

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.

<http://www.juneau-audubon-society.org>

Volume 34, Number 4

Juneau Audubon Society

December 2007

Juneau Audubon Public Nature Series
Thursday, December 13, UAS Egan Room (221) (Glacier View)
7:00 p.m.

"UNRAVELING THE ELUSIVE KITTLITZ'S MURRELET will be presented a by MICHELLE KISSLING. Public welcome. Come and learn more about this small "glacier bird." For more info call Brenda 321-4739

*Read more about Kittlitz's Murrelet on page 8.

The 2007 Juneau Christmas Bird Count By Mark Schwan

The Juneau Christmas Bird Count will be held this year on Saturday, December 15, the first Saturday during the designated count period, of December 14 through January 5th. As usual, volunteers should meet at either of the two McDonald's Restaurants no later than 8 a.m. on count day, with appropriate attire and binoculars. People interested in counting in the downtown, Douglas, and north Douglas Island areas should meet at the downtown restaurant; birders wishing to work the Lemon Creek, airport, Mendenhall Valley and Auke Bay areas should meet at the valley restaurant.

There will be a potluck at Mark and Debi's home (time and directions to their home will be given on the day of the count) after the count to share in the events of the day and to conduct the tally of birds and species seen. For more information on this year's Count, you can call Mark Schwan, at **789-9841**.

**Known Christmas Bird Counts planned in Southeast Alaska for the upcoming
Count period:**

Count Location	Date of Count	Compiler/Contact	Phone Number
Chilkat	To be announced	Dan Egolf Tim Shields	766-2876
Craig-Klawock	December 15	Larry Dickerson	826-1619
Glacier Bay	December 15	Bruce Paige	697-2262
Haines	To be announced	Dan Egolf Tim Shields	766-2876
Juneau	December 15	Mark Schwan Gus van Vliet	789-9841
Ketchikan	December 15	Andrew Piston	247-6553
Mitkof Island	December 15	Bill Pawuk	772-3985
Sitka	December 16	Victoria Vosburg	747-7821
Skagway	December 15	Elaine Furbish Sandy Snell-Dobert	983-2049 983-3510
Tenakee Springs	December 29	Beret Barnes	736-2226
Wrangell	December 15	Bonnie Demerjian	874-3665

INFORMATION FROM NATIONAL AUDUBON

We hope you'll join us again this winter for some important bird monitoring activities, hosted by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Please help us spread the word, especially to those who have never participated before!

Christmas Bird Count!

People have been enthusiastically taking part in the annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) every year since December 1900. It's a great way to expand your birding horizons beyond your backyard. The CBC is run on one calendar day between December 14th and January 5th each year. As a field observer, you will bird with a group of observers. The birds you count will be included with those of others out counting birds in a 15-mile diameter circle during census day.

If you live within a CBC circle, you can count birds at your feeder. CBC data are of growing importance to bird conservation efforts, and in 2007 the new Audubon WatchList of birds at risk was released including, for the first time, trend data from the CBC. For more information about fees and to find out more about the CBC please visit: www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/ or contact your local bird club or Audubon chapter.

Time to focus on feeders!

The 21st season of Project FeederWatch is underway, but you can **sign up at any time**. Your counts will help scientists monitor changes in feeder-bird populations over the winter from year to year. New participants receive a kit with a handbook, a bird-identification poster, a calendar, and an instruction booklet.

Join the flock! For more information about Project FeederWatch or to sign up in the U.S., please visit www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/ or call (800) 843-2473. There is a \$15 fee to defray the cost of the materials (\$12 for Lab members). If you live in Canada, please visit our partner, Bird Studies Canada, at <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/national/pfw.html> or call (888) 448-2473.

You can learn more about the project and how to attract birds to your feeders by watching two segments devoted to these topics on the Martha Stewart Show. Follow the link on the All About Birds home page at www.allaboutbirds.org.

Count for Fun, Count for the Future!

That's our theme for the 11th annual Great Backyard Bird Count coming up February 15-18, 2008. We're hoping you'll help top the record-breaking 2007 count, when participants submitted more than 80,000 checklists!

Consider becoming a **GBBC ambassador** to help us spread the word about this great event, whether it's by putting up posters in your neighborhood, contacting newspapers, or leading workshops. For more information, visit www.birdcount.org and click on the "Get

Involved” button. You’ll find a new online ambassador sign-up form where you can specify the kinds of activities you’d like to do.

The 2008 GBBC news release is now available on the web site at www.birdcount.org, along with an updated version of the PowerPoint presentation that can be used in GBBC workshops or by anyone else interested in the event. Winners and finalists in the **2007 photo contest** are also posted—the judges had a really tough job sifting through thousands of spectacular images. See what you think of their choices in five categories. The top winner shows a spectacular Hooded Merganser!
www.birdcount.org/2007photowinners

Catch the bird-counting bug!

Your participation in citizen-science programs is a vital part of bird conservation in North America. If you’ve caught the bird-counting bug, check out the other citizen science projects offered by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon year round no matter where you live! And let us know what you’re doing. You can send comments and ideas to citizenscience@audubon.org or cornellbirds@cornell.edu.

Juneau November Bird Observations By Mark Schwan

Birding slowed dramatically in Juneau during November, as the bulk of the fall migrants finished passing through the area and we approached the winter season. However, lingering seasonal residents and migrants could still be found. Rarities were scarce, but we did see several casual species show their faces; one probably a continuing visitor, one present ever so briefly, and the other, a newcomer that appeared to be settling in at a local feeder.

Waterfowl highlights included our first fall report of a Eurasian Wigeon from Fish Creek on November 29 (PS), one male Canvasback in the lower Mendenhall Valley on November 27, and another (most likely one of the same birds seen previously) **Ruddy Duck** report from Twin Lakes on November 3rd (GV). A lingering Northern Harrier was spotted on November 6 at the wetlands (MS), another on the wetlands on November 10 (GV), and two were seen on November 22 (RG). Given the open water at Twin Lakes, many observers continued to note at least 10 to 12 American Coots throughout the month. Short-eared Owls, which were quite common in October, were still being seen, with two at the Wetlands on November 6 (MS) and 3 in the same location on November 25 (RG). The only Northern Pygmy-Owl report was a bird seen at Mile 33 on November 12 (GV).

A male **Anna’s Hummingbird** began to grace Patty Rose’s Douglas Island feeder on November 18. This is where putting your hummingbird feeder back up after the Rufous Hummingbirds are long gone pays off, as this very rare species to Southeast Alaska is pretty much only seen at feeders in late fall. The bird was still present when last reported on November 26. As in the previous month, two interior-form Downy Woodpeckers were seen, with one male at the Wetlands on November 3 and a female at Auke Bay on November 11 (GV). Almost non-existent in Juneau since last winter, it was encouraging for someone to stumble on two Brown Creepers on November 27 at Point Bridget (PS).

The first fall Bohemian Waxwing reports came with 46 seen in town on November 5 (PR), and 15 found near the Wetlands on November 17 (RG).

There were a variety of single-bird reports of our more common warblers still present through the month, but highlights included an **Audubon's** (Yellow-rumped) Warbler on November 28 at Auke Bay (GV), and a brief appearance by a **Palm Warbler** at the Pioneers' Home on November 2 (GV). Our first fall reports of Snow Buntings came with 15 seen at the Wetlands on November 6 (MS) and 90 seen on the Wetlands November 25 through 28 (RG). Rare at this time of year, four Red-winged Blackbirds were located near Lemon Creek on November 2 (GV).

Contributors: Rich Gordon = RG; Patty Rose = PR; Mark Schwan = MS; Paul Suchanek = PS; Gus van Vliet = GV. Report prepared by Mark Schwan

Birding News From Ketchikan By Teri Goucher

Autumn has progressed with relatively mild conditions so far here in Ketchikan and many interesting birds have occurred the past couple months.

Seasonal storms have brought the normally pelagic species of **Brandt's Cormorant** and over 40 **Fork-tailed Storm-petrels** within sight around our inshore waters. A **Peregrine Falcon** has been seen at our airport on Gravina Island which has increased open areas now due to recent construction around the runway.

A very rare **Yellow Wagtail** was here the end of September; only the second record of this species in all of Southeast Alaska!

October still had more unusual birds moving through. A **Slaty-backed Gull** feasted on late salmon at the creek at Herring Cove. A Female **Brewer's Blackbird** was recorded here for the seventh time on October 26. Two early **Swamp Sparrows** were seen at Lake McDonald north of town.

November has kept many sparrow species around even as winter approaches. There were two **Harris's Sparrows** in our area this past month, one 15 miles north of town and another in a garden at a hillside neighborhood home. Rather remarkable that Steve Heintz and Andy Piston found 9 species of sparrows during a single day birding trip around our road system! They observed high numbers of **Fox Sparrows**; including a single 'red' Fox Sparrow and **Song Sparrows**. A **Chipping Sparrow** was seen along with **American Tree Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow**, and Harris's Sparrow.

On November 12th 14 **Killdeer** were seen at one time on the grassy areas of the cemetery. A few Townsend's Warbler, Orange crowned Warbler and Yellow-rumped Warbler remain in the area.

The 7th area record of a **Western Meadowlark** was at the open area of North Point Higgins school where this species has occurred several times over the past several years.

Our Christmas Bird Count will be December 15th and anyone may contact Andy Piston at 225-5195 for more information.

Winter officially begins on December 21st at 9:08 pm, then our daylight hours will slowly and thankfully increase once again!!

Wrangell Sightings By Bonnie Demerjian

Wrangell birders were treated to a colorful family this month. Four Wood Ducks, an adult pair, first year male and female, spent three days at a home pond early in the month. A pair of American Coots has spent several weeks on the golf course pond along with a number of Ring-necked Ducks.

On the saltwater Trumpeter Swans, Pelagic Cormorants, Common and Hooded Mergansers, Buffleheads, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Harlequin Ducks, Long-tailed Ducks, American Widgeons, Common Loons, Western grebes and Marbled Murrelets were reported. Black-billed Magpies, a White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Townsend's Solitaire and Northern Goshawk made an appearance in November. A flock of about thirty Cedar Waxwings was reported on the Stikine River delta. Flocks of Pine Siskins have shown up again.

Wrangell birders have been scratching their heads over a photo of a possible Brown Pelican seen November 18 on the rocks in front of town. The bird was seen by three people who were all convinced that it was a pelican but not aware that the birds are rare in Southeast Alaska. Here's the bird taken from the back along with a Blue Heron on the right. The Juneau Empire reported a Brown Pelican in Ketchikan in June, 2003, along with an excellent picture, so the birds are not entirely unknown here. An earlier bird had also visited Ketchikan in 1996. What's the consensus on this bird?



We hope all of these birds and more show up for the Christmas Bird Count on December 15.

Sitka Sightings By Matt Goff

November has seen the return of fair numbers of wintering waterfowl to the Sitka area. In addition there have been several sightings of unusual migrants or strays. The first week of a November was the last time a Pied-billed Grebe was seen on Swan Lake. Its departure seemed to coincide with a cold night when a thin layer of ice formed over much of the lake. Other birds seen at Swan Lake over the month include a couple of sightings of a Northern Goshawk, up to 5 American Coots, one to three American Widgeons, two Northern Shovelers, and a Cackling Goose that has been there all month. Many Lesser and Greater Scaups, and Ring-necked Ducks have been there daily. Other noteworthy birds reported have included a Mountain Bluebird seen for several days in early November at Bear Cove. Near the Path of Hope, two White-throated Sparrows, American Tree Sparrows, many Slate-colored Dark-eyed Juncos, Golden-crowned and

White-crowned Sparrows were seen visiting feeders. A Red-breasted Nuthatch (heard but not seen) was reported near Thimbleberry Lake trail.

Unusually late, Savannah Sparrows were seen near Moller field at least through the middle of the month. Other late birds included two Orange-crowned Warblers (one of them the interior subspecies) and a Wilson's Warbler seen on the 28th. Several Yellow-rumped Warblers have been seen this month as well. A small flock of White-winged Crossbills was reported in the top of Hemlock trees behind the Sheldon Jackson Museum, a Western Grebe was seen off of Galankin Island, and as many as 22 Black Oystercatchers showed up out at Starrigavan. Swans have been reported several times from several different locations, though it's not clear whether any of them have settled in to spend the winter.

Gustavus Sightings October 29 - November 29, 2007

The Gustavus/ Glacier Bay Christmas Bird Count will be on Saturday, 12/15. Everyone is welcome to participate. For information call Bruce Paige, count coordinator, at 697-2262.

Two adult **Bar-tailed Godwits** were along the water's edge west of town on 10/29 and 10/31. Single **Rough-legged Hawks** were seen on 10/29 and 11/3. A **Glaucous Gull** was on the golf course on 11/2. A lone **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** was in grasses west of the Salmon River on 11/3. Two **European Starlings** were in town on 11/6. Four **Mountain Bluebirds** were along the beach on 11/5. Three rare (for Gustavus) and late warblers were seen along the shore of Bartlett Cove: a **Blackpoll Warbler** on 11/11, a **Palm Warbler** on 11/13 and 11/14, and a **Tennessee Warbler** from 11/11 to 11/18. A **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was in the same area on 11/18. All four warblers were catching bugs on and near the ground among dead vegetation at the forest/beach edge. There was also a Yellow-rumped Warbler in town on 11/29. An **Osprey** was seen over the Salmon River through 11/16. A late **Greater White-fronted Goose** was with Canada Geese on 11/17. Single **Northern Flickers** (red-shafted) were seen on 11/1, 11/15, and 11/20. A **White-throated Sparrow** was at a feeder in town on 11/18 and another was with juncos west of town on 11/23.

Great Horned Owls, heard regularly this fall in several locations, continued through the period. Also reported during the period were several **Barred Owls**, a **Northern Hawk Owl**, several **Northern Pygmy-Owls**, and a **Northern Saw-whet Owl**. There were no reports of **Short-eared Owls**.

Numbers increased through the period for three shorebird species known to winter along Gustavus beaches. High counts for these were 1600 **Dunlin** on 11/9, 150 **Sanderlings** on 11/5, and 350 **Rock Sandpipers** on 11/5. A Dunlin with colored leg bands seen on 10/31 was banded in August of 2005 on the Tutakoke River in the Yukon Delta NWR.

(Information from Robert E. Gill, USGS.) This adds to a handful of Dunlin banded on breeding grounds on the Yukon/Kuskokwim Delta and resighted in Gustavus in recent years.

Thanks to Bruce Paige, Julie Vathke, and Phoebe Vanselow for sharing observations and to all who reported owls. By Nat Drumheller, natdrumheller@hotmail.com

PROFILE: Board Member Matt Kirchoff

In the *Raven* while recently profiling Steve Zimmerman we indicated that Juneau Audubon had two members on the state-wide Audubon Alaska board. Besides Steve Zimmerman the other Juneau Audubon board member on the Audubon Alaska board is Matt Kirchoff.

Matt is presently the Treasurer of Juneau Audubon and previously has filled other board seats such as Conservation Chair. But while sitting on the Juneau Audubon board he has for seven years or so also sat on the state Audubon Alaska board.

Matt is well known around the state and Juneau for his expertise in several areas. One is the Tongass National Forest. Matt has worked for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game since 1978 and for a couple of decades worked on studying deer. His work was directed at old growth ecology and from those decades of scientific work he gained a unique expertise regarding the forest ecology of the Tongass. Now not only does Fish and Game reap the benefits of Matt's experience and knowledge, but so does Audubon Alaska. Audubon Alaska along with The Nature Conservancy are becoming big players in the future management of the Tongass. And in fact many claim that they are out ahead of the USFS in computer modeling and analysis of ecological values of the forest. Matt along with John Schoen (Audubon Alaska senior scientist) are big contributors to this work. (See *National Geographic Magazine* July 2007, page 124; Matt is mentioned at page 125).

From deer Matt moved to Marbled Murrelets and is now conducting long term studies on this unique and possibly threatened seabird. Again the scientific work is closely linked to old growth forest ecology, because as we now know Marbled Murrelets nest on tree branches in our old growth forest. Matt has presented programs on his fascinating murrelet work at the forest service's fireside chat series as well as other places.

Besides science Matt is also known for his hobby of rowing and is the president of the Juneau Rowing Club. The club was instrumental in getting dock space and racks for the rowing shells located at Aurora Harbor. He can be seen on occasion out in Gastineau Channel rowing along in his thin rowing shell with long outstretched oars.

Matt holds a BS degree from the State University of New York, Syracuse, and a MS in Zoology from the University of Maine. Before coming to Juneau Matt worked out in the Bering Sea for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, doing seabird surveys, from 1976 to 1977. And, from 1980 to 81 Matt and his wife Patty, and with one daughter then, built a cabin and lived in Port Alexander. Matt's contribution to Alaska and Juneau is great. In particular he is much appreciated at Juneau Audubon and Audubon Alaska.

Proposed Bylaw Change by Jeff Sauer, President November 28, 2007

The bylaws of Juneau Audubon, like many non-profits, contain a term limit for board members appointed to the board by the officers. The limit is presently two consecutive two year terms. This term limit is a valuable thing and keeps a certain amount of new blood in an organization. On the other hand Juneau Audubon is a relatively small group of dedicated volunteers and more flexibility may be desirable regarding term limits. It also appears that we unwittingly have gone beyond the term limits in certain instances.

The term limit bylaw section is below:

The Board shall consist of the four elected officers plus the chairpersons of the standing committees. Standing Committee Chairpersons shall be selected by the full Board of Directors, initially half serving for one-year terms and half serving for terms of two years. ["initially" being the very start up of the organization, which has long since passed] All subsequent standing committee chairpersons and appointments shall be for two-year terms, and no member of the Board may be appointed for more than two consecutive terms.

The conservative way to read this bylaw section is that the non-officer members of the board (these are the appointed board members, versus the elected officers) have term limits of two consecutive two year terms. The Juneau Audubon board has voted to recommend to the Juneau Audubon membership to increase the term limit to three consecutive three year terms. This is a proposed change to our bylaws and as such must go to the vote of the members at a monthly meeting. This proposed by-law change, from two consecutive two year terms, to three consecutive three year terms, will be put to a yes or no vote at the January 10, 2008 Juneau Audubon meeting. If members have any questions feel free to address to the president, by email.

Small Alaska bird in big trouble: ENDANGERED: The Kittlitz's murrelet is on the Audubon list. By ERIKA BOLSTAD NATIONAL AUDUBON

WASHINGTON -- An Alaska seabird that nests and feeds where glaciers meet the sea is threatened with extinction by global warming, warned the National Audubon Society as it released its 2007 watch list of endangered birds.

The breeding and feeding habitat of the Kittlitz's murrelet is "linked to Alaska's tidewater glaciers, making the species very susceptible to climate change," Audubon officials said Wednesday. Oil spills and coastal pollution also threaten the murrelet.

"To save Kittlitz's murrelet, we need to halt global warming," said Greg Butcher, director of bird conservation for the National Audubon Society. "That's the only way we're going to have total success."

The Audubon watch list, last updated in 2002, is a compilation of the most imperiled bird species in the United States. Twelve Alaska birds make the most critical "red" list, compiled by Audubon and the American Bird Conservancy. Another 36 are on the yellow list, a category that designates them as needing what Audubon terms "urgent conservation action."

The national watch list includes well-known species on the endangered species list, such as the spotted owl, the California condor and the whooping crane. But it also includes lesser-known coastal birds that are threatened with extinction, such as the Kittlitz's

murrelet, which has seen its situation worsen since the 2002 list was released. The data are compiled from state, federal and academic studies as well as Audubon's annual Christmas bird count.

In Alaska, Audubon remains most concerned about the Kittlitz's murrelet, which has been considered for federal endangered species listing but hasn't made the cut because biologists simply don't know enough about the bird.

There are an estimated 24,000 in existence, but the bird's mysterious habits and unusual habitat make it difficult to determine its population. The bird, about 9.5 inches long, is mostly found in Prince William Sound and Glacier Bay. Only 30 nests have ever been seen, and biologists aren't sure where the birds spend the winter. But they do know that the loss of glaciers means a loss in habitat and food for the murrelet, said Iain Stenhouse, a biologist with Audubon Alaska.

"There are a couple of species like that, that have enough of a link with either pack ice or glacial ice that we're really concerned about them, and Kittlitz's murrelet is certainly one of them," Stenhouse said. "We don't fully understand the link between Kittlitz's murrelet and ice. But we know that where we see lots of glacial recession is where we also see the greatest decline of Kittlitz's murrelet."

Audubon also has concerns about two other Alaska sea birds: the buff-breasted sandpiper and the spectacled eider. The sandpiper spends the northern hemisphere summer nesting on the North Slope tundra, then flies to the southern hemisphere for its summer, feeding in the pampas of Argentina. Only about 15,000 sandpipers remain, Stenhouse said, in part because the wild South American grasslands have been planted with crops.

The eider, a sea duck, winters on the Bering Sea and breeds on the Arctic tundra. It makes a winter home in small holes in sea ice, and feeds on clams. As the polar sea ice shrinks, so does the eider's habitat.

Audubon officials said Wednesday that they are especially concerned about Alaska, because the state is seeing the effects of global warming before other regions of the U.S. Alaska's polar regions are a harbinger of the habitat loss that global warming threatens across the country, Butcher said.

They hope the list gets across to the public the message that what is good for birds is also good for humans -- bird populations with declining numbers reflect out-of-kilter environmental conditions that should raise concerns for people too.

"Birds are a very good indicator of the health of the natural world, and we share that world with them, whether we like it or not," Stenhouse said. "If something's happening to them, it's bound to have some impact on us. It's a very clear signal for us that we should be paying attention."

Audubon's lobbyists in Washington also argue that there are cooperative approaches that don't require an endangered species listing, such as proposed legislation offering federal tax breaks to private landowners who develop conservation plans that help restore endangered and threatened species.

"We can do this without spending millions and millions of dollars," said Mike Daulton, Audubon's director of conservation policy. "We just have to learn to work together better than we have in the past."

Find Erika Bolstad online at adn.com/contact/ebolstad or call her in Washington, D.C., at 1-202-383-6104.

Alaska birds on the National Audubon Society's watch list: Steller's eider, Spectacled eider, Sooty grouse. Laysan albatross, Black-footed albatross, Short-tailed albatross, Pink-footed shearwater, Eskimo curlew, Rock sandpiper, Buff-breasted sandpiper, Ivory gull, Kittlitz's murrelet

FROM PEG TILESTON'S WHAT'S UP

<http://lists.onenw.org/lists/info/whatsup>

Deadline for comments of petition to list the **LYNN CANAL** (Alaska) stock

of PACIFIC HERRING as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). NOAA is requesting information regarding population structure and stock delineations of Pacific herring in Southeast Alaska, the Gulf of Alaska, and the North Pacific Ocean; population trends and ecology of Pacific herring in Lynn Canal and Southeast Alaska waters; habitat requirements and current habitat conditions; known and anticipated threats to the viability of the population; and efforts being made to protect the species. For more information, go to

<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/protectedresources/herring/petition0407.pdf> or <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/notice/72fr51619.pdf>. Submit comments to Attn:

Ellen Sebastian by Fax: (907) 586-7557 or email: LCHERRING@noaa.gov.

Include in the subject line of the e-mail

the following identifier: Lynn Canal Herring.

****DRAFT STATEWIDE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION POLICY PLAN UPDATE "2030**

LET'S GET MOVING." The draft plan document is available at

<http://dot.alaska.gov/2030>. For more information or to submit comments, contact Eric Taylor, Transportation Planner (project manager) at (907) 465-4070, Fax: (907) 465-6984 or Email: eric.taylor@alaska.gov.

BOARD of GAME PROPOSALS for the JANUARY 2008 STATEWIDE MEETING are now posted online at

<http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/gameinfo/meetinfo/gprop.php>.

Comments

are due January 11.

TONGASS National Forest 2006 ANNUAL MONITORING & EVALUATION REPORT is available at http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/projects/tlmp/2006_monitoring_report/index.shtml

BOOK REVIEW

Anan, Stream of Living Water
by Bonnie Demerjian

Review by Alan Sorum in A View From the Waterfront at www.harboradvice.com

Anan Creek is internationally known as one of the most productive pink salmon streams in North America, making it by default an unmatched location for viewing both black and brown bears. Anan Creek is located on the north shore of the Cleveland Peninsula, just south of Wrangell Island and north of Ketchikan. Wrangell resident Bonnie Demerjian has authored *Anan, Stream of Living Water*, an exhaustive chronicle of the stream and its denizens. The account displays Bonnie's depth of local knowledge and understanding of the complex relationships that exist between human visitors, feeding bears and spawning salmon, meeting together at the creek.

Demerjian paints a descriptive view of the region's natural history and geology. Using photographs taken by Ivan Simonek, she describes the plant and animal species found in the Anan watershed. There is extensive discussion of the Pink salmon life cycle and development of commercial fishing in the area. Explorer George Vancouver noted Anan Bay in 1793, and there has been aboriginal use of the Creek's natural plenty since the beginning of human occupation in Southeast Alaska 10,000 years ago. A great sidebar and continued discussion in the text relates to the Tlingit Cycle of Food and the methods used to capture the salmon. Later industrial fishing endangered the resident Pink salmon population and would prove a driving issue is establishing Alaska Statehood.

The greatest strength of *Anan, Stream of Living Water* is its treatment of the legend, lore and life history of the region's prime attraction, the bears. Bonnie relates the Tlingit stories of the bears, describes their biology and history within of bear. The USDA – Forest Service operates a wildlife viewing facility at Anan Creek that takes great advantage of the bears feeding on Pink salmon migrating into the stream. The role of the Forest Service at Anan is explained and the author forwards really useful information on bear photography, viewing safety, rental cabins, suggested reading, and contacting local guides. The book enjoys extensive bibliography and subject index.

Anan, Stream of Living Water is available from *Hearthside Books* in Juneau and www.stikineriverbooks.com

CORPS PERMIT APPLICATIONS: The full permit application can be viewed at: <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg/PNNNew.htm>

Ketchikan applicant William Britton

LOCATION: Refuge View Place Subdivision; at Mile 8.1 of North Tongass Highway, Ketchikan

PURPOSE: Develop lots for William Britton Refuge View Place Subdivision.

PROPOSED WORK: Fill 2.43 acres of wetlands for development of 12 residential lots.

Ketchikan Gateway Borough Gravina Island Subdivision

PURPOSE; Road access to industrial waterfront properties to facilitate economic development for a 180 acre industrial park for open space, recreation, and residential development, including a quarry and regional waste area to facilitate property development of private and public lands.

PROPOSED WORK: Discharge 250,000 cy of overburden, 40,000 cy of shot rock into wetlands.

Petersburg Steve Lombard

LOCATION: Falls Creek Subdivision, Lot 3; along Wrangell Narrows, Mitkof Island, 9.9 miles south of Petersburg

PURPOSE: Construct permanent single family residence, offshore mooring buoy and pulley system, stabilize an eroding stream bank

JUNEAU AUDUBON OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President: Jeff Sauer, president@juneau-audubon-society.org

Vice-President: Mark Schwan, vice-president@juneau-audubon-society.org

Secretary: Patty Rose, secretary@juneau-audubon-society.org

Treasurer: Matt Kirchhoff, treasurer@juneau-audubon-society.org

Programs: Brenda Wright, 789-4656, programs@juneau-audubon-society.org

Membership: Brien Daugherty, membership@juneau-audubon-society.org

Education: Beth Peluso, education@juneau-audubon-society.org

Conservation: Meg Cartwright, 364-2258 conservation@juneau-audubon-society.org

Field Trips: Anastasia Lynch, field-trips@juneau-audubon-society.org

Raven Editor: Mary Lou King, 789-7540, raven@juneau-audubon-society.org

Public Market: Ellen Anderson, 789-1412, public-market@juneau-audubon-society.org

Web Master: George Utermohle, webmaster@juneau-audubon-society.org

National Audubon Society Membership Application

For first time members or renewals to the National Audubon Society, please mail this form to: National Audubon Society, Membership Data Center, PO Box 51001, Boulder, CO 80322-1001. You will receive the *National Audubon Magazine* plus Juneau Chapter newsletter *The Raven*.

\$20 (1-year introductory rate) _____; \$15 (1-year student/senior rate) _____
\$30 Basic renewal _____

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip Code _____
Telephone number _____

____ My check for \$ _____ is enclosed ____ Please bill me
A51 7XCH

Local Audubon Society Membership Application

If you prefer to support Juneau Audubon Society only, please complete the form above and send \$10 (*1-year membership*) to: Juneau Audubon Society, Membership Chair, PO Box 21725, Juneau, AK 99802. You will receive the Juneau Chapter news letter *The Raven*.

Please consider getting *The Raven* by e-mail instead of snail mail to save paper, time, and money. To choose this option, write your email address here

_____.

