

Admiralty Audubon Pippings

AAS Birding September & October 2022

Trip Leaders set their own requirements with regard to reservations, attendee numbers, masking, and vaccination status. Contact the Trip Leader of each walk for more information.

September 2022

First Friday at Fort Townsend State Park Friday, September 2, 2022, 8:30 AM -11:00 AM

Beverly McNeil is offering bird walks at Fort Townsend State Park. These walks will take 2 to 3 hours and include walking approximately 1.5 miles to look for shorebirds and birds in the woods along the bluffs. Please wear sturdy shoes/boots and extra jacket in case of weather changes. Bring binoculars and your own water. Group size is limited to five, and you need to email Beverly to register. We meet at the parking area just down to the left of where you register to camp at 8:30 AM. You will need your Discover Pass. Please notify Beverly if you cannot make it to the outing so that someone else can take your place. Social distancing and full vaccinations are required. Contact Beverly at Bevybirds53@gmail.com.

Second Friday at Ford Worden State Park Friday, September 9, 2022, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Meet at the parking area next to the Marine Science Center pier at 8:30 AM. Expect to walk about 1 to 1.5 miles in different areas of the park during a roughly 3-hour time period. Bring binoculars, water, sturdy footwear, appropriate clothing for changeable weather and your Discover Pass for parking. Limit of 5 people. Social distancing and full vaccinations are required. Contact leader Beverly McNeil at Bevybirds53@gmail.com to sign up.

Oak Bay Saturday

Saturday, September 10, 2022, 9:00 AM -noon

Meet at the Lower Oak Bay Campground restroom/camping area. We will see what we will see, scope over the water, look for sandpipers and shorebirds, pipsits, seabirds. If there is time, or boredom, we will head over to the isthmus on Indian Island and walk the trail there. Limit of 12 people. Please contact Monica Fletcher at monicaflet@gmail.com or by phone 360-379-3136.

Thanks, Bob!

Bob Tyer was asked to be AAS Treasurer for 'a year' - more than a decade ago. Bob has decided that his year is done and has announced his retirement. We will be seeking a new treasurer soon.

Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park and Boat Haven Thursday, September 15, 2022 8:00 AM - 12:00 or 12:30 PM

Alternate date in case of bad weather - Friday, September 16. Limit 6 participants. Everyone must be covid-vaccinated. Bring your own binoculars, water, and snacks. Meet at Kah Tai Lagoon parking lot (where the porta-potty is) at 0800. We'll bird around KTL, then go over to Boat Haven to walk along the trail and see shorebirds as the tide falls. Easy walking. Barry will bring his scope, and suggests anyone with a scope bring it. Sign up with leader Barry McKenzie directly at barrymckenzie@comcast.net.

Third Friday at Anderson Lake State Park Friday, September 16, 2022, 8:30 AM -11:00 AM

Limit of 5 for each outing and you must be vaccinated. Meet at 8:30 AM at the first parking area as soon as you leave the pavement off of Lake Anderson Road before the white gate. Wear clothing for changeable weather, sturdy shoes/boots, binoculars, water, snack optional. Expect to walk about 1.5 miles, including a little uphill, for 2 to 3 hours depending on sightings. We normally go around the whole lake on Trail B. You will need a Discover Pass. Reserve your space with Beverly McNeil at Bevybirds53@gmail.com.

October 2022

First Friday at Fort Townsend State Park Friday, October 7, 2022, 8:30 AM -11:00 AM

This walk will take 2 to 3 hours for walking approximately 1.5 miles to look for shorebirds and birds in the woods along the bluffs. Please wear sturdy shoes/boots and extra jacket in case of weather changes. Bring binoculars and your own water. Group size is limited to five; email Beverly to register. We meet at the parking area just down to the left of where you register to camp at 8:30AM. You will need your Discover Pass. Please notify Beverly if you cannot make it to the outing so that someone else can take your place. Social distancing and full vaccinations are required. Contact Beverly at Bevybirds53@gmail.com.

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AAS Birding October 2022

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Second Friday at Fort Worden State Park Friday, October 14, 2022, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Meet at the parking area next to the Marine Science Center pier at 8:30 AM. Expect to walk about 1 to 1.5 miles in different areas of the park during a roughly 3-hour time period. Bring binoculars, water, sturdy footwear, appropriate clothing for changeable weather and your Discover Pass for parking. Limit of 5 people. Social distancing and full vaccinations are required. Contact leader Beverly McNeil at Bevybirds53@gmail.com to sign up.

Fort Worden Surf and Turf Saturday, October 15, 2022, 9AM - noon

Come bird the beautiful beach strip from the Parade Grounds to the Lighthouse. Meet at the Commons Parking lot in Fort Worden. We will walk from there to the Marine Science Center pier, and then veer off to the west. This walk always has good bird sightings. We may see returning resident and passing through on their way south. Bad bird weather (high winds/real rain) cancels. Limit of 12 people. Contact Monica Fletcher: monicaflet@gmail.com or by phone 360-379-3136.

Third Friday at Anderson Lake State Park Friday, October 21, 2022, 8:30 AM -11:00 AM

Limit of 5 for each outing and you must be vaccinated. Meet at the very first parking area as soon as you leave the pavement off of Lake Anderson Road before the white gate. Meeting time 8:30 AM. Wear clothing for changeable weather, sturdy shoes/boots, binoculars, water, snack optional. Expect to walk about 1.5 miles, including a little uphill, for 2 to 3 hours depending on sightings. We normally go around the whole lake on Trail B. Anderson Lake State Park. You will need a Discover Pass. Reserve your space at Bevybirds53@gmail.com. Beverly McNeil, Audubon Trip Leader, Nature Photographer.

Betty Renkor
Admiralty Audubon Trips Chair

AAS Kah Tai Workparties September & October 2022

Sunday, 18 September 2022, 9AM - noon

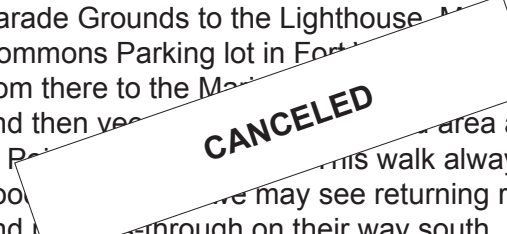
We will meet and park at the parking lot off of 12th Street, across 12th Street from Henery Hardware. The priority will be planting approximately 60 native plants, setting up drip irrigation for some of them, and protecting them from the deer with wire fencing. If time allows we can pull Scots Broom and pick up garbage.

Sunday, 16 October 2022, 9AM - finished

October's Kah Tai work party is Sunday Oct 16 from 9am until the approximately 50 native plants are planted and protected from the deer with wire fencing. We will meet at the bench closest to Chase Bank and park in the Chase Bank parking lot on the corner of Hwy 20 and Kearney Street.

Rosemary Sikes

Admiralty Audubon Programs Chair



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top: Virginia Rail, Kah Tai, July 2022. bottom: the third(!) set of little Ruddy Ducks at Kah Tai this year, August 2022.

JLT/OPEPO/AAS Collaboration

Over the 2021-22 school year, Jefferson Land Trust expanded its youth education programming with an exciting new year-long bird project with four third-grade classes and one multi-age OPEPO (OPtional Education PrOgram) class of third and fourth graders at Salish Coast Elementary School in Port Townsend. Birds are great teachers for a variety of subjects (physics, biology, ecology, food chains, seed dispersal, forest structure and more). This new project —built across the whole school year — included an array of activities, projects, and skill-building opportunities and hands on, with in-the-field learning at the Quimper Wildlife Corridor preserve led by Carrie Clendaniel, Land Trust Preserve Manager, who oversees their youth education programming. Admiralty Audubon Conservation Chair Monica Fletcher, and past board member Ken Wilson helped design and lead the projects there for field trips in January and then again in May. JLT and Admiralty Audubon plan on expanding this collaboration with more kids next year. For a glimpse of the students' bird-rich year go to these links:

<https://saveland.org/new-elementary-school-bird-education-program-brings-learning-to-new-heights/>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_A_u9A_E9eqZCW_3MAyAqhoTd5LmjkEg/view

photos: top right: the first documented Yellow-breasted Chat in Jefferson County, Little Quilcene River, June 2022; bottom left and right: OPEPO kids in the Quimper Wildlife Corridor, with AAS Conservation Chair holding forth about the Pileated Woodpecker holes in the tree in the photo at right.

Local Birds & Ice Cream!

An Admiralty Audubon Photography Show with submissions by eleven AAS chapter photographers will be at Elevated Ice Cream from September 2 to September 30, 2022. It is organized by AAS member Tracy Higgins LeMoine, who will serve as curator. Contact tracylemoine@msn.com for more information. We hope to see you there!



Nest/Brood Parasitism

On Friday, July 22, 2022, I was at Fort Flagler with my small birding group and we were at the last third of our outing which was near the sewage treatment ponds. Before hiking up the hill above the ponds, I decided to lead my group over to a nice full deciduous tree where I had seen quite a few birds the day before. As soon as we walked over to that tree I spotted a Brown-headed Cowbird fledgling. Then to our surprise we saw a tiny bird fly up to that fledgling and feed it some berries and bugs at least 3 or 4 times. That certainly did confirm that the fledgling was indeed a Brown-headed Cowbird! I had to circle around to get a positive identification of the smaller bird and announced that it was a Orange-crowned Warbler.

What a great example of what is known as nest parasitism! The Cowbird raids the nests of other bird species and replaces that bird's nest egg with one of its own, and then the owner of that nest willingly adopts and feeds that Cowbird nestling even though it is not its own species and the nestling is much larger than the foster parent. This of course is a problem when the Cowbird is replacing other bird species. More detailed information can be obtained regarding nesting habits of the Brown-headed Cowbird by googling the subject.

We didn't see many bird species on this outing, but seeing this live example of the Cowbird nest parasitism was really an interesting observation that the group enjoyed!

Beverly McNeil
Admiralty Audubon trip leader



Cowbird fledgling, above, with "feed me" colors on bill. Brown Headed Cowbird, *Molothrus ater*, practices Brood Parasitism. This one was raised by Black-capped Chickadees, which are about a quarter of the baby bird's size. It took a lot of food to get this chubby youngster to this stage.

Dave Grainger
Admiralty Audubon member



Purple Finch male, Port Townsend, July 2022.

AAS Membership Form 2022
<http://admiraltyaudubon.org>

name _____ date _____
 mailing address _____
 city, state, zipcode _____
 email address _____ phone number _____

Would you prefer your newsletter by email? paper copy? amount enclosed \$ _____

Send \$20 annual membership to: **Admiralty Audubon, PO Box 666, Port Townsend WA 98368**
or pay online at the 'Join' link via PayPal or credit card

Membership includes 6 issues of our newsletter per year and the right to vote in chapter elections. Chapter programs and field trips are free to the public. We always welcome donations! Dues and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Admiralty Audubon is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

The Feather Forecast - September & October 2022

This is a bittersweet time for birding as we witness the departure of our migrant birds such as Caspian Tern, Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Tanager, Warbling Vireo, swallows, Swainson's Thrush, Rufous Hummingbird, flycatchers, and the warblers – MacGillivray's, Yellow, Black-throated Gray and Common Yellowthroats. As they vacate our woods our resident birds are beginning to flock (The Flocking Season) in interspecies groups. Birders can forego searching and just walk at leisure, waiting upon the chatter and activity of the flock to draw their attention.

Returning from their summer away from our area are the Fox and Golden-crowned Sparrows, the Hermit Thrush, and the Ruby-crowned Kinglets that bred elsewhere. Skeins of migrating geese such as Cackling and Greater White-fronted Geese can be seen overhead heading south. Shorebirds are pretty much done migrating, though we get a few at Oak Bay, and look for American Pipit in the driftwood strands.

Our winter/resident birds remind us of our luck that they stay with us all year. Their young begin to practice wonky sotto voce calls from the safety of the bushes. By late October, Kah Tai Lagoon becomes flush with a greater diversity of ducks. Our salty shores see the return of the seabirds of the Alcid family — the Common Murre and the Ancient Murrelets. You may see an occasional pelican, winter sandpipers — Dunlin, Sanderling and Black Turnstones — and also Black-bellied Plover, the occasional Whimbrel or Godwit, and the various saltwater grebes and Red-throated Mergansers.

These two months are a changing of the guard from neotropical migrants to our hardy seafaring and wintering residents.

Monica Fletcher

Admiralty Audubon Conservation & CBC Chair

Community Program - Maybe!

Our Programs Chair is working to schedule our first in-person program for 20 October 2022 at the Port Townsend Community Center. Details are not yet worked about but we are hoping to see some... live birds! Stay tuned and we will send out an email notification as soon as we have confirmation.

photos top down: fledgling Cooper's Hawk. Fort Worden, August 2022; American Goldfinch male in faded plumage with youngster, PT home landscape, August 2022; Belted Kingfisher female with her prize, Marine Science Center pier, June 2022.

© Tracy LeMoine

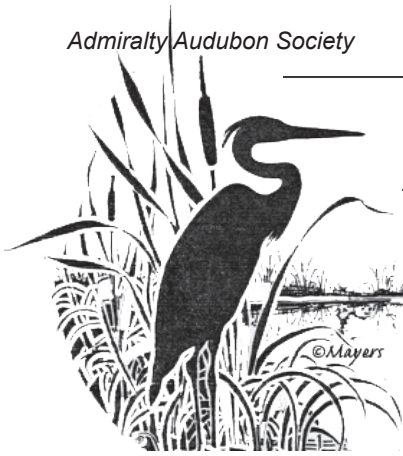


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Admiralty Pippings

Admiralty Audubon Society of East Jefferson County
PO Box 666 Port Townsend WA 98368



© Wendy Feltham

Barn Swallow feeding five hungry mouths, Fort Worden, 1 July 2022.

Admiralty Audubon Officers and Board

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© Hillary Smith



Salish Sea Guillemot Survey

AAS member Hillary Smith says, "I have been taking part in the burrow surveys with the Salish Sea Guillemot Network - a wonderful way to get out each week and observe these fun birds. Here's a photo from July 2022 of a PIGU taking off with a sculpin to bring to its burrow on Indian Island."