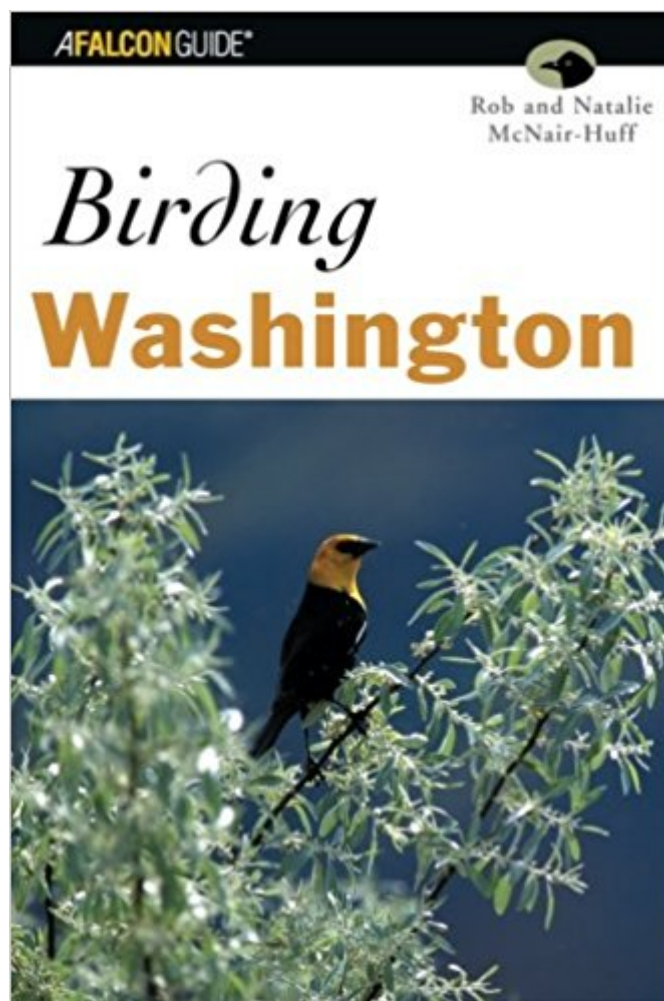


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# Birding Washington (Birding Series)



## Synopsis

As the first stop in the continental U.S. for birds migrating along the Pacific Flyway, Washington offers a wide range of birding opportunities and species, from the typical fall migrations of ducks and geese to the convergence of millions of shore birds in Grays Harbor each spring.

## Book Information

Series: Birding Series

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## Customer Reviews

Washington State's diverse natural habitats offer resident and visiting birders opportunities to see more than 480 bird species. From the Sitka spruce forests and the Olympic Peninsula's rocky coast to the subalpine habitats of the Cascade Mountains and the farm fields and apple orchards in the northeast, this comprehensive guide profiles seventy bird-watching sites across the state. Maps and photographs accompany easy-to-read, lively descriptions of each site, and at-a-glance information puts everything you need to know about enjoying the experience right at your fingertips. Look inside to find: • descriptions and maps of each site • when to go, where to stay, and what to take • details on seasonal migrations • information on rarely seen birds, bird-watching events, and national and state birding organizations • special sections on pelagic birding, birds in the city, and birding with children Whether you are a seasoned or novice bird-watcher, let *Birding Washington* lead you to superb birding across the state.

Rob and Natalie McNair-Huff are longtime residents of Washington with a burgeoning interest in the

natural history and wildlife resources offered across the state. They are members of the Tahoma Audubon Society, and they are also the authors of *Insiders' Guide to the Olympic Peninsula*.

I picked this book up to help plan some birding stops on a business trip to Washington State, as I've never spent any time birding in Washington. While it does have a fair amount of good information about potential birding locations, I found the book difficult to use. First and foremost, for those unfamiliar with Washington's geography, the location maps in the book provide little in the way of reference; outside of the Seattle area, the maps don't often offer much to go by, rarely placing cities or even major highways on the maps in any meaningful way. For example, I planned to bird primarily in the Tri-cities (Richland, Kennewick, and Pasco) area in central-to-southeastern Washington; though I was able to find some sites I knew to be in that area (like Hanford Reach), it was tough to piece together a logical loop or series of daytrips using the maps in the book, and I never saw any of those communities on the maps. This lacking is in contrast to the other Falcon guides I've used, such as their *Birding Northern California*, which in general make it easy to zero-in on a particular area and explore many nearby sites easily. I suggest birders interested in Washington instead consider *A Birder's Guide to Washington*; although rarely carries the ABA guides (and when they do, the books tend to be much pricier than if obtained straight from the American Birding Association or a local birder's or nature store), the ABA guide for Washington provides more in-depth information as well as a much easier-to-navigate (no pun intended) organization of the birding sites.

This book is a delightfully written guide to Washington's best birding sites. It's not as comprehensive as Hal Opperman's book on Washington Birding; but who says there can't be two great books on this subject. Natalie McNair-Huff's writing is a special treat, and she captures more than the "where to" and "how to" of Washington birding.

Since I'm planning a future birding trip to Washington state, I purchased this book as a reference for planning and executing my trip. I own several "Falcon Guides", and have found them all to be very informative and useful, until now. The information within this book is excellent, but finding what you want is VERY difficult. I can't believe anyone would publish a book/guide such as this and not include any place-names in the back-of-the-book index!!! The index is comprised entirely of bird names. Every other Falcon Guide I own has place-names in the index. Where was the editor on this?

this book tells you where to find birds but does not really help identify them. It is great for planning a birding trip but you need another book for identifying the birds you see quickly.

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