

The Kingfisher

Volume 13, Issue 1 Central Oregon Coast - Garibaldi to Yachats Summer 2018



Dollar General Development Project proposed for the Cascade Head Scenic Research Area

by Laura Doyle

At the April 23 Lincoln County Planning Commission hearing, the Planning Commission denied a request by Texas-based Cross Development LLC to develop a Dollar General store in Otis at the corner of Old Highway 101 and Oregon Highway 18. The proposal would have located a 9100 square foot convenience store and associated parking and access routes within the Cascade Head Scenic Research Area, specifically on land designated as “estuary and associated wetlands” in the 1977 Cascade Head Scenic Research Area Management Plan.

Otis-area neighbors and Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council members testified against this proposal at the April 23 hearing. They argued that the importance of protecting “estuary and associated wetlands” as well as the integrity of the CHSRA overwhelmingly outweighed any arguments that the developer might make for a Dollar General store at that location. Federal, state, and local governments as well as non-profit organizations and individuals have spent many thousands of dollars and hours restoring and maintaining Salmon River estuary and wetlands habitat to support salmon recovery, flood protection, and quality of life for visitors as well as Otis residents. Previously restored Salmon River estuary sites include several IBAs (Important Bird Areas), and the long term goal of the CHSRA management plan is to restore additional sites designated as “estuary and wetlands areas.”

The Planning Commission decision supported a Lincoln County Planning Department staff recommendation that this request be denied. Approving the request would have meant approving an exception to county zoning and state land use laws designed to discourage urban sprawl and development incompatible with adjacent land uses. Staff objection to the request was that Texas-based Cross Development LLC did not provide sufficient information to justify such a significant exception.

The Cascade Head Scenic Research Area Act (PL 93-535) signed by President Ford in 1974, and the CHSRA management objectives as written in the law are unique: “to provide present and future generations with the use and enjoyment of certain ocean headlands, rivers, streams, estuaries, and forested areas, to insure the protection and encourage the study of significant areas for research and scientific purposes, and to promote a more sensitive relationship between man and his adjacent environment.” CHSRA neighbors including Audubon are continuing to monitor this project. Cross Development has several options including appealing the planning commission decision; revising the proposal to provide the missing information required to justify the planning exception; or revising the proposal to meet Lincoln County’s zoning requirements for this site. Because the CHSRA management objectives are not reflected in Lincoln County’s zoning regulations, it’s particularly important to stay current with development proposals for land within CHSRA boundaries.



Join ASLC today!

Membership is your key to participation in education and bird appreciation activities. Join us and expand your enjoyment of birds, wildlife, and our beautiful Oregon coast environment.

Get Active. Become Engaged.

As a paid member your donation helps continue our environmental education and citizen science programs. It also enables us to participate in local and regional habitat restoration and wildlife advocacy programs. Your membership can really make a difference.

As a volunteer you help us further the goals of our Society. We provide guided field trips, participate in research, and educate children and adults to appreciate birds and our magnificent local environment.

Become a VIP Sponsor and increase your impact on wildlife and habitat preservation. Your donations to our 501(c)(3) non-profit will expand your influence and impact in our educational and scientific efforts. VIP Sponsors make everything we do possible.

Please join us as we explore the many splendors of the natural world that surround us.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP makes possible:

- Monthly interpretive bird walks
- Kayak/canoe field trips
- Free use of binoculars and field guide during field trips
- Special guest and media presentations
- "Birding Basics for Beginners" community college workshops
- "Wild About Birds" elementary school programs
- Monthly meetings
- Newsletters
- Representation at state meetings
- Co-ordination of legislative efforts to protect wildlife and habitat
- Hotline phone service for bird and animal information



Support Audubon Society of Lincoln City today.

Call: 541 992 9720

Visit us on the web: www.lincolncityaudubon.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Summer and Fall Events

1st Thursday of each month at 5:00pm ~ Audubon Society of Lincoln City (ASLC) Meeting in Aces Grill at Chinook Winds Golf Resort. Because time and location can change, call 541-992-9720 for latest updates. These meetings are open to the public.

JUN

Saturday, June 9, 9-11am ~ Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area. You are likely to see Common Murre, Pelagic and Brandt's Cormorant, Black Oystercatcher, Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon. North of Newport off Hwy 101, turn west at the traffic signal onto Lighthouse Drive. We will meet at the Interpretive Center. BLM requires a recreational pass or charges a vehicle fee of \$7.00.

Saturday, June 16, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk at Regatta Park. Call 541-992-9720 if more information is needed.

Thursday, June 21, 5pm ~ ASLC Annual Meeting at CHR River House at the end of Savage Road along the Salmon River. Please join us for a potluck dinner, short business meeting, and program. The agenda includes election of board members and election of board officers.



JUL

Friday, July 13, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk at The Villages at Cascade Head. Call 541-992-9720 if more information is needed.

Saturday, July 14, 9-11am ~ Buell County Park & Mill Creek Park. Enjoy a hot day along beautiful Mill Creek while looking for flycatchers, warblers, birds of prey and possibly a Western Tanager. Located 35 miles east of Lincoln City off Hwy 22, turn left at Mill Creek Road. In a half mile turn right into Buell County Park. No prior birding experience is required and binoculars and guidebooks will be provided. Call 541-992-9720 if more information is needed.

AUG

Friday, August 10, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk at The Knoll. Call 541-992-9720 if more information is needed.

Saturday, August 11, 11am-1pm ~ Birding the Bayocean Spit/Tillamook Bay. The Spit is surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and Tillamook Bay where we look for sea ducks and bay ducks. We keep alert for a sighting of a possible rare sandpiper among the flocks of migrating shorebirds. Great Egret and Great Blue Heron may be seen. Will look for warblers and Wrentits in the wooded areas. From Hwy 101 in Tillamook, turn west on 3rd Street. After 2 miles turn Right onto Bayocean Drive/ Three Capes Scenic Loop. After five miles turn Right onto a gravel road and drive 1.5 miles to parking lot. Immediately following the field trip we encourage you to join a tour of the collection of mounted birds from around the world at the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum located at 2106 Second Street in Tillamook.

SEP

Saturday, September 8, 9-11am ~ Kayaking/Canoeing and Birding the Little Nestucca River. Part of the Nestucca NWR, we will see waterfowl, raptors and riparian birds. You will need to provide your own gear: kayak/canoe, personal flotation device (PFD)/ life vest (mandatory), and whistle (also mandatory). Must wear a PFD at all times when you're on the water. You should also be able to swim as you ARE responsible for your own safety. Have an invasive species permit for your vessel if it is 10 feet or longer (mandatory). Boat ramp is located on the south side of the Little Nestucca River on Meda Loop, a quarter mile off Hwy 101.

Saturday, September 22, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk at Hostetler Park and D River Boardwalk Call 541-992-9720 if more information is needed.



OCT

Saturday, October 13, 9-11am ~ Boiler Bay State Scenic Viewpoint to Devil's Punchbowl State Natural Area. Excellent offshore seabird watching. Possible Marbled and Ancient Murrelet, Rhinoceros Auklet, Sooty Shearwater and Western Grebe. In Depoe Bay we may find Black Turnstone, Black Oystercatcher and Surf-bird. Devil's Punchbowl may reveal Harlequin Duck, Surf Scoter and Peregrine Falcon. We will meet in the parking lot at Boiler Bay.

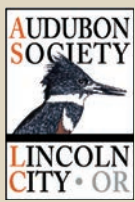


NOV

Saturday, November 10, 9-11 am ~ Location to be determined at a later date. Watch for it on our website.

DEC

Christmas Bird Count - see website for date(s) and details.



P.O. Box 38
Lincoln City
Oregon 97367

541-992-9720



*Be sure to visit
www.lincolncityaudubon.org
for more news and activities of the
Audubon Society of Lincoln City*

Audubon Society of Lincoln City is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax-exempt #20-3795649

Miriam's Story by Joseph Youren

One of the great perks that comes with getting involved at the board level here at ASLC is the wider interaction with our membership. Here is just one example: While working on membership renewal reminders, I got a call from member Susie Gouz with a terrific story about her granddaughter, Miriam.

While staying at Susie's house on the shore of Devil's Lake, Miriam became quite interested in the herons and egrets that also visit the lake. When she was just 3½, she named one Edgar Egret.

Bubbe (grandmother in Yiddish) asked if she meant Edgar as in Edgar Allen Poe. Miriam said, "Who is that?" Susie and Miriam's mother explained and named a few of Poe's poems. Miriam liked the name "Lenore" and decided that the two would forever more be Edgar and Lenore. Not wanting to slight the herons, one became Gatsby (as in "The Great Blue Gatsby") and so the second one was Zelda after F. Scott Fitzgerald's wife.

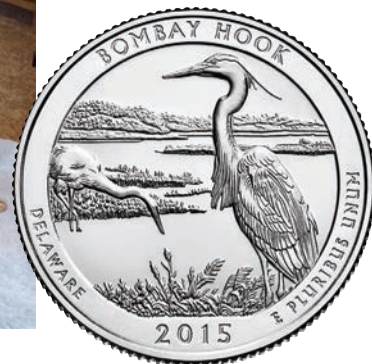
I can tell you this is one of the sweetest stories I've heard in a long time but it gets even better. Susie explained that when Miriam was five she noticed that a US quarter commemorating the state of Delaware featured the images of a Great Blue Heron and a Great Egret. She deemed these to be "Edgar Quarters," and recruited everyone she knew in her efforts to collect them. Susie tells me she wanted to raise money to help "hurt birdies," and a goal of \$20 in Edgar quarters was established. I was so struck by Miriam's quest that I talked the ASLC board into matching her gift and offered to make arrangements for a donation to Turtle Ridge Wildlife Rehabilitation.

Well, it happened. Miriam collected her 80th Edgar quarter on the day of her 6th birthday. She completed her \$20 challenge and we are happy to be partners in her effort to help rehabilitate injured birds. A great big thank-you to Miriam, and thanks Susie for sharing this story.



If you (and/or your grandchildren) would also like to help Turtle Ridge, you can find contact information on their website: www.turtleridgewildlifecenter.org/WP/.

I'm sure Miriam would be very happy to learn that her gift continues to grow and, of course, it doesn't have to come in the form of Edgar quarters.



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WMBD Festival Wrap Up

by Dawn Villaescusa

We had a grand ol' time! Our first annual World Migratory Bird Day Festival is in the books. We shared the Lincoln City Cultural Center with the Lincoln City (Oregon) Farmer's and Crafter's Market on Mother's Day (May 13th).

World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is a worldwide education program that celebrates the migration of birds between their nesting habitats and wintering grounds. Because these flights can stretch thousands of miles across continents and oceans, the birds depend on resource-rich and strategically located habitats to acquire their energy-rich fat stores they need to survive their journey.

From coastal estuaries and marshes to forests and grasslands, these habitats support millions of migratory shorebirds, waterfowl, and songbirds. ASLC's festival coordinator Dawn Villaescusa said, "Lincoln City is surrounded by important bird habitat and we were excited to be able to offer the community this opportunity to learn more about why this habitat is important to migrating birds. We were particularly pleased to bring Alina Blankenship of Perch Wildlife Education, sponsored by Chinook Winds Golf Resort, to the festival for a rare chance to meet some of these birds live and up close."

To participate in this worldwide event, Audubon Society of Lincoln City partnered with US Fish and Wildlife, the National Forest Service at Siuslaw National Forest, Lincoln City Parks and Recreation, Friends of Cascade Head, and others. Early arrivals enjoyed a walk around D River, spotting many spring migrant birds. Following that, Perch Wildlife Education gave a raptor demonstration with live hawks, falcons, and owls. In the afternoon, Kami Ellingson of Siuslaw National Forest spoke on the restoration of the Salmon River Estuary. And throughout the day our partners provided informative material and answered questions at a variety of booths.

It was a great festival for kids of all ages. Mothers enjoyed gifts of unfinished decorative birdhouses which their kids were able to paint and decorate in the festival craft room. Krista Eddy provided materials to build bird masks, and Karen White directed older kids in the creation of a huge mural of our local habitat. The habitat mural was sponsored by Salishan Resort, who also donated the festival raffle prize of two night stay at their newly renovated resort. Other sponsors included Mills Ace Hardware north and Lincoln City Feed Store, who both provided bird feeders and seed for door prizes.





World Migratory Bird Day Festival

Come celebrate Spring and the return of migrating birds with Audubon Society of Lincoln City. See a presentation with live raptors. Enjoy hands-on activities for young and old, face painting, games for kids, door prizes, and gifts for moms, and much more.

SCHEDULE OF SOME EVENTS:

- 9-10am - Bird Walk along D River
- 10am - Festival Opens
- 10:30-Noon - Live Raptor Presentation, with Perch Wildlife Education
- Noon - First drawing for door prizes
- 1-3pm - Kids crafts (bird masks, wildlife habitat mural, painting bird houses)
- 1:15-2:30pm - Presentation by Kami Ellingson, Forest Service, on preserving habitat for birds
- 2:30pm - final drawing for door prizes and raffle

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2018
10am - 3pm

Lincoln City Cultural Center
540 NE Hwy 101
Lincoln City, OR

This free festival is supported by the following sponsors:
Ace Hardware, Chinook Winds Golf Resort, Lincoln City Feed Store, Quality Printing Service, and Salishan Resort.

