

SPRING 1997 AUDUBON STATE COUNCIL FIELD TRIPS

Sponsored by Rainier Audubon

Saturday, April 12

7:00-8:00 AM: Dumas Bay - Enjoy a beach stroll and visit to this quiet sanctuary which features a small woodlot, a pocket-sized marsh and a hillside heron rookery. Both migratory waterfowl and songbirds should be present. Brant may still be present; the bay has eelgrass beds which attracts the migratory geese during March. Leader - Jim Flynn

10:15 AM-12 Noon: Dash Point State Park - The park has a heavily wooded campground and a saltwater beach. Typical campground birds include Purple Finch, Pileated Woodpecker, Hutton's Vireo and migrating warblers; this is a good place to test your birding ear! The beach walk may find Common Loon, Grebes and Barrow's Goldeneyes. Leader - Jim Tooley

3:00 -5:00 PM: Clay Street Marsh and Peasley Canyon Rookery - Visit the marsh in Auburn, which is the mitigation site for the Emerald Downs horse track, and the Peasley Canyon rookery which was instrumental in the formation of the Rainier Audubon Society. The marsh has already hosted a Great Egret and a Ross' Goose in its short history and migratory ducks and shorebirds should be present. Great Blue Herons should be feeding young at the rookery at the time of our visit. Leader - Thais Bock

3:00-5:00 PM: Hylebos State Park Native Plant Walk - Following the boardwalk through this mostly wooded wetland, we'll learn how to identify the plants of this fascinating habitat. We'll also keep an eye on the birds; Wood Ducks are often seen on one of the ponds. A look at the mysterious Hylebos sinkhole is mandatory! Ordinary footwear will suffice as we'll keep mostly to the pathways. Leader - Jim Flynn

3:00-5:00 PM: Saltwater State Park - Similar to Dash Point State Park, Saltwater is best known for the Pigeon Guillemots which nest in the bluff above the northern beach. The upland portions include mixed woodlands of Madrona, conifers and deciduous trees. Look for Band-tailed Pigeons, Vireos, Warblers and more. Leader: Marti Anderson

Sunday, April 13

7:00-8:00 AM: Visitation Retreat Center Pre-Breakfast Birdwalk - Walk the beautifully landscaped grounds of the Retreat Center and look and listen for nesting residents and returning migrants. This is your chance to say Hello to all the songsters that were tantalizing you as you sat inside Saturday. Leader - Jim Flynn

10:15 AM - 12 Noon: Dash Point State Park - The park has a heavily wooded campground and a saltwater beach. Typical campground birds include Purple Finch, Pileated Woodpecker, Hutton's Vireo and migrating warblers; this is a good place to test your birding ear! The beach walk may find Common Loon, Grebes and Barrow's Goldeneyes. Leader - Jim Flynn

Field Trip Sign Up Sheets will be located at the Council Registration Desk

Rainier Audubon Field Trip Coordinator: Jim Flynn, 206-772-5568