

History

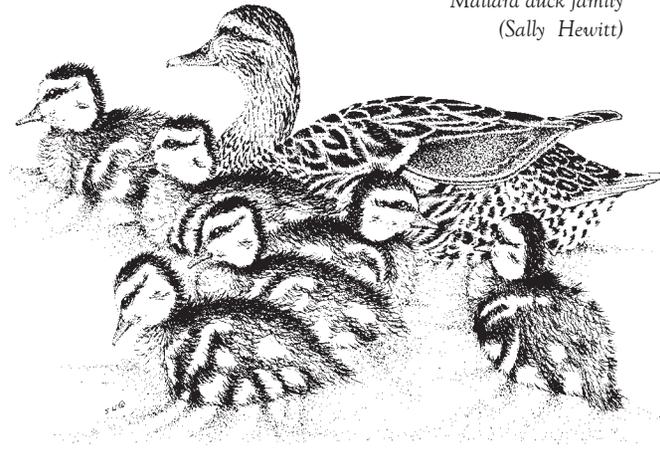
In honor of her father, O.C. Scudder, Vita Armitage deeded the Scudder Pond property to North Cascades Audubon Society (NCAS) in 1987. She requested these 2.8 acres be “protected as a wildlife preserve.”

The pond is believed to have formed sometime before 1975, probably due to a plugged culvert located under the abandoned railroad causeway. This caused the pond to be separated from the Lake Whatcom lagoon.

Here, in the heart of Bellingham, this marsh called Scudder Pond is home to a diversity of migratory and breeding birds, mammals and other wildlife. This wetland earned a nomination as a National Audubon Important Bird Area and is a stop on the Washington Birding Trail.

Please show your respect and appreciation for Scudder Pond Nature Preserve and its wildlife by:

- ✓ Keeping your dog on a leash and out of the pond
- ✓ Observing wildlife quietly
- ✓ Not fishing



Mallard duck family
(Sally Hewitt)

Stewardship Program

An important element of the management of Scudder Pond is its stewardship program. North Cascades Audubon has initiated a volunteer effort in which stewards visit the pond to record wildlife activity, human use & impact, and general changes. Data collected enables NCAS to determine appropriate management of the area.

We invite you to become a Scudder Pond Steward! Activities include bird box building and monitoring, bald eagle surveys, amphibian surveys, and plant inventories. We'll provide you with all the training and background information needed.

Contact Joe Meche at 738-0641 or Paul Woodcock at 380.3356.

Functions and Values

Scudder Pond and its surrounding area are designated a **Category II wetland** by the City of Bellingham. (Rating are from I to IV with I having the highest valued year-round attributes.)

Water entering Scudder Pond is a combination of surface runoff from the Alabama Hill neighborhood and the city storm drainage system. The pond is vitally important for aquifer recharge and flood-water retention in the lake basin.

Non-point water sources transport fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, oils and other pollutants into the pond. The filtration process that takes place in the marsh is vital to improving the water quality in Whatcom Creek.

Cattails (*Typha latifolia*) and other aquatic plants including lady's thumb (*Polygonum amphibian*) and sedge (*Carex*) improve water quality by lowering pH, removing metals and large amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. These plants also provide a natural sediment filtration system.



beaver

Wildlife Habitat

This wetland is valuable habitat for many bird species, providing food, shelter and nesting cover. Nesting among the cattails you might find:

Marsh wrens
Mallard ducks
Virginia rails
Red-winged blackbirds
Canada geese
Wood ducks
Buffleheads
Great blue herons

Other animals also find this marsh a suitable home. Beaver and muskrat eat cattail roots. Insects and amphibians lay their eggs among the aquatic plants.

All of these plants and animal species are dependent upon the wetland ecosystem.



Red-winged blackbird

Join Audubon!

North Cascades Audubon Society is dedicated to the protection of our local natural environment. It is one of more than 500 chapters in the U.S. that make up the National Audubon Society.

Members benefit from national, regional and state representation on a variety of conservation issues. Additionally, the chapter fosters stewardship of local areas, including Scudder Pond; hosts informative monthly meetings; and leads birding field trips. Visit our website at www.northcascadesaudubon.org.

Yes, I would like a one year membership to North Cascades Audubon Society at the following level:

\$20 American Kestrel \$35 Merlin
 \$50 Prairie Falcon \$75 Peregrine
 \$100 Gyrfalcon

Make check payable to North Cascades Audubon Society

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

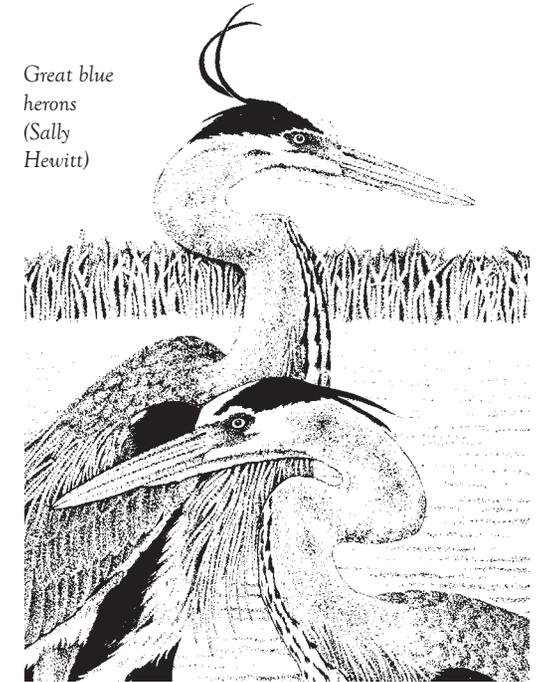
Email _____

Send all payments to:

North Cascades Audubon Society,
P.O. Box 5805, Bellingham, WA 98227-5805

Scudder Pond Nature Preserve

An urban gem maintained and enhanced by volunteers from the North Cascades Audubon Society



Great blue herons
(Sally Hewitt)

Quick Facts

- Managed by North Cascades Audubon Society since 1987
- Classified a Category II wetland
- Habitat for numerous bird and animal species
- A stop on the Great Washington Birding Trail