



The Wild Phlox

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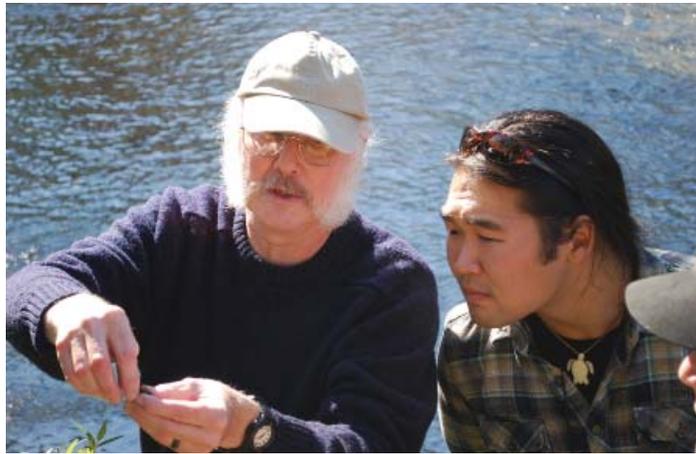
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Volume 53 #3 November 2019

Gather to Celebrate Conservation Volunteerism

article and photo by Susan Ballinger, Wenatchee

You are invited to attend the annual all-Wenatchee Naturalist Volunteer Recognition event on Sunday, November 17 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Featured guest scientist, Dr. Mark Oswood will talk about *Cold Waters: Doing Stream Ecology in Subarctic Alaska*. The afternoon event will also feature Jon Riley, Chelan County Community Wildfire Liaison, who will briefly share highlights of his local work balancing shrub-steppe habitat conservation with reduction of wildfire fuels in Wenatchee’s foothills.



Mark Oswood teaches stream ecology

Wenatchee Naturalist program director Susan Ballinger will begin by recognizing volunteers. Susan extends a warm welcome to both Audubon and Wenatchee Naturalist members and friends to attend the gathering, which will be held at Van Tassell Center, Wenatchee Valley College. Dr. Oswood retired to his hometown of Wenatchee after serving twenty-two years as an aquatic ecologist, on faculty at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He was a celebrated teacher and researcher. Many of us know Mark Oswood for his tireless, almost two decades-long, volunteer work as lead educator for NCWAS. He developed and leads the *What’s That Bird* field activity that has introduced thousands of local children to the magic of using binoculars to find and see common birds. He herds his “flocks” of loaner binoculars for both adult and student group use, including the Wenatchee Naturalist program. Mark has served as a guest scientist for all eleven Wenatchee Naturalist courses. Mark’s volunteerism for conservation is something for us all to celebrate.

This mission of the Wenatchee Naturalist program is to cultivate awareness, understanding, and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by developing an active corps of well-informed community volunteers. To date, over 200

people have completed the fifty-hour course, with twenty-four people enrolled in the Fall 2019 class offered through

Wenatchee Valley College Continuing Education. Chelan-Douglas Land Trust sponsors the post-course volunteer component, where participants can voluntarily pledge to complete twenty plus hours of volunteering in support of conservation, either through board service, land stewardship, community science, or education & outreach. As of 2018, 107 people had earned their 20+ hour service pin,

and a total of 9131 hours of volunteer service have been reported. On November 17, volunteers will be celebrated for their 2019 service prior to the guest speaker presentations.

Beverages will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring a finger food snack to share. On-campus parking is free on Sundays at the college. For more information, contact Susan Ballinger at skylinebal@gmail.com



A Canada Jay (aka Camp Robber) hopes for treats and finger food at Washington Pass
photo by Teri J Pieper, Methow Valley

The mission of the North Central Washington Audubon Society is to:
 “Enhance, protect and restore healthy natural ecosystems and native biodiversity using science, advocacy, education and on-the-ground conservation to promote the welfare of birds in North Central Washington”

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North Central Washington Audubon Society is on Facebook too

All phone numbers in the Wild Phlox are area code 509 unless otherwise indicated.

Birding with Kids at Walla Walla Point Park

Join Joe Veverka for 1½ hours of relaxed birding at Walla Walla Point Park in Wenatchee on November 2. This trip is geared for kids aged four and up. Kids should be accompanied by an adult. We will practice using binoculars and our ears to find and identify local birds. We will find geese, ducks, and coot on the lagoon and different songbirds in trees along the river’s edge.

Meet at 9:00 am at the north parking lot of Walla Walla Point Park near the playground and bathroom. Bring binoculars if you have them, water, snacks, and appropriate clothing for possible weather conditions. Expect a short walk on level ground. Loaner binoculars will be available. If you have any questions email Joe Veverka at joe_everka@yahoo.com.



American Coot
 photo by Peter Bauer, Winthrop

North Central Washington Audubon Society Wild Phlox Subscription Form

____ Subscribe to NCW Audubon Wild Phlox One Year, Nine Issues - \$15 Suggested donation

____ I prefer to get the Wild Phlox electronically (email address required below)

____ Separate subscription to Phlox NOT needed for NAS members in good standing

____ Donation: I would like to support NCW Audubon’s programs of education and conservation. Enclosed is my additional donation of \$_____

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Please mail check and form to Post Office Box 2934 Wenatchee, WA 98807-2934.

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To join the National Audubon Society which also includes a subscription to the Wild Phlox, please see their website at www.audubon.org



At the end of September, I was attending an art walk in Twisp when someone said, "Look at all those cranes!" Sure enough, hundreds, or perhaps thousands of Sandhill Cranes were flying over Twisp! We see cranes here from time to time in migration, but they are normally flying very high and if a person is lucky, she will hear them and then scan the sky til she finds them way up there. And occasionally, one will stick around in someone's wet field. These flocks were flying low and easily seen. It was quite the sight and many people – non-birders among them – enjoyed the spectacle. On my way home, I received a text from a neighbor saying there were still more cranes flying over. Sure enough, when I arrived at home, the cranes continued to fly by, and some landed in nearby hay fields. They stayed the night, and some stayed for a few days, delighting people with their presence. The cranes usually migrate through the Okanogan valley rather than the Methow valley. There was a big rain and windstorm and perhaps it sent them a little off their normal route? It's nice how a big charismatic bird like that attracts so much attention from non-birders as well as birders. Those Sandhill Cranes continue to be a topic of conversation a few weeks after they departed.

Christmas Bird Count season is fast coming upon us. I have listed on this page, five of the six CBC's in our region and next month, I hope to have all of them and maybe some more details. Mark your calendars now and get ready for winter birding around North Central Washington.

Did you have a chance to get up to Chelan Ridge and visit the Hawk Watch folks this year? Their season ended early when some unseasonal snow shut down operations and effectively trapped the crew on top of the ridge. Photos from their facebook page show nearly two feet of snow on the ground September 30! Their cars were buried and at one point one of the crewmembers skied out to meet someone who could drive partway up there with supplies including snowshoes. After a little over a week of waiting for the snow to melt, a piece of heavy equipment was hired to plow the road so the crew could leave. They were only able to take part of the supplies in their personal cars. Later, when the weather improved, The Hawk Watch crew, Forest Service smokejumpers and others were able to get up there with trucks. They dismantled the blinds and yurt and got the equipment off Chelan Ridge. The season ended two weeks early. You can see photos of their adventures at the Chelan Ridge Raptor Migration Project facebook page.



Sandhill Crane near Winthrop
photo by Janet Bauer, Winthrop

Christmas Bird Counts in our region:

December 17. Leavenworth - Joe Veverka joe_everka@yahoo.com

December 21. Bridgeport - Meredith Spencer merdave@homenetnw.net

December 28. Wenatchee - Dan Stephens dstephens@wvc.edu

December 29. Twisp - Julie Hovis jahovis711@gmail.com

December 29. Omak/Okanogan - Julia O'Conner ilikebirds.joc@gmail.com

January 4. Chelan - Steve Easley seasley@nwi.net

NCW Recent Bird Sightings

Chelan County: At Beebe Springs there were American White Pelicans, Western Grebes, and a Northern Harrier. A Golden Eagle and a Rock Wren were seen at Chelan Gorge. White-winged Scoters were seen from Walla Walla Park. A Purple Finch was seen in Nahahum Canyon. A Black-backed Woodpecker was seen at Sleeping Lady. Bewick's Wrens and Brown Creepers were seen at the Horan Natural Area.

Douglas County: A Calliope Hummingbird was seen in Bridgeport. At Atkins Lake there were 400 Sandhill Cranes. A Peregrine Falcon hit one and then another crane hit the Peregrine. Also at Atkins Lake, there were dowitchers, Pectoral Sandpiper, Black-bellied and Pacific Golden Plovers, a flock of 300 or more Snow Geese, Pacific Wren

compiled from the ncwabird email list and eBird and Tweepers by Teri J Pieper

and Varied Thrush. A Rough-legged Hawk was seen at Heritage and Road 12. A Long-eared Owl was reported near Mansfield. A Peregrine Falcon was seen at Coyote Dunes.

Ferry County: Bonaparte's Gulls were seen at Barnaby Creek Campground. A White-headed Woodpecker and a Red-necked Grebe were seen at Twin Lakes. An Eared Grebe was seen from Lake Ellen Road.

Okanogan County: Many Sandhill Cranes were reported in the Methow Valley. Individual Stellar's Jays are being reported in the Methow. A Northern Saw-whet Owl was heard on Wolf Creek Road. Bonaparte's Gulls were seen at Pateros. An American Three-toed Woodpecker was seen at Washington Pass. An Anna's Hummingbird is using a feeder in Okanogan. A Surf Scoter was seen on Soap Lake.

An Unsurpassed Bird Nursery

by Kent Woodruff, Twisp

Last summer I traveled north with six partners to help with the campaign to resist drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge, north of the Brooks Range is the summer range for hundreds of thousands of caribou and millions of birds and it is an amazing lush and productive landscape. There were thousands of breeding birds. I saw small birds like Common Redpolls and Arctic Warblers, and large birds like Gyrfalcons, Golden Eagles, and Rough-legged Hawks. Caribou tracks completely covered the ground everywhere we walked and large carnivores were present all around us. The broad verdant meadow that stretches to the Arctic Ocean with over 100 types of wildflowers contrasted with the image many of us have of Alaska's tundra, yet it was clear how and why this area is one of the very most productive habitats we have so far, protected. A more intact landscape does not exist, and it moved me as a momentary visitor.

In 2017, Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska added language to the large tax cut bill that narrowly passed Congress. This language initiated a process for oil companies to bid on leases, begin seismic testing, and ultimately build roads, drilling pads, and pipelines across the arctic plain in the

refuge to extract somewhere around 11 billion barrels of oil which is an amount that the US currently uses in a year and a half. Part of the process was a rushed environmental assessment by the Bureau of Land Management in Alaska. Many have said this assessment is seriously flawed.

Flawed as it is, the proposal is simply based on a wrong direction that we in this country and the world need to stop. The assessment itself states that development and the eventual delivery of the oil from the refuge will take approximately thirty years. In thirty years, many of us hope we will not be using ANY oil.

Now is the time to make choices for the protection of refuges as habitat for wild animals. Now is the time to choose to develop clean energy sources, not to develop pristine areas to extract more oil that is warming our planet. Now is the time to tell our BOLD leaders to take us in a new direction.

I want to see redpolls and Snowy Owls and Gyrfalcons this winter and many winters to come. One way to help insure that is to work together to resist the growth in demand for oil and the short-sighted pursuit of it in our nation's best wildlife factory; the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Why Floodplains Matter and What We are Doing Locally to Restore Them

by Jen Weddle, OHA

Okanogan Highlands Alliance (OHA) celebrates the start of the tenth year of the Highland Wonders educational series! Presentations will continue to feature the natural history of the Okanogan Highlands and surrounding areas, with events being held on the first Friday of the month from November through April (skipping December considering the many holiday activities). All OHA's educational events are free of charge to the community, and donations are welcome.

The series moves indoors for an exciting lineup of topics, with John Crandall kicking off the season on Friday, November 1 with *Why Floodplains Matter and what we are doing locally to restore them*. For decades, floodplains and wetlands were viewed as "wasted" space. They have been diked, filled, drained, mined, and otherwise altered to make room for increased human activity - leaving the wildlife, fish, and water to deteriorate. In addition, many floodplains have become degraded because of disconnection from adjacent streams, while others have changed due to various land use practices. Why do these floodplains matter? What services do they provide, not only for fish and wildlife, but for humans too? What can we do to bring them back into a healthy condition?

John Crandall, aquatic ecologist and educator, has spent twenty years studying the effects of stream restoration

on water quality, habitat, and fish populations throughout California, Oregon and north central Washington. He will share about a variety of projects happening in Okanogan County that are aimed at restoring floodplain processes and making aquatic ecosystems healthier - from the quality and quantity of our water to the abundance of our fish and wildlife. Don't miss this presentation tailored to the floodplains of our home county!

This presentation, starting at 6:30 pm, is free to the public, and clock hours are available for educators. Dinner benefitting the Tonasket Community Cultural Center starts at 5:15 pm (\$9.00 for all adults and \$5.00 for those 12 and under).

This educational event is provided by OHA and hosted at the CCC. OHA is a non-profit organization that works to educate the public on watershed issues. OHA's Education Program is designed to build the community's capacity for environmental stewardship by increasing understanding of local natural history through a variety of free public learning opportunities. Past event videos are available on YouTube on the channel, "OHA's Highland Wonders," and on OHA's website. For more info, visit okanoganhighlands.org/education/highland-wonders, or contact jen@okanoganhighlands.org (429-4399).

Birding From a Kayak

by Peter Bauer, Winthrop

My second-favorite place to bird, and take bird pictures, lies a few miles north of home - Pearrygin Lake. For convenience, my favorite location for bird pictures is my yard, but long stretches pass without a good subject. Although a dedicated birder could see lots of birds by walking around the lake, that doesn't float my boat, so to speak. If I want to get close enough to get a photo I need to be in my kayak.

The lake provides a nice variety of habitats, and, during migration, a matching variety of birds. But before I can see wildlife in the morning I need to get in the water. Pearrygin has two put-ins, though a kayak can be carried to the shore from any nearby parking spot. The west end of the lake by Silverline Resort is a nice place to start. The boat launch off a short dirt road sets me into a calm small bay. Often a kingfisher hangs out in a tree branch overlooking the water but it never lets me get close.

Mallards are everywhere along the north edge of the lake, clearly preferring proximity to people (scraps to eat? absence of predators?). Before leaving the protected waters of the bay I often spot grebes (Horned and Pied-billed, some years a Western Grebe) in the fall and the occasional goldeneye in the spring. A Great Blue Heron watches intently from a low perch near the Silverline Resort if not waiting in a similar lakeside spot at the far (east) end.

I paddle out of the bay, skirting the fishermen on the resort docks, and turn east. The down-lake leg of the paddle often is more for exercise than photography, as I paddle into the sun. Occasionally a prime bird (grebes again or kingfishers, sometimes songbirds in the trees by the water) appears during this leg of the paddle. I have to give the bird a wide berth to avoid chasing it away until I circle back east of it and have the

sun illuminating the feathers and eyes. I reach the end of the lake looking again for the Great Blue Heron that often roosts there. Paddling across the foot of the lake I begin to seek birds in earnest, since now and for the rest of the paddle the sun is favorably shining on the birds as I approach them. Northern Harriers can often be found hunting nearby, and Yellow-rumped and Yellow Warblers migrate through in numbers in the spring and fall. This year Grey Catbirds called from the bushes; every season Hooded Mergansers flush at my approach, testing my skill at innocently drifting close.

Occasionally a merganser lingers, eyeing me suspiciously as my lime green boat drifts toward them, allowing me to get within picture range. Sadly the male is rarely one of the loitering birds. If I'm lucky, a pair of otters breaks up the bird search, disappearing all too soon. A Sharp-shinned Hawk has taken to quickly flying overhead, leery of being too visible to its prey. Crows, flickers, songbirds flit about the edges. Eastern Kingbirds nest along the shore in the spring, often on branches just a few feet above the water. And, frequently, an Osprey soars overhead or lands on a snag to survey the water.

As you can see, a healthy density of birdlife awaits at the lake. There are a few caveats, however. The summer gets quite busy, with the loud roar of jet skis and water-skiing boats, starting often before the 9:00 am permitted time. Midsummer the sun follows a less congenial path for photography. The first weekend in October boat races are held at the lake deafening all who watch. No birds show themselves those days. I go out mostly in the fall and spring, weekdays if possible.

On a calm, clear day, the lake reflecting the sky makes me feel as if I'm slicing through the air. A nice feeling for someone pursuing birds!

It Never Hurts to Ask, OR You Learn Something New Everyday

By Susan Sampson and Merry Roy, Wenatchee

NCWAS finished the 2019 season of *What's that Bird* in conjunction with *Youth on the Columbia* with three days of simulated bird watching at the Confluence Park serving fifth graders from Clovis Point school in East Wenatchee. The Columbia was so low that it was a challenge for the Row and Paddle Club to launch its voyageur canoes that are a key part of the field day for the kids. Somebody had a bright idea - telephone the Rocky Reach dam and ask them not to drop the water any lower until the program was done. They agreed! It was a twist on the old saw, if you can't lower the river, raise the bridge.

One day the wind coming down the river was bitterly cold. Several Audubon volunteers practiced the "horaltic pose" during lulls in *What's That Bird* activities. One of us had observed nine Turkey Vultures perched in a dead tree in the Horan Natural Area the day before. Several of

the vultures spread their wings like cormorants, holding the pose until some migration urge caused them to lift off together, spiraling upward on their way to southern wintering grounds. The volunteers extended their arms out to the side at shoulder height, then dropped their forearms at the elbow, and turned their backs to the sun, hoping the vultures could teach something about warmth. It was not reported if any of the volunteers lifted off, spiraling upward on their way to southern winter grounds. Volunteer Dianne McCammon should have taken special note. As a yoga instructor, maybe she could teach her students a new pose. The technologically inclined among us quickly looked up this behavior on cell phones, and we all learned a new word. The horaltic pose is the wings-open stance of vultures, storks and cormorants. It is presumed to warm their body temperatures and bake off parasites.

Horan Natural Area - Share Your Ideas

by Bruce McCammon, Wenatchee

November 6, 2019. 11:00 am - 1:00 pm and 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Confluence Technology Center
285 Technology Center Way, Wenatchee
www.chelanpud.org/parks-and-recreation/our-parks/south-confluence-area

The Chelan County PUD will host two public workshops to discuss future plans for the Horan Natural Area. Their website (link above) introduces their vision for the area:

Chelan County PUD and Washington State Parks have established a collective vision for the long-term management of the South Confluence Area (SCA) within the Horan Natural Area. Our goal is to sustain a functioning ecosystem, while providing recreational access for enjoyment, education and interpretation of its historical and natural resources for future generations.

The North Central Washington Audubon Society (NCWAS) would like to encourage individuals and organizations to complete the Chelan PUD's survey on their website, write a letter, or send an email to the Chelan PUD to support their long-term vision for the Horan area.

Current planning by the Chelan County PUD creates a unique opportunity to design and implement improvements to the Horan Natural Area. NCWAS supports:

- Introduction of a reliable surface water source to supply flowing water to connect a network of ponds that are designed to enhance shorebird and waterfowl use.
- Design and construct a cultural history site that honors the history of Native American use and reestablishes indigenous peoples' presence in the area.
- Construction and maintenance of an Environmental Educational Center to host displays and programs connecting all residents and communities with North Central Washington's lands and waters.
- Development of a vegetative management plan emphasizing the protection of culturally important plants, minimization of weeds, and enhancement of native plant species.
- Design, construction, and maintenance of a terrestrial and aquatic trail system that encourages use of the Horan for a wide variety of multi-lingual recreational experiences.

Please send your supporting letters or comments by November 6, 2019 to:

Michelle Smith, Director, Hydro Licensing and Compliance
Chelan County PUD
327 N. Wenatchee Ave.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
michelle.smith@chelanpud.org

Wenatchee Valley Beaver Project Field Trip

by Rachel Bishop, WRI

On November 1, Trout Unlimited and Wenatchee River Institute (WRI) bring together a unique opportunity to both learn about and experience, the Wenatchee Valley Beaver Project. The Project's efforts involve not only the relocation of "nuisance" beavers, but also focus on helping landowners manage land to be more compatible with beavers.

The field trip starts at 9:00 am from the WRI campus, 347 Division in Leavenworth, with a forty-minute presentation about beavers, the Project's beaver-inspired work, and a demonstration of how live beaver traps are structured. Participants will then tour beaver habitat and several relocation sites in the Leavenworth area, viewing firsthand the Project's activities from its first two years. There will also be an opportunity to set up a mock beaver trap and see where trapped beavers are held and cared for prior to relocation. During the field trip, there will be ample time for questions and discussion.

"It is surprising how dramatically beavers can alter the landscape, and how much that modification benefits fish, wildlife, and vegetation. Beavers are a small animal with one specific habitat requirement that turns into a really big cascade of benefits supporting so many other species," enthused Cody Gillin, Project Manager for Trout Unlimited and field trip lead.

The field trip will end at WRI by 2:00 pm. The fee is \$28 for WRI members and \$35 for Non-members. Please bring your own snacks and hydration, and dress for inclement weather. Transportation to the sites is available via WRI Otter Van, along with a small amount of carpooling if necessary. Space is limited so please, register soon! Direct any questions to Rachel Bishop, rbishop@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org or call 548-0181 x5.

Birding the Wonderland Trail

article and photos
by Joe Veverka, Cashmere

This year a friend of mine drew a permit for three to spend 10 days hiking the Wonderland Trail around Mount Rainier. I jumped at the offer to join the party. Naturally I mentioned my intention of birding the 93-mile circuit. The trail winds its way through valleys of ancient conifer rising up and over ridges crossing shallow soil and rocky alpine. It is estimated over the entirety of the trail you will climb 22,000ft.

We arrived at White River Campground (Mt. Rainier's 1 o'clock) on Monday September 2 beginning our trek the following day hiking counterclockwise. The weather was immaculate for the first three days. Within hours of beginning we heard a Northern Pygmy-owl tooting.

Near Sunrise camp a Barred Owl flew from the edge of the trail before perching, allowing great photographs. West of Sunrise the trail moves up through meadows. I had the joy of seeing a Prairie Falcon, Golden Eagle and Red-tailed hawk working overhead. Alarm calls from alpine rodents were sounding from all directions and distances.

The Wonderland Trail has many scenic highlights. Seeing Mount Rainier's reflection on the glassy surface of Mystic Lake (Mt. Rainier's 12 o'clock) is certainly one of them. A pair of Mallards dabbled along the north shore. A Belted Kingfisher chattered while working the same shoreline. Near Carbon Glacier a lone Band-tailed Pigeon flew over. We opted for the Spray Park alternate route (Mt Rainier's 10 o'clock) of the trail due to its legendary scenery. We were not disappointed. I saw my first Golden-crowned Sparrow of the trek there. Surprisingly Golden-crowned Sparrows outnumbered White-crowns on the hike. We saw a good-sized Black Bear Hoovering blueberries 40 yards down-slope. American Pipits were omnipresent at high elevations along the trail. Once over the hump we came across a birdy patch of meadow. Mountain Bluebirds were sallying from spruce tops and Clark's Nutcrackers picking at something on the ground.

There were three to four days of on and off rain mid-journey. My binoculars were in my pack for much of this period, but I was still able to pick out a few species, mostly Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Dark-eyed



Juncos and some Brown Creepers. At our Golden Lakes Camp, I saw the only hummingbird of the trip, a male Rufous. While camped at South Puyallup on night five (Mt. Rainier's 8 o'clock) a massive thunderstorm moved in. It's quite a sensation to feel the thunder vibrating the ground you are lying on while the floor of your tent is rising up around you as water pools. We managed to stay damp, the best one can expect in this situation.

Day seven was a short hike from Devil's Dream to Longmire then Cougar Rock Campground. We spent several hours at Longmire drying out gear when the clouds broke. Barn

Swallow and Turkey Vultures were the new species of the day.

The weather came full circle with the trail. Our final two days were beautiful. We were back up on ridges. In a stunted stand of spruce, I found two Pine Grosbeaks. Our final camp was the spectacular Indian Bar (Mt. Rainier's 4 o'clock) alongside Wauhaukaupauken Falls. It was fun watching an American Dipper work the high, silty waters. Perhaps the final day was the best. Immaculate weather! We got an early start. I noticed the brush lining the Ohanapecosh River was hoary with frost. The Panhandle Gap area scenery and wildlife were magnificent! Sooty Grouse, Band-tailed Pigeons, Clark's Nutcrackers, American Pipits, Northern Harrier, Vaux's Swifts and 36 Mountain Goats. As we came down the north side of Panhandle I watched two Lewis's Woodpeckers flying south over the Pass; birds in uncharacteristic habitat passing through.

We arrived back at White River midday on September 12. This is that bittersweet spot when you successfully

complete something but don't want the something to be over. Smartly, we all left clean clothes in our vehicle, among our best decisions as we had a four-hour drive home. My total species number was 57. Not particularly high but given the season, weather, and limited habitat types it was good. I enjoy birding wherever I am but backcountry wilderness areas like Mount Rainier top the list.



November Wild Phlox

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North Central Washington Audubon Society Calendar

Items in bold text are sponsored or co-sponsored by NCWAS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| November 1 | Beaver program and field trip | Wenatchee River Institute. See page 6 |
| November 1 | Learn about Wetlands Restoration | Okanogan Highlands Alliance. See page 4 |
| November 2 | Bird with Kids | Special field trip for kids (and their parents) aged 4 and up. See page 2 |
| November 5 | Keep our Stars Bright - The Dark Sky Movement in the Methow Valley | The Methow Conservancy and the International Dark Sky Association See https://methowconservancy.org/news/category/events |
| November 6 | Share your Ideas about the Horan Natural Area and its Future | Comments are needed! See page 6 |
| November 17 | Celebrate Volunteers in Conservation | Featured Speaker - Mark Oswood! See page 1 |
| December 17 - January 4 | Christmas Bird Counts | Sign up for one or several! See page 3 |



You can find the Wild Phlox online at our website - www.ncwaudubon.org
The beautiful photos are even nicer in color.



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Visit the NCW Audubon Society website for updates on these and other events www.ncwaudubon.org

