

# The Great Washington State Birding Trail

## PUGET LOOP

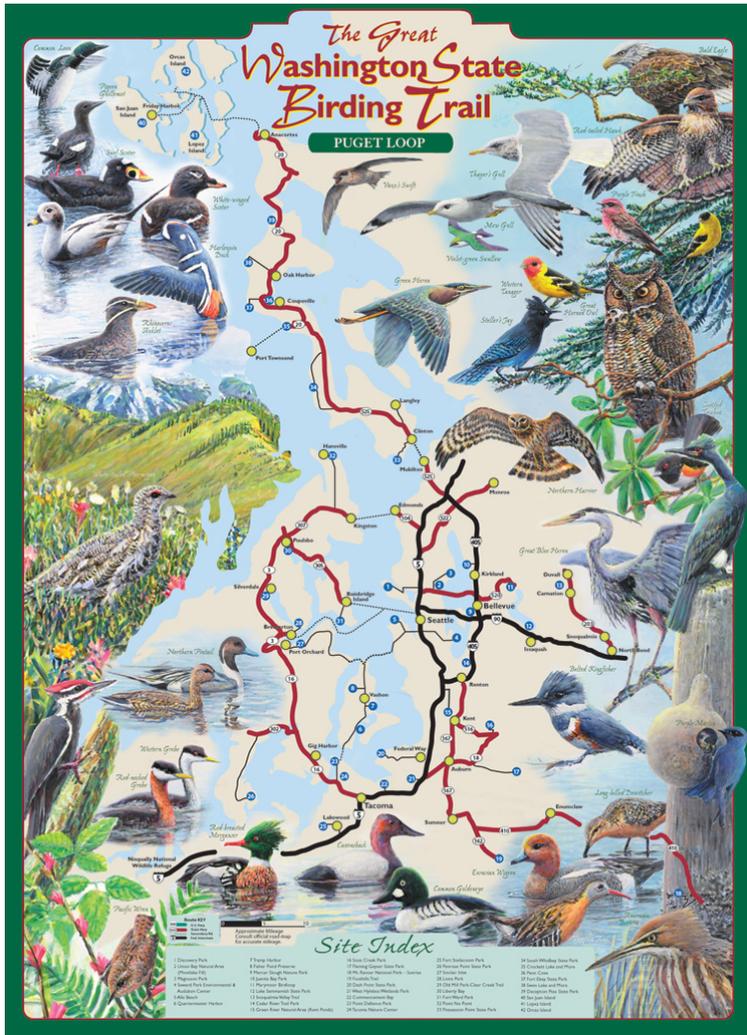
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Bald Eagles

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## INFO KEY

### MAP ICONS

**Best seasons for birding**  
(spring, summer, fall, winter)

**Developed camping** available, including restrooms; fee required

**Restroom** available at day-use site

**ADA** restroom, and trail or viewing access

Site located in an **Important Bird Area**

**Fee required.** Passes best obtained prior to travel.

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and state parks require Discover Pass 866-320-9933, [www.discoverpass.wa.gov](http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov); USFS, USFWS and national

monuments & parks 888-275-8747, [www.nps.gov/passes](http://www.nps.gov/passes)

**Public bus or ferry.** King County: <http://metro.kingcounty.gov>. Pierce County: [www.piercetransit.org](http://www.piercetransit.org).

Kitsap County: [www.kitsaptransit.org](http://www.kitsaptransit.org).

Whidbey Island : [www.islandtransit.org](http://www.islandtransit.org).

Washington State Ferries: [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries).

### LOCAL SERVICES AND HIGHLIGHTS

Washington visitor information: [www.experiencewashington.com](http://www.experiencewashington.com)

Vaux's Swift September migration, Monroe, WA:

[www.pilchuckaudubon.org](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org)

Cascadia Marine Trail: [www.wvta.org/trails/CMT/index.asp](http://www.wvta.org/trails/CMT/index.asp)

Sites 1-5; 9-17, 20: Seattle's Convention & Visitor's Bureau  
866-732-2695 [www.visitseattle.org](http://www.visitseattle.org); [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

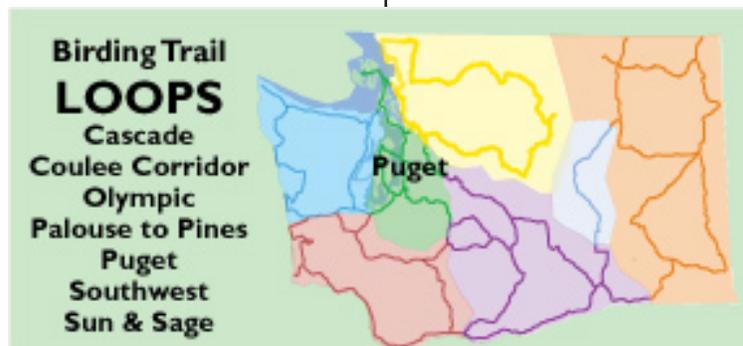
Sites 6-8: Vashon Maury Chamber of Commerce  
206-463-6217 [www.vashonchamber.com](http://www.vashonchamber.com)

Site 18, 19, 22-26: Tacoma Regional Convention & Visitor Bureau  
800-272-2662 [www.traveltacoma.com](http://www.traveltacoma.com)

Sites 27-32: Kitsap Peninsula Visitor & Convention Bureau  
800-337-0580 [www.visitkitsap.com](http://www.visitkitsap.com)

Sites 33-39: Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism  
[www.whidbeycamanoislands.com](http://www.whidbeycamanoislands.com)

Sites 40-42: San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau  
888-468-3701 [www.visitsanjuans.com](http://www.visitsanjuans.com)



## GENERAL INFORMATION

- Use Birding Trail map along with a state highway map.
- Driving directions may list mileage plus a fraction, e.g., “milepost 37.5”, which means continue 0.5 mile beyond milepost 37.0. Mileage markers are on east or south side of state highways; mileage goes south to north, and west to east.
- Many WDFW sites allow hunting fall-winter. Check dates at [www.wdfw.wa.gov/wlm/game/seasons.htm](http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/wlm/game/seasons.htm). Use caution.
- Check saltwater tides at [www.saltwatertides.com](http://www.saltwatertides.com).
- Disclaimer: Hiking and birding can be dangerous. Audubon does not warrant conditions on or safety of any site, and assumes no liability for injuries suffered as a result of travel or other activities associated with this map.



### 1 Discovery Park



**HABITAT:** City's 534 acres: forest, thickets, meadows, 3-mile shoreline.

**BIRDING:** Rich variety of habitats = rich variety of species: Pileated Woodpeckers, Pacific Wrens, Savannah Sparrows. Fall-spring: Red-breasted Mergansers; Red-throated, Common Loons; Western Grebes; Varied Thrushes. Spring-summer: Rufous Hummingbirds, Western Tanagers. Winter: Golden-, Ruby-crowned Kinglets; Fox, Lincoln, Golden-crowned Sparrows; Dark-eyed Juncos. Year-round: Cooper's Hawks; Barn, Barred, Northern Saw-whet Owls; Anna's Hummingbirds, Bushtits, Spotted Towhees, Song Sparrows.

**VIEWING: Visitor-Environmental Learning Center** has maps, interpretive exhibits. **South Parking** – Walk west on Loop Trail for meadows, forest edge, thickets. At 0.8 mile, veer left for 0.5-mile South Beach Trail to saltwater; or continue 3-mile circle. **Wolf Tree Nature Trail** – Take 0.3-mile deep forest loop for spring-summer warblers: Orange-crowned, Yellow, Black-throated Gray, Townsend's, Wilson's; plus Pacific-slope Flycatchers, Swainson's Thrushes, Black-headed Grosbeaks. Bonus: Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 169 (NE 45th St/NE 50th St). Turn west onto NE 45th. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn left onto Stone Way N. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right onto NE 34th St. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn left onto Fremont Ave N. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right onto Nickerson St/W Nickerson. Drive 1.3 miles. Stay left to Ballard Bridge/W Emerson. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left to stay on W Nickerson. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left onto W Emerson (Port of Seattle/Fisherman's Terminal). Drive 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Gilman Ave W/Discovery Park Blvd. Drive 1.1 mile to park **Visitor Center**. **South Parking** – From visitor center, return to park entrance. Turn right onto 36th Ave NW. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right onto W Emerson St. Drive 0.4 mile.

Turn right into park. Drive 0.1 to parking. **Wolf Tree** – From visitor center turn left onto main park road. Drive 1.3 miles, veering right at Y. Turn left into parking. Drive 0.1 mile to trailhead.

### 2 Union Bay Natural Area (Montlake Fill)



**HABITAT:** U of WA'S 74 acres: reclaimed marsh, ponds, lakeshore.

**BIRDING:** Marvelous microhabitats attract migrants – Cinnamon Teal, Western Sandpipers, Common Yellowthroats, American Goldfinches – plus resident Pied-billed Grebes; Great Blue, Green Herons; Bald Eagles; Cooper's, Red-tailed Hawks; Virginia Rails, Belted Kingfishers, Marsh Wrens. Spring-summer: Ospreys, Vaux's Swifts; Tree, Violet-green, Northern Rough-winged, Cliff Swallows. Fall-spring: Cackling Geese, Northern Shovelers, Green-winged Teal, Hooded Mergansers.

**VIEWING:** Walk west through Botanic Gardens to meadow, trailhead kiosk (free maps). Take 0.8-mile circle of Wahkiakum, Loop trails. By South Pond, 0.1-mile path leads to view of mud island for Wood Ducks, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipes. Also take 0.3-mile Yesler Swamp Trail from east end of parking. Bonus: beaver lodge.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 169 (NE 45th St/NE 50th St). Turn east onto NE 45th. Drive 1.1 miles. Turn left onto Montlake Blvd NE. Drive 0.2 mile. Veer right onto Mary Gates Memorial Dr/NE 41st St. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right into Botanic Garden. Park in lot on left.

### 3 Magnuson Park



**HABITAT:** City's 350 acres: ponds, marsh, trees, 1-mile lakeshore.

**BIRDING:** Lavish spring-summer singing and swooping: Western Wood- Pewees, Willow Flycatchers, Warbling Vireos; Tree, Violet-green, Barn Swallows; Bullock's Orioles, American Goldfinches. Fall-spring: Gadwalls, Green-winged Teal, Common Goldeneyes, Common Mergansers; Mew, Ring-billed, California Gulls. Year-round: California Quail, Red-tailed Hawks, Barn Owls.

**VIEWING:** To east, take 0.3-mile trail through 16-acre wetland for Killdeer, Spotted Sandpipers, Wilson's Snipes. Walk north 0.5 mile by trees, thickets for sparrows: Golden-crowned, Fox, Lincoln's fall-spring. Walk Kite Hill for Northern Shrikes fall-winter, return 0.6 mile on ADA Lake Shore Promenade for Bald Eagles, waterbirds. Take 0.5-mile Promontory Point Trail for Sharp-shinned, Cooper's Hawks (see also woodland birds of Discovery Park).

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 169 (NE 45th St/NE 50th St). Turn east onto NE 45th. Drive 1.1 miles. Turn left onto Montlake Blvd NE/NE 45th/Sand Point Wy. Drive 1.8 miles. Turn right onto NE 65th St. Drive 0.5 mile to boat ramp parking.

### 4 Seward Park Environmental & Audubon Center



**HABITAT:** City's 277 acres old-growth, mixed forest, marsh, 2.5-mile lakeshore.

**BIRDING:** Ancient forest headliners: nesting Bald Eagles; Sharp-shinned, Cooper's Hawks; Western Screech-, Barred Owls; Anna's Hummingbirds, Pileated Woodpeckers. Spring-fall: Ospreys, Rufous Hummingbirds, Swainson's Thrushes, Western Tanagers. Fall-spring: Common Mergansers; Western, Eared Grebes; Double-crested Cormorants, Varied Thrushes. Year-round: Pied-billed Grebes, Great

Blue Herons, American Coots, Belted Kingfishers, Steller's Jays, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Bushtits, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Brown Creepers, Pacific Wrens.

**VIEWING:** Follow paved 2.4-mile loop path along shore. Spine trail #1 leads 0.9 mile through woods, 8 side loops. Bonus: Seward Park Environmental & Audubon Center.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 163A (W Seattle Br/6th Ave S/Columbian Wy). Turn east onto S Columbian Wy/15th Ave S. Drive 0.9 mile. Veer left onto S Columbian Wy. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right onto Beacon Ave S. Drive 0.6 mile. Turn left onto S Orcas St. Drive 2.0 miles. At Y, veer right onto Lake Washington Blvd S. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left into Seward Park.



### 5 Alki Beach



**HABITAT:** City's family-friendly park lining 2-mile saltwater shore.

**BIRDING:** Fall-winter wealth of waterbirds: Lesser Scaups, Surf Scoters; Common, Barrow's Goldeneyes; Red-breasted Mergansers, Common Loons; Horned, Red-necked, Western Grebes; Pelagic, Double-crested Cormorants; Pigeon Guillemots, Rhinoceros Auklets.

**VIEWING: Marshall Reserve** – Viewing platform across Harbor Ave SW from park sign for Black Turnstones, Surfbirds fall-winter.

**Alki Bathhouse** – Viewing platform 0.2 mile south for Harlequin Ducks. **Charles Richey Viewpoint** for Brant in eelgrass.

**Me-Kwa-Mooks Park** – 20 acres. Marine view to SW, tidepools. Bonus: sea lions, seals.

**ACCESS:** From I-5 take exit 163A (W Seattle Br/6th Ave S/Columbian Wy). Drive 1.6 miles over bridge. Take exit to Harbor Ave SW/Avalon Wy. Turn right onto Harbor Ave SW/Alki Ave SW. Drive 1.6 miles. Park in waterside pullout on right across from **Marshall Reserve** sign. Continue 1.7 miles to **Bathhouse**. Continue 0.9 mile to **Viewpoint**. Continue 0.7 mile to **Me-Kwa-Mooks**.

**MORE BIRDING:** Port of Seattle's 15-acre **Jack Block Park** for Yellow-rumped Warblers, White-crowned Sparrows, American Goldfinches. From Alki Bathhouse, return 2.4 miles on Alki Ave SW/Harbor Ave SW. Turn left into entrance. Drive 0.2 mile to parking. Take 1.0-mile ADA loop to pier, 45-foot high observation platform.

### 6 Quartermaster Harbor



**HABITAT:** 3000-acre saltwater bay; shoreline, mudflats, mixed forest.

**BIRDING:** Concentration of wintering Western Grebes plus 35+ other marine species: Greater Scaups; Surf, Black, White-winged Scoters; Buffleheads; Common, Barrow's Goldeneyes; Pacific, Common Loons; Horned, Eared, Red-necked Grebes; Brandt's, Pelagic

Cormorants. Gulls abound: Bonaparte's, Mew, California. Fall-spring: Sanderlings. Bald Eagle, Osprey nests ring harbor.

**VIEWING:** Scan **Outer Harbor**. **Portage's** inner harbor shelters Ruddy Ducks, Red-throated Loons; cross kitty-corner to marsh for Virginia Rails, Wilson's Snipes. **Raab's Lagoon** – Fall: Band-tailed Pigeons, Cedar Waxwings. Winter: Common Mergansers, Greater Yellowlegs. Fall-spring: Savannah, Lincoln's, White-, Golden-crowned Sparrows. Year-round: Anna's Hummingbirds, Golden-crowned Kinglets. Also bird by ferry: W Seattle-Vashon.

**ACCESS:** From north ferry dock, drive 9.6 miles south on Vashon Hwy SW. **Outer Harbor** – Park in waterside pullout by IBA sign. **Portage** – From Outer Harbor, drive north 1.7 miles on Vashon Hwy SW. Turn right onto SW Quartermaster Dr. Drive 1.3 miles. Park in waterside pullout by IBA sign. **Raab's Lagoon** – From Portage, drive 0.1 mile further on SW Quartermaster Dr. At T, turn right onto Dockton Rd SW. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right onto Kingsbury Rd SW. Drive 0.7 mile to parking at King County Natural Area.

**MORE BIRDING: Point Robinson Park** – Not to be missed! In fall see: Harlequin Ducks, Black Scoters, Common Terns, Pigeon Guillemots, Rhinoceros Auklets; plus Peregrine Falcons, Merlins. Spring brings Northern Rough-winged Swallows, Swainson's Thrushes, Black-throated Gray Warblers. From Raab's Lagoon, return on Kingsbury. Turn right onto Dockton Rd. Drive 0.3 mile. Continue straight onto SW Pt Robinson Rd. Drive 2.6 miles. At T, turn right staying on SW Pt. Robinson Rd. Drive 0.2 mile to lighthouse's upper parking.

### 7 Tramp Harbor

**HABITAT:** Saltwater bay; shore of Vashon and Maury islands, mudflats.

**BIRDING:** Dependable spot for wintering flocks of American Wigeons, Greater Scaups; Common, Barrow's Goldeneyes; Red-necked, Eared Grebes. Purple Martins nest spring-summer. Year-round: Bald Eagles. (See also birds of **6** Quartermaster Harbor.)

**VIEWING:** Vashon Park District's fishing pier. Also bird by ferry: W Seattle-Vashon.

**ACCESS:** From north ferry dock, drive 6.3 miles south on Vashon Hwy SW. Turn east onto SW 204th St/SW Ellisport Rd. Drive 1.1 miles. At T veer right onto Dockton Rd. Drive 0.3 mile. Park at fishing pier. (Continue 0.5 mile to **6** Quartermaster Harbor's Portage on right.)

**MORE BIRDING:** From pier return north 0.3 mile to T, park in waterside pullout for fall Brant, Semipalmated Plovers; Western, Least Sandpipers.

### 8 Fisher Pond Preserve

**HABITAT:** Land trust-public 145 acres of mixed forest, pond, creek.

**BIRDING:** Serene forest surrounds pond with Wood Ducks, Northern Shovelers, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Ducks, Buffleheads, Hooded Mergansers. Spring: migrating Western Sandpipers. Spring-summer: Killdeers; Tree, Violet-green, Northern Rough-winged, Barn Swallows. Fall-spring: Townsend's Warblers. Year-round: Pileated Woodpeckers, Hutton's Vireos, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Brown Creepers, Pacific Wrens.

**VIEWING:** Take trail at meadow's east edge. Right fork leads 0.2 mile to closest views of water, shore. Take left fork 0.2 mile to Fisher Pond Trail, covered overlook, and 0.8-mile forest loop. Also bird by ferry: W Seattle-Vashon.

**ACCESS:** From north ferry dock, drive 4.7 miles south on Vashon Hwy SW. Turn west onto SW Bank Rd. Drive 1.4 miles. Turn right into 12224 SW Bank Rd. Park on left.

**MORE BIRDING: Fern Cove** – Best at low or mid-tide for Spotted Sandpipers, Black Turnstones fall-spring; Western and Least Sandpipers during spring, fall migration; Solitary Sandpipers in fall. From Fisher Pond, turn right onto SW Bank Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. Veer left onto Thorsen Rd SW. Drive 0.6 mile. Turn right onto Westside Hwy. Drive 3.3 miles. Veer right onto SW Cedarhurst Rd. Drive 0.8 mile. Use caution turning left into roadside pullout at 11408 Cedarhurst Rd SW. Park; walk down driveway 0.1 mile to cove.



## 9 Mercer Slough Nature Park



**HABITAT:** City's 320 acres of forested wetland, stream, meadows.

**BIRDING:** Wild nature in town! Spring-summer: Rufous Hummingbirds, Common Yellowthroats; Violet-green, Cliff, Barn Swallows; Swainson's Thrushes. Winter: Greater White-fronted Geese; American, some Eurasian Wigeons; Mew, Ring-billed Gulls. Year-round: California Quail; Great Blue, Green Herons; Red-tailed Hawks, Bushtits; Bewick's, Marsh Wrens; Spotted Towhees, American Goldfinches.

**VIEWING:** Environmental center offers maps. From deck see spring's Yellow, Yellow-rumped Warblers; wintering Wood Ducks, Hooded Mergansers. Bird by canoe, kayak, bike, foot. Best birding on Heritage and Bellefield loops of 2.5 miles of trails. Bonus: turtles, river otters; summer dragonflies; fall blueberries, salmon.

**ACCESS:** From I-90, take exit 9 (Bellevue Wy NE). Exit ramp becomes Bellevue Wy SE northbound. Drive 0.7 mile. (Do NOT turn right at 0.3 mile into 112th Ave park-and-ride.) Veer right onto 112th Ave SE. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn right onto SE 8th St. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right onto 118th Ave SE. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right into environmental center parking.

## 10 Juanita Bay Park



**HABITAT:** City's family-friendly 110 acres, deciduous trees, marsh, lake.

**BIRDING:** Lake Washington hosts flashy Wood Ducks, Gadwalls, Green-winged Teal, Lesser Scaups, Hooded Mergansers, Pied-billed Grebes. Spring-fall: Soras, Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, Cedar Waxwings, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles. Year-round: Bald Eagles, Virginia Rails, Wilson's Snipes.

**VIEWING:** 3 paved trails lead to boardwalks through wetlands to lake. East boardwalk's north end: migrating Greater Yellowlegs; Western, Least Sandpipers; Long-billed Dowitchers. Cross Market

St on Forbes Ck Dr 0.1 mile to park addition. Walk 0.1-mile gated gravel road for Northern Flickers, Pileated Woodpeckers, Pacific Wrens; Fox, Song, White-, Golden-crowned Sparrows.

**ACCESS:** From I-405, take exit 18 (NE 85th St/Kirkland). Drive 0.3 mile toward Kirkland, merging westbound onto NE 85th St. Drive 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Market St. Drive 1.3 miles. Turn left onto Forbes Ck Dr into park.

## 11 Marymoor Birdloop



**HABITAT:** County's 640 acres of riparian, deciduous forest, marsh, grassland.

**BIRDING:** Blue Ribbon mornings offer 50+ species year round, even more spring and fall. Summer nesters: Wood Ducks, Green Herons, Ospreys, Bald Eagles, Rufous Hummingbirds, Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Western Wood-Pewees, Willow Flycatchers, Swainson's Thrushes, Yellow Warblers, Black-headed Grosbeaks. Winter: possible White-fronted, Snow Geese in large flocks of Cackling, Canada Geese; Fox, Lincoln's, Golden-crowned Sparrows. Spring, fall: Warbling, Red-eyed Vireos; Wilson's, Black-throated Gray Warblers; Western Tanagers, American Pipits in fall.

**VIEWING:** Take 1.7-mile Grassy Meadow trail clockwise for wintering Northern Shrikes, Western Meadowlarks; boardwalk for Virginia Rails; lake platform for Gadwalls, Green-winged Teal, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes; Hooded, Common Mergansers; Pied-billed, Horned, Western Grebes. Bonus: river otters, summer dragonflies, fall migrating salmon.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 520 take W Lake Sammamish Pkwy NE exit. Turn south onto W Lake Sammamish Pkwy NE. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left onto NE Marymoor Wy. Drive 0.8 mile. Turn right to Lot G entrance. Drive 0.1 mile. Park in SE corner by birding kiosk.

## 12 Lake Sammamish State Park



**HABITAT:** Family-friendly 512 acres: mixed forest, creek, wetland, lake.

**BIRDING:** Spring features noisy Great Blue Heron nesting colony. Summer: Ospreys, Spotted Sandpipers, Band-tailed Pigeons, Swainson's Thrushes, Warbling Vireos, Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, Bullock's Orioles. Spring-fall: Green Herons, Red-breasted Sapsuckers. Fall-spring: Barrow's Goldeneyes, Common Loons; Horned, Western Grebes; Double-crested Cormorants; Mew, Ring-billed, California Gulls; Belted Kingfishers.

**VIEWING:** Walk lakeshore north to point. Follow Issaquah Creek inland, cross footbridge, take Trail #6 Feb-April to heron colony at 0.2 mile. Take 0.6-mile Trail #5, 0.4-mile Trail #7 for Savannah Sparrows spring-fall; Fox, Golden-crowned fall-spring. On summer weekends, bird early mornings. Bonus: fall migrating salmon.

**ACCESS:** From I-90 take exit 15 (Hwy 900 W/17th Ave NW). Turn north onto 17th Ave NW. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn left onto NW Sammamish Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right into park. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left to parking. Drive 0.1 mile to west end of lot.

## 13 Snoqualmie Valley Trail



**HABITAT:** WDFW-cnty-city wetlands, fields, lakes, river by 31-mile trail.

**BIRDING:** Feathered treasures all year! Spring-summer: American Bitterns, Rufous Hummingbirds, Pacific-slope Flycatchers,

Swainson's Thrushes; Orange-crowned, Yellow, Black-throated Gray Warblers; Western Tanagers, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles. Fall-spring: Gadwalls, Pied-billed Grebes; Fox, Golden-crowned Sparrows. Winter: Trumpeter Swans, Pine Siskins. Year-round: Wood Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, Great Blue Herons, Bald Eagles, Virginia Rails, Belted Kingfishers, Red-breasted Sapsuckers; Downy, Hairy, Pileated Woodpeckers; Common Ravens, Brown Creepers, White-crowned Sparrows.

**VIEWING:** Bird by foot, bike, boat. **Three Forks Natural Area**

– Spring-summer: Wilson's Warblers, possible Lazuli Buntings. Fall-spring: Greater Scaups, Double-crested Cormorants. Winter: Golden-, Ruby-crowned Kinglets. Take 2nd gate to trail, walk south for resident Yellow-rumped Warblers. Walk north for summer's Warbling, Red-eyed Vireos. Bonus: Meadowbrook Farm, elk herd, 500-year-old cedar tree. **Tolt-MacDonald Park** – Spring: Purple Finches, Evening Grosbeaks. Cross swinging bridge, turn right, walk 0.5 mile by river. Hike hillside. Take ADA trail. Check marsh. Walk under highway bridge to Tolt River for American Dippers. **Stillwater Unit** – Spring-summer: nesting Spotted Sandpipers, Bank Swallows. Walk 0.7 mile on east side trail to river. **McCormick Park** – Spring-fall: American Goldfinches. Fall-spring: Common Mergansers. Walk west to river or ADA trail to pond; best birding south for 0.5 mile on Snoqualmie Valley Trail.

**ACCESS: Three Forks** – From I-90 take exit 31 (Hwy 202/North-Bend), turn north onto Hwy 202/ Bendingo Blvd. Drive 1.4 miles. Turn right onto Boalch Ave NW/SE Park St. Drive 1.5 miles. Turn right into parking. **Tolt-MacDonald** – From Hwy 203 at milepost 5.7/Tolt Ave in Carnation, turn west onto 40th St. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn left into parking. **Stillwater** – From Hwy 203 at milepost 8.9 turn west into WDFW parking area. **McCormick** – From Hwy 203 at milepost 14.7/Main St NE in town of Duvall, turn west onto NE Stephens St. Drive 0.1 mile to parking.

**14 Cedar River Trail Park**   

**HABITAT:** City's family-friendly 24 acres: river, freshwater estuary.

**BIRDING:** Lake guarantees great gull spotting: Mew, Ring-billed, Herring, Western, California, Thayer's; occasional rarities like Slaty-backed, Glaucous; Buffleheads; Barrow's, Common Golden-eyes; Western Grebes, Double-crested Cormorants. See Greater White-fronted Geese on grass; Yellow-rumped Warblers, Spotted Towhees; Song, White-crowned Sparrows in shrubs.

**VIEWING:** Walk 0.1 mile to boathouse platform: see sandbars, logs in lake. Bird first 0.5 mile of 4.5-mile riverside trail.

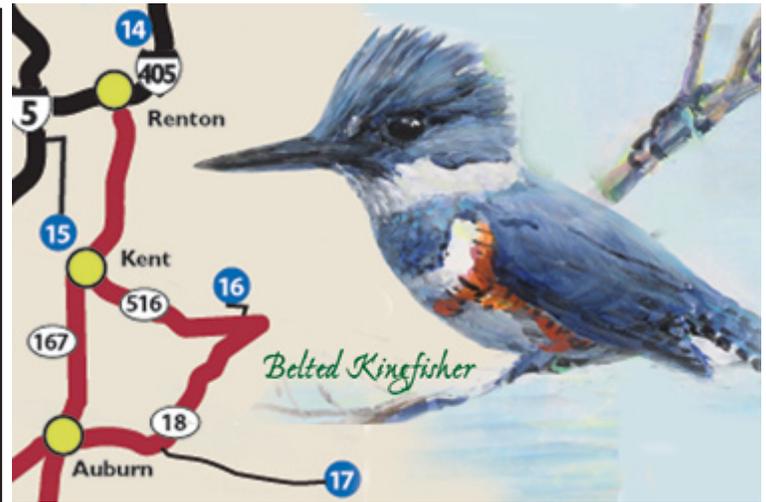
**ACCESS:** From I-405 take exit 5 (N Park Ave/Sunset Blvd). Veer right onto N Park Ave. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right onto N 6th St. Drive 0.2 mile. Cross intersection; veer right into park/Nishiwaki La. Drive to north end parking.

**15 Green River Natural Area (Kent Ponds)**



**HABITAT:** 304 acres of restored marsh, meadow, deciduous forest.

**BIRDING:** A magnet for avian wetland lovers. Spring-summer: Ospreys, Willow Flycatchers; Tree, Violet-green, Cliff, Barn Swallows; Common Yellowthroats, Lazuli Buntings. Fall-winter: Hooded Mergansers. Fall-spring ducks: Wood, Ring-necked, Ruddy; plus Northern Shovelers, Northern Pintails. Year-round: Pied-billed



Grebes, American Bitterns, Great Blue Herons, Bald Eagles; Cooper's, Red-Tailed Hawks; Bewick's, Marsh Wrens.

**VIEWING: Ponds** – Walk 0.3 mile to ponds overlook. **Natural Area** – Take 1.3-mile trail through meadows to viewing towers.

**ACCESS: Ponds** – From I-5 take exit 152 (S 188th St/Orillia Rd). Turn east, then right onto Orillia Rd/S 212th. Drive 2.7 miles. Turn right onto 64th Ave S. Drive 0.7 mile. Turn right onto 226th St; turn right again into small parking area by chain-link gate. **Natural Area** – Turn right onto 64th Ave. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right onto 228th Ave. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right onto Russell Rd. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right into parking.

**16 Soos Creek Park**  

**HABITAT:** 720 acres of mixed riparian woods, wetlands, fields.

**BIRDING:** Neotropical migrants fill woods with spring singing: Western Wood-Pewees; Olive-sided, Willow, Pacific-slope Flycatchers; Warbling Vireos, Swainson's Thrushes; Orange-crowned, Black-throated Gray Warblers; Black-headed Grosbeaks. Spring-fall: Great Horned Owls, Common Yellowthroats. Year-round: Red-tailed Hawks, Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Pileated Woodpeckers, Chestnut-backed Chickadees.

**VIEWING:** Bird by bike or foot: 6.2-mile ADA trail extends north, south. North: 0.5 mile through riparian to willow/cattail marsh at 2 miles. South: 100 yards to Great Blue Heron nests, 0.5 mile to forested wetlands. Bonus: fall salmon spawning.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 167 at milepost 20.0, take Hwy 516/Willis/Des Moines exit. Turn east onto Hwy 516. Drive 4.8 miles (through town of Kent). Turn left onto 132nd Ave SE. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right onto SE 256th St. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn left onto 148th Ave SE. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right into parking.

**MORE BIRDING:** **Gary Grant Park** for eye-to-eye views of Hut-ton's Vireos, Hairy Woodpeckers, Purple Finches. Turn right onto 148th Ave SE. Drive 0.3 mile. Veer left onto SE 240th St. Drive 0.1 mile. Veer right onto 148th Ave SE. Drive 2.2 miles. Turn left onto SE 208th St. Drive 0.2 mile to park.

**17 Flaming Geyser State Park**   

**HABITAT:** 480 family-friendly acres, mixed forest, marsh, 3-mile river shoreline.

**BIRDING:** Feathers flash in spring, summer: Cassin's, Warbling Vireos (Red-eyed possible); Swainson's Thrushes, Pacific-slope Flycatchers, Western Tanagers, Vaux's Swifts; Tree, Violet-green Swallows.

Spring-fall: Virginia Rails; Willow, Olive-sided Flycatchers; Common Yellowthroats. Year-round: Common Mergansers, Red-breasted Sapsuckers; Downy, Hairy Woodpeckers; Belted Kingfishers, American Dippers, Steller's Jays, Common Ravens.

**VIEWING:** Mornings best. Walk meadow edges, perimeter loop, Salmon Interpretive Trail.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 167 at milepost 6.0, take Hwy 18E/Auburn exit. Turn east onto Hwy 18. Drive 3.3 miles. Take Auburn-Black Diamond Rd exit. Turn right onto Auburn-Black Diamond Rd. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right onto SE Green Valley Rd. Drive 8.2 miles. Turn right onto SE Flaming Geyser Rd. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right. Drive 0.7 mile to picnic parking.



## 18 Mt. Rainier National Park - Sunrise



**HABITAT:** 6400-foot elevation meadows, subalpine old-growth forest.

**BIRDING:** Visit northeast side of Mt. Rainier during snow-free August-September for prize species: White-tailed Ptarmigan, Sooty Grouse, Northern Saw-whet Owls, Mountain Bluebirds; Gray-crowned Rosy-, Cassin's Finches; Red Crossbills – plus Vaux's Swifts, Rufous Hummingbirds.

**VIEWING:** Check trees by visitor center for Gray Jays, Clark's Nutcrackers, Mountain Chickadees, Pine Grosbeaks. In fall, take 1.5-mile Sunrise Nature Trail, 3-mile Sourdough Ridge Trail for migrating raptors: Northern Goshawks, Rough-legged Hawks, Golden Eagles, American Kestrels, Merlins, Prairie Falcons. Best chance for rosy-finches, ptarmigan: strenuous 4.8-mile Burroughs Mountain Trail. Bonus: marmots, pikas, elk.

**ACCESS:** At intersection of highways 167 and 410, turn east onto Hwy 410. Drive 56 miles to White River entrance to park. At milepost 62, turn west onto Sunrise Park Rd. Drive 16 miles to visitor center.

**MORE BIRDING:** **Paradise** (5560-foot elevation on south side of Mt. Rainier) has trails with easy access to open subalpine parkland, wildflower meadows for nesting Horned Larks, American Pipits. In the town of Elbe, take Hwy 706. Drive 14.6 miles. Turn east onto Paradise-Longmire Rd. Drive 16.2 miles to parking.

## 19 Foothills Trail



**HABITAT:** County's 8-mile rails-to-trails greenbelt; creek, wetlands, riparian foliage.

**BIRDING:** Sweet suite of migrants nest in spring: Hammond's, Willow Flycatchers; Warbling, Cassin's, Red-eyed Vireos; Orange-crowned, Black-throated Gray, Wilson's Warblers; plus possible Eastern King-

birds, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Lazuli Buntings. Fall: Turkey Vultures. Winter: Northern Pygmy-Owls; Lincoln's, Golden-crowned Sparrows; Varied Thrushes. Year-round: Red-breasted Sapsuckers.

**VIEWING:** Best birding within 3 miles of South Prairie trailhead. 1) Go east 0.1 mile to bridge for American Dippers. 2) Go west 0.9 mile past homes, fields to riparian woods for Western Tanagers; to picnic area wetland at 1.8 miles for Green Herons, Solitary Sandpipers, Wilson's Snipes. Caution: summer weekend bicycles.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 167 at milepost 7.1, take Hwy 410/Sumner-Yakima exit. Turn east onto Hwy 410. Drive 5.8 miles. Turn right onto S Prairie Rd E. Drive 4.1 miles. Turn right onto Hwy 162. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left into trailhead parking.

## 20 Dash Point State Park



**HABITAT:** 398 acres of mixed forest, 0.6-mile saltwater shore.

**BIRDING:** Scope nearshore waters during mid-to-high tide for Surf, White-winged Scoters; Common Loons, Horned Grebes, Mew Gulls. In spring: Pacific-slope Flycatchers; Orange-crowned, Black-throated Gray, Wilson's Warblers; Western Tanagers. Fall-spring: Great Blue Herons, Bald Eagles, Band-tailed Pigeons; Downy, Hairy, Pileated Woodpeckers; Steller's Jays, Hutton's Vireos, Pacific Wrens, Townsend's Warblers.

**VIEWING: Beach** – From Picnic Point, bluff

trail drops to beach; from beach parking, walk shoreline, ravine trail. **Woods** – Walk 0.5-mile loop through campground.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 143 (Federal Way/S 320th St). Turn west onto S 320th St. Drive 4.6 miles. At T, turn right onto 47th Ave SW. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn left onto Hwy 509/Dash Pt Rd. Drive 0.8 mile. **Beach** – Turn right into park. Drive 1 block. At T, turn right. Drive 0.3 mile to Picnic Point parking. Return to T. Drive straight 0.5 mile to beach parking. **Woods** – Cross Dash Pt Rd to camping area of park. Park in pullout on left after kiosk.

**MORE BIRDING: Dumas Bay Wildlife Sanctuary** for Barred Owls; Ruby-, Golden-crowned Kinglets in woods; American Wigeons (possible Eurasians), Barrow's Goldeneyes, Bonaparte's Gulls at bay. From Dash Point State Park, turn left onto Hwy 509/Dash Pt Rd. Drive 0.8 mile. Turn left onto 44th Ave SW. Drive 0.2 mile to parking on right.

## 21 West Hylebos Wetlands Park



**HABITAT:** 120 acres of forest, marsh, creek, pond, meadow, orchard.

**BIRDING:** Hylebos Creek nourishes rich birdlife: Red-tailed, Sharp-shinned Hawks; Barred Owls; Downy, Hairy, Pileated Woodpeckers plus Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Northern Flickers; Steller's Jays, Brown Creepers; Bewick's, Pacific Wrens. Spring-summer: Wood Ducks, Rufous Hummingbirds, Swainson's Thrushes, Wilson's Warblers, Western Tanagers, Green Herons. Fall-winter: Gadwalls, Ring-necked Ducks; Golden-, Ruby-crowned Kinglets; Fox Sparrows.

**VIEWING:** Take 0.1-mile gravel path to kiosk, 1.0-mile boardwalk loop with Brooklake viewing platform. 0.1-mile gravel path leads through orchard to Marlake. Bonus: historic log cabins, summer dragonflies.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 142-B (Hwy 18 W). Turn west onto Hwy 18/S 348th St. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn left into parking.



## 22 Commencement Bay

**HABITAT:** Port of Tacoma-city's river estuary, wetland, saltwater.

**BIRDING:** THE place in Puget Sound to find Thayer's Gulls Nov-Feb.

Plus more gulls: Ringed-billed, Glaucous-winged, California, occasional Herring, hybrid mixes. Check river for American Wigeons, Green-winged Teal, Belted Kingfishers; ponds for Great Blue, Green Herons. Spring, fall shorebird migration: Greater Yellowlegs; Western, Least Sandpipers; Dunlin, Long-billed Dowitchers.

**VIEWING: Gog-Le-Hi-Te Wetlands** – 0.1-mile ADA trail leads to viewing platform. Take 0.5-mile dike trail to left. Bonus: harbor seals, salmon migration. **Les Davis Pier** – Up-close sightings of wintering Barrow's Goldeneyes; Pacific, Common, occasional Yellow-billed Loons; Horned Grebes. Bonus: winter scuba divers.

**ACCESS: Wetlands** – From I-5 southbound, take exit 135 (Puyallup/Portland Ave N). From I-5 northbound, take exit 134 (Port of Tacoma/Portland Ave N). Turn north onto Portland Ave. Drive 0.7 mile. Turn right onto Lincoln Ave. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right into wetlands parking. **Les Davis Pier** – Return to Portland Ave. Turn left. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right onto Hwy 509 S toward City Center. Drive 1.0 mile. Take exit onto Shuster Pkwy. Drive 2.3 miles. Veer left onto Ruston Way N. Drive 1.4 miles. Turn right into parking.

**MORE BIRDING: Julia's Gulch** for year-round Downy Woodpeckers, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Bushtits. From Gog-Le-Hi-Te Wetlands, return to Portland Ave, turn left. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn left onto Puyallup Ave/Pacific Hwy E/Hwy 99. Drive 2.4 miles. Turn left onto 54th Ave E. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right onto Hwy 509/Marine View Dr. Drive 1.7 miles. Turn right onto Norpoint Way NE. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right into parking. Walk north to 0.5-mile steep, primitive ravine trail.

## 23 Point Defiance Park

**HABITAT:** 703 acres of old-growth, mixed forest; saltwater shore.

**BIRDING:** Biologically rich waters beckon avian array: Pelagic, Brandt's, Double-crested Cormorants; Bonaparte's, Mew Gulls; Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, Rhinoceros Auklets, Purple Martins. Woodlands in winter: Varied Thrushes, Townsend's Warblers. Year-round: Bald Eagles, Pileated Woodpeckers, Hutton's Vireos, Steller's Jays, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Red Crossbills.

**VIEWING:** Maps at entrance kiosk. Bird by bike, drive 5-mile Scenic Dr. Hike 4.5-mile Square Trail: from Zoo **Lot B**, walk 0.2 mile north on trail into forest to picnic overlook; from **Owen Beach**, walk 0.2 mile northwest to clay banks for Belted Kingfisher nest

holes; **Fort Nisqually**, check meadow edges for Vaux's Swifts, Violet-green Swallows. Bonus: 450-year-old Mountaineers Tree, harbor seals. Caution: walk shoreline only at low tide.

**ACCESS:** From I-5 take exit 132 (Hwy 16 W/Gig Harbor/Bremerton). Drive 4.0 miles. Take exit 3 (Hwy 163N/Ruston/6th Ave). At light, stay straight onto Bantz Blvd. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right onto Pearl St. Drive 3.0 miles to Point Defiance Park. Zoo **Lot B** – From entrance drive straight 0.8 mile. **Owen Beach** – From Lot B, drive 0.9 mile. Turn right, drive 0.1 mile to beach parking. **Fort Nisqually** – From Owen Beach, return 0.1 mile to intersection, drive straight 0.8 mile. Park in first lot.

## 24 Tacoma Nature Center

**HABITAT:** City's family-friendly 70-acre freshwater wetland/forest.

**BIRDING:** Fancy ducks rule lake: Wood Ducks, Mallards, Hooded Mergansers. Wetlands, woods bustle with Bewick's and Marsh Wrens, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Cedar Waxwings, Spotted Towhees; Song, Golden-crowned Sparrows; Dark-eyed Juncos.

**VIEWING:** Take 0.5-mile ADA loop trail; 0.5-mile 1st Bridge Trail loop; 1.0-mile 2nd Bridge Trail; 0.7-mile Hillside Trail loop.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 132 (Hwy 16 W/Gig Harbor/Bremerton/ Sprague Ave). Merge onto Hwy 16 West. Drive 3.2 miles. Take exit 2A (S 19th St E), turn right onto S 19th St. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn right onto S Tyler St. Turn left into parking.

## 25 Fort Steilacoom Park

**HABITAT:** Municipal 340 acres with lake, woods, meadow, orchard.

**BIRDING:** Spot spring's baby American Coots in lily pads. Bullock's Orioles nest. Tree, Violet-green, Cliff, Barn Swallows forage. Fall-spring: Wood Ducks, Northern Shovelers, occasional Canvasbacks, Redheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaups, Pied-billed Grebes, Double-crested Cormorants, Belted Kingfishers.

**VIEWING:** walk 1-mile ADA trail around lake. Take 0.5-mile orchard trail up hill for Western Screech-Owls; check barns for Great Horned, Barn Owls.

**ACCESS:** From I-5 take exit 25 (Bridgeport Wy/McCord Field). Turn north onto Bridgeport Wy SW. Drive 2.2 miles. Turn left onto Steilacoom Blvd SW. Drive 1.7 miles, staying left. Turn left onto 87th Ave SW. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right into park and left onto Waughop Lake Rd SW. Drive 0.5 mile. Park at Discovery Trail trailhead by barns.

**MORE BIRDING: Adriana Hess Audubon Center** in 2-acre secluded wetland park (ADA trail, viewing platform). Return to Steilacoom Blvd SW. Turn right. Drive 1.7 miles. Turn left onto Bridgeport Wy. Drive 4.5 miles. Turn right onto 27th St W. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right onto Morrison Rd W. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left into parking.

## 26 Penrose Point State Park

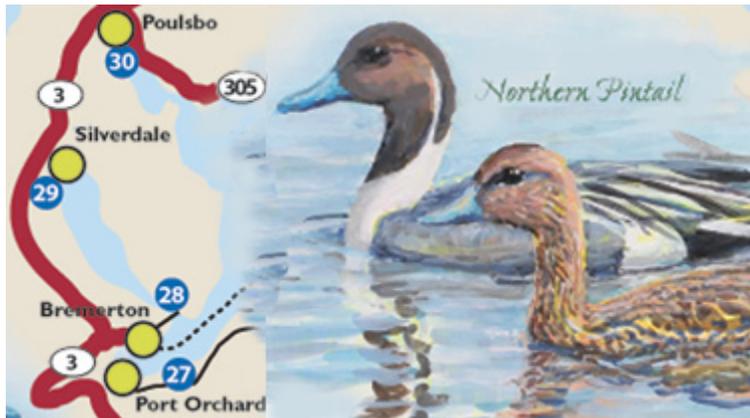
**HABITAT:** 152 acres of mixed shrubs, woods; 2-mile saltwater shore.

**BIRDING:** Fingers of sand stretch into saltwater world of Harlequin Ducks, Pacific Loons; Common, Barrow's Goldeneyes; Hooded Mergansers. Forest sustains Black-capped, Chestnut-backed Chickadees; Brown Creepers; Bewick's, Pacific Wrens.

**VIEWING:** Walk 0.2-mile Touch of Nature interpretive trail; 1.0-mile Penrose Point loop; 0.5-mile sand spit at low tide. Explore 2.5 miles of woodland trails. Bonus: harbor seals.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 16 take Purdy/Hwy 302 W/Key Center exit. Drive 1.1 miles. Turn west onto Hwy 302/Key Peninsula Hwy N. Drive 5.3 miles. Veer left onto Key Peninsula Hwy N/Gig Harbor Longbranch Rd. Drive 9.0 miles. Turn left onto Cornwall Rd KPS. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right onto Delano Rd KPS. Drive 0.8 mile. Turn left onto 158th Ave KPS. Drive 0.5 mile. At T, turn right. Drive 0.1 mile. Park at interpretive trail.

**MORE BIRDING: Joemma Beach State Park** for wintering Common Loons, Red-necked Grebes; spring's Purple Martins in nest boxes on piers; year-round: Downy, Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Flickers. Return to 158th. Turn left. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Delano Rd KPS. Drive 0.8 mile. Turn left onto Cornwall Rd KPS. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn left onto Key Peninsula Hwy. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Whiteman Rd. Drive 2.2 miles staying left. Turn right onto Bay Rd KPS. Drive 0.8 mile. Turn left into parking.



## 27 Sinclair Inlet



**HABITAT:** Port's waterfront park on Puget Sound.

**BIRDING:** Wintering waterbirds to right, left, ahead, overhead!

Thousands of American Wigeons, some Eurasians; hundreds of Surf Scoters, Western Grebes; dozens of White-winged Scoters; Common, Barrow's Goldeneyes. Also abundant Hooded, Red-breasted Mergansers; Horned, Red-necked Grebes; some Greater Scaups. Double-crested, Pelagic Cormorants; Bald Eagles perch on pilings. Fall: Black Turnstones, Surf-birds, Bonaparte's Gulls.

**VIEWING:** Scan inlet from 0.1-mile boardwalk promenade.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 16 at milepost 26.8 (Old Clifton/Tremont St), exit onto Tremont St. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn left onto Sidney Ave. Drive 1.3 miles (crossing Hwy 166/Bay St). Turn right. Drive 0.1 mile to 2-hour parking at waterfront by restrooms.

**MORE BIRDING: Annapolis Ferry Dock** for Mew Gulls. Return to Hwy 166/Bay St. Turn left. Drive 1.3 miles (veering left at 0.4 mile). Turn left into park-and-ride lot. **Port of Waterman Pier** for Harlequin Ducks, Brandt's Cormorants. Return to Bay St/Beach Dr E. Turn left. Drive 2.6 miles. Turn left into parking.

**EVEN MORE BIRDING: Manchester State Park** – See birds of Fort Ward Park (across saltwater). Continue on Bay St/Beach Dr E. 1.9 miles. Turn left onto E Hillgate Rd. Drive 0.9 mile to beach parking. Walk to shore; take path to right.

## 28 Lions Park



**HABITAT:** City's 15 family-friendly acres, saltwater shoreline.

**BIRDING:** Marine birds flock to sheltered bay. Main highlights: Long-tailed Ducks! Plus Surf, White-winged Scoters; Common, Barrow's

Goldeneyes; Red-breasted Mergansers. American, Eurasian Wigeons; Horned, Red-necked, Western Grebes.

**VIEWING:** Survey Port Washington Narrows from shoreside trail, pier.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 3 in Bremerton at milepost 38.7, turn east onto Hwy 310/Kitsap Wy. Drive 1.4 miles. Turn left onto 11th St. Drive 1.1 miles. Turn left onto Hwy 303/Warren Ave. Drive 0.9 mile. Exit right onto Clare Ave. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right onto Lebo Blvd. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn left onto Hefner St. Drive 1 block to parking.

**MORE BIRDING: Evergreen Rotary Park** for Hooded Mergansers. Return to Lebo Blvd. Turn right. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn left onto Juniper St. Drive 0.2 mile; becomes highway on-ramp. On Hwy 303/Warren Ave, drive 0.9 mile. Turn left onto 11th Ave. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left onto Park St. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right onto 14th St. Drive 1 block. Turn left onto Sheldon Blvd into park.

**EVEN MORE BIRDING: Lower Rota Vista Park** for inland colony of roosting, nesting Pelagic Cormorants plus nesting Peregrine Falcons – all on bridge supports. From Evergreen Park, return to 14th St. Turn right onto 14th St. Drive 1 block. Turn right onto Park Ave. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left onto 17th St. Drive 1 block. Turn right onto Elizabeth St. Drive 0.1 mile. Park at street end. Walk down steps.

## 29 Old Mill Park-Clear Creek Trail



**HABITAT:** Co.nty's 6 acres on saltwater; 6.5-mile trail by creek, woods.

**BIRDING:** Find favorites in saltwater, freshwater, forest, field. Fall-winter: Buffleheads; Common, Barrow's Goldeneyes; Dunlins; plus summer's Ospreys, Caspian Terns. Winter: Green-winged Teal. Spring-summer: Orange-crowned, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, Townsend's Warblers; Tree, Violet-green, Barn Swallows; American Goldfinches. Summer-fall: Cedar Waxwings. Year-round: Great Blue Herons, Bald Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, American Kestrels, Northern Flickers, Steller's Jays, Spotted Towhees.

**VIEWING: Old Mill Park** – Take trail to left along Dyes Inlet 0.2 mile to 0.5-mile paved path on water; or cross Bucklin Hill Rd to Clear Creek Interpretive Center for map, start of 5.0-mile trail.

**Clear Creek Meadows** offer 2.5-mile looping paths.

**ACCESS: Old Mill** – From Hwy 3 southbound, take exit 45 (Silverdale/Kitsap Mall). Turn right onto Kitsap Mall Blvd. Drive 0.9 mile. From Hwy 3 northbound, take exit 45A (Silverdale/Kitsap Mall) onto Hwy 303/Kitsap Mall Blvd. Drive south 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Silverdale Wy NW. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left onto NW Bucklin Hill Rd. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right into parking lot. **Clear Creek Meadows** – Return 0.2 mile on Bucklin Hill Rd. Turn right onto Silverdale Wy NW. Drive 1.8 miles. Turn left onto NW Schold Pl. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left on Schold Rd NW. Drive 0.1 mile. Park in pullout on right.

## 30 Liberty Bay



**HABITAT:** 4 city parks by saltwater; mixed woods, creek, wetland, fields.

**BIRDING: Oyster Plant Park's** nest gourds attract summer's Purple Martins. **Liberty Bay** sustains thick marine flocks fall-winter: See birds of 27 Sinclair Inlet plus Buffleheads, Western Grebes; Red-throated, Common Loons; Belted Kingfishers. **Fish Park** estuary in fall hosts Green-winged Teal, Greater Yellowlegs.

**VIEWING:** Walk **Oyster Plant** pier; **Liberty Bay Park** boardwalk to **American Legion Park**; **Fish Park's** 0.3-mile interpretive loop. Bonus: Suquamish Museum, [www.suquamish.nsn.us/Museum.aspx](http://www.suquamish.nsn.us/Museum.aspx)

**ACCESS:** From Route 305 at milepost 11.4 in Poulsbo, turn west onto NE Hostmark Dr. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left on 6th Ave NE. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn left onto Fjord Dr NE. Drive 0.1 mile to **Oyster Plant** parking on right. **Liberty Bay Park-American Legion Park** – Turn around; drive 0.5 mile north on Fjord Dr NE. Turn left onto Front St NE. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left onto King Harald V Vei/Anderson Pkwy. Drive 1 block to Liberty Bay Park lot. **Fish Park** – Return to Front St. NE. Turn left. Drive 0.9 mile. Veer left onto Lindvig Way NE. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right into parking.



### 31 Fort Ward Park



**HABITAT:** City's 137-acre mixed forest, 0.8 mile of saltwater shore.

**BIRDING:** Winter hillside comes alive at sunrise with Chestnut-backed, Black-capped Chickadees; Bushtits, Golden-crowned Kinglets; White-, Golden-crowned Sparrows; Yellow-rumped Warblers. Saltwater fall-spring: American Wigeons; Surf, White-winged, Black Scoters; Buffleheads; Common, Barrow's Goldeneyes; Horned, Red-necked, Western Grebes. Summer: Ospreys, Rufous Hummingbirds. Year-round: Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons; Sharp-shinned, Cooper's Hawks; Downy, Hairy, Pileated Woodpeckers; Hutton's Vireos, Pacific Wrens.

**VIEWING:** Scan saltwater. Walk or bike east on old 0.7-mile flat road. Take trail to right at 0.1 mile to bird blind. At 0.2 mile: wide water views with Brandt's, Pelagic, Double-crested Cormorants on pilings. 1.8-mile forest trail loops from boat ramp to upper parking, trail to Blakely Harbor. Bonus: sea lions on buoys.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 305 on Bainbridge Island at milepost 1.0, turn west onto High School Rd. Turn left onto Fletcher Bay Rd. Drive 1.3 miles. Turn right onto Lynwood Center Rd/Pleasant Beach Dr NE. Drive 1.7 miles, veering right at Y, to parking.

**MORE BIRDING:** **Schel-Chelb Estuary** for summer's Caspian Terns; spring, fall shorebirds; winter's Green-winged Teal. From park gate, return 1.2 miles on Pleasant Beach Dr NE (veering left at Y). Turn left onto Pt White Dr NE. Drive 0.1 mile. Park in pullout on right. Walk 0.1 mile further to estuary on right, sand shoreline on left.

### 32 Point No Point



**HABITAT:** 60 acres of saltwater shore, wetland, upland forest.

**BIRDING:** Churning tides create banquet for thousands of wintering Bonaparte's Gulls. Feast also draws Buffleheads; Red-throated, Pacific, Common Loons; Common Murres; Marbled, Ancient Murrelets. Fall: Common Terns pursued by Parasitic Jaegers. Spring:

migrating Western Tanagers, Cedar Waxwings. Summer: Heermann's Gulls, Rhinoceros Auklets, occasional Western Scrub-Jays. Year-round: Bald Eagles, Anna's Hummingbirds, Pileated Woodpeckers, Pacific Wrens.

**VIEWING:** Best at change of tides. Walk 0.1 mile to lighthouse. Take 0.1-mile trail through thickets to platform for saltwater, wetland vistas. Trail continues 1.1 miles to and through upland forest.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 104 at milepost 22.0 (2.2 miles west of downtown Kingston), turn north onto Hansville Rd NE. Drive 7.5 miles. Turn right onto Point No Point Rd NE. Drive 0.9 mile to parking area.

**MORE BIRDING:** **Norwegian Point Park** for fall's Black-bellied Plovers, Sanderlings, Dunlins; year-round Pigeon Guillemots; Brandt's, Double-crested, Pelagic Cormorants. Return on Point No Point Rd NE. Turn right onto Hansville Rd NE. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right to park.

**EVEN MORE BIRDING:** **Buck Lake** for summer's Pied-billed Grebes, Ospreys; year-round Marsh Wrens. From Norwegian Point, return 0.1 mile south on Hansville Rd NE. Turn right onto NE Buck Lake Rd. Drive 0.7 mile to park.

### 33 Possession Point State Park



**HABITAT:** Mixed upland forest, bluffs, cobble beach on saltwater.

**BIRDING:** Colliding currents serve up avian feasts close to shore. Fall-spring: Common, Red-breasted Mergansers; Common Loons; Horned, Red-necked, Western Grebes; Double-crested, Pelagic Cormorants. Pigeon Guillemots, Belted Kingfishers, Northern Rough-winged Swallows nest in bluffs. Spring migrants: Western Tanagers, Bullock's Orioles. Summer: Swainson's Thrushes. Winter: Ruby-, Golden-crowned Kinglets; Golden-crowned Sparrows. Year-round: Bald Eagles, Anna's Hummingbirds, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Pacific Wrens.

**VIEWING:** Take steep 0.2-mile trail down to Cascadia Marine Trail campsites; walk 0.2 mile south on beach to tip of island. Also bird by ferry: Mukilteo-Clinton.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 525 at milepost 11.2, turn west onto Cultus Bay Rd. Drive 4.8 miles. Continue straight onto Possession Rd. Drive 1.6 miles. Turn right onto Franklin Rd. Drive 0.3 mile to parking.

### 34 South Whidbey State Park



**HABITAT:** 347 acres of old mixed forest, saltwater shoreline.

**BIRDING:** Rich woodlands nourish resident Hairy, Pileated Woodpeckers; Pacific Wrens, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Brown Creepers, Golden-crowned Kinglets. Ruby-crowns come fall-spring. Winter: Varied Thrushes, Fox Sparrows. Year-round: Northern Saw-whet Owls, Common Ravens.

**VIEWING:** Walk 0.4-mile Discovery Trail loop spring-summer for Band-tailed Pigeons, Hutton's Vireos, Pacific-slope Flycatchers. Take 0.8-mile Wilbert Trail (across Smugglers Cove Rd) for summer's Black-throated Gray, Townsend's Warblers; Western Tanagers.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 525 at milepost 19, turn west onto Bush Point Rd/Smugglers Cove Rd. Drive 4.9 miles. Turn left into park, left again into parking.



**35 Crockett Lake and More**

(except Sunday)

**HABITAT:** State 1200 acres: 2-mile saltwater spit, lake, uplands.  
**BIRDING:** 3 distinct habitats – marine, lake, uplands – support varied, distinct birdlife.

**VIEWING: Keystone Spit #1** – Walk to beach for Pacific Loons fall-winter. Cross highway to **Crockett Lake** for shorebirds fall-spring: Black-bellied Plovers, Greater Yellowlegs, Western Sandpipers, Dunlins. Plentiful birds of prey: Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, Short-eared Owls. **Keystone Spit #2** – On spit watch for Lapland Longspurs (possible), Horned Larks in fall; Snow Buntings in winter. At **Crockett Lake** check pilings for Purple Martins in summer; Peregrine Falcons fall-spring; Trumpeter Swans, Northern Pintails in winter. **State Underwater Park** – Cormorants – Brandt's, Double-crested, Pelagic – perch on old dock, Pigeon Guillemots nest underneath; on jetty see Heermann's Gulls in summer; Harlequin Ducks, Bonaparte's Gulls fall-spring. **Fort Casey State Park Picnic Area** – Take 0.1-mile trail east through conifers for House Wrens in summer; Great Horned Owls year-round. Picnic area spring-fall: Cassin's Vireos; Orange-crowned, Wilson's Warblers; Evening Grosbeaks. Summer: Olive-sided Flycatchers. Year-round: California Quail. Also bird by ferry: Coupeville-Pt Townsend.

**ACCESS:** From intersection of Hwy 525 at milepost 30.5/Hwy 20 mp 17.6, turn west onto Hwy 20. Drive 2.1 miles. Turn left into **#1 Spit** parking area. Drive 1 block to T. Turn right. Drive 0.1 mile to viewing platform. Return to highway. Turn left. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn left into **#2 Spit** parking area. Return to highway. Turn left. Drive 0.6 mile. Turn left into **Underwater Park**. Return to highway. Turn left. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn left to lighthouse. Drive 0.6 mile. Park at Admiralty Head Interpretive Center for **Fort Casey Picnic Area**.

**36 Penn Cove** (except Sunday)

**HABITAT:** WDFW-county-city shoreline on saltwater.  
**BIRDING:** Superstars in the spotlight: Western Grebes; Surf, White-winged Scoters; Black Turnstones, Surfbirds, Sanderlings – with cameos by other marine species and birds of prey.  
**VIEWING: Capt. Thomas Coupe Park, Monroe Landing** for

rafts of dozens-to-thousands of scoters, hundreds of grebes. **Grasser's Lagoon** for carpets of shorebirds. Red-tailed, Rough-legged Hawks soar inland.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 20 at milepost 21.8, turn north onto N Main St. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn right onto NE 9th St. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn left into **Capt. Thomas Coupe Park**. Return on NE 9th to N Main. Turn right onto N Main. Drive 1 block. Turn left onto Coveland St. Drive 0.2 mile. Veer left onto Madrona Wy. Drive 2.5 miles. Turn right into unsigned WDFW parking circle for **Grasser's Lagoon**. Continue west 0.6 mile on Madrona Wy. Turn right onto Hwy 20. Drive 0.8 mile. Turn right onto Holbrook Rd. Drive 1 block. At T, turn left onto Penn Cove Rd. Drive 1.8 miles. Turn right into **Monroe Landing** parking.

**37 Fort Ebey State Park**



**HABITAT:** 645 acres of evergreens, pond, marsh, bluffs, saltwater shore.  
**BIRDING:** Conifer repast sustains flocks of Red Crossbills year-round. In forest: Olive-sided, Pacific-slope, Willow Flycatchers in summer; Sharp-shinned, Cooper's Hawks; Merlins, plus mixed winter flocks of Black-capped, Chestnut-backed Chickadees; Red-breasted Nuthatches, Golden-crowned Kinglets; Pacific, Bewick's Wrens. On pond: wintering Ring-necked Ducks, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes. In saltwater fall-spring: Harlequin Ducks; Horned, Red-necked Grebes.

**VIEWING:** Take 0.1-mile trail to **Lake Pondilla**, continue around pond to left 0.2 mile up to bluffs. Bonus: spring wildflowers, migrating gray whales; harbor, Dall's porpoises. Great Horned, Barred, Northern Saw-whet Owls nest along **Old Gun Battery Trail**.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 20 at milepost 25.3, turn west onto Libbey Rd. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn left onto Hill Valley Rd. Drive 0.6 mile. Turn right. Drive 0.3 mile. At T, turn right onto Lake Pondilla Rd. Drive 0.4 mile to **Lake Pondilla** parking. **Old Gun Battery** – Return to T. Go straight. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right. Drive 0.1 mile to parking.

**38 Swan Lake and More**

**HABITAT:** County's salt-marsh restoration; ocean bluffs, saltwater.  
**BIRDING:** Set scope for freshwater, coastal, and saltwater species. On lake: Gadwalls, Northern Pintails, Greater Scaups, Ruddy Ducks. By bluffs: Pigeon Guillemots' aerial courtship displays. On shore: Greater Yellowlegs, Whimbrels, Long-billed Dowitchers. In ocean: Long-tailed Ducks; Pacific, Common Loons.

**VIEWING:** Walk across W Beach Rd, down to lakeshore, dike. Also check marine waters, beach, bluffs.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 20 at milepost 30.8, turn west onto Swantown Ave. Drive 2.8 miles. At T, turn left onto W Beach Rd. Drive 0.9 mile to parking pullout on right.

**MORE BIRDING: Joseph Whidbey State Park** for American Bitterns, Virginia Rails, Soras, Common Yellowthroats; Yellow, Yellow-rumped Warblers spring-summer. Return 0.8 mile on W Beach Rd. Park, pullout on left. Walk 0.6-mile trail by freshwater wetlands, willows.

**39 Deception Pass State Park**



**HABITAT:** Marine waters, beaches, lake; old-growth, mixed forest.  
**BIRDING:** Wintering loons steal the show! In pass see rafts of Red-throated, Pacific, Common. Fall-spring find Brandt's, Pelagic, Double-crested Cormorants; Western, Red-necked Grebes; Mew,

Ring-billed, Thayer's Gulls; Common Murres, Marbled Murrelets, plus Black Oystercatchers. Year-round in treetops: Bald Eagles; in forest: Red-breasted Sapsuckers; Downy, Hairy, Pileated Woodpeckers; Northern Flickers, plus Pacific Wrens, Varied Thrushes (fall-winter), Yellow-rumped Warblers.

**VIEWING: West Beach-Cranberry Lake** – Walk north for Deception Pass, Strait of Juan de Fuca. Walk south on ADA 1.2-mile Sand Dune Interpretive Trail for Yellow, Black-throated Gray Warblers spring-fall. At 0.4 mile take short side path to lake viewing platform for nesting Pied-billed Grebes plus Soras, Marsh Wrens, Cedar Waxwings. Above lake: Vaux's Swifts spring, fall; Ospreys; Tree, Violet-green Swallows in summer. Bonus: harbor seals, harbor porpoise, deer. **Hoypus Hill** – Past gate, walk old road 0.8 mile to trailhead for 3-mile main loop in one of state's largest lowland old-growth forests.

**ACCESS: Beach-Lake** – From Hwy 20 at milepost 40.8, turn west into state park. Drive 0.4 mile. At T, turn left. Drive 0.8 mile to West Beach parking. **Hoypus** – From Hwy 20 at milepost 40.8, turn east onto Cornet Bay Rd. Drive 1.4 miles to boat launch parking.



**40 San Juan Island** 🌸🍃🍂🌿 ♿ 💰 ⬆️

**HABITAT:** Port-state-federal 1800+ acres on saltwater, prairie, forests.

**BIRDING:** Island-wide, see Bald Eagles, Black Oystercatchers, Common Ravens all year; Rufous Hummingbirds all summer; swallows spring-summer; Pacific, Common Loons offshore winter-spring; Harlequin Ducks near shore fall-spring. **Jackson Beach** – Griffin Bay hosts Long-tailed Ducks fall-spring; Rhinoceros Auklets in summer. San Juan Channel: Purple Martins nest on pilings, Horned Grebes fall-spring. At lagoon: Green-winged Teal fall-spring, Greater Yellowlegs in winter. **American Camp** – At NPS visitor center find California Quail in mornings, songbirds fall-spring: Bewick's, House Wrens; Wilson's Warblers, American Goldfinches. Cattle Point in winter: Surf, White-winged Scoters. South Beach: Sanderlings, Dunlin fall-spring; Western Sandpipers during migration; Heermann's Gulls summer-fall. Redoubt: Mountain Bluebirds in spring; Vesper, Savannah Sparrows spring-summer; Short-eared Owls in winter, plus Northern Harriers. **Lime Kiln State Park** – Scope Haro Strait for Marbled Murrelets and "bird balls." In forest: Brown Creepers, Red Crossbills year-round. **English Camp** – Ospreys nest above in meadow to east. In woods: Pacific-slope Flycatchers, Warbling Vireos, House Wrens, Townsend's Warblers spring-fall; Pileated Woodpeckers year-round. In meadow: Greater White-fronted (occasional), Cackling, Canada Geese in winter.

**VIEWING: Jackson** – Scan saltwater, lagoon; best early mornings.

**American Camp** – Map at visitor center shows trails, roads to Cattle Pass (Bonus: fall-spring Steller sea lions, lighthouse) and South Beach, Redoubt (Bonus: spring Camas meadows, resident red foxes).

**Lime Kiln** – Take 0.2-mile ADA path to overlook, 1.6-mile hiking trail. (Bonus: summer whale watching, lighthouse). **English Camp** – Map at kiosk shows trail to meadow, Bell Point, Young Hill (Bonus: 360° summit view). Also bird by ferry: Anacortes-Friday Harbor/Inter-island.

**ACCESS: Jackson** – From ferry dock drive east on Spring St 0.2 mile. Turn left onto Argyle Ave. Drive 0.7 mile. Turn left onto Pear Point Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right to Jackson Beach. Drive 1 block to parking on left. **American Camp** – Return on Pear Point Rd. Turn left onto Argyle Ave. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn left onto Cattle Point Rd. Drive 4.6 miles. Turn right. Drive 0.2 mile to visitor center. **Lime Kiln** – Return to park entrance. Turn left onto Cattle Point Rd. Drive 1.2 miles. Turn left onto False Bay Rd. Drive 3.4 miles. (At 2.5 miles, stop at pullout on left for wintering rafts of American Wigeons, occasional Eurasians.) At T, turn left onto Bailer Hill Rd/West Side Rd. Drive 4.9 miles to park. Drive 1 block to parking. **English Camp** – Return to park entrance. Turn left onto West Side Rd. Drive 4.3 miles. Veer right onto Mitchell Bay Rd. Drive 1.3 miles. At T, turn left onto West Valley Rd. Drive 1.5 miles to park entrance. Turn left. Drive 0.3 mile to parking.

**41 Lopez Island** 🌸🍃🍂🌿 ♿ (Odlin) 💰 ⬆️

**HABITAT:** 278 state-county acres in 4 places by saltwater, marsh; forest.

**BIRDING:** See island-wide birding of 40 San Juan Island. Fall-spring, seabirds on parade: Surf, White-winged Scoters; Horned, Red-necked Grebes; Common Murres, Rhinoceros Auklets. On shore: Long-billed Dowitchers in fall, Black-bellied Plovers in winter, Belted Kingfishers year-round. In forest spring-summer: Cassin's Vireos; Black-throated Gray, Townsend's, Wilson's Warblers; Western Tanager.

**VIEWING: Walk beaches. Odlin County Park, Spencer Spit State Park** – Take forest trails. **Otis Perkins Day County Park** – Check salt marsh. **Fisherman Bay Spit Preserve** – Follow mowed paths. (Bonus: Island Marbled Butterflies in summer.) Note: Spencer Spit closed in winter to vehicles, camping. Also bird by ferry: Anacortes-Friday Harbor/Inter-island.

**ACCESS: Odlin** – From ferry dock, drive south on Ferry Rd 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Odlin Park Rd. Drive 0.2 mile to parking.

**Otis Perkins** – Return to Ferry Rd. Turn right. Drive 0.8 mile. Veer right onto Fisherman Bay Rd. Drive 3.8 miles (through village). Turn right onto Bayshore Rd. Drive 0.6 mile. Park on left. **Fisherman Bay** – Continue on Bayshore Rd 0.7 mile. Turn left onto Peninsula Rd. Drive 0.8 mile to parking. **Spencer Spit** – Return on Peninsula and Bayshore to Fisherman Bay Rd. Turn left. Drive 1.6 miles. Turn right onto Hummel Lake Rd. Drive 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Port Stanley Rd. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right onto Bakerview Rd. Drive 0.5 mile to park; continue 0.4 mile to parking on right.

**42 Orcas Island** 🌸🍃🍂🌿 💰 ⬆️

**HABITAT:** Private wetland; WDFW lake; 5252 state alpine acres, forest.

**BIRDING:** See island-wide birding of 40 San Juan Island. **Frank Richardson Wildfowl Preserve** – Popular wetland home for Soras, Common Yellowthroats, Willow Flycatchers spring-summer; Pied-billed Grebes, Virginia Rails, Marsh Wrens year-round.



**Killebrew Lake** – Island's most reliable spot for MacGillivray's Warblers spring-summer; Wood Ducks spring-fall. **Moran State Park** – At higher elevation: Sooty Grouse, Common Nighthawks. In woods: Swainson's Thrushes, Purple Finches spring-fall; Hairy, Pileated Woodpeckers; Varied Thrushes year-round.

**VIEWING: Richardson** – View marsh from roadside. **Killebrew** – Primitive trail leads around marsh to right; bird by non-motorized boat. **Moran** – Map at Cascade Lake kiosk shows trails, road to Cascade Falls, Mt. Constitution. Spot American Dippers in creek by

0.2-mile Cascade Falls Trail. Bonus: 360° view from 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps summit lookout tower. Also bird by ferry: Anacortes-Friday Harbor/Inter-island.

**ACCESS: Richardson** – From ferry dock, turn west onto Orcas Rd. Drive 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Deer Harbor Rd. Drive 4.5 miles. Turn right onto Channel Rd. Drive 1.1 miles. Park in pullout on right.

**Killebrew** – From ferry dock, turn east onto Killebrew Lake Rd. Drive 2.4 miles. Park in pullout on left. **Moran** – Continue on Killebrew one block. Veer left onto Dolphin Bay Rd. Drive 5.4 miles (road turns right at 4.9 miles). At Y, stay straight onto Horseshoe Hwy/Orcas Rd. Drive 2.8 miles. Turn right onto Main St. Drive 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Olga Rd. Drive 3.6 miles to Cascade Lake parking on left.

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### Important Bird Areas

The worldwide Important Bird Areas (IBA) program identifies sites essential to healthy, long-term bird populations, and works for conservation of these sites. Audubon is the lead U.S. organization for the IBA program.

### Bird Information

- Audubon Washington, [wa.audubon.org](http://wa.audubon.org) with links to: Eastside, Kitsap, Rainier, San Juan, Seattle, Tahoma, Vashon-Maury, and Whidbey Audubon societies
- Washington Ornithological Society, [www.wos.org](http://www.wos.org)
- *A Birder's Guide to Washington*, by Hal Opperman, 10th printing 2011, American Birding Assn, Colorado Springs, CO, [www.americanbirding.org](http://www.americanbirding.org)
- *Birds of the Puget Sound Region*, by Bob Morse, Tom Aversa, Hal Opperman, 2003, RW Morse Co., Olympia, WA, [www.rwmorse.com](http://www.rwmorse.com)
- *Tweeters*, online discussion hosted by U of WA, [www.scn.org/earth/tweeters](http://www.scn.org/earth/tweeters)
- *BirdWeb*, Seattle Audubon's online WA bird guide, [www.birdweb.org](http://www.birdweb.org)
- *BirdNote!* Audio bird portraits, [www.BirdNote.org](http://www.BirdNote.org)

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