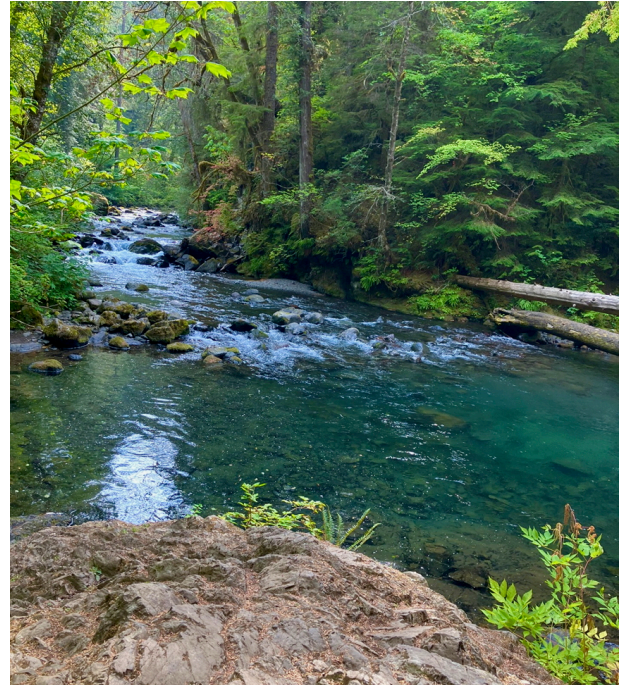




Natural History Society Newsletter

October 2025



Under the Surface with Bird Bones and Skeletons by David Lukas

Birds are exquisitely designed creatures of the air, but have you ever thought about how the underlying structures of bird bones and skeletons help birds move and fly? Flight is not just a matter of flapping your wings harder; it actually requires many special adaptations and compromises that impact all aspects of a bird's life.

On Sunday, October 26, at 7:00 pm, I will be leading a Zoom presentation for the Natural History Society about bird bones and skeletons. Here's the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87936978291?pwd=V5jalfT0W14BIka52rVxizKNOKr2iH.1>

In this fascinating presentation, we will learn about some of the adaptations we can observe when we look at a bird's skull, beak, eyes, wings, legs, and feet. Many of these features are hidden by feathers, yet they uniquely shape every aspect of what we see when we watch birds. Expect to come away with a new understanding and appreciation for the hidden mechanics of how birds eat, sleep, and move, along with an understanding of how feathers interact with a bird's skeletal structure.

About David Lukas: David is a well-known naturalist and author based in the Methow Valley. He has written seven books and contributed chapters to another forty books on a tremendous range of nature topics. He has also led thousands of natural history tours, classes, workshops, and presentations. David's most recent project is writing a weekly nature newsletter at <http://www.lukasguides.com/>.

Outing: Falls View Trail

Join the Natural History Society on **Thursday, October 30**, from **9:00 am to 12:30 pm** to walk along the Falls View Trail near Quilcene. Dave Rugh will lead the walk. This trail has a wonderful array of old forest features, including all eight of our fern species and some giant Douglas-fir trees, spruce, and cedars. Plus, the river is gorgeous! There is a lot of clear water moving across cascades and deep pools. For details and signups, please RSVP to Marcia at marciaschwendiman@gmail.com.

Book Club Selection

The Natural History Book Club will meet at the Land Trust's Illahee Preserve (weather permitting! or on Zoom) on **Monday, October 27, from 3:00 to 4:30** to discuss *How to Catch a Mole* by Marc Hamer. Find more information about the Book Club at: olympicnature.org/book-club/ Directions and information about the Illahee Preserve: <https://saveland.org/protected-properties/illahee-preserve/>

Editors: Wendy Feltham & Dave Rugh

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