

# The Raven

The mission of Juneau Audubon Society is to conserve the natural ecosystems of Southeast Alaska, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations.



Volume 28, Number 8

Juneau Audubon Society

April 2002

## APRIL ALMANAC

Look for hummingbirds around  
April 10

Bald eagles begin nesting

Migratory water-  
fowl & shorebirds  
stop at Southeast  
wetlands and  
tidal flats  
enroute to northern nesting  
grounds



Red squirrels are born

Black bear emerge from dens  
- **take down bird feeders**

The hooting of Blue Grouse  
echoes through the mountains

Marmots emerge from  
hibernation & mate

*"If spring came but once in a  
century, instead of once a  
year, or burst forth with the  
sound of an earthquake, and  
not in silence, what wonder  
and expectation there would  
be in all hearts to behold the  
miraculous change!"*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

### Monthly Meeting

Thursday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Dzantik'i Heeni Middle School Library (2nd floor)

### Steller Sea Lions and Forage Fish in Southeastern Alaska Jamie Womble

Jamie Womble, a graduate student in the School of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, will provide a glimpse into the ecology of these fascinating animals, and prepare us for the sights we'll quite likely see on our annual Spring boat cruise to Berners Bay on May 4th.

### Audubon Science Fair Award

#### Matt Kirchhoff

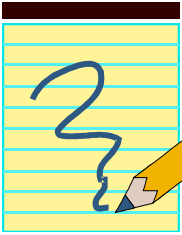
Juneau-Douglas High School sophomore Natalie Hall was recognized by the Juneau chapter for a science fair project that "applies the principles of sound science to an environmental issue."

Natalie's project studied the "effects of fecal coliform bacteria from sewage runoff on Pacific Blue Mussels." Although sewage runoff from subdivisions adjacent to the Mendenhall State Wildlife has been documented, the effects of elevated fecal coliform levels on marine life had not been studied.

Natalie felt that Pacific Blue Mussels might be a good indicator species for studying the possible effects of this pollution. She tested mussels at three sites: The tidelands adjacent to Bonnie Brae Subdivision (high coliform levels), the outfall area for the Auke Bay Sewage Treatment plant (intermediate levels), and a control site in Auke Bay (no coliform bacteria). Natalie found significantly higher levels of gill parasites and significantly lower survival in populations from the more polluted sites.

The judges were impressed with Natalie's study design, her use of appropriate statistical tests, and her poise during the interview. She said: "I think this study is important because it illustrates the effect that fecal coliform can have on one species, and it may serve as an indicator for other species."

As Audubon judge, I felt this project was one of the top 2 or 3 I've judged in recent years. Natalie received a \$100 award from Audubon for her project, and a free Audubon membership. Natalie will be continuing to the state-wide science fair in Anchorage. Congratulations Natalie!



# Notes from the board

Chris Kent, conservation chair

## Information systems for conservation

In an age of information, the knowledgeable can use Internet tools and access facts faster than ever before. You don't have to be an expert to use, explore, and collect information about almost every conceivable subject. How do information systems aid conservation efforts?

The Internet gives us a powerful tool to collect information, a forum for the exchange of ideas and it gives us another point of access to government and congressional members. Information has the power to convince and it should be used to suit the argument.

Alaska's foremost conservationist Celia Hunter believed that knowledge about places and ecological systems lead to a credible and influencing voice for convincing others to protect Alaska's wild resources. Research and study is the most important step in preparing thinking and arguments. Gathering facts and references by using the Internet is relatively easy. If you're fortunate enough to own a personal computer with Internet access, access is just a few clicks away. Without home access to the Internet, the library offers the best of both worlds, high speed Internet connections and a warehouse of accumulated knowledge.

I prefer the electronic medium simply because it is easier to search – try finding a single word or sentence in a large book. Computers make this task trivial. Search engines like Google, FindWhat, HotBot, Alta Vista, Lycos, Mamma.com, AskJeeves, ePilot and Yahoo! literally search hundreds of thousands of pages of published work and bring the results back to you. Government Internet pages are also good places to look for information and find out about what agencies are doing. Most government Internet sites lists a point(s) of contacts.

I have had several good exchanges with agency staff using e-mail. I would caution that using e-mail to flame an agency or vent your anger is not very productive and can be very embarrassing if messages are spread around. Agency personnel respond in a professional and honest manner. I also believe that e-mail is an effective method to petition our governmental officials. I regularly send e-mail about current news articles and legislation and have received written replies.

A favorite task is sending them tidbits of information on subjects where we disagree. Don Young stubbornly believes that global warming is not tied to human actions. Every research article that I find on global warming, I forward the link or complete article to Don's e-mail address. Hopefully, the effort will one day pay off. Listed below are links to sites and search engines that you may find valuable.

<http://www.epa.gov>

<http://www.state.ak.us>

<http://info.dec.state.ak.us/ciimms/>

<http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/enri/bmap/index.html>

<http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Reg/Default.htm>

<http://www.noaa.gov>

<http://www.state.ak.us/adfg/wildlife/wildmain.htm>

<http://agdc.usgs.gov/data/>

<http://www.earth911.org>



### **May Raven Deadline**

**Please submit articles for the May issue no later than April 26 to [upclose@alaska.net](mailto:upclose@alaska.net)**

Juneau Audubon Society has members in these communities:

Coffman Cove, Craig, Funter Bay, Gustavus, Haines, Hydaburg, Juneau, Ketchikan, Pelican, Petersburg, Sitka, Skagway, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay, Ward Cove, Wrangell

## Spring Migration Bird Trips & Nature Walks

Walks last about two hours. Bring binoculars and/or spotting scope, bird guide, rubber boots (hiking shoes for Sheep Creek Valley) and dress for weather. Please watch local media and May Raven for possible schedule changes and additional walks. For further information contact Bonnie at 789-1633 or [btolerman@alaska.net](mailto:btolerman@alaska.net).

- |   |   |                             |   |
|---|---|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>April 20<br/>8 a.m.</b>                  | Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge<br>Meet at parking lot at end of Radcliffe Rd.<br>Leader: Mark Schwan   | <b>May 25<br/>7:30 a.m.</b> | Mendenhall Moraine.<br>Meet at parking lot by Moraine Loop Trail,<br>near Glacier Visitor Center.<br>Leader: Deanna MacPhail                  |
| <b>April 27<br/>8 a.m.</b>                  | Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge.<br>Meet at parking lot at end of Radcliffe Rd.<br>Leader: Nina Mollett   | <b>June 1<br/>8 a.m.</b>    | Sheep Creek.<br>Meet at parking lot at Sheep Creek<br>trailhead off Thane Rd.<br>Leader: Gus vanVliet   |
| <b>May 4<br/>8 a.m.<br/>&amp; 1:30 p.m.</b> | Berners Bay cruises with Juneau Audubon<br>Society birders. (Tickets at Hearthsides<br>Books – meet at Auke Bay dock)                                     | <b>June 8<br/>10 a.m.</b>   | South Bridget Cove for plant identification<br>& birding.<br>Meet at South Bridget Cove parking lot out<br>the road.<br>Leader: Mary Lou King |
| <b>May 11<br/>9 a.m.</b>                    | <b>International Migratory Bird Day</b><br>Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge.<br>Meet at parking lot at end of Radcliffe Rd.<br>Leader: Paul Suchanek |                             |   |
| <b>May 18<br/>8 a.m.</b>                    | Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge.<br>Meet at parking lot at end of Radcliffe Rd<br>Leader: Steve Zimmerman   |                             |   |

### Seventh Annual

## Berners Bay Cruise

**Saturday, May 4**

**8:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. sailings**

**Adults, \$28; Children under 12, \$5** (must be accompanied by adult) Tickets available at Hearthsides Books

### **Another advantage of electronic Ravens**

If you received your April Raven by e-mail, you were among the first to see the complete schedule for spring migration birdwalks and details on our ever-popular Berners Bay cruise.

To help save paper and chapter money, send an e-mail to [kingfarm@ptialaska.net](mailto:kingfarm@ptialaska.net) to request The Raven in either rich text (read by most word processing programs) or Adobe Acrobat. If you have Acrobat Reader, you can receive the Raven in a format that looks just like the print version but with occasional touches of color. Rich text versions will not contain graphics. To change your newsletter from rich text to Adobe Acrobat or get information about downloading Acrobat Reader free, contact [upclose@alaska.net](mailto:upclose@alaska.net).

**E**ulachon run upstream to spawn through Berners Bay in late April and early May. Eager predators soon congregate, some in staggering numbers.

Steller sea lions and harbor seals gather at the mouths of the rivers. Gulls increase dramatically, from a few hundred birds to tens of thousands in just three days. Between frenzied feeding, they loaf on adjacent sandbars.

Migrating red-breasted mergansers gather in the hundreds in the bay. Mallards, pintail, and green-wing teal nibble on dead or moribund eulachon. Shorebirds and even songbirds peck bits of flesh from dead fish on the shore and pick loose eggs from the shallows. Northwestern crows hide their booty in the meadow grasses. Nesting ravens feed eulachon to their chicks and store the extras in the trees nearby.

Bald eagles reach a peak of perhaps a thousand as spawning ends and the weary adult eulachon drift downstream. At low tide, sometimes a hundred eagles crowd onto a single sand bar. (Observations from Mary Willson's field studies)



## Viewing Opportunities & Field Trips Recent Sightings

### **A Celebration of Swans - Whitehorse**

**April 13 - 28**

Activities include a bird photography workshop with George Calef; program with swan biologist Jim Hawkings, presented on varying dates at Tagish Community Club, Swan Haven Interpretive Centre, Beaver Creek Community Club, Haines Junction Community Centre and Beringia Centre; art contest; birdhouse building; swan-viewing field trips; and open house at Sheep Mountain Visitor Centre, Kluane Lake.

For further information contact Todd Powell at (867) 667-8291 or [Todd.Powell@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Todd.Powell@gov.yk.ca) Their website, <http://www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/viewing> will have further details after April 1.



### **EAGLECHAT**

*To share sightings and chat about all things bird-related with 60+ like-minded local members, log onto <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Eaglechat> or e-mail Nina Mollett at [ninam@alaska.net](mailto:ninam@alaska.net) to get signed up.*

**Date: March 16**

**Subject: today's birds**

While running out the road today I flushed a snipe from the small ditches of open water just along the road past Eagle Beach. It flew ahead of me about 5-6 times and would land in a ditch area further ahead. It was also in the same general area later on my return run. The surprise was a flicker that was in some roadside alder and flew across the road - at least a couple of miles past Eagle Beach. (Closer to the rocky area where some folks rock climb.)

**Date: March 20**

**Subject: varied thrushes**

I heard the first varied thrush on Monday. Song sparrows have been singing too. And the redpolls seem all aflutter about something, but then they're always aflutter. NPR Morning Edition is running a story on the search for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, you can hear it via streaming RealAudio at: <http://search.npr.org/cf/cmn/cmnpd01fm.cfm?PrgDate=03/18/2002&PrgID=3>

**Date: March 20**

**Subject: pine grosbeaks**

I've been seeing several pine grosbeaks over the last few weeks out at Thane. 3 in one group and up to a dozen in the next 2nd group was hanging around my deck, didn't see them go to the feeder they seemed interested in the salmon berry bushes. Fine looking bird. Also a few H-redpolls (I think) & O-juncos. & of course the diehard chickadees. The eagles have been really performing in the big winds we've been having.

**Date: March 22**

**Subject: "Eurasian" teal at Fish Creek**

This PM there was a pair of "Eurasian" teal at the mouth of Fish Creek (along with about 6-8 other teal). The male has a horizontal white bar on the side instead of a vertical white bar at the shoulder like other male green-winged teal. This subspecies of green-winged teal has been split out as a separate species in Europe, and probably will be split in North America too. The birds flew off after a while toward the mouth of the Mendenhall so I guess they could show up anywhere on the wetlands. An apparent "hybrid" Eurasian wigeon that has been around for several months was also in with a bunch of wigeon. I also saw 6 killdeer which have also been around for awhile. There were also about 30 adult herring gulls that have moved in within the last week.

**Date: March 25**

**Subject: trumpeter swans**

This morning I saw my first trumpeter swans of the season. Six swans on the Taiya River flats in Dyea, out of Skagway. I also heard my first blue grouse of Spring today.



## They're coming back

Last fall's late-to-bed bears will soon re-emerge from dens to travel their historic trails between mountain and beach. Right through our neighborhoods.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologists, who see interactions between people and bear with troublesome frequency, recommend feeding birds only from December 1 to April 1. Birds in Southeast Alaska have a ready source of natural food in all but the severest winter weather. If your yard has natural cover and source of water, you'll likely attract birds.

If you can not be deterred from feeding birds when bear are out of hibernation, please heed the following advice without fail.

Hang feeders out of reach so that even if bears are attracted to the smell of the seed, they don't get a reward.

If a bear has gained access to one of your bird feeders at some point in the past, expect a return visit. Make absolutely certain that the bear gets no additional positive reinforcements for returning.

Clean up any seed that falls on the ground. Consider scattering a little birdseed on deck rails every day, so that there are never any leftovers. Or fill feeders every day, but put out only a quantity that birds will eat before sundown. Feed shelled sunflower seed. It's a favorite for birds, and there will be no empty or uneaten shells to fall on the ground and attract bears.

### Highlighting Vulnerable Birds

## Alaska WatchList

Alaska Audubon has compiled the Alaska Watchlist for Alaskan birds that need help. The list was developed in cooperation with Boreal Partners in Flight, a coalition of state, federal and private-sector biologists, resource managers and conservationists working together to assess the status and protect birds of Alaska.

Birds on the list include species or subspecies faced with a combination of population decline, small population size, limited geographic range or threats on their breeding and wintering grounds or along migration routes. It's an early warning system for at-risk populations, and thus does not include species listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The WatchList helps resource managers, landowners, industry, conservation organizations and others to identify emerging problems and set priorities for action. It is also a tool for educating the public and decision-makers about habitat needs and conservation requirements of Alaska's birdlife.

Species included in the Northern Pacific Rainforest region, which stretches from Southeast through South-coastal Alaska as far as the eastern Kenai Peninsula:

**Red-throated Loon**  
**Yellow-billed Loon**  
**Greater White-fronted Goose**  
**Long-tailed Duck**  
**Black Scoter**  
**Northern Goshawk**  
*(Queen Charlotte)*  
**Peregrine Falcon**  
**Spruce Grouse**  
*(Prince of Wales)*

**Black Oystercatcher**  
**Black Turnstone**  
**Surfbird**  
**Rock Sandpiper**  
**Aleutian Tern**  
**Marbled Murrelet**  
**Kittlitz's Murrelet**  
**Black Swift**  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher**

For copies of the state-wide WatchList, with details on why particular species are included, contact Audubon Alaska, 308 G St., #217, Anchorage, AK 99501.

## Education Chair Report

**Mary Lou King**

One of the Juneau Audubon goals is to contribute to the Seaweeek program in schools. This spring we are planning to place a combination of wildlife materials in the Juneau grade and middle schools. Some of the most exciting materials, and I think very useful for students and adults who would like to identify and know more about birds and/or intertidal life, are Discovery Southeast's laminated pocket guides. "Common Birds of Southeast Alaska" by Richard Carstensen, "Intertidal Animals of Southeast Alaska" and a very new "Common Flowers of Southeast Alaska" are the three guides that can be purchased from: Discovery Southeast, P.O. Box 21867, Juneau, AK 99802. Or e-mail [discoveryse@alaska.com](mailto:discoveryse@alaska.com) Ask about a reduced cost for guides ordered for use in schools.

# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permits

The Juneau Chapter of the Audubon Society publishes these permit notices as a service to its members and encourages participation in the public review process. For more information on individual permits or comments call 1-800-478-2712 (Anchorage permits office). For possible permit violations in Southeast Alaska, call the Juneau office at 790-4490. Send your comments to: Regulatory Branch (1145b), P.O. Box 898, Anchorage, AK 99506-0898.

**Even if the comment date has passed**, you can still send your comments to the Division of Governmental Coordination. The State review period on 404 permits usually ends after the COE comment period closes (as a general rule you can add four days to the comment period). It is important that your concerns reference the Coastal Zone Management program (Section 307 (c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972) and the State Coastal management program (Alaska Statute Title 46). You may also comment on the State's Water Quality Certification (Section 401 of the Clean Water Act). Consistency guidelines for the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) on natural resources and habitats can be found in 6 AAC 80.040 to 6 AAC 80.120 and Water Quality standards can be found in 18 AAC 70. Please contact the Division of Governmental Coordination or the Department of Environmental Conservation for more information about applicable laws and project comment deadlines.

Division of Governmental Coordination  
P.O. Box 110030  
Juneau, AK 99811-0300  
(907) 465-3562

Department of Environmental Conservation  
410 Willoughby Ave.  
Juneau, AK 99801-1795  
(907) 465-5260

For additional information on regulations and guidelines for fill and dredge activity in marine waters and wetlands see the following: Section 10 of Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) - Placement of structures in waters of the United States; Section 404 and 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230) - Discharge of fill or dredged material into the waters of the United States; Section 103 Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1413) - Transport of dredge material for the purpose of dumping in marine waters. If you need help on commenting or technical assistance, you can call Chris Kent at 463-3494.

**Port Alexander — Port Alexander 22**, (Reference Number M-1986-0561) Applicant: City of Port Alexander. Location: Port Alexander Inner Harbor. Proposal: The applicant proposes to construct a 5-foot wide boardwalk along the Inner Harbor of Port Alexander. The boardwalk would extend 176-feet from the existing Main Street boardwalk to the south of the existing gravel trail on a filled bulkhead to the north that will continue to the existing boardwalk at First Avenue. Purpose: To replace a gravel trail and to provide access to residents north of Main Street. Mitigation: None. Comments due April 12, 2002.

**Petersburg — Wrangell Narrows 493**, (Reference Number V-1999-0757) **AFTER THE FACT** Applicant: William Menish. Location: 11 miles South of Petersburg just south of Papke's Landing. Proposal: The applicant proposes to retain approximately 680 cubic yards of clean shot rock use to create a 510-foot by 12-foot road placed onto 0.14 acres of wetlands. The applicant also proposes to discharge 653 cubic yards of material to widen the road to 25-feet expanding the fill by 0.153 acres. The applicant will discharge 1,800 cubic yards of material onto 0.49 acres of wetlands to construct additional roadway 810-feet by 25-feet and two 54-foot long by 10-foot wide turnouts. Purpose: To obtain authorization and expand roadway for future residential development. Mitigation: None. Comments due April 1, 2002.

**Petersburg — Wrangell Narrows 506**, (Reference Number 4-2001-1310) Applicant: Donald Sperl. Location: 11 miles South of Petersburg, in the Menish Subdivision. Proposal: The applicant proposes to discharge 109 cubic yards of material to construct a 77-foot long by 19-foot wide driveway covering 0.034 acres, discharge another 298 cubic yards of material to construct a driveway and parking areas for shop/house covering 0.92 acres. The applicant will also discharge 26 cubic yards of material to create a base for a water tank onto 0.009 acres. Finally, the applicant will discharge material onto another .595 acres to construct a septic system and lawns. Purpose: To construct a private residence and non-commercial shop area, parking lot and lawns. Mitigation: None. Comments due April 1, 2002.

**Ketchikan — Neets Bay 14**, (Reference Number M-1982-0394) Applicant: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Inc.. Location: Neets Bay at mouth of Neets Creek, approximately 30 miles north of Ketchikan. Proposal: The applicant proposes to extend by 230-feet an existing aluminum fish ladder from an intertidal pool to the existing SSRAA Fish Hatchery facility. This action will discharge 8 cubic yards of fill into the intertidal zone and relocate a 140-foot water supply line. The applicant will also excavate 30 cubic yards of streambed at the end of the ladder to create a resting pool for fish. Purpose: To provide an alternative entrance to the fish hatchery below the existing stream gradient. Mitigation: None. Comments due March 25, 2002.

**Ketchikan — Lincoln Channel 0001**, (Reference Number 1-2002-0108) Applicant: Jim Benson. Location: Floats located in Lincoln Channel between Sitklan and Kanagunut Islands. Proposal: The applicant proposes to retain two floats (14-foot by 50-foot and 25-foot by 25-foot that are moored with cement anchors at 9 fathoms on a zero tide and secured with two shore lines about 20-foot long. Purpose: To obtain authorization and use a safe mooring site. Mitigation: None. Comments due March 28, 2002.

**Ketchikan — Tongass Narrows 538**, (Reference Number 1-2001-0610) Applicant: Henry Dyson. Location: 5517 North Tongass Highway. Proposal: The applicant proposes to construct a 10-foot by 10-foot concrete pad above high tide line connecting to a 10-foot by 50-foot concrete dock supported by six 12-inch diameter galvanized piling. The secondary dock would be connected to a 120-foot by 10-foot floating dock by 4-foot by 60-foot aluminum ramp. The dock would be supported by six 18-inch pilings. Approximately 0.05 acres of intertidal be filled. Purpose: To create private boat moorage. Mitigation: None. Comments due March 21, 2002

**Ketchikan — Clover Passage 23**, (Reference Number R-1983-0432) Applicant: Knudson Cove Marina LLC. Location: 407 Knudson Cove Road. Proposal: The applicant proposes to modify an existing permit to install a deck area approximately 6,280 square foot. Purpose: To expand business area. Mitigation: None. Comments due April 5, 2002

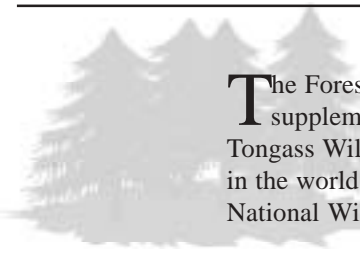
**Ketchikan — Clover Passage 53**, (Reference Number R-2001-1391) Applicant: Dale Pihlman. Location: 16.5 miles north of Ketchikan, Waterfall Subdivision. Proposal: The applicant proposes to install a 77-foot by 12-foot float linked to land by a 60-foot by 4-foot aluminum ramp and attach a to it a 40-foot by 60-foot floating workshop. Boom logs will be placed around the floating structures. Purpose: Provide private moorage to an existing family home. Mitigation: None. Comments due April 1, 2002

**Prince of Wales — Port St. Nicholas 33**, (Reference Number 1-2001-1232) Applicant: David Simpson. Location: Lot 32 4.5 mile Port St. Nicholas Road. Proposal: The applicant proposes to construct an 80-foot by 8-foot walkway that will be attached to a 10-foot by 30-foot float on four plastic floats. The walkway and float will be connected by a 30-foot by 8-foot ramp. The structures will be supported by butt pilings. Purpose: Provide private moorage for water access. Mitigation: None. Comments due March 26, 2002.

**Prince of Wales — Port St. Nicholas 33**, (Reference Number 1-2001-1232) Applicant: David Simpson. Location: Lot 32 4.5 mile Port St. Nicholas Road. Proposal: The applicant proposes to construct an 80-foot by 8-foot walkway that will be attached to a 10-foot by 30-foot float on four plastic floats. The walkway and float will be connected by a 30-foot by 8-foot ramp. The structures will be supported by butt pilings. Purpose: Provide private moorage for water access. Mitigation: None. Comments due March 26, 2002.

**Coffman Cove — Coffman Cove 6**, (Reference Number 2-2001-1356) Applicant: Blue Water Christian camp. Location: Coffman Island, Coffman Cove. Proposal: The applicant proposes to construct a 40-foot by 40-foot floating dock that will be connected to a pile supported pier located above the High Tide Line via a 6-foot by 75-foot access ramp. The float would be secured by 10 – 3,000 pound concrete anchors. The applicant will also install utility line for water, electric and telephone utilities across Coffman Cove. The corridor will cross 2,231 feet of Coffman Cove with both ends trenched into the beach area. The trench on the Coffman Island side will impact 110 square feet of intertidal habitat and the Coffman Cove side will impact 160 square feet of habitat. Purpose: To develop a recreational camp. Mitigation: None. Comments due April 8, 2002

\*\* These projects, in our opinion, have the potential to impact areas of public interest. If you have site specific information that would help agencies in determining impacts and what if any mitigation is needed, please contact the agencies listed above.



The Forest Service is about to begin the Tongass Wildlands Plan, a forest plan supplement to review Tongass roadless areas for long-term Congressional protection as wilderness. The Tongass Wildlands Plan gives Alaskans the last, best chance to make sure that one of the most rare ecosystems in the world - low-elevation old growth temperate rainforest - is fully represented and protected in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The Forest Service is expected to release a draft Wildlands Plan in mid-April, followed by hearings in major cities. The Plan will detail proposals for additions to Tongass wilderness and LUD II (road-free) areas, and describe the relative contribution of Tongass wildlands to the National Wilderness Preservation System. The public will then have 90 days to comment on the Plan, to urge the Forest Service to permanently protect the remaining Tongass temperate old-growth forest for hiking, fishing, hunting and other Tongass uses. Areas of special interest in the Juneau area include Berners Bay, St. James Bay, Mansfield Peninsula, Point Couverden and Taku Harbor. For more information, contact Southeast Alaska Conservation Council, 907-586-6942, <http://www.seacc.org>

Every membership supports Audubon's vital efforts to protect birds, wildlife and natural habitats. As a member, you will become an important part of our chapter and receive a host of benefits including:

- A one-year subscription (9 issues) of our chapter newsletter, *The Raven*
- Automatic membership in National Audubon Society and a one-year subscription to the award-winning Audubon magazine.

## Audubon Society Membership Application

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 (1-year introductory rate) \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 (1-year student/senior rate)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Please bill me

Mail to: National Audubon Society, Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 51001,  
Boulder, CO 80322-1001

**A51**  
**7XCH**

*If you prefer to just support Juneau Audubon Society, fill out the form above and send with \$10 to:  
Juneau Audubon Society, P.O. Box 021725, Juneau, AK 99802, Attn.: membership*

### Officers, Committee Chairs, Events Coordinators

<b>President:</b>	Steve Zimmerman, 586-2597, <a href="mailto:stevezimmerman@gci.net">stevezimmerman@gci.net</a>
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<b>Membership:</b>	Amy Skilbred, 780-4649, <a href="mailto:skilbred@aol.com">skilbred@aol.com</a>
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<b>Publicity:</b>	Deborah Rudis, 789-4260, <a href="mailto:akwildlife@gci.net">akwildlife@gci.net</a>
<b>Conservation:</b>	Chris Kent, 463-3494, <a href="mailto:ckent@alaska.net">ckent@alaska.net</a>
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<b>Public Market Coordinator:</b>	Kathleen Weltzin, 789-0288

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