

JULY/AUGUST 2022

Meet Stuart Wells, Portland Audubon's New Executive Director





Great Gray Owl, photo by Hayley Crews.

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello, Portland Audubon Community!

by Stuart Wells, Executive Director

I am pleased to join Portland Audubon as executive director. I believe we have exciting times ahead, but I am aware that we must continue to be proactive in supporting and developing programs that help to mitigate the global impact of human-caused activities such as climate change and habitat destruction. These activities affect the ability for species to thrive, especially bird species, some of which migrate and depend on viable nesting and feeding habitats for hatching and rearing their young.

Because of Portland Audubon's long history of conservation advocacy and involvement, we are well positioned as a community leader to champion habitat conservation and wildlife protection policies and to create more opportunities for BIPOC communities' involvement and understanding of the natural world. I want to invite all of Oregon to join us in celebrating the success of Portland Audubon's initiatives and stay with us on the journey to accomplish even more across the state as a leading conservation organization.

Before closing, I also want to acknowledge the dedication and perseverance of the Portland Audubon staff and volunteers who have remained focused and undaunted toward achieving our mission. I also want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Paul Lipscomb, who served for over a year as interim executive director. Thanks, Paul, for holding the reins of this extraordinary organization.

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Meet Stuart Wells, Portland Audubon's New Executive Director



Portland Audubon is thrilled to welcome our new executive director, Stuart Wells, to the Portland Audubon flock. We wanted to start off his tenure by helping

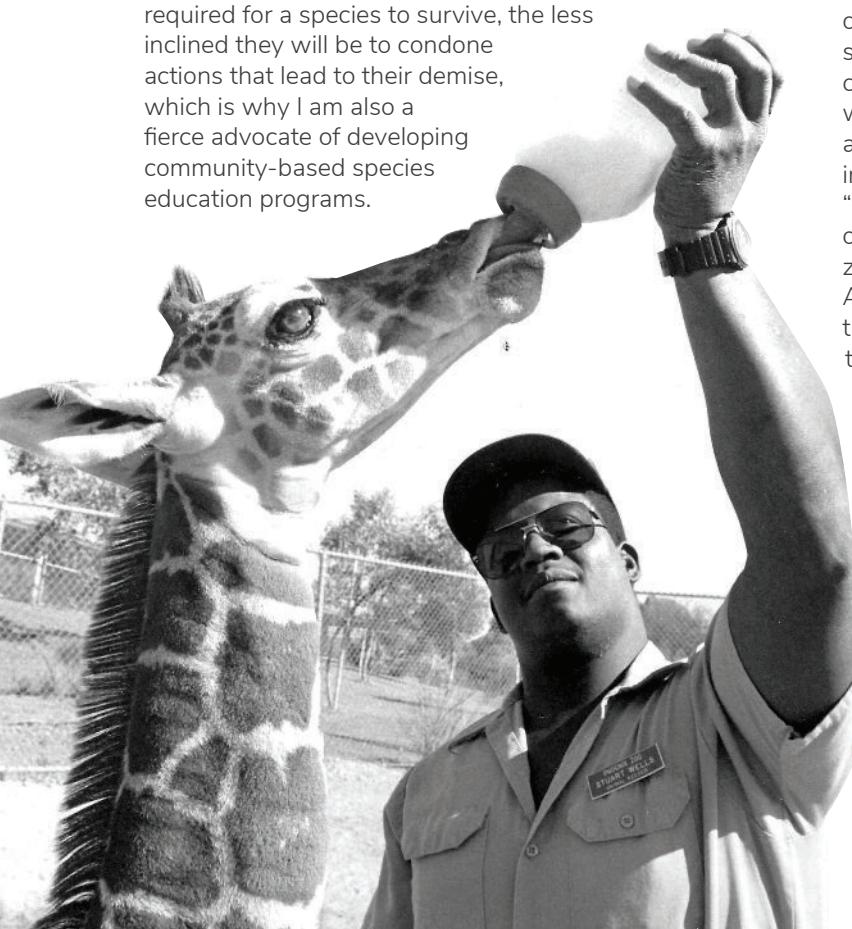
our community get to know Stuart, his background, and why he's so passionate about protecting habitat and wildlife and connecting people with nature.

What inspired you to dedicate your career to conservation?

Growing up in Indiana, I loved nature and wildlife. But in the early 1970s, I was not aware of wildlife conservation. I have always been mindful of the impact we humans have on the natural world. My small town of Logansport would often be shrouded in a gray cloud of coal dust created by the coal processing plant located in town. I wondered what the long-term impact on my health that breathing in the air would cause. I read Rachel Carson's work *Silent Spring*, which ignited an environmental movement, led to the formation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and paved the way for other important pieces of environmental protection legislation such as the Clean Air Act of 1970, Clean Water Act of 1972, and the Endangered Species Act of 1973. These important ecological actions impacted me, and I developed a respect for the natural environment. However, it was not until I discovered Arizona's diverse ecology that I began to appreciate the incredible beauty of the natural world and the importance of maintaining habitats and species biodiversity. I embrace Aldo Leopold's idea of a land ethic where relationships between people and the earth we live on are intertwined. As I began my career working in wildlife organizations, I focused on how to maintain and improve the habitats where species live. Throughout my career, wildlife and habitat conservation has been a guiding principle directly influencing my research and advocacy for maintaining species biodiversity. The more people know what is required for a species to survive, the less inclined they will be to condone actions that lead to their demise, which is why I am also a fierce advocate of developing community-based species education programs.

You have a deep history in recovering endangered species. Can you tell us about that work?

I have worked with many endangered species during positions I have held, beginning as an animal keeper and in subsequent roles as a biologist, supervisory biologist, director of animal husbandry, and director of conservation and science. A common denominator throughout these roles is my desire to seek ways to understand what these species need to survive in the wild. An underlying factor for most species threatened with extinction is human-caused impacts on their environment, overexploitation, or habitat destruction. Present-day humans are slow at adopting a land ethic. This allows for increased human impacts on species, their habitats, and the environment. For this reason, I am dedicated to finding ways to mitigate species losses, especially human-caused species declines, and to seek ways to inform people of the importance of understanding how we impact the world. Early on, while working as an animal keeper, I had an opportunity to see impactful wildlife conservation occurring with the program to save the Arabian Oryx—dubbed Operation Oryx. These antelope were near extinction in the early 1960s, and the Phoenix Zoo led the way in saving this species by developing a successful ex situ [living outside of its natural habitat] breeding program. What was unique about Operation Oryx is that from the inception of the program, they determined that offspring born in zoos would be returned to the wild. A collaborative effort between many wildlife organizations would be necessary for the program's success. I was fortunate to work at the Phoenix Zoo caring for the Arabian Oryx when some of our animals were loaded up for transport back into the wild in Oman after being declared extinct. The Arabian Oryx is living in the wild and is upgraded from extinct in the wild to "vulnerable." This experience left a lasting impression on me. I realized that conservation organizations and zoos could play a critical role in wildlife species' survival. Also, while at the Phoenix Zoo, I was honored to bring the first breeding group of Black-footed Ferrets to the zoo and become one of only six facilities to help establish their breeding program.



One of the challenges that endangered zoo-managed animals have is that often very little is known about their nutritional, behavioral, and reproductive management needs. I found this common issue stimulated my need to understand more, which led me to develop research to help to answer questions about zoo-managed animal needs, especially reproductive and behavioral needs. One animal in my charge as an animal keeper was the African Cheetah. In early 1980, only 10 percent of the ex situ population of cheetahs had ever reproduced. This fact, coupled with their critically endangered

status in the wild, made it untenable to continue to obtain wild animals for zoos. I was determined to develop an effective breeding program for cheetahs and established a behavioral study to examine the effects of varied management strategies on their ability to reproduce.

How did that interest in endangered species lead to you helping to establish the Arizona Center for Nature Conservation's Conservation and Science Center, a facility dedicated for holding species destined for reintroduction into the wild?

After many years of working to facilitate wildlife conservation in zoos, I had the opportunity to develop a department at the Arizona Center for Nature Conservation/Phoenix Zoo. This department—Native Species Conservation Center—was created entirely for holding threatened or endangered species for release into the wild. We worked closely with U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Arizona Game and Fish to identify species needing population augmentation. Holding the species often required the development of breeding strategies through behavioral and non-invasive physiology research. We worked with many taxa and species, including Black-footed Ferrets, Chiricahua Leopard Frogs, Narrow-headed Garter Snakes, Desert Pupfish, and Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-Owls. We were responsible for rearing and releasing thousands of animals into the southwestern habitats. More recently, I've studied the behavior and physiological needs of the endangered Mt. Graham Red Squirrel for my Ph.D. to develop a reproductive strategy for this endangered species. Having this opportunity to establish local endangered species reintroduction programs fulfilled a career-long quest to be directly involved in field conservation to reduce the likelihood of a species becoming extinct.

How have you worked to engage the public in conservation?

I have talked about informing communities about the importance of maintaining species and their habitats. I have accomplished this by developing informal public education programs, creating outdoor opportunities for young people, especially those with limited opportunities to learn and explore nature, and offering paid conservation internships collaborating with BIPOC community members. I have also worked with volunteers to develop in-depth and informative education programs designed to increase public awareness about the importance of species biodiversity and about our role in helping to conserve species and species habitats.



Arizona Center for Nature Conservation/Phoenix Zoo

I am excited that Portland Audubon has an extraordinary history of engaging the community about the importance of protecting bird species, with Portland Audubon's numerous adult education, youth education, and community science programs providing endless opportunities for learning about bird species conservation and insight into the wonders of the natural world.

What made you want to become the next executive director of Portland Audubon?

Portland Audubon's "Together for Nature" tagline perfectly aligns with my land ethic belief that our ultimate survival depends on respecting and maintaining the natural world's rich biodiversity. The other overarching desire to join Portland Audubon is the incredible dedication of the team members and volunteers. They are critical to Portland Audubon's success. One of my goals as executive director is to help celebrate the many positive impacts on species and habitat conservation that this organization has accomplished throughout its 120-year history. I am excited to learn and share in detail the extent of our work and engage the Oregon community in celebrating our incredible conservation legacy. I will continue to build on this rich and successful history of bird and wildlife species conservation, advocacy, and community engagement in wildlife conservation. Along with my passion for engaging the community in wildlife conservation and the incredible diversity of bird species, I apply my knowledge of wildlife biology, scientific research, wildlife rehabilitation, animal behavior knowledge, and my 20+ years of leadership roles to the organization. I look forward to celebrating Portland Audubon's legacy of successful species conservation, habitat preservation, and community involvement in embracing a dynamic land ethic philosophy.



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Thank You for a Fun and Successful Birdathon!

by Sarah Swanson, Birdathon Coordinator



Birdathon 2022 was a success by every measure. Together we have raised over \$165,000 (as of print deadline), exceeding our goal, and the total is still climbing. In addition to our excellent fundraising, we had 292 participants this year, an increase from the last several years. **Around 90 participants were new to the event**, which gives me great optimism for the future. Several Birdathoners were under 18 years old and we hope they are just beginning a long tradition of participation. Several other participants have been doing Birdathon for 30 or even 40 years. We also added a new element this year: a weeklong series of virtual speakers that kicked off Birdathon in late April and taught us about urban birding, birding near home, female birds, and the wonders of our logo bird, the Belted Kingfisher.

This year, Birdathon had four new teams including one based in Eugene, one for LGBTQIA+ birders, one for Portland Audubon volunteers, and one led by a local author. The four new teams from last year returned and were again very popular. In total, 35 teams, big and small, gathered to bird during the six weeks of Birdathon. They enjoyed seeing birds across Oregon from the high desert of Malheur to the stormy surf of Yachats. They birded wetlands in Eugene, Summer Lake, Forest Grove, and Boardman. Some went out in a convoy of bikes, and some traversed the state by van, while others explored the natural areas near their homes. Birdathon is for everyone and I love the creativity that individuals and teams show in their planning.

I'm lucky to get to read reports from many of the Birdathon trips and I wanted to share some of my favorites.

"One of my favorite memories from this year's Birdathon was watching a brood of wood duck ducklings, maybe a few days old, zipping around on the pond."

"It was exciting that at least 3 of our best bird sightings were first observed by my 10-year-old son."

"We saw cedar waxwings participating in the courtship display of passing a berry back and forth. It was adorable!"

"At Powell Butte we watched a killdeer do a very convincing broken wing display while in the opposite direction we spotted the other adult moving through the grass with two tiny chicks!"

"We watched a prairie falcon mobbing a red-tailed hawk. The hawk kept flipping over in the air and trying to grab the prairie falcon. It was pretty amazing to watch!"

"One of the first birds we saw was a peregrine falcon eating a starling!"

As Birdathon 2022 wraps up, I'm filled with immense gratitude for everyone who played a part in making it a success. Our dedicated group of team leaders are first on the list of thank-yous because they make this event possible. Each of them puts in so much work behind the scenes to create these fun trips and bring a group of birders together. We simply couldn't do this event without them. Thank you also to our participants who have stuck with us through COVID and all the changes it brought to Birdathon. Thank you to the donors who supported individuals and teams—together these donations make up a significant amount of money that allows Portland Audubon to perform its critical work. Our event sponsors and prize sponsors really stepped up this year to help us raise funds as well as put on a farm-to-table Birdathon Celebration at Topaz Farm, and we appreciate their generosity. One more thank-you goes to the staff members in the Nature Store and in Membership and Development that help this event go smoothly.

Birdathon is a unique fundraiser because it gets our participants out in nature to enjoy the very birds and habitats that Portland Audubon works to protect across the state. Having a great cause that you are passionate about makes fundraising (almost) easy. I hope you'll join us next year for Birdathon 2023!

Photo Captions: 1. I Heart Big Bubos by Molly LeCompte; 2. Cedar Waxwing courtship by Eric Ellingson; 3. Handle-barred Owls by Tara Lemezis; 4. Owl Be Darned by Kayla McCurry; 5. Lazuli Bunting by John Rakestraw; 6. Warbling Yogis by Martha Gannett; 7. Pintailgating by Ali Berman.



Thank You To Our Birdathon Sponsors!



Making Space for Trees on the Urban Landscape

by Micah Meskel, Activist Program Manager

While greenspace creation and protection has been at the forefront of Portland Audubon's urban conservation agenda over the decades, it has been paired with an equal effort to create habitat on the built landscape, in the spaces between parks and natural areas. In a city full of buildings and pavement, trees are an ideal natural feature to provide habitat for birds, insects, and other wildlife while connecting this habitat with the greenspaces around them. And a well-treed urban landscape is not only beneficial for wildlife, it also provides a diverse set of co-benefits (see infographic on next page) that are important for the human communities to thrive in an urban environment. For these reasons, trees have served as a pillar of Portland Audubon's urban conservation policy advocacy.

Some of this effort has focused on crafting policies that protect existing trees. We also take the long and intersectional view and work to ensure that land-use plans and policies regarding transportation and housing that will shape the region's future development include space for trees to thrive. These efforts often require years of continued staff advocacy, and involve policies where there is not always a clear nexus for trees or other natural resource protections in their initial charge. But it is our position that on the urban landscape we must relentlessly advocate for and make space for trees and other green infrastructure wherever possible to ensure our urban communities stay environmentally healthy and resilient.

This spring, several of these land-use policy processes that Portland Audubon had closely participated in came to a conclusion. After more than a year of advocacy along with a diverse set of advocates, these plans will now help "un-pave the way" to ensure that large, healthy trees will line our region's urban streets, take the place of unnecessary parking, and tower over densifying residential neighborhoods.

City of Milwaukie's Middle Housing and Tree Code

When the City of Milwaukie set out to craft a policy for how to make room for smart densification of its residential neighborhoods, the Mayor, City Council, and staff aptly considered how this might impact other important goals like climate resiliency, increased tree canopy, and transformation of its transportation system. After a year plus of community process and significant advocacy from a diverse set of advocates, the end product became a blueprint for how small jurisdictions

could municipal code to smartly welcome more neighbors, repurpose unnecessary paved driveways and parking spaces, and grow the urban tree canopy to improve environmental and livability conditions.

The new tree code is grounded in an ambitious 40% citywide tree canopy goal, which sets the stage for strong protections for existing native trees, and significant requirements for planting native trees in new developments. And more so than most of the region's tree codes, Milwaukie's policy adopted a preservation-first framework to prioritize retention of existing native trees whenever possible, recognizing the significant benefits that larger mature trees provide for the community and environment. The policy also puts in place mechanisms and procedures that incentivize residents and developers to collaborate with the City's natural resources team early in the development process to help prioritize retention of existing trees whenever possible. When healthy trees must be removed, the code includes strong mitigation standards to ensure the significant benefits that trees provide will be replaced and are distributed to portions of the city that need them the most. By implementing this new policy, the City of Milwaukie has charted a path to welcome more affordable housing options in its residential neighborhoods while ensuring its tree canopy is protected and will thrive into the future.

Portland's Pedestrian Design Guide

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) recently adopted the Pedestrian Design Guide (PDG) through an administrative rule process, which will serve as a guideline for how sidewalks should be built in public and private development in the future. From the outset, PBOT was directed by its commissioner in charge, Jo Ann Hardesty, to prioritize improving pedestrian accessibility and safety for all sidewalk users while making our city more resilient to climate change impacts. Its integration of trees along sidewalks will help serve both of those priorities along with providing many other co-benefits for the community and environment.

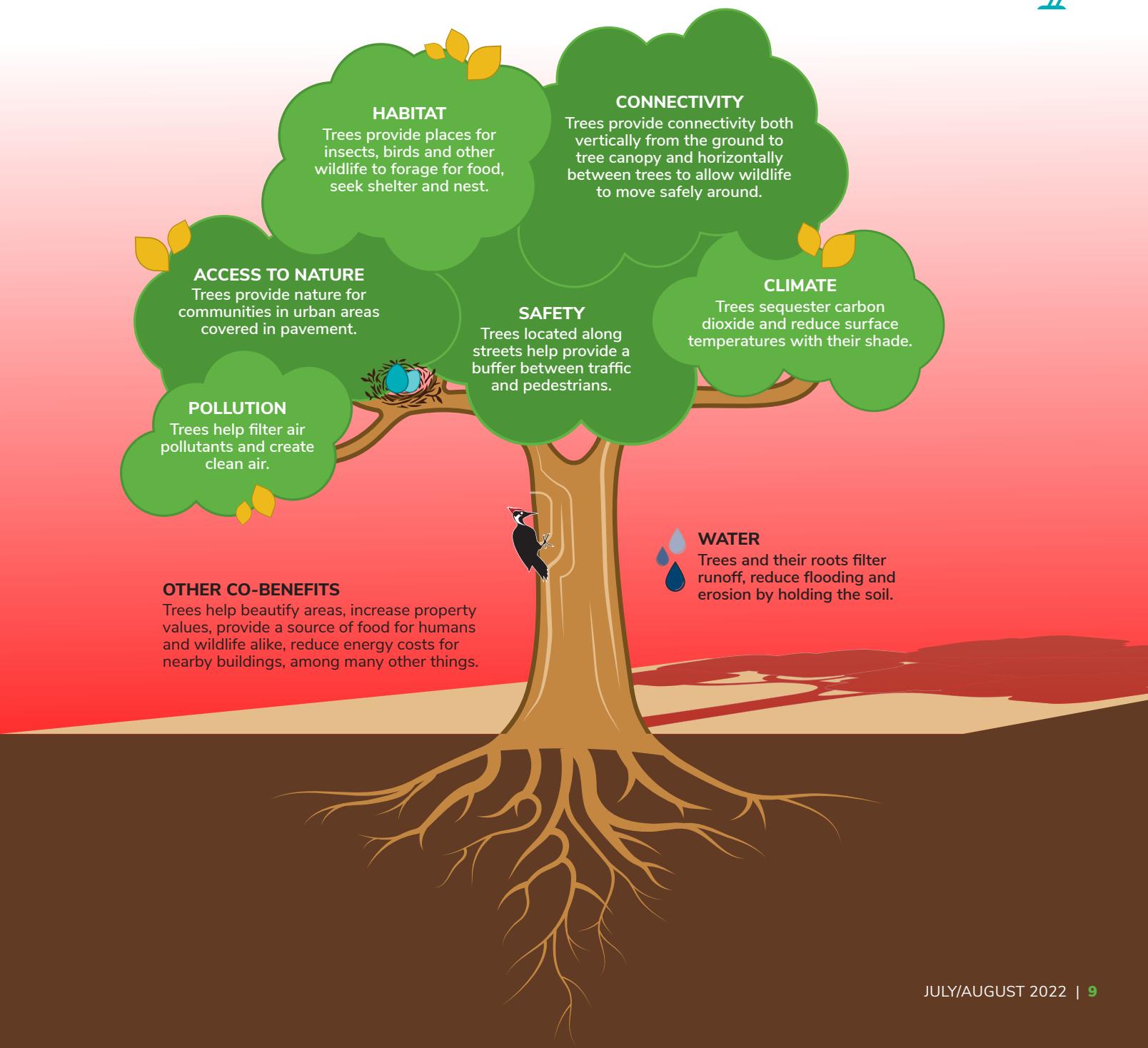
Taking into consideration some suggestions from Portland Audubon, the Urban Forestry Commission, and others, the PDG significantly expanded the space for trees within the public right-of-way in both width, depth, and frequency of planting areas, ensuring that even large trees will thrive along streets throughout the city. Placement of more trees along sidewalks

will improve the pedestrian experience by reducing temperatures, improving air quality, and increasing safety as the trees will help buffer sidewalk users from traffic and pollution. This is all in addition to the increase in wildlife habitat, access to nature, and habitat connectivity that tree-lined streets will provide the adjacent communities. This is especially important in some of the city's most urbanized areas where space for trees, especially large trees, is limited. Ultimately the PDG will help "un-pave the way" to ensure the city's tree canopy plays a role in better connecting pedestrians and wildlife across Portland.

Are You a Portland Audubon Activist?

Our efforts to improve Milwaukie's tree code and Portland's PDG were bolstered by our activists' involvement. If you aren't registered to receive email action alerts, please sign up today so you can help shape efforts to protect trees in the near future.

Sign up to be an activist at
audubonportland.org/take-action





Wood Ducks, photo by Jim Cruce

Avian Flu FAQs

by Stephanie Herman, Wildlife Care Center Manager
and Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

In May, the USDA confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a backyard poultry flock in Linn County. This is the first confirmed case of this strain (H5N1 Eurasian strain) in Oregon, but the virus has been found throughout the United States since December 2021. Several additional wild birds have now tested positive in Oregon, including a red-tailed hawk and several goslings in Eugene.

◆ What animals are at risk from HPAI?

Avian influenza can infect a wide variety of birds. This particular strain causes severe disease and death in domestic poultry (chickens, turkeys, etc.). Infected wild waterfowl are considered carriers, and often do not show symptoms. Over recent months, the current strain of avian influenza has infected other wild species, including shorebirds, raptors, and scavengers, which suffer severe disease and death as well.

◆ What are the symptoms of HPAI in animals?

There are many symptoms associated with HPAI, both because it affects multiple organ systems and because it behaves differently in different species. HPAI causes severe disease and high mortality (90-100%) in domestic poultry, often within 48 hours. Infected raptors also suffer severe disease and high mortality, which often shows up as neurologic symptoms.

◆ Can people be infected with HPAI?

Yes. However, there has only been one case of a person testing positive in the United States. That person worked directly with a large number of infected poultry. While the Centers for Disease Control considers this virus a low risk to human health, people who have close contact with wild birds or infected poultry should take additional precautions to stay safe.

◆ If I find a sick, injured, or orphaned bird, what should I do?

As a result of this outbreak, Portland Audubon and other wildlife rehabilitation centers are taking steps to minimize the risk of spreading this disease. This includes suspending admittance for high-risk species such as ducks and geese because they are often asymptomatic. Allowing them into a hospital facility potentially puts every bird in care in danger. We will continue accepting all other species native to the Pacific Northwest.

Because HPAI can infect people as well, we do not recommend that the public handle wild waterfowl. If you do choose to intervene, ducks and geese are being referred to Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). ODFW will provide these animals with humane euthanasia. Please call ahead when possible.

These are difficult decisions, as we realize it means some animals that need rehabilitative services will not receive them. We take these decisions very seriously and make them in consultation with state and federal wildlife agencies and other wildlife experts. This is an evolving situation, and our protocols are likely to evolve as well over the coming months.

◆ Should I take down my bird feeder?

Although bird feeders can speed the spread of illness, the songbirds that visit bird feeders currently have a low risk of contracting and spreading avian influenza. We are only recommending taking your feeders down if you keep domestic birds, as an extra precaution for your flock.

◆ What should I do if I notice groups of dead wild birds?

It is not uncommon to see an individual dead bird, and that is not a cause for concern. However, if you find multiple dead wild birds in the same place, please do not touch the carcasses and do report them to the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Health Lab at 1-866-968-2600.

◆ How can I stay updated about cases of HPAI in Oregon?

The US Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service maintains updated information about the situation, including a list of all detections in the US, and is the best place to stay updated.

City Considers New Protections for Floodplains

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

As Portland experienced record-setting rainfall in April, May, and June, Portlanders found many riverside parks and natural areas underwater, access to amenities such as the Eastbank Esplanade shut down due to flood hazards, and flood warnings issued for the Columbia River. Extreme weather events such as flooding, heat waves, and fires are becoming increasingly and frighteningly more common in our region. These events are forcing us to rethink how we develop our urban landscapes in order to make them healthier and more resilient in the face of unprecedented climate change.

This summer and fall, the City of Portland will have a major opportunity to advance meaningful protections for floodplains. In November of 2021, the City of Portland released a draft Floodplain Resilience Plan "to reduce the impacts of future flooding and the degradation of floodplain habitat for endangered and threatened fish species." The plan is a direct result of a lawsuit brought by Portland Audubon and other conservation groups against the Federal Emergency Management Agency (Audubon Society of Portland v. FEMA) in 2011.

Floodplains are the areas adjacent to rivers and streams that are subject to periodic flooding. They clean and cool our water, provide valuable fish and wildlife habitat, and protect our communities from flooding. Unfortunately, cities across the metro region and Oregon continue to develop floodplains at an alarming rate. To make matters worse, floodplain development can occur specifically because the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), administered by FEMA, provides low-cost, taxpayer-subsidized flood insurance to communities to develop their floodplains. Without this insurance, nobody in their right mind would develop in flood-prone areas.

In 2011, Portland Audubon, represented by Earthrise Law Center, sued FEMA, arguing that NFIP violated the federal Endangered Species Act by harming federally listed salmon that depended on those floodplains for survival. As a result of this lawsuit, the National Marine Fisheries Service determined in 2016 that Audubon et al. were correct and the NFIP program was jeopardizing the continued existence of salmon and steelhead as well as resident killer whales that depend on salmon for survival. In order to remain eligible for the NFIP program, communities across Oregon with salmon-bearing rivers and streams must update their local codes to ensure that floodplain development avoids, minimizes, and mitigates any harm to salmon or

steelhead. While the lawsuit was driven by salmon, the requirements that it generated also provide a template for how to make our communities safer and more resilient.

Due to foot-dragging by FEMA, the State of Oregon, and local jurisdictions at the behest of development interests, it has taken more than a decade since the lawsuit was initiated to move to action, but as deadlines for compliance approach, movement is finally occurring. Portland is the first community out of the gate.

The proposed Floodplain Resilience Plan requires Portland to do several important things:

- Map and apply new development and building requirements for the floodplain.
- Ensure all floodplains within the project area are within an environmental or river overlay zone
- Increase mitigation ratios for trees removed when floodplains are developed to avoid loss of habitat function
- Increase mitigation ratios for balanced cut and fill when floodplains are developed to prevent loss of habitat function and flood capacity
- Apply additional requirements within 170 feet of ordinary high water to increase habitat near rivers and streams
- Create habitat mitigation banks to compensate for loss of habitat function if floodplains are developed

With more than 125 miles of rivers and streams within Portland, this plan represents a major step forward for natural resource protection, climate resilience, and community safety. It is also likely to set the standard for communities throughout the state. It is expected that the plan will go to the Planning and Sustainability Commission and City Council in the summer of 2022. The North Reach (Portland Harbor) is not included in this plan and will be addressed subsequent to adoption of this plan. We will need your help to ensure that these common sense steps to protect our communities and our environment move forward.

For more information contact Portland Audubon Conservation Director Bob Sallinger at bsallinger@audubonportland.org.



Flooding in Cathedral Park in mid June.
Photo by Bob Sallinger.

FIELD NOTES

by Aaron Jenkins, Malheur Field Assistant

Malheur Breeding Season Displays

As with all springs, love has been in the air here at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Quite literally, in the case of Wilson's Snipe that uses aerial displays to defend territory and turn the heads of potential mates.

Their rapid, swooping flight fills the air above wet meadows with an eerie "winnowing" sound. As the snipe plummets groundward, specialized muscles fan out the tail, and the vibration of the outermost tail feathers (retices) produces the winnowing. This may explain why Wilson's Snipe possesses 16 tail feathers compared to 12 for most species in its family.

Taking advantage of the open nature of their preferred habitats (wet, marshy settings), the snipes' displays and distinctive winnowing noise may travel unobstructed over long distances. Though they're most active at dawn and dusk, they can be heard during many hours of the day.

SIGHTINGS

by Brodie Cass Talbott,
Educator & Trips Specialist

Late April saw a new state first record for Oregon in the form of a **Common Crane** spotted just north of Burns. This was considered "long overdue," as much as a state first can be, as all of our neighboring states have had records in recent years.

Closer to home, we also had a number of firsts. Multnomah County had its first **Red Knots**, found on Sauvie Island early May, while **Ruddy Turnstone** was a first for both Columbia and Washington counties, at the Rainier Marina and Tualatin River NWR, respectively. Columbia County also had its first **Gray Flycatcher** (which seemed to be everywhere this year) at the Columbia Botanical Gardens, while Clackamas County added its first **Long-eared Owl**, a one-day wonder at Newell Creek Canyon.

It's been a good year for **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks**, with records across the state, including birds in Clackamas, Washington, and Multnomah counties, mostly males visiting feeders. **Black Terns**, normally quite rare in the region, were also spotted multiple



Wilson's Snipe, photo by Becky Matsubara.

Other breeding birds at Malheur NWR keep their displays on the ground level. In its display prior to mating, the male American Avocet preens himself with water with increasing intensity until reaching a frenzy of splashing just before copulation with the female. After consummation, the pair strolls side by side with bills crossed, while the male may drape his wing over the female's back.

Black-necked Stilts, relatives of the avocet, energetically dissuade or confuse predators and humans that get too close to their nests. In the "popcorn display," stilts fly about or even surround intruders, issuing harsh calls and jumping up and down while flapping wildly. In the distraction display called "false brooding," a stilt moves away from the nest site and then crouches down, pretending to sit on a faux nest. Once the predator approaches, the stilt escapes, leaving the predator empty-pawed.

times, including at Tualatin River NWR, Force Lake (surprisingly poor habitat for the species, as evidenced by it only sticking around for a fraction of a day), and Vancouver Lake. **Forster's Terns** were also reported at Vancouver Lake, as well as Broughton Beach, mirroring last year when the two tern species turned up at Smith and Bybee on subsequent days.

Late spring is when birders in our area start hoping for **Ash-throated Flycatchers** and **Eastern Kingbirds**, and neither disappointed, with Ash-throated being seen in multiple locations around Portland, including in Clackamas County, and Eastern Kingbirds showing up at their typical spots at Sandy River Delta and Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge, which recently reopened after a two-year reconstruction.

And finally, one of the most exciting finds of the spring was also the most elusive. A sharp-eared birder noticed and recorded a singing **Northern Waterthrush** at Whitaker Ponds. The famously skulky bird was never seen, or heard, again.

Those are only a few of the rare birds reported across the region. **For corrections, tips, and reports, email Brodie Cass Talbott at bcasstalbott@audubonportland.org, and for a more detailed weekly report, visit audubonportland.org.**

Pacific Northwest Trips

Pacific Northwest Trip: Grays Harbor Shorebirds

September 9-11

Early September is the perfect time to enjoy shorebird migration. Join Portland Audubon and explore the West Coast birding hotspot of Grays Harbor! From Marbled Godwit flocks in Westport to Sooty Shearwaters on the horizon, this trip will excite any birdwatcher and ocean lover.

Fee: \$495 members / \$645 non-members

Leader: Stefan Schlick

Pacific Northwest Trip: Raptor Migration at Green Ridge

October 8-9

Green Ridge is Oregon's unsung raptor migration hotspot, with comparable numbers of raptors to the more well-known Bonney Butte, but easier access and more accessible local birding. We will augment an afternoon of raptor counting with birding around the Sisters and Black Butte area.

Fee: \$200 members / \$260 non-members

Leader: Brodie Cass Talbott

Pacific Northwest Trip: Olympic Peninsula

November 3-6

Join us as we explore the Strait of Juan de Fuca in search of rarities, loons, alcids (murres, guillemots, auklets, puffins, and murrelets), and spectacular views.

Fee: \$595 members / \$795 non-members

Leader: Stefan Schlick

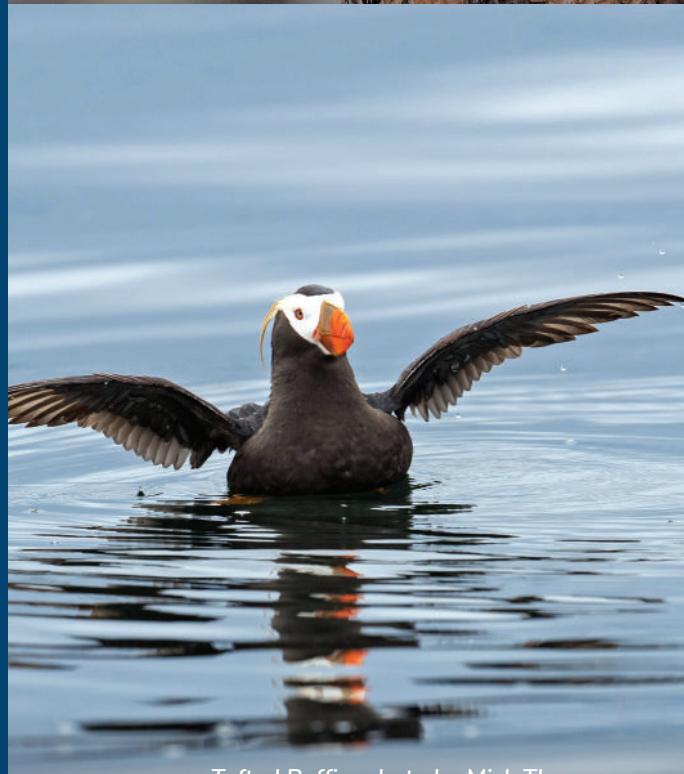
Sign up for trips at
bit.ly/pnwbirdtrips



Sooty Shearwater, photo by Mark Haywood.



Black-backed Woodpecker, photo by Eric Ellingson.



Tufted Puffin, photo by Mick Thompson.

The New School of Birding

with Candace Larson and Dan van den Broek

Fee: \$450 members / \$600 non-members



The New School of Birding is designed to build both birding skills and a deeper understanding of the ecology and biology of the birds all around us. Each module of this exciting, interactive program includes six virtual class sessions and three field trips focused on a different feature of bird biology, plus tips, tricks, and practice with field identification, all provided in a small class format through a combination of lectures, online quizzes, handouts, live interaction with your instructors, and extensive field time. Participants may register for whatever module(s) most interest them.

The New School of Birding, Module 3: The Wonders of Migration

Online classes: August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and September 7 | 6-7:15 p.m.

Field days: August 13, 27, and September 10 | 7 a.m.-12 p.m./4 p.m. (depending on destination)

In this module, we hope to raise your awareness of the subtle cues of nature and bring you into closer understanding of the lives of our feathered neighbors. We'll explore how and why birds migrate, delving into the mysteries of how birds stay on course, how scientists measure migration, systems of feather molt, the amazing journeys of long-distance migrants, and much more!

The New School of Birding, Module 4: Bird Taxonomy and Population Dynamics

Online classes: October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30; 6 p.m. -7:15 p.m.

Field days: November 5, 19, and December 3 from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m./4 p.m. (depending on destination)

In this module, we'll investigate bird origins and the evolving science of taxonomy, dive into the promise and perils of bird naming systems, and investigate how bird distribution and populations change over time. We'll also profile several of Oregon's most imperiled species and how you can support their recovery. Along the way, we'll practice our birding skills in the field, with a focus on winter residents and seabirds.



Clark's Nutcracker, photo by Frank D. Lospalluto.

CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Dragonfly Basics

Part I - July 12 | 6-7 p.m.

Part II - July 13 | 6-7 p.m..

This series is a primer on dragonflies and damselflies between Eugene, Oregon, and Bellingham, Washington. Please register separately for each class.

Fee: \$20 members / \$30 non-members

Instructor: Stefan Schlick



Audubon Birding Day: Timberline Lodge

July 16 | 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Join Ross to explore the Timberline Lodge area and surrounding alpine trails in search of montane species such as Clark's Nutcracker, Mountain Bluebird, Mountain Chickadee, and Cassin's Finch. We will then take the chair lift to the higher elevation scree fields hoping for views of Gray-crowned Rosy-finches.

Fee: \$65 members / \$85 non-members

Leader: Ross Barnes-Rickett



Watercolor Painting with Ronna: The Western Meadowlark

July 21, 6-7:30 p.m..

Join this live, online class to paint the Western Meadowlark alongside Ronna Fujisawa, an experienced watercolor painter, art educator, and bird enthusiast. This class is appropriate for intermediate and ambitious beginners.

Fee: \$20 members / \$30 non-members

Instructor: Ronna Fujisawa





Western Meadowlark painting by Ronna Fujisawa.



Snowy Plovers, photo by Mick Thompson.

CLASSES FOR ADULTS

The Basics of Bird Journaling with Jude Siegel

July 30 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

August 27 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

September 24 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Keeping a bird journal is fun, easy, portable, and a creative relaxing way to record your experiences with birds, at home, or anywhere in the field in a more creative than "perfection" style. Each in-person class has a different focus, and each class reviews some basics.

Fee: \$55 members / \$75 non-members

Instructor: Jude Siegel



Open Air Watercolor Painting with Ronna Fujisawa

July 31 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

August 28 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

For intermediate and ambitious beginners. Painting the landscape in the open air is one of the best ways to connect with the landscape and paint in real-time. Learn how to see and create beautiful watercolor paintings outside with in-person instruction.

Fee: \$50 members / \$70 non-members

Instructor: Ronna Fujisawa



Cost Involved

Public Transit Available

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Virtual Event or Program

Sign up for classes and trips at
bit.ly/pdxaudubon-classes

COMMUNITY SCIENCE

Join Portland Audubon Coastal Community Science Biologist Allison Anholt to learn about the endangered Western Snowy Plover life history, conservation challenges, and habitat at various Snowy Plover Interpretive Walks on the coast this summer. There will be good opportunities to view plovers on each walk, which will be limited to 10 participants and are free.

Please RSVP by emailing Allison at aanholt@audubonportland.org.

Trips will be weather dependent and may be cancelled due to rain or high winds.

July 2 | 9 a.m.

Sitka Sedge State Natural Area

July 3 | 9 a.m.

Nehalem Bay State Park

August 8* | 9 a.m.

Netarts Bay

*The August 8 walk is in partnership with The Friends of Netarts Bay (WEBS) and will go from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. We will begin in Netarts, and explore birds and ecology of Netarts Bay, which includes a nesting site for Western Snowy Plovers, as well as other sites around the bay where we will bird coastal forests and tidal mudflats as well.





Hoatzin, photo by Vince Smith.



Schalow's Turaco, photo by Peter Steward.

INTERNATIONAL ECOTOURS

Join Portland Audubon as we explore the most exciting destinations across the globe! Led by passionate and experienced guides, our world-class Ecotour program offers fun and engaging opportunities to observe, learn and build a deeper relationship with the natural world. Our trips are a treasure of birding, wildlife-watching, natural history, and cultural experience.

Dominican Republic

January 15-27, 2023

Escape the rainy Portland winter to the warmth of the Dominican Republic. This incredible adventure takes us to a wide variety of ecosystems and the top birding sites. We will spend seven days looking for the 31 endemics of the island and then complete our comprehensive visit with a full day in Santo Domingo's Colonial Zone.

Fee: \$3,095 Members / \$3,965 non-members

Leader: Stefan Schlick

Amazon River Cruise

March 10-20, 2023

Travel with Portland Audubon on a once-in-a-lifetime cruise through the heart of upper Amazonia, on the largest river in the world! From amazing birds to turtles, mammals, pink dolphins, unforgettable scenery, and culture, you don't want to miss this epic journey along the largest river in the world.

Fee: \$6,495 members / \$7,095 non-members

Leaders: Dan van den Broek and Doris Valencia

Kenya

August 24-September 5, 2023

Join us on the wildlife trip of a lifetime! One of the world's most famous travel destinations, Kenya is renowned for its remarkable diversity of landscapes, animals and cultures. Kenya boasts over 1100 species of birds, all of Africa's "Big 5" mammals, large herds of grazing herbivores, plus fascinating history, friendly people, and delicious food. Our trip is timed to coincide with the great migration of Wildebeest, one of the seven wonders of the natural world. Bird migration will be ramping up quickly too, so we are likely to experience an unparalleled array of avifauna.

Fee: \$7,650 members / \$8,450 non-members

Leaders: Candace Larson and Dan van den Broek

Sign up for Ecotours at
bit.ly/pdxaudubon-ecotours



Portland Audubon works across the entire state of Oregon. A new feature of the Warbler will be columns on our work at the coast and in Eastern Oregon. In this issue we provide a brief overview of our long history and current priorities in these regions.

NEWS FROM The Coast

by Joe Liebezeit, Staff Scientist & Avian Conservation Manager

Portland Audubon's legacy of conservation on the Oregon coast dates back over 100 years. In 1903 our first president, William Finley, and photographer Henry Bohlman scaled the cliffs of Three Arch Rock to document this stunning seabird hotspot, which can host over 100,000 nesting seabirds. Four years later President Roosevelt made Three Arch Rocks the first national wildlife refuge west of the Mississippi River. In recent decades, Portland Audubon has achieved a number of successful conservation victories along the coast. In the late 1980s we played an instrumental role in protecting the Marbled Murrelet, instigating work that led to its listing as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). We were a core member of a coalition that successfully advocated for the creation of Oregon's five marine reserves and protected areas in 2012. In 2016 we helped secure new protection of forage fish species in West Coast waters. Our Tenmile Creek Sanctuary near Cape Perpetua was recently expanded to over 300 acres and includes some of the best remaining coastal forest stands in the Lower 48.



Today our priorities build on earlier successes, and we have ramped up efforts to protect and recover Oregon's imperiled coastal species. Allison Anholt, our new coastal community science biologist, leads the partnership with Oregon State Parks in the recovery of endangered Western Snowy Plovers on the North Coast. Last year we were successful in uplisting the Marbled Murrelet to endangered under the Oregon ESA. In the face of increasing impacts from climate change and wildlife disturbance, we are working with coastal partners to bolster protections of critical rocky habitats, which make up more than 40% of Oregon's coastline. We continue to support Oregon's ten-year-old marine reserves and protected areas and advocate for a more ecologically connected network of sites. Please stay tuned for regular updates on our conservation efforts on Oregon's incredible coast!

NEWS FROM Eastern Oregon

by Teresa Wicks, Eastern Oregon Field Coordinator

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (Malheur NWR) has been a top priority for Portland Audubon since our founding in 1902. The refuge is one of the most important sites for migrating and nesting birds in the Western United States. Our founder, William Finley, successfully lobbied President Theodore Roosevelt to establish Malheur as one of the first wildlife refuges in the Western United States in 1908 and later played a primary role in the refuge's expansion.

Since 1908, Portland Audubon has been intermittently involved in conservation work at Malheur NWR. This includes a multiyear collaborative effort on the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), providing staff to support seasonal biological surveys, and involvement in several water-related collaboratives. In 2018 we hired a full-time year-round staff member, located in Harney County, to coordinate the biological, outreach, and policy work that we are involved in in the Harney Basin.



Since placing a full-time staff member in eastern Oregon, we have worked with our local partners, including the Harney County Library, High Desert Partnership, and the Harney Basin Wetlands Collaborative to expand our work in the Harney Basin. In 2022, we were able to hire a seasonal staffer to support this expanded work.

Our overarching goal in Harney County is to see Malheur and the surrounding landscape protected and restored to the maximum extent possible for bird conservation and to create a strong local and statewide base of support to advance our conservation goals. To the maximum extent possible this will be accomplished through inclusive collaborative strategies that build on the multistakeholder collaborative efforts to date.



Three Decades of Peregrine

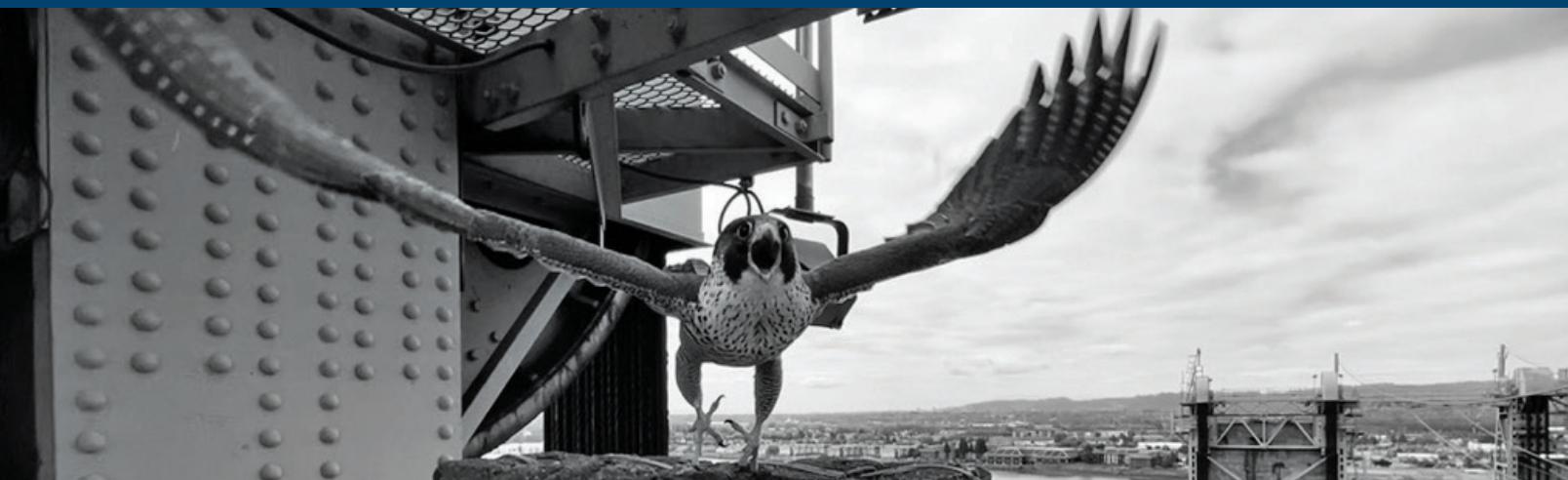
by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director / All photos by Bob Sallinger



Portland Audubon has been monitoring peregrine falcons in the Portland metro region since the 1990s. When we started, the species was still critically endangered and listed under the state and federal Endangered Species Acts. In fact, when peregrines first showed up on the Fremont Bridge, there were only 26 known nest sites in the entire state of Oregon, up from zero in 1970. Today, thanks to the banning of DDT in 1972, listing the species as endangered in 1973, and decades of recovery efforts, the falcon has been delisted and populations appear to be healthy. Portland Audubon continues to track, monitor, and collect data on this species in the metropolitan area, where they substitute large bridges for the cliffs they naturally nest on. We work in partnership with the Oregon Dept. of Transportation and consultants Mason, Bruce and Girard on this effort, which has now spanned decades. These photos were recently taken on the I-5 Interstate Bridge by Portland Audubon Conservation Director Bob Sallinger during his annual banding activities. Banding is done under federal permits and is carefully timed to minimize risk to the birds. This year, these peregrines produced four young.



Banding In Portland



Birding is for Everyone: The Bird Days of Summer Are Back!



by Camelia Zollars, Public Programs & Partnership Specialist

Birding is for everyone.

Birding is for everyone, but for me it didn't always feel that way. The birding events I joined felt like a collective in-crowd, and I was on the sidelines all confused. Because, doing something new and being a beginner can cause us to feel like outsiders.

But maybe I didn't need to be an outsider. Could I simply come, try, explore, and connect with nature and the people around me?

Summertime renews us with a childlike curiosity. The courage to dive in, try something unfamiliar and new. It brings up nostalgic summer camp times, drawing us in to connect with others and make new friends.

The Bird Days of Summer is a series of beginner-friendly programs for anyone curious about birds and nature. We combine community-building, exploration, and fun to create safe spaces for people to get to know each other, as well as the birds.

From June through August, Portland Audubon's Adult Education Team is hosting 17 "pay-what-you-can" events on a sliding scale of \$0-\$25, and we invite everyone curious about birds and nature to join.

We kicked things off in June with the dynamic duo, Candace Larson and Mary Coolidge, for Queer Birding to celebrate Pride Month.

In July and August, soak up some sun on Slough Run: biking and birding along the Columbia Slough. Or slow it down for the meditative and grounding Beginning Bird Noticing. Then we'll gather for more summer vibes on Birds and Bevvies, with drinks and birdy trivia. And the adorable Baby Birds Walks for the Whole Fam will be back, along with new events featuring dragonflies, bats, and wildflowers!

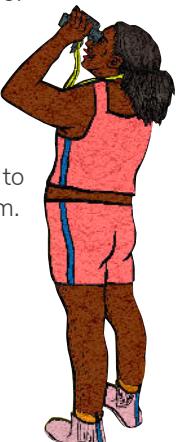
Those nostalgic childhood memories of summer always seem to include someone else, maybe a new friend or members of



your family. Today, it feels true that summer is still a time of making memories with others, a time for community.

Perhaps the piece that matters most about the Bird Days of Summer is community, doing something outside together. And this year we get to continue in community by collaborating with Güero Bird Club and People of Color Outdoors. We will sit, sip cool drinks, and watch birds with Güero Bird Club, a club focused on chill vibes, good food and drinks, and birds, for two Accessible Sunday Perch bird sits. And we'll throw on all our birdy attire for Fly Fits BIPOC Bird Walk with People of Color Outdoors, where Black, Indigenous, and all people of color can enjoy nature in a caring community.

The Bird Days of Summer are back. Back for those who want to simply come and marvel at the wonder of watching birds while sitting, walking, and even biking. For people who want to feel the breeze of wind as dragonflies buzz past, to stand under the dusky sky and search for bats, who want to bring their families along and take cute baby bird photos. And for those who want to connect with nature and the people around them.





Sponsor a Wild Thing!

Support Portland Audubon's Ambassador Animal program by sponsoring a "Wild Thing"! Your sponsorship goes toward the care and feeding of our resident animals who serve as ambassadors for their species, as well as the injured and orphaned native wild animals in the Wildlife Care Center.

Visit audubonportland.org or contact Matthew Hushbeck at mhushbeck@audubonportland.org for more info.

All Wild Thing sponsors receive a personalized package that includes:

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Coyote, photo by Hayley Crews.

Trapping Reform Comes to Oregon

by Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

On June 17, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission took a major and long overdue step forward in reforming trapping regulations in the state. After a marathon hearing that extended more than three hours, the ODFW Commission voted 6-1 to require trappers using live-animal restraining traps, such as leg-hold traps, to check the traps every 48 hours. This change will help reduce the time animals spend suffering in traps and increase the likelihood that trapped non-target animals can be safely released.

Oregon has long had some of the weakest trap-check requirements in the United States. Prior to the Commission vote on the 17th, Oregon allowed some animals to be left in restraining traps for as long as 7 days and in kill traps for as long as 30 days. This stands in stark contrast to 36 states that currently have either 24-hour or daily trap checks for all wildlife. The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies instructs new trappers to check traps daily, the American Veterinary Medical Association recommends checking traps once every 24 hours, and the American Association of Mammalogists suggests twice daily or even more frequently.

Change has come slowly in Oregon on this issue. Portland Audubon and partners such as the Humane Society of the United States have been working for trap-check reform since the 1990s. Trapping interests have successfully stalled efforts for decades with the goal of maintaining the status quo. Most recently, an ODFW-appointed trap-check task force, which included Portland Audubon, HSUS, and the Center for Biological Diversity, was disbanded without making any recommendations after trapping interests bogged the process down, contesting whether wild animals caught in traps without food, water, or shelter and exposed to predators and the elements for extended periods, suffer. History appeared to be about to repeat itself when ODFW staff used the collapse of this task force as a basis for recommending only nominal changes to the trap-check requirements to the ODFW Commission.

Special thanks to ODFW Commissioner Jill Zarnowitz, who brought forward the 48-hour amendment and to both Commissioner Zarnowitz and former Commissioner Gregg Wolley, who led the charge for ODFW to revisit this issue.

The solution is not perfect. There is still work to be done. At the same hearing, the commission reduced the trap-check requirements for “quick kill” traps such as neck snares from 30 to 14 days. These too should be brought into alignment with restraining traps. While some may ask what difference checking a trap makes to an animal that is quickly killed, the facts are that quick kill traps capture non-target wildlife and domestic pets and they do not always kill animals quickly. There also remains a strong case to be made for bringing trap check requirements down to 24 hours.

Nonetheless, the ODFW Commission vote on June 17 represents a major step forward. Traps are cruel and indiscriminate; there is simply no way around that fact. Leaving a wild or domestic animal in a restraining device without food, water, or shelter and exposed to predators and the elements is the definition of suffering. To the degree that it is done at all, it must be done in a way that minimizes that suffering to the maximum extent possible and maximizes the potential that non-target animals are released without harm.

Progress sometimes comes slowly on these types of issues. However, after decades of logjam, the tide seems to be turning. In 2019, the Oregon Legislature banned sodium cyanide devices (also known as “cyanide bombs”) to kill predator species. This year we have made meaningful progress on trap checks. The result is a safer and more humane Oregon landscape for people, pets, and wildlife.

Plover Patrol Makes Progress in Recovery of Endangered Western Snowy Plover

by Allison Anholt, Coastal Community Science Biologist

The Western Snowy Plover (coastal subspecies) is a small, sand-colored shorebird that inhabits sandy beaches along the coast. They depend on their camouflage to lay speckled eggs directly onto the sand, blending in with the beach habitat. Despite their evolutionary strategy to go unnoticed, Snowy Plovers have an undeniable charisma.

Plover Patrol, a community science effort conducted in partnership with Oregon State Parks (OPRD), recruits and train members of the public to help monitor plover numbers and nesting success at five official Snowy Plover Management Areas (SPMA) on the North Coast as well as other sites where plovers nest. These areas are posted with restrictions designed to protect vulnerable nesting plovers, such as asking visitors to leave their dogs at home and to stay on wet sand to prevent accidental trampling of camouflaged eggs and chicks.

Since Portland Audubon teamed up with OPRD five years ago to support endangered Western Snowy Plover recovery efforts on Oregon's beaches, this little bird has shown amazing signs of success. For example, the first plover nests on the North Coast for many decades were discovered at Sitka Sedge State Natural Area in 2017 and at Clatsop Spit in 2019.

Plover Patrol volunteers not only document the exciting and rapid population growth on the North Coast, they also collect vital data about the unique threats plovers face as they reinhabit their historic homes. Each year we have recorded more individuals, even documenting courting pairs this May at Netarts Spit, the last remaining SPMA without nesting plovers. Data collected by volunteers about human disturbance, beach usage, and predator presence can be viewed in real time by OPRD and used to inform management decisions.

Historically, plovers inhabited sandy beaches up and down our coast. The wild winter storms the Oregon Coast is known for cause river inlets to occasionally surge, keeping beach vegetation sparse and allowing

plovers to see predators from far away. However, increased beach development changed the landscape. Invasive European beach grass was planted in order to prevent homes from flooding, but this grass eliminated plover nesting habitat throughout Oregon.

At the same time, populations of nest predators such as coyotes, crows, and ravens increased with human development. As the number of people recreating on beaches went up, unintentional disturbances near nests and chicks created opportunities for predators to find those nests. This combination of factors caused

the plover population to dwindle to around 50 birds in coastal Oregon by the early 1990s, resulting in their listing under the Endangered Species Act in 1994. Research and recovery efforts began immediately, initially focusing on remaining plovers in southern Oregon. Conservation measures such as beach habitat restoration, recreation restrictions, and targeted predator management were so successful that over 500 plovers are now rehabilitating their former range on beaches they haven't nested on in decades. While we are encouraged by the recovering

population, we do have concerns, as nesting success has been low in recent years. Plover Patrol's use of trail cameras to identify causes of nest failure will hopefully shed light on this.

As the plovers expand, so does Plover Patrol. Current and future research will focus on how individual plovers select good nesting habitat and how successful these nests are. We also are working to expand education and outreach efforts with coastal partners to educate beachgoers about plovers and the issues they face on the North Coast.



If you'd like to get involved, go on an interpretive Snowy Plover walk to see these birds yourself, or learn more about Plover Patrol, please visit bit.ly/PloverPatrol or email Allison Anholt, Coastal Community Science Biologist, at aanholt@audubonportland.org.

How Do Birds Beat the Heat?

by Harry Nehls

Summers in Oregon are warm and very dry, interspersed with periods of high temperatures. Over recent years, summer temperatures have been occurring earlier in spring, even reaching 90 degrees or more. Humans cool themselves with air conditioning in the office, home, and car, but otherwise just bear it. What do birds do to survive hot summers?

During the winter months, birds prepare their bodies to combat the cold and retain their body heat. In summer they must expend heat and keep their body temperature at a safe level. Physically, birds can prepare their bodies to combat overheating. They do not sweat, but pant to expel heat from the body. A bird's respiratory system differs somewhat from a human's and allows panting to be more successful. To cool down, birds press their feathers close to the body, compressing the air pockets that hold body heat. Exposing what bare skin they have to the outside air and bringing their blood vessels to the surface of the body also releases body heat. Increasing blood flow to the legs is especially successful in releasing a large amount of heat.

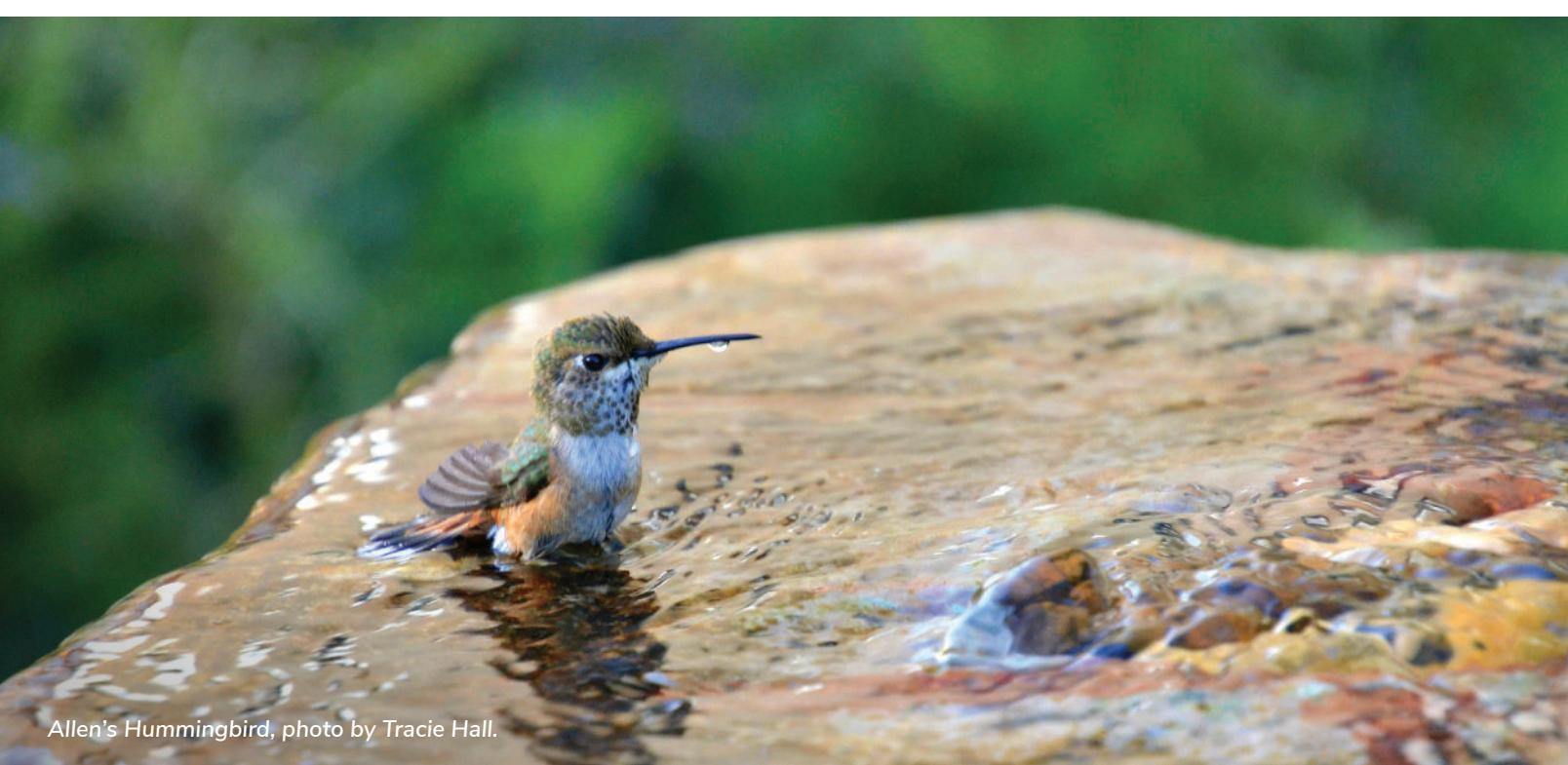
Birds adjust their daily habits to avoid overheating. Most birds begin their day about an hour before daylight and are very active singing, defending territories, and foraging. Several hours after dawn, activity slows, and the birds seek out cool, shady shelter. Activities continue through most of the day but rather sluggishly. During hotter periods the birds rest or sleep.

Vultures and other soaring birds do not begin their day until the sun has heated the ground and formed the updrafts that allow them to soar aloft. It is often cooler at high elevations, so these birds will fly higher than usual to take advantage of the cooler air. During

Physically, birds can prepare their bodies to combat overheating. They do not sweat, but pant to expel heat from the body.

the hotter part of the day, birds find dark, cool shelters and do not expend any more energy than necessary. Most activities occur in early morning and a bit prior to sunset. Some birds are even found foraging in the dark of night.

This article was originally printed in July 2016.



Allen's Hummingbird, photo by Tracie Hall.



American Avocets, photo by Emilie Chen.

IN MEMORY

IN HONOR

Portland Audubon gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

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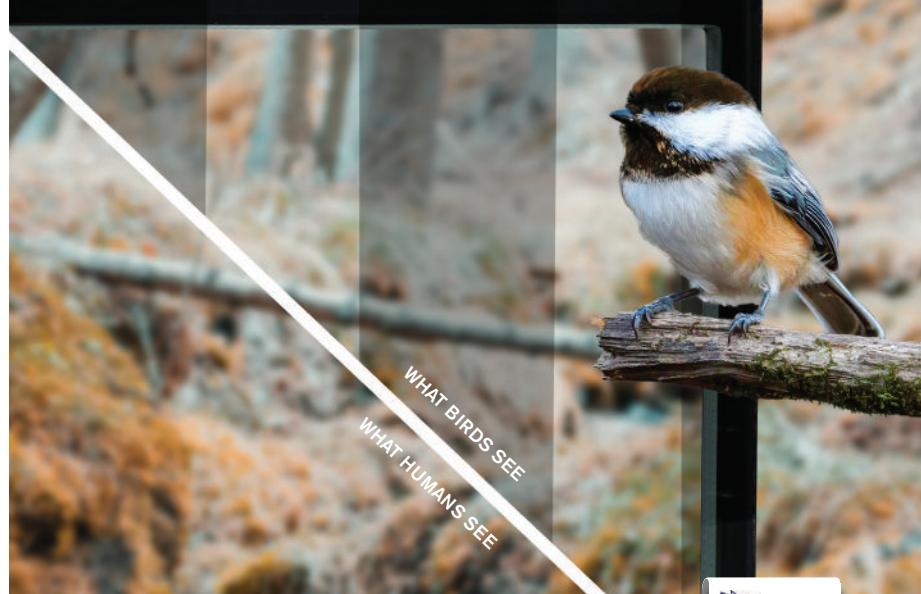
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Western Tanager, photo by Hayley Crews.



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Common Yellowthroat, photo by Andrew Weitzel.

Optics Focus

Nikon Trailblazer

The Nikon Trailblazer is the perfect travel binocular for any outdoor adventure. Coming in at 9.9 oz, these are perfect for backpackers, hikers, or lightweight adventurers. With these small and compact binoculars there is no reason not to throw them in your pack or pocket for your next outing.



Member Price: \$79.95

New Book

How Birds Live Together by Marianne Taylor

How Birds Live Together offers an unprecedented view into the social lives of birds. It explores different types of dwellings, from nests in tunnels underground to nests on human-made structures, giving bird enthusiasts a broad overview of social communities and a vivid understanding of avian social structures.



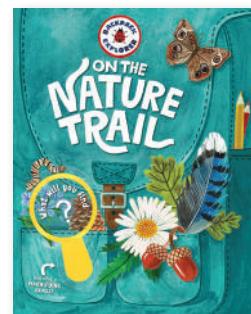
Member Price: \$26.96

Field Guide for Kids

Backpack Explorer: On the Nature Trail

This is the perfect field guide for introducing children ages 4-8 to the natural world around them. This take-along guide helps young explorers learn what to look and listen for, whether they are at a nature preserve or right in their own backyard.

Member Price: \$11.66



PNW Pick

Rustek Camp Cup

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

This 12oz Miir camp cup, customized by Rustek featuring the Portland Audubon logo, is perfect for hot drinks on the go or cozying up by the campfire. Rustek is a Portland-based outdoor and lifestyle company that focuses on sustainability by using renewable natural materials and planting trees for each item sold.



Member Price: \$40.46



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.



Pileated Woodpecker, photo by Dan Streiffert.

GET IN TOUCH

Administration Offices
503-292-6855
Please call for updated hours

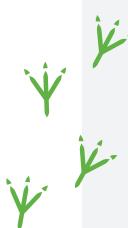
Wildlife Sanctuary
Dawn to dusk every day

Wildlife Care Center
503-292-0304
Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
with COVID protocols

Nature Store & Interpretive Center
503-292-9453 ext. 3
Open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

On the Cover: Stuart Wells at Portland Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary, photo by Ali Berman.

On the Inside Cover: "I Heart Big Bubos" Birdathon Team, photo by Molly LeCompte; Marbled Godwit, photo by Deborah Freeman; Peregrine Falcon, photo by Bob Sallinger; Camelia Zollars.



Birdy Brain Buster!

Which of the following foods are rarely eaten by Black Oystercatchers?

- A. Mussels
- B. Oysters
- C. Limpets
- D. Chitons



We are a member of Earth Share Oregon.
earthshare-oregon.org

Answer: B. Oysters (ironically!)