<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sites</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INFO KEY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Woodard Bay</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Priest Point Park</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Chehalis Wildlife Area</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Ferbache/Monte Brady</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Chehalis River Surge Plain</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Johns River</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Bottle Beach State Park</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Westport Ocean Beaches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Westport Pelagic Birding</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Tokeland Marina</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Smith Creek</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Helen Davis Park</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Bush Pioneer Park &amp; Palix River</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Long Island</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Lewis Unit-Willapa National Wildlife</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuge</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Long Beach</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Willapa Bay Interpretive Center</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Leadbetter Point</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Black Lake Park</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Cape Disappointment State Park</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Chinook County Park</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Fort Columbia State Park</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Devils Elbow</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Julia Butler Hansen National</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Coal Creek Slough</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Lake Sacajawea Park</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 La Center Bottoms</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Ridgefield National Wildlife</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuge</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Vancouver Lake Park</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Columbia River Lowlands</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32 Water Resources Education Center</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 Franz Lake</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 Beacon Rock State Park</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 Strawberry Island Trails</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Rock Creek Mill Pond</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37 Catherine Creek</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38 Weldon Wagon Trail</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39 Conboy Lake National Wildlife</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuge</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 Packwood Lake</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 Grove of the Patriarchs</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 Woods Creek</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43 Cowlitz Wildlife Area: Kosmos Unit</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44 Cowlitz Wildlife Area: Swofford Pond</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 Cowlitz Wildlife Area: Brim Bar</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 Lewis and Clark State Park</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47 Seaquest State Park/ Mt. St. Helens</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Center</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 Hummocks Trail</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49 Johnston Ridge Observatory</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Rainbow Falls State Park</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 Scatter Creek</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52 Black River</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53 Mima Mounds</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54 Millersylvania State Park</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CREDITS**

© Ed Newbold, 2002

© Audubon Washington

**INDEX**
The Great Washington State Birding Trail

OUTWEST LOOP

Local Services and Highlights

Overall Washington: www.experiencewashington.com
Shorebird Festival: Last weekend in April, 1-800-303-8498, www.shorebirdfestival.com
Sites 26-27 and 47-49: Cowlitz County Tourism, 360-577-3137, www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/tourism

INFO KEY

Seasonal Access (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.
Fee required. Passes best obtained prior to travel.

ABBREVIATIONS
USFS - US Forest Service
USFWS - US Fish and Wildlife Service
WDFW - Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
WDNR - Washington Dept. of Natural Resources
**GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Use Birding Trail map along w/ state highway map.
- Driving directions often list mileage plus a fraction, e.g., “milepost 37.5”, which means continue 0.5 mile beyond milepost 37.0. Mileage markers are located on east or south side of state highways, with mileage calculated from south to north and from west to east.
- Many WDFW and Wildlife Refuge sites allow hunting September-January. Follow posted instructions and use caution.
- 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 Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge**

**HABITAT:** USFWS and WDFW 4,000-acre river delta w/ forest, salt- and freshwater wetlands, meadows, deciduous riparian woodlands, salt marsh, and Puget Sound mudflats.

**BIRDING:** Spring foliage shelters Western Tanagers; and Orange-crowned, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, MacGillivray’s, and Wilson’s Warblers, while Bush-tits and Spotted Towhees sing in brush and Rufous Hummingbirds flit in wildflowers. Meadows attract Song and Savannah Sparrows, Short-eared Owls, and Northern Harriers. Great Horned Owls sleep in trees near Twin Barns. American Bitterns and Marsh Wrens skulk in wetlands year-round. In winter, watch for Peregrine Falcons, Merlins and Bald Eagles, as 6,000 waterfowl gather in freshwater ponds: Northern Pintails, American Goldfinches, and Tree and Violet-green Swallows. Ospreys arrive in May.

**VIEWING:** Walk 1.1-mile ADA Twin Barns Loop and 5.5-mile Brown Farm Loop on outer dike (closed hunting season Oct-Jan).

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 114 (Nisqually). Turn north onto Nisqually Rd NE. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right (east) into Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge. Drive 0.5 mile to parking areas.

**MORE BIRDING:** From I-5, exit 114 (Nisqually). Drive southwest on Martin Wy 1.1 miles. Turn right (north) onto Meridian Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. At roundabout, exit right (east) onto Meridian Rd NE. Drive 2 miles. Turn right (east) onto 46th Ave NE. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn left (north) onto D’Milluhr Dr NE. Drive 0.5 mile to Public Access Area boat landing and park. Aug-Nov, use scope to see Dunlin, Greater Yellowlegs, Least and Western Sandpipers, Short- and Long-billed Dowitchers on mudflats, plus deep-water birds: Brant, Rhinoceros Auklets, Common Murres, Marbled Murrelets, Red-throated and Common Loons, Eared and Horned Grebes; and Surf, White-winged, and Black Scoters. (Avoid hunting season Oct-Jan.)

---

**2 Woodard Bay**

**HABITAT:** WDNR Natural Resources Conservation Area 678 acres of coniferous forest on saltwater bay.


**VIEWING:** Take 0.75-mile Overlook Trail to picnic tables above Woodard Bay.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 109 (Sleater-Kinney Rd N). Turn southwest onto Martin Wy. Drive 0.6 mile. Turn right (northwest) onto Sleater-Kinney Rd. Drive 4.3 miles. Road turns left, becoming 56th Ave NE. Continue on 56th Ave E 0.4 mile. Turn right (northwest) onto Shinkie Rd NE. At 0.5 mile, road turns left (west) becoming Woodard Bay Rd NE. Continue on Woodard Bay Rd NE 0.4 mile. Turn right (north) into Chehalis Western Trail parking.

**MORE BIRDING:** Continue 0.2-mile further west on Woodard Bay Rd NE. Turn right (northeast) into parking area. Walk 1 mile on old Witham Rd to Chapman Bay overlook, or to 1-mile Loop Trail for night roost of Double-crested Cormorants. Summer Bonuses: Nesting Purple Martins, seals w/ pups on log booms, and bats from large colony at twilight.

---

**3 Priest Point Park**

**HABITAT:** Municipal park on saltwater bay w/ 1-mile gravel shoreline, 300-acre riparian forest w/ some old-growth conifers.

**BIRDING:** Spring brings colorful migrants: Rufous Hummingbirds, American Goldfinches, and Tree and Violet-green Swallows. Ospreys arrive in May. In November look for Buffleheads, Red-necked Grebes, and Surf Scoters on bay; Greater Yellowlegs along shore; and Varied Thrushes, Black-capped Chickadees, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Song Sparrows, and Winter Wrens in forest. Nov-April is high season for saltwater species: Rhinoceros Auklets; Double-crested Cormorants. Summer Bonus: Nesting Purple Martins.

**VIEWING:** 3-mile Ellis Cove Trail winds through old-growth trees and along Budd Inlet’s rocky beaches. Ospreys nest in canopy near trailhead.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 105B (Port of Olympia). Continue north on Plum St/East Bay Dr. Drive 2.1 miles. Turn right (east) into Priest Point Park. Drive 0.4 mile through park, cross over East Bay Dr on bridge. Turn LEFT at “Exit South” sign, then immediately turn right onto road to Ellis Cove Trail. Drive 0.1 mile to Ellis Cove Trail parking.

---

**4 Chehalis Wildlife Area**

**HABITAT:** WDFW 527-acre freshwater wetlands, and ponds w/ deciduous riparian edges.


**VIEWING:** Take 0.25-mile ADA paved trail to blind on first pond, or 0.75-
**Great Washington State Birding Trail**

**SOUTHWEST LOOP**

**AREA 1**

- **Ferbache/Monte Brady**
  - **Habitat:** WDFW riparian woods/seasonal wetlands in private farm fields.
  - **Birding:** Greater Yellowlegs, Dunlins, and Black-bellied Plovers arrive after fall rains. In winter abundant raptors – Bald Eagles, Peregrine Falcons, Cooper’s and Rough-legged Hawks, Merlins, American Kestrels – hunt over fields where Trumpeter and a few Tundra Swans feed. Look in field ponds for Buffleheads and dabblers: American Wigeons, Northern Shovelers, Northern Pintails, and Green-winged Teal.
  - **Viewing:** Scope fields for raptors and swans. Check trees south of fields for Western Scrub and Steller’s Jays, Northern Flickers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and Savannah Sparrows.
  - **Access:** From Hwy 12 at milepost 14.8, turn south onto Monte Brady Rd.
  - **Birding:** Turn left (east) at T onto Brady Loop Rd. Drive 3.6 miles (road twists and turns). Turn left (south) onto Foster Rd. Drive 0.5 mile. Turn left (south) at public fishing sign into WDFW parking area. To return to Hwy 12 via loop, drive west then north 1.9 miles on Brady Loop Rd. Turn left at T onto Monte Brady Rd. Drive 0.8 mile (west) to Hwy 12 at milepost 12.6.

**AREA 2**

- **Chehalis River Surge Plain**
  - **Habitat:** WDNR Natural Area Preserve 2,644 acres of Chehalis River sloughs w/ coniferous and deciduous riparian areas and forested wetlands.
  - **Birding:** Bald Eagles, Red-breasted Sapsuckers; and Downy, Hairy, and Pileated Woodpeckers use snags. Sloughs are favored by Double-crested Cormorants, Pied-billed Grebes, Hooded and Common Mergansers, Northern Shovelers, Northern Pintails, Canvasbacks, and Ruddy Ducks. Spring migrants include Black-throated Gray Warblers, and Song and White-crowned Sparrows. In fall find Hermit Thrushes, Cedar Waxwings, and Ruby-crowned Kinglets.
  - **Viewing:** Walk to viewing platform at 0.5 mile and bench at 1.75 miles; 3.5-mile trail leads to end of Blue Slough.
  - **Access:** From Aberdeen, take Hwy 101 S (toward Raymond/Cosmopolis). At milepost 79.4, turn east onto Blue Slough Rd. Drive 4.6 miles. Turn left (east) onto Hwy 107 N. Drive 1.1 miles. Turn left (north) onto Preacher’s Slough Rd. Turn immediately left into trailhead parking.

**AREA 3**

- **Johns River**
  - **Habitat:** WDFW 1500 acres of tidally influenced river estuary, freshwater wetlands bordering deciduous and coniferous forest.
  - **Birding:** Spring and fall feature migrating Greater Yellowlegs, Short-billed Dowitchers, Wilson’s Snipe, Varied Thrushes, Spotted Towhees, and Ruby-crowned Kinglets. White-crowned, Song, and Fox Sparrows stay fall-winter. Year-round residents include Double-crested Cormorants, Killdeer, Marsh Wrens, Red-tailed Hawks, Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Northern Flickers, and Steller’s Jays.
  - **Viewing:** Take 1.25-mile dike trail (first 0.5-mile ADA to bird blind). Scope riverbank and slough for river otters. See Roosevelt Elk in fall.
  - **Access:** From Hwy 105 at milepost 37.1, turn east onto Johns River Rd. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left onto Game Farm Rd. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right (north) into WDFW boat launch and parking area.
  - **More Birding:** From Hwy 105 at milepost 37.8, (0.7 mile north of Johns River Rd) turn east into unsigned WDFW lane. Park by gate. Good birding along old road for 2 miles.

**AREA 4**

- **Bottle Beach State Park**
  - **Habitat:** Park of 76 acres on saltwater bay w/shoreline mud flats, uplands of shrub, Sisike spruce.
  - **Birding:** Use scope for spring shorebirds. April brings Dunlins, Red Knots, Western Sandpipers, Semipalmed Plovers, and Killdeer on their way to Alaska. In May check shrubs for Bewick’s Wrens and American Goldfinches. Black-bellied Plovers, Short-billed and some Long-billed Dowitchers migrate through spring and fall; fall-only migrants include Whimbrels and American Golden Plovers. Marbled Godwits arrive in fall and stay the winter.
  - **Viewing:** Walk 0.1-mile trail along dike, cross bridge, and follow path to beach. Birding is best 1.5 hours before and after high tide. Check bridge area for Virginia Rails, Marsh Wrens, and Rufous Hummingbirds. Caution: Stay off treacherous mudflats.
  - **Access:** From Hwy 105 at milepost 34.8 (across from Ocosta Third St), turn northwest into parking pull-off at “Road Closed” sign. Caution: Short sight-distance for exiting/entering 50-mph-highway.

**AREA 5**

- **Westport Ocean Beaches**
  - **Habitat:** Municipal and state ocean beach, rock shoreline, and shore-pine woods.
  - **Birding:** Common Terns migrate through spring and fall. Brown Pelicans arrive in July. At dawn Rhinoceros Auklets may fly in and out of Half-Moon Bay. Fall-winter winds may blow Black-legged Kittiwakes into port. Fall-spring find Brant, Double-crested and Pelagic Cormorants; Common, Pacific, and Red-throated Loons; Red-necked, Horned, and Western Grebes; and Surf, White-winged, and Black Scoters – and occasional Long-tailed Ducks, Glaucous Gulls, and Barrow’s Goldeneye. In winter look for Black Turnstones, Rock Sandpipers, and Surfbirds on rock jetties, Harlequin Ducks in water by jetties, and Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, and Marbled Murrelets further out.

ACCESS: Westport Marina - From Hwy 105 S at milepost 30.7, turn north onto Montesano St S, which becomes N Montesano St/N 105 Spur/Dock St. Drive 3.6 miles. Turn left (west) onto Westhaven Dr. Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right (north) onto Neddie Rose Dr. Drive 0.3 mile to Westport Marina Observation Platform parking. Half-Moon Bay, Westhaven State Park - From Hwy 105 S at milepost 30.7, turn north onto Montesano St S, which becomes N Montesano St/N 105 Spur. Drive 3.2 miles. Turn left (southwest) on unnamed street to Westhaven State Park. Drive 0.4 mile to Coast Guard Half-Moon Bay tower parking area or continue 0.6 mile further to Westhaven State Park. Walk to beach and ADA loop trail.

10 Westport Pelagic Birding
HABITAT: Pacific Ocean.
BIRDING: See Continental Shelf birds: Fork-tailed Storm Petrels, Cassin's Auklets, Black-footed Albatrosses, Northern Fulmars, and Sooty and Pink-footed Shearwaters (May–October); Buller's and Flesh-footed Shearwaters (August–October); Red and Red-necked Phalaropes; and Pomarine, Parasitic, and Long-tailed Jaegers (August). Summer-fall sightings may include South Polar Skuas, Black-legged Kittiwakes, Sabine's Gulls, and Tufted Puffins, with Leach's Storm Petrels further offshore. Watchers may spot rarities: Red-legged Kittiwakes, Parakeet Auklets, Ancient Murrelets, and Manx Shearwaters. Winter possibilities are Laysan Albatrosses, Short-tailed Shearwaters, and Thick-billed Murres.
ACCESS: From Hwy 105 S at milepost 30.7 in Westport, turn north onto Montesano St S, which becomes N Montesano St/N 105 Spur/Dock St. Drive 3.6 miles. Park on street. Pelagic trips leave from Float #8.

11 Tokeland Marina
HABITAT: Pacific Ocean, and tidal marsh managed by port.
VIEWING: Scan water around docks, inside breakwater, and along ocean entrance to Willapa Bay.
ACCESS: From Hwy 105 S at milepost 18.6, turn south onto Tokeland Rd/Kindred Ave. Drive 3.0 miles to Tokeland Marina. Turn left on Front Ln. Park in first parking area on right.

12 Smith Creek
HABITAT: WDFW 646 acres of estuarine and mudflats, tidal salt marsh, and conifer hillside.
VIEWING: From bridge look south down onto Smith Creek slough. Watch shorebirds at high tide on logs and pilings, and between tides on mud flats. From northeast corner of parking lot, walk 0.25-mile abandoned road into spruce forest. Paddle up Smith Creek or North River on high tide.
ACCESS: From Hwy 105 at milepost 10.1, turn east into WDFW boat launch parking area on Smith Creek.

13 Helen Davis Park
HABITAT: 125-acre municipal park on Willapa River estuary w/ riparian restoration of salmon creek.
BIRDING: In spring Orange-crowned Warblers, Varied Thrushes, and Ruby-crowned Kinglets sing in leafy trees. In estuary, find Western Grebes, Common Loons, Buffleheads, Red-breasted Mergansers, Pelagic and Double-crested Cormorants, California Gulls, even Ospreys.
VIEWING: Boat along salt marsh on west riverbank. Walk south through parking area to deciduous grove by river. From picnic area, scope river and tide flats, or walk across Hwy 101 to Mill Creek and take 0.1-mile gravel path through riparian corridor.
ACCESS: From Hwy 101 at milepost 53.3 in city of South Bend, turn north into park.

14 Bush Pioneer Park & Palix River
HABITAT: 40-acre county park on forested bluff above saltwater mudflats, intertidal river estuary, and freshwater wetlands.
BIRDING: Best during migration, especially fall. Shorebird visitors – hunted by Peregrine Falcons and Merlins – include Short-billed Dowitchers, Black-bellied Plovers, Western and Least Sandpipers, Greater Yellowlegs, and Dunlins. Common Loons are present April-May and return for winter. In winter, see Horned and Western Grebes, American Wigeons, occasional Eurasian Wigeons, Green-winged Teal, and Northern Pintails.
VIEWING: Open year-round for birding, camping May-Sept. Search evergreens on south side of playfield year-round for Brown Creepers, Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Northern Flickers; and Downy, Hairy and Pileated Woodpeckers; and possible Red Crossbills in summer. Bald Eagles and Cooper's Hawks roost in conifers.
ACCESS: From Hwy 101 at milepost 42.4, turn west onto Bay Center Dike Rd. Drive 2.6 miles (through town of Bay Center) to Bush Pioneer Park. Park just inside entrance on left.
**MORE BIRDING:** Drive 0.9 mile on Bay Center Dike Rd. Park on south side of road for meadow view to south, river views to north. Early spring, check riparian brush and trees for kinglets; later in spring for Common Yellowthroats; and Orange-crowned, Townsend’s, Wilson’s, Yellow, and MacGillivray’s Warblers. At 1.4 mile of dike road, park on south roadside, walk west to pond. Green Herons and four species of swallow come in summer; Great Egrets in fall, and Snow and possible Greater White-fronted Geese in winter.

**HABITAT:** USFWS island w/ 274-acre old-growth forest encircled by salt marshes and tidal mud flats.

**BIRDING:** Birding by boat offers Bald Eagles, and Great Blue Herons in easy-to-find rookery. Scan woods for elusive Hutton’s Vireo; and Black-throated Gray, Wilson’s and Townsend’s Warblers. Pileated Woodpeckers peck, Ruffed Grouse drum, and Brown Creepers, well, creep. In spring Brant forage on eel grass beds on west side of Island while Common, Pacific, and Red-throated Loons fish.

**VIEWING:** Launch at high tide, paddle/motor 0.25 mile across channel to landing on south end of island. Walk 2.5-miles north on main road; turn east for 0.75-mile Trail of Ancient Cedars loop. Plan for all-day wilderness experience. Cautions: Resident black bears and Roosevelt elk, impassable crossing at low tide, treacherous mud flats, sudden high afternoon winds. Avoid September’s bow hunting season.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 101 at milepost 24.2, turn east into Willapa National Wildlife Refuge headquarters parking area. Boat launch is across 101 from headquarters. Register for camping at headquarters.

**MORE BIRDING:** From refuge headquarters (open 7:30-4:30 M-F), follow 0.5-mile Willapa Salmon Art Trail up hill to creek headwaters. First 0.25-mile is ADA. In spring check shrubs and trees for Yellow-rumped and Orange-crowned Warblers, Pacific-slope Flycatchers, Pine Siskins, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Swainson’s Thrushes. In winter look for Varied Thrushes, Fox Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos, and Winter Wrens.

**HABITAT:** USFWS salt- and freshwater marshes by south Willapa Bay. hillside of deciduous and conifer forest.

**BIRDING:** Water birds rule the roost! Freshwater marsh birds include Common Mergansers, Canvasbacks, and Northern Shovelers. Spring brings Killdeer, Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, and Spotted Sandpipers, plus Tree, Northern Rough-winged, Violet-green, and Barn Swallows. Forest harbors Common Ravens, Barred Owls, Band-tailed Pigeons, Spotted
20 Black Lake Park
HABITAT: Municipal-owned 40-acre lake w/ evergreen and deciduous border.
VIEWING: South access - Bird from covered picnic tables or walk north on path by lake. North access - From boat launch take 0.5-mile lakeside path up hill. Osprey nest is across lake.
ACCESS: South access - From Hwy 101 at milepost 12, turn east into Black Lake parking lot. North access - From Hwy 101 at milepost 12.2, bear north onto Sandbridge Rd. Turn right (east) at first gravel road. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right (south). Drive 0.1 mile to boat launch parking.

21 Cape Disappointment State Park
HABITAT: 1,964-acre park w/ Pacific Ocean beach, Columbia River estuary, fresh- and saltwater wetlands, and forest.
VIEWING: Seven trails in park offer variety. Beard's Hollow - Take 0.1-mile trail to beach. North Head Lighthouse - Take short trail past lighthouse and scope Black Oystercatchers on cliff below; and Sooty Shearwaters, Parasitic Jaegers, and Common Murres skimming over ocean. First North Jetty - Scope cormorant rookery on cliffs to east. Second North Jetty - Amble north along Benson Beach. Look for Osprey nest in tree by Lake O'Neil.
ACCESS: Beard's Hollow - From Hwy 101 at milepost 11.5 in the town of Ilwaco, turn west onto Hwy 100 loop. Drive 1.8 miles. Turn right (west) into Beard's Hollow parking area. North Head Lighthouse - From Hwy 100 loop at 2.2 miles, turn right (west) onto North Head lighthouse Rd. Drive 0.4 mile to parking lot. North Jetty areas - From Hwy 100 loop at 3.4 miles, turn right (southwest) into Cape Disappointment State Park. Drive straight 0.4 mile to parking on left (east), and 1.2 mile further to North Jetty parking area and beach access. For O'Neil Lake, turn right (northwest) past state park entrance station; park at lake, walk along shore.
MORE BIRDING: Hwy 100 loop dead-ends at 3.8 miles at Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. From center parking area, hike 0.75-mile trail to Cape Disappointment Lighthouse.

22 Chinook County Park
HABITAT: Beach and mud flats of Baker Bay.
BIRDING: Best at change from low to incoming tide. Use scope to see Black-bellied and Semipalmated Plovers, and Western and Least Sandpipers feeding on sand bar. Purple Martins nest in pilings. Fall specialties are Brown Pelicans and Heermann's Gulls. Residents Oct-March include Surf and White-winged Scoters, some Black Scoters, American, some Eurasian Wheateers, Northern Pintails, Greater/Lesser Scupas, a few Green-winged Teal.
VIEWING: Walk to water, set up scope by picnic tables.
ACCESS: From Hwy 101 at milepost 3.9 in the town of Chinook, turn southeast onto Chinook County Park Rd.

23 Fort Columbia State Park
HABITAT: Park w/ conifer and deciduous forested hills.
BIRDING: Glimpse warblers in breeding plumage: Yellow-rumped, Wilson's and Townsend's. Other spring migrants include Western Wood-Pewees, and Pacific-slope and Olive-sided Fycatchers. Also, Varied Thrushes, Spotted Towhees, Chestnut-backed and Black-capped Chickadees, and Pileated Woodpeckers.
VIEWING: Walk back up Loop Drive northeast past Historic Walk sign to trailheads for Military Road and Canyon Creek trails. Take 1.6 mile Canyon Creek trail to Scarborough Hill summit.
ACCESS: From Hwy 101 at milepost 3.0 east of Chinook County Park, turn south into 593-acre Fort Columbia State Park. Wind up along Loop Drive 0.3 mile to parking area.

24 Devils Elbow
HABITAT: Columbia Land Trust's 90 acres of tidally flooded spruce swamp bottomland and willow thickets bordered by cottonwoods and cedar.
BIRDING: Wood Ducks show off in spring, along w/ migrating Common Yellowthroats, Yellow-rumped Warblers; and White-crowned and Song Sparrows. Killdeer nest along dike. Tree, Violet-green, and Barn Swallows streak over wetlands. Caspian Terns, Bald Eagles, and White-tailed Kites may be seen. American Wigeons, Northern Pintails, Northern Shovelers, Pied-billed Grebes, and American Coots dabble in winter. Common and Red-breasted Mergansers stay year-round.
VIEWING: Climb onto dike, look down into wetland restoration, scope conifers across field. Walk south 0.1 mile to river. At end of dike at low tide, turn left and walk. 0.1 mile to levy breach. Bonus: View across Columbia River of Oregon. Caution: Winter flooding, muddy.
ACCESS: From Hwy 4 at milepost 12.9, turn east onto Raistakka Rd. Drive 0.4 mile to end of pavement. Turn left (northeast) into unimproved parking area.

25 Julia Butler Hansen National Wildlife Refuge
HABITAT: USFWS 6,238 acres of Columbia River islands and sloughs, riparian cottonwood and alder, Sitka spruce, wetlands, meadows.
**BIRDING:** Spring brings swallows – Violet-green, Tree, Northern Rough-winged, Cliff, Barn, and Purple Martin – along w/ Northern Harriers in fields, Wood Ducks in sloughs, Ospreys by river, and Turkey Vultures in open spaces. Sharp-shinned Hawks possible Oct-early April. Dec-March, Bald Eagles nest, Greater Scapua forage, and Tundra Swans pull wapato. Peregrine Falcons are present fall-winter.

**VIEWING:** Watch swallow aerobatics from refuge office viewing platform. Pick up free refuge auto tour flyer. Drive, bicycle, or walk 4.1-mile Steamboat Slough road through refuge. Wet meadows in first 0.7 mile attract Yellow Warblers and American Goldfinches. At 2.3 miles, pole in field to north supports Purple Martin nest gourds. Warblers are common in roadside brush and trees miles 2.9-3.8. Nov-April wetlands abound w/ Canada Geese, American Wigeons, Green-winged Teal, Gadwalls, and Northern Pintails; and Cinnamon Teal in summer. At boundary of refuge, turn right (east) onto 2.4 mile, one-lane Brooks Slough Rd to return to Hwy 4 at milepost 31.4.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 4 at milepost 33.5, turn south onto Steamboat Slough Rd. Drive 0.2 mile. Turn right into refuge office parking. Bonus: At refuge kiosk on Hwy 4 milepost 31.8, view Roosevelt Elk and deer early evenings. Salmon migrate up Elochoman River in fall.

**MORE BIRDING:** On Hwy 4 at milepost 29, (0.25 mile west of refuge), Skamokawa Paddle Center offers kayak/canoe guided birding tours. 360-920-8300, www.skamokawakayak.com.

---

**Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge**

**HABITAT:** USFWS 5,150 acres of wetlands, grasslands, and woodlands along the Columbia River.

**BIRDING:** Refuge is home to Sandhill Cranes mid-Oct to April; 15,000 Cackling and Canada Geese mid-Nov to mid-April; and Tundra Swans Nov-March. Resident Bald Eagles prepare nests in January. Plethora of wintering ducks includes Gadwalls, American Wigeons, Northern Shovelers, Northern Pintails, Ring-necked Ducks, Green-winged Teal, Buffleheads, and Lesser Scapua. Green Herons remain April-Oct, Black-crowned Night-Herons and Great Egrets visit briefly late summer to early fall, unusual White-throated Sparrows winter here. Look for White-breasted Nuthatches in oaks, and Black Terns and Black-necked Stilts in wetlands.

**VIEWING:** Cross bridge over railroad tracks to 2-mile Oaks-to-Wetlands trail, w/ replica of Chinook plank house visited by Lewis and Clark in November 1805 where Clark wrote, “I slept very little last night for the noise kept up during the whole of the night by the swans, geese…brant (and) ducks.”

**River S Unit** – 4.2-mile year-round driving tour; and 1.2-mile Kiwa Trail May 1-Sept. 30. Caution: unit open to waterfowl hunting.

**ACCESS:** - From Hwy 4/Ocean Beach Hwy at milepost 59.8 in City of Longview, turn south onto Kessler Blvd. Park on right side of street.

---

**Lake Sacajawea Park**

**HABITAT:** Family-friendly 120-acre municipal park w/ lake and naturalized islands.
The Great Washington State Birding Trail

**30 Vancouver Lake Park**

**HABITAT:** 284-acre county park around 2,800-acre lake w/ shoreline trees.

**BIRDING:** Family friendly park. Savannah and White-crowned Sparrows arrive in abundance in spring. Common and Hooded Mergansers, Greater and Lesser Scaups, Ring-necked Ducks, Canvasbacks, Ruddy Ducks, and Redheads spend the winter. Fox, Lincoln’s, and Song Sparrows inhabit underbrush in winter. Red-necked and some Clark’s Grebes stay fall-spring.

**VIEWING:**
- **Park turnoff** - Use scope to scan lake in winter.
- **Main entrance** - Take 1.0-mile ADA lakeshore trail west.
- **ACCESS:** Park turnoff - From I-5, take exit 1D (Fourth Plain Blvd /Hwy 501). Drive west on Fourth Plain Blvd/NW Lower River Rd. Drive 4.5 miles. Turn right (northeast) into parking area. **Main entrance** - Continue north 0.6 mile on NW Lower River Rd. Turn right (east) into park.

**31 Columbia River Lowlands**

**HABITAT:** County riverfront parks and WDFW/USFWS wetlands along Columbia River.

**BIRDING:** Northern Harriers, Short-eared Owls, and American Kestrels hunt in open areas. Sandhill Cranes migrate through spring-fall. Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night-Herons are present in fall. Wetlands host spring visitors — Common Yellowthroats, Green Herons, Wilson’s Snipe, Tree Swallows – plus shy American Bitterns and Virginia Rails year-round.

**VIEWING:**
- Frenchman’s Bar Riverfront Park - Take 0.5 mile ADA Riverfront Trail north under cottonwoods for Ospreys and Caspian Terns on river, and Sanderlings on beach. **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge** - Use scopes to check Post Office Lake for Trumpeter and Tundra Swans, and Canada and Cackling Geese; ducks shuttle between Post Office and Vancouver lakes in winter.
- **ACCESS:** Frenchman’s Bar Riverfront Park - From I-5, take exit 1D West (Fourth Plain Blvd /Hwy 501). Turn west onto Fourth Plain Blvd. Drive 1.3 miles. Stay right onto NW Lower River Rd. Drive 6.3 miles (road curves left at 4.5 miles). Turn left (west) into Frenchman Bar Riverfront Park. Drive 0.2 mile to parking area.

**32 Water Resources Education Center**

**HABITAT:** Municipal 48 acres of wetlands along Columbia River.

**BIRDING:** Family friendly beginning birding. Spring mornings and evenings feature songs from riparian nesters: Spotted Towhees, House Finches, and Song Sparrows, plus Bald Eagles and Ospreys. Eagles stay fall and winter.

**VIEWING:** Walk south to wetland overview and trails. Take ADA 0.25-mile trail left (east) to Osprey nest on river pilings, and short beach trail on right (west) to Bald Eagle nest.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 1-A (Camas-Hwy 14) onto Hwy 14. From Hwy 14, take exit 1. Turn right (south) to Columbia Way. Go under railroad overpass, turn left (east) immediately onto SE Columbia Way. Drive 1.5 miles on winding street to Water Resources Education Center. Curve left (north) to parking lot in back of center.

**33 Franz Lake**

**HABITAT:** USFWS 522 acres in Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area of upland/wetland forest, w/ 250-acre seasonal lake and wetlands.

**BIRDING:** Tundra Swans stay mid-Oct to mid-Feb eating wapato roots in lake. Other wintering residents include Canada Geese, American Wigeons, and Lesser Scaups.

**VIEWING:** At overlook, use scope to peer down at swans.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 14 at milepost 31.5, turn south into parking area.

**34 Beacon Rock State Park**

**HABITAT:** 4,690-acre park w/ coniferous forest, rock cliffs, and wetlands on Columbia River.

**BIRDING:** Few individuals but many species. Shrubs shelter Lazuli Buntings and Rufous Hummingbirds, and conifers host Western Tanagers, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Black-throated Gray and Hermit Warblers, Pacific-slope Flycatchers, Cassin’s Vireos, and Pileated Woodpeckers. Band-tailed Pigeons eat August elderberries.

**VIEWING:** Two trails. At lower picnic parking area, enter forest at “trail” sign for 1.0-mile loop. At campground trailhead, take Hamilton Mt Trail. At 0.25-mile, 0.4-mile Little Beacon Rock loop trail begins.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 14 at milepost 34.9, turn north onto unnamed road, drive 0.3 mile up hill to lower picnic area or continue 0.3 mile further through campground to trailhead parking.

**MORE BIRDING:** From Hwy 14 at milepost 34.2, turn south onto Beacon Rock Moorage Rd. Drive 0.4 mile, bearing left. Park at moorage walkway. Set up scope on dock, find white spot on south side of Beacon Rock to watch nesting Peregrine Falcons Feb to mid-July; and Great Blue Heron rookery on nearby islands.

**35 Strawberry Island Trails**

**HABITAT:** 45 acres of shrubs, woods, and wetlands managed by US Army Corps of Engineers.

**BIRDING:** Double-crested Cormorants, Bonaparte’s Gulls in March, and Ring-billed Gulls feed in river mid-April to mid-June. Ospreys, Bald Eagles, and Turkey Vultures soar; while swallows – Violet-green, Barn, Cliff, and Northern Rough-winged – swoop after insects. Look in cottonwoods for Bullock’s Orioles, Warbling Vireos, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and Downy Woodpeckers, plus roosting Common Ravens and American Crows.
Listen for MacGillivray Warblers beneath cottonwoods. Check willows for other warblers, thickets for White-crowned Sparrows, and shrubs for Common Yellowthroats.

**VIEWING:** From west end of parking, take 1.0-mile Strawberry Island Trails loop. Bonus: California sea lions possible in river.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 14 at milepost 38.5, turn south onto Dam Access Rd. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn right (west) at stop sign. Drive 1.6 miles to end of Hamilton Island Recreation Area parking.

---

**Rock Creek Mill Pond**

**HABITAT:** Family-friendly municipal park w/ lake, riparian shrubs.

**BIRDING:** Wintertime is prime time for rafting Canada Geese, American Wigeons, Buffleheads, Hooded Mergansers, Canvasbacks, Redheads, Ring-necked Ducks, and Lesser and Greater Scaups. Spring migrants include Spotted Sandpipers, Killdeer, and Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs. Bald Eagles and Ospreys are common.

**VIEWING:** Walk across grass to short ADA trail on north shoreline.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 14 at milepost 44.1, turn north onto SW Rock Creek Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. Turn south into parking lot.

---

**Catherine Creek**

**HABITAT:** USFS 1,000 acres of basalt grasslands, oak savanna, and ponderosa pine along creek.

**BIRDING:** Find Lewis's Woodpeckers in oaks and pines, Canyon Wrens on rock walls. Turkey Vultures arrive Feb-March. Listen for Western Meadowlarks, Western Bluebirds, and Say's Phoebes mid-March to mid-June. Shrubs and trees shelter Western Scrub and Steller's Jays, Nashville Warblers, Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatches, and Northern Flickers.

**VIEWING:** Go around metal gate, walk cross country 0.1 mile up hill to right and down to Catherine Creek. Best birding is along 0.3 mile of old road leading upstream. Cautions: Poison oak, ticks, rattlesnakes. Bonus: Cross highway to 1.0-mile ADA loop trail for stunning view of Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area. Wildflowers peak in April.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 14 at milepost 70.9, turn north onto Old Hwy No. 8. Drive 1.4 miles. Turn north into gravel parking area.

---

**Weldon Wagon Trail**

**HABITAT:** County conifer-and-oak forests.

**BIRDING:** Trees attract Olive-sided Flycatchers, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Varied Thrushes, Spotted Towhees, and Steller's Jays. Look for Yellow-rumped Warblers and Warbling Vireos at start of trail. Rufous and Black-chinned Hummingbirds perch on shrubs by parking area.

**VIEWING:** Best birding is first 0.5 mile on Weldon Wagon Trail in conifers, and also 0.25-mile further on Indian Cemetery Rd.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 14, take Hwy 141. At milepost 8.5, turn right (east) onto Indian Creek Rd. Drive 0.4 mile. Veer left at Y. Drive 0.1 mile, veer left at Y onto Indian Cemetery Rd. Drive 0.3 mile. Park in pull-off across road from Weldon Wagon Trail sign.

---

**Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge**

**HABITAT:** USFWS 6,532 acres of coniferous forest, wetlands, seasonal lake.

**BIRDING:** 20 pairs of Sandhill Cranes nest in early spring. Look and listen for White-headed Woodpeckers, Gray Flycatchers, Cassin’s Vireos, Mountain Chickadees, Chipping Sparrows, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Purple Finches; and Red-breasted, White-breasted, and Pygmy Nuthatches.

**VIEWING:** Walk 2-mile Willard Springs Foot Trail loop through pine forest, past quaking aspen grove to seasonal lake. Bonus: New-born elk babies.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 141 at milepost 21, turn right (northeast) onto Warner Rd/E Sunnyside Rd. Drive 8.8 miles [at 1.0 mile, road turns left (north), and 1.2 mile further turns right (east) becoming Trout Lake Hwy] to Conboy National Wildlife Refuge. Turn right (south) onto Wildlife Refuge Rd. Drive 0.8 mile. Park on right opposite Willard Springs Foot Trail sign or continue 0.2 mile further to headquarters.

---

**Packwood Lake**

**HABITAT:** USFS old-growth coniferous forest, small meadows, and lake.

**BIRDING:** Seen – but mostly heard – are Winter Wrens, Brown Creepers, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Townsend’s Warblers, Varied and Swainson’s Thrushes, Hammond’s Flycatchers, and Hairy and Pileated Woodpeckers. At lake, w/ luck, find Ospreys, migrating Common Loons, Bald Eagles, and Common and Barrow’s Goldeneyes.

**VIEWING:** Take 4.5-mile Trail #78 to Packwood Lake.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 12 at milepost 131.4 in town of Packwood, turn east onto Snyder Rd/Forest Road #1260. Drive 5.8 miles to parking lot.

---

**Grove of the Patriarchs**

**HABITAT:** Ancient grove of 1,000-year-old western red cedar, Douglas fir, and western hemlock in Mt. Rainier National Park.

**BIRDING:** By ear: Listen for Winter Wrens in understory, and high on trees for Pileated Woodpeckers, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, and Northern Saw-whet Owls (after dark). Catch fleeting glimpses of Common Mergansers and American Dippers on river.

**VIEWING:** Take 1-mile loop trail along Ohanapecosh River to grove.

**ACCESS:** From Hwy 12 at milepost 138.5, turn north onto Hwy 123. Drive 5.3 miles. Turn left (west) onto Hwy 706 (Stevens Canyon Rd) toward Paradise. Drive 0.1 mile to park entrance. Drive 0.1 mile into park. Turn right into trail parking area.
**Cowlitz Wildlife Area: Swofford Pond**

- **HABITAT:** 220-acre pond bounded by wetlands and mature deciduous trees owned by Tacoma Power, managed by WDFW.
- **BIRDING:** Lots of birds of lots of species! Look for Western Grebes doing mating dance on water, and nesting Ospreys, plus Common Loons, Barrow’s Goldeneyes, and Common Mergansers. Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Pine Siskins sing in cottonwoods, Pacific-slope and Willow Flycatchers in alders. Red Crossbills stay late spring-late fall. Winter promises Northern Shrikes, plus Northern Shovelers, Lesser Scaups, Northern Pintails; Blue-winged, Green-winged, and possible Cinnamon Teal; and occasional Ring-necked Ducks. American Kestrels, Bald Eagles, Red-breasted Sapsuckers, and Downy, Hairy, and Pileated Woodpeckers are year-round residents.
- **VIEWING:** Walk 1.25-mile trail along shoreline or by non-motorized boat. Bonus: Possible river otter and muskrat.
- **ACCESS:** From Hwy 12 at milepost 86.9 in the town of Mossyrock, turn south onto Williams St/5122. Drive 0.3 miles. Turn east (left) at T onto E State St/Mossy Rock Rd. Drive 2.5 miles. Turn right at Y (south) onto Swofford Rd. Drive 3.0 miles (road turns left at 1.8 miles, becoming Green Mountain Rd.). Turn right (south) into parking for Swofford Pond Trail.

**Lewis and Clark State Park**

- **HABITAT:** 621-acre park w/ old-growth Douglas firs and cedars; streams, wetlands.
- **BIRDING:** Beginning birding from forest floor to canopy: California Quail, Hairy and Pileated Woodpeckers, Steller’s Jays, Common Ravens, and Great Horned Owls.
- **VIEWING:** Self-guided 0.5-mile Old-Growth Interpretive Trail starts at first parking area. Other park trails total 7 miles.
- **ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 68 (Hwy 12E/Morton/Yakima). Turn east onto Hwy 12E. Drive 2.6 miles. At milepost 68.9, turn right (south) onto Jackson Hwy. Drive 1.7 miles. Turn right (west) into park.
**The Great Washington State Birding Trail**

**SOUTHWEST LOOP**

### 47 Seaqueast State Park/Mt. St. Helens Visitor Center

**HABITAT:** Park w/ 475 acres of lake, riparian wetlands, and coniferous forest.

**BIRDING:** Lakeshore nesters include Killdeer, Wilson’s Snipe, Virginia Rails, American Bitterns, Wood Ducks, Yellow and Wilson’s Warblers, and Common Yellowthroats. Pied-billed Grebes, Buffleheads, and Barrow’s and Common Goldeneyes stay fall-winter. Nesting in the forest are Bald Eagles, Western Tanagers, Evening Grosbeaks, Hutton’s Vireos, Dark-eyed Juncos, and Brown creepers, along w/ resident Northern Flickers, Red-breasted Sapsuckers; and Downy, Hairy, and Pileated Woodpeckers. Ruby and Golden-crowned Kinglets migrate though spring and fall.

**VIEWING:** Ospreys nest above visitor center March-Aug. Take ADA 1.0-mile boardwalk behind center to Pete Moore Island where guided tours are offered. In campground, 8 miles of trails loop through forest.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 49 (Toutle/Castle Rock). Turn east onto Hwy 504 (Spirit Lake Hwy). Drive 0.2 mile. Continue (north) straight on gravel road w/ “Dead End” sign. Turn left (west) onto Gauva again. Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left (north) onto Kerr Rd. Drive 0.1 mile. Park at WDFW Silver Lk. boat launch.

### 48 Hummocks Trail

**HABITAT:** Ponds created by 1980 eruption, herbaceous plant recovery zones in USFS Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument.

**BIRDING:** Spring migration starts in April bringing uncommon Nashville Warblers and Lazuli Buntings to alders, along w/ Orange-crowned and Yellow-rumped Warblers and Common Yellowthroats; and Barrow’s Goldeneyes to pothole lakes. Next come Mountain Bluebirds, Violet-green Swallows, Song Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos, Common Nighthawks, and Great Horned Owls. White-crowned Sparrows, Common Ravens, and American Kestrels stay on through fall. American Pipits, Sharp-shinned and Cooper’s Hawks pass through in Oct.

**VIEWING:** Hummocks Trail 2.3-mile loop offers marsh, ponds, and young alder forest, and sometimes Roosevelt elk. Caution: Volcano activity may close area unexpectedly; check w/ monument staff.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 49 (Toutle/Castle Rock). Turn east onto Hwy 504 (Spirit Lake Hwy). At milepost 45.1, turn right (southwest) into parking area.

### 49 Johnston Ridge Observatory

**HABITAT:** USFS Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument pumice plains formed by 1980 eruption.

**BIRDING:** Area features small number of birds of species unusual in western Washington: Prairie Falcons, Horned Larks, Western Meadowlarks, and Rock Wrens.

**VIEWING:** From observatory, Boundary Trail goes 8 miles w/ spectacular views of Mt. St. Helens caldera. Caution: Volcano activity may close area unexpectedly; check w/ monument staff.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 49 (Toutle/Castle Rock). Turn east onto Hwy 504 (Spirit Lake Hwy). Road ends at milepost 51.8, Johnston Ridge parking area.

### 50 Rainbow Falls State Park

**HABITAT:** 139-acre park w/ riparian and conifer forest and Chehalis River waterfall.

**BIRDING:** Check for Hermit Warblers high in cedar, hemlock, and fir. Chestnut-backed Chickadees perch in treetops. Pileated Woodpeckers swoop, Steeller’s Jays and American Crows squawk, Brown Creepers climb trunks, and Blue Grouse boom on forest floor. Check river for American Dippers and river’s edge for Rufous Hummingbirds and Wilson’s Warblers.

**VIEWING:** From picnic area, walk north 0.1 mile to 6-mile Willapa Hills Trail along river to town of Pe Ell. From north side of pedestrian bridge, walk 0.25-mile trail along river. On south side of Hwy 6 (across from park entrance) take 0.5-mile interpretive trail loop.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 77 (Pe Ell/Raymond/Hwy 6). Turn west onto Hwy 6. At milepost 34.2, turn north into park. Drive 0.2 mile to picnic area.

### 51 Scatter Creek

**HABITAT:** WDFW 800 acres of riparian, rare Garry oak woodland, and glacial outwash prairie.

**BIRDING:** Late April-early June, forest and prairies fill w/ songs of Western Bluebirds, Western Meadowlarks, Chipping and Savannah Sparrows, Willow and Pacific-slope Flycatchers (more often heard than seen), and Orange-crowned Warblers. Western Tanagers, Warbling and Cassin’s Vireos nest. Bewick’s Wrens, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and American Kestrels stay year-round, as do creek-side residents – Belted Kingfishers, Western Scrub and Steller’s Jays – and forest-dwellers – Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Downy Woodpeckers, and Northern Flickers.

**VIEWING:** From southwest corner of parking area, cross field to north side of barn for 1-mile Inner Foot Trail loop circling oak grove. 2-mile horse trail loops south through meadow and joins foot trail back to parking.

**ACCESS:** From I-5, take exit 88 B (Hwy 12W/Aberdeen). Immediately turn north (right) onto Elderberry St SW Drive 0.3 mile. Turn right (east) at “T” intersection onto 193rd Ave SW Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left (north) onto Gauva St SW Drive 0.9 mile. Turn right (east) at “T’ intersection onto 183rd Ave SW Drive 0.1 mile. Turn left (north) onto Gauva again. Drive 0.2 mile. Continue (north) straight on gravel road w/ “Dead End” sign. Turn left (west) into WDFW gravel parking area.

---

*Image credits: [Audubon](https://www.audubon.org) Washington*
The Great Washington State Birthing Trail

Black River

HABITAT: Slow-moving river through protected corridor of dense riparian marsh owned by WDFW, USFWS, WDNR, Thurston County Parks, The Nature Conservancy.


VIEWING: Birding by boat. Use WDFW boat launch, paddle downstream no more than 2 miles, return to launch. Caution: No landing sites along river. On-site rental: Black River Canoe Trips Inc. 360-273-6369.

ACCESS: From I-5, take exit 95 (Maytown/Littlerock). Drive north (straight through intersection) to Littlerock. Road curves to left (west) onto Maytown Rd SW. Drive 2.8 miles. Turn left (south) in the town of Littlerock onto Littlerock Road SW. Drive 1.9 miles. Turn right (west) into WDFW boat launch access parking.

Mima Mounds

HABITAT: WDNR Natural Area Preserve 624 acres of rare mounded grassland prairie bordered by coniferous forests.

BIRTHING: Spring songs of Western Meadowlarks, Western Bluebirds, and Vesper and Savannah Sparrows waft over prairie while Ruffed Grouse drum. Summer nesters include Western Wood-Pewees and Western Scrub Jays. White-tailed Kites hunt south edge of prairie fall-winter. Present year-round are American Kestrels, Northern Harriers, and Red-tailed Hawks.

VIEWING: Take 0.5-mile paved ADA trail to kiosk. 2-mile loop trail, and 3.2 miles of other trails. Bonus: Profusion of mid-May camas wildflowers plus summer butterflies!

ACCESS: From I-5, take exit 95 (Maytown/Littlerock). Drive north (straight ahead through intersection) to Littlerock. Road curves to left (west) onto Maytown Rd SW/128th Ave. Drive 3.6 miles (in town, road becomes 128th Ave SW). Turn right (north) at “T” intersection onto Waddell Creek Rd SW. Drive 0.7 mile. At Mima Mounds Area Preserve sign, turn left onto unmarked, one-lane road (easy to miss!). Drive 0.3 mile to trail parking lot.

Millersylvania Stat Park

HABITAT: Park w/ 842 acres of mature second-growth coniferous forest on freshwater lake.

BIRTHING: Spring arrivals include Ospreys, Rufous Hummingbirds, and Pacific-slope Flycatchers. Ring-necked Ducks, Pied-billed Grebes, Common Mergansers, and Greater Scaups stay fall-winter. Year-round forest dwellers are Bald Eagles, Ruffed Grouse, Steller’s Jays, Great Horned Owls, Bewick’s and Winter Wrens; and Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers.

VIEWING: Scan edges of lake. Drive/walk 0.7 mile further to Environmental Learning Center/boat launch parking area and set up scope on dock. Also see forest birds from 8.6 miles of trails starting at learning center.

ACCESS: From I-5, take exit 95 (Littlerock/Maytown/Hwy 121 N). Turn east onto Maytown Rd SW/Hwy 121 N. Drive 3.1 miles (at “T” intersection, Hwy 121 N turns left, becoming Tilley Rd S.) Turn left (west) into park entrance.

Support the Great Washington State Birthing Trail – Join Audubon Washington –

Mission

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

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 w/ links to local Audubon societies: Black Hills, Discovery Coast, Grays Harbor, Vancouver, and Willapa Hills.
- Washington Ornithological Society, Rare Bird Alert - www.wos.org
- BirdWeb, Seattle Audubon’s online guide to birds of Washington, www.birdweb.org
- BirdNote™ Seattle Audubon’s two-minute audio portraits of Washington birds on-line at www.BirdNote.org, on KPLU 88.5 FM, or www.KPLU.org.
- Tweeters, e-mail list on birds and birthing hosted by Burke Museum, Univ. of Washington. Subscription: www.scn.org/earth/tweeters

Thanks!

Audubon Washington is grateful for financial support from WDFW, Washington State Parks Commission, Clark and Grays Harbor Counties, the Cities of Aberdeen, Lacey, and Olympia, and many individual contributors. Applause to the many dedicated volunteers of Audubon chapter Birthing Trail Committees led by Bob Morse and Kristin Stewart; Black Hills; Patricia Cruse, Discovery Coast; Jan McMillan, Grays Harbor; Alan Richards, Willapa Hills; and Jerry Beale, Vancouver; and our many business and agency partners. Christi Norman, Audubon Washington, directs the program.

The Great Washington State Birthing Trail, Southwest Loop

© Audubon Washington 2005
©2005 paintings by Ed Newbold
© 2005 artwork, design and layout by Al Tietjen, Fusion Studios

wa.audubon.org, 206-652-2444
5902 Lake Washington Blvd. S, Seattle, WA 98118