



# San Juan Islands Western Bluebird Reintroduction Project

Summer Update

July 2011

**YOU ARE INVITED**  
to the  
**Western Bluebird  
Project  
Celebration of Success**

*Join us as we celebrate how  
far we've come in 5 years.*

**Saturday, September 10,  
2011 2-5pm**

300 Two Barn Farm Lane, San  
Juan Island  
(home of Jim & Camille Uhler)

Award Ceremony\* Bluebird  
Video \* Raffle \* Fun Food \* Kid  
Friendly \* Good Folks \* Good  
Music\* All Things Bluebird

For map/driving directions visit  
[www.sjpt.org](http://www.sjpt.org) or contact  
Kathleen Foley at  
[360.378.2461/kathleenf@sjpt.org](mailto:360.378.2461/kathleenf@sjpt.org)

The San Juan Islands Western  
Bluebird Reintroduction Project is a  
partnership of the following  
organizations:

[The San Juan Preservation Trust](http://www.sjpt.org)

## The Birds of Summer



We got off to a late start with our cold spring, but the bluebirds are rebounding. Including two newly-discovered pairs found on San Juan just a few weeks ago, we are now at **a total of 14 breeding pairs**, all in various stages of nestbuilding and raising broods (many are working on their second clutch already). So far this season more than 60 young have fledged on San Juan Island...with more to come.

This spring also saw the return of several single males, which we quickly "wedded" to some single females caught from the Ft. Lewis prairie. We have also successfully translocated adults with young in the nest from Ft. Lewis, and at last report, both families were sighted close to their release area.

This year brought a documented sighting of banded birds on **Lopez Island**. Although we have not been able to confirm nesting on your island, Lopezians, don't lose heart. We still periodically receive reports of bluebirds there. Please spread the word to your neighbors, and especially if you are living in the Center Valley area, keep your eyes out. This is ideal bluebird nesting habitat and if they are going to nest anywhere, this is a very likely location!

**English House Sparrows** continue to pose a threat to nesting birds. To decrease house sparrow predation problems, avoid placing millet/seed in your feeders and keep bluebird nest boxes off of

[American Bird Conservancy](#)

[Ecostudies Institute](#)

[San Juan Islands Audubon Society](#)

**in cooperation with:**

Washington State Dept. of Fish &  
Wildlife

Ft. Lewis Military Installation

The Nature Conservancy of  
Washington

Pacific Coast Joint Venture

buildings and install in open areas away from houses and outbuildings. If you need assistance in identifying these non-native birds or their nests, feel free to contact us and we'll lend a hand.

**What do I do if I find a dead bluebird?** Don't shovel it yet! Please save any dead birds as we can retrieve information about that individual from the leg bands. This helps us greatly with our data collection.

As always, please report your sightings (especially with family groups now flying around to forage). Any sightings can be reported directly to Sara, our field technician, at 360-298-2822, or to Kathleen at 360-378-2461. Thanks for your cooperation!

*photo by Shaun Hubbard*

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