

1998  
Colville National Forest

# NATUREWATCH WALKS



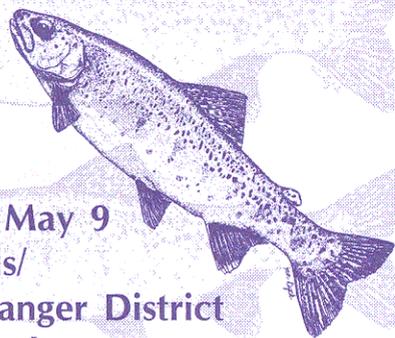
Celebrating  
Wildflowers



## Colville National Forest Fishing Festivals International Migratory Bird Day

Guided Wildflower Walks,  
Interpretive Hikes  
and Children's Fishing Festivals  
Sponsored by  
the Colville National Forest

# FISHING FESTIVALS



Saturday, May 9  
Kettle Falls/  
Colville Ranger District  
Fishing Derby  
Lake Ellen  
8 a.m. - 12 noon  
George McNicholl and  
Cindy Len, Event Coordinators  
(509) 738-7700 and  
(509) 684-7000

Saturday, May 16  
Republic Ranger District  
Fishing Festival  
Swan Lake  
8 a.m. - 12 noon  
Keith Wakefield and Jeff Bohler,  
Event Coordinators  
(509) 775-3305

Saturday, June 13  
Sullivan Lake Ranger District  
Fishing Festival  
Big Meadow Lake  
8 a.m. - 12 noon  
Kim DiRienz, Event Coordinator  
(509) 446-7500

Saturday, August 8  
Newport Ranger District  
Fishing Festival  
South Skookum Lake  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Vicki Gullang and Mike Herrin,  
Event Coordinators  
(509) 447-7300

For information  
about what's fishy,  
call Colville  
National Forest  
fisheries biologist  
Karen Honeycutt at  
(509) 684-7224.



# BIRDS

**International Migratory Bird Day**  
**Saturday, May 9, 1997**

**Saturday, May 9**

**Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge\***

**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

Start your day with the birds and Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge staff on a 2.5 mile walk at Lake McDowell. We should see Canada geese broods, osprey, eagles, hooded mergansers, painted turtles and beavers. We may hear warblers and vireos. Meet at 7 a.m. at the Refuge headquarters (from Colville, go east on Highway 20 for 6 miles, turn right onto Artman-Gibson Road, after 1.7 miles, turn left onto Kitt-Narcisse Road and follow it 2.2 miles to a "Y" in the dirt road, take the right fork onto Bear Creek and drive 3.3 miles). \*Space is limited. Topregister call (509) 684-8384.



**Sunday, May 10:**

**Big Meadow Lake Wildflower and Bird Walk**

**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

Mothers and others! Pack your binoculars and lunch to celebrate migratory birds and spring wildflowers on Mother's Day. Wildlife biologists Sandy Mosconi and Scott Price will lead a three-mile trail hike along the lake and wetland. Meet at the Colville Ranger District at 8 a.m. to carpool. Campers at Big Meadow Lake can meet about 9:30 a.m. at the viewing platform. For more information call the Colville Ranger Station at (509) 684-7000.

**Saturday, May 16:**

**Elk Creek Trail Bird Walk\***

**Trail Difficulty Rating: More Difficult**

Mike Borysewicz, wildlife biologist, will host an interpretive hike up the Elk Creek Trail to celebrate International Migratory Bird Day. Gather at the Mill Pond Historic Site for the 8 a.m. two-mile walk through open brush fields burned for elk winter range improvement in 1988. The walk includes shady forest stretches, a spectacular cascading waterfall on Elk Creek and views of Mill Pond below. Most birds in a forested setting are difficult to see, so we'll identify them by their calls and songs, such as the tin trumpet sound of red-breasted nuthatches and cat-like mewling of rufous-sided towhees. Also expect to see or hear, chickadees, sparrows, vireos, tanagers, bluebirds, woodpeckers and many more. \*The number of people on the walk is limited. To sign up, call the Sullivan Lake Ranger Station at (509) 446-7500.

**Saturday, May 16:**

**Canyon Creek Trail Bird Walk\***

**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

Join birder Connie Smith and forest ecologist Jay Berube in celebrating International Migratory Bird Day with a two-mile roundtrip walk along Sherman Creek. The spring bird migration in streamside areas includes warblers and song sparrows with chickadees and nuthatches in the lodgepole pines. Birds in a forested setting can be hard to see (bring your binoculars), so we will identify birds by their calls and location in the vegetation. \*The walk is limited to 15 people. Meet at the Log Flume Trail parking lot on Sherman Highway 20 (about 8 miles west of Kettle Falls) at 7:30 a.m. For more information or to sign up for the bike, call the Forest Supervisor's Office at (509) 684-7000.

The NatureWatch program is a cooperative effort of federal, state and private partners to foster the conservation of wildlife, fish, wildflowers, and their habitats.

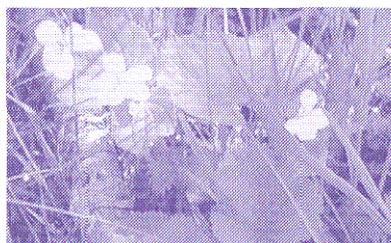
Celebrating Wildflowers promotes the importance of conservation and management of native plants and their habitats by emphasizing their aesthetic, recreational, biological, medicinal and economic values.

International Migratory Bird Day is a project of Partners in Flight/Aves de las Americas, a coalition of government and nongovernment organizations and private industry, all working together to prevent further declines of migratory birds.

Fishing festivals are a partnership between the USDA Forest Service and local and national sponsors to introduce children to the enjoyment of fishing.

**Warning:** Some of the trails are long and steep. The trails are rated easiest, more difficult and most difficult. Hiking boots or sturdy shoes, drinking water and lunches are recommended for all the walks and hikes. Binoculars and cameras are also recommended. Dress for variable weather, bring raingear and, if you must drive to the trailhead, make sure you have a full tank of gas.

This NatureWatch brochure is printed in cooperation with the Northeast Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society, Ken Swedberg (509) 235-4979.

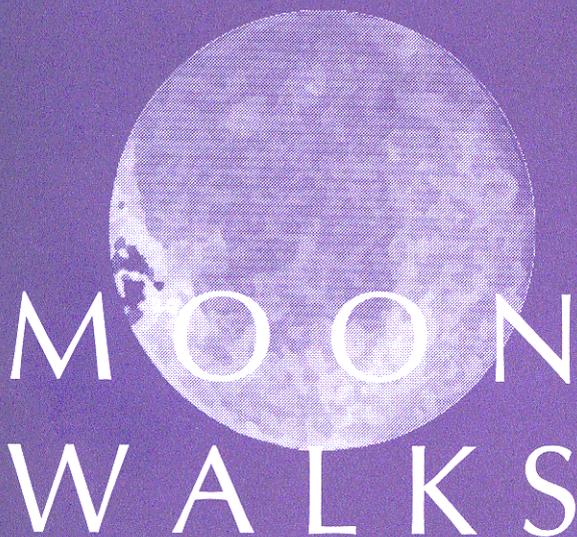


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# 1998 Colville National Forest

# NATUREWATCH

# WALKS



## MOON WALKS

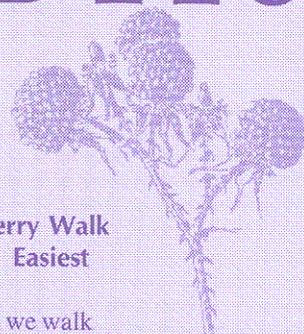
**Friday, July 10:**  
**Frater Lake by Moonlight**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

See things in a different light. This family-oriented activity will introduce you to the natural history of the area in a fun, informal setting. Prepare yourself for an evening of exploration, wonder and discovery under the moonlit sky. Bring a flashlight, dress in layers of clothing and wear comfortable shoes for one mile of trail walking. Meet at the Frater Lake parking area on State Highway 20 (30 miles east of Colville and 6 miles west of the junction with Highway 31) at 8 p.m. For more information, contact Penny Miller at the Colville Ranger Station at (509) 684-7000.

**Saturday, September 26:**  
**Creatures of the Night**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

Who, hoo-oo, hoo, hoo. Great-horned owls aren't the only creatures active in the forest at night. To learn more, join wildlife biologists Jeff Bohler and Sandy Lembcke for an evening interpretive presentation on owls and other nocturnal creatures. We'll bring equipment used to locate owls and demonstrate survey techniques at several stations along the Swan Lake trail. Bring a flashlight or head lamp and meet at the Swan Lake Campground kitchen at 8 p.m. Swan Lake is located approximately 15 miles southwest of Republic at the end of the Scatter Creek Road. For more information call the Republic Ranger Station at (509) 775-3305.

## EDIBLES



**Saturday, July 18:**  
**Sherman Creek Wildberry Walk**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

The berries will be ripe as we walk through pine trees and cottonwoods along Sherman Creek. Forester Diana Hsieh and fisheries biologist Karen Honeycutt will lead the two-mile long interpretive walk. We will look for huckleberries, raspberries, and other wild berries, as well as talk about other plants, fish, wildlife, the history of the log flume and Sherman Creek. The walk will begin and end at the Log Flume Site. It is handicapped accessible. Meet at the Kettle Falls Ranger Station at 9:30 a.m. or at the Log Flume Site on Highway 20 at 10 a.m. For more information call the Forest Supervisor's Office at (509) 684-7000.

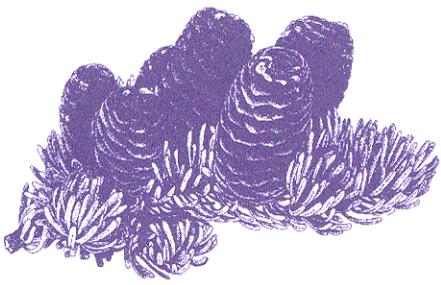
**Sunday, July 19:**  
**Cultural Plants of the**  
**Colville Indian Reservation\***  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

Join tribal ecologist Brett Dumas and a tribal elder for a look at forested plants important to the culture of the Colville Tribes. Learn about the plants and how they are gathered, prepared, and used by local Native Americans. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Steem Uss Spaos Restaurant on Main Street in Inchelium. \*Space is limited to 20, please call the Forest Supervisor's Office at (509) 684-7000 to sign up. For more information, contact Brett with the Colville Confederated Tribes at (509) 634-4711 extension 326.

**Saturday, July 25:**  
**Fruits of the Forest**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

Bring a bucket and your appetite and join wildlife biologist Sandy Lembcke for a morning of identifying, tasting and picking the fruits of the forest. Learn how to identify edible and non-edible fruits, the importance of wild fruits to both wildlife and humans, and how to use the fruits of your labor. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Swan Lake Campground kitchen about 15 miles southwest of Republic at the end of the Scatter Creek Road. For more information call the Republic Ranger Station at (509) 775-3305.

# FORESTS



**Saturday, June 20**  
**Walk Around Brown's Lake**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: More Difficult**

Join ecologist Teresa Catlin in a walk around 84-acre Brown's Lake through cool, moist cedar forests and open, drier hillsides. The walk will start with a mile of moderate-to-more difficult trail and finish with a mile of more difficult off-trail hiking the rest of the way around the lake. Meet at the Newport Ranger Station at 9 a.m. to carpool to the lake. Or, meet at the boat launch parking area at the Brown's Lake day use area at 10 a.m. Bring a lunch and drinking water. For more information call the Newport Ranger Station at (509) 447-7300.

**Saturday, June 27:**  
**Abercrombie Mountain**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: Most Difficult**

Climb 3,218 feet in 3 miles to the highest point in Stevens County, Abercrombie Mountain (7,308 feet high), with botanist Kathy Ahlenslager. The trail switchbacks under a mixed evergreen forest, then breaks out on a ridge of beargrass with panoramic views of the Pend Oreille and Columbia River valleys and the Kettle Crest. Bring water, lunch, rain gear and high clearance vehicles. For this 6.5-mile roundtrip hike, meet at the Colville Ranger Station at 8 a.m. to carpool to the end of Forest Service Road #300 or meet at 9 a.m. at the trailhead on the west side of the mountain. For information call the Forest Supervisor's Office at (509) 684-7178.

**Saturday, July 4:**  
**Columbia Loop Interpretive Hike**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: More Difficult**

Celebrate Independence Day with wildlife biologist Sandy Lembke on a guided 7.5-mile roundtrip hike to the top of Columbia Mountain. Visit an old Forest Service lookout used intensively during the 1930s and enjoy panoramic views of the Kettle Range and the White Mountain Fire, which burned over 20,000 acres in 1988. Bring a lunch and water for this hike and meet at the Kettle Crest trailhead atop Sherman Pass on State Route 20 about 16 miles east of Republic at 9:00 a.m. For more information call the Republic Ranger Station at (509) 775-3305.

**Saturday, August 1:**  
**Frater Lake**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: More Difficult**

Join district ranger Meredith Webster and silviculturist Michelle Satterfield in looking at the multiple uses of the Frater Lake area in the Little Pend Oreille chain of lakes. Wildlife, cattle grazing, year-round recreation, forests, streams and lakes all coexist here. For the 4 mile loop walk, meet at the Colville Ranger Station at 8 a.m. to carpool or at 9 a.m. at the Frater Lake parking area on State Highway 20 (30 miles east of Colville and 6 miles west of the junction with Highway 31). For more information call the Colville Ranger Station at (509) 684-7000.

# FLOWERS

**Saturday, May 9:**  
**Elk Creek Trail Wildflower Walk**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: More Difficult**

Join wildlife biologist Tim Bertram for views of Mill Pond, an elk spring grazing area, a gushing waterfall and a wildflower meadow on this delightful two-mile-long loop trail. Meet at the Elk Creek Trailhead within the Mill Pond Historic Site about 5 miles east of Metaline Falls on County Road 9345 at 10 a.m. Bring a lunch and enjoy spectacular views from the meadow at the halfway point. For more information call the Sullivan Lake Ranger Station, (509) 446-7500.

**Saturday, June 6:**  
**Swan Lake Wildflower Walk**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: Easiest**

To celebrate National Trails Day, join archeologist Madaline Perry and special guest Barbara Reid, for a two-mile interpretive walk around Swan Lake. Barbara was raised on the lake in the old guard station house. Meet at the Swan Lake Campground kitchen at 9 a.m. about 15 miles southwest of Republic at the end of the Scatter Creek Road. For more information call the Republic Ranger Station at (509) 775-3305.

**Sunday, June 7:**  
**Hoodoo Canyon Wildflower Walk**  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: More Difficult**

Botanist Kirk Larson will lead a hike to celebrate wildflowers in this beautiful canyon. A wide variety of wildflowers and spectacular views of Trout Lake and Emerald Lake will be seen along the trail. Hike to an overlook near the halfway point of the trail just past Emerald Lake and then return back to Trout Lake. Roundtrip is about 5 miles. Meet at the Kettle Falls Ranger District Office in Kettle Falls at 9 a.m. to setup carpools. Call the Kettle Falls Ranger Station at (509) 738-6111 for more information.

**Saturday, July 11:**  
**Hall Mountain Wildflower Walk \***  
**Trail Difficulty Rating: More Difficult**

Biologist Tim Bertram will celebrate wildflowers with a hike to the top of Hall Mountain to look at forested and non-forested plant communities. Bighorn sheep may also be observed. We will meet at the Sullivan Lake Ranger Station (about 7 miles east of Metaline Falls, Washington) at 9 a.m. and carpool to the trailhead. Plan on hiking about 4 miles roundtrip. Lunch will be at the top at the site of an old fire lookout. \*Space is limited to 20, call the Sullivan Lake Ranger Station at (509) 446-7500 for reservations.



**For information about what's blooming, call Colville National Forest botanist Kathy Ahlenslager at (509) 684-7178.**