



HARLEQUIN HAPPENINGS

Newsletter of the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (OPAS)

www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org (www.olybird.org)

Clallam County, Washington

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

Issue 1 Jan-Feb 2024

“Promoting Birding and Conservation as Community Educators, Volunteers, and Stewards”

OPAS Programs for January and February

by Tom Butler

January Program

“OPAS Photo Night”, organized by Christina Heliker

January 17, 2024 at 7 p.m., Rainshadow Hall at Dungeness River Nature Center, Free to attend



Hooded Merganser Female and Male by Dee Renee Ericks

Calling all local bird photographers! Christina Heliker has again generously agreed to organize the photos. She will be our technical advisor and assist in projecting images. We encourage you to show off your best bird photos at our January 2024 program.

This is not a contest, but a chance to share your unique views of birds and their behavior. The subject of your photos needn't be a rare bird. The audience will also enjoy a good image of a chickadee doing something interesting or just being

beautiful. You may submit pictures taken locally or anywhere on your travels.

If you have photos you would like to share please send Christina a maximum of 8 images by January 11 at the latest. That way she can get them organized and loaded on the Center's system before the meeting, and everything will be ready to go.

Note: If you plan to submit, please let Christina know as soon as possible. If more people than usual are interested, she may need to reduce the number of photos each of you can show. Send photos and questions to Christina Heliker at cheliker@olypen.com. Photo night has been one of our favorite programs, so even if you don't wish to submit photos, be sure to come and enjoy birds!

Before sending photos, review the image guidelines by [clicking here](#).

February Program

“Our Olympic Coast”, Presented by Dr. Steven Fradkin, Olympic National Park, February 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., Rainshadow Hall, Dungeness River Nature Center Free to attend

A renowned expert with an encyclopedic knowledge of Olympic coastal resources, Dr. Fradkin will present the current state of knowledge regarding Olympic coastal ecology, including perspectives on intertidal biodiversity, the wildly fluctuating role of sea stars as primary predators and how climate change is impacting our Olympic coast. *(Continued on page 3)*

Harlequin Happenings is published six times a year. Consider “going green”. Receive your newsletter electronically, in living color, by contacting the OPAS Membership Chair, Audrey Gift, at 360-681-2989, or email aggift@gmail.com

The *Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society* meets monthly (except July, August, and December) on the third Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Dungeness River Nature Center, 1943 West Hendrickson Road, Box 2, Sequim, WA, 98382. The public is welcome.

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President's Notes

by Ken Wiersema

Welcome 2024

As you read our newsletter, we'll have turned the page on another new year. Our OPAS Board and committees plan to have a full array of programs, classes, and field trips for you to benefit from and enjoy. Audrey Gift, our Membership Chair, informs me that we now have 442 members (most ever), of which 82 of you are lifetime members. Thank y'all for your support and your confidence in the programs and projects that we organize each year. As we launch into our 51st year, we need not only to continue to be enriched by expanding our knowledge and actions to protect birds and their habitat, but also to face the new and lingering challenges that we humans propagate.



Christmas Bird Counts 2023

Thanks again to the over 150 of our members who braved the rains and winds of our so far mild Olympic Peninsula winter to count birds in December. Bob Boekelheide reminds me that some of you don't get windblown that much, but do feeder counts from your "Barcaloungers". We very much appreciate the time and contributions of each of you. Our special "Thank You" goes out to the compilers of our Clallam County counts. Bob Boekelheide does the Sequim-Dungeness Count, Barb Blackie does the Port Angeles Count, and Charlie Wright puts the numbers together for Neah Bay. These folks take your carefully prepared count sheets (front and back), and ebird lists, and merge them into the "official" CBC report sheets. They'll also question whether you are sure you saw a Steller's Sea Eagle. We really need a photo of that one! And a big thanks to the River Center staff who not only helped with the count but made pots of chili, and prepared for the post count chili feed. We also had a number of folks from out of town come here and bring their skills and passion for birding to our counts. Thanks to them too. Be sure to read Bob's article on the Sequim-Dungeness count in this edition.

BirdFest 2024

The BirdFest 2024 website went live on New Year's Day (<https://olympicbirdfest.org>). You can go there and register for field trips, events, and classes now. Our BirdFest is a mission-supporting event for both OPAS and the River Center. As it was originally established, it was our OPAS event to support the Center. Over the years it has matured from a small local event that raised a few hundred dollars to a major fundraising event beyond the capacity of OPAS's volunteers. We passed the leading and organizing of BirdFest to the Center in 2012. We continue to provide volunteer field trip leaders, class instructors, and venue organizers. In 2023 it raised over fifty thousand dollars toward the Center's operation. For 2024 we've added new classes, evening bird movies, and revised the routes of several field trips. I'd encourage folks who plan to attend to secure their registration early, as most of the popular events fill quickly. With our new venues and expanded offerings this year, BirdFest 2024 will be an even better event. Put it on your calendar -- 14-16 April. And consider adding the Neah Bay trip before and the San Juan trip after. Good birding to y'all in 2024!

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OPAS Programs (Continued from page 1)



Dr. Steve Fradkin,

Steve Fradkin has been the Coastal Ecologist and Limnologist at Olympic National Park since 2000. He is the Chief of the Marine, Lakes, and Climate Branch of the park's Resource Management Division, where he conducts re-

search and long-term monitoring on intertidal resources, mountain lakes, and climate change from an ecosystem perspective. He received his doctorate from Dartmouth College and conducted post-doctoral research at the University of Oregon's Institute of Marine Biology after completing an M.S. and B.S. at Michigan State University. He lives in Port Angeles, WA, with his wildlife biologist wife and two children, where he enjoys hiking, kayaking, fishing, and looking in the water.

**OPAS FIELD TRIPS:
January and February**

Please Note: Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society is instituting a new policy for in-person field trips. We are asking for field trip participants to sign a liability release form on or before the day of the trip. This signed form will be good for future field trips. The liability form will not be necessary for the Wednesday Bird Walks. You can review, download, and print the form in advance by [clicking here](#). You can also eSign the liability release form by [clicking here](#).

Message from the Field Trip Chair

by Marie Grad



I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. The past month has been very busy for all of us. Those of us involved in the local birding community also had Christmas Bird Counts in which we participated. The last Christmas bird count wrapped up on December 30th in Port Angeles. Thank you to everyone that participated in them. Now it's time to look forward to birding trips in the coming year.

The New Year will bring new opportunities to get out and bird. Winter months continue to be prime opportunities to see wintering waterfowl. With the exception of the Wednesday Bird Walks, I have no field trips scheduled for the New Year. I will be contacting leaders after the first of the year and hope to schedule field trips within the next few weeks. As always, the

field trips will be posted on the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society website as they become available.

Wednesday Bird Walks

Date and Time: Every Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m.
Meeting Place: Outside the Dungeness River Nature Center.
Features: Easy guided bird walk through Railroad Bridge Park to see birds of the Dungeness River riparian area and adjacent fields and open areas.
Bring: Binoculars, scope, water, snacks, and appropriate clothing for the weather.

Olympic BirdFest 2024

Come Bird With Us

Sequim, Washington, April 11-14, 2024

See the poster in this newsletter!!

Grab your binoculars and join the **Olympic Peninsula Bird-Fest**, at the newly expanded Dungeness River Nature Center (formerly the Dungeness River Audubon Center), Thurs.-Sun., April 11-14, 2024.

Online registration opens January 1, 2024, at www.olympicbirdfest.org

Discover the spectacular landscapes of the Olympic Peninsula. Enjoy guided birding trips with local experts in varied habitats, from bays and estuaries along the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the forests of the Dungeness Recreation Area.

Join a boat tour around a protected island bird sanctuary, or join a longer trip to the San Juan Islands, or join a car caravan to the Makah Reservation for extraordinary bird-watching and the Makah Cultural & Research Center Museum. You just might go home with a new bird for your life list!

For more information contact the River Center at 360-681-5636 or Info@OlympicBirdFest.org

Conservation Matters

by Bob Phreaner, Conservation Co-Chair



I am writing this column on the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). 99% of the over 1600 species listed for protection since 1973 have been rescued from extinction. The Bald Eagle and Peregrine falcon have recovered enough to be delisted. In a 2022 research paper published in PlosOne, further success of the ESA has been limited by insufficient funding and waiting until species are already too far gone. (Continued on next page)

Harlequin Happenings

Such might be the case for the Spotted Owl (SPOW) which was listed in 1990. According to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) data, SPOW have declined 35-80% in the over 20 million acres of protected federal old growth forest habitat the owl depends on. The Northwest Forest Plan stopped all logging of old growth forest in 1994. In the Olympics, the SPOW have declined 8%/year. Acoustic monitoring devices now detect the presence of SPOW in only 20 of the 120 polygons on the Olympic Peninsula. The primary stressors affecting the SPOW's current biological status include past habitat loss, wildfire, and since 1972 the incursion of the nonnative Barred Owl (BAOW), which has had the greatest impact. SPOW persist in the Olympics mostly in areas with the lowest BAOW density. These are at higher elevations and at the backs of fjord-like valleys of habitat surrounded by high elevation ridges without forest. BAOW populations are denser at lower elevations in more contiguous forests.

For the past 10 years the US Fish and Wildlife Service has conducted an experimental program at multiple locations including Cle Elum, WA, where they eliminated Barred Owls. Removal of BAOW within and around occupied Spotted owl sites retained the existing SPOW population, increased the potential of their reproduction and could provide a source population for translocation of SPOW into habitat where the BAOW management strategy is employed.

The USFWS is planning to begin permitting this BAOW management strategy on the Olympic Peninsula in 2024. The Government of British Columbia is engaged in BAOW management and SPOW reintroduction including captive breeding and translocation. The US Fish and Wildlife Service Barred Owl Management Strategy and associated Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) permit is intended to be a *voluntary tool in efforts to reduce the impact of the BAOW for the conservation of the SPOW*.

The OPAS Conservation Committee submitted comments on the Barred Owl Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to the USFWS on June 6, 2012.

"The recovery of the spotted owl remains a high priority for our membership, but lethal control of barred owls continues to be a controversial issue which warrants a high level of assurance that the Service will endeavor to address the original reasons for the spotted owl decline and adequate protections are assured.

"After careful examination of the DEIS, OPAS has taken the position to support a controlled, experimental, removal of the barred owl in order to prevent the extinction of the spotted owl. Our decision is based on scientific data that indicates that direct competition from an influx of the more aggressive barred

owls into the Pacific Northwest has created a nesting decline which makes spotted owl recovery potentially impossible.

"We support continued, full protection of barred owls under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, but are willing to concede to experimental removal only for the specific purpose of determining whether long-term lethal control of barred owls is warranted and practical. If the Service determines the experimental removal of barred owls is successful, it is important that all management strategies proposed in the DEIS are determined economically feasible.

"We believe the most important aspect of the recovery of the spotted owl continues to be adequate habitat protection of remaining old growth forests. The proposed Revised Critical Habitat Rule for the Northern Spotted Owl could potentially weaken the protections currently provided by the Northwest Forest Plan."

The SPOW is listed as "Endangered", so the USFWS is required to try every possible strategy to save it from extinction. The comment period about this proposal closes 1/16/24. Prior to commenting it is important to read and understand the 300 page document which proposes controlled but desperate measures to save the iconic Spotted Owl

Website link: <https://olympicpeninsulaudubon.org/conservation-matters>

Backyard Birding: January and February

by Rhonda Marks-Coats



Our Backyard Birding programs enjoyed strong attendance for our first three classes in the current series, highlighted by a first-time offering on the topic of birding optics, presented by Christie Lassen (Wild Birds Unlimited) and Jim Ullrich (Swarovski Optik, PNW). We look forward to our upcoming classes in January and February (summarized below). We are particularly excited about a collaborative relationship developing between OPAS and the Washington State University Master Gardener's Program, as evidenced by our guest presenters in January sent to us by WSU/MG's! **Admission to each seminar is free. However, we suggest a donation of \$5.00 per person to support our ongoing education programs.**

January Program

“Native Plants for Better Backyard Birding”

Presenters: Kathy & Matt McCoy, OPAS; Gary Brundige & Lorraine Eckard, WSU Master Gardeners

Saturday, January 6, 2024, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Rainshadow Hall, Dungeness River Nature Center



*Presenters, Left to right: Matt and Kathy McCoy, Gary Brundige (not pictured), Lorraine Eckard)
Photo: Dee Renee Ericks*

Birds share their living spaces with us. Their omnipresence connects us to nature. Whether your landscaping is a window box or several acres of woodland, you should consider birds as you manage your backyard habitat. Winter is an excellent time to start designing your yards and gardens before spring arrives. Plan now to optimize your enjoyment by safely attracting birds to

shelter, feed, and nest on your property.

Our January presenters include experienced birders and gardeners, Kathy & Matt McCoy, Gary Brundige, and Lorraine Eckard—volunteers from OPAS and WSU Master Gardeners. The program will discuss the importance of using native plants and seeds, providing water features, attracting pollinators, and controlling invasive vegetation to meet the year-round needs of birds. So, bring your green thumbs, and begin 2024 with us as we learn better backyard gardening practices from planning to planting and beyond!

February Program

“Bird Nesting and the Great Backyard Bird Count”

Presenters: Bob Boekelheide & Ken Wiersema

Saturday, February 3, 2024, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Rainshadow Hall, Dungeness River Nature Center

Our OPAS Backyard Birding series continues in February with a focus on bird nesting habits, as well as on the logistics of the upcoming



*Purple Martins, Female and male
Photo by Dee Renee Ericks*

Great Backyard Bird Count. With spring just over the horizon, presenters Bob Boekelheide and Ken Wiersema will offer this always popular, informative class. Attendees will learn where and how local bird species select and build nests and how nesting plays an integral part in pair bonding. In addition, the class will offer a primer on the use of the eBird application—an important tool for birders to report their bird sightings to fellow birdwatchers. We will end with a “how to” walkthrough for birdwatchers of every age and skill level, who wish to participate in the upcoming Great Backyard Bird Count on February 16-19, 2024.

Sequim-Dungeness Christmas Bird Count

by Bob Boekelheide



On December 18, 2023, OPAS held its 48th annual Sequim-Dungeness Christmas Bird Count (SDCBC). We ended up with 147 species, four species above the average species count for the previous 30 years, but below our all-time record of 154 species in 2015. The total count of individual birds was 71,950, much higher than the average of 61,096 for the past 30 years, and the seventh highest count in the history of the SDCBC. An extraordinary group of 122 field counters, along with 25 diligent feeder-watchers, participated in the count, the second highest number of participants in the history of the SDCBC. Thank you all! (See accompanying table for this year’s SDCBC results).

Sequim lived up to its reputation for pleasant weather, not only on count day, but for much of the week before the count. Thankfully, high winds and rain predicted on count day held off until after dark. The lowest temperature within the count circle was a very mild 39 degrees F at 5 a.m. at Upper Palo Alto Rd, followed by a high temperature of 51 degrees F in Sequim in the late afternoon. It was probably one of the warmest CBCs on record.

The most abundant species, as usual, was American Wigeon, with 15,661 birds. Other species in the top ten, in decreasing order, were Mallard (5964 birds), American Robin (4820), European Starling (3228), Glaucous-winged/Olympic Gulls (3190), Dark-eyed Junco (2573), Pine Siskin (2453), Dunlin (2257), Northern Pintail (2204), and Green-winged Teal (1816). These 10 species made up about 61 percent of all the birds we tallied.

With nice weather and skilled observers, we established record or near-record high counts for several species, particularly small forest birds. Counts of Black-capped Chickadees, White-crowned Sparrows, and House Finches were the highest ever for the SDCBC. (Continued on next page)

Harlequin Happenings



*A few American Wigeon at Three Crabs
Can you guess how many?
Photo by Bob Boekelheide*

Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Bushtits, and Brown Creepers scored their second-highest counts. Among water birds, Red-throated Loons rebounded from only five counted last year to their second highest count ever at 71, the highest since 1995.

Several noteworthy species appeared for the count, particularly species that usually spend winters further south. A Turkey Vulture soared through the middle of the count circle, reported by no less than four different field parties. There was one Whimbrel at Dungeness Spit, only the third record for the SDCBC. Sue Thomas found a Ruddy Turnstone at Protection Island, the fifth record for the SDCBC. For the second year in a row, we tallied Spotted Sandpiper and Greater Yellowlegs, the ninth and seventh records for the SDCBC, respectfully. A flock of at least 27 Marbled Godwits stuck around for the count in Dungeness Bay.



*Lesser Black-backed Gull roosting with other gulls.
Photo by Bob Boekelheide*

Among other unusual birds, the most interesting to me is the beautiful adult Lesser Black-backed Gull here for at least its third winter in a row, hanging out at Washington Harbor and Maple View

Dairy. Where in the world does this bird go during the nesting season? It faithfully shows up in November and departs about March, and is missing for the rest of the year. Since Lesser Black-backed Gulls are birds of the North Atlantic Ocean and Europe, could this bird fly to some far-distant nesting colony

half a world away?

Another intriguing species is the lone Bohemian Waxwing found in downtown Dungeness by Scott Gremel and his team. Very few Bohemian Waxwings have made it to western WA this year, so this bird really stands out. It is also reminiscent of the lone Bohemian Waxwing that hung out with robins in Blyn exactly one winter ago, found by Libby Burtner.



*Bohemian Waxwing
Photo by Bob Boekelheide*

This year's El Nino may have brought a couple of marine species from the south. Michael Barry and Denny Van Horn separately spotted Brown Pelicans near Dungeness Spit, a first for the SDCBC. If you see a Brown Pelican, you best look for a Heermann's Gull nearby. Sure enough, Dan Lipinski spotted a wayward Heermann's Gull roosting with other gulls at Dungeness Spit, only the fourth record for the SDCBC and the first since 2006, also an El Nino year. Denny also spotted an unidentified dark shearwater flying offshore, either a Sooty or a Short-tailed.



*Female Evening Grosbeak
Photo by Bob Boekelheide*

It was a mixed story for irruptive finches. Remember last year's dearth of Pine Siskins, when they were practically non-existent on the north Olympic Peninsula? This year they returned in their swirling flocks, totaling 2453 on count day, but still far from their record count of almost 9000 in 2020.

Both Evening Grosbeaks and Red Crossbills made an appearance this year, but scored below their average count for the last 48 years. At the other end of the abundance spectrum, it was the lowest Purple Finch year since 2012.

A few “recent” arrivals to Clallam County, Eurasian Collared-Doves and Anna’s Hummingbirds, may have reached their upper population limits. Collared-Doves were first observed in Clallam County in 2004 and first recorded on the SDCBC with only four doves in 2007. They quickly grew to a peak of 342 doves in 2015. Since then, their numbers have waffled, with only 118 recorded this year.

Have predators discovered the collared-doves?

But what about Mourning Doves? We now think of Mourning Dove as a fairly common bird around here, but actually MODOs were quite scarce in the 1970s and 1980s, totally missed on 8 of the first 20 SDCBCs between 1975 and 1994. Their numbers rose steadily through the late 1990s, first surpassing 100 birds in 2000, then skyrocketed over the next decade to reach a peak of 487 in 2009. Then collared-doves arrived, and MODO numbers dropped for several years. Now, with the recent decline in collared-doves, Mourning Dove numbers have soared again this year to their third-highest count ever, with 432 birds. Is there really competition between collared-doves and Mourning Doves?

It was a big deal in 1994 when the very first Anna’s Hummingbirds occurred on the SDCBC. After that, their numbers climbed slowly, surpassing 10 birds as recently as 2006. Their count exploded over the next 15 years, peaking at 404 hummers in 2021. Over the last two CBCs, Anna’s Hummers have retreated a bit, down to 386 this year. Has the wintering-over population of Anna’s Hummingbirds maxed out all available feeders in their competition for sugar water? But remember, of all hummingbirds Anna’s probably have the highest proportion of insects and spiders in their diet, so some appear able to survive winters without visiting feeders.

A few species recorded very low numbers or we missed them altogether. Where are the swans? The Trumpeter Swan count this year was the lowest since 2015. Where are the coots? The American Coot count this year was the lowest since 1978. We missed Greater White-fronted Goose for the first time since 2019. The reliable Ruddy Ducks at the pond at Diamond Point have dwindled to nothing, missed for the first time since 2009. Unfortunately, no Northern Saw-whet Owls replied to our hoots in the pre-dawn forests, the first time Saw-whets have been missed since 1987. We missed dowitchers on count day, but three dowitcher sp. joined other shorebirds in Dungeness Bay a couple days after the count, qualifying them as “count-week” species.

Final note: When I sent a shortened article about our CBC to Tweepers, the Washington birding listserv, I mentioned that we missed Black Oystercatcher and the species count was 146. Bruce LaBar, a member of our boat party, wrote back saying

that they actually spotted an oystercatcher by the marina when they returned from the boat survey. I’ve added the oystercatcher and the count is now up to 147 species. Thanks, Bruce!

Many thanks to everyone who participated, particularly to the landowners and agencies that gave access, including Dungeness NWR, Olympic Game Farm, Dungeness Farms and Habitat, Quacker Farms, Graysmarsh, Mark Burrows, Kevin Froese, Sequim Valley Ranch, and the Jamestown S’Klallam



Black Oystercatcher
Photo by Bob Boekelheide

Tribe. Special thanks to the Dungeness River Nature Center for hosting our compilation chili feed.

Our valiant counters included: Jamie Acker, James Halsh, Dan Lipinski, Michael Barry, Ken Wiersema, Dow Lambert, Sue Nattinger, Coleman Byrnes, Len Zeoli, Kari Williamson, Katja Bridwell, Liam Hutcheson, Jacob Miller, Alexander Sowers, Denny Van Horn, Edward Koszykowski, Scott Gremel, Mandy Holmgren, Eric Guzman, Melissa Marshall, Tom Butler, Scott Horton, Lee Bowen, Kaye Edmiston, Shelly Ament, Brad, Dan, & Kevin Waggoner, Barb & Bob Boekelheide, Carolyn Wilcox, Lindsey Schromin-Wawrin, Stephanie Robinson, Roger & Cat Hoffman, Richard Klawitter, Steve Hampton, Barry McKenzie, Ali Kasperzak, Bruce & Carol Von Borstel, Judy Mullally, Judy Collins, Ken & Mary Campbell, Powell Jones, Greg Voyles, Katherine & Otis Bush, John Gatchet, Bob Bagwell, David Durham, Charlie & Linnea Wright, Bruce LaBar, Mike Crim, Durkee Richards, Sue Thomas, Lorenz Sollman, Janis Burger, Susan Savage, Bob Blush, Pat Willets, Ed Bowlby, Kathy & Matt McCoy, Shelly Deisch, Karen Holtrop, Betsy Howell, Alison Center, Valerie Walcott, John Bridge, Tim Cullinan, Joyce Volmut, Rhonda Coats, Monica Hove, John Acklen, Juanita Reyes, Audrey & Jim Gift, Mike Hovis, Nancy Kohn, Katherine Dunham, Deb Flint, Norrie & Barb Johnson, Quenn Charrier, Gillian Kenagy, Elyse Carter, Ida Domazlicky, Penny Soares, Jane Nicholas, Mary Morgan, Tim McNulty, Tom Harris, Dave Shrefler, Heidi Pedersen, Barb Blackie, Tom Guobis, Joan McDermott, Margie Palmer, Debbie Turner, Barbara Vanderwerf, Sally Bird, Miguel Reabold, Laura Davis & Alan Smith, Pat Schoen, Marie Grad, Rosemarie Leuke, Dave Swinford, Joodie Klinke, Patricia Wolczko, Steve Koehler, Sharle Osborne, Skip & Carolyn Perkins, Montel & Walt Livingston, Wayne & Margie Sladek, Tom & Connie Unsicker, Gary Bullock, Enid & Bob Phreaner, Ron Wight, Ann Skillman, Marion Rutledge, Stacey Fradkin, Rebecca Atherton, Vince Thrutchley, Pamela Jennings, Bill Baker, Kathy Jenkins, Siri Forsman-Sims, Ed Stege, Connie Barron, Rick Rodlend & Kathy Cooper, Helen Pilch, Doris Causey, Joy Bertman, Anne Burkhardt, Patty Giffin, Sue & Don Dryden, + 2 Anonymous Feeder Watchers Mark your calendars -- the 2024 SDCBC will likely occur on Monday, 12/16/24.

RESULTS OF 2023 SEQUIM-DUNGENESS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

SPECIES	TOTAL	SPECIES	TOTAL	SPECIES	TOTAL	SPECIES	TOTAL
Snow Goose	1	Double-crstd Cormorant	209	Mourning Dove	432	Townsend's Warbler	3
Brant	975	Pelagic Cormorant	153	Barn Owl	2	Spotted Towhee	530
Cackling Goose	67	cormorant sp.	4	Great-homed Owl	2	Savannah Sparrow	30
Canada Goose	613	<u>Brown Pelican</u>	3	Northern Pygmy-Owl	1	Fox Sparrow	291
Trumpeter Swan	70 L	Great Blue Heron	99	Barred Owl	8	Song Sparrow	890
Tundra Swan	1	<u>Turkey Vulture</u>	1	Short-eared Owl	2	Lincoln's Sparrow	17
Wood Duck	5	Bald Eagle	181	Anna's Hummingbird	386	White-throated Sparrow	8
Gadwall	79	Northern Harrier	45	Belted Kingfisher	42	White-crowned Sparrow	<u>393</u>
Eurasian Wigeon	21	Sharp-shinned Hawk	14	Red-breastd Sapsucker	16	Golden-crowned Spar.	1379
American Wigeon	15661	Cooper's Hawk	32	Downy Woodpecker	37	sparrow sp.	3
Eur X Am Wigeon	1	accipiter sp.	3	Hairy Woodpecker	26	Dark-eyed Junco (Or)	2573
Mallard	5964	Red-tailed Hawk	71	No. Flicker (unk type)	209	Red-winged Blackbird	1569
Northern Shoveler	124	Virginia Rail	12	Red-shafted Flicker	72	Western Meadowlark	21
Northern Pintail	2204	Sora	1	Intergrade Flicker	3	Brewer's Blackbird	1163
Green-winged Teal	1816	American Coot	6 L	Pileated Woodpecker	5	Brown-headed Cowbird	6
Ring-necked Duck	59	Black Oystercatcher	1	woodpecker sp.	1	blackbird sp.	72
Greater Scaup	349	Black-bellied Plover	274	American Kestrel	14	Purple Finch	16
Lesser Scaup	12	Killdeer	49	Merlin	26	House Finch	<u>1448</u>
scaup sp.	4	Marbled Godwit	27	Peregrine Falcon	10	house sp.	30
Harlequin Duck	82	<u>Whimbrel</u>	1	Northern Shrike	6	Red Crossbill	30
Surf Scoter	644	<u>Ruddy Turnstone</u>	1	Hutton's Vireo	6	Pine Siskin	2453
White-winged Scoter	288	Black Turnstone	20	Canada Jay	8	American Goldfinch	17
Black Scoter	21	Sanderling	308	Steller's Jay	<u>296</u>	Evening Grosbeak	72
scoter sp.	6	Dunlin	2257	California Scrub-Jay	1	House Sparrow	173
Long-tailed Duck	167	dowitcher sp.	cw	American Crow	851		
Bufflehead	1715	Wilson's Snipe	56	Common Raven	287		
Common Goldeneye	435	Spotted Sandpiper	1	<u>Homed Lark</u>	5		
Barrow's Goldeneye	5	Greater Yellowlegs	3	Black-capped Chickadee	<u>474</u>	TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	71950
goldeneye sp.	9	Common Murre	465	Chestnut-bckd Chickadee	<u>615</u>	NO. OF SPECIES	147
Hooded Merganser	60	Pigeon Guillemot	322	Bushtit	<u>549</u>		
Common Merganser	87	Marbled Murrelet	67	Red-breasted Nuthatch	159		
Red-brstd Merganser	1288	Ancient Murrelet	905	Brown Creeper	<u>49</u>	Number of Observers	122
duck sp.	17	Rhinoceros Auklet	9	Bewick's Wren	34	No. Feeder Watchers	25
Ruffed Grouse	1	<u>Heermann's Gull</u>	1	Pacific Wren	141	Number of Parties	46 to 56
California Quail	98	Short-billed Gull	392	Marsh Wren	54	Miles on foot	173.2
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	Ring-billed Gull	2	American Dipper	7	Hours on foot	196.5
Red-throated Loon	<u>71</u>	California Gull	1	Golden-crownd Kinglet	1040	Miles by car	374.5
Pacific Loon	187	Herring Gull	7	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	293	Hours by car	65.0
Common Loon	40	Iceland (Thayer's) Gull	4	Hermit Thrush	2	Miles by boat	23.1
Yellow-billed Loon	3	<u>Lesser Blk-backed Gull</u>	1	American Robin	4820	Hrs by boat	4.0
loon sp.	1	Western Gull	19	Varied Thrush	<u>253</u>	Miles bicycle	20.0
Pied-Billed Grebe	2	Glaucous-winged Gull	660	European Starling	3228	Hours bicycle	4.5
Horned Grebe	168	W. X Glauc-wing Gull	2530	American Pipit	30	Hours owling	9.9
Red-necked Grebe	130	Herring X Gl-wgd Gull	3	<u>Bohemian Waxwing</u>	1	Miles owling	78.5
Western Grebe	16	gull sp.	415	Cedar Waxwing	175	Feeder Hours	68.4
<u>dark shearwater sp.</u>	1	Rock Pigeon	690	Orange-crwnd Warbler	2	Total Party-Hours	350.2
Brandt's Cormorant	26	Eurasian Collar-Dove	118	Yellow-rumped Warbler	45		

cw = Count Week (seen within three days before or after the count, but not on count day)

Underlined species = unusual species, rarely recorded on SDCBCs

Underlined numbers = extraordinary number of individuals for Sequim-Dungeness CBC, since 1975

L = Low count for the SDCBC

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Sequim, WA 98382

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