



Shorelines

Newsletter of the Whidbey Audubon Society

January 2020

Whidbey Audubon Society is dedicated to the understanding, appreciation and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitats on Whidbey Island and in surrounding waters

Whidbey Audubon Meets Thursday, January 9 in Freeland Seattle's Adaptable Urban Cooper's Hawks

Twenty-five years ago Cooper's Hawks began colonizing urban and suburban landscapes throughout the US, evolving a tolerance for living in proximity to humans. Ed Deal, from the Seattle nonprofit Urban Raptor Conservancy, will provide insights into these common but elusive raptors, covering the breeding season with photos and videos. The Seattle study, one of several in large US cities (e.g., Milwaukee, Albuquerque), is monitoring the local population nesting density and annual productivity. In addition, a color ID banding program looks at fledgling dispersal, longevity and adult breeding site and winter site fidelity. The results include annual increases in productivity, little evidence of migration, strong site fidelity and (mostly) short natal dispersal distances.

You would think someone born in Cooper Hospital and raised in Audubon, New Jersey would be a child-prodigy birder. But it wasn't until midlife when Ed took Bud Anderson's hawk ID class in 1991. He went on to volunteer on fall migration hawk banding

Cooper's Hawks, page 2

Join Us!

Thursday evening
January 9

Unitarian Universalist
Congregation

20103 State Route 525, two
miles north of Freeland

7:00 socializing
donations for snacks welcome

7:15 brief meeting

7:30 program begins



Photo by Ed Deal

Ed Deal with a female Cooper's Hawk perched on his right arm.

Upcoming Field Trips

Saturday, January 18: LOONS AT DECEPTION PASS. Co-leaders are Sarah Schmidt and Dave Parent; meet at 9 a.m. at the north end of West Beach parking lot, Deception Pass State Park. We'll bird the beach and lake and hope to see hundreds of Red-throated Loons gathering to feed in the outflowing current of Deception Pass. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. Depending on weather and interest, we may do a possible stop at Dugualla Bay on the way back toward Oak Harbor. If you like, bring water, a snack or a hot drink. Dress warmly and prepare for wind. To carpool, meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Freeland Park and Ride located in the Trinity Lutheran parking lot, 8 a.m. in Coupeville at Prairie Station Transit Park, 201 S. Main Street; or at 8:30 at Walgreen's in Oak Harbor (after SR 20 turns 90-degrees left at Pioneer Way traffic light, the entrance comes up immediately on the right.) Cars parking at the state park will need a Discover Pass. Questions? Contact Sarah Schmidt,

Field Trip Checklist

- ✓ Field trips are free and open to anyone interested in birding or conservation. Bring your friends!
- ✓ Beginners are very welcome.
- ✓ Carpooling is encouraged and even required for some sites with limited parking.
- ✓ Dress for the weather and in layers.
- ✓ Very bad weather cancels a trip. Check with the trip leader.
- ✓ If you have them, bring binoculars, scope and field guides.
- ✓ If you might need them, bring a drink and snack.

We are always looking for new trip leaders and assistants. If you are interested, please contact Patty Cheek at pattypipe@gmail.com.

at 4bats@ixoreus.com or call 360-929-3592.

Upcoming Field Trips, see page 5

Getting Ready for Purple Martins 2020

The Western Purple Martin Working Group composed of scientists, land and utility managers and volunteers from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and California, yielded exciting new information this year. Martins eat lots of flies! Also:

A California colony under a bridge has cavities under the deck with openings at the bottom. Since usually only Purple Martins will fly up into a nest, the Starlings and House Sparrows can't force

High School Senior Scholarship Deadline

Completed applications for the *Whidbey Audubon Society Renee Smith Conservation and Environmental Studies Scholarship* are due on March 6, 2020.

Whidbey Audubon Society (WAS) is offering three scholarships, totaling five thousand dollars, to 2020 high school graduates of South Whidbey, Coupeville and Oak Harbor High Schools. Scholarship information and scholarship applications are available at each high school counseling center and on the Whidbey Audubon Society website, www.whidbeyaudubon.org/scholarships.htm. These scholarships are offered to students with a high interest in pursuing environmental studies and its related fields at a four-year college or university.

Our Whidbey Audubon website also has inspiring bios of all previous WAS scholarship recipients. Check it out under the "About Whidbey Audubon" menu and pass the word.

— Ann Sullivan, Scholarship Committee



Sound Waters, a one day university for all, has been bringing together people passionate about life in Puget Sound since the early 1990s, and now attracts 600+ people yearly. No prior knowledge is required to attend — just an interest in learning about this amazing place that we call home.

South Whidbey High School, Langley
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Registration is open until January 20, so register early for this very popular event

soundwaterstewards.org/sw/2020

There will be lots of exhibitors, including Whidbey Audubon Society, and 60 classes in three sessions. Several Whidbey Audubon members are presenters, including Jay Adams, Martha and Steve Ellis, Craig and Joy Johnson, Sarah Schmidt, Joe Sheldon and Emily Terao.

out the martins as they do in front-opening cavities. The people made a raised ring around each opening so the Martin babies would not fall out, and it worked! The colony was a success.

One scientist reported threats on the big scale: agricultural neonicotinoids (pesticides that kill off insects that Martins eat), forest management practices (fire suppression), and nest competition from introduced Starlings are the biggest threats to Western Purple Martin survival.

On the volunteer landlord level, introduced House Sparrows are the major threat especially in neighborhoods. In addition to offering water instead of seed to attract wild birds, we learned another tip for helping the Martins. That is: plug the openings of all nest boxes, cavities and possible nests right now and leave them plugged until after the martins arrive from Brazil, about mid-April. That way they aren't taken over by House Sparrows during winter and the Martins have a better chance of surviving.

— Mary Hollen



Photo by Mary Hollen

Cooper's Hawks, from page 1

projects in the Goshutes Mountains, Nevada, Florida Keys and Cape May, New Jersey, in addition to Diamond Head, Chelan Ridge and Entiat Ridge in Washington.

He volunteered on the Falcon Research Group's entire 17-year study of nesting Peregrine Falcons in the San Juan Islands and is in his 27th year monitoring and banding nesting Peregrines in the Seattle area. For the last eight years he has worked with a group of volunteers studying the expanding urban population of Cooper's Hawks in Seattle. He holds a Federal Master Raptor Banding Permit. He is a graduate of the Seattle Audubon Master Birder Program and a recovering lister.

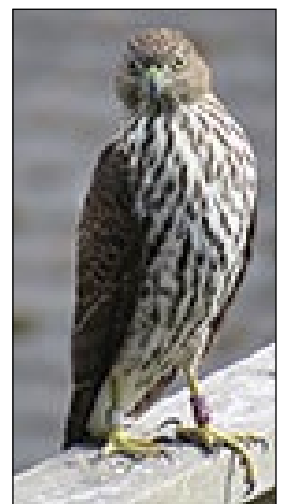


Photo by Cindy Roberts

A juvenile male Cooper's Hawk with a band on his left leg.

Conservation Column:

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better. — Maya Angelou

We now know better about many things environmental and ecological. Science has given us many discouraging reports about global warming, climate change, bird reductions, habitat loss and sea-level rise. What does “doing better” look like on a small, individual scale? Obviously, most of these issues have to be addressed politically, and on a global basis. Telling our legislators that they have to make hard, expensive and unpopular decisions to reduce carbon emissions is going to cost and inconvenience us all, especially those least able to pay, but it has to be done. We have the power as consumers to make choices that are less harmful. We can consume less (or less often). We now know that our recycling system is not working well, so avoid it as much as possible. Reuse stuff, make old stuff last, buy used stuff, donate stuff. Use less stuff. Our parents and grandparents did it because they had to. We have the obligation to do it to reduce our impact on the earth, because now we know better.

My 2020 resolutions to do better: Reduce the size of my lawn. Engage politically (write, call, demonstrate) at least once a month. Use my car less and my e-Bike more. Plant more native plants. Reduce junk mail. Buy offsets when I travel. Enjoy and appreciate the birds and environment we have while we have them. Support organizations that are making a difference.

What can you do? What will you do?

— Kim Shepard, Conservation Chair



More Eco Tips

- ✓ If possible, avoid food packaged in plastic. Recycling plastic has become much more difficult and even following the rules won't always prevent it from becoming more trash. Choose processed foods in cans or glass, or fresh foods in your own reusable containers.
- ✓ Plastic jars can be washed and reused. Store screws, nails, odds and ends in them and be able to see the contents (recycle the coffee cans you are using now!). Use plastic jars and bottles to store cooled juice, broth, applesauce, home-made tomato sauce or other cooked liquids. Cover with clean piece of used plastic bag and screw cap on tightly. Refrigerate or freeze for up to six months.
- ✓ Bring your reusable bags everywhere, not just grocery stores. Cardboard boxes can also be reused as grocery carriers. If you use Amazon, try to select the least packaging and opt for slower, more efficient delivery.
- ✓ Support efforts to make trash disposal more efficient and recycling more effective. “Bottle bills” have worked in ten other states to both reduce litter and increase recycling with refundable deposits.

Dates to Remember

JANUARY

- 9: Whidbey Audubon Meeting: Cooper's Hawk Research,** Freeland
- 16: Deadline for February Shorelines**
- 18: Field Trip:** Loons at Deception Pass
- 22: Field Trip:** Deer Lagoon
- 23: WAS Board Meeting,** Coupeville Methodist Church, 7 p.m. Members welcome
- 25: Ways of Whales,** Coupeville 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., orcaneetwork.org
- 31: Deadline for Native Plant Sale,** whidbeycd.org

FEBRUARY

- 1: Sound Waters University,** Langley, soundwaterstewards.org/sw/2020/
- 8: Class: Swans in the Skagit Valley,** 1 to 2:30 p.m., padillabay.gov
- 13: Whidbey Audubon Meeting: Preventing Window Strikes,** Freeland
- 14 -17: Great Backyard Bird Count,** gbc.birdcount.org
- 20: Deadline for March Shorelines**

Sightings Sightings Sightings Sightings Sightings

October 31: Short-eared Owl hunting the fields north of Miller Lake. It was just a matter of time before one showed up here! First impression was that it was the Harrier swooping along, until its repeated diving behavior caught my attention, and its beautiful disc face was clear.

— *Cathi Bower*

October 31: A flash of bright yellow in the grasses caught my eye. I got out my camera just as the three **Western Meadowlarks** started flying around and then off. Location: Crockett Lake/Driftwood Park area.

— *Jann Ledbetter*



Photo by Jann Ledbetter

Western Meadowlark

November 2: Willet. I was attracted to a large flock of **Yellowlegs** while passing Crockett Lake. This **Willet** was among the mix. — *Albert Rose*



Photo by Albert Rose

Willet

November 6: Partially **leucistic Dark-eyed Junco**. Saw several times during the morning hours. Had a large patch

of white on both sides of head and a smaller white patch on right side of crown. Location: Our home, two miles southwest of the Clinton ferry dock.

— *George Heleker*

November 21: Large **Golden Eagle**, first time I have spotted him this fall/winter season. I usually see it around March for the past three or four years. Location: Roof top, last house on the Deer Lagoon side of Shore Avenue.

— *Cathy Donckers*

November 21: As I walked along the east side of Shore Avenue, I saw a beautiful **Rough-legged Hawk** hovering and exploring the marshes below. It flew over the lagoon and was simply a magnificent sight. Location: Deer Lagoon.

— *Nancy Van Wormer*

November 22: **Leucistic Dark-eyed Junco** on ground with 21 other **Juncos**. Location: Deer Lagoon trailhead.

— *George Heleker*



Photo by George Heleker

Leucistic Dark-eyed Junco

November 27: Western Willet, seen feeding with six **Greater Yellowlegs** and a **Dunlin**. Location: Grasser's Lagoon, Penn Cove as seen from the end of Madrona Way.

Confirmation: A **Willet** has been regularly present either at this location or at Crockett Lake since the second week of

October. — *Jay Adams*



Photo by Jann Ledbetter

Great Egret

November 28: Beautiful big white **Great Egret** which stood out even though it was on the other side of the lake! Location: Crockett Lake, Coupeville.

— *Jann Ledbetter*

December 9: Trumpeter Swan foraging among the multitude of ducks on the saltwater side of the west dike. Location: Deer Lagoon. — *Darwin C. Wile*

December 14: Thirteen adult and two juvenile **Trumpeter Swans** foraging in old corn maze field at Dugualla Farms.



Photos by Patrick Kline

Orange-crowned Warbler, left; Bewick's Wren, right.

— *Patrick Kline*

December 19: Bewick's Wren visiting suet tree feeder on three occasions today. Easy ID with bold white supercilium and gray belly. Seems to favor "Super Suet" (contains insects). Location: Pennington Loop, Coupeville

About 10 minutes after the Bewick's Wren left the suet feeder, an adult **Orange-crowned Warbler** showed up and stayed at the suet feeder for about four minutes. Warbler was noted to actively be

Sightings, see page 6

PLEASE POST UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS to the *Whidbey Audubon Society (WAS) website*.

Sightings should be on Whidbey Island or relate in some way to Whidbey Audubon. Reports should refer to birds or other wildlife that are not commonly seen here. Alternatively, they may refer to migratory birds that arrive outside their normal seasons.

Reports of especially interesting sightings in nearby areas are welcome. Greater selectivity is needed to keep the email volume reasonable so editors will exercise judgment on whether the rarity, proximity and significance of sightings merit inclusion.

These guidelines reflect the interests of local birders. Please respect the essentially scientific nature of the Sightings feature. Thanks for your cooperation.

There are designated spaces to submit your information, such as what you saw, where you saw it and the date and approximate time. Although we are asking those who post to leave a phone number or email address with your sighting, they will not be included on the actual "Sightings" page. Thank you!

Keep up with "Sightings" on the WAS website, on your mobile device at www.m.whidbeyaudubon.org or on the *Whidbey Audubon Society Facebook page*.

Welcome New and Renewing Members

New

John Hastings & Robin Obata Cathy and Norman Ledbetter
Duncan & Glenna Kelso
Frances Vandal & Denice Killian

Renewing:

Linda Bainbridge	Robert Steelquist
Beth Heffernan	Rob Harris
Jenanne Murphy	Ed & Sharon Wilkins
Mary Jo Adams	Greg Routt & Kristie Kujawski
Mary Bloom	Ann Sullivan
Karen Brooks	Baz Stevens & Sandra Towne
Charlette Ginn	Mike & Karen Stropki
Lori Holt	Frank Ruggiero & Karen Posner
Mimi Bommersbach	Tom Sparks & Flora Goldthwaite
Anne Baum	Carlos & Toni Andersen
Jay Adams	Glenn Duncan & Nancy Luenn
Jeri Gregory	Sally & Tom Cahill (Scholarship)
Susan Berg	
Stu Ashley & Linda Perry Dwight	
Dave & Kate Krause (Scholarship)	

Spotted Towhee Level Renewals

Sharon Vanderslice	Ed & Martha Hollis
Miriam Nack	Sam Wolfe & Marilyn Strayer
Vernon & Martha Olsen	Margie Parker (Scholarship)
Bonnie Martha Olsen	Libby & Chip Hayward
Roy & Betty Branson	Brian & Janice Martin

Pigeon Guillemot Level Renewals

Cynthia Barrett & Karen Johnson (Scholarship)
Ali Erickson

Red Tail Hawk Level Renewal

Christie Hammond (Scholarship)	Colleen Fox & Marie Shaw
Tom Hyde & Sharon Gauthier	Suzannah Dalzell
Karen Larson Gordon & Stephen Gordon	
Louise Abbott & Dave Earp (Scholarship)	

Opsrey Level Renewal

Mary Jo Stansbury

First Bird of the New Year

For a unique perspective and focus for 2020, consider the time-honored tradition of predicting the year ahead, by recognizing the first bird seen on the morning of January 1.

Each species is said to hold a different meaning for your upcoming year. For instance — my own first bird of this past year was a Canada Goose — which may have been all about travel, and gatherings with friends and family — and so it was.

Author Lyanda Lynn Haupt has shared the story of one year's terrific disappointment of spying her first bird — a European Starling! But upon reflection, concluded, "As an urban dweller, I might turn to the starling as easily as any other bird for lessons in living with resilience and attunement to the natural world." (Bird Note 2017 www.birdnote.org/show/bird-year-lyanda-haupt)

For a clever take on the meanings of seeing various birds first, check out the blog of renowned birder, Laura Erickson, blog.lauraerickson.com/2011/01/first-bird-of-new-year-what-does-it.html.

Additionally, here is an auspicious definition of Augury, from Wikipedia, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augury.

Augury is the practice from ancient Roman religion of interpreting omens from the observed flight of birds (aves). When the individual, known as the augur, interpreted these signs, it is referred to as "taking the auspices." 'Auspices' is from the Latin auspicium and auspex, literally "one who looks at birds." Depending upon the birds, the auspices from the gods could be favorable or unfavorable



en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augury#/media/File:Rider_BM_B1.jpg

A confident rider, surrounded by birds of good omen is approached by a Nike (Victory) bearing victor's wreaths on this Laconian black-figure kylix (drinking cup), ca. 550–530 BC.

(auspicious or inauspicious). Sometimes bribed or politically motivated augures would fabricate unfavorable auspices in order to delay certain state functions, such as elections. Pliny the Elder attributes the invention of auspicy to Tiresias the seer of Thebes, the generic model of a seer in the Greco-Roman literary culture...

In an attempt to control one's own destiny, here's a tip from a voice of experience — maybe don't look out at your feeders first thing. But pondering the wonderful attributes of Juncos, Sparrows and Towhees or even Starlings may take us anywhere we can hope or imagine this year.

— Cathi Bower Bird early – Bird often

Upcoming Field Trips, from page 1

Wednesday, January 22: WINTER BIRDING ADVENTURE AT DEER LAGOON. Come join Carlos Andersen to search out the many birds present at this time of year. The trip is 8:30 a.m. to noon. Let's meet at the Bayview Park and Ride where we can carpool to the lagoon. There are no bathrooms at the lagoon, so please plan appropriately. Spotting scopes are very handy since many of the birds can be at a good distance away. So, if you have a scope, please bring it, and we can all share. Limited to 15 participants. To reserve a spot, send an email to Carlos at 2carlosandersen@gmail.com.

BIN South Spots Shrike on Coyote's Snout?

November 7: At Deer Lagoon last week, we enjoyed a beautiful **Barred Owl** snoozing low in an alder, just across the cattails at the beginning of the dike trail. With its back to us and head nodding, we did need some time to confirm its ID.

Dozens of peeps were fairly close in on the tide side, and we got some good comparisons between **Western** and **Least Sandpipers**, **Dunlins** and a couple of **Sanderlings**, plus a single **Black-bellied Plover**.

We saw and/or heard at least 43 bird species.

November 21: A gorgeous and satisfying day on the Miller Lake/Ewing Marsh/Sunlight Beach loop. We saw and/or heard over 50 species, 15 of which were added down on Sunlight, where a couple of **Eurasian Wigeons** were spotted among the **Americans** in the lagoon, as well as a pair of **Crossbills** among the dozens of **House Finches** on the beach.

Over at the Coles Road feeders on the way down to the lake, a poofy **Fox Sparrow** and a **Song Sparrow** very cooperatively posed near one another for an excellent comparison opportunity. Once seen, the chevrons on the front of a Fox Sparrow are impossible to *un-see*.

For those of us who haven't been down to Ewing lately, an interesting, larger-than-life coyote sculpture has appeared on the fields to the north. As we were all musing on it, a wonderful **Northern Shrike** flew in and perched right upon its raised snout! Possibly the highlight of the entire season. Perhaps beyond the artist's original intent, the sculpture-as-habitat has so far been well appreciated. Everyone got a good look at the **Shrike** before

it flew off.

December 5: Alright — two for three isn't so bad. Apologies for fibbing about Shorebirds last week — not one peep or piper anywhere to be seen. On the duck front, Sunlight Beach and East Dike delivered as usual. We even spied the requisite **Eurasian Wigeons** and most of the usual suspects. There's something intriguing about watching **Brants**, **White-winged Scoters** and **Mergansers** — possibly because they take some extra figuring to confirm that they are who they appear to be.

For those of you who eventually dragged yourselves away because we were all starving for having stayed out so long — I will now rub in the **Great Horned Owl** sighting. It was no doubt there all along, keeping its one golden eye on us, tucked amongst the branches in a grove just off the dike. Remember where the **Crows** were making a ruckus earlier in the tops of the trees?

We saw and/or heard at least 39 species — a beautiful day at the Beach. Cherish the memory and be glad this Birding in the Neighborhoods outing didn't land on this soggy week.

December 19: Thankfully, ducks don't require birding by ear. In spite of a rumbling truck up in the neighborhood, a loud and chilly morning at Deer Lagoon gave our intrepid band of birders 40 species for our year-end wrap.

— Cathi Bower Bird early – bird often

Birding in Neighborhoods (BIN) South meets every other Thursday. The time varies with the season. For meeting information, contact Cathi at whidbird@whidbey.com.

Fall Birding with Birding in the Neighborhoods North

November 13: Crockett Lake did not disappoint as our first fall outing. It also helped when there are birders with a variety of skills and good equipment. We saw and/or heard a total of 46 species which is a record for this north end group. Some of the highlights were a **Western Meadowlark**, sixty **Pacific Loons**, **Red-throated Loons**, a **Ruddy Duck** and a **Ring-necked Duck**. These highlights in no way diminish the joy at seeing the usual birds, such as the **Northern Harrier**, **Surf Scoters**, **Harlequin Ducks** and a flock of **Dunlins**. Of course, no day at Crockett Lake would be complete without seeing the **Belted**

Kingfisher and the resident **Bald Eagles**.

December 11: The weather was not appealing and the group was small. Nevertheless, we managed to spot 37 species at Dugualla Bay, The Farm field and Dugualla Heights. We saw a dozen **Canvasbacks**, a **Shoveler**, flocks of **Gadwalls** and **Pintails**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Trumpeter Swans** and a couple of the smaller **Cackling Geese**. A warning to those birding Dugualla Bay. The hunters have been out in full force and have very large mixed flock decoys. At a distance and even with a scope sometimes it is hard to know if what you are seeing is the real thing.

What Dugualla Bay lacked in LBB's, Dugualla Heights made up for it. We saw **Song**, **Fox**, **Golden-crowned** and **House Sparrows**, **Bewick's Wrens** and a pair of **Steller's Jays** among other species. It ended up being a good day of birding for the weather-hardy few.

— Marcia Lazoff

Birding in Neighborhoods (BIN) North meets the second Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. If you want to be on the email list, contact Marcia at mlazoff@comcast.net.

Sightings, from page 4

eating suet. A feeder first for me! — Patrick Kline

December 25: Counting 154 **Trumpeter Swans** floating by on the open water of Dugualla Bay. Location: Jones Road.

— Ruth Scrivner

December 26: Large rafts of waterfowl at Crockett Lake (150-200). Mainly comprised of **Pintails** and **American Wigeons**. Notable species include 11 **Hooded Mergansers** and 11 **Common Mergansers**. — Patrick Kline

Field Trip Reports: Fort Ebey State Park

On November 16, we met at Partridge Point where the usual **Harlequin Ducks** and **Buffleheads** were present. Also observed here on this cloudy and windy day were a handful of **Red-breasted Mergansers**, **Double-crested Cormorants** and a **Common Loon**. An adult **Bald Eagle** was perched in a tree.

The group ventured into Fort Ebey State Park and walked to Pondilla Lake enjoying the fall colors and the numerous mushroom species. We noted **Bewick's Wren**, **Fox Sparrow** and **Varied Thrush**. The lake held a few **Lesser Scaup**, **Hooded Mergansers** and a **Mallard**. From the bluff we spotted **Mew Gull** and **Horned Grebes**.

We traveled to the south end of the park and walked into the campground. We had good looks at **Brown Creepers** and a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**. Heard but unseen were **Hairy Woodpecker** and **Golden-crowned Kinglets**. Flocks of **Dark-eyed Juncos** and **American Robins** were in the area as well. A couple of **Common Ravens** blew by.

The field trip concluded with a stroll out to the grassy bench overlooking the sea. Our time here was cut short by the insistent winds but **Brandt's Cormorant** and **Red-necked Grebe** were added to our trip list. The final bird was a **Northern Harrier** glimpsed as we gathered at our vehicles.

We were joined on this trip by two families including a young girl doing a report on Marbled Murrelets. While we didn't see

any of the little alcids, we were able to impart some knowledge about her bird of choice. A total of 33 bird species were listed on the trip. Not a high total but not bad considering the windy conditions.

— Steve Ellis, Trip Leader



Photo by Duncan Kelson

Northern Harrier posted on WAS website.

Anacortes

November field trips are always a roll of the dice... on November 19 the weather was cold and very windy, and the birds were not out in abundance. Pass Lake yielded only a few far-off ducks. The Ship Harbor Interpretive Preserve near the ferry terminal in Anacortes was a great walk with a close look at **American Wigeons** along the shore and other **ducks** and **cormorants** offshore. The boardwalk through the interior wetlands was busy with **sparrows** and **finches**, with **raptors** above. A quick visit to the shore at Washington Park was too windy to see much, and a drive through the park to the overlook by Burrows Island saw the sun finally come out and the wind drop a bit. And it didn't rain or snow... we saw 28 species, a good late fall day.

— Kim Shepard, Trip Leader

Whidbey Audubon Society Membership

Please make your check payable to WHIDBEY AUDUBON SOCIETY (WAS)

Mail to: Jann Ledbetter, 1112 Maple Place, Coupeville WA 98239

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