner and creator of Found & Rewound, specializes in mixed media paper collages with a unique style and purpose. "My mission is to create art that inspires you to honor and celebrate our connections to each other and the natural world," says Kim. Each collage resembles a painting and features PNW themes and people, often with hidden words.

NATURE STORE HOLIDAY HOURS

Thanksgiving Day: Closed  
Christmas Eve: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Christmas Day: Closed  
New Year's Eve: 10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
New Year's Day: Closed

Members receive a 10%  
discount at the Nature Store!







TOGETHER FOR NATURE

5151 NW Cornell Road  
Portland, OR 97210

Portland Audubon inspires all people to love and protect birds, wildlife,  
and the natural environment upon which life depends.



Bohemian Waxwing, photo by Scott Carpenter.

## Make a Gift to Portland Audubon

Together for Nature, we as a community have the power to ensure a healthy future for thousands of bird species and other wildlife through a far-reaching and inclusive environmental movement.

This giving season, please make a special gift to Portland Audubon to keep this exciting momentum going in support of all the people and wildlife we serve across Oregon.

Give a gift of any size today:  
[audubonportland.org/support](http://audubonportland.org/support)

### GET IN TOUCH

#### Administration Offices

503-292-6855  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

#### Wildlife Sanctuary

Dawn to dusk every day

#### Wildlife Care Center

503-292-0304  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day

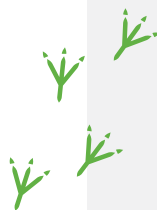
#### Nature Store &

#### Interpretive Center

503-292-9453  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mon.-Sat.  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sun.

**On the Cover:** Artwork by Janel Pahl.

**On the Inside Cover:** Marbled Murrelet by Rich McIntosh/USFWS,  
Black Oystercatcher and Rufous Hummingbird by Scott Carpenter.



## Birdy Brain Buster!

How many of the world's  
birds are regular migrants?

- a. 2,000
- b. 4,000
- c. 6,000
- d. 8,000



We are a member of Earth Share Oregon.  
[earthshare-oregon.org](http://earthshare-oregon.org)

Answer: 4,000