

Washington State Wenas Creek Audubon Campout Hazel Wolf Wenas Bird Sanctuary/Boise Cascade Campground

48th Anniversary (1963-2011)

Memorial Day Weekend, May 27-30, 2011

Website: www.wenasaudubon.org

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

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 itself.** Committee expenses are covered by voluntary contributions.

In 1963, Bea Buzzetti, Ruth Anderson and Hazel Wolf wandered serendipitously into this 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 Committee is pleased that you have come. As soon as you set up camp, locate the **Larrison Tree**, a large pine near the creek. 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 and energy 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.

The Larrison Tree is also the meeting place 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 in the meadow across the road from the Larrison Tree. 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 on New Year's Day. She passed away January 19, 2000.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. **BRING YOUR OWN WATER. Do not use creek water for drinking. It is unsafe.**
2. **Do not pick wildflowers and plants.** There is a flower display, at the Larrison Tree for all to enjoy.
3. **Please note – no campfires or charcoal barbecues.**
4. **NO motor vehicles within 50 feet of creek.**
5. **Keep your site clean** and take your trash out with you.
6. **Protect wildlife.** Respect nesting sites...especially birdhouses and nesting cavities.
7. **Do not let dogs roam free.** Keep them on a leash. It is not a good idea to take them on field trips.
8. **Respect your neighbors.** Do not play loud music at any time. No noisy activities, or generators after 10:00 PM.
9. **Please carpool.** Many areas have limited parking, so carpool, save gas and cut down on dust.
10. **Please sign the register at the Larrison Tree. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY!**

While we try to plan activities for everyone, you are free to schedule your own activities this weekend.

Wenas Trip Information 2011

Day	Time	Leader	Topic	Description
<i>FRIDAY - May 27, 2011</i>	7:30 PM	Wenas Committee	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle
SATURDAY MAY 28, 2011				
<i>SATURDAY</i>	5:30 AM	TBD	Early Bird Walk	Best birding (so early risers say). Return in time for later morning trips.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	Any Time	Richard Repp	Blue Bird Monitoring	Help check Bluebird houses. Good family activity. Instructions/census sheet at self-serve box at Tree.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:00 AM	Wilson Cady & Richard Hamby	You Can Get There from Here	Visit Bald Mountain and/or Cleman Mountain on an all day exploration of the roads that lead to the less explored higher country. Four-wheel drive or high clearance vehicles only, bring a lunch and a sense of adventure.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:00 AM	Doris & Burt Johnson	Hardy Canyon Meadows	A must! A short drive then a level walk in open meadows near cottonwood thicket. Back by lunch. Spot many colorful East side birds.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:00 AM	Warren Walker	Dry Creek / Hog Ranch Ridge Hike	Meet at the Larrison tree and walk up Dry Creek to Yellow Jacket Creek, climb out of the valley and follow land contours/logging roads to Hog Ranch Road and back home. Waterproof shoes/sturdy soles highly recommended. Dry Creek has two wet stream crossings, muddy/soggy areas, follows an overgrown logging road (still used by horseman and illegal ORV's), downed trees and exposed basalt rock grading (sharp). Good open valley with riparian area narrowing to the width a little more than the road and creek. Return route is exposed south facing lithosol, shrub steppe and open pine forest. Climb out is steep but short. Plan to return mid-late afternoon - bring water and lunch. Total hike is about 7 miles.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:00 AM	TBD	Black Canyon	Across the highway from Hardy Canyon is Black canyon. Observe a phethora of east side birds, Chats, Lazuli Buntings, Orioles.

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<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:00AM	Bruce Jones	Hog Ranch Ridge	Walk from campground with steep ascent up rocky jeep track to top of ridge. Back by lunch.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:30 AM	Don Knoke	Manastash Flower Trip	Manastash Ridge flower trip. Meet at the Larimer Tree at 8:30 AM. We will drive up the Observatory Road, stopping a couple times to look at flowers, then proceed to the observatory for a hike and lunch, returning by 3:00 PM. Don Knoke, leader
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:30 AM	TBD	Wenas Creek/Upstream Bird Trip	Tour upper campground, following creek upstream through riparian woods.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	11:30 AM	Lann Kittleson	Beaver Pond	Join Audubon Master Birder Lann Kittleson upstream at the old Beaver pond for the 2nd annual picnic to meet, socialize and even bird watch a little. The old Beaver pond is a great area for bird watching. It is a more open area and scopes would work there. Bring a lunch or snack, binoculars, something to sit on if you want and a scope if you have one. Very lazy lunch with friends. Noon until we get bored.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	3:00 PM	Don Knoke	Campground Plant/Flower Walk	Wenas Camp Ground. Meet at the Larimer Tree at 3:00 PM for a flower walk around the camp ground and near-by areas.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	7:30 PM	Helen Engles/Doris Johnson	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle. Announcements, trip information / feedback, special speakers.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	After campfire	Michelle Noe	Bat Walk	At night, birds give way to other creatures who fill the sky. With proper equipment, one can hear the bats before they can be seen. Explore the night time flyers.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	After campfire	Neil Zimmerman	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.

Wenas Trip Information 2011

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2011				
<i>SUNDAY</i>	5:30 AM	Doris Johnson	Early Bird Walk	Best birding (so early risers say). Return in time for later morning trips.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	8:00 AM	Joanne & Dave Schuett-Hames	Historic Area Ranch	Join us for a morning bird watching trip and exploration of this historic ranch on the Wenas Creek. This ranch hosts gorgeous Wenas River habitats, riparian areas, ponderosa pine forests, meadows, and hillsides bursting with flowers, ground squirrels and badgers, and of course exquisite assemblages of birds. Meet at the Larrison Tree Sunday morning, 8:00, to join carpools to drive to this nearby ranch. Wear sturdy shoes and expect combinations of gentle to very rough terrain. The trip will conclude by noon.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	8:00 AM	Warren Walker	Dry Creek / Hog Ranch Ridge Hike	Repeat of Saturday's trip. See description from Saturday 8 am.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	8:00 AM	TBD	Downstream Trip	Walk downstream to bridge then loop back. Look for nesting birds.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	9:00 AM	Don Knoke	Historic Area Ranch	Green Ranch flower hike. Meet at the Larimer Tree at 8:30 AM. We will explore the area north of the Green Ranch. If we have time, we will look for flowers along the Wenas Creek on the ranch afterward.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	1:00 PM	Neil Zimmerman	Wenas Lake	Short drive/easy walk along inlet marsh to spot ducks, etc. Maybe Yellowheaded Blackbirds?
<i>SUNDAY</i>	2:00 PM	Carleen Zimmerman	Field sketching/nature journaling	Learn about field sketching, nature journaling. Meet at Carleen at the Larrison Tree.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	7:30 PM	Helen Engles/Doris Johnson	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle. Announcements, trip information / feedback, speakers.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	After campfire	Michelle Noe	Bat Walk	See Saturday's schedule for description.
MONDAY, MAY 30, 2011				

Wenas Trip Information 2011

<i>MONDAY</i>	5:30 AM	TBD	Early Bird Walk	Same as Saturday.
<i>MONDAY</i>	8:00 AM	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>MONDAY</i>	7:00 PM	Evening Program		Informal. Good time to unwind, laugh & share. Final treasure of the weekend.