



Loggerhead Shrike

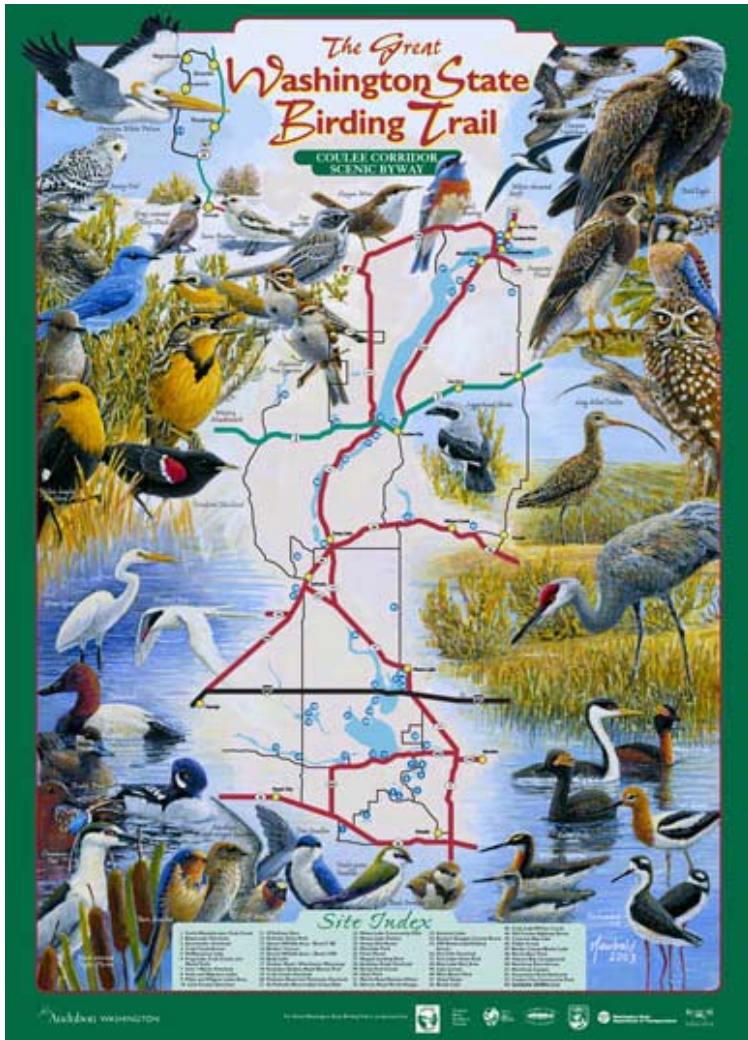
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The Great Washington State Birding Trail

COULEE CORRIDOR SCENIC BYWAY

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INFO KEY

MAP ICONS

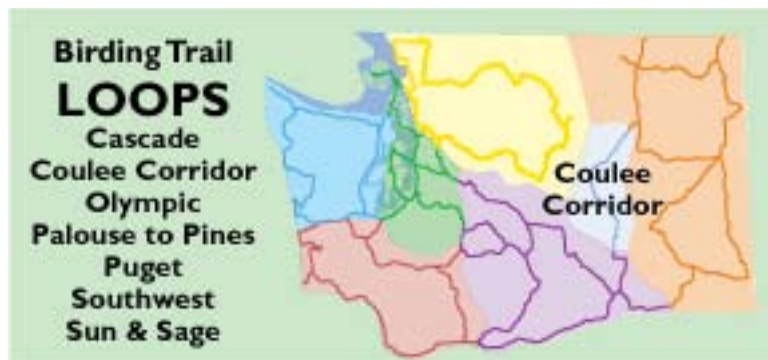
- Best seasons for birding** (spring, summer, fall, winter)
- Developed camping** available, including restrooms; fee required
- Restroom** available at day-use site
- Handicapped restroom** and handicapped trail or viewing access
- Site located in an Important Bird Area**
- Fee required.** Passes best obtained prior to travel.
Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and state parks require Discover Pass 866-320-9933, www.discoverpass.wa.gov;
USFS and USFWS 888-275-8747, www.nps.gov/passes

ABBREVIATIONS

- BuRec – US Bureau of Reclamation
- CNWR – Columbia National Wildlife Refuge
- USFWS - US Fish and Wildlife Service
- WDFW - Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- WSDOT – Washington State Dept. of Transportation

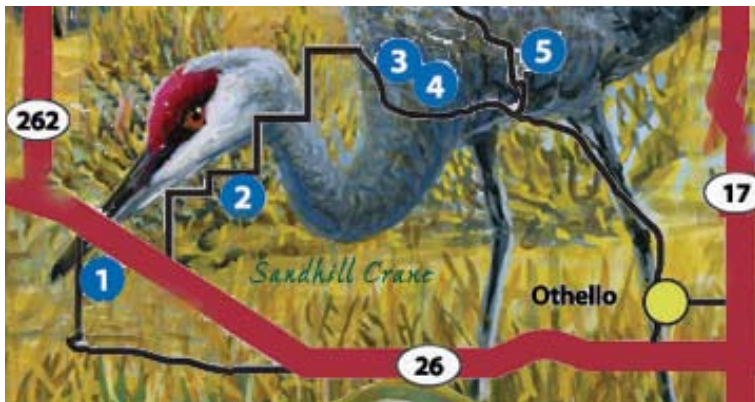
LOCAL SERVICES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Overall Washington information: <http://www.experiencewashington.com>
- Sandhill Crane Festival: late March, www.othellosandhillcranefestival.com
- Grant County Tourism: 1-800-992-6234, www.tourgrantcounty.com
- Sites 1-13: Othello Chamber of Commerce, 1-800-684-2556, www.othellochamber.com
- Sites 14-28: Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce, 324 Pioneer Way, Moses Lake, WA 98337, 509-765-7888, www.moseslake.com
- Sites 29-32: Ephrata Chamber of Commerce, Box 275, Ephrata, WA 98823, 509-754-4656, www.ephratawachamber.com
- Sites 33-38 and 53: Coulee City Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 896, Coulee City, WA 99115, 509-632-5043, www.couleecity.com
- Sites 39-43: Soap Lake Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 433, Soap Lake, WA 98851, 509-246-1821, www.soaplakcoc.org
- Sites 44-52: Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 760, Grand Coulee, WA 99133, 1-800-268-5332, www.grandcouleedam.org
- Site 54: Okanogan County Tourism 1- 888-431-3080, <http://www.okanogancountry.com/>
- Guides: Birding boat tours, Mar Don Resort, www.mardonresort.com



GENERAL INFORMATION

- This Birding Trail map should be used along with a state highway map **and** a map of the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge.
- Driving directions often give distances as mileage plus a fraction, e.g., "milepost 37.5", which means continue 0.5 mile beyond milepost 37.0.
- Many WDFW sites allow hunting September-January. Follow posted instructions and use caution.
- Watch for ticks and rattlesnakes in spring and summer.
- Disclaimer: Hiking and birding, even on established trails, can be dangerous. Audubon does not warrant conditions on or the safety of any site, and assumes no liability for injuries suffered as a result of travel or other activities associated with use of this map.



1 Corfu Woods and Lower Crab Creek



HABITAT: Private pasture, farmland, creeks, and shrub-steppe; plus 45 acres of cattail wetlands and deciduous woods managed by CNWR and WDFW.

BIRDING: Mid-March through mid-April, thousands of Sandhill Cranes and Canada Geese feed in refuge fields while Mallards fly overhead in clockwise swirls at dusk. Later in spring, woods attract migrating songbirds, especially warblers: Nashville, Orange-crowned, Townsend's, Wilson's, Yellow, and Yellow-rumped. Also watch for Lewis's Woodpeckers, Western Tanagers, 4 species of flycatchers, and 5 of sparrows. Bullock's Orioles and Western Kingbirds are common nesters. Great Horned Owls and Downy Woodpeckers live here year-round.

VIEWING: At beginning of Gillis Rd/Lower Crab Creek Rd (private land - stay on road easement), look in row of pines for Barn and Long-eared Owls. Along Crab Creek Rd, springtime alkaline wetlands host migrating American Avocets, Wilson's and Red-necked Phalaropes. Marsh birds include Yellow-headed and Red-winged Blackbirds, Great Blue Herons, Black-crowned Night-Herons, and Great Egrets. In summer, watch for Chukars on ground and Lark Sparrows in shrubs. South of Corfu Woods and adjacent to Rd B SE/Corfu Rd are mostly public lands for 3 miles. Eastern and Western Kingbirds, and Northern (winter) and Loggerhead Shrikes (year-round) sit on fence lines, Prairie Falcons perch on utility poles, and Golden Eagles soar overhead. In winter, American Tree Sparrows along with White-crowned, Song, and Savannah Sparrows gather along Corfu Rd. From parking area, walk across road, enter through pedestrian access and skirt woods. In spring, look for Long-billed Curlews displaying over refuge fields.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17 at milepost 29.4, turn west onto Cunningham Rd/Main St. Drive 1.8 miles into Othello. Stop by CNWR office at Main

and 7th Ave for free refuge map! Turn left (south) onto First Ave. Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right (west) onto Hwy 26. Drive 8 miles. At milepost 32.5, turn left (south) onto Gillis Rd/Lower Crab Creek Rd, which curves west. Drive 5.5 miles. Turn right (north) onto Rd B SE/Corfu Rd. Drive 2.5 miles to WDFW parking area on west. Drive north to return to Hwy 26 at milepost 26.5.

2 Royal Lake Overlook



HABITAT: 100 acres of lake and marsh managed by CNWR.

BIRDING: This major sanctuary site features all species of Columbia Basin waterfowl. November-April, Canada Geese and Mallards number in tens of thousands, along with plentiful Tundra Swans. Peregrine Falcons hunt the waterfowl. In spring, watch for Red-tailed and Swainson's Hawks, and nesting Long-billed Curlews. September-November and March-April, Sandhill Cranes fly to and from nearby roost sites.

VIEWING: Cross canal bridge and use scope to look down onto Royal Lake. Do not walk on canal road.

ACCESS: From Hwy 26 at milepost 28.8, turn north onto Rd D SE. Drive 1.9 miles. Turn right (east) onto Rd 15.1 SE. Drive 1 mile. Curve left (north) onto Rd E SE. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right (east) onto Rd 14.8. Drive 1 mile. Park at CNWR overlook.

3 Drumheller Overlook



HABITAT: Shrub-steppe of Drumheller Channeled Scablands formed by the ice-age floods, and wetlands formed by irrigation seepage.

BIRDING: Western Meadowlarks, Mourning Doves, and Lazuli Buntings sing atop shrubs while California Quail and Ring-necked Pheasants scurry on ground. In spring, listen and watch for Red-winged Blackbirds and Song Sparrows that nest in cattails, and for aerial "winnowing" display by Wilson's Snipes. In summer, Common Nighthawks swoop overhead for insects at dawn and dusk. Caspian Terns forage in Crab Creek while Redheads and Great Egrets feed in marshes.

VIEWING: Use scope at National Natural Landmark overlook to scan channeled scablands and nearby 1850s White Bluff cattle trail. Watch for Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, and American Kestrels.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17 at milepost 29.4, turn west onto Cunningham Rd/Main St. Drive 1.9 miles. Turn right (north) onto Broadway Ave/McManamon Rd. Drive 9.9 miles to parking lot on right (east) side of road.

4 Crab Creek Access



HABITAT: 4 miles of creek bordered by cattail marsh and basalt cliffs, managed by CNWR.

BIRDING: Along creek, look for Belted Kingfishers, Soras, Virginia Rails, Common Yellowthroats, and Marsh Wrens. Canyon and Rock Wrens fly near basalt cliffs where Barn and Great Horned Owls nest. Scan skies for Prairie Falcons, Say's Phoebes, and 6 species of swallows.

VIEWING: From parking lot, walk over Crab Creek bridge, then along service road 1 mile west or 3 miles east.

ACCESS: At intersection of Main and Broadway Ave/McManamon Rd in Othello, turn north on Broadway/McManamon. Drive 8.3 miles. Turn north onto unnamed gravel road. Drive 0.8 mile to CNWR parking area.

5 McManamon Lake



HABITAT: CNWR 5-acre lake bordered by cattails, plus sagebrush and basalt cliffs.

BIRDING: Spring migration brings 6 species of swallow, Lazuli Buntings, Bullock's Orioles, American Goldfinches, and Song and Lincoln's Sparrows. On the water, look for Mallards, Cinnamon and Green-winged Teals, and check cattails for abundant Red-winged Blackbirds and possibly

Tricolored Blackbirds. During summer, cattails attract Virginia Rails, American Bitterns, Black-crowned Night-Herons, and Marsh Wrens. In fall and winter, Ring-necked Ducks, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, and Hooded Mergansers are present.

VIEWING: View marshes from knoll on way to lake; walk 0.5-mile path around lake.

ACCESS: At intersection of Main and Broadway Ave/McManamon Rd in Othello, turn north on Broadway/McManamon. Drive 5.5 miles. Turn right (north) onto Morgan Lake Rd. Drive 1.3 miles to parking lot on right (east) side of road.



6 Frog Lake, Crab Creek and Marsh Trails



HABITAT: CNWR site with 2 miles of Crab Creek, more than 100 acres of riparian marsh, and shrub-steppe backed by a basalt butte.

BIRDING: Spring brings Song and Lincoln's Sparrows galore, plus numerous creek-side singers: Lazuli Buntings, Yellow-breasted Chats, Rock Wrens, Bullock's Orioles, and Eastern and Western Kingbirds. Violet-green, Northern Rough-winged, Bank, Cliff, and Barn Swallows fly over the creek. Other birds include Common Nighthawks, Vesper and White-crowned Sparrows, and sometimes Sage Thrashers. Receding wetland waters in April and May provide forage for shorebirds: breeding Killdeer, Black-necked Stilts, American Avocets, Wilson's Phalaropes, and Spotted Sandpipers. Migrating through going north are Western and Least Sandpipers, Dunlins, Greater Yellowlegs, and Long-billed Dowitchers, and, occasionally, Marbled Godwits and Black-bellied Plovers. A rare June visitor is the White-faced Ibis. Midsummer "marsh irrigations" attract Lesser Yellowlegs, Semipalmated Plovers, 5 species of sandpiper and many other shorebirds.

VIEWING: 1-mile Crab Creek Trail, 1.5-miles of Marsh Interpretive Trail, and Frog Lake Butte loop are open April 1-Sept. 30; take 2-mile Frog Lake Trail all year (trail gains 200 feet in last half-mile up Frog Lake Butte.)

ACCESS: At intersection of McManamon Rd and Morgan Lake Rd, turn north onto Morgan Lake Rd. Drive 3.5 miles. Park in lot on left (west). Cross road to trails.

7 Unit I Marsh Overlook



HABITAT: CNWR 100-acre marsh.

BIRDING: Spring features migrating shorebirds like American Avocets and Black-necked Stilts, while Sandhill Cranes, and Canada and White-fronted Geese stay to roost in marshlands. Spring and summer wading birds include American Bitterns, Great Blue Herons, and Great Egrets. In winter, Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons dine on abundant waterfowl.

VIEWING: From parking area, walk between boulders at opening in barbed wire fence, and past rock outcropping at left to vantage point above lake. Use scope to scan lake, marshes, and waterways. Do not disturb roosting cranes.

ACCESS: At intersection of McManamon Rd and Morgan Lake Rd, turn north onto Morgan Lake Rd. Drive 4.5 miles. At "T" intersection, turn right (east) toward Potholes Reservoir. Drive 0.4 mile up hill. Turn left (west) onto unnamed road. Drive 0.1 mile to gate, turn left onto unnamed dirt track, and drive 0.1 mile to parking area.

8 Soda and Migraine Lakes



HABITAT: Deep, freshwater, 100-acre Soda Lake with rock walls rising from water's edge; smaller, saline Migraine Lake; both part of CNWR.

BIRDING: During spring and fall many shorebirds migrate through, including American Avocet, and Red-necked and Wilson's Phalaropes. Common Loons are present March-May, and October-November. Soda Lake highlights are American White Pelicans in summer, Bonaparte's Gulls in late summer, and Franklin's Gulls in fall. Migraine Lake hosts lots of diving ducks – Buffleheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Redheads, Lesser Scaups, Common Goldeneyes; and dabblers – Northern Shovelers, Gadwalls, many American and a few Eurasian Wigeons - and a few Shorebirds include possible Baird's Sandpipers.

VIEWING: Earthen dam causeway separates the two lakes, and provides excellent view of water; bird by boat on Soda Lake.

ACCESS: At intersection of McManamon Rd and Morgan Lake Rd, turn north onto Morgan Lake Rd. Drive 4.5 miles. At "T" intersection, turn right (east) toward Potholes Reservoir. Drive 0.2 mile and veer right at Soda Lake Dam sign. Drive 0.2 mile. Migraine Lake is to right; Soda Lake is to left. Park in wide gravel area by Soda Lake. (Note: Soda Lake campground is 1.2 miles north of turnoff to dam.)

9 Pillar Wigeon Lakes Area



HABITAT: CNWR, braided series of wetlands and lakes surrounded by scattered willow patches and shrub-steppe.

BIRDING: The lakes, notably Pillar and Wigeon, host 14 species of ducks including Cinnamon and Blue-winged Teals and Northern Pintails; also watch for Pied-billed Grebes, and Caspian and Forster's Terns. Tree groves are popular with Northern Flickers and Downy Woodpeckers, Lazuli Buntings, Bullock's Orioles, Cedar Waxwings, and 3 sparrow species. Rock walls provide habitat for Say's Phoebes, Cliff and Violet-green Swallows, and Rock and Canyon Wrens.

VIEWING: Open to public Apr 1-Sept 30. From parking area, meander several miles through sagebrush and around lakes.

ACCESS: At intersection of McManamon Rd and Morgan Lake Rd, turn north onto Morgan Lake Rd. Drive 4.5 miles. At "T" intersection, turn right (east) toward Potholes Reservoir. Drive 0.2 mile and veer right at Soda Lake Dam sign. Drive 0.2 mile to earthen dam. Continue 0.2 mile across dam, turn right. Drive 0.2 mile. Park at interpretive sign.

10 Lind Coulee Overview



HABITAT: 100+ acres of BuRec/WDFW Potholes Reservoir with shallow water and mud flats bordered by willow thickets.

BIRDING: Water level in reservoir is lowered July-October, creating extensive mud flats: heaven for shorebirds! Look for six species of sandpiper including Baird's and Pectoral; as well as Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Long-billed Dowitchers, and American Avocets. Along with shorebirds come raptors: Peregrine Falcons, Merlins, and Northern Harriers. During migration, check willows for Yellow-rumped and Wilson's Warblers, and Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets. Fall through spring, view large numbers of White-crowned Sparrows plus some Golden-crowned and Lincoln's Sparrows.

VIEWING: Good view of both arms of Lind Coulee at road pullout 0.2 mile before parking lot. Use scope to identify shorebirds.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17, turn west onto Hwy 262 toward Potholes State Park. Drive 4 miles. From Hwy 262/O'Sullivan Dam Rd at milepost 20, turn north onto Rd M SE. Drive 0.3 mile. At end of guard rail, turn right (east) onto unnamed gravel road. Drive 0.3 mile to WDFW parking area on right.



11 O'Sullivan Dam

HABITAT: 28,000-acre BuRec Potholes Reservoir with open water.

BIRDING: Large lake is great for large waterbirds (and smaller ones too), notably resident Ring-billed and California Gulls, and rare Glaucous and Glaucous-winged Gulls in spring, joined by American White Pelicans and Ospreys in summer. Fall brings Bonaparte's Gulls, Common Loons, Red-necked Grebes, plus Herring Gulls and Bald Eagles that stay for winter.

VIEWING: From observation point on O'Sullivan Dam, use scope to scan lake and mud flats in late summer. From highway pullout, walk south across road to view small ponds at base of dam. Walk past kiosk for 2 miles on refuge road to see Horned Larks and Western Meadowlarks atop sagebrush.

ACCESS: From Hwy 262 /O'Sullivan Dam Rd near milepost 16, turn north into parking pullout.

12 Potholes State Park

HABITAT: 640-acre, family-friendly park with sagebrush, shrubs and tall trees, lake and shoreline.

BIRDING: Spring migration brings Lewis's Woodpeckers in May, plus Black-headed Grosbeaks, nesting Bullock's Orioles, and abundant California Quail. Watch for Ospreys in May and September. In winter, Tundra Swans fly overhead, while plentiful prey draws Bald Eagles, Northern Harriers, and Red-tailed Hawks. Watch lake for Buffleheads, American Coots, Greater and Lesser Scaups, and Common Goldeneyes.

VIEWING: Take 0.25-mile interpretive trail that starts at day-use area, or walk park perimeter. Walk east along beach 0.5 mile to adjoining WDFW Blythe Access boat launch to see shorebirds in spring and early fall, and sparrows in winter. (Boat launch accessible by car from Hwy 262 at milepost 13.1).

ACCESS: From Hwy 262 /O'Sullivan Dam Rd at milepost 12.7, turn north into Potholes State Park.

13 Desert Wildlife Area - Road C SE

HABITAT: Isolated corner of 35,100-acre WDFW Desert Wildlife Area with landscape of sand dunes covered by sage and bitterbrush, and wetlands created by irrigation seepage from Winchester Wasteway. (Note: "Wasteway" refers to canal that carries excess water from irrigated areas back to Potholes Reservoir.)

BIRDING: Shrubs come alive in spring with songs of White-crowned Sparrows and Yellow-rumped Warblers. During summer, open ponds attract Black and Forster's Terns, while Russian-olive trees provide cover for Eastern Kingbirds. Winter birding highlights include Northern Flickers, Northern Harriers and Sharp-shinned Hawks, Northern Shrikes, Cedar Waxwings, and American Tree Sparrows. Great Horned Owls live here year-round.

VIEWING: From parking lot, cross Winchester Wasteway bridge, walk through Russian-olive grove, and set up scope on top of large sand dune. Scan isolated ponds and wetlands for wading birds in summer, and ducks in fall and winter. Watch for mule deer mornings and evenings. Caution: It is easy to get disoriented in sand dunes. Carry a compass!

ACCESS: From Hwy 262/O'Sullivan Dam Rd at milepost 8.6, turn north onto Rd C SE. Drive 2.9 miles, always bearing right, to WDFW parking area.

14 Birder's Corner

HABITAT: WDFW 120-acre parcel of shallow alkaline wetlands.

BIRDING: Late winter to early spring, Tundra Swans and Northern Pintails are highlights. Also watch for Northern Shrikes October-March. Spring brings a spectacular display of shorebirds: American Avocets and Long-billed Dowitchers, plus Black-necked Stilts, Wilson's Phalaropes, and Wilson's Snipes that nest and raise their young here. And ducks! Blue-winged and Cinnamon Teals, Northern Shovelers, Gadwalls, and Redheads swell feathered populations. Summer brings Great Egrets, Black Terns, Eastern Kingbirds, and Bank Swallows. Late summer-early fall, look for migrant shorebirds including Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs; and Baird's, Solitary, and Pectoral Sandpipers.

VIEWING: Set up scope in parking area to see Black-crowned Night-Herons, Great Egrets, and Great Blue Herons stalking Tiger Salamanders.

ACCESS: From Hwy 262/O'Sullivan Dam Rd at milepost 7, turn north onto Frenchman Hills Rd, which curves west. Drive 4.6 miles. Cross Dodson Rd. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn right (north) into WDFW parking area. Do not park on road.

15 Desert Wildlife Area - Road 'I' SW

HABITAT: WDFW 300+-acres of ponds rimmed by cattail marshes and Russian-olive trees.

BIRDING: Avian fish-eaters love this spot in spring and summer. Watch for Great Egrets, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Great Blue Herons, and Black and Forster's Terns. As ponds melt, American Coots arrive along with diving ducks including Lesser Scaups, Common Goldeneyes, and Ruddy and Ring-necked Ducks; and dabblers including Mallards, Northern Pintails, American Wigeons, Northern Shovelers, and Gadwalls. Rough-legged Hawks and Northern Harriers hunt overhead. During winter, watch trees for Cedar Waxwings, Varied Thrushes, and Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks.

VIEWING: From parking area, walk back along road to ponds. In spring, check trees for Lazuli Buntings and Long-eared Owls.

ACCESS: At intersection of Dodson Rd and Frenchman Hills Rd, turn west on Frenchman Hills Rd. Drive 6.1 miles. Turn right (north) onto Rd I SW. Drive 1.1 miles to Public Hunting sign. Turn right into WDFW parking area.

16 Beda Lake

HABITAT: 300+ acres of BuRec/WDFW Desert Wildlife Area with cattail-ringed wetlands, rabbitbrush, and deciduous trees.

BIRDING: Barn and Great Horned Owls roost in Russian-olive trees, Caspian and Forster's Terns fish the lake in spring, and Virginia Rails hide by shorelines. Winter features Green-winged Teal, Gadwalls, Redheads, and Belted

Kingfishers over and near water, while Northern Harriers, and Rough-legged and Red-tailed Hawks soar overhead.

VIEWING: From parking area, take primitive 1-mile road to Russian-olive grove, or .25-mile trail over sandy ridge and around marshy edges to black locust trees that host American Goldfinches, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and Yellow-rumped Warblers in spring.

ACCESS: At intersection of Dodson Rd and Frenchman Hills Rd, turn north onto Dodson Rd. Drive 5.8 miles. Turn right (east) onto unnamed gravel road at Public Fishing/Public Hunting sign. Drive 0.4 mile to parking area on left.



17 Dodson Road - Winchester Wasteway



HABITAT: 100+ acres within WDFW Desert Wildlife Area with scattered trees and wetlands of common reed grass along wasteway.

BIRDING: In early spring, Violet-green Swallows arrive to harvest emerging insects; Bank Swallows arrive in late April to nest. Sandbars are popular with migrating Long-billed Dowitchers, and Caspian and Forster's Terns. Check trees for breeding Eastern and Western Kingbirds, American Goldfinches, and Song Sparrows. Gadwalls are present in winter.

VIEWING: Near parking area, view sandbars with scope. Walk north over low sand dunes to first two ponds. Listen for American Bitterns and Marsh Wrens.

ACCESS: At intersection of Dodson Rd and Frenchman Hills Rd, turn north onto Dodson Rd. Drive 6 miles. Turn right (east) at Public Hunting/Public Fishing sign into WDFW parking area.

18 Audubon Dodson Road Nature Trail



HABITAT: 600+ acres of BuRec/WDFW Desert Wildlife Area sand dunes covered with rabbitbrush, plus marshes.

BIRDING: Spring arrives with color and song: Red-winged and Yellow-headed Blackbirds come to nest and raise their young. Watch and listen for Long-billed Curlews' courtship flights. Pumpkinseed Sunfish attract Caspian and Forester's Terns, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Great Blue Herons, and Great Egrets. Listen for 'pumping calls' of American Bitterns. Common breeding ducks are Redheads, Mallards, Cinnamon Teals, Ruddy Ducks, and possible Canvasbacks. During summer, watch for soaring Swainson's Hawks.

VIEWING: Reach three viewing blinds, one handicapped-accessible, via 1.1-mile loop trail from parking lot.

ACCESS: At intersection of Dodson Rd and Frenchman Hills Rd, turn north onto Dodson Rd. Drive 7.5 miles. Turn right (east) onto Rd 1 SW. Turn right (south) immediately onto unnamed gravel road with Nature Trail sign. Drive 0.2 mile to parking lot.

19 Crab Creek Overlook



HABITAT: Shoreline access for 28,000-acre BuRec/WDFW Potholes Reservoir Wildlife Area of ponds, marshes, mud flats, and willow trees.

BIRDING: Neotropical songbirds like Warbling Vireos migrate through in spring. Breeding birds include Tree Swallows, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Black-headed Grosbeaks, and Downy Woodpeckers. May-June, view court-

ship of Western and Clark's Grebes. August and early September bring shorebirds, with Baird's and Western Sandpipers and Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs. Winter's high water attracts hundreds of Canada Geese and Mallards.

VIEWING: Use scope for best viewing of expansive landscape frequented by colonial nesters like Great Egrets, Black-crowned Night-Herons, American White Pelicans, and Caspian Terns. Take trail 0.1 mile toward water.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 174 (Mae Valley/Hansen Rd). Drive west 2.3 miles on frontage road on south side of I-90. Turn left (south) at Public Fishing/Public Hunting sign onto unnamed gravel road. Drive 2.5 miles roughly following power lines. (Note Potholes Wildlife Area sign at 0.3 mile.) At 3-way intersection, turn left (east), then turn left immediately again. Drive 0.3 mile to overlook parking.

20 Potholes Reservoir Peninsula Overlook



HABITAT: Vantage point for 28,000-acre BuRec/WDFW Potholes Reservoir Wildlife Area of sand dunes, shrub-steppe, ponds, and wetlands.

BIRDING: From spring to early fall, view fish-eating birds like Great Blue Herons, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Great Egrets, Double-crested Cormorants, and occasional Osprey. Watch for Black, Forster's, and Caspian Terns, and Bonaparte's Gulls in late summer. Bald Eagles frequent the area in fall, winter, and spring.

VIEWING: Set up scope in parking lot to watch ponds and wetlands for waterbirds, while binoculars work fine for shrub-steppe dwellers like Loggerhead Shrikes, Western Meadowlarks, and Lark and White-crowned Sparrows. In fall, take trail to water's edge for shorebirds, waders, and terns.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 174 (Mae Valley/Hansen Rd). Drive west 2.3 miles on frontage road on south side of I-90. Turn left (south) at Public Fishing/Public Hunting sign onto unnamed gravel road. Drive 2.5 miles roughly following power lines. (Note Potholes Wildlife Area sign on right at 0.3 mile.) At 3-way intersection, turn right (west). Drive 1 mile. At Y intersection, turn left (southwest). Drive 1.1 miles to road end and parking area.

21 North Potholes Reserve/Job Corps Dike



HABITAT: 3,100 acres of BuRec/WDFW North Potholes Reserve with open-water wetlands, mature willow trees, and seasonal mud flats.

BIRDING: Premier spot in spring and summer! Watch Great Blue Herons, Double-crested Cormorants, Black-crowned Night-Herons, and Great Egrets fly back and forth to rookeries. Other nesters include Spotted Sandpipers, Wilson's Phalaropes, Downy Woodpeckers, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Tree Swallows, Bewick's Wrens, Bullock's Orioles, and Eastern Kingbirds. Summer brings flocks of non-breeding American White Pelicans. Fall migrants include Baird's and Solitary Sandpipers, and Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, plus many species of waterfowl.

VIEWING: Park and walk back along dike. Colonial nesting birds to north are sensitive to disturbance; please stay on dike. At Reserve boundary, watch eagles fly in to roost after 3 pm on winter afternoons.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 174 (Mae Valley/Hansen Rd). Drive west 2.3 miles on frontage road on south side of I-90. Turn left (south) at Public Fishing/Public Hunting sign onto unnamed gravel road. Drive 2.5 miles roughly following power lines. (Note Potholes Wildlife Area sign at 0.3 mile.) At 3-way intersection, turn right (west). Drive 1 mile. At Y intersection, turn right (west). Drive 0.9 mile to Game Reserve boundary. Drive 0.6 mile west across earthen dike to parking area.



22 Moses Lake Community Park

Restrooms Closed in Winter

HABITAT: 78-acre, family-friendly municipal park with 23 acres of wetlands, rabbitbrush, and Russian-olive trees.

BIRDING: Beginning birders' spot features reliable sightings in spring of Northern Flickers. Spring and fall migrants include Yellow, Wilson's, Orange-crowned, and Townsend's Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and occasional Western Tanagers. Winter birds include Varied Thrushes, Dark-eyed Juncos, Spotted Towhees, and White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows.

VIEWING: In winter Bald Eagles frequent trees along lakeshore. Check surrounding brush and Russian-olives for sparrows, including possible Harris's Sparrows.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 174 (Mae Valley/Hansen Rd.) On north side of I-90, drive north briefly on Hansen Rd. Turn right (east) onto Westlake St. Drive 0.7 mile. Turn left (north) onto Westshore Dr. Drive 0.1 mile to park entrance.

23 Moses Lake Outlets

HABITAT: 40+ acres of Crab Creek bottomland, sage-covered dunes, and wild rose thickets along lakeshore; under BuRec jurisdiction and managed by WDFW.

BIRDING: Spring brings Western Wood-Pewees, Bullock's Orioles, and Yellow, Wilson's, and Orange-crowned Warblers. Western and Eastern Kingbirds nest here May-July. Summers feature Caspian and Forster's Terns, Western and Clark's Grebes, Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, and Black-crowned Night-Herons. In fall and winter, spot Red-tailed and Rough-legged Hawks in tall trees.

VIEWING: Walk back across bridge over spillway for views of soaring American White Pelicans. Watch Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night-Herons stalk fish behind spillway gate. Look in small trees and bushes for Varied Thrushes and five species of sparrow in winter. Avoid summer crowds. More birding 0.2 mile further on Sand Dune Rd at South Outlet parking lot.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 174 (Mae Valley/Hansen Rd). On south side of I-90, drive east at ORV Park sign on Sage Rd, located 1 block south of main frontage road. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right (south) at Public Hunting/Public Fishing sign onto Sand Dune Rd. Drive 1.2 miles to North Outlet parking lot on left.

24 Snowy Owl Route

HABITAT: Private agriculture fields along county roads.

BIRDING: 16-mile loop offers one of Washington's most reliable locations for wintering Snowy Owls. One to five individuals arrive around Thanksgiving and stay till late winter. They look like white buckets perched on irrigation pipes, but the view through a scope reveals startling round eyes and feathers ruffling in the breeze.

VIEWING: Advanced birding and birding by car. Please respect private prop-

erty; stay on road easement.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17 at milepost 48.8, turn south onto Rd M SE. Drive 5 miles. Turn right (west) onto Rd 6 SE. Drive 2 miles. Turn right (north) onto Rd K SE. Drive 2 miles. Turn right (east) onto Rd 4 SE. Drive 1 mile. Turn left (north) onto Rd L SE. Drive 1 mile. Curve right (east) onto Rd 3 SE. Drive 1 mile. Turn left (north) onto Rd M SE. Drive 2 miles to Hwy 17 at milepost 48.8.

25 Montlake Park

Restrooms Closed in Winter

HABITAT: 9-acre, family-friendly municipal park on Pelican Horn Arm of Moses Lake, with 5 acres of greasewood, saltgrass, and Russian-olives.

BIRDING: November-January, thousands of birds comprising 18 species of waterfowl can be seen, especially Canada Geese, Mallards, and Northern Pintails, plus Tundra Swans. Bald Eagles hunt ducks when lake is partially frozen. View Northern Harriers, American Kestrels, and Red-tailed Hawks in winter, too. In spring, watch for Western and Clark's Grebes. Northern Rough-winged and Barn Swallows are present in fall; Dunlins migrate through, while Marsh Wrens and Killdeer stay year-round.

VIEWING: At boat launch, see Pintails and flocks of shorebirds like Dunlins on mud flats. In case of rain, set up scope under covered shelter. From north-west corner of parking lot, take unmarked trail through greasewood to see Song and White-crowned Sparrows.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 176 (Moses Lake). Turn northeast onto Hwy 171/West Broadway. Drive 2.6 miles. Turn right (south) onto Division St. Drive 1.5 miles. Turn right (west) onto Linden Ave. Drive 0.2 mile to parking lot.

26 Three Ponds

Restrooms Closed in Winter

HABITAT: 11-acre municipal park with cattail wetland bordered by willow and Russian-olive trees.

BIRDING: Year-round highlights include Great Blue Herons, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Mallards, Gadwalls, American Coots, California Quail, Mourning Doves, Northern Flickers, Black-billed Magpies, and Song Sparrows. Violet-green and Barn Swallows visit in summer, while White-crowned Sparrows, Marsh Wrens, and Dark-eyed Juncos stay the winter.

VIEWING: Take path to spring, which was first used by Native Americans and Hudson's Bay Company trappers before becoming town's original water supply.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 176 (Moses Lake). Turn northeast onto Hwy 171/West Broadway. Drive 2.6 miles. Turn right (south) onto Division St. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn left (east) onto 7th Ave. Drive one block. Turn right (south) onto Alder St and park at end of street.

27 Neppel Landing Park

HABITAT: 2.5-acre municipal park on Moses Lake.

BIRDING: Spring migrants include Yellow and Yellow-rumped Warblers. Early nesting Wood Ducks may be seen. An abundance of Common Mergansers and a few Hooded Mergansers stay through winter. In fall, ducks congregate in large numbers: Mallards, Gadwalls, American Wigeons, Ring-necked Ducks, Redheads, Buffleheads, and Canvasbacks. This is a good site for gulls, especially California, Herring, and Ring-billed Gulls, with the occasional Thayer's, Bonaparte's, and Glaucous Gulls mixed in.

VIEWING: On Moses Lake, watch for gulls and mergansers. Trees host resident Downy Woodpeckers, Belted Kingfishers, and migrating warblers and vireos of numerous species. The 2.5-mile Marina Dr pedestrian/bicycle path at park's south end provides more birding locations: view Western Grebes in spring and Bald Eagles in winter.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 176 (Moses Lake). Turn northeast onto Hwy 171/West Broadway. Drive 2.5 miles. Turn left (north) onto Ash St. Drive 1 block and turn right to parking lot.



28 Audubon Kiosk Overlook

HABITAT: Shopping center – unusual but excellent vantage point for Moses Lake and mud flats.

BIRDING: Winter's low water and partially frozen lake surface concentrate thousands of ducks and geese into open water. All birders can easily spot resident Great Blue Herons and Western and Least Sandpipers migrating through in early spring and late fall, and Killdeer and Dunlins visiting in winter.

VIEWING: Use binoculars or set up scope near Central Basin Audubon Society kiosk to see Belted Kingfishers, shorebirds, wading birds, and waterfowl.

ACCESS: From I-90, take exit 176 (Moses Lake). Turn northeast onto Hwy 171/West Broadway Ave. Drive 2.7 miles. Turn left (north) onto Stratford Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn right (east) at Valley Rd stoplight into shopping center, and immediately right (southeast) again. Drive 0.1 mile through parking lot to lakeside kiosk on left.

29 Rocky Ford Creek

HABITAT: 80+ acres of WDFW shrub-steppe with cattail/bulrush marsh bisected by creek and dam.

BIRDING: In late spring and early summer, watch and listen for Long-billed Curlews, Common Yellowthroats, and 'winnowing' Wilson's Snipes. Virginia Rails issue grunting calls from marsh. View Northern Harriers and Red-tailed Hawks hunting aloft. See Great Blue Herons and Belted Kingfishers fishing below dam and along creek. Summer shrub-steppe residents include Western Meadowlarks, and Vesper and Lark Sparrows.

VIEWING: Walk 0.5 mile down hill to Rocky Ford Creek Dam.

MORE BIRDING: Drive south 1.1 miles on Neppel Rd, turn right (west) at Public Fishing sign onto gravel road. Drive 0.1 mile to lake. During summer, view Western and Clark's Grebes; during mild winters watch Dunlins and Killdeer scurry over mud flats. Beginning in late October, shallow water of upper lake attracts thousands of waterbirds, primarily American Coots, Gadwalls, Northern Shovelers, and Canada Geese, with lesser numbers of Redheads, Ruddy Ducks, and Pied-billed Grebes. Waterbirds attract Bald Eagles. Also present are Rough-legged Hawks, Prairie Falcons, and possibly Gyrfalcons.

ACCESS: From Highway 17 at milepost 65.4, turn south onto Neppel Rd. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right (west) at Public Fishing sign onto unmarked gravel road. Drive 0.4 mile to WDFW parking area.

30 Oasis Park

Restrooms Closed in Winter

HABITAT: City of Ephrata's family-friendly, 27.5-acre park with pond, wetlands, and quarter-mile stretch of woods.

BIRDING: Woods provide good cover for Downy Woodpeckers, Spotted Towhees, and Lincoln's Sparrows. Wood Ducks are possible in late spring

in wetlands and pond. In May, look in willows for Nashville and Orange-crowned Warblers, Warbling Vireos, and Western Tanagers. Trees provide summer home for nesting American Goldfinches, Song Sparrows, and occasional Long-eared Owls. In winter, Mallards frequent wetlands while Bohemian and Cedar Waxwings favor tall trees.

VIEWING: Behind historic church, follow unmarked path into woods for 0.25-mile loop past wetlands and grassy picnic area; circle back around pond. Limited winter access.

ACCESS: From Hwy 28 at milepost 44.9 in Ephrata, turn west into Oasis Park. Follow signs to picnic area.

31 Martin Road Russian-Olives

HABITAT: Half-mile-long ribbon of Russian-olive trees and seasonal wetland at base of rocky canal bank, managed by WDFW.

BIRDING: During winter and early spring, Russian-olive trees attract fruit-eating birds like Cedar Waxwings and Varied Thrushes. Violet-green Swallows arrive in mid-March, with Cliff Swallows following in mid-April. Thick trees provide roosting sites for Common Ravens and small numbers of Barn and Long-eared Owls. Large winter flocks of American Robins attract Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks.

VIEWING: Walk down hillside to trees. Check rock pile for Rock Wrens in late spring.

ACCESS: From Hwy 28 at milepost 44.7, turn west onto Martin Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn left (south) into WDFW parking area.

32 Norton Road Shrub-Steppe

HABITAT: Small riparian ravine bordered by wheat fields, and shrub-steppe with abundant balsamroot and other wildflowers that bloom April-June.

BIRDING: Sandhill Cranes fly over March-April. In spring, Lazuli Buntings perch on shrubs. White-crowned Sparrows migrate through April-May. Swainson's Hawks nest in scattered trees while Loggerhead Shrikes nest in big sagebrush. Watch sky for Prairie Falcons, American Kestrels, and Northern Harriers, while sagebrush is good habitat for Brewer's and Vesper Sparrows, and possible Sage Thrashers. Gray Partridges, California Quail, and Ring-necked Pheasants stay year-round, while winter specialties are Gyrfalcons and Northern Shrikes.

VIEWING: Birding by car: use binoculars and scope. Property on both sides of road is private; please stay on road easement while birding.

ACCESS: From Hwy 28/Basin St in Ephrata, turn west onto First Ave NW/Sagebrush Flat Rd. Drive 1.5 miles. Turn right (north) onto Norton Rd/Rd E NW/Davis Canyon Rd. Drive 5.6 miles. Return to Ephrata via the same route. Caution to winter birders: roads are not snow-plowed.

33 Jameson Lake

HABITAT: Private resort by 332-acre Jameson Lake bordered by cliffs, wetlands, and shrub-steppe.

BIRDING: In spring, basalt cliffs hold nests of White-throated Swifts, Barrow's Goldeneyes, and Cliff, Barn, and Violet-green Swallows. Spring waterfowl include Redheads, Gadwalls, Buffleheads, and Ruddy Ducks. At dusk during summer, listen for calls of Common Poorwills and Common Nighthawks as bats scoop up insects. Watch for Prairie Falcons and Golden Eagles, and Tundra Swans in early spring and late fall. Canyon Wrens stay year-round.

VIEWING: Boat launch area offers good birding, or row (no motors) to small island. Campground presents good views of wetland. Popular fishing spot May 1-July 4, and during October.

ACCESS: From Hwy 2 at milepost 172.3, turn north onto Jameson Lake Rd. Drive 6.1 miles to Jack's Resort. Park to right of gate.



34 Eastern Douglas County

HABITAT: Plateau of private wheat farms with shrub-steppe and scattered seasonal wetlands.

BIRDING: From mid-March to late April and during September, Sandhill Cranes forage in stubble fields and rest in shallow wetlands. Red-tailed and Swainson's Hawks nest in isolated trees. Seasonal wetlands host breeding American Avocets, Black-necked Stilts, Wilson's Phalaropes, Cinnamon Teals, Redheads and American Coots. Mallards and large numbers of Canada Geese come during spring migration. Shrub-steppe is home to Sage Thrashers, Loggerhead Shrikes, and Brewer's and Vesper Sparrows. Wintering birds like Snow Buntings may be present in large flocks or mixed with Horned Larks. Also in winter, view Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches and Rough-legged Hawks; persistent searching can also yield Northern Shrikes and Prairie Falcons – even elusive Gyrfalcons and Lapland Longspurs.

VIEWING: Birding by car. Property on both sides of road is private; please stay on road easement while birding. Note: this isolated, mostly gravel 42-mile loop has no services; road can be dangerous in winter from snow and ice.

ACCESS: From Hwy 2 at milepost 181.2, turn north onto Heritage Rd which changes to Rd L SE. Drive 6.3 miles. Turn right (east) onto Rd 6 NE/St. Andrews W Rd. Drive 2 miles. Turn left (north) onto Rd N NE. Drive 3 miles. Turn left (west) onto Rd 9 NE/Buckeye Rd. Drive 2 miles. Turn right (north) onto Rd L NE/Heritage Rd. Drive 5 miles. Turn right (east) onto Rd 14 NE/Hwy 172. Drive 6 miles. Cross Hwy 17 at milepost 112.1, continue to drive east on Rd 14 NE. Drive 2 miles. Curve right (south) onto Rd T NE. Drive 2 miles. Curve right (west) onto Rd 12 NE/Murphy Rd. Drive 2 miles. Turn left (south) onto Rd R NE/Hwy 17 at milepost 110.2. Drive south 11.6 miles to Hwy 2 at milepost 187.4.

35 SW Banks Lake/Ankeny Access



HABITAT: 400+ acre corner of BuRec/WDFW Banks Lake Wildlife Area consisting of wetland and riparian shoreline with shrub-steppe and talus hillsides.

BIRDING: Spring brings migrating warblers – Orange-crowned, Wilson's, Yellow-rumped, and Yellow – to trees and willow thickets. Summer features Spotted Sandpipers, Bullock's Orioles, and Marsh Wrens; Loggerhead Shrikes and Brewer's Sparrows nest in tall sagebrush. Fall through spring, watch for Herring Gulls mixed with Common Mergansers on open water. Other winter residents include Common Goldeneyes, Horned Grebes, and rafts of American Coots evading Bald Eagles.

VIEWING: From parking lot, walk shoreline and up old road that climbs through thick sage to rocky cliffs. Look for Gray Partridges and Chukars

on hillsides. In winter, look for Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches in talus and cliffs, and watch for American Tree Sparrows, Black-capped Chickadees, and Varied Thrushes in shrubs around boat launch.

ACCESS: From Hwy 2 at milepost 189, turn north at signs for Public Fishing and Banks Lake Public Access onto unnamed road. Drive 1 mile, veering left, to campground and boat launch.

36 Dry Falls Overlook



HABITAT: State Park overlook to stunning 400-foot cliffs rising from marsh-ringed lakes surrounded by shrub-steppe.

BIRDING: THE place to learn the difference between swifts and swallows! From this elevated perspective, look down on or straight across at aerial ballet performed by White-throated Swifts, and Violet-green and Barn Swallows. During winter, check utility lines for Northern Shrikes and juniper trees for Townsend's Solitaires.

VIEWING: Dry Falls is a geological wonder of North America: during ice age floods, a waterfall ten times the size of present-day Niagara Falls flowed over these cliffs.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17 at milepost 94.5, turn east into parking lot.

37 Sun Lakes State Park



HABITAT: State park of 5,000+ acres with 8 lakes, riparian trees, brush thickets, sagebrush, and rock canyons with walls of lichen-covered columnar basalt.

BIRDING: In spring and summer, Lazuli Buntings prefer shrubs against talus slopes while Yellow-breasted Chats hide in thick riparian vegetation. During winter, lake ice reduces open water and forces concentration of waterfowl: American Coots, American Wigeons, Ruddy and Ring-necked Ducks, Common Mergansers, and Lesser Scaups, with a few Buffleheads, Hooded Mergansers, and Pied-billed Grebes.

VIEWING: In spring, look in willows, water birches, and red-osier dogwoods for Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and for Wilson's, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, and Orange-crowned Warblers. Song Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos come in fall and winter; Winter Wrens are also possible. Bald and Golden Eagles perch high in larger trees in winter.

At Vic Meyer Lake: Walk 0.5-mile peninsula road. Watch both sides of lake for diver and dabbling ducks, and songbirds including Black-capped Chickadees and Marsh Wrens.

At Deep Lake: Riparian shoreline attracts migrating Warbling Vireos, and summering Yellow-breasted Chats and Eastern Kingbirds. Kayak or canoe around narrow, cliff-bound lake to see Barrow's Goldeneyes, numerous swallows and swifts, and possible Gray Catbirds.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17 milepost 92.6, turn east onto Park Lake Rd. Drive 1.1 miles to campground. Park in day-use lot.

For Vic Meyer Lake: turn left (north) into campground. Drive 0.3 mile through campground to maintenance sheds. At Vic Meyer Lake sign, turn right (east). Drive 0.2 mile to parking area.

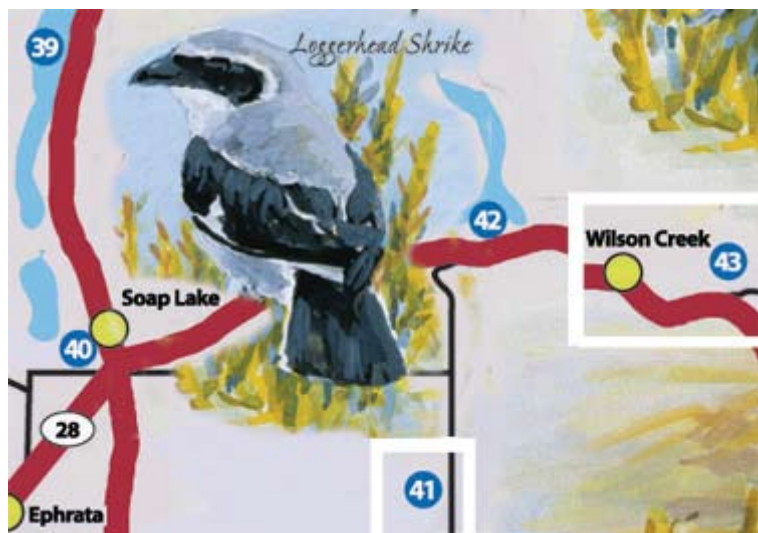
For Deep Lake: from day-use parking, turn left (north) at Deep Lake sign. Drive 2.5 miles bearing right. Road is open May 1-Nov 30.

38 Blue Lake Rest Area



HABITAT: WSDOT rest area overlook of 536-acre lake, backdrop of basalt bluffs.

BIRDING: Common Loons can be seen year-round but congregate in greatest numbers during March and April migration, and again September-October; some may stay through winter if lake is ice-free. A few Pacific Loons occur



in fall. Lake also attracts other deep divers including Common Mergansers, Lesser Scaups, Ring-necked and Ruddy Ducks; and Western, Red-necked, and Pied-billed Grebes.

VIEWING: Loons near shore are easily visible with binoculars; scope gives closer look at difference between Common and Pacific species. Scan cliffs for Golden Eagles year-round.

39 Lake Lenore



HABITAT: Shallow 1,670-acre alkaline lake nestled against cliff walls and greasewood flats; managed by WDFW.

BIRDING: Barrow's Goldeneyes normally nest in trees, but here they use holes in basalt cliffs instead. April-June, California and Ring-billed Gulls, White-throated Swifts, and Violet-green and Cliff Swallows feast on insects over water. Check shorelines for American Avocets. Fall migration brings Common Loons and shorebirds such as Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, and Wilson's and Red-necked Phalaropes. Tundra and occasionally Trumpeter Swans use open water in fall and winter. Other migrant and winter waterfowl include Northern Shovelers, Buffleheads, Lesser Scaups, Common Goldeneyes, Canvasbacks, Redheads, and Ruddy Ducks – plus occasional scoters and Long-tailed Ducks. Golden Eagles stay year-round.

VIEWING: From parking lot, walk path to lake. Look in bulrushes and cattails for Yellow-headed Blackbirds. Check talus and cliffs for Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch in winter, and Canyon Wrens all year long.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17 at milepost 84.9, turn west into WDFW parking lot. (Sign to Lake Lenore Caves points east.)

40 West Beach Park



HABITAT: Family-friendly municipal park with shoreline along Soap Lake.

BIRDING: During spring and fall, highly saline water's large population of brine shrimp attracts Eared Grebes, Ruddy Ducks, and numerous shorebirds including some marine species. Red-necked and Wilson's Phalaropes and Pectoral Sandpipers arrive in mid-August and stay through September. Also watch for Sanderlings and Semipalmated and Pacific Plovers. Found here during fall and winter are Northern Shovelers, Lesser Scaups, Common Goldeneyes, and, less frequently, Long-tailed Ducks, and Surf and White-winged Scoters.

VIEWING: Set up scope in picnic area.

ACCESS: From Hwy 17/Daisy St S in town of Soap Lake, turn west onto Main Ave E. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn left (south) onto Division St N. Immediately turn

right (west) onto Main Ave W. Drive 1 block. Turn right (north) onto Ash St S. Drive 2 blocks to West Beach Park.

41 Gloyd Seeps

HABITAT: 9,460-acre WDFW Wildlife Area of wetlands, rocky scablands, and shrub-steppe.

BIRDING: April-May, look and listen for winnowing Wilson's Snipes, and watch for three species of hawk: Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, and Red-tailed. Breeding birds include Cinnamon Teals, Northern Shovelers, Gadwalls, American Wigeons, Redheads, and Ruddy Ducks. Black-headed Grosbeaks and Eastern Kingbirds are local nesters. View Rough-legged Hawks in winter.

VIEWING: From parking lot, walk 1 mile along old road that splits wetland. Watch for Black-crowned Night-Herons. Look for Great Horned and Long-eared Owls in Russian-olives, and Soras and Virginia Rails in cattails.

ACCESS: From Hwy 28 at milepost 63.2, turn south at Stratford sign onto Rd J NE, curve west, drive 0.3 mile. Turn left (south) at Moses Lake sign onto Stratford Rd. Drive 12.8 miles. Turn right (west) into WDFW parking area.

42 Brook Lake

HABITAT: 428-acre lake surrounded by private lands managed by WDFW as game reserve for wintering waterfowl.

BIRDING: The most spectacular birding begins mid-October, when 20,000 to 30,000 Canada Geese – joined by a few Snow and White-fronted Geese – arrive from Alaska and stay through November before heading further south. When January's ice melts, large numbers of Tundra Swans, ducks, and geese come to stay through mid-March before continuing on north. Spring and fall migrations also bring Common Mergansers, Common Goldeneyes, Northern Pintails, Mallards, Green-winged Teals, and Gadwalls. Summer highlights include American White Pelicans and Double-crested Cormorants, while Northern Harriers stay year-round.

VIEWING: Set up scope on wide gravel pullout to look down at lake. Caution: Trains pass through several times daily. Property on both sides of road is private; please stay on road easement while birding.

ACCESS: From Hwy 28 at milepost 65, turn north onto gravel overlook.

43 Crab Lake/Wilson Creek

HABITAT: Seasonal lake as large as 2,000 acres in heavy-snow years; private property.

BIRDING: High water in spring creates a waterfowl spectacle: numbers can exceed 90,000 ducks, 50,000 Canada Geese, and 2,000 Tundra Swans! Mallards, Northern Pintails, and Canada Geese predominate, along with several species of diving ducks – Redhead, Canvasback, Common Goldeneye, and Lesser Scaup. Such a waterfowl congregation attracts raptors: Bald and Golden Eagles, Rough-legged Hawks, Northern Harriers, Prairie Falcons, and (rarely) Gyrfalcons. In spring, check cattails for Red-winged, Yellow-headed, and rare Tricolored Blackbirds; listen for elusive Soras and Virginia Rails. Nearby cliffs host breeding Red-tailed Hawks and occasional Ferruginous Hawks. In winter, watch cliffs for Northern Shrikes and American Kestrels.

VIEWING: Set up scope to scan lake and marsh for Canada Geese, Tundra Swans, and other waterfowl. Property on both sides of road is private; please stay on road easement while birding.

ACCESS: From Hwy 28 at milepost 71.3, turn north into roadside pullout. For a second vantage point of flooded fields, go to milepost 73. Turn north onto Road 22 NE. Drive 1.9 miles. Turn left onto left side of gravel pit. Walk to top of knoll.



44 Old Coulee Highway Route

HABITAT: Southern 13 miles of dry-land wheat fields, and northern 5 miles of shrub-steppe; private property.

BIRDING: Spring features shrub-steppe birds: Say's Phoebes, Sage Thrashers, and Brewer's, Savannah, and Vesper Sparrows. North of Almira, watch for Mountain Bluebirds in new bird houses installed by town's human residents. Early-morning sightings can include Short-eared Owls nesting in perennial grass swales. Uncommon birds seen wintering here include Gyrfalcons, Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches, Snow Buntings, and Prairie Falcons.

VIEWING: Advanced birding by car. Property on both sides of road is private; please stay on road easement while birding.

ACCESS: From Hwy 2 at milepost 209.8, turn north at Almira sign onto Fox Rd. Drive 0.3 mile. In Almira, turn left (west) onto Main St. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right (north) onto 3rd Ave/Old Coulee Rd. Birding route begins here and continues for next 17.9 miles, to Hwy 174 at milepost 22 in Grand Coulee.

45 Crescent Bay Lake

HABITAT: Half-mile-long lake with riparian edges and steep rock walls, part of Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area.

BIRDING: Spring and summer finds White-throated Swifts and Cliff Swallows swooping overhead. On lake in fall, view Ring-necked Ducks, Pied-billed and Western Grebes, American Wigeons, and Common Mergansers. Watch for Great Horned Owls in trees around first bend of lake.

VIEWING: During summer, National Park Service naturalists offer guided "birding by canoe". Also, from parking area, hike 1.5 miles on old roads around lake. Look for Red-tailed Hawks, California Quail, Western Meadowlarks, and Black-billed Magpies. Before Grand Coulee Dam was built in 1941, the area between rock walls (now lake) was known as Rattlesnake Canyon – a favorite hideout for 1880s outlaws.

ACCESS: From Hwy 155/Midway Ave in Grand Coulee, turn east at Crescent Bay sign. Drive past tent icon sign, bear left, then right 0.1 mile to parking area with "Non-motorized boats only" sign.

46 Fiddle Creek

HABITAT: Five-acre municipal park, with seasonal stream, pine trees, deciduous shrubs, and ravine with rock walls.

BIRDING: Early spring songbird migration brings Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Yellow-rumped Warblers. Washington's State Bird, the American Goldfinch, turns bright yellow in March and April. Rock Wrens abound. All year long, shrubs are filled with calls of Song Sparrows, House Finches, Black-capped Chickadees, and Pine Siskins.

VIEWING: Good beginning birding. Take sidewalk to trail with 2 small bridges for good views of dry streambed in winter where California Quail run and

Dark-eyed Juncos flit. Northern Flickers and Cedar Waxwings are attracted to crab apple trees in fall.

ACCESS: From Hwy 155 at milepost 28.1 in the town of Coulee Dam, turn west onto Douglas St. Drive 3 blocks to City Hall and park in lot to right. Cole Park is straight ahead. Trail begins at historical marker.

47 Barker Canyon

HABITAT: Riparian and ranchlands in canyon, leading to WDFW Banks Lake Wildlife Area of shrub-steppe and cottonwood-lined lake.

BIRDING: Grebes – Eared, Horned, and Western – highlight spring/fall migration. In canyon during spring and summer, check wild rose, serviceberry, aspen, and water birch for Lazuli Buntings, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles, Yellow Warblers, Yellow-breasted Chats, Eastern Kingbirds, American Goldfinches, Western Wood Pewees, Mourning Doves, and California Quail.

VIEWING: Large lake is home to waterbirds, while shrubs and trees on shorelines and in the canyon host plentiful songbirds. Barker Canyon was a major transportation route used for thousands of years by Native Americans, and later by fur traders, gold rush miners, and cowboys.

MORE BIRDING: On north side of Hwy 174 at milepost 11.7, ponds host spring visitors like Mallards, Northern Pintails, Lesser Scaups, Northern Shovelers, American Wigeons; and Cinnamon, Blue-winged and Green-winged Teal. Tundra Swans are here in March, while fall brings Western and Least Sandpipers and Wilson's Phalaropes. Birding by car. Property on both sides of road is private; please stay on road easement.

ACCESS: From Hwy 174 at milepost 11.7, turn south onto A.5 Rex Rd/Barker Canyon Rd. Drive 5.7 miles. Turn left (east) at 4-way intersection. Drive 0.2 mile to WDFW boat launch parking.

48 North Dam Park

HABITAT: Municipal/BuRec park by deep, open water of Banks Lake with cattail wetlands at base of dam.

BIRDING: This is a great place to find unusual gulls in fall and winter. Search through Herring, Ring-billed, and California Gulls for possible Thayer's, Glaucous, and Glaucous-winged Gulls. April-October, Ospreys are seen over lake. Bald Eagles perch on trees and ice shelves in winter, while Golden Eagles may be found year-round. Cattail wetlands below dam host Marsh Wrens. Look in wild roses for Song and White-crowned Sparrows, Northern Flickers, American Goldfinches – and even Cedar Waxwings in winter.

VIEWING: Walk 1-mile loop across North Dam, down to wetlands, and back around ballpark. Avoid summer crowds.

ACCESS: From Hwy 155 in Grand Coulee, turn north at North Dam Park sign into park. Drive 0.1 mile, veer left, then right onto paved road. Drive to parking area by lake and dam.

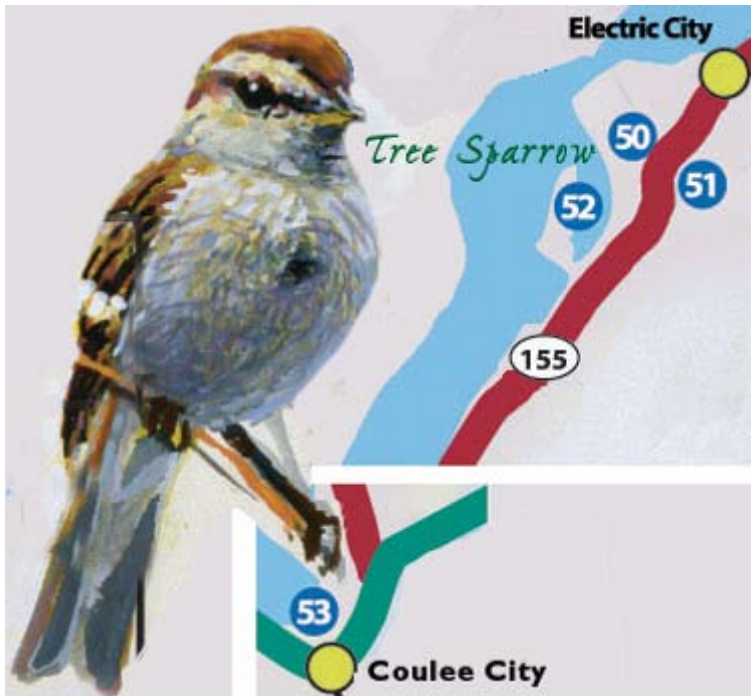
49 Osborn Bay Campground

HABITAT: State park in delta-like landscape of tree groves, shrubs, and wetlands by Banks Lake.

BIRDING: Resident Common Ravens nest here in March. In summer, look for Ospreys, Cedar Waxwings, Black-headed Grosbeaks, and Common Yellowthroats. During winter, Common and Hooded Mergansers, Lesser Scaups, Buffleheads, American Wigeons, and American Coots crowd against ice shelves on partially frozen lake, where they're hunted by Bald Eagles.

VIEWING: From campground, walk 1 mile west on road next to golf course through Russian-olives along shoreline of Banks Lake. In campground, listen for Great Horned Owls at night; watch bats at dusk on summer evenings. In winter, Black-capped Chickadees abound in thicket northeast of campground.

ACCESS: From Hwy 155 at milepost 23, turn west onto Rd 57.1 E. Drive past campground sign 0.4 mile, veering right, to primitive campground/boat launch.



50 Northrup Point Access



HABITAT: Open water, marsh, cliffs, and shrub-steppe in Steamboat Rock State Park.

BIRDING: May-June, trees host American Goldfinches, Yellow Warblers, Cedar Waxwings, Western Kingbirds, and Bullock's Orioles, while the air is filled with Bank Swallows and other aerial feeders such as White-throated Swifts. In fall, Common Loons and Western Grebes fish the lake. In winter, Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks soar overhead; look in trees and shrubs for smaller birds: House Finches, Black-capped Chickadees, Dark-eyed Juncos, Northern Flickers, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, and Varied Thrushes.

VIEWING: Good beginning birding. Check sagebrush by picnic area for Song Sparrows and California Quail. Climb onto rocky outcroppings and use scope to scan Banks Lake for Mallards, Gadwalls, and Hooded Mergansers. Look down into marsh near boat launch for American Tree Sparrows and Belted Kingfishers.

ACCESS: From Hwy 155 at milepost 18.9, turn west into Northrup Point area of Steamboat Rock State Park. Drive 0.3 mile to paved parking lot.

51 Northrup Canyon



HABITAT: State Park's 3,000-acre dramatic canyon with high cliffs, richly diverse riparian zone, and stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir – unique in Grant County.

BIRDING: April and May bring – along with a myriad of wildflowers – a multitude of songbirds. Early arrivals include Say's Phoebes and Spotted Towhees, followed by Lazuli Buntings, Yellow Warblers, Western Wood Pewees, Bullock's Orioles, Warbling Vireos, Chipping Sparrows, Rock Wrens, and Black-headed Grosbeaks. Other spring birds are White-throated Swifts, Calliope Hummingbirds, and possibly Red-naped Sapsuckers and Lewis's Woodpeckers. Regular year-round residents are Red-breasted Nuthatches, Black-capped and Mountain Chickadees, Canyon Wrens, and Downy Woodpeckers, while less frequent sightings include Red Crossbills and Clark's Nutcrackers. Watch cliffs for Prairie Falcons, American Kestrels, Red-tailed Hawks, Golden Eagles, and Turkey Vultures. Watch and listen for Northern

Saw-whet and Great Horned Owls, Northern Pygmy-Owls, and Western Screech-Owls. November-March, 50+ Bald Eagles can be seen from mid-afternoon till dark flying to communal roost in canyon.

VIEWING: From parking lot, walk around gate on road and take path on left to eagle-viewing vantage point. Take 1-mile old Almira-Bridgeport stage-coach road on right along canyon wall (route closed Nov 15-Mar 15 to protect eagles). A 1.5-mile trail along canyon bottom leads to Northrup homestead. West from homestead, a second 1.5-mile trail ascends steeply through pines to Northrup Lake. Caution: Canyon has a large population of western rattlesnakes.

ACCESS: From Hwy 155 at milepost 18.9, turn east onto gravel road at Northrup Canyon Natural Area sign. Drive 0.6 mile to parking area.

52 Steamboat Rock Peninsula



HABITAT: State Park and WDFW Wildlife Area with 17,770 acres of upper Grand Coulee with large, prominent 600-acre butte overlooking Banks Lake and wetlands.

BIRDING: American Goldfinches brighten spring skies, while Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Flickers, and House Finches live here year-round. But birders favor this spot especially in late fall and winter: see Bald and Golden Eagles, Northern Harriers, 4 species of hawk – Rough-legged, Red-tailed, Cooper's, and Sharp-shinned – and 4 species of falcon – Prairie and Peregrine, American Kestrel and Merlin. Watch for Great Horned and Long-eared Owls, plus waterbirds including American Coots, American Wigeons, Northern Shovelers, Gadwalls, Redheads, Canvasbacks, all 3 merganser species; plus Pied-billed, Horned, and Western Grebes. On bare tree branches perch Northern Shrikes, American Tree Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos, and Black-capped and Mountain Chickadees.

VIEWING: From boat launch parking, walk 0.5 mile north to primitive campground, or hike steep 1-mile trail to top of Steamboat Rock for wide views of Banks Lake and eagles. At north and south camping areas, walk around poplars into sagebrush, and along lakeshore. From park registration station, walk 0.2 mile south on park road, then 0.2 mile west to Lake Thompson.

MORE BIRDING: From Hwy 155, drive 0.4 mile toward park. Turn left (south) onto primitive dirt road and park. Walk to Russian-olive grove that hosts Long-eared and Great Horned Owls.

ACCESS: From Hwy 155 at milepost 15.5, turn west at sign for Steamboat Rock State Park. Drive 3.1 miles to boat launch and picnic areas.

53 Coulee City Community Park



Restrooms Closed in Winter

HABITAT: Family-friendly municipal park, managed by Coulee City Port District, on shores of Banks Lake.

BIRDING: Migrating Common Loons stay March-May before going north, then come through again in October and November on their way south. American Coots, Common Mergansers, and Common Goldeneyes frequent the lake, along with some Red-breasted Mergansers. Herring Gulls are the most common winter gull. Special treat: May-September, as many as 16 Turkey Vultures soar over Coulee City in late afternoons and evenings, and roost in evergreen trees on north side of First and Main St.

VIEWING: From picnic area, scan lakeside for waterfowl and gulls. From park entrance, turn left and drive or walk onto breakwater peninsula for views of Black-crowned Night-Herons. Check tall trees for perching Bald Eagles. At dusk, watch for Common Nighthawks and bats.

54 Sinlahekin Wildlife Area



HABITAT: WDFW 13,814 acres of shrub-steppe, grassland, coniferous forest, lakes and riparian wetlands.

BIRDING: Spring birding highlights include a pair of breeding Common Loons, nesting Hooded Mergansers, Red-necked Grebes, Wood Ducks, Blue-winged and Cinnamon Teal, abundant Barrow's Goldeneyes, Ruddy Ducks, plus Spotted Sandpipers. Spring-summer find Black-chinned, Rufous, and Calliope Hummingbirds; Yellow-breasted Chats, Veeries, Willow Flycatchers, Common Nighthawks, and Western Bluebirds. Watch for swooping Vaux's Swifts. Listen for Canyon Wrens singing on rocky cliffs. Lucky birders spot Dusky, Ruffed Grouse. Fall features raptors: Bald and Golden Eagles, Northern Goshawks, and possible Prairie Falcons. Sandhill Cranes migrate through mid-Oct. Winter birding highlights are Trumpeter and a few Tundra Swans.

VIEWING: Blue Lake – From kiosk, cross bridge, stay left for 1.5-mile trail along lake's west side. Forde and Conners lakes – From Blue Lake kiosk, walk back to Sinlahekin Rd, turn right, cross road to trail on left. Walk north 3.2 miles to Forde Lake; continue north 1.1 mile further to Conners Lake spillway camping/parking. Conners Lake Spillway Trail – From camping/parking area, short trail leads to spillway and ADA bird blind; trail continues south back to Forde and Blue lakes. Bonus: Bighorn sheep,

white-tailed and mule deer, bats, and butterflies. Caution: Fall hunting season.

ACCESS: Blue Lake - From Hwy 97 at mp 304.7 north of Omak, turn west onto S Pine Creek Rd/Fish Lake Rd Drive 9.8 miles. Road becomes Sinlahekin Rd. Drive 5.4 miles. Turn left onto unmarked road. Drive 0.4 mile to Blue Lake trail kiosk. Conners Lake Spillway Trail – From Blue Lake trail kiosk, return to Sinlahekin Rd. Turn north (left). Drive 4.7 miles.

Turn hard right onto Headquarters Rd; turn right again to Conners Lake boat launch. Drive 0.4 mile to Spillway Trail camping/parking area.



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To conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

Important Bird Areas

The worldwide Important Bird Areas (IBA) program identifies sites that are the most essential for healthy, long-term bird populations and works for the conservation of these sites. Audubon is the lead organization in the United States for the IBA program.

Bird Information

- Audubon Washington, wa.audubon.org
- Central Basin Audubon Society, PO Box 86, Moses Lake, WA 98837, www.cbas.org
- Washington Ornithological Society, Rare Bird Alert– www.wos.org
- *A Birder's Guide to Washington*, co-edited by Hal Opperman and Andrew Stepniewski, published by American Birding Association, Colorado Springs, CO (available late 2003)
- *BirdWeb*, Seattle Audubon's online guide to birds of Washington, www.birdweb.org
- *Tweeters*, e-mail list on birds and birding hosted by Burke Museum, University of Washington. Subscription information: <http://www.scn.org/earth/tweeters>
- *Inland Northwest Birders*, e-mail list on birding hosted by University of Idaho. Subscription information: www.lists.uidaho.edu/mailman/listinfo/inland-nw-birders

Thanks!

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