

# 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>

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**Juneau Audubon Public Nature Series  
Thursday, February 14, UAS Egan Room 221/222 7:00 p.m.**

## **"Working and Traveling in Cambodia"**

Join Clayton Hawkes for a description of his volunteer work in Cambodia from June 2004 to November 2006. Clayton worked as a VSO volunteer with the Cambodia Department of Fisheries, and later for the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, on a large fisheries management project in the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve. The British non-government organization, Voluntary Services Overseas, is an international development charity that works through volunteers to fight global poverty and disadvantage.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Backyard Bird Count  
February 15 - 18, 2008  
Count for Fun, Count for the Future!**

Dear Great Backyard Bird Count participant,  
Your chance to take part in the eleventh Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) comes up in a few short weeks. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to have fun and help us find out where the birds are this winter. Read on for new and exciting features of this year's event.

#### **WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR?**

Check out the GBBC website ([www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org)) for improved features, including:

- Ability to submit YouTube bird videos. The best videos will be posted on the GBBC website
- Expanded sparrow identification page
- New bird call identification game for kids
- New FAQ section and narrated GBBC overview

### **SPREAD THE WORD**

We hope you'll spread the word this year by encouraging your friends to participate. You can forward this email to them or direct them to visit the website at [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org). Remember: the GBBC is fun, free, and helps birds!

### **WIN SOMETHING COOL**

When you send in your checklist this year, you will automatically be entered in a prize drawing to win items like binoculars, bird feeders, and a variety of great books! Check out <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/press/news-stories/prize-list-for-2008> for a listing of prizes.

### **SUBMIT PHOTOS TO OUR ONLINE GALLERY AND PHOTO CONTEST**

During the count, take digital photos of birds (and bird watchers!) and submit them to the GBBC website. All photos submitted will be entered in the photo contest, and some will be posted in an online gallery. Images will be accepted through **March 1**.

### **YOUR COUNTING COUNTS**

In 2007, GBBC participants made history, breaking records for the number of birds reported and number of checklists submitted. Participants sent in more than 80,000 checklists tallying over 11 million birds of 613 species. Last year, as a result of your counts, we discovered that many bird species had already started their spring migrations in February earlier than in decades past. Your counts help us build a long-term record of where people are finding birds and how many birds there are. Although your bird counts need to take place from February 15-18, you can submit data as late as **March 1, 2008**. If you have any questions, please contact us at [citizenscience@audubon.org](mailto:citizenscience@audubon.org) or [cornellbirds@cornell.edu](mailto:cornellbirds@cornell.edu).

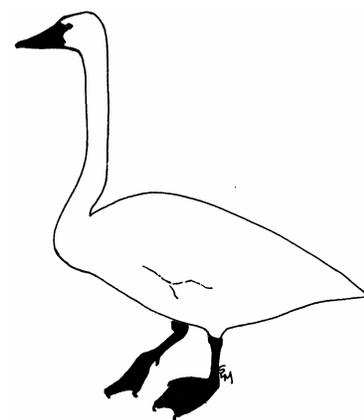
### **March 13: Next regular Juneau Audubon meeting**

**Birding South Africa** -- South Africa is the most "developed" country in Africa but has managed to conserve well managed large national parks which provide outstanding birding and wildlife viewing opportunities. Some of the unique habitats found in South Africa support a variety of plant and wildlife species found nowhere else in the world. Bev Agler and Paul Suchanek recently spent a month touring South Africa and observed nearly 400 species of birds and over 50 species of mammals. Join them for an exploration of some of these habitats and the wildlife ranging from penguins to parrots and whales to wildebeests.

## **TRUMPETER SWAN SOCIETY CONFERENCE, WHITEHORSE, CANADA**

**APRIL 17-19, 2008**

The International Trumpeter Swan Society – dedicated to restoration of this rare but recovering species announces our 21<sup>st</sup> Conference in the Yukon will focus on swans in western Canada and Alaska. Presentations will be held on Thursday, April 17 and Saturday April 19, with an all-day field trip to view swans south of Whitehorse on Friday. The conference will end Saturday evening with our banquet keynoted by former director Dave Weaver, highlighting TTSS' 40 years of accomplishments. Join us to celebrate our history and to plan for the future while viewing thousands of Tundra and Trumpeter Swans. You will soon be able to register online with your credit card. Check our web site for news on availability.  
[www.trumpeterswansociety.org](http://www.trumpeterswansociety.org).



The conference will be held at the High Country Inn (1-800-554-4471; [www.highcountryinn.yk.ca](http://www.highcountryinn.yk.ca)). Rooms are \$99 (Canadian) per night (single or double), plus a 6% tax. The block number is 24870 to reserve rooms at this rate.

Take some extra time and make your 21<sup>st</sup> Conference visit to Whitehorse truly memorable! – When landscape architect legend Ian McHarg viewed the interspersed Trumpeter Swan habitat and mountains while flying from Anchorage to Juneau, he commented how nice it was to see "a place where God is still in charge". TTSS members accustomed to the suburban/agricultural landscape where most trumpeters are getting established in the lower 48, may get the same impression when they visit Whitehorse for the 2008 conference.

Whitehorse in April is a great experience. Nice paths on the bank of the mighty Yukon River a few steps from hotels, with flocks of migrating trumpeters and tundras overhead during the rapidly-increasing hours of daylight, will provide an unforgettable experience.

Saving some time to drive or fly out for a closer view can greatly enhance your trip. Thousands of tourists visit this region each summer without the inducement of witnessing the swan migration and the good fellowship of a TTSS conference. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity. There are many possibilities for excursions both before and after the conference – including Skagway, Haines, Kluane National Park, dog-mushing, cross-country skiing and more! For information, check out Yukon Tourism at [www.travel yukon.com](http://www.travel yukon.com) or the City of Whitehorse visitor information at [www.visitwhitehorse.com](http://www.visitwhitehorse.com). For those interested in wildlife viewing, visit [www.environment yukon.gov.yk.ca/viewing](http://www.environment yukon.gov.yk.ca/viewing).

### **GETTING TO KNOW OUR JUNEAU AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD**

Anastasia Parmann Lynch, Field Trips Chair: Anastasia is originally from Northern California. She and her spouse earned advanced degrees and birthed two children in New York State. Most recently they have come from Micronesia. They chose to settle in Juneau because of the unique natural features and wildlife. Her interest in the Audubon Society is a strong belief in the importance and interdependence of all living being.

### **JUNEAU BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER AND JANUARY**

By Mark Schwan

As December was winding down and the Christmas Bird Count was history, some of Juneau's more avid birders were still working on annual lists and finding fascinating birds. Then, Gus van Vliet challenged local birders to best his January Juneau list of bird species of 79. Paul Suchanek took up the challenge in earnest, and by mid month had surpassed 80 species and by month's end had accumulated a list of 85 for the month; very impressive. Several other birders made an effort to bird more intensively during the month, as often people hang up their binoculars after the Christmas Bird Count and wait for spring to come. As it turned out, there were many interesting birds in Juneau. Here are some highlights. Moreover, given the only report in the Raven for December was the summary of the Christmas Bird Count, a few more noteworthy observations from the CBC and December are included herein as well.

Five **Brant** (“Black” Brant) were located with Canada Geese on the Mendenhall Wetlands near Sunny Point on January 17 (MS) and subsequently relocated on January 18 (GV) and January 22 (PS). These birds represented the first local winter record. However, since reported on Eaglechat, two local residents responded they have seen this species near Sunny Point in past winters. The three **Wood Ducks** located in the Mendenhall Valley prior to the bird count (December 12, MS) were seen repeatedly through the end of December and all through January (many obs.). In addition to their usual hangout near the Lakeside Condos, these birds were also seen in the lower Mendenhall River on January 21 and 24 (PS, BA). Three male **Eurasian Wigeon** were seen at the mouth of Fish Creek on December 17 (PS), and at least 2 to 3 males were there until January 30 (PS). One **Northern Shoveler** was reported from the Mendenhall Wetlands on January 14 and January 21 (PS). A male **Common Goldeneye X Barrow’s Goldeneye hybrid** was over-wintering along the North Douglas Highway about a mile past the North Douglas boat ramp (PS). This is probably the same bird that over-wintered in that location in 2006-2007. In addition to the one **Hooded Merganser** spotted in Gastineau Channel on the December 15 (CBC); one bird was seen in Stephen’s Passage near Outer Point on January 6 (PS), and three were seen in Switzer Creek on January 9 (PS). There was another sighting of a single bird at False Outer Point on January 1 (PR).

A search for our most elusive ptarmigan, the **White-tailed Ptarmigan**, ended in success, when two birds were found up on the peninsula in front of the Mendenhall Glacier (December 27, PS). First reported in Auke Bay prior to the bird count on December 13 (GV), a single **Western Grebe** was seen in the same area on January 13 (GV). Another bird (?) appeared to be frequenting the waters near Point Louisa for over a month, as reported on January 17 via Eaglechat (BS). There were just a couple of reports of **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, including a late January (27) report of a bird targeting feeder birds in the west side of Mendenhall Valley (KH). In addition to the sighting on the CBC, other **Northern Goshawk** reports included one on December 16, above Gastineau Ave. (MS), one on January 2 at the Lakeside Condos (PS,NH), and one bird seen flying over the lower Mendenhall River on January 15 (RG). A **Merlin** was stalking feeder birds downtown on January 29 (MA).

Three **Killdeer** were at Fish Creek on December 10, as were two birds on January 8 (PS). One bird was also located on south Douglas Island on January 1 (PR). Although now known to be present in the hundreds at Gustavus during the winter, **Sanderlings** are very rare in Juneau, so one bird found at Eagle Beach on January 10 and 17 was of interest (PS); don’t laugh Nat and Bruce! Outside of the CBC, the only reports of **Wilson’s Snipe** also came from Switzer Creek, with single birds being reported on January 2 (MS) and January 9 (PS). Five **Bonaparte’s Gulls** were seen at Fish Creek on December 13 (PS) and then four were found on the CBC). Two **Glaucous Gulls** were reported during the first day of count week (December 12), an adult at Fish Creek (PS), and a bird at the Costco parking lot (MS), which continued to frequent the area throughout most of January (MS,PS).

Locating owls takes a lot of dedication, preparation, and a bit of luck, hence, a **Northern Hawk Owl** seen and photographed along the wetland dike on December 19 (RA) was quite cool. **Northern Pygmy-Owl** reports included one bird seen preying on a junco at a Douglas Island feeder on January 1 (PR), and two other North Douglas sightings (December 19 and 29) (PS). Another New Year’s owl included a **Barred Owl** found adjacent to the airport dike trail at

sundown on January 1 (GV). A **Northern Flicker** (red-shafted female) frequenting a North Douglas feeder was presumably the same bird returning for a 4<sup>th</sup> winter (PS). There were multiple sightings of **Downy Woodpeckers** on or near the wetlands from mid December through January (PS,ND,PR).

In early December, five **Horned Larks** were located on the Mendenhall Wetlands and photographs were taken (12/6, PR). One of these birds appeared to be of the Asian subspecies (*flava*), which was very exciting. Four Horned Larks were again located on the wetlands on January 1 (PR). These birds represented the first local winter record. The only thrush species seen during the reporting period was **American Robin**, with scattered reports from various locations and observers. Four birds, perhaps a high count, were seen at Evergreen Cemetery on January 21 (MS). Subsequent to the CBC, small numbers of **American Pipits** were found at the Mendenhall wetlands through the end of December and well into January (many obs.). There are only one or two prior local winter records. The only known warbler sighting during the reporting period, was one **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, seen in town on December 6 (MM).

While watching a flock of juncos and tree sparrows at a roadside feeder near the airport on December 20 the appearance of a **Spotted Towhee** was quite a shock (PS). This bird turned out to be furtive and difficult to see during subsequent stakeouts by various birders, but some met with success, as the bird was seen on December 26 (GV), January 1 (MS), January 2 (PS, NH), and January 8 (PR). **American Tree Sparrows** continued to be present in above average numbers, with birds reported by many observers from a variety of locations. Three **Savannah Sparrows** were found at the Mendenhall Wetlands on January 5 (PS, BA). A reddish, interior form **Fox Sparrow** was found at a feeder near the airport on January 2 (NH, PS). This bird may be the same individual that was frequenting a feeder several blocks away through the month of December (RG) and which was seen on the CBC. There was a **Lincoln's Sparrow** mixed in with juncos near Switzer creek on January 29 (MS). A surprise find on the CBC was a **White-throated Sparrow** in downtown (AB,KL,AL), which was relocated the next day (GV). Then single birds were reported from Evergreen Cemetery on January 5 (PS) and Behrends Avenue on January 18 (MA). Another surprise find on the CBC, a single immature **Harris's Sparrow** was found near a feeder close to the Mendenhall River (BA,PR). A single **Golden-crowned Sparrow** visited a feeder near the airport through most of December (RG,CBC) and another bird was located at a feeder near Switzer Creek on January 9 (PS).

Four **Lapland Longspurs** were found on the wetlands on December 16 (PR). These birds, located the day after the CBC, had never been seen during our local CBC count week and were likely only the second or third Juneau record for December. Longspurs were subsequently seen in a large Snow Bunting flock frequenting the wetlands into early January (GV,PS,BA). When a pale, unusually whitish individual bird was a standout amongst a large flock of Snow Buntings at the wetlands on December 21, a birder was intrigued (GV). Then, on December 24, the flock was relocated and the pale bird studied at close range and photographed (PS,MS). The tentative identification was **McKay's Bunting**. In the following days a second candidate bird was found and several birders studied and photographed both birds (PS,PR,GV). The final decision as to the identity of these birds was complicated when photographs of assumed hybrid forms were compared to our local birds. However, after examining photographs of museum specimens of both species, it seemed that McKay's Bunting was the logical identification for both birds.

Unless someone asserts the identification is equivocal, or incorrect, these birds represent the first record for the species in Southeast Alaska.

Always a treat to see at this time of year, Pine Grosbeaks were frequenting many parts of town, seeking out remnant mountain ash berries (as were waxwings). Reports of large flocks of Common Redpolls in January, included an estimated 100 birds on January 1 and 200+ birds on January 13 (RG), and a flock of perhaps up to 400 birds on January 30 (MS). More often, it seemed that redpolls were seen in small numbers mixed in with Pine Siskins, which arrived in force during the second half of the month (many obs.). As January came to a close and the cold weather set in, there were fewer observations from the field and more from folks watching their feeders, such that the influx of siskins and redpolls, though not rare species, was a bright spot at month's end. Thanks to all who contributed to this report.

**Contributors:** Bev Agler = BA, Mark Anderson = MA, Robert Armstong = RA, Anissa Berry-Frick = AB, Nat Drumheller = ND, Rich Gordon = RG, Nick Hajdukovich = NH, Karla Hart = KH, Ken Leghorn = KL, Anastasia Tarmann Lynch = AL, Mary McCafferty = MM, Mark Schwan = MS, Brita Shaw = BS, Paul Suchanek = PS, Gus van Vliet = GV. Report prepared by Mark Schwan.

#### **HAINES CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** By Georgia Giacobbe

Haines seems to honor the 12 days of Christmas with their Christmas Bird Count, which was conducted December 29 and January 5. Tim Shields arranges for the count in two areas in the Chilkat Valley—one centered downtown and the other at 20 mile Haines Highway (in the Bald Eagle Preserve). The following birds were counted:

**Bald Eagles 318, Common Redpoll 230, Dark-eyed Junco 146, Chestnut-backed Chickadee 138, Pine Siskin 232, Common Goldeneye 132, Barrow's Goldeneye 125, Common Merganser 106, Mallard 194, Common Raven 93, Glaucous-winged Gull 75, Black-billed Magpie 64, Bufflehead 50, Other Goldeneyes 30, Steller's Jay 26, Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon) 23, Trumpeter Swan 18, Marbled Murrelet 17, Northwestern Crow 17, Pine Grosbeak 16, Horned Grebe 14, Dipper 14, and Mew Gull 12.**

A **Fox Sparrow** and **Song Sparrow** were a surprise, usually the birds are only summer residents. Two **Long-tail Ducks** (Oldsquaws), a rarity, were spotted. Another highlight was the sighting of a **Pacific Loon**. Total number of species was about 40, an average number of species, but numbers were low possibly due to the heavy snow in the morning of December 29.

As of the weekend of January 19, local eagles continue to winter over in the preserve, gathered in the trees around 19 to 20 mile Haines Highway. And at least half of the **Pine Grosbeaks** counted in the CBC are still in the area, feeding on the snow on my front deck. This last week in January has been below average cold with the wind nonstop down Lynn Canal for a week, severely limiting birding activity.

#### **SKAGWAY BIRD REPORT** by Elaine Furbish

The Skagway Christmas Bird Count was held on December 15, 2007. We had 28 participants, including 1 senior, 2 feeder watchers, 4 birders from Whitehorse and 1 birder from Juneau. The

weather was mild with temperatures hovering around the freezing point and generally calm, overcast conditions. 36 species of birds were recorded, with 5 additional species seen during the count week. 4843 individual birds were recorded, whereas in the past we've usually had between 500 and 1500 individuals recorded.

The high numbers of birds recorded this year are probably due to a combination of an increase in human effort - we had a very good turnout of participants, and the addition of a boat route covering an area we've been unable to reach in the past - and the extraordinary number of waxwings.

**Bohemian Waxwings** are regular winter visitors to Skagway, but the unusually high numbers seen this year (2447) were associated with an unusually heavy set of mountain ash berries, which seem to be the waxwing's favorite food. The waxwing count estimate was based on observations as well as two photographers who counted the birds in their images, making us confident that the number reported is realistic. The waxwing flocks brought in the raptors. Highlights on count day included a **Northern Goshawk**, and a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** seen strafing a waxwing flock. One group witnessed a **Bald Eagle** stealing a large dungeness crab that a river otter had just brought out of the water onto the rocks to eat.

During count week, we had a **Northern Pygmy Owl** and a **Varied Thrush**. **American Robin**, **Brown Creeper**, **Red-breasted Nuthatch** and **Yellow-shafted Flicker** were seen a day or two too late to include as count-week birds.

#### **WRANGELL BIRD REPORT** by Bonnie Demerjian

During these frigid and gusty days our romantic notion of being a bird, free on the wing, turns to a shudder of empathy. We can only speculate how arduous it is for birds to keep body and soul together in winter. Nevertheless, despite their probable hardships, a flock of about 200 **Bohemian Waxwings** has kept Wrangell birders fascinated as the birds gorged on this summer's abundant Mountain ash berries. A brilliant albino waxwing stood out among the flock.

Our Stikine Delta reporter says they are seeing **Bohemian Waxwings** there as well as several **Black-billed Magpies** and a **Northern Shrike**. They report that a **Great Horned Owl** has been calling lately and may decide to nest again in their yard. A few Pine Grosbeaks are around town, the **Pine Siskins** are back and a couple of **American Robins** never left. Individual immature **White-crowned Sparrows** have turned up at feeders this month.

On the water, **Common mergansers**, **Red-breasted Mergansers**, **Pacific and Common Loons**, a few **Long-tailed Ducks**, **American Wigeon** as well as the usual **Harlequin Ducks**, **Barrow's Goldeneyes**, **Bufflehead**, **Pelagic Cormorants** and several **Double-crested Cormorants** were reported.

Bald eagles are beginning to turn up in the trees in larger numbers so we know that the hooligan run can't be too far away. In the mean time the birds are hungry and noisy. Occasionally they even turn up on our deck railings to check out the stale bread.

Twenty birders participated in this year's Christmas bird count on December 15. The top species in term of numbers was a flock of over 1000 **Western Grebes**, followed by **Northwestern Crows**. **Buffleheads** were the top duck species in number, nearly 400, followed by almost as many **Common Mergansers**. Over 500 **Glaucous-winged Gulls** made the list with **Mew** and **Herring Gulls** in much smaller numbers.

#### **KETCHIKAN'S JANUARY BIRD REPORT- By Teri Goucher**

I have additional information about our Christmas Bird Count results! The total number of species seen here on December 15th was actually our all time record of 71 species with 73 total for count week. Interesting birds added include **American Coot** and **Pied-billed Grebe**. The overall number of about 4600 birds was much lower than the usual total of approximately 6000 individuals for our area.

A **Peregrine Falcon** has been spotted in town and there are only a very few winter records for this species here. A lingering **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was seen north of town on the twentieth of January.

Along the road system many birds are continuing to enjoy the large amounts of feed in the water with higher than average numbers of **Long-tailed Ducks** and **Red-throated Loons**. Ten **Brandt's Cormorants** were seen in one day and a huge flock of about 800 **Pacific Loons** were visible from the docks in town!

Ketchikan's end of southeast Alaska has had quite a winter so far with lots of snow storms and several days of temperatures in the teens. While birders uncover and add to their snowy and frozen seed at feeders dreaming of warmer spring days ahead; it's interesting to think of our occasional vagrant visitors. One species very unaccustomed to our climate is the Tropical **Kingbird**. This flycatcher has a yellow belly, a heavy bill and notched tail, and ranges from southern Arizona in summer, south through Mexico and Argentina. Amazingly there are three records of the Tropical Kingbird here in Ketchikan, all in autumn. The latest sighting was the first week of November in 1998 which I was lucky to experience with my eight year old daughter. This Kingbird usually only appears as an uncommon local summer resident in Arizona but some individuals do a sort of reverse migration after the breeding season and fly northwestward occasionally much to the enjoyment of birders along the pacific coast! So keep on birding even during the heart of our Alaskan winter because you never know what fascinating birds may briefly appear!

#### **GUSTAVUS SIGHTINGS -- November 30, 2007 - January 30, 2008**

Small numbers of **Trumpeter Swans** were seen through the period with a high count of over fifty on 1/11 on the Bartlett River. A single **Greater White-fronted Goose** was seen with Canada Geese through the period, the first record for this species wintering here. A **Canvasback** was at Bartlett Cove on 1/11. **Northern Harriers** were seen on several dates in December with four on 12/15. Both a **Rough-legged Hawk** and a **Red-tailed Hawk** remained in the area through the first half of December. On 1/13, an **American Kestrel** was west of town at the same location where one was observed in November. **Merlins** were sighted on 1/1 and 1/23. No **Peregrine Falcons** have been reported this winter. On 1/14, one **Dunlin** in a flock of about 2000 had colored leg bands matching those on a Dunlin seen in Gustavus this fall that had been banded on the Yukon/Kuskokwim Delta. A **Snowy Owl** was reported on 12/4, but within an

hour of the report, the owl was dead and being fed on by eagles. The remains of a second Snowy Owl, also eaten by eagles, were found on 1/13. **Great Horned Owls** continued to be heard in several locations through the period, continuing a strong presence for this species since late summer. Single **Short-eared Owls** were reported on 12/1 and on six dates in January. **Barred Owls** were reported on three dates in December and on 1/4. **Northern Pygmy-Owls** were heard and seen regularly from late December through January. The only **Northern Saw-whet Owl** heard was on 12/11. **Northern Hawk Owls** were seen at opposite ends of town on 1/18 and 1/21. A **Northern Flicker** showing traits from both red-shafted and yellow-shafted varieties made the rounds of residential feeders through the period. This appears to be the same flicker that wintered here last year. The only reports of **Steller's Jays** during the period were single birds on 12/15 and 1/24. A few **American Robins** were seen through the period. Single **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were seen through 12/15, and a late **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was in town on 12/3. One **European Starling** was seen through mid-December. Three **Horned Larks** were along the beach on 12/10 and a single Horned Lark was seen through January. Three **Savannah Sparrows** remained in the area through 1/1, and two **White-crowned Sparrows** have stayed through January. The area's first **Swamp Sparrow** was along the shore of Bartlett Cove from mid-November through 12/15. **American Pipits** were here into early January with seven on 1/1. The first Gustavus **Brambling** frequented a feeder in town from 12/27 through the end of January, although it disappeared for two weeks in mid-January. After the first winter sighting in Gustavus of **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches** last year, they were seen on multiple dates this year from late December through 1/20, with seven on 1/14. The 12/15 Gustavus Christmas Bird Count was covered in the last issue of the Raven.

Thanks to Bruce Paige, Phoebe Vanselow, Julie Vathke, Sylvia Pedersen, and Lois Nixon for sharing observations. Thanks to all who reported owls, to the CBC participants, and to Bruce Paige for records information. By Nat Drumheller. natdrumheller@hotmail.com

**BOOK REVIEW** by Jim King: One of the neat books of 2007 is Mark J. Kirchoff biography of Jack Dalton, Alaska Pathfinder. Dalton was not a showman or a writer so his exploits are not documented like those of explorers, posing a challenge to author Kirchoff. Dalton learned to manage horses and cows in the old west of the 1880s so when he came to Alaska in 1885 the concept of driving a herd of cows from Haines to the miners on the Yukon River (who later discovered the Klondike), appeared more of an opportunity than a challenge. He did it and improved his trail as a "toll road".

Wandering around wild Alaska without maps or other things we now take for granted seems to have posed no problem for Jack Dalton. As people who came later got interested in roads and railroads up the Copper River and from Seward and Valdez to Fairbanks they first looked to Jack Dalton.

The description of the Porcupine Mine (still active) above Haines is worth the price of the book. This is an important addition to the literature of Alaska. It is an exciting review for modern trekkers interested in the Alaska wild lands.

## **DUCK STAMP PURCHASE IMPORTANT FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT**

The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, or “Duck Stamp,” has been a very important tool for wildlife habitat conservation since the 1930s. Since 1934, revenue from stamp sales has totaled over \$700 million and has secured almost 6 million acres of high priority habitat.

Ninety-eight cents out of every dollar generated by “Duck Stamps”, that are sold for \$15.00 in our US Post offices, goes directly to purchase or lease wetland and grassland habitat, including in-holdings, new land and new refuges in our National Wildlife Refuge System. Federal law requires duck hunters purchase a "Duck Stamp", however, the number of hunters is declining and it is becoming even more important for birdwatchers, refuge visitors and supporters and others to purchase duck stamps to insure that this very important conservation program continues to secure wildlife habitat for refuges.

## **US ARMY CORPS PERMIT APPLICATION – SOUTHEAST ALASKA**

**To see full permit applications --** <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg/PNNew.htm>

**Klawock** – William Riley – Moorage of a 24' x 60' float for boat access to the site – 3 miles west of Klawock. For more information contact Allan G. Skinner 1-800-478-2712 or email [allan.g.skinner@usace.army.mil](mailto:allan.g.skinner@usace.army.mil)

**Ketchikan** – E. C. Phillips – 1775 Tongass Ave., waterfront side – Expand the seafood processing plant by constructing a large pile supported dock of approximately 35,527 sq.ft. over navigable waters and include attendant floats and ramps for water access at two facilities. For more information Harry A. Baij, Jr. 1-800-478-2712 or email [harry.a.baij@usace.army.mil](mailto:harry.a.baij@usace.army.mil)

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**Raven Editor:** Mary Lou King, 789-7540, [raven@juneau-audubon-society.org](mailto:raven@juneau-audubon-society.org)

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**Web Master:** George Utermohle, [webmaster@juneau-audubon-society.org](mailto: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**

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### 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*.

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\_\_\_\_\_.

