

Columbia Flyway

VANCOUVER AUDUBON SOCIETY *A chapter of the National Audubon Society*



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Summary of the 125th CBC

By Susan Setterberg

125th Christmas Bird Count - December 15, 2024

Sauvie Island, Ridgefield NWR, Vancouver Lake Bottoms (ORSI Circle)



High fashion for the Christmas Bird Count.

It was an overcast and sometimes drizzly day with a short shower or two moving through our CBC circle. But overall, it was an ok day to be out counting. Temperatures stayed in the low 40s and some needed good boots in the wet areas. We had 80 counters in 28 teams. There were three who counted at feeders later in the day after doing their assigned count section. We had six teams arriving early to listen for owls and other assorted nocturnal calls. By car and on foot we covered 239 team miles and invested 155 team hours including owling and feeder watching. Last year was our biggest year for participants but we had more hours invested this year. Back of the envelope estimate of our total volunteer time is 385 birder hours. Thank you all for your significant contribution to Citizen Science.

A few interesting items for this year. Although several teams, including mine, suggested there seemed to be a reduction in the small birds, looking at the data for the last 10 years shows we were close to average in many areas with a few above and a few below. Robins were below the average of 418, coming in at 381. For Dark-eyed Junco we average 725 per count, but we only picked up 524 this year. Song Sparrows were a bit lower than what we have seen in the last four years. All these species can overwhelm sometimes, so when absent or reduced, it is more noticeable. For woodpeckers, it is a new high for Downy with 78, while the bigger variety, the Pileated, tied its high of 18 (2018). Red-breasted Sapsuckers were below average while Hairy Woodpeckers were about average. (cont)



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*Vancouver Audubon believes in the wisdom of
nature's design and promotes this through
education, involvement, stewardship, enjoyment
and advocacy.*

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(CBC continued)

The Long-billed Dowitchers were the stars for the shorebird group with 101 being counted. We had a few each of Wilson's Snipe, Greater Yellowlegs and Killdeer of course. The Black-crowned Night-Heron made an appearance on Sauvie for a couple birders. It's only the sixth time in the last nineteen years we have seen one. Waterfowl showed up in more or less average numbers, but the huge flock of Snow Geese made a real challenge for the Cogburn/Cushing/Baker/Greenfield team. Four birders counted them separately and then came together to settle on about 10 to 12,000 birds. What a show. The geese didn't stay long and dispersing into fields north of Rentenaar and across the Columbia into Vancouver Lake Bottoms. Over 7000 were counted landing at Vancouver Lake Bottoms while smaller groupings, mostly on Sauvie, were counted later. Thanks for all the notes on fly in/fly out times. Later in the afternoon, Tom Myers was able to pick out a Ross's Goose in the flock as they moved up north of Rentenaar Road closer to McNary Lake.



The Salmon Creek Greenway Team

Some of the fun finds: We had 20 Short-eared Owls. A very nice showing and the second highest in the last 19 years. However, 14 were seen at an old roost on Bachelor Island, RNWR, a closed section of the refuge. Only one was not on the refuge; none were seen on Sauvie this year. Barn Owls also turned out nicely with 23 being reported. They do fluctuate between counts but that could always be an artifact of the number of people who decide to do nocturnal birding.

I was looking at the historical data for crows given one team counted 500 in a field in the southern sections of Sauvie and the circle had 844 total, which was quite a bit better than recent years back. However, looking from date before 1995, the norm was probably closer to over 2000. When you get way back into the late 60s and 70s the numbers aren't too impressive but the number of birders in the circle was much lower than now. Probably, the overall decline of crow numbers is more about loss of farm fields on the Washington side of the circle. Seventy-five percent of our crow count this year was on the Sauvie side.



The River S Team on Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge

Who showed up to surprise us this year? Besides the Black-crowned Night Heron, we had a single Townsend's Warbler on Sauvie. An Evening Grosbeak was found in the Hunt Zone of RNWR. Eight Red Crossbills were located on the Plas Newydd Farm in the north section of the circle. They seem to have been more common in early years of our count history while more sporadic in recent years. There was a Common Yellowthroat found on both sides of the Columbia, also a sporadic find. Another exciting find is four Barn Swallows on RNWR. Several sightings had been reported of Barn Swallows on the Refuge before the count. Luckily, they were spotted. This is only the fourth time they have been on the count, though there were three other count-week sightings going back to 1987. In addition, we picked up a Tree Swallow on Sauvie. We have been a little more frequent than Barn Swallows over the years.

Drum roll. Maybe our best addition to our Sauvie CBC list was the sighting of four Vaux's Swifts by the Roth unit team of Carpenter, Lemezis & Clemons as they returned from their assigned area through the Hunt Zone on the RNWR. Scott Carpenter took the photo. There are more shown in his e-bird account. He also documents the likely tree where they have been roosting. Reports of these birds continued through the first week in January on the River S.

A little extra information for my last summary: If you are not a data wonk for birds, now is the time to stop reading. When I am adding counts to the Audubon database, I am looking at the historical list covering 48 previous counts. Recall we had missing



Vaux's Swift

(CBC continued)

data for 10 years that Karen and I collected and sent into Audubon this summer. They haven't added it yet. There are columns of low and high counts and the number of years each species has been seen. First, we have identified 213 species throughout the years in the Sauvie Circle (ORSI). There are additional listings of things like Blackbird sp, a few notable hybrid species like Olympic Gull, and variants such as the Red-shafted and Yellow-shafted Flickers. Those number 53 more entry types.

In the 48 compiled years since we started counting in the circle, 40 species have been seen every year. (Actually, that works for 58 years because I checked the list we sent in for the missing years.) A lot of the waterfowl are in the group: Mallard, Pintail, Canada Goose, American Wigeon and more. The Cackler isn't included because it was split from the Canada not so long ago so wouldn't appear in the earlier records. Guess who is not on this list, the Bald Eagle! What? Probably the counters didn't look in the right place that day as they are only in 47 (57) counts. Those you would expect like Starling, Song Sparrow, Black-capped Chickadee, Great Horned Owl and Red-winged Blackbird are there. But would you have put Kingfisher on the list? What about Cooper's Hawk? There are another ten that achieved a 47-year record. Killdeer, Snow Goose and Creeper among them.

Twenty-eight species comprise our one-year wonders. It's an eclectic group that has probably produced a lot of whoops and high fives. This year's Vaux Swift is now in that group. There was a Northern Goshawk in 1970. Our Black-necked Stilt was one last year and the Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher was one in 2020. We had a Tri-colored Blackbird in 2000. A Rock Wren was seen in 1982. And, sigh, a Snowy Owl in 1973. I don't know if any of these birds went through state record committees, but they currently exist in the Audubon database. What that says to me is you are always going to find reliable birds to enjoy on your CBC; and you never know what might unexpectedly show up in your count circle.

So that sums up this year's count. Again, thanks to all of you for participating. A big thank you to Karen Bachman for her work on the Oregon sections of the count. Karen has been doing this work since 2000. Both Karen and I have decided to retire. This time for real. I am currently working with a potential new compiler from Oregon to pass on our lists of people, places and things to get them started. I wish you all good birding everywhere you go.

Susan, retired.

See Pages 11-15 for the final numbers from the 2024 CBC Bird Count.

Have you renewed your membership? Are you interested in joining our group? Help protect birds and their habitat in southwest Washington by donating or volunteering to help birds locally. Visit our [website](#) to complete a secure transaction using your credit/debit card or PayPal account. Annual dues are \$30 for local membership. You can donate an additional amount as well.

VAS Accomplishments in 2024 by Don Rose

Vancouver Audubon Society is a completely volunteer organization. So, you might ask yourself as a paying member of this organization what we were able to accomplish over the course of a year. The list is long and impressive! Here are some of the many things we worked on or accomplished this past year.

- We currently have 203 chapter-members and have logged over 2000 hours of volunteer work.
- We had 10 active partnerships and coordination with multiple other organizations in tracking and commenting on local issues.
- Hosted a booth 19 times and visited classrooms 10 times, with approximately 1500 people contacted.
- Hosted our first World Migratory Bird Day event in Battle Ground in October.
- Conducted 40 bird walks and field trips and 9 program meetings educating people about birds and important aspects of their habitat.



Accomplishments for 2024 (continued)

- Published 9 monthly newsletters sharing current chapter information and sharing excellent bird photos, mostly by active chapter members.
- Hosted, coordinated, and summarized (posted in this Newsletter!) the local Christmas Bird Count (CBC), along with the Bird Alliance of Oregon, with over 80 volunteer participants. Some members participated in CBC in other counties in our territory. John Bishop from our chapter has taken over the coordinator-compiler role for the Lyle CBC.
- Maintained a website and Facebook presence highlighting local information and issues and responding to questions about birds.
- Participate in the Audubon Wenas Campout. Carol Kohler and Cindy McCormick from our chapter are on the steering committee. Some of our members also lead field trips at Wenas.
- Updated descriptions of local areas for birdwatching and posted them on our website.
- Contributed to articles in The Columbian and supported an environmental journalist with matched fundraising for Community Funded Journalism.
- Assumed management of a Youth Photo Contest and supported a fledgling Young Birders Group.
- Made financial contributions to a number of our partners - Friends of Columbia Gorge, Columbia Land Trust, Columbia Springs, Audubon Washington, and the bird rehabilitation center managed by Bird Alliance of Oregon.



Ken Pitts and Jackson Wolfe helped at Friends of Columbia Gorge Outdoor School

We were also very active in the conservation of birds and natural resources thanks to the dedication and hard work put in by Susan Saul, our Conservation Chair. Here are some of our accomplishments.

- Joined lawsuit against WDNR requesting identification of critical habitat for protection of Western Gray Squirrel.
- Monitored clean energy projects in our territory.
- Encouraged funding of legacy funding at USFS, funding for WDFW Wildlife and Recreation Program, and funding for protection of state forests through the Trust Land Transfer Program.
- Attended Vancouver Climate Working Group, Vancouver Green Building working group, and provided input on Vancouver Climate Action Plan.
- Met with Representative Marie Glusenkamp Perez.
- Wrote letters showing support for BLM's Public Lands Rule putting conservation and recreation on equal footing with extractive uses and to Representative Perez and Senators Cantwell & Murray urging support for BLM's Public Lands Rule.
- Commented on NW Forest Plan, management of Barred Owls to protect Northern Spotted Owl, illegal mining at Zimmerly Quarry, Spirit Lake Outflow Project in Mt. St. Helens Monument, and against mining in Green Mountain.
- Supported Washington State listing of Burrowing Owl as threatened.
- Actively supported No on I-2117 to maintain Washington's Climate Commitment Act.



First-of-month bird walk at Round Lake in Camas. These are well attended and highly regarded.

Proposed Amendment to Northwest Forest Plan Fails to Protect Forests or Wildlife

By Susan Saul and Bird Conservancy of Oregon

For the past 30 years, the Northwest Forest Plan has protected mature and old-growth forests and their fish and wildlife on federal lands throughout the Pacific Northwest. The plan is a model for science-based landscape-scale ecosystem management to conserve rare species like the northern spotted owl and the marbled murrelet.

Last year, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) proposed to amend the plan to address changing conditions related to climate change and wildfire. Unfortunately, the proposed amendment, released last November, could vastly increase logging while removing protections for mature and old-growth forests. It would ignore the plan's original goal of wildlife and habitat conservation and undo decades of progress.

The Northwest Forest Plan was adopted in 1994 to address unchecked logging that destroyed old-growth forests and led to the precipitous decline of species like the northern spotted owl. The plan sought a sustainable balance between conserving habitat and logging while prioritizing ecosystem recovery, preserving habitat connectivity and protecting mature and old-growth forests. It also helped provide clean water for salmon recovery and climate change mitigation benefits.

To amend the plan, the USFS produced a draft environmental impact statement to analyze the impacts of its actions. Under the preferred alternative, the plan would redefine "mature" and "old-growth" forests by raising the age of trees that qualify for protections. This would make any tree under 120 years old vulnerable to logging and grant broad exemptions for logging in old-growth forests.

The proposed amendment largely ignores the Forest Plan's duty to ensure protection for imperiled species. It would allow logging in late-successional reserves, which were designated to protect and recover mature and old-growth forests as habitat for spotted owls and murrelets. It also would increase aggressive logging in other non-reserved lands and vastly expand logging in dry forests on the east slope of the Cascades.

Logging levels would be more than double those of 2023. Hundreds of thousands of acres of mature and old-growth forests would be open to logging, denying wildlife and people their ecological and climate benefits.

The proposed amendment likewise fails to address climate change, ignoring the need to recognize and protect the ability of mature and old-growth forests to sequester and store carbon.

The USFS will accept comments on the proposed amendment through March 17, 2025.

Your voice is incredibly important. Ensuring our forests have strong habitat protections written into their management plans is critical. You can submit written comments through this [portal](#) by March 17.

The Bird Alliance of Oregon will release an action alert with suggested comments by the end of February and another one in mid-March. Sign up for their [Action Alerts](#) to stay up to date!

Talking Points:

- The amendment would redefine "mature" and "old-growth" forests to weaken protections and increase logging. Any changes to the Northwest Forest Plan must safeguard mature and old-growth forests as biodiversity strongholds and essential natural carbon and climate solutions for future generations.
- For 30 years, the Forest Plan has protected Oregon's mature and old-growth forests and the wildlife that depends on those forests for survival. The proposed amendment prioritizes and accelerates logging, putting our forests, fish, wildlife, clean water, and climate at risk.
- The Northwest Forest Plan brought accountability and stability to the management of our national forests. The amendment would undo decades of progress and return to the region to conflict and instability.
- The amendment would exploit mature and old-growth forests to double, and potentially triple, commercial logging volumes. This would shift the primary purpose of the Forest Plan from recovering and restoring more old-growth across the landscape to protecting only the little old-growth that remains today.

- The proposed amendment ignores its duty to ensure protections for imperiled species – including those listed as threatened and endangered under the Endangered Species Act.
- The proposed amendment likewise fails to meaningfully address climate change, which was cited as one of the key reasons for amending the Forest Plan in the first place. Any amendment must recognize and protect the ability of our forests to sequester and store carbon.

Tell Your Legislator to Fund WDFW to Protect Birds, Habitat, and Other Wildlife

By Susan Saul

The Washington Legislature is meeting in Olympia right now to decide on the state's budget for the next two years. They have a tough job. They must reduce a projected budget shortfall of about \$12 billion over the next eight years. Most state programs will have to see cuts, and often our natural resource agencies get the deepest cuts.

In the 2008 recession, cuts to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) were so deep that core functions were not restored until a decade later. This year, critical programs face sweeping cuts, including biodiversity funds secured in 2023 through bipartisan and stakeholder collaboration, which are already delivering measurable benefits for ecosystems and most vulnerable species. Given the growing threats of climate change and habitat loss, we cannot afford to repeat this mistake.

Now is the time to urge our legislators to protect the WDFW from harmful budget cuts that would jeopardize vital bird conservation efforts.

What's good for birds is good for people and the planet, and we are calling on legislators to fully fund WDFW at the agency's requested level, with a special emphasis on providing an additional \$10 million for the Recovering Washington's Biodiversity program. This initiative is crucial to the protection and restoration of habitats that support our birds and other wildlife.

Please take a few moments to speak up with Audubon Washington's easy comment [portal](#) and sample letter. Thank you for advocating for wildlife!



Richard Pick/Audubon Photography Awards

GET INVOLVED! Bill Tracker: 2025 Legislative Session

Weekly updates and actions to support the passage of priority bills for birds

Track the progress of Audubon Washington's priority bills below during the 2025 legislative session.

Step 1: Join Audubon Washington's [ACTION NETWORK](#) to receive weekly legislative update emails in your inbox with the key action that we need that week to pass this agenda.

Step 2: Learn about our [2025 legislative priorities](#).

Step 3: Support bills by clicking "Take Action" in the "Status" column. Audubon Washington will update the column weekly throughout the legislative session with the most impactful action you can take to support that bill.

Advocacy Update: 2025 Priorities, First 100 Days

By Jean Avery

National Audubon recently hosted an online webinar outlining Audubon's 2025 conservation priorities within Audubon's five-year "flight plan" for the Western hemisphere. Audubon has ambitious plans to address habitat conservation, natural spaces, and climate solutions that protect birds and people across the U.S., Canada, and Latin America. The recording of this one-hour webinar can be viewed at:

<https://nationalaudubon.app.box.com/s/6frn5qnfgrafw2sm8i95jla8izhcs03>

National Audubon has also developed strategies to maximize our impact in the first 100 days of this 119th Congress. Our elected officials need to receive our emails, phone calls, and Action Alerts. Please sign and share this letter to Congress in support of birds and people:

<https://act.audubon.org/a/conservation-priorities-119th-congress>.

Public Engagement

By Becky Boley

Vancouver Audubon at future events (and volunteer opportunities)

Vancouver Audubon will be at the events below in the coming months. We will host a table and visit with attendees to inform them about who Vancouver Audubon is, what we do and share information about regional birding and bird habitat. We also offer a few activities at these events, which can include building a birdhouse, making a peanut butter cone feeder, coloring a bird picture, and making bookmarks with bird stamps and/or stickers.

We'd love to see you at any of these events as an attendee or volunteer! Volunteer commitments are generally 2 hours – and we're happy to accommodate your schedule for shorter or longer times! Event times are listed, but we also have set-up and take down to do, which is usually 30-45 minutes before and after the event.

If you're interested in volunteering at any of these events (or want to receive email about other volunteer opportunities), please email Becky at bboleey@vancouveraudubon.org and she'll add you to her email distribution.

Date	Event	Where	Event Time	# volunteers
March 8, 2025	Nature Days	Columbia Springs	10a - 1p	3-4
April 2025	<i>To Be Determined</i>			
May 17, 2025	Kids Fishing Festival	Columbia Springs	8a - 2p	9-10
June 21, 2025	Vancouver Pollinator Festival	Marshall Community Center Park	9a - 3p	9-10
July 26, 2025	Nature Days	Columbia Springs	10a - 1p	3-4

VAS Program

March 4, 2025

Lights Out for Bird Migration—Bird Alliance of Oregon

Every spring and fall, billions of birds migrate through the US, mostly under the cover of darkness. National Audubon and its partners launched Lights Out more than twenty years ago, aiming to shield, reduce, and eliminate unnecessary light during spring and fall migration months. You can help darken skies for safer migration by practicing Lights Out at your homes and businesses. In our area, peak bird migration occurs between April 15-May 19 and September 19-October 19. Turning off unnecessary overnight lighting also helps save energy (and money!), reduces your carbon footprint, and protects our view of the stars.

Come and learn more about this program, what you can do, and what type of impact this program is having. Bird Alliance of Oregon will provide a speaker, and we will provide the refreshments.



MEETING LOCATION:

[Evergreen Public Schools Administration](#)
[13413 NE LeRoy Haagen Memorial Drive](#)

Vancouver, WA

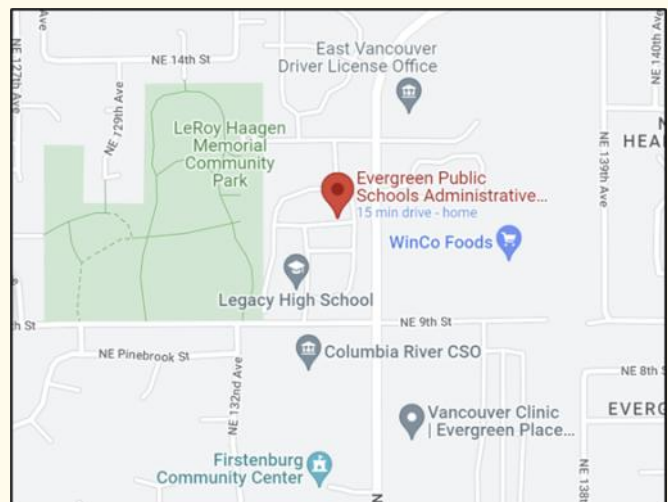
6:30 pm – 6:45 pm - Social time, share bird sightings.

6:45 pm – 7:00 pm - Announcements

7:00 pm – 8:15 pm - Program

Programs are held the first Tuesday of the month except Jan, July, & August. All are welcome, we hope you will join us!

Contact Jackson Wolfe for more information at Jackson@vancouveraudubon.org. Have ideas for a speaker? Please send all topic, speaker, and program suggestions and requests to Jackson.



Enter the parking lot on the LeRoy Haagen Memorial Drive side. (If you navigate to LeRoy Haagen Park, your Google Maps should take you to the correct road).

Please visit the [VAS website](#) for up-to-date field trip details and requirements. Interested in getting field trip announcements in your inbox or as a text? Send a message to vas@vancouveraudubon.org to be added to those lists. Please specify if you prefer email, text through GroupMe, or both.

Saturday, March 1 First-of-Month Bird Walk Shillapoo Lake

Meeting time: 8:00 am

Leader: Cindy McCormack

Register: Cindy at vas@vancouveraudubon.org

Meeting Location: [Shillapoo Lake Wildlife Area](#)

An excellent variety of waterfowl can be viewed at this location. Raptors, cranes, and waders—oh, my! We will also look for shorebirds, look for Short-eared and Great Horned Owls, check the sparrow flocks, and enjoy any other birds we find. We will meet at Shillapoo's northeast access point, just across the road from the north bridge access for the Vancouver Lake Trail. Continue past Vancouver Lake park, through all the rumble strips to the two wide pullouts along either side of the road.

If weather and time permit, an option to explore a bit of the North Bridge trail can be added.

Hiking OR waterproof boots are recommended. Dress for the weather. Nearest restrooms available at Vancouver Lake Regional Park.



Short-eared Owl

Ken Pitts, Fotofest 2023

Naturalist led bird walks at Ridgefield NWR

Birding with Robert Vanderkamp

Before moving here from Michigan, Robert led bird walks as the President of his Audubon Chapter for 17 years. He has been watching birds for most of his adult life and lives by the motto "care and share". He loves talking to people about birds and is excited to host bird walks at the Carty Unit every second Saturday of the month. We will post these a few months at a time to accommodate any needed changes in the schedule.

Upcoming walks meet at the [Carty Unit of the Refuge](#) and are limited to 10 people. These generally last two to three hours but you are welcome to stay as long or short as works for you. Walks are free but the \$3 refuge daily fee does apply. For more information about the fee and rules of the refuge [click here](#).

Saturday, March 8th, 8 am

Saturday April 12th, 8 am

Saturday May 10th, 8am

Birding with Ron Escano

Ron has years of experience guiding local birding groups. Whether you are new to birding, are looking to sharpen your skills, or just hope to find a group to bird with, Ron is a great person to spend a morning with. His pace is relaxed, but thorough, making sure everyone has seen or heard each species. Ron will help new birders focus on key identification points to build their bird knowledge while sorting through the nuances of sparrow calls for more advanced birders.

Saturday March 1st, 8 am

Saturday April 5th, 8 am

Saturday May 3rd, 8 am

VAS Bird Walks & Field Trips

Field Trip Report for Cowlitz County Gulls February 8 and 18

Two field trips were scheduled to match traditional smelt runs that attract gulls, cormorants, mergansers, marine mammals and humans. This year's smelt run didn't happen during expected periods in February, and at least three single day seasons were cancelled for lack of fish. Knowing that, we still had trips to Cowlitz County to see what birds were wintering in the area. The 2/8 trip had four participants including co-leader Russ Koppendrayner from Longview. Russ birds areas of Cowlitz County every week. We searched four areas north of Kalama as well as much of the Woodland Bottoms along the Columbia River. As expected, we saw few gulls. The 2/18 trip had six participants (including Russ) and Cindy (aka Professor Ears.) Areas included Gearhart Park, Longview WTP, Barlow Point Road, and the loop around Willow Grove. Still few gulls, but we managed to reach 60+ species for the morning before the threat of rain sent us home.

Trip report for both days follow: [VAS Feb 8 Gulls Cowlitz - eBird Trip Report](#)
[VAS GULLS FIELD TRIP 2-18-2025 - eBird Trip Report](#)

Bird Walk—Saturday, March 22, 2025

Champoeg State Park

Meeting time: 8:00 a.m.

Leaders: Ken Pitts, Beth Marlin Lichter, & Cheri Gavin

Register: Ken at kenp@vancouveraudubon.org

Meeting location: [Champoeg SP Visitor Center Parking Lot](#) (45.24888315655858, -122.89254902857282)

Champoeg State Park offers some unique birding opportunities for our area. There are over a dozen Acorn Woodpeckers in a colony in the abundant oak groves. Western Bluebirds have been invited to stay yearlong with numerous nesting boxes and are extra vivid in their deep blue and orange-brown plumage.

There is ample parking space in the Champoeg SP visitor center parking lot. Carpooling would be a great idea, as there is a \$5.00 day use fee for OR state parks payable at a kiosk on site, or yearlong passes can be [purchased online](#).



Photo: Elizabeth Jansen Taken on March 15, 2025 at Champoeg SP

We will leave the park before lunch and all the walking is mostly on paved pathways with no steep and difficult areas. The restrooms at this park are amazing and always open for visitors (possibly the best SP restrooms ever).

If you would like to be included on text updates, be sure to give Ken your SmartPhone number when you register by email at kenp@vancouveraudubon.org. This will facilitate immediate updates for cancellations due to illness or stormy weather. Let Ken know if you are willing to carpool, or would prefer to ride with someone near you and need a ride.



Photo: Ken Pitts Taken on January 28, 2025 at Champoeg SP.

SR14 to Skamania County – 2/24/2025 (2/25/2025 backup date)

Join Les Carlson and Randy Hill on a trip up the Columbia River Gorge. Meet at 06:45 to carpool at the Port of Camas/Washougal parking lot south of Westlie Ford. Several stops along the way to Beacon Rock SP, Bonneville Dam, Little White Salmon NFH and other viewpoints. Waterfowl and waterbirds, gulls, raptors, wintering and early spring migrants such as Say's Phoebe. Return in the afternoon, so bring a lunch. Discover Pass required for each vehicle.

Meeting time: 6:45 a.m. Port of Camas/Washougal parking lot south of Westlie Ford

Register: fieldtrips@vancouveraudubon.org, or text 360-975-2573

Final Tally for the 2024 CBC—ORCI Circle

125 th CBC – ORCI Circle – December 15, 2024			
125 Species Counted	WA count	OR Count	Total
Greater White-fronted Goose	1	12	13
Snow Goose	0	12000	12000
Ross's Goose		1	1
Cackling Goose	9627	14271	23898
Canada Goose	1593	900	2493
Cackling/Canada Sp.	26	372	398
Trumpeter Swan	425	49	474
Tundra Swan	1388	1845	3233
Swan sp.	828	137	965
Wood Duck	44	2	46
Gadwall	177	167	344
Eurasian Wigeon	1	1	2
American Wigeon	1470	444	1914
Mallard	789	4605	5394
Cinnamon Teal		5	5
Northern Shoveler	100	422	522
Northern Pintail	3872	6327	10199
Green-winged Teal	3199	3104	6303
Canvasback	153	282	435
Redhead		2	2
Ring-necked Duck	544	645	1189
Greater Scaup	1	8	9
Lesser Scaup	46	7	53
Scaup sp.	25	8	33
Bufflehead	159	58	217
Common Goldeneye	79	39	118
Barrow's Goldeneye	2		2
Hooded Merganser	53	59	112
Common Merganser	116	76	192
Ruddy Duck	36	337	373
Duck sp.	157	200	357
California Quail		42	42
Ring-necked Pheasant		1	1
Common Loon	2		2
Pied-billed Grebe	56	33	89
Horned Grebe	1		1
Western Grebe		2	2
Double-crested Cormorant	126	299	425
American White Pelican	2	2	4
Great Blue Heron	71	81	152
Great Egret	97	97	194

125 th CBC – ORCI Circle – December 15, 2024			
125 Species Counted	WA count	OR Count	Total
Black-crowned Night-Heron		1	1
Northern Harrier	56	28	84
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4	7	11
Cooper's Hawk	4	8	12
Bald Eagle	55	84	139
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	3	10
Red-tailed Hawk	82	61	143
Rough-legged Hawk	1	1	2
Virginia Rail	6		6
American Coot	238	255	493
Sandhill Crane	900	3588	4488
Killdeer	13	48	61
Greater Yellowlegs	3	30	33
Long-billed Dowitcher	99	2	101
Wilson's Snipe	4	5	9
Mew Gull (Short-billed)	50	74	124
Ring-billed Gull	46	55	101
Western Gull	1		1
California Gull	8	10	18
Herring Gull	3	3	6
Iceland (Thayer's) Gull		1	1
Glaucous-winged Gull	7	29	36
Western X Glaucous-winged	2	2	4
Gull sp.	30	25	55
Rock Pigeon	24	22	46
Eurasian Collared-Dove	7	24	31
Mourning Dove	83	251	334
pigeon/dove sp	8		8
Barn Owl	23		23
Great Horned Owl	17	3	20
Barred Owl	1		1
Short-eared Owl	20		20
Owl sp.	1		1
Vaux's Swift	4		4
Anna's Hummingbird	30	7	37
Belted Kingfisher	22	9	31
Red-breasted Sapsucker	12	7	19
Downy Woodpecker	47	31	78
Hairy Woodpecker	10	6	16
Northern Flicker	141	90	231
Pileated Woodpecker	7	11	18
American Kestrel	44	44	88
Merlin	1		1

125 th CBC – ORCI Circle – December 15, 2024			
125 Species Counted	WA count	OR Count	Total
Peregrine Falcon	0	2	2
Black Phoebe	4	2	6
Steller's Jay	48	13	61
California Scrub-Jay	125	122	247
American Crow	197	647	844
Common Raven	17	19	36
Barn Swallow	2		2
Tree Swallow		1	1
Black-capped Chickadee	192	161	353
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	36	6	42
Bushtit	267	156	423
Red-breasted Nuthatch	34		34
White-breasted Nuthatch	43	34	77
Brown Creeper	63	21	84
Pacific Wren	43	24	67
Marsh Wren	28	4	32
Bewick's Wren	62	33	95
Golden-crowned Kinglet	202	140	342
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	140	68	208
Hermit Thrush	4	10	14
American Robin	262	119	381
Varied Thrush	8	3	11
European Starling	2288	1772	4060
American Pipit	1		1
Orange-crowned Warbler	4		4
Common Yellowthroat	1	1	2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	83	56	139
Townsend's Warbler	1		1
Fox Sparrow	29	19	48
Dark-eyed Junco	326	198	524
White-crowned Sparrow	82	65	147
Golden-crowned Sparrow	814	567	1381
White-throated Sparrow	3	4	7
Savannah Sparrow		14	14
Song Sparrow	406	160	566
Lincoln's Sparrow	8	10	18
Spotted Towhee	183	55	238
Sparrow sp.	1		1
Red-winged Blackbird	415	1405	1820
Western Meadowlark	22	12	34
Brewer's Blackbird	75	420	495
Brown-headed Cowbird		4	4
Blackbird sp.		6	6

125 th CBC – ORCI Circle – December 15, 2024			
125 Species Counted	WA count	OR Count	Total
House Finch	223	150	373
Purple Finch	16		16
Red Crossbill	8		8
Pine Siskin	405	164	569
Lesser Goldfinch	62	34	96
American Goldfinch	24	84	108
Evening Grosbeak	1		1
Finch sp.	8	30	38
House Sparrow	31	36	67
Totals	34684	58618	93302



Young Birder's Club



FREE for ages 10-18



2 to 3 meetings monthly,
in the field and online



Learn from bird experts



Bird watching walks, art
programs, research, and
habitat restoration



SCAN ME

Join us at our next meeting!

See our website for schedule

vancouveraudubon.org/young-birders-club

youngbirders@vancouveraudubon.org

American Bittern
Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge
Photo by Jackson Wolfe

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
March 2025 Events Calendar						
						1 Bird Walk— Shillapoo Lake
2	3	4 Program Mtg Lights Out Program	5	6	7	8 Volunteer Columbia Springs
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Comments Due on NWFP Amendment	18	19	20	21	22 Bird Walk— Champoeg State Park, OR
23	24	25 VAS Board Meeting	26	27	28	



Summer Tanager

Photo by Shelbe Hill, Fotofest 2024

