

Washington State Wenas Creek Audubon Campout

Hazel Wolf Wenas Bird Sanctuary

55th Anniversary (1963-2018)

Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-28, 2018

Website: www.wenasaudubon.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wenasaudubon/>

Hazel Wolf, 1898-2000. In 1966 Boise Cascade designated the Wenas campground area as a bird sanctuary. In Hazel's centennial year of 1998, the company joined Wenas campers in honoring Hazel Wolf—Wenas founder, extraordinary Audubon mentor and environmental activist—by naming the campground area the **Hazel Wolf Wenas Bird Sanctuary**. Her spirit continues with us.

Welcome to the Annual Wenas Audubon Campout

The purpose of the Wenas Campout is to provide Auduboners and their friends with a variety of natural history and recreation opportunities in a beautiful area that supports a fascinating assortment of spring flora and fauna and offers the spiritual fulfillment of simply being outdoors in the spring. **We do not charge fees for the Wenas outing.** Camp expenses are covered by voluntary contributions.

In 1963, Bea Buzzetti, Ruth Anderson and Hazel Wolf wandered serendipitously into the Wenas Creek area on a Memorial Day camping trip. They were so impressed with the variety of wildlife that they convinced Boise Cascade to make the campground available to Audubon campers on Memorial Day. This was the beginning of an annual, statewide (now regional) Audubon tradition that is the largest such event in the country.

The Wenas Organizing Committee is pleased you're here. As soon as you set up camp, locate the **Larrison Tree**, a large pine near the creek (or alternate location; look for signs). It is named in honor of the late Earl J. Larrison, a gifted and dedicated teacher, author, natural historian and conservationist who gave generously of his time each year to make the Wenas Campout a memorable experience. The Larrison Tree is the headquarters and focal point for many Wenas activities. There you will find a sign-in sheet, bulletin board, programs, maps, bird lists and a wildflower display.

Near the Larrison Tree is where we meet up for field trips. If you read about a trip that interests you, we encourage you to go along. Everyone is welcome. If you prefer to explore on your own or just stay in camp, feel free to do so. Evening campfire programs are held at the Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle, located on the hill above the lower meadow along Wenas Creek. The **Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle** was named for Hazel Wolf on the 30th anniversary (1993) of the Wenas Creek Campout in the year of Hazel's 95th birthday. The naming of the circle in her honor was in recognition of her many years of organizing the campout, her dedicated service in helping the event run smoothly and her bright and witty presence at campfire programs. Hazel realized her goal of living in three different centuries. She passed away January 19, 2000 at the age of 102.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. **BRING YOUR OWN WATER. Do not use creek water for drinking. It is unsafe.**
2. **YOU MUST HAVE A STATE DISCOVER PASS TO PARK AT WENAS AND THE FIELD TRIP AREAS. To learn where to buy a pass, go to <http://discoverpass.wa.gov/133/Where-to-Buy>.**
3. **Do not pick wildflowers and plants.** There is a flower identification display for all to enjoy.
4. **Campfires—Will be allowed 2018, according to the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR).**
5. **NO motor vehicles within 100 feet of creeks/wetlands (state DNR rules).**
6. **Keep your site clean** and pack out your litter when you leave. There is no trash pickup at camp.
7. **Protect wildlife.** Respect nesting sites, especially birdhouses and nesting cavities.
8. **Do not let dogs roam free.** Keep them on a leash. It is not a good idea to take them on field trips.
9. **Respect your neighbors.** Do not play loud music at any time. No noisy activities or generators after 10:00 PM.
10. **Please carpool to hikes.** Many areas have limited parking, so carpool, save gas and cut down on dust.
11. **Come prepared for very cold nights, warm/hot days and maybe rain.**
12. **Please sign the register at the Larrison Tree. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY!**

While we try to plan activities pleasing to everyone, you are free to schedule your own activities any time.

Time	Leader	Topic	Description
FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2018			
Any time	Select a site, set up camp and sign in at the Larrison Tree. (PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY ON THE LIST.)		
7:30 PM	Wenas Org. Committee	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle, located on the open meadow on this hill above Wenas Creek. See last page for details.
SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018			
5:30 AM	Meet/Organize	Early Bird Walk	A casual stroll around Wenas camp for early birding, returning in time for later morning trips. Level: Easy.
All Day		Wenas Little Free Library	Look for the Wenas Little Free Library and help yourself to a variety of books and magazines about birds and nature. Feel free to bring books to donate to the library as well.
8:00 AM-Noon	Jim Leier and Carolyn Comeau, Yakima Audubon	Tour de Ranch	France has the Tour de France and Wenas, the Tour de Ranch. Join us for a hike to enjoy a multitude of birds, wildflowers and other native plants along Wenas Creek, through a Ponderosa pine forest, across the sagebrush steppe and then end at the historic Wenas ranch house for refreshments. Level: Easy/Moderate. Limit: 20 people. Sign up at Larrison Tree.
8:00 AM	Neil Zimmerman, Seattle Audubon	Downstream Trip	A casual stroll along Wenas Creek and back, with riparian habitat and its birds. Walk usually lasts about 2 hours. Level: Easy.
8:30 AM	Meet/Organize	Black Canyon	The classic Wenas trip. This can be an all-day hike that goes to the alpine area at the top, or a half-hike that goes as far as the old homestead cabin, where a riparian area offers good birds, a shady stop for lunch and sometimes owls. Level: Moderate to Strenuous, depending on length. Walking is on abandoned logging roads.
10:00 AM	Liz Brown, Pilchuck Audubon	Birding by Ear	Birds flit and can be hard to see. Learn how to recognize birds by their songs and calls, and how to use available tools away from the field to know what to listen for in the field. NOTE: We will not be flushing birds by playing recordings. This will be a walk upstream along Wenas Creek. Level: Easy.
NOON	Lunch with other birders - Informal	Larrison Tree	Join other campers at Larrison tree to picnic, socialize and bird watch. Bring a lunch or snack, binoculars, scopes and something to sit on. Meet new birders or old friends.
1-3:00 PM	Carleen Zimmerman and Ciny Burrell, Seattle Audubon	Field Sketching	Meet at the Larrison Tree with your art supplies and seat for nature field sketching. The locations will be in camp and/or at the Wenas Creek Ranch, weather permitting and transportation allowing. Minimal walking required.

Time	Leader	Topic	Description
1:00 PM	Meet/Organize	Wenas Lake	Short drive/easy walk along inlet marsh to spot ducks and other water species, as well as Orioles, Kingbirds, Tanagers and anything that might be nesting at the store at the lake. Ice cream is optional. Carpool from the Larrison Tree. Level: Easy.
1:30 PM	Richard Repp	Blue Bird Monitoring	Great family activity. Help check the bluebird houses erected by Yakima Valley Audubon. Meet coordinator Richard Repp at the Larrison Tree for a short orientation and to be assigned one of eight sections to monitor at your convenience. Any unclaimed sections will be placed in a box at the Larrison Tree for others to claim. Level: Easy; does involve driving.
4-5:00 PM	Jim Leier and Carolyn Comeau, Yakima Audubon	Kids' Ice Cream Social	End your day of exploring with a dish or cone of ice cream. While the ice cream will primarily be of the dairy-based variety, we'll also have a few pints of "alternative milk" ice cream. Limited to children and young adults. Convene at the Larrison Tree or nearby.
7:30 PM	Carol Kohler, Vancouver Audubon	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle. See last page for special speakers and agenda.
After campfire	Meet/Organize?	Owl Prowl	Possible species are Flammulated Owl, Great Horned, Northern Pygmy Owl, Common Poorwills. The trip involves walking in the dark over uneven ground and quiet listening. Dress warmly, wear supportive shoes or hiking boots. Bring flashlight for emergency only. Due to the extreme popularity of this activity participation will be limited. To be decided by lottery.

Time	Leader	Topic	Description
SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018			
5:30 AM	Meet/Organize	Early Bird Walk	A casual stroll around Wenas camp for early birding, returning in time for later morning trips. Level: Easy.
All Day		Wenas Little Free Library	Look for the Wenas Little Free Library and help yourself to a variety of books and magazines about birds and nature. Feel free to bring books to donate to the library as well.
Any time		Blue Bird Monitoring	Great family activity. Help check the bluebird houses and collect data. See Saturday entry.
7:30 AM	Michael Hobbs, Eastside Audubon	Wenas Falls	"Indiana Jones and the Search for the Falls." Following rumors, myths and notes scribed on old maps, we will bushwhack to elusive Wenas Falls. This off-trail adventure into Terra Incognito will be a long trek over uncertain terrain. Leader promises to return with almost the same number of people. Be prepared with food, water, sunscreen, good boots and dauntless courage.
8:00 AM	Liz Brown, Pilchuck Audubon	Birding by Ear at Hardy Canyon	After driving to Hardy Canyon, we'll walk up to the big Ponderosa at the start of the upper canyon, listening for Western Meadowlarks and Vesper Sparrows, then bird around the meadows. Carpool from the Larrison Tree. Level: Easy verging on Moderate.
8:00 AM	Meet/Organize	Black Canyon or Half Black Canyon	The classic Wenas trip. This can be an all-day hike that goes to the alpine area at the top, or a half-hike that goes as far as the old homestead cabin, where a riparian area offers good birds, a shady stop for lunch and sometimes owls. Level: Moderate to Strenuous, depending on length. Walking is on abandoned logging roads.
NOON	Lunch with other birders - Informal	Larrison Tree	Join other campers at Larrison tree to picnic, socialize and bird watch. Bring a lunch or snack, binoculars, scopes and something to sit on. Meet new birders or old friends.
1:00 PM	Neil Zimmerman, Seattle Audubon	Wenas Lake	Short drive/easy walk along inlet marsh to spot ducks and other water species, as well as Orioles, Kingbirds, Tanagers and anything that might be nesting at the store at the lake. There will be a stop for ice cream afterward at the store, where birds often nest and the hummingbird feeders are busy. Carpool from the Larrison Tree. Level: Easy.
1-3:00 PM	Carleen Zimmerman and Cinny Burrell, Seattle Audubon	Field Sketching	Meet at the Larrison Tree with your art supplies and seat for nature field sketching. The locations will be in camp and/or at the Wenas Creek Ranch, weather permitting and transportation allowing. Minimal walking required.

Time	Leader	Topic	Description
7:30 PM	Carol Kohler, Vancouver Audubon	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle, located on the open meadow on this hill above Wenas Creek. See last page for details.
After campfire	Liz and Ed Brown, Pilchuck Audubon	Poorwill Prowl	A new, experimental event. After campfire circle, we will walk up on Hog Ranch Ridge to see if we can spot any Common Poorwills. Poorwills hunt by sitting on the ground and flying up to catch insects. Usually they're heard and seldom seen. Bring flashlights and prepare for walking in the dark on uneven ground.
MONDAY, MAY 28, 2018			
Any time	Meet/Organize	Early Bird Walk	A casual stroll around Wenas camp for early birding, returning in time for later morning trips. Level: Easy.
8:00 AM	Meet/Organize	Downstream Trip	As most people leave today, this is a final chance to walk along Wenas Creek and say farewell to the birds of Wenas.
8:00 AM	Liz and Ed Brown, Pilchuck Audubon	Black Canyon	For those not returning to civilization, we will spend this quieter day to walk the entire length of Black Canyon, enjoying the classic Wenas trip. This all-day hike (back for dinner) traverses a wide variety of bird and plant habitats, from riparian canyon to alpine terrain, with sweeping views of the surrounding valleys at the top. Level: Moderate/Strenuous.
7:30 PM	Wenas Org. Committee	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle, located on the open meadow on this hill above Wenas Creek. See last page for details.
TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018			
9:00 AM	Liz and Ed Brown, Pilchuck Audubon	Wenas Clean-Up	Avoid the Memorial Day traffic and say farewell to a clean Wenas. Bring bags, gloves and pick-up sticks if you have them as we walk the camp and pick up trash after our campout weekend.

Wenas Audubon Campout 2018

Friday, May 25, 2018

ANNOUNCEMENT - We rent chemical toilets and must pay rental fees with donations from those who use these facilities. A "potty kitty" will be passed at campfire. Thanks for your generosity again this year.

7:30 PM - EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle

Master of Ceremonies: Carol Kohler, Vancouver Audubon.

- **Introductions and Announcements.**
- **Audubon Chapter Roll Call**—Shout out for your Audubon chapter when its name is called. Represent!
- **Field Trips and Reports.**
- **Species Tally and Sightings Report**—Michael Hobbs, Eastside Audubon.
- **Good of the Order**—Final species count tally, comments, suggestions, questions, memorials and any other contributions.

Saturday, May 26, 2018

7:30 PM - EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle

Master of Ceremonies: Carol Kohler, Vancouver Audubon.

- **Introductions and Announcements.**
- **Audubon Chapter Roll Call**—Shout out for your Audubon chapter when its name is called. Represent!
- **Field Trips and Reports.** A report from the day's trips and a preview of tomorrow's.
- **Species Tally and Sightings Report**—Michael Hobbs, Eastside Audubon.
- **Guest Speaker—John Klicka, curator of the Burke Museum Ornithology Collection and University of Washington professor.** As curator, John oversees a massive collection of more than 157,000 specimens. He will talk about the museum's collection as well as his recent research, which has shaped our understanding of birds of the pine-oak forests of the Northwest, revealing their hidden biodiversity. He will bring samples from the collection for us to examine.
- **Good of the Order**—Final species count tally, comments, suggestions, questions, memorials and any other contributions.

Wenas Audubon Campout 2018

Sunday, May 27, 2018

7:30 PM - EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle

Master of Ceremonies: Carol Kohler, Vancouver Audubon.

- **Introductions and Announcements.**
- **Audubon Chapter Roll Call**—Shout out for your Audubon chapter when its name is called. Represent!
- **Field Trips and Reports.** A report from the day's trips and a preview of tomorrow's.
- **Species Tally and Sightings Report**—Michael Hobbs, Eastside Audubon.
- **Guest Speaker—Wilson Cady, Vancouver Audubon.** A long-time member of the Wenas Organizing Committee, Wilson will share his vast knowledge of the Wenas area and the history of Wenas birding. A pioneer of the famed Wenas Death March, Wilson contributed some of the rarities recorded over the years on the Wenas bird list. You won't want to miss this talk, which promises to be a treasure trove of information and Wilson's signature sense of humor.
- **Good of the Order**—Final species count tally, comments, suggestions, questions, memorials and any other contributions.

Monday, May 28, 2018

7:30 PM - EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle

Master of Ceremonies: Carol Kohler, Vancouver Audubon.

- **Introductions and Announcements.**
- **Wenas Organizing Committee Reports.** The Wenas Camp Out relies entirely on volunteers, both in terms of effort and donations. Come learn more about what it takes to put on the event and help us shape its future and maintain it for birders and native-plant enthusiasts for years to come.