April Program Meeting

An Evening with Rachel Carson
Author of Silent Spring

As portrayed by Deborah Dimitre, Storyteller

Friday, April 12, 2019
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Everett Firefighters’ Hall
2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett (map)

Please join us as Storyteller/Actress Debbie Dimitre brings Rachel Carson to life in a performance that is sure to be entertaining, inspiring, and educational.

Rachel Carson was an American scientist, marine biologist and author of SILENT SPRING, the book many believe started the environmental movement.

Through careful research and drafting of dramatic and historically accurate scripts, Debbie is able to bring to life a selection of women’s stories in a very entertaining and engaging way. Debbie has performed for schools, community colleges, churches, libraries, book stores, historical societies, philanthropic and service organizations, professional women’s groups, retired teachers, as well as numerous retirement communities. She has performed for the Seattle Folklife Festival and served on a board of the Seattle Storytellers Guild.

WHEN: April 12, 2019 (Doors open at 6:30; starting at 7:00 p.m., there will be a short business meeting with the performance to follow.)

WHERE: Everett Firefighters’ Hall located at 2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett (map) (three blocks east of the Xfinity Arena). Parking is available in a lot adjacent to the Firefighters’ Hall, and there is street parking as well.

SEATING IS LIMITED FOR THIS EVENT.
Pilchuck Audubon Society programs are free and open to members and to community members of all ages who have an interest in birds and environmental issues affecting birds. However, there will be an optional donation request made for this special performance.
Helen Engle Memorial Service

Helen Engle, a conservation icon and longtime Audubon leader, died recently at age 93. A memorial service will be held at 3:30 p.m., on May 4 at Mason United Methodist Church, 2710 N Madison St, Tacoma, WA 98407.

A story about Helen’s many contributions to protection of wild places and wildlife will be in the May PROFILE.


Dungeness River Audubon Center: An Invitation to help “Inspire Wonder”

The Dungeness River Audubon Center is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year with a capital campaign to expand the building and create better access to the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s Railroad Bridge Park near Sequim. Thanks to the partnership between the Center, Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, and the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, we’re more than halfway to our fundraising goal of $3M.

We were recently awarded a “last-in” $300K grant from the M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust, which means we won’t get the money if we can’t complete the rest of the campaign. If you’ve been one of the thousands of people who have visited the Center and Park for BirdFest or otherwise, we hope you’ll consider making a gift to help us meet this challenge.

View a video to see the Center and Park and how they interact with visitors, and contribute through the website at dungenessrivercenter.org. For more specific questions, please contact Center Director Powell Jones at 360-681-4076.

About Pilchuck Audubon Society

The Pilchuck Audubon Profile, official newsletter of Pilchuck Audubon Society, is published monthly.

Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) is a grass-roots environmental organization with members throughout Snohomish County and Camano Island, Washington. Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife, for the benefit of the earth’s biological diversity.

Through education, advocacy, and community activism, PAS is committed to bringing people closer to wildlife in order to build a deeper understanding of the powerful links between healthy ecosystems and human beings, and to encourage the involvement of our members in efforts to protect the habitat this wildlife depends upon for survival.

We serve as a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. PAS is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization incorporated in the state of Washington.

Newsletter Submissions
Submit articles to newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290. Submissions must be received by the 21st of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.610.8027.

The monthly Profile is available online at www.pilchuckaudubon.org.

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Make Your Birding Count

PILCHUCK AUDUBON SOCIETY’S 2019 BIRDATHON

Bird throughout the month of May for a **BIG Month total or select a 24-hour BIG Day event between May 16 and May 19, 2019** to support this year’s PAS BIRDATHON. Have fun AND raise money to help protect birds, wildlife, and the habitats they need across our region.

**What is Birdathon?** Birdathon is the uniquely Audubon way to help protect native birds. Everyone is welcome—expert birders, casual birdwatchers, and beginners can all find a TEAM or an EVENT that gets them out across the landscape during the best time of the year to bird.

Like a walk-a-thon, Birdathon participants, or “Birdathoners,” collect pledges from friends, family members, and coworkers for finding and counting bird species. It’s competitive but open for any level of birdwatcher. Join a team, lead a team, or bird individually. The money raised goes to protect native animals and their habitat through our conservation work, advocacy and education projects, and programs.

**There are four ways to participate.**

1. **TEAM COMPETITION:** Teams can be from one to four people. They will choose a 24-hour period between May 16 and May 19 to see as many species within Snohomish County and Camano Island as possible.

2. **BIG SIT:** Teams can be from one to four people. They will choose a 200-foot-diameter circle within Snohomish County or Camano Island from which to view or hear birds for up to 24 hours.

3. **BIG MONTH:** This is for an individual or couple. They will be able to bird the entire state of Washington between May 1 and May 31.

4. **PHOTO CONTESTS:** These are for individuals. *(Photographers may also participate in one of the other team competitions above.)*

Rules, pledge sheets, and contest details will be posted on the Pilchuck Audubon website soon (www.pilchuckaudubon.org)! But it’s not too early to plan your strategy. Also, on the website you’ll find tips for fundraising that will help you reach out to friends and family for pledges.

Get Ready! Start collecting those pledges! AND go find some birds! 🦅

**SPRING CLEANING**

If you are like me, the first warm days of spring remind me that I need to clean out feeders, nest boxes, and bird baths before the heat of spring settles in. Your local bird store (Wild Birds Unlimited in both Everett and Monroe and several other small businesses with great small departments for birds, seed, and feeding apparatus) will typically have some great products for bird-safe cleaning and refurbishing.

Here are some other tips for keeping the mold and mites away from bird boxes and feeding areas:

**Nest boxes:** Scoop out old nesting material from all nest boxes lest it harbor mites harmful to chicks. Scraper the boxes with a stiff brush. If mildew has built up in a box, wash it with a mild solution of dishwashing liquid and water, rinse it thoroughly with plain water, and let it dry on the porch before re-installing it on a tree or pole.

**Bird feeders:** Feeders often need a stiff scrub using water from a garden hose attached to a high-pressure nozzle and bottle brush. Make sure seed and suit feeders are thoroughly dry before refilling with seed.

And don’t forget those **birdbaths.** The style of birdbath will dictate how it is cleaned, but it is important that the surface is kept free of mold and mildew, and that the birdbath water always be fresh because birds can get bacterial diseases such as salmonellosis from dirty birdbaths. 🦅
CONSERVATION REPORT

by Allen Gibbs, Conservation Chair

Washington State Legislative Update

The Legislature’s first session ends April 28. At present, no serious talk about need for an extended or extraordinary session.

On March 20, the State Legislature received the State’s forecast as to what are the likely amounts and sources of revenue for the 2019-2021 biennium.

I write this on March 25. Democrats today released their spending and tax revenue plans for the biennium. The House held its first hearing the afternoon of March 25. It was hoped that day to have a full House vote on Friday, March 29.

Many of Audubon’s top legislative priorities are still “alive.” Most need funding to implement if they become law. The bills listed below need funding.

Thanks to Adam Maxwell, Audubon Washington’s Government Relations Director, one can check on the status of all Audubon priority legislation through the state office’s website. His most recent report is dated March 22.

Bills

Senate Bill 5116 (100% Clean Electricity) creates more opportunities to transition to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future. It passed the Senate on March 1 and the House Environment and Energy Committee. The House Finance Committee held its first hearing on March 21. We hope it will be voted before end of the month. This bill has a legally binding target attainment of 2045.

House Bill 1110 (Clean Fuel Standard) reduces greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation fuels. It passed the House on March 12 and the Senate Environment, Energy and Technology Committee on March 20. It is now in the Senate Transportation Committee chaired by Senator Steve Hobbs. This bill may have a tough time getting out of the Senate. Look for alerts to contact our respective legislators in support. It is “alive” but heavily targeted “to die” by the oil/gas industries.

House Bill 1257 (Clean Buildings) was not among Audubon’s top clean-energy priorities going into this session. We eventually joined supporters with an action alert. The bill passed the in the House Appropriations Committee on March 18. The bill is now in the House Rules Committee to be scheduled for House floor vote.

Look for alerts to contact our legislators!

Senate Bill 5981 (Cap and Trade) is a brand new bill by Senator Reuven Carlyle (District 36—Space Needle/Queen Anne Hill country). He chairs the Senate Environment, Energy, and Technology Committee. Its first hearing was on March 21. This bill “…relates to implementing a greenhouse gas emission cap and trade program…” Bill intent invites a wide range of stakeholders to find common ground. It is not something designed for passage this session.

(Fish and Wildlife Budget Request) We are waiting on what the Democrats announce in way of operations funding on March 25. I remind that WASACC and ACOW voted last October to support Washington Fish and Wildlife Department’s budget requests. There are many pieces in that request that are wrapped into the governor’s total budget request. There have been hearings. Look for legislative alerts throughout the remainder of this session. Some final decisions will carry over into the “short session,” which will begin next January, due to the complexity of WDFW’s operations and capital budgets.

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS OF BOARD POSITIONS

Please join us for the April 12 program meeting and exercise your right to vote! Our annual business meeting will include elections for positions on the Board of Directors for Vice President and Treasurer (each a two-year term), a summary of this year’s expenses, and the Volunteer-of-2018 Award presentation.

Terry Nightingale, who has served as Vice President for many years, has agreed to another term, and Judy Hall, who has been the Board Treasurer for the past four years, has also agreed to continue serving the Pilchuck Audubon community. In addition, nominations will also be accepted from the floor. We welcome new faces and voices to your PAS Board of Directors and have several open positions. If you’d like to nominate someone or volunteer for one of our open positions, please let Cindy Easterson know at president@pilchuckaudubon.org or by phone at (425) 876-1055.

As always, refreshments will be provided, and a wonderful program will follow.

By Allen Gibbs, Conservation Chair
Tuesday, April 2  
**Everett to Marysville**  
Meet at 8:00 AM at Legion Park off North Marine Drive, Everett. Explore the North Everett waterfront and the Snohomish River Estuary, including the Tulalip Waterfront. View eagles, hawks, waterfowl, shorebirds, and gulls. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Saturday, April 6  
**Two in Marysville**  
Meet at 8:30 AM at the Quilceda Village Walmart, 8924 Quilceda Blvd, Marysville, WA (in the vicinity of I-5 Exit 200). Park along the eastern side of the parking lot, near I-5. We'll carpool to Jennings Memorial Park and Ebey Waterfront Trail. Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net

Tuesday, April 9  
**Deception Pass Area**  
Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart, west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store to the east, near Quilceda Blvd., and next to I-5. Oystercatchers, Loons, Mergansers, LBIs. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Tuesday, April 16  
**Nisqually National Wildlife Area**  
Meet at 7:30 AM at the Lynnwood/Mill Creek Walmart lot, 1400 164th St SW (I-5 Exit 183). Park at the edge of the lot away from the store, to the west. This will be a long road trip of some 70 miles each way. Once at the refuge we will need to walk several miles to experience fully the delights and surprises of its marshes, tideflats, grasslands, and riparian woodlands. Two hundred species have been seen here. Pack a lunch, and expect a long, adventurous day.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Tuesday, April 23  
**Point No Point**  
Meet at 7:10 AM at the Edmonds Wade James Theater parking lot. The theater’s address is 950 Main Street, Edmonds 98020, just east of 9th Avenue on the south side of Main Street. We’ll take the ferry to Kingston and bird the voyage, the docks, Point No Point, and Foulweather Bluff. Waterfowl, shorebirds, and passersines, as well as much beauty and serenity. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Tuesday, April 30  
**South Whidbey Island**  
Meet at 7:00 AM at the Eastmont Park & Ride, I-5 Exit 189, east side, aiming for the 8:00 AM ferry from Mukilteo. Crockett Lake always yields a large and varied species list, and the rest of South Whidbey is great birding. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

**Saturday, May 4**  
**Trees and Birds in Shoreline**  
Meet at 8:00 AM near the entrance to the parking lot of the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center (https://www.communitytransit.org/busservice/transit-centers-and-parking). We’ll visit the Pacific Northwest Conifer Arboretum and neighboring Ronald Bog Park, then Kruckeberg Botanic Garden. To finish, we’ll visit nearby Innis Arden Reserve Park. Wear boots! Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net

**Tuesday, May 7**  
**Snohomish City and Outskirts**  
Meet at 8:00 AM at Snohomish Park & Ride, located at the junction of Highway 9 and Bickford Ave. Enjoyable and relaxed trip. We usually have good species counts and surprises. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Art Wait, 360-563-0181

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**PLANTS FOR BIRDS**

Have you been sprucing up your garden for spring and summer grandeur? Don’t forget to include native plants. Native plants and local birds go together like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rodgers; they create a beautiful dance that charms your yard spaces and harmonizes with the nature of our area.

Don’t know how to get started? Try visiting Pilchuck Audubon’s Native Plant Demonstration Garden in Edmonds, Washington. Located near the Willow Creek Hatchery at 95 Pine Street in Edmonds, just a few blocks south of the ferry dock, the Native Plant Demonstration Garden offers many ideas for how best to landscape with these special plants specifically suited for the soils and climate of our area.

Another source is to visit National Audubon’s Plants for Birds website where you will find local sources for native plants, how-to videos, and a host of reasons why native plants are best for birds. [https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds](https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds)

We offer a full year’s worth of classes, demonstrations, and hands-on work parties at the PAS Garden. If you’d like to help with these events or activities, please contact Cindy Easterson at president@pilchuckaudubon.org or by phone at (425) 876-1055, and she will get you connected with the Garden team.
A persistent “Kyik, Kyik, Kyik, Kyik, ...” filled the ponderosa pine forest and muffled incessant begging of nestlings in a nearby dead snag. An adult Black-backed Woodpecker was agitated even though I was 200 feet down the road from the nest. A scouting party had found this nesting pair along the road in Conboy National Wildlife Refuge. Many people over the last several days had had a chance to add this enigmatic woodpecker to their list. I was stopping one last time on this June day to listen to these babies let their parents know that they were still hungry. Their calls seemed to stir something deep within me that filled me with strength for the five-hour drive back to Seattle.

Earlier this morning, I had brought four birders to see this elusive species. Black-backed Woodpeckers respond to forest fires, moving into recently burned areas where they stay for a few years before shifting to another. They feed on the larva of beetles that bore into the coniferous trees to feed on the cambium layer under the bark. Their dark black backs, wings, and bodies allow these woodpeckers to disappear against the charred trunks.

Ponderosa pine forests are fire-dependent, and this forest looked like a low-intensity burn had occurred several years ago; most of the trees were vigorously growing, and the understory was alive with new growth. The pair had built their nest cavity in a leaning snag, and the entrance was on the backside of the tree, just out of sight, maybe 15 to 20 feet up.

When we stopped by early this morning, the male woodpecker was thirty feet up in a live ponderosa pine, just hanging on the trunk by his three toes. Every minute or two, he would drum on the tree as if to tell the world that this was his place, and he was happy. The young were calling not a hundred feet from him, but he seemed to have no concern with what they were saying. The female came in once during our half-hour stay. When she fed the nestlings, they chattered even more.

On the previous Thursday, I had searched for Black-backed Woodpeckers in the coniferous forests surrounding the Aiken Lava Flow. The area on the southern flanks of Mt. Adams wasn’t burned in 2013 when I hiked the trail to Snipes Mountain, but many of the towering ponderosa pines and grand firs were now dead, and others fire scarred. I’d only seen a Black-backed once when traveling in Alaska, but based on the scientific literature, I thought this should be ideal habitat. One woodpecker did tap on a tree while I was there. I spent 45 minutes searching for it but succeeded in only finding one Nashville Warbler and one House Wren. Still, I brought eleven people to that Mt. Adams site on Friday. My hopes rose when one participant said he had seen Black-backed Woodpeckers at that place just a year earlier.

We began to search the forest surrounding the trail that runs along the thirty-foot-high basalt lava flow. Within 20 minutes, someone said “woodpecker” with a little-added emotion. Twenty-four eyes had done what two old ones couldn’t! Two Black-backed Woodpeckers were working the trunks of a dozen grand firs. As I focused my binoculars on the male, he flew across a 50-foot gap to land on a horizontal branch where he then passed a morsel to the female before flying in his typical woodpecker undulating flight to another tree. The tension instantly lessened in my muscles; I had found a “tier 1” bird for my group, a rare bird in this county and sought after on field trips.

As I stood along the road at Conboy, the male drummed a few times, and the babies called even louder. He was back in the woods and out of my sight. Ponderosa pine forests do best if a fire happens every decade or two. The trees and understory vegetation prospers, and the forest then supports birds like the Dark-eyed Juncos, Chipping Sparrows, Gray Flycatchers, and White-headed Woodpeckers. Humans, though, naturally become fearful of fire because their homes and structures now dot these fire-dependent ecosystems. Fire suppression has caused many forests to become thick, and when fires do come, they often kill trees that would have survived a more regular fire frequency.

The area near the Aiken Lava Flow had many dead grand firs. These trees were several feet in diameter and must have been two hundred years old. The intense fire was too much for them, and most were dead. Climate change will only aggravate the situation. Managers at Conboy seem to be keeping fire in their forest, and the Forest Service is working to reintroduce fire into the national forests where years of suppression has allowed fuel loads to build high. Persistence and perseverance will be essential, and we need to provide the moral and financial support to land managers to maintain this new paradigm. ✽
BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS  
by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator  
January 26, 2019 to February 25, 2019

What a month this has been with the extreme weather and record numbers of Varied Thrush reported!

Reporting from Lake Bosworth, Carole and Larry Beason listed 18+ Varied Thrush on their patio and under the feeders. Their total species count of 40 also included a Bald Eagle; 17 Bufflehead, 20 Canada Goose, 6 Double-crested Cormorant, 2 Pied-billed Grebe, a Muscovy Duck, and 8 Ring-necked Duck on the lake; 2 Common Raven over the road; 2 Downy Woodpecker; a Fox Sparrow; 6 Golden-crowned Sparrow; 30+ Mallard Duck flying over the lake; 5 Mourning Dove; 3 Hairy Woodpecker; 7 Purple Finch at the feeders; a Red-breasted Sapsucker; 13 Red-winged Blackbird; 8 Spotted Towhee; and 10+ Trumpeter Swan in the fields.

Hilkka Egtvedt’s report from Mukilteo listed 2 Anna’s Hummingbirds, a Downy Woodpecker, 4 Northern Flicker, a Pileated Woodpecker, 4 Steller’s Jay, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Bewick’s Wren, a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 10 American Robin, 6 Varied Thrush, 3 Spotted Towhee, 2 Fox Sparrow, 2 Song Sparrow, a White-throated Sparrow, 2 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 40 Dark-eyed Junco, and 5 Purple Finch, for a total species count of 23.

Reporting from Everett, Kriss Erickson listed 12 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Bewick’s Wren, 17 Northwestern Crow, 8 Western Gull, 2 Red-winged Blackbird, 7 American Robin, 3 Steller’s Jay, 2 Spotted Towhee, 17 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 21 Black-capped Chickadee, 5 Anna’s Hummingbird, a Bald Eagle, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 39 European Starling, 2 Pacific Wren, 6 Mallard Duck, and 4 Song Sparrow, for a total species count of 20.

I had a very exciting month counting all the birds that came to my deck to eat during the snow. My total species count of 23 from Marysville included 30 Dark-eyed Junco, 11 Varied Thrush, 25+ American Robin in the field, 3 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 9 Northern Flicker, 40+ Mallard Duck flying over, 7 Ring-necked Duck, 5 Spotted Towhee, 2 Bald Eagle in a tree, 7 Steller’s Jay, 20+ Canada Goose flying over, 2 Common Raven in the woods, and 2 Song Sparrow.

If you are interested in participating in our Backyard Birding count, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a message on my cell phone at (425) 750-8125.

REPORT: FIVE SOUTHWEST  
2 March 2019  
by Douglas Resnick, Trip Leader

Jonathan, Judy, Suku, Veena, Lisa, Kelli, and I met on a cold, sunny morning at the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center. We visited five sites in southwest Snohomish County and observed 32 species of birds, as recorded on eBird.

We started our first checklist in the transit center’s parking lot, which is immediately adjacent to Veterans Memorial Park. We then followed a course that led up the northern hillside, along the ridge to the area where the memorial is situated, then back to the transit center via the main trail.

We started our second checklist after carpooling to South Lynnwood Neighborhood Park, where we traversed the park’s own trail along Hall Creek, then walked along the Interurban Trail, just far enough to view Hall Lake from between some of the surrounding houses. Our third stop, Esperance Park, provided a brief birding opportunity in its wooded portion, but more importantly served as a gateway, via a field of grass and brambles, to our fourth stop, Chase Lake and its detention pond. Our fifth and final stop was Yost Park, where we walked portions of a series of trails: Crow’s Nest Loop, Overlook Trail, Highline Trail, Shell Creek Trail, and Sword Fern Trail.

Although many species of birds were represented in multiple checklists, it was interesting to see how they were differently distributed. American Crow and Spotted Towhee appeared in every list. Bewick’s Wren and Northern Flicker were among those that appeared in 4 of the 5 lists. Notable among those appearing in only a single list were Sharp-shinned Hawk and Townsend’s Warbler at South Lynnwood Neighborhood Park, American Goldfinch and Gadwall at Chase Lake.

Several sightings were particularly attention-catching. We observed some Bewick’s Wrens foraging in unexpected places, such as the side of a house. We were lucky to be watching a pair of Anna’s Hummingbirds when they entered into a courtship display. We also caught sight of an American Robin, just when it was pulling a worm from the ground.

We finished our birding at 1:20 p.m., then adjourned to Pancake Haus for lunch.
Birding festivals galore this month as the spring migration gets underway. If you want warmth, check out these festivals south of Washington:

- **Great Louisiana BirdFest; Mandeville, LA**
- **The Lesser Prairie-Chicken Festival; Woodward, OK**
- **FeatherFest Birding & Nature Photography Festival; Galveston, TX**
- **Birdiest Festival in America; Corpus Christi, TX**
- **Spring Chirp; Weslaco, TX**
- **Great Dismal Swamp Birding Festival; Suffolk, VA**
- **Verde Valley Birding & Nature Festival; Cottonwood, AZ**
- **Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival; Pt. Reyes Station, CA**
- **Balcones Songbird Festival; Marble Falls, TX**
- **Hatchie BirdFest; Brownsville, TN**
- **Owens Lake Bird Festival; Lone Pine, CA**

**DON’T WANT TO TRAVEL THAT FAR? HERE ARE SOME CLOSER TO HOME**

- **Olympic Peninsula Birdfest**
  - [website](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)
  - **April 12-14**

- **Port Angeles/Sequim/Dungeness Spit, WA**
  Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction, raffle, gala banquet, and more. Featured speaker is John Marzluff, author and Professor of Wildlife Science at the University of Washington. Festival pre-trip, a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 9-11, 2019. Neah Bay post-trip on April 14-16, 2019: three days exploring northwest coastal Washington. The day of the Olympic BirdFest is timed to overlap wintering birds and the beginning of spring migration.

- **30th Brant Wildlife Festival**
  - [website](https://www.hatchiebirdfest.com)
  - [email](rrivers@naturetrust.bc.ca)
  - **March 23 to April 7**

Parksville and Qualicum Beach; Vancouver Island, BC

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See Brant geese as they rest and feed on the shores of mid-Vancouver Island before continuing to their northern breeding grounds. Events include wildlife viewing, nature walks, bird identification workshops, a bioblitz for citizen scientists, and a nature camp for kids.

- **Harney County Migratory Bird Festival**
  - [website](https://www.migratorybirdfestival.com/)
  - **April 11-14**
  - Burns, Oregon

Spend an amazing weekend witnessing the spectacular spring migration in the Harney Basin of Southeast Oregon. View thousands of migratory birds as they rest and feed in the open spaces of Oregon’s high desert. Guided birding tours, workshops, keynote speaker dinner, art show, and much more!

- **Copper River Delta Shorebird Festival**
  - [website](https://www.coppershorebird.com)
  - **May 2-5**
  - Cordova, AK

- **Grays Harbor Shorebird & Nature Festival**
  - [website](www.shorebirdfestival.com)
  - **May 3-5**
  - Hoquiam, WA and Grays Harbor NWR

- **Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest**
  - [website](www.LeavenworthSpringBirdFest.org)
  - **May 16-19**
  - Leavenworth, WA