



Volume 44 #7 April 2011

## Bird Walk and Picnic in the Park

Spring is about to arrive so we need to be at the station, waiting with a hand-written sign that says “spring?” What better welcome than to have a bird walk and picnic? You are cordially invited to join an aggregation of Auduboners and their families and friends for a bird walk (to Horan Natural Area) with a lunch picnic at the Walla Walla Point Park following the bird walk. We’ve had several of these fall and spring picnic/walks; maybe we are growing a tradition.

**When:** Saturday, April 9, 9:00 – 1:30 (or so).

**Where:** at the #2 Shelter at Walla Walla Point Park, in Wenatchee.

**Directions:** Enter Walla Walla Point Park at the entrance on Walla Walla Avenue, just north of Lowe’s. Bear right as the entrance road forks and proceed past the large parking area on your left. The road continues to the right and ends in a parking area (cul-de-sac). The large, covered picnic area adjacent is ours from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Rest rooms and a playground are nearby.

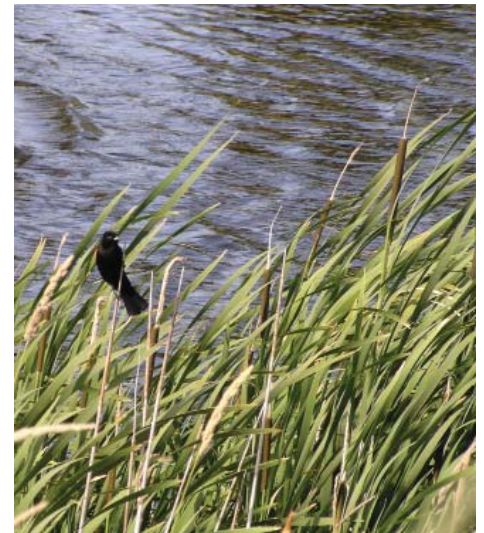
**Food:** Bring whatever food and beverages you want, for your own consumption. We will have coverings for the tables, extra paper plates, napkins etc., and bottled water.

**Gear:** Bring weather-appropriate clothing and your usual birding gear (binoculars, field guides, etc). We will have bird checklists/info for the Horan Natural Area.

**Agenda:** We will take a bird walk (about two hours or so) along the park trail (easy walking) to do some birding at the Horan Natural Area, returning to the picnic area to enjoy our food and each other’s company at the picnic shelter.

**Questions?** Contact Mark Oswood (662- 9087 or [moswood@nwi.net](mailto:moswood@nwi.net))

Article and photos by Mark Oswood



Red-winged Blackbird in the cattails of the Horan Natural Area.



Many quiet ponds and side channels make the Horan Natural Area an excellent spot to see birds and also a quiet getaway in the midst of urban Wenatchee!

Interested in learning more about the birds of the Horan Natural area and Confluence Park? You can find a species list on our website. It includes information about the birds such as which season you can expect to see them, whether they nest in the area and how common (or uncommon) they are here. Go to [www.ncwaudubon.org/birding.htm](http://www.ncwaudubon.org/birding.htm) for this list and other birding resources for North Central Washington

March came in like a lion and it looks like it is going out like a lion too. The weather just shows no signs of letting up. Reports from Highway 20 indicate that it will be a long time before the North Cascades stretch will open – maybe not til late May.

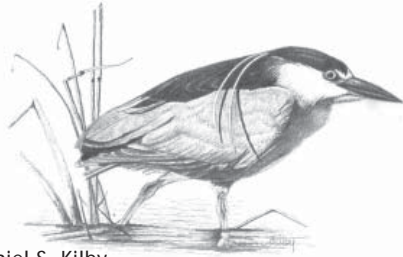
Birds have not been paying attention to the weather reports. New ones are seen and heard frequently. The first to arrive with her whistling call was the Says Phoebe (I figure a bird with a name Phoebe must always be a girl). A few days behind her were the Western and Mountain Bluebirds with their soft chirps and then the squeaks of Violet-green Swallows. And this week my walks are accompanied by the ringing calls of Spotted Towhees. Other birds I'm hearing more often are the American Robins, Pygmy and White-breasted Nuthatches, the raucous Red-winged Blackbirds, Canada Geese and Red-tailed Hawks. What's playing on your nature-based sound track or mix tape?

We took a few hours on Sunday to bird down to the Columbia and then up on the Cameron Lake highlands east of the lower Okanogan Valley. We were treated to the sights and sounds of Sandhill Cranes, Tundra Swans and lots of waterfowl on the river.

This is the time of year when celebrations for birds abound! The Audubon Washington website lists four in April and six in May and I can see that they have missed a few. Birding festivals are great learning opportunities - chances to see interesting, maybe charismatic birds in their native habitats on field trips led by local experts. They are also a chance to meet like-minded people who enjoy birds and birding.



Sandhill Cranes with landing gear extended. photo by Teri J Pieper



Daniel S. Kilby

The mission of North Central Washington Audubon is "to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and their habitats, for the benefit of people and the biological diversity of North Central Washington."

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**North Central Washington Audubon Society  
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# Eating Alaska - A Film about Eating Locally

Sponsored by NCW Audubon Society

by Mark Oswood, Wenatchee

**What?** Please join us for the last film in the 2010-11 Wenatchee Valley Environmental Film Series.

**Where?** Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center (127 S. Mission St., Wenatchee).

**When:** April 19th 7:00 p.m.

“What happens to a vegetarian who moves to the Alaskan Frontier?”

Eating Alaska is a serious and humorous film about connecting to where you live and eating locally. Made by a former city dweller now living on an island in Alaska and married to fisherman, deer hunter and environmental activist, it is a journey into food politics, regional food traditions, our connection to the wilderness and to what we put into our mouths. This wry personal look at what’s

on your plate explores ideas about eating healthy, safe and sustainable food from one’s own backyard, either urban or wild, versus industrially produced food shipped thousands of miles.”

Mark Oswood, retired professor of biology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, will provide a brief introduction and offer some questions to noodle, after the film. Do you like (fun, interesting) homework? Reading (or re-reading) Michael Pollan’s *The Omnivore’s Dilemma* will get your brain warmed up and stretched out, ready to see the film.

We’ll have some token Alaskan food, as well as the usual carbohydrate-based treats, after the film, and time for some convivial discussion (about food).

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## Learn About Loons in Tonasket

by Julie Ashmore, Okanogan Highlands Association



photo by Daniel Poleschook, Jr. and Virginia R. Gumm, Loon Lake Loon Association

**What:** Okanogan Highlands Alliance presents a Highland Wonders educational event: “Washington’s Not-So-Common Loon.” Come and learn about WA loons, as Daniel Poleschook, Jr. and Virginia R. Gumm share from their experience as Research and Education Coordinators for the Loon Lake Loon Association and Adjunct Field Scientists for the Biodiversity Research Institute in Gorham, Maine. Daniel and Ginger have been working on the damage assessment of bird species in the Gulf of Mexico since the BP Oil Spill in April 2010

**When:** Friday, May 6th: Dinner benefiting the Community Cultural Center at 5:00 p.m.; Presentation at 6:30 with tea, coffee and desserts

**Where:** Community Cultural Center, 411 S Western Ave, Tonasket, WA

**Contact:** Julie Ashmore at 433-7893 or [julie@okanoganhighlands.org](mailto:julie@okanoganhighlands.org)

**More info:** [www.okanoganhighlands.org/education](http://www.okanoganhighlands.org/education)

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## Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest May 12 - 15

by Gail Roberts, Plain

The 9th Annual Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest is well beyond the planning stage! New events to look for: “Talkin’ Birds, Talkin’ Art “ reception, a “Birds of Bavaria” field trip that focuses on birds of Bavaria that have their counterparts in the Wenatchee Valley, and a professional art show.

Programs for the Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest will be available in the first week of April. General registration opens on April 29th. The Keynote speaker is Terry L. Root - she is a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and with them shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. She has researched extensively on species response to climate change, and will be focusing on this topic for Bird Fest.

For more information see [www.leavenworthspringbirdfest.com/](http://www.leavenworthspringbirdfest.com/) or call 548-7584

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## Wildlife Victims of the Tsunami

by Teri J Pieper

Much has been written and recorded about the human devastation from the earthquake and tsunami this month; however only recently have I seen anything about the wildlife victims. The blog, [peteatmidway.blogspot.com/](http://peteatmidway.blogspot.com/) shows in words and photos what happened to ground nesting birds when the waves washed over them covering those that were left with various flotsam and jetsam from the disaster. On March 21, the US Fish and Wildlife Service announced that Wisdom, the 60 year old Laysan Albatross had returned to her nest following the tsunami. (See article about Wisdom on page 6.) For more pictures and information see [www.flickr.com/photos/usfwspacific/5546703373/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwspacific/5546703373/)

# The Okanogan Highlands Alliance: How it Began, What it Does

by Julie Ashmore, Tonasket

Okanogan Highlands Alliance (OHA) formed as a non-profit in 1992 when the environmental integrity of the Okanogan Highlands was threatened by a large-scale, open-pit, cyanide-leach gold mining proposal on Buckhorn Mountain. After successfully stopping the open-pit proposal and appealing the subsequent development of an underground mine, OHA came to an agreement with the mining company that resulted in additional monitoring, stream augmentation and mitigation. Since that time, OHA has developed new ways of protecting the diverse habitats of the highlands, including restoring streams and wetlands and promoting local stewardship through education. OHA has developed three programs for environmental protection. Through mine monitoring, restoration and education, OHA is working to protect, enhance and preserve the highlands ecosystems for future generations.

The Okanogan Highlands are home to a great diversity of plant and wildlife species, including several rare, sensitive or endangered species. It continues to be a favorite place for birding, hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation. Aspen meadows, conifer forests and spruce bogs blend with dry grassy hillsides resplendent with wildflowers, creating an array of habitat types in need of protection.

OHA is implementing a place-based effort to engage a diverse base of citizens in local stewardship and decision-making, with a focus on watershed-based conservation. The education program engages the community through an exchange of knowledge and ideas that can help develop a common vision for protecting common interests. OHA's rigorous mine monitoring program applies scrutiny of the impacts of the Buckhorn large-scale cyanide-leach gold mine, providing an extra set of eyes, analyzing the monitoring data and providing ideas for actions that provide greater protection of local habitats and water resources.

The restoration program involves on-the-ground rehabilitation of streams and wetlands in the highlands, including critical nesting water bird, wading bird, raptor and migratory songbird habitat. In 2010, OHA responded to an extraordinary opportunity, purchasing 40 acres of wetland and 25 acres of adjacent forestland on the south end of Lost Lake. While the parcels sustain diverse plant and animal populations, both the wetland and adjacent forestland are in need of restoration measures. The forestland was aggressively harvested in 1992. OHA has begun assessing the conditions and developing a management plan with the goal of maintaining and enhancing forest health, habitat and diversity while reducing weeds and fire danger. The wetland supports a wide variety of life, including common loon and black

tern nesting habitat, but is not yet fenced to prevent loss of reproductive and foraging habitats due to trampling by livestock. OHA is collaborating with the Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife, and local landowners to install fencing to protect the wetland and its valuable diversity of species.

A significant threat to the loon and tern populations at Lost Lake is lead poisoning from ingesting small lead fishing gear lost by anglers. In December 2010, the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission approved restrictions effective May 1, 2011 on the use of lead fishing tackle at 13 lakes with nesting common loons, including Lost Lake. The commission adopted a proposal that prohibits the use of lead weights and jigs that measure 1 ½ inches or less. OHA is preparing to install interpretive signs at Lost Lake that will alert the public to this issue, and will offer a presentation on loons on the first Friday of May ([okanoganhighlands.org/education/hw](http://okanoganhighlands.org/education/hw)). Please visit your local retailers and request lead-free fishing tackle.

OHA is also working to restore an incised reach of Myers Creek with the goal of reconnecting the stream with its former floodplain, which will reinstate the wetland that once thrived. OHA staff and board are grateful to have an industrious partner in the project: a colony of beaver that have begun demonstrating just how hard they are willing to work. Recent studies have shown that migratory songbird populations in semi-arid regions are directly and positively correlated with beaver dam density. OHA looks forward to sharing the results of both the beavers' work and the installation of large woody debris instream and riparian plantings.

If you want to become involved in OHA's work, one way is to become a member. Please visit [www.okanoganhighlands.org](http://www.okanoganhighlands.org) for membership and volunteer opportunities, such as participation in OHA's annual songbird survey and restoration work parties.

## Thanks Dan!

We joined Dan Stephens for his field trip on March 5th to see a Greater Sage Grouse lek. We had to get out of bed before 4 a.m. to meet Dan at 5—that was especially early for my wife, Tip. She's always saying she's not a birder, but I think she now qualifies as an enthusiast. We arrived in time to witness the lekking behavior, and we no longer regretted the early call; it was a really big moment for us. Everyone on the trip expressed their joy, and I know everyone would want to publicly thank Dan for his sacrifice and his willingness to share a little of his vast knowledge with amateurs like us. *We feel very lucky indeed.*

Dick and Tip Martin, East Wenatchee

# Methow Migratory Birding Festival

## On the Cascade Loop of the Washington State Birding Trail

by Methow Valley Community School  
3rd and 4th graders  
Jed Butler, Sam Neitlich, and Neela Mitchell

Did you know Red Winged Blackbirds can have up to 15 mates? Did you know the Peregrine Falcon can dive up to 200 miles per hour? Did you know Red-naped Sapsuckers don't suck sap, they sip it? Did you know the Osprey sounds like almost like a songbird? These are just a few of the fascinating facts you will learn at Methow Valley's Migratory Bird Festival.

This event is Saturday, May 14th, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00. The Methow Valley Community School's 3rd and 4th graders are putting on a bird festival at the North Cascades Basecamp. Kim Bondi is sponsoring it. The Basecamp is a great bird habitat. There will be Reader's Theatre. Don't forget to go check out the mosaics the 3rd and 4th graders made. There will be bird education stations and bird watching tours. It is free admission! Try to come if you can!

For more information call 996-4447.

# Birding Tour with Libby Mills

by Hana Baker,  
Methow Valley Community School Teacher, Winthrop

Please join us on Sunday, May 15th, for a special guest, Libby Mills. Libby is a well-known ornithologist and naturalist from western Washington. She is not only a wealth of information on birds, but also a pleasant and engaging person to be around, and this is an experience you won't want to miss. Libby will be leading a morning birding tour around the North Cascades Basecamp in Mazama. This trip is limited to 12 people. Following the birding tour with Libby, enjoy a Birding Brunch at 10:30 a.m., and bird art created by the Methow Valley Community School 3rd and 4th graders. Birding tour with Libby is \$12.00 per person; Birding Brunch is \$7:50 per person. For more details, contact the North Cascades Basecamp and Ecology Center at 996-2334 or [www.northcascadesbasecamp.com/](http://www.northcascadesbasecamp.com/)



Students at the Methow Valley Community School combine birding with their other outdoor activities.  
photo by Hana Baker

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## Notes from Mazama

by Bob Spiwak, Mazama

Today is the Ides of March. I guess I should beware of something, but I am not certain what. Perhaps it is my wife's cat who is yowling because mum has left him while she goes to her workshop. Incidentally, this is not a bird-destroying feline: he is 16 years old, nearsighted and can have a twitterer standing on his head and not give it a thought. A shake maybe, but that would be the extent of his aggressiveness.

For weeks, we have had rain, snow and fog, with the nights near or above freezing and the days near 40. Still over a foot of snow on the ground but in the past week we have been inundated with Oregon Juncos and outundated with Rufus-sided (Spotted) Towhees. "Outundated" is the opposite of inundated, for those of you who treasure the English language. I happen to prefer modification.

Anyhow, the cat is not a factor in bird unease. They have naught to fear but from the squirrels and other birds. Namely, the Stellers Jays who have multiplied over the

years to a motorcycle gang of bullies now numbering twenty, as best we can count them. They are very hard to count as they tend to skitter about from one place to another. I tried counting their legs and dividing by two, but the number is, I fear, still inaccurate.

The most exciting new residents are two Varied Thrushes, who have been hanging around for almost a week. I have not yet heard them calling; however in the last week, there are now three distinct songs emanating from various places but not from various Varied Thrushes. Soon, I hope. Spring has to be on the way.

To celebrate the arrivals, two days ago, I had my semi-hippie hair buzz-cut leaving a significant pile of clippings on the floor. This is a sort of annual event, for the hair is then stored until what appears nesting time when it is distributed around the property. Last year the robins eschewed the strands and built a nest atop a wooden moose head hanging from my golf shop.

# Oldest Known Bird Returns to Midway to Raise Chick

from The US Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Geological Service

MIDWAY ATOLL — The oldest known U.S. wild bird – a coyly conservative 60 – is a new mother. The bird, a Laysan albatross named Wisdom, was spotted a few weeks ago with a chick by John Klavitter, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist and the deputy manager of the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge.

The bird has sported and worn out 5 bird bands since she was first banded by U.S. Geological Survey scientist Chandler Robbins in 1956 as she incubated an egg. Chandler rediscovered Wisdom in 2001. In 1956, he estimated Wisdom to be at least 5 years old then since this is the earliest age at which these birds breed, though they more typically breed at 8 or 9 after an involved courtship lasting several years. This means, of course, that Wisdom is likely to be in her early sixties.

Bruce Peterjohn, the chief of the North American Bird Banding Program at the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, Md said “she is now the oldest wild bird documented in the 90-year history of our bird banding program,” he added. “To know that she can still successfully raise young at age 60-plus, that is beyond words. While the process of banding a bird has not changed greatly during the past century, the information provided by birds marked with a simple numbered metal band has transformed our knowledge of birds.”

Wisdom, Peterjohn said, has likely raised at least 30 to 35 chicks during her breeding life, though the number may well be higher because experienced parents tend to be better parents than younger breeders. Albatross lay only one egg a year, but it takes much of a year to incubate and raise the chick. After years in which they have successfully raised and fledged a chick – which on Midway is about two-thirds of the time – the parents may take the next year off from parenting. And since adult albatross mate for life, with both parents raising the young, it makes one wonder if Wisdom has had the same partner all these years or not.

Almost as amazing as being a parent at 60 is the number of miles this bird has likely logged – about 50,000 miles a year as an adult – which means that Wisdom has flown at least 2 to 3 million miles since she was first banded. Or, to put it another way, that’s 4 to 6 trips from the Earth to the Moon and back again with plenty of miles to spare. One reason for all these miles is that Laysan albatross spend the first 3 to 5 years after fledging at sea, never touching land. Then they return to breed but some of their feeding grounds are actually off the coast of western North America, including the Gulf of Alaska. The parents tend to feed closer to the islands where their nests are when the chicks are very young, but they regularly commute to the northern Pacific Ocean and even the Gulf of Alaska when the chicks are older or when the adults are incubating.

They convert the fish eggs and squid oil they eat into a rich, oily liquid, which they regurgitate and feed to their chick. In the non-breeding part of the year, albatross do not touch land - the birds, scientists believe, often even sleep while flying over the ocean.

Peterjohn noted that Wisdom’s remarkable record is just one example of the valuable data provided by bird banding. In addition to establishing longevity records for birds, banding data from the North American Bird Banding Program documents migratory patterns, provides critical harvest and survival information used to manage populations of migratory game birds, and supports research activities on many issues from toxicology to disease transmission and behavior. Since 1920, approximately 64.5 million birds have been banded by this program, and of those, nearly 4.5 million bands have been recovered.

Albatross are legendary birds for many reasons – in Samuel Coleridge’s poem, “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” a sailor has to wear an albatross around his neck as punishment for killing the bird. According to seafaring legends, albatross are the souls of lost sailors and should not be killed. However, as reported by James Cook, sailors regularly killed and ate albatross.

Albatross are remarkable fliers who travel thousands of miles on wind currents without ever flapping their wings. They do this by angling their 6-foot wings to adjust for wind currents and varying air speeds above the water.

Nineteen of 21 species of albatross are threatened with extinction, according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Present threats to the birds include lead poisoning of chicks on Midway from lead paint used in previous decades; longline fishing, where the birds are inadvertently hooked and drowned, though conservation groups have banded with fishermen and dramatically lowered the number of deaths from this cause; and pollution, especially from garbage floating on the ocean.

The birds ingest large amounts of marine debris – by some estimates 5 tons of plastic are unknowingly fed to albatross chicks each year by their parents. Although the plastic may not kill the chicks directly, it reduces their food intake, which leads to dehydration and most likely lessens their chance of survival. In addition, albatross are threatened by invasive species such as rats and wild cats, which prey on chicks, nesting adults and eggs. Albatross evolved on islands where land mammals were absent, so have no defenses against them.

For more information see [www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=2722](http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=2722) and <http://www.chrisjordan.com/gallery/midway/#CF000313%2018x24>

# Action Alert-Lend Your Voice to Support WWRP By April 10

by Sharon Lunz, CDLT

An important program to invest in the well-being of our communities is being debated in the Washington State Legislature. Since 1990, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) has provided over \$615 million for more than 1,000 neighborhood and state parks, ball fields, trails, beaches, farms and wildlife habitat areas. In her budget to legislature, Governor Gregoire proposed that funds be only given to projects in the Puget Sound Region; this would have a dramatic impact on many conservation and recreation programs in North Central Washington, including four Chelan-Douglas Land Trust projects in the Wenatchee Foothills and Icicle Creek. Legislators will decide in the next month whether or not to ignore the WWRP's time-tested ranking process. Numerous

newspapers throughout the state have asked legislature to retain the integrity of the program, including the Wenatchee World's editorial board. We recognize the challenges the legislature faces in balancing our state's budget this biennium, but this program can be cut in a manner that retains its balance and equity.

Your Voice Matters! We urge you to contact your state legislators (Linda Parlette, Mike Armstrong, and Cary Condotta) and ask them to keep the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program in the State's 2011 – 2013 capital budget, and to allow funding for all counties. The best time to contact them would be in the next two weeks.

## Swan ID Questions?

article and photo by Teri J Pieper

During Spring migration season, it's not unusual to see swans on the Columbia or in isolated small ponds. Can you say with certainty if they are Tundra or Trumpeter? Generally speaking, most of the swans that pass through our four-county region are Tundra's. However sometimes there will be Trumpeter's so it's a good idea to learn the sometimes, subtle differences in the two. Gretchen Rohde of Leavenworth, suggested this informative article from field guide writer and artist David Allen Sibley: [www.sibleyguides.com/2006/02/distinguishing-trumpeter-and-tundra-swans/](http://www.sibleyguides.com/2006/02/distinguishing-trumpeter-and-tundra-swans/)



Tundra Swans flying over Okanogan County

Quick Look  
Gloria Piper Roberson

The sleepy kitten  
curled up on the warm wood pile  
winter over period

A rusty bucket  
rots little by little  
on the compost heap

Blue Jay's hidden nut  
drifts down a leafy gutter  
sailing in a spring rain

## Foothills Trails set to Open April 1

by Sharon Lunz, CDLT

After a long winter, the Sage Hills and Horse Lake trails are soon to reopen. The trails close each year for mule deer winter habitat. As hard as it is for all of us to wait, CDLT wants to remind everyone that even if March is feeling warm and spring like, April 1st is the opening day for all Foothills trails north of Fifth Street, except the new Homestead Trail at Horse Lake, which opens May 1.

Please join CDLT for a trail opening celebration on April 1 and 2. We will be at the Horse Lake Trailhead and Sage Hill trail near the Day Drive Trailhead to welcome trail users back on Friday, April 1 from 4-7pm and on Saturday, April 2 from 8 am-4pm. Snacks, smiles, and information will abound. Also anyone arriving by muscle power (think bike or walk), will receive a special reward. And just a reminder – if trails are wet and muddy consider heading to a different area to avoid causing trail damage. For more information see [www.cdlandtrust.org/](http://www.cdlandtrust.org/)

## Green Birding Gets its own Day

The Green Big Day event is an event to encourage a conscious understanding that our personal environmental efforts and the way in which we enjoy birding should not be separated. As bird enthusiasts we ought to be in the lead showing how we all need to be making personal decisions with the protection of the environment in mind.

Between April 23 and May 8, 2011, the Green Big Day is an international birding competition open to birders who want to support greenbirding in their local communities. The object is to count as many bird species as possible in a 24 hour period in a designated geographic area without using motorized vehicles. For more information see [www.greenbigday.org](http://www.greenbigday.org)

***April Wild Phlox***

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**North Central Washington Audubon Society Calendar**

April 9	Bird Walk and Picnic in the Park	Welcome Spring Birds with NCW Audubon! See page 1
April 19	Eating Alaska, a Film	Sponsored by NCW Audubon! See page 3
April 23 - May 8	Green Big Day	Bird without driving! See page 7
April 29 - May 1	Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival	See <a href="http://www.shorebirdfestival.com/">www.shorebirdfestival.com/</a>
May 6	Loons in Tonasket	With the Okanogan Highlands Alliance. See page 3.
May 12 - 15	Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest	Another Spring Celebration! See page 3.
May 14	Methow Bird Fest	With the Community School Students. See page 5
May 15	Bird Walk with Libby Mills	In Mazama! See page 5.



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Visit the NCW Audubon Society website for updates on these and other events  
[www.ncwaudubon.org](http://www.ncwaudubon.org)