

# WILLAPA WHISTLER

A Publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society

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January / February 2010



# Local Frogs, Toads, Newts and Salamanders

Is it possible we can see evidence of the harbingers of spring in January? WHAS member and amphibian lover, Ann Kastberg will share information and photos of our most common species of these endearing creatures. Learn about local frogs, toads, newts, and salamanders with a focus on pond breeding species and their egg mass identification. You will also hear about a citizen science project that builds on other Columbia River region surveys to extend surveying into the Cowlitz County area to help monitor the breeding locations of these species.

Ann has supervised amphibian egg mass surveys at the Nelson Creek restoration site in Wahkiakum County. She has training and field experience with the successful Clark County Community-Based Amphibian Monitoring Program as well as with amphibian surveys for Natural Areas through DNR.

The program will begin on **Tuesday**, **January 12**, at 7:00 PM in LCC Physical Science (PSC) Room 102 (for a map, go to <a href="http://lcc.ctc.edu/maps/">http://lcc.ctc.edu/maps/</a>)

# Amphibian Surveying: As Much Fun as You Can Have in Chest Waders and a Pond

After Ann's presentation, you may find that chorus frogs are just too cute to ignore. Those interested in more in-depth study and participation, are invited to join our new WHAS citizen science, hands-on amphibian monitoring project. You'll be trained to conduct amphibian egg mass surveys on your own land or, if preferred, a local site option can be found. Ann Kastberg has arranged for the training to be conducted by experienced and knowledgeable amphibian senior research scientist Marc Hayes from the Department of Fish and Wildlife. You will learn how to identify egg masses by species, make counts and record data. You'll input your data on-line to be used in conjunction with other on-going surveys in the Columbia River area to increase understanding of habitat needs and breeding success of amphibians.

The training workshop will be held on **Saturday, January 16**, from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM in LCC Science (SCI) Room 107 (for a map, go to http://lcc.ctc.edu/maps/)

Surveys will be held February through April. Please contact Ann Kastberg by January 13 at <a href="mailto:acwikman@cni.net">acwikman@cni.net</a> or 360-431-1129 to sign up, so that adequate training materials and refreshments can be provided.

# A Special Kind of Education

# By Charlotte Persons, President

One of the most important parts of Willapa Hills Audubon Society's mission is education of our members and the public about birds and other wildlife and their habitat. Thanks to our many volunteers, over the years we have had many memorable programs and field trips and participated in events and workshops at lots of local schools and other venues.

A special kind of education is informing our elected officials of the importance of environmental protections for all life in our region, including the humans who share habitat with all the other creatures. Every time our members email, call or write to express an opinion about an issue, these efforts add up to influence the course of our democracy.

But many voices are better than one, and you can amplify your voice by participating in Environmental Lobby Day on Tuesday, January 26, 2010. If you have not been part of Lobby Day in the past, this is the perfect opportunity to join other WHAS members—John and Margaret Green have offered to carpool.

Lobby Day is coordinated by the Environmental Priorities Coalition, a group of environmental and health advocates who joined together to create a stronger voice in Washington State's legislature. See page 6 for more detailed information. Washington State is facing a budget shortfall in the midst of a recession.

(continued on page 4: A Special Kind...)

# In this issue of the Whistler:

- 2 Member Form and WHAS News
- 3 Birding Bits; Poem: Wounded Bird...
- 4 How to Save Energy a Conversation with B. Fisher
- 5 Nelson Creek / Recent Fieldtrip report
- 6 Lake Sacajawea Signs are up / Local Events
- 7 Book Review, Nomination Form
- 8 WHAS Programs and Field Trips

# COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Support our mission, join WHAS today! I prefer you contact me by **Check type of Membership:** Phone New Chapter Membership **WHAS** (\$20 check for annual membership) Renewal Chapter Membership **WHAS** (\$20 check for annual membership) Email I would like to support the work of Willapa Hills Audubon Society. Mail Enclosed is my additional donation of \$\_ Please: Membership includes 6 issues of our newsletter WILLAPA WHISTLER annually. contact me about volunteer opportunities If you are also interested in the membership in the National Audubon Society, add me to your announcement email list \* please visit http://www.audubon.org/. add me to your discussion email list \*\* Please make your check payable to: WILLAPA HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY and mail to: WHAS, PO Box 399, Longview, WA 98632 We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. All dues and donations are tax deductible. Telephone Address Email State Zip Y14:7XCH rev. 2007 Thank you for supporting your local Audubon chapter -- Willapa Hills Audubon Society! \*\*To allow members to announce and discuss items of general interest. We will not share your contact information with anyone. \* To announce occasional reminders and to communicate last minute schedule changes due to weather or other issues for WHAS programs and field trips. $\boldsymbol{pprox}$ **President: Charlotte Persons** 360-578-3949 president@willapahillsaudubon.org Radar Ridge Wind Resource - Update **Vice President: Steve Glucoft** 360-577-7720 sglucoft@comcast.net By Charlotte Persons Past Co-President: **Betty Mayfield** If developers can put a wind turbine facility right next to the breeding 503-556-6841 finance@willapahillsaudubon.org habitat of a federally listed species, what site will not be open to their **Steve Puddicombe** Past Co-President: OFFICERS projects? For conservationists who care about this new threat to the 360-465-2205 conservation@willapahillsaudubon.org Marbled Murrelet, the possibility of this precedent has spurred the Ann Musché Secretary: 360-484-7119 secretary@willapahillsaudubon.org following actions: Treasurer: Pamela Wright

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360-274-7091 nelsoncreek@willapahillsaudubon.org

- Oral comments by representatives of Seattle, Grays Harbor, and Willapa Hills Audubon chapters at three November "scoping meetings" in Pacific County sponsored by Grays Harbor PUDspecial thanks to our members Alan Richards and Robert Pyle
- Approval of a resolution by 16 Washington Audubon chapters opposing the Radar Ridge project. Three chapters decided to make no comment, and one, Discovery Coast, is in favor of the Radar Ridge project.
- A letter from the 16 chapters to Lands Commissioner Peter Goldmark asking him not to continue the lease for the Radar Ridge project
- On-going work by a coalition of conservation groups to strengthen state and federal guidelines for siting wind turbine projects
- Participation by Herbert Curl, a retired scientist in the Seattle Audubon chapter, in a special panel to investigate the scientific validity of the computer model of "collision risk" for Marbled Murrelet at the Radar Ridge facility

For more information on the proposed Radar Ridge wind project and how you can write comments, please see the September/October issue of the *Whistler*.

# The Whistler Online

Did you know that you can read the *Willapa Whistler* online on our website? To see the **pictures in color** or in case you missed a previous issue go to **http://www.willapahillsaudubon.org** and just click on the *Whistler* in the top menu.

# **WOUNDED BIRD WOMAN**

"They fall and falling they're given wings." Jalala din Rumi

# The woman called Wounded Bird

once walked beside the sea.

She saw up in the clearest of skies a gliding shape and wondered how so high with energies dependent on breathing? How not be afraid of falling? And she fell.

Awakening from her dream, she opened her eyes and looked outside.

It was true.

In shining drops sliding down the window pane the sky was falling.

Sleeping again,
The woman called Wounded Bird
looked out from her inner eye
and saw the clearest of skies
above the cover of clouds.
She saw her bird
still current-striding
in the way of wings loving freedom.

by Judith Irwin

Judith Irwin is a Seattle poet, retired from the English department at Lower Columbia College in Longview, Washington.



Wounded Bird Woman
Wood Sculpture by Irwin

One Sunday afternoon, Dick Irwin, my late husband, and I were exercising our dog at Willow Grove on the Columbia River between Longview and Cathlamet when I spotted a log so dramatic in its shape I had to check it out. The tree, it seems, had grown a great bole, so this section was discarded. I fell in love with this remarkable piece on sight. We managed to fit it into our station wagon and got it home.

I bought tools and in about four months had chiseled away enough to reveal what you see in the photo -- a slender woman holding a bird -- the eye and beak of a raptor with one wing open.

At first I named it "Woman with Wounded Bird." The bird held by the woman was clearly "wounded." And then one day, in a flash of insight, I knew it was about me, too. I was wounded or had been in some forgotten way! Curious.

Thus the new name --

# "Wounded Bird Woman."

It's pretty certain she came from a yew tree. I like that. The yew limbs were used by our Northwest Indians in their bow and arrow constructions.

-- Judith Irwin

# **Birding Bits**

# By Russ Koppendrayer

Of all the birding lists that I keep, one of my favorites is the year list for Cowlitz County. I started doing this annual species list in 2001 after seeing an overview of all the Washington counties with their respective best birding years and Cowlitz was way down the list. To prove there were more birds in "my" county, I proceeded to annihilate the previous mark and then break my own record a few more times over the ensuing years. But a strange thing happened; I came to know when and where certain species should appear in the county and bird movements. This

kind of knowledge has come to mean more to me than the numbers or listing. I guess learning, when I think I'm just having fun can be a good thing.

Which brings me to two glaring holes in my 2009 county year list. First is the California Quail which I never seem to target, but always seem to come across in the Woodland Bottoms at some time

during the year. By fall I was actually looking for the quail in some of their known haunts to no avail. The Washington Ornithological Society conference (in Kelso) came with their daily field trips to the Woodland Bottoms and even with all those eyes and ears at work, no California Quail were on the composite checklist. The riverfront where they are usually found has been a bit more developed, but there still is some cover and I've seen this species in neighborhoods before. Also of note but possibly unrelated, I don't believe we've had California Quail on the

Cowlitz-Columbia Christmas Bird Count for a few years either; this species was regularly found in the Prescot area.

The second glaring hole is the White-tailed Kite. This issue seems to be weather related. Prior to the snow and cold outbreak of December 2008, a trip to Willow Grove from fall to spring, would produce sightings of anywhere from two to eight kites. This year I've not seen a single kite in Cowlitz County, nor am I aware of anyone else who has seen one. While I have seen one in

Wahkiakum County this year, it has been my experience that they are sparser there also; although I spend less time in Wahkiakum, so it may be a coincidence. However I did speak with Mike Patterson of Astoria about this topic in early November and he had noticed a reduction in White-tailed kite numbers on both sides of the Columbia River in the Brownsmead, Astoria Airport, and

Chinook Valley areas starting with nasty weather in the winter of 2007-08 and continuing with the episode of last December. These kites had made incursions into southwest Washington from the south but this seems to be a major setback to their colonization of our area.

The ever-changing avian characteristics of our landscape will keep me out there birding and keeping lists for at least a while longer. *Good birding*.

# How to Save Energy -- a Conversation with Bruce Fischer

## by Darrel Whipple

Bruce Fischer, a WHAS member and Longview resident who took the Cowlitz PUD energy-saving challenge, steered his household to a notable 27% reduction in usage. I got to know Bruce from the times that he volunteered to help interpret our

wildlife mounts to Longview fifth graders at Forestry Days at Wakerobin Learning Center.

I wanted to find out more about how he did it, more than what appeared in the feature in 'The Daily News', and was delighted to find he had lots of interesting tidbits to share. The time period for the contest was the month of November 2009. The base line for comparison was the household's usage for November 2008.

Bruce enlisted the help of his wife Michele and his kids, Anastasia and Alexander.



Photo: Bruce Fischer

main things we did that reduced our energy consumption: 1) Turned off lights when we weren't in the room. 2) Used an iPod rather than TV when watching alone. 3) Turned the thermostat down one degree whenever we left the house during the day.

Were there any unusual events or weather conditions that spiked your consumption during the contest period? Or, con-

# What was your motivation for entering?

Energy is so cheap in the Northwest that there's little incentive to cut energy usage to save money. So the challenge gave us the extra incentive to reduce our energy even more. Plus, it was a chance to publicize to the community that you can reduce your energy and support the PUD's efforts to encourage us to do so.

# Had you already been actively minimizing your usage before the contest?

Yes, the contest was tough for us because we'd already replaced our windows and water heater, use almost all low energy light bulbs, and have a heat pump with a digital thermostat.

# Did you have a Smart Meter or computer program that gave you real-time feedback on energy consumption? Did you have an energy audit of the house before you started?

No, that was a disappointment we had. We had hoped there would be more education and information for contestants.

# A Special Kind of Education...

(Continued from page 1)

The main focus of the short 60-day session will be spent in solving this problem. This means that it is even more imperative that our voices be united behind a few strong environmental messages. We do not want the state to abandon current protections, nor do we want to lose momentum to increase protections.

During Environmental Lobby Day you will receive training on how to lobby from top environmental lobbyists, hear from legislators that are championing the Environmental Priorities legislation, and meet face-to-face with your elected officials. As Margaret Meade said, "A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Environmental Lobby Day is an excellent start to the New Year as you join with other like-minded people to give voice to your hopes for a better future. *Hope to see you there!* 

versely, that enabled you to drive down your consumption? No, the weather was 13% colder than usual but it was fairly normal.

What were the types of use that yielded the most reduction?

We wish we knew. One of the biggest problems in our opinion

with energy conservation is that there is no feedback. You don't

know how much you're using at any given moment. There were 3

# What was the funniest or most enjoyable part of the experience?

We really enjoyed the challenge of doing something not just "to save the earth" and a few dollars but to see how well we could do without any major lifestyle changes. We wanted sustainable energy reduction not just temporary don't-take-showers-or-heat-the-house-for-a-month changes.

# How did you involve all the family members?

My wife believes that every time you leave a light on in a room an angel gets their wings. She just loves light and keeping the house bright. So it took a few days but she eventually got used to our house being darker and three weeks later we're still keeping our house darker than before.

# How did the results match what you had anticipated?

We were surprised at how much we had saved. We had added a computer since last year and our kids are a year older and using more energy in longer showers and video games. So we thought it would be a win if we matched last year's energy usage. To save 27% was pretty amazing. To save it without too much discomfort and mostly just by being intentional was even more amazing.

# What conclusions do you draw from the results that would bear on your future practices in your household?

We found that we regularly waste more energy than we thought. Hopefully, in the future our energy usage will be far lower.

# Do you have any advice for our Audubon members about reducing household energy consumption?

The best advice would be to simply be intentional about your energy usage. Don't just turn on a light or a TV without thinking but consider that you are choosing to use energy and increase your energy bill. A few extra steps to turn off a light or turn down the thermostat when you're going away for a bit won't hurt.

Thanks, Bruce, Michele, Anastasia and Alexander, for modeling what all of us can do to reduce even further our own household energy consumption!

# Nelson Creek Update

# WHAS gets Golden Lopper Award

# By Russ and Ann Kastberg

On October 27, 2009, the Columbia Land Trust honored their volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at their headquarters in Vancouver. Russ and Ann Kastberg, co-chairs of the Nelson Creek Restoration committee, attended, representing the chapter.

Ann Kastberg and Dr. Peter Ritson presented the program for the evening featuring the Clark County amphibian egg mass survey program. It utilizes volunteer citizen scientists to survey for amphibian egg masses in the spring. We have used this same program at Nelson Creek the last two years and currently are planning to start a similar program in Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.

The highlight of the evening was the Golden Lopper Awards, presented to Columbia Land Trust volunteers for exceptional service in 2009. Willapa Hills Audubon received the "Most Complex Volunteer-Led Project Award" for the work we are doing on the Nelson Creek Restoration project from CTL coordinator Andrea Burkley. Activities this year include ongoing surveys, monitoring, building maintenance and de-construction. The results of these studies have led to restoration plans that will be coming on-line this next year.



Photo provided by Ann and Russ Kastberg

Special note needs to go to all the volunteers that have helped out at Nelson Creek. Volunteer hours are as follows: Year 2007=672 hours, 2008=452 hours, and 2009=223 hours so far, for a grand total of 1347 hours reported Andrea Burkley, CLT Nelson Creek coordinator.

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has participated in the project. This is a truly great example of citizen scientists at work.

# Lake Sacajawea Winter Bird Walk

### By Margaret and John Green

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lake Sacaiawea Walk can be considered a whopping success, and not necessarily for the birds observed. 19 hardy souls gathered on the gloriously cold and crisp morning with the sun shining brilliantly through the mist and bouncing off the sparkling crystal coated ground. The species

Photo by Margret Green

count was 19 and fairly predictable, with handsome Buffleheads being showy favorites. We did not see as many bird as during last years bird walks. The highlight of the walk was our continual observation of river otters, which cavorted in the water along the lake-bank, heads held high, seemingly as curious about us as we were enthralled with them. Six-year old Allie Arnsdorf watched happily through binos as an otter wrestled a fish for a tasty breakfast.

Curiously, when the group moved indoors for hot drinks and a potluck of yummy treats, we also found the Greens' yard devoid of birds. John lamented the no-show of our normal guests, Anna's Hummingbird, Townsend Warbler, Spotted Towhee, and Gold-

crowned sparrow. Not a single bird appeared. It was a very strange day, indeed. But while the yard lay vacant, the warmth of chatter and laughter filled the house, reminding us that Willapa Hills Audubon is more than bird watching, citizen science, and activism. We cherish the wonde-ful friendship and camaraderie of all the special people we meet with many common as well as divergent interests. We heartily look forward to the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk, next December! After all were gone, John and I headed to the yard to investigate. Ah-hah! Under the Portuguese laurel, we discovered a scattering of dark gray, black, and white feathers with splatters of whitewash from the predator, which

had its breakfast treat (a junco?) earlier in the

day. We wonder if the Merlin who, for weeks, enjoyed, last year's backyard banquet, has returned for second helpings.

**Species list**: Pied-billed-grebe, Double-Crested Cormorant, Mallard, American Wigeon, Bufflehead, Ring-necked duck, Common Goldeneye, Canada Goose, Great Blue Heron, Glaucouswinged and hybrid Gulls, Red-tailed Hawk, Rock Pigeon, Belted Kingfisher, American Crow, Northern Flicker, Western Scrub-jay, European Starling, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Dark-eyed Junco

# Lake Sacajawea Interpretive Signage

Story and Pictures by: Margaret Green

The two Avian Interpretive Signs were installed at Lake Sacajawea Park in Longview on 12/7/09. The original schedule for completion in August, was delayed partly due to the expansion of our project from one sign to two, as encouraged by our partners, the City of Longview and the Longview Parks and Recreation Department. The art was completed in late September, followed by the graphics work, and finally the art panel and post manufacturing.

These permanent "facilities" provide the citizens of our



area, as well as tourists, enriching and affordable recreation as well as a focus on education. Our WHAS mission statement includes "to promote environmental understanding and enjoyment of nature", which these signs certainly accomplish. They are beautiful works of art, which encourage observation, listening and learning about the birds of Lake Sacajawea and are a wonderful addition to this site on "The Great Washington State Birding Trail". These are a beautiful tribute to Ruth Deery and her tireless work in education and Conservation. Thanks to all of you whose contributions have made this project possible.

# **Environmental Lobby Day 2010**

Join the state's leading conservation groups and hundreds of citizen to push for the passage of the Environmental Priorities Coalition's 2010 legislative priorities.

- The Working for Clean Water bill is about creating jobs, rebuilding our local economies, and cleaning up polluted waterways like Puget Sound and Spokane R.
- Safe Baby Bottles to protect children's health and the environment by phasing out the harmful chemical bisphenol A (BPA) from baby bottles, food and beverage cans, and other consumer products.
- Budget for our Environment to ensure adequate funding for the core environmental protections that make Washington State a healthy place to live.

During Environmental Lobby Day you will hear from legislators that are championing the Environmental Priorities legislation, receive training on how to lobby from top environmental lobbyists, and meet face-to-face with your elected officials. And don't forget the party in the evening!

When: Tuesday January 26th, 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Where: United Churches of Olympia, 110th East 11th Ave

# **Registration:**

PRE-PAYMENT REQUIRED

Online registration is at <a href="http://pugetsound.org/forms/lobbydayreg10">http://pugetsound.org/forms/lobbydayreg10</a> Event Registration is \$15 (includes breakfast, lunch and materials). Online registration closes on January 22nd, 2010. For carpooling opportunities from Longview please contact John and Margaret Green at 360-575-9238 or email jgreen2317@aol.com.

# **New Birding Trail Map**

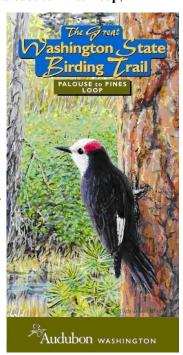
Audubon Washington invites you to the unveiling of the newest map of the Great Washington State Birding Trail, the **Palouse to Pines Loop**,

featuring live birds like those seen on this route, a Great Horned Owl and a Red-tailed Hawk.

# When:

Jan. 26, 2010 12:45-1:00p.m

Where: Rooms ABC Cherberg Building, State Capitol Campus, Olympia, WA



# **WHAS Officer Nominations**

Nominations are now open for all officers on the WHAS Board. Terms are for two years with installation occurring at the annual WHAS meeting in March, 2010. Thanks to the efforts of Nominations Chair Carolyn Norred, the following people have agreed to run for election to the WHAS board in 2010: Charlotte Persons for president, Steve Glucoft for vice president, Carl Roush for secretary, Pam Wright for treasurer, and Russ Kastberg, Larry Turner, Chuck Erdman, and Larry Brandt for Directors at Large.

All members are encouraged to nominate others (or themselves) for any of these positions; our board will be stronger if members have a choice between candidates when casting their ballots.

Please make your nominations by clipping out this form and mailing it to WHAS-Nominations, PO Box 399, Longview, WA, 98632 or send by email to <u>election@willapahillsaudubon.org</u>. For further information contact Carolyn Norred at the email address mentioned earlier.



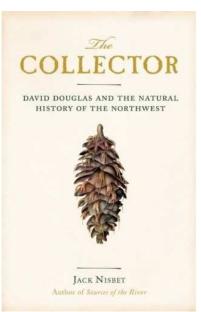
# **Book Review**

# By John Green

# The Collector, Jack Nesbit; Sasquatch Books, 2009.

If you are a hiker, canoe enthusiast, mountain climber, or wannabe naturalist, this is the book for you. "The Collector", David Douglas, spent three years from 1825 to 1828 tromping through forests, slogging marshes, crossing desserts, climbing mountains, and paddling rivers. He traveled 7000 miles throughout the Northwest. By researching the Douglas journals, author, Jack Nesbit, is able to share colorful descriptions of these adventures. We find Douglas worked for science as well as for profit. We get a clear picture of his meticulous collecting of flora and fauna for scientific study, his taking of copious notes, and his search for plant

specimens suitable for English Gardens and for the economic timber interests in Europe. (Think: Douglas Fir)



Nesbit does an excellent job of taking you on the trail with Douglas. You can feel his pain as he hikes the mountains, collects and dries (and redries) plants, swims icy rivers, and you observe his growing respect as he negotiates with indigenous people. Nesbit uses the journals to relate the arduous search for specimens and even the shooting of bald eagles (cringe) for lunch, the skins of which were preserved for future study. (By the way, Douglas notes that eagles are quite tasty.) The tales of enormous salmon runs, huge trees and abundant game support other descriptions of this paradise enjoyed by the indigenous peoples prior to white man's arrival. As did others of his day, Douglas left his mark by advancing interest in this new and glorious place, its future to be changed forever by the advance of the Europeans. We must, however, admire and respect his enthusiasm, his stamina and dedication to discovery.

So, with the winter rains set in, there is no better way to spend the afternoon, on the couch vicariously traveling the northwest with "The Collector".

# 2010 Great Backyard Bird Count

# **February 12 - 15**

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is an annual four-day event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent and in Hawaii. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds. Everyone is encouraged to make the most of the 13th annual GBBC. The count is led by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. The GBBC website includes more information at <a href="https://www.birdcount.org">www.birdcount.org</a>, along with photos from last year's count, a game, and other materials, including a printable tally sheet.



The Willapa Whistler is the bi-monthly publication of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society.

Complimentary copies are sent to organizations and prospective members. All WHAS activities and programs are open to the public.

Articles, information, wildlife sightings and artwork are welcomed. The deadline for inclusion of material in the *Whistler* is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each even-numbered month. Send your contributions to:

WHAS Whistler
PO Box 399
Longview WA 98632
or email them to
newsletter@willapahillsaudubon.org.
The Willapa Whistler is printed on recycled paper using soy based ink.

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# **WHAS Programs and Field Trips**

For more information and further details check the WHAS web site: www.willapahillsaudubon.org

## Local Frogs, Toads, Newts and Salamanders

Tuesday – January 12, 2009. 7:00pm at Lower Columbia College, PSC 102, see page 1 for more information.

# Amphibian Surveying: As Much Fun as You Can Have in Chest Waders and a Pond

Saturday – January 16, 2009. 9:00am at Lower Columbia College SCI 107, see page 1 for more information.

# Julia Butler Hansen Wildlife Refuge

Saturday – January 30, 2009. Our January field trip will be to Julia Butler Hansen Wildlife Refuge outside of Cathlamet. Long time WHAS member and birder, Alan Richards will lead the trip. We expect to see many species of ducks plus sparrows and raptors, such as red-tailed hawks, bald eagles, and hopefully, white-tailed kites. We will depart from Longview at 8:30 AM. Space is limited. To reserve a spot, please call John Green @ 360-575-9238 or email jgreen2317@aol.com. Bring binoculars and dress warmly for the weather. Expect to be in and out of cars for about 4 hours, so bring your own snacks and warm drinks.

The Mission of the Willapa Hills Audubon Society is to support ecologically responsible ways of life, to help maintain biologically diverse habitats, and to promote environmental understanding and enjoyment of nature.

Check out our website at www.willapahillsaudubon.org