



Wenatchee Naturalist's mission is to cultivate awareness, understanding, and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by developing an active corps of well-informed community volunteers.



March-April 2020

## A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

I hope to see you on **Fri. Feb. 28** (5:30-7:00pm) at Pybus Market for the CDLT *Wild Ideas* spring social. Catch up with friends and meet new people interested in our land, water, and trails. Beer & wine (\$5 cash only) with complimentary drinks & finger foods. Hear three 5-minute inspiring talks about bats, favorite hikes for kids, and Executive Director, Curt Soper's Conservation Update.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

### ■ Community Science Project

**Mar. 26 & Apr. 23 7:30-11am.** [Bird Monitoring at CDLT Mountain Home.](#) Join Susan Ballinger on Thursday mornings as part of a team conducting bird surveys. RSVP required

### ■ Stewardship

Seeking volunteers to complete transcripts of oral histories about stewardship successes in North Central WA. Once complete, will be an online archive highlighted in a companion book. To learn more, contact Nancy Warner, [IRIS](#) Legacy Project Director at [irisncw@gmail.com](mailto:irisncw@gmail.com) or 509.881.1812.

### ■ Stewardship

**Mar. 11 & 14 and Apr. 8. Spring Work Days**

at Columbia Breaks Fire Interpretive Center, Entiat. Projects include work on the interpretive garden, sign installation, and restoring the Badger Mtn. Lookout, including replacing the shutters and windows. Contact Dave Spies for times and details 509.670.4875 or [daves60@aol.com](mailto:daves60@aol.com)



### ■ Stewardship

**Become a CDLT Trail Volunteer.** Would you like to join a small group of fun people to do Wenatchee Foothills trail maintenance, March-June? Contact CDLT's Olivia Schilling at [olivia@cdlandtrust.org](mailto:olivia@cdlandtrust.org) or call 509.667.9708 to be placed in a group email list. Olivia sends out emails announcing specific weekday dates/times. Tasty snacks & good conversation are hallmarks of Olivia's 2-3 hour work parties.

### ■ Stewardship as a Photographer

**Apr. 20** is the entry deadline for the 2020 [NCW Audubon bird photography contest](#). Anyone can enter up to three photos of birds taken in Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Ferry counties. It's FREE.

### ■ Stewardship as an Artist

**Mar. 20 Entry Deadline** for art submissions of all mediums to the annual [Bird Fest Exhibition "Pacific NW Birds and Their Habitats."](#) open to residents from North Central WA. Icicle Creek Center for the Arts. Size: 36"x36" or smaller.

### ■ Education

**Mar. & Apr. Traveling Naturalist Program** seeks volunteers. The program serves 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms with high numbers of low-income and minority students. Helpers are needed to assist WRI Traveling Naturalist Naomi Liebhold. Read my recent [blog post](#) for full details! [nliebhold@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org](mailto:nliebhold@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org)



### ■ Education

**Sat. May 16 (10am-2pm) Leavenworth Bird Fest Family Day.** Sign up now! WRI needs volunteers to staff bird-themed activity tables. All materials and activities provided. Learn more by contacting Naomi Liebhold at [nliebhold@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org](mailto:nliebhold@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org)

### Volunteer for 50<sup>th</sup> EARTH DAY

**Sat. Apr. 11 at Pybus Market 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Earth Day Fair** offered by [Sustainable Wenatchee](#). Volunteers welcome- contact Jana Fishback [sustainablewenatchee@gmail.com](mailto:sustainablewenatchee@gmail.com)

**Wed. Apr. 22 (10am-1pm) Earth Day at Wenatchee Valley College in Wenatchee.** Volunteers needed to staff a Wenatchee Naturalist activity table. Contact: Susan Ballinger at [skylinebal@gmail.com](mailto:skylinebal@gmail.com)

**Sun. Apr. 26 10am-8pm 2020 Earth Day Community Fair** at Leavenworth's Enchantment Park by [Wasteloop](#). Want to volunteer? Contact Wenatchee Naturalist Ariaahna Jones at [ariaahna@wasteloop.org](mailto:ariaahna@wasteloop.org) (360.420.4758).

### ■ Education

**April-June Youth Field Days at WRI** – Get 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders excited about the natural world during these school field trips at WRI's campus in Leavenworth. Assist WRI educators or lead small groups of students if you're comfortable after a training. Join in the fun for 3.5 hours or for a full 6.5 hour day. Contact: Rebecca Ryan, 509-548-0181 x2 [rryan@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org](mailto:rryan@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org).

### ■ Education

**Apr. 14-17 Shrub-steppe'n Up Saddle Rock** Sign-up now to volunteer for Wenatchee School District's 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Volunteers needed to hike with a class and point out common plants or to staff an interpretive sign and talk about it as classes hike by 1 or more days (1/2-day or full-day). Contact: [science\\_resource@wenatcheeschools.org](mailto:science_resource@wenatcheeschools.org) Teresa or Jen at 509.663.9106 ext 10248

*Keep  
your eyes  
skyward  
this  
season-  
hawk  
migration  
is  
underway*

Photo:  
Rough-  
legged hawk



## CONSERVATION ADVOCACY

**Mon. Mar. 2, 6-8pm The Future of the Cashmere Water Treatment Plant Property.** The City of Cashmere is looking for input from the community to decide how the old lagoons should be developed. One proposal is to construct a wetland for wildlife including a side channel for salmon. Please attend the meeting and support this proposal if you can. This is an excellent opportunity to create habitat for birds and other wildlife at a convenient location for outdoor education. This will benefit the residents of Cashmere and the Wenatchee Valley for generations to come.

**Thurs. Mar. 5 (5-7pm) Confluence Parkway Public Meeting.** The City of Wenatchee desires public input on update to the [plan](#) to solve traffic congestion and safety challenges on N. Wenatchee Ave. The project impacts the Horan Natural Area.

**Thurs. Mar. 5 (5:30-7:30pm) Community Conversation led by El Sendero Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe Club** about proposed development pertaining to Mission Ridge Ski Area. The club advocates for quiet wintertime backcountry users, but has not yet taken a position on the proposed development and wants to talk to backcountry enthusiasts so that we can understand and appropriately advocate for your values, desires and concerns.

*Look for this Wenatchee Mountain endemic snow Douglasii ([Douglasia nivalis](#)). It blooms in March, at the edge of melting snow in rocky outcrops or talus slopes in our lower watershed.*



## WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

**Sat. Mar. 7 (pm) Native Planting 101 Workshop,** at NCW Fairgrounds Community Hall, 601 Monroe St., Waterville. Free workshop about the benefits of using native plants in your landscape. Topics covered include pollinators, restoration, and weed law, identification, and management. RSVP- contact [KirkB@cascadia.org](mailto:KirkB@cascadia.org) or 509.436.1601

**Fri. Mar. 20 (9am-1pm). [Winter Twig Identification professional development class](#)** by Jennifer Hadersberger at WRI. \$65/\$75. Contact: Rachel Bishop at 509.548.0181 x5 [rbishop@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org](mailto:rbishop@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org)

**Thurs. Apr. 9 (7-8:30pm) A Weed or Not a Weed,** A talk & workshop led by Weed Board Supervisor & Botanist Julie Sanderson at Wenatchee Valley Museum. As a group, we'll use a dichotomous key with fresh specimens to practice what we learn. [Wenatchee Valley Chapter WA Native Plant Society](#). Free

**Tues. Apr. 21 (6-7:30pm). *Invaders in our Foothills: Help Stop the Weeds!*** at CDLT Office, 18. N. Wenatchee Ave. Weed Board Supervisor & Botanist Julie Sanderson, will teach field ID for 15 "most wanted" invasive weeds. Free, RSVP appreciated to [susan@cdlandtrust.org](mailto:susan@cdlandtrust.org)

**Thurs. Apr. 23 (10-11am).** Backpack sprayer training with CDLT's Neal Hedges. Learn safe and effective use

## HIKES & FIELD TRIPS:

[CDLT's calendar](#) for spring outings is bursting with options- Check it out!

**Wed. Mar. 18 [NCWAS](#) Beebe Springs first and third Wednesday bird surveys** on 2 miles of flat gravel trails. Contact Virginia Palumbo for start times; [vwpalumbo@gmail.com](mailto:vwpalumbo@gmail.com) 509.682.5969.

**April 1:** Opening day at [Wildhorse Renewable Energy Center](#), near Vantage. Check for date postings for their seasonal wildflower events: <http://www.facebook.com/wildhorseREC>

**Sat. Apr. 2 (7-11am) [NCW Audubon Society](#) Field Trip to Rock Island Ponds.** Walk ½-mile along Bow and Hideaway Lakes in wet grass. Contact: Joe Veverka [joe\\_everka@yahoo.com](mailto:joe_everka@yahoo.com)

**Wed. Apr. 15 (7:30-10am)** [NCW Audubon Society](#) *Third-Wednesday Bird Walk at Horan Natural Area*. Meet in the Walla Walla Park at swimming lagoon. No RSVP

**Weds. Apr. 22 (5:30-7:00pm)** *Earth Day Wildflower Walk at Jacobson Preserve*. Celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Week WNPS volunteer Susan Ballinger. [RSVP requested](#).

*WNPS/CDLT Upper Valley Nature Walk at Leavenworth Ski Hill*

**April 14, 1-4 pm Tuesday**

**April 28, 1-4 pm Tuesday**

**May 13, 2-5 pm Wednesday**

**May 27, 2-5pm Wednesday**

Join Connie McCauley to explore the Ski Hill area, looking at wildflowers, birds, and wildlife. RSVP appreciated but not required. Contact Hillary at (509) 667-9708 or [hillary@cdlandtrust.org](mailto:hillary@cdlandtrust.org) to RSVP.

## TALKS & FILMS:

**Tues. Mar. 10 (7 -8:30 pm)** Film *Albatross* Environmental Film & Lecture Series Suggested donation \$5. Adult film with strong emotional content, recommended for ages 12+. [Wenatchee Valley Museum](#).

**Wed. Mar. 12 (6:30-8:30-m)** *Forest Health-What's Eating the Trees* with Connie Mehmel. A partnership program with Wenatchee Valley Chapter, Washington Native Plant Society [WRI Red Barn Event](#).

**Wed. Mar. 18 (6:30-8:30pm)** *Up Close and Personal with Bears & Cougars* with Rich Beausoleil, WDFW Statewide Bear & Cougar Specialist for 22 years. [WRI Red Barn Event](#).

**Tues. Mar. 24 (7:00-8:30pm)** *Canoeing the Vanishing Arctic: Down the Rood River to the Arctic Sound* with Andy Dappen. Environmental Film & Lecture Series. Suggested donation \$5. [Wenatchee Valley Museum](#).

**Tues. Apr. 14 (7-8:30 pm)** Film *The Beaver Believers* Environmental Film & Lecture Series Suggested donation \$5. [Wenatchee Valley Museum](#).



**Wed. Apr. 15 (6:30-8:30pm)** Clark's Nutcrackers, Pivotal Players in Whitebark Pine Habitats of Washington's Cascades with USFS Taza Schaming. [WRI Red Barn Event](#). Taza will be satellite-tagging nutcrackers in our region. CWU students will assist Taza as part of a community science project. Read about [Taza's work](#) on the Cornell Lab of Ornithology website.



Source: Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

## FESTIVALS

**Mar. 20-22, 23<sup>rd</sup>** [Othello Sandhill Crane Festival](#), Othello, WA



**Apr. 17-19, 39<sup>th</sup>** [Harney County Migratory Bird Festival](#), Burns OR.

**Apr. 16-21, 17<sup>th</sup>** [Olympic Peninsula BirdFest](#) Sequim, WA

**Apr. 24-26, 25<sup>th</sup>** [Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival](#) Hoquiam, WA

**May, 14-17, 18<sup>th</sup>** Annual [Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest](#). Registration now open! [Sign up](#) now to be a volunteer to help with the Saturday family activities on WRI grounds.



**LEAVENWORTH**  
*Spring*  
**BIRDFEST**