

Cloud Ridge Naturalists

FIELD DISCOVERY SEMINARS

2013

A WORD ABOUT US

Cloud Ridge Naturalists is one of the oldest and most respected nonprofit environmental education programs in North America. Over the past three decades, several thousand people have experienced the special blend of natural history education and exploration that Cloud Ridge offers. Moving beyond the “last great place” model that drives traditional eco-tourism remains a key component of our mission. Embarking on our fourth decade, we continue to provide learning opportunities that inspire and enable our participants to become better-informed stewards—not just “snapshot” sojourners of the natural world. Our educational vision embraces a multi-disciplinary perspective well grounded in state-of-the-art science. Just a glance through the biographies of our leaders and guest lecturers should convey the excellence and dedication they bring to everything we do—their expertise and passion for teaching is unsurpassed!

Our travels take us to some of the world’s most beautiful wilderness areas—enjoying the wonder but acknowledging that the impacts of global climate change and human-caused environmental degradation transcend international and ecological boundaries. We minimize our travel footprint wherever we go—by small ship, boat, raft, sea kayak, or on foot—and work only with outfitters and guides whose operating principles and environmental ethics parallel our own. Your safety, comfort, and enjoyment are of utmost importance to us—even in the most remote field settings. Our groups are kept small and congenial, creating the best possible atmosphere for learning and discussion. We select classic lodging, boats, or campsites that have a strong sense of place. More than 80% of our participants each year have traveled with us before. That matters to us! We look forward to welcoming new friends and old!

A SEA CHANGE...

The phrase *sea change* best describes Cloud Ridge’s new shift in focus to the conservation challenges facing the global ocean realm. But what does the term “global ocean” mean—and why should we care? The world’s five ocean basins—the Pacific, Atlantic, Southern, Indian and Arctic oceans—are interconnected by major surface and deep-water currents in a circulation system that creates a single body of water that covers more than 70 percent of the earth’s surface. The future of all marine life is entrained in this great ocean “conveyor belt” system—in essence, our sole life-support system on Earth. The global ocean is the world’s largest wilderness, with a lineage of life three billion years older than anything above sea level. It is home to wildlife in staggering multi-species aggregations, and its three-dimensional realm is believed to comprise 99 percent of all habitable space. Equally astounding is the fact that a single ounce of seawater is home to as many as 30 billion micro-organisms—and still counting. The last two hundred years have seen marine habitats around the world destroyed or transformed beyond recognition. We know that at least 75 percent of the global ocean’s megafauna—large animals such as whales, seals, dolphins, porpoises, sharks, rays, and turtles—have been lost largely due to relentless commercial fishing and hunting.



A Sea Change continues...

Marine scientists estimate that 90 percent of the world's biodiversity once resided in the global ocean—and we now know that human actions have degraded ocean ecosystems more in the last thirty years than in all of human history. Cloud Ridge participants have seen dramatic examples of these changes firsthand on our Arctic and Antarctic voyages. Results of the recent Census of Marine Life, a monumental 10-year study undertaken by thousands of scientists to assess the diversity, distribution, and status of the global ocean's marine life raised warning flags that can't be ignored. The consequences of inaction are truly profound. We believe that re-focusing Cloud Ridge Naturalist's educational outreach and research support on a better understanding of the deep interconnections that exist between global climate, the oceans, and all terrestrial ecosystems we can make a difference—and inspire the next generation of ocean stewards!

CONSERVATION IN FOCUS

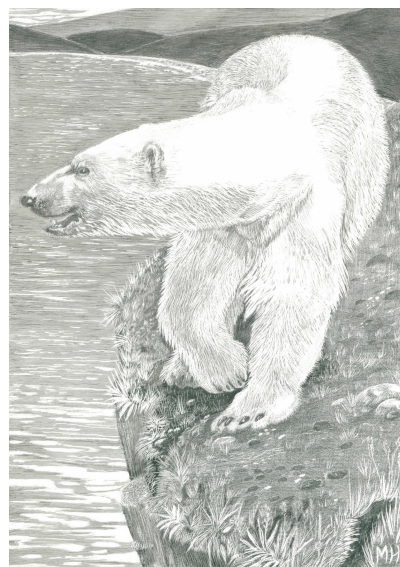
"The ocean is our blind spot...

Ever since the first humans gazed, awed, out to sea, we have held certain truths to be self-evident: that the ocean is infinite, inexhaustible, boundlessly tolerant of whatever abuse we hurl at it. Wrong."

Julia Whitty, writing in NRDC's *OnEarth*
(<http://www.onearth.org/12spr>)

The marine world, at least beyond the surf zone, is out of sight and out of mind for many people. Each **Conservation in Focus** voyage—Cloud Ridge's "classroom afloat"—embodies the true spirit of expeditionary discovery and is designed to expand your understanding of the natural history of marine and terrestrial ecosystems and provide opportunities for exploring the global ocean realm. Our multi-disciplinary staff of naturalists includes Geoff Hammerson, Audrey Benedict, Sarah Drummond, Jennifer Hahn, Marilyn Hailbronner, and the photographic team of Bob Rozinski and Wendy Shattil. All have dedicated their expertise to portraying the inherent beauty of the natural world as well as the environmental dramas that threaten the fragile fabric of life. We'll also spend time with scientists whose research is revealing—thread by thread—the intricate linkage between the global ocean and terrestrial ecosystems.

Whether you are interested in conservation issues close to home or in the most remote corners of our changing planet, learning new ways to tell a compelling "natural history story" or to share your observations of the natural world with others helps sharpen the focus on conservation issues. Each voyage provides opportunities to explore the natural world but also to master the creative, technical, and presentation skills required to make both writing and visual media—photography and art—more powerful tools for conservation. Long before the camera became a standard piece of field equipment, expedition naturalists kept illustrated field journals in which to record their discoveries and observations. Natural history artists continue to play a crucial role in creating a conservation constituency. Delivering a strong conservation message requires a thorough understanding of your subject—but also the knowledge that environmental threats to the global ocean realm matter to all of us. Wherever we go, we'll portray the intricate complexity of marine ecosystems but also learn what scientists are discovering and doing about the far-reaching ramifications of global warming, ocean acidification, the thinning and disappearance of polar sea ice, the effects of overfishing on seabird and sea mammal populations, and the ways in which the immense mid-ocean gyres, aswirl in plastic detritus, are impacting the entire marine food chain. Together, we'll produce a book for each voyage that reflects what we've learned—a visual memoir that captures the essence of place, the fascinating adaptations of marine plants and animals, new research highlights, and key conservation issues.



**CONSERVATION IN FOCUS (1):
SCOTLAND'S SHETLAND ISLANDS TO
ARCTIC NORWAY'S JAN MAYEN AND
THE SVALBARD ARCHIPELAGO**

**June 7-21, 2013 (15 Days/14 Nights ✈✈)
Audrey Benedict, Dr. Geoff Hammerson,
Wendy Shattil & Bob Rozinski,
Marilyn Hailbronner and Sarah Drummond**

The islands of the North Atlantic and the High Arctic are legendary for their rugged beauty, dramatic geology, wave-pummeled sea cliffs, the splendid cacophony of thousands of nesting seabirds, wildflower-dotted heaths and tundra, and cultural traditions dating back to the first Viking explorers. This special voyage, aboard Oceanwide Expedition's superbly comfortable 114-passenger *M/V Plancius*, takes us from Aberdeen, Scotland to the Shetland Islands of Fair Isle and Mousa, and then to the Norwegian Arctic islands of Jan Mayen, situated 300 nautical miles north-east of Iceland, and the Svalbard Archipelago, located just 600 miles from the North Pole. Our ice-strengthened ship was originally built as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and flies the Dutch flag. She has been completely refitted as a passenger vessel for educational travel in both Arctic and Antarctic waters. Zodiac landing crafts enable shore expeditions and wildlife viewing in areas that would otherwise be inaccessible. Our talented Oceanwide Expedition's staff includes experts in seabird and sea mammal biology, island geology, and maritime history. Visits ashore and sea-travel days will be enriched by lectures aboard and by our great team of Cloud Ridge leaders. Our focus will be on the wildlife species associated with the North Atlantic oceanic realm and these remote islands—the vast seabird breeding colonies, the whales and multiple species of seals to be seen throughout the voyage, and to observe walrus and polar bear in the Svalbard Archipelago.

We begin with a visit to the wildlife rich waters of Scotland's Firth of Forth, where we'll have our first introduction to seabird biology at the award-winning Scottish Seabird Centre. June marks the peak of seabird nesting activity and the cliffs and sea stacks will be alive with puffins, razorbills, guillemots, kittiwakes, fulmars, gulls, and shags—a treat for all the senses! We'll take a boat trip to the Isle of May National Nature Reserve, traveling first to Craighleith Cliff, site of

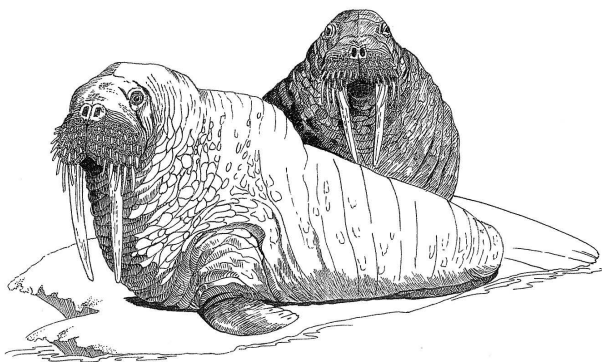
the SOS Puffin Project, and then to famous Bass Rock, home to 150,000 pairs of nesting gannets. Landing at the Isle of May, we'll spend several hours onshore observing and photographing the spectacle of a quarter of a million seabirds, including thousands of Atlantic puffins at their cliffside burrows, as well as common eiders, their clutches snug in fluffy nests of "eider down."



Fresh from our adventure in the Firth of Forth, we'll board the *M/V Plancius* at Aberdeen, known as the Granite City and many times a winner of the Britain in Bloom competition. Once we are underway in the North Sea, we'll be able to spot the lighthouse at Girdle Ness, one of the most iconic of the 97 Scottish lighthouses designed by the "Lighthouse Stevensons," the famous family of novelist Robert Lewis Stevenson. Traveling northward, we'll drop anchor first at beautiful Fair Isle, in the Shetlands, the most remote of Britain's inhabited islands. Fair Isle is also well known for its distinctive knitwear and we'll be welcomed for tea at the knitter's co-op. We'll hike to the Fair Isle Bird Observatory, an important seabird research center and a critical migratory bird monitoring site. Fair Isle is home to 18 species and roughly 250,000 pairs of nesting seabirds! Our timing should be perfect for observing and photographing the nesting activities of Atlantic puffins, Arctic skuas, black guillemots, northern gannets, fulmars, razorbills, and several

other species. Our Zodiac trips should also be excellent for spotting near-shore sea mammals such as sea otter, grey seal, harbor porpoise, and both bottle-nosed and white-beaked dolphin—all common species in Scottish waters. From Fair Isle, we'll continue to the tiny island of Mousa, where we'll visit a 2,000-year-old Iron Age circular stone tower, a *broch*, considered one of the best-preserved prehistoric buildings in all Europe. If sea conditions permit, we'll return to the broch at night to witness the spectacular phenomenon of nearly 6,000 breeding pairs of storm petrels returning to their burrows from foraging trips at sea.

We'll spend two days at sea as we make our way to Jan Mayen, a small and extremely isolated Norwegian island situated in the Norwegian-Greenland Sea. This island outpost marks the only exposed portion of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge north of Iceland. From the deck, we'll be watching for whales, including both blue and fin whales, the two largest whale species in the world, and the more common Minke and orca. Rarely visited because of its remoteness, Jan Mayen is a volcanic island of breathtaking beauty, dominated by the Beerenberg volcano, a dramatically tall snow-capped massif that last erupted in 1984. Glaciers cascade down the volcano's slopes to the sea and the island's cliffs are wonderfully alive with the comings and goings of thousands of little auks (or dovebies), Brünnich's guillemots, and glaucous gulls. If weather and sea conditions permit a landing, we'll hike across Jan Mayen to Kvalrossbukta to look at the remains of a 17th-century Dutch whaling station, photograph tundra wildflowers at peak bloom, and visit a raucous colony of northern fulmar.



Bathed in the glow of the midnight sun, we will sail along the sea-ice edge, keeping watch for several species of whales, dolphins, seals, and pelagic seabirds—until the position of the sea-ice forces us to chart a course towards North Spitsbergen. The Svalbard Archipelago lies just 600 miles south of the North Pole and is one of the High Arctic's richest wildlife sanctuaries. The abundance of wildlife—polar bears, arctic foxes, walrus, reindeer, three species of seals (bearded, ringed, and harp seals), and spectacular colonies of seabirds—is due primarily to warm currents carried north by a branch of the Atlantic's mighty Gulf Stream. As the frozen sea breaks up, many thousands of cliff-nesting seabirds—thick-billed murre, Atlantic puffins, both Brünnich's and black guillemots, ivory gulls, black-legged kittiwakes, and little auks—add their voices to a splendid cacophony as they fly between their nests and productive fishing grounds at sea. In addition to these seabirds, we should also see great rafts of common eiders, famed for their soft, superbly insulating feathers (eider down), which they pluck from their breasts to make their nests. Depending on sea-ice conditions, we'll sail into Raudfjord or one of the fjords in northwestern Spitsbergen, where we hope to spot polar bears at the heads of the fjords, and where bearded or ringed seals may be hauled out on the ice. We'll also be searching for walrus at their traditional haul-outs at Sarstangen, Engelskmansbukta or at Poole-Pynten. On our last evening in Svalbard, at Alkhorner, we'll hope to see Arctic foxes hunting and reindeer grazing amidst a wildflower-dotted tundra ablaze in amber twilight—a parting gift from the Land of the Midnight Sun.

Trip Price: Trip and cabin category prices as listed are all-inclusive and include both land-based touring and cruise-related expenses (unless otherwise noted). Trip cost is quoted per person based on double occupancy and the type of ship-board accommodation you requested. The number listed before the cabin category refers to the number of cabins we've reserved in that category. Cabins are booked on a first-come, first-serve basis. All cabins have only lower berths and all have windows instead of portholes. Early booking is encouraged to secure your preferred cabin type. Single travelers who wish to share a cabin will be accommodated provided that a suitable cabin-mate is available. Those preferring not to share will be charged a single supplement equal to the double occupancy rate for the category chosen.

Trip Price & Cabin Category:

- ❖ **2 Superior Cabins** (queen-size bed, window, and private facilities/shower): **\$6,950.**
- ❖ **2 Twin Deluxe Cabins** (twin single beds, window, and private facilities/shower): **\$6,650.**
- ❖ **3 Twin Window Cabins** (smaller cabin than Twin Deluxe, includes twin single beds, window, and private facilities/shower): **\$6,250.**

Deposit: \$1000. (nonrefundable deposit required to reserve space, payable by check to Cloud Ridge, and included in the price quoted above).

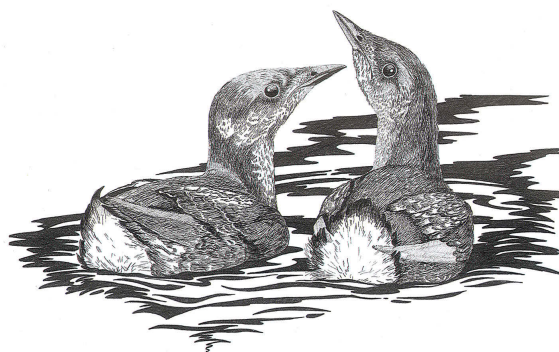
Group Size: 14 Trip Rating: 2-3

Traveler's Note: ✈✈ indicates a two-day time allowance for international/overnight flights.

Price Includes: Hotels and all meals in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, Scotland and Oslo, Norway, guided trip from Edinburgh to the Scottish Seabird Centre and our boat trip to the Isle of May, mini-coach transport between Edinburgh and Aberdeen, all transfers and baggage handling in Aberdeen between our hotel and the ship, all accommodations (according to the category chosen) and all meals aboard the ship, all shore excursions by Zodiac, a pre-departure trip packet from Oceanwide, onboard lecture program, and all services of OE expedition leaders/naturalists and Cloud Ridge naturalists.

Not included: Trip cancellation/interruption insurance and medical emergency evacuation coverage (required by Oceanwide). Roundtrip air travel between your home airport and Edinburgh, Scotland and your return flight from Oslo, Norway. Oceanwide will also book and invoice you separately for our one-way post-cruise flight from Longyearbyen (Spitsbergen) to Oslo, Norway. Trip cost also does not include alcoholic beverages sold on board the *Plancius*, internet access charges, shipboard laundry services, or other personal items.

Need more information about Oceanwide Expeditions or the *M/V Plancius*? Please visit:
www.oceanwide-expeditions.com



CONSERVATION IN FOCUS (2): NATURALIST'S VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY TO SOUTHEAST ALASKA

July 27-August 4, 2013 9 Days/8 Nights

**Dr. Geoff Hammerson, Audrey Benedict,
Bob Rozinski & Wendy Shattil,
Sarah Drummond and the *M/V Catalyst* Crew**

Few places in North America rival the scenic beauty and wildlife richness of Southeast Alaska's Inside Passage. Join us aboard our "classroom afloat"—the *M/V Catalyst*—as we explore the remote islands, spectacular fjords, tidewater glaciers, and old-growth forests of this remarkable coastal wilderness. The *Catalyst*, a 76-foot-long classic wooden boat built in 1932 as the floating laboratory for the University of Washington provides the perfect setting for our **Conservation in Focus** voyages. I've often wondered if it might be the heartbeat of the *Catalyst*'s 17,000-pound iron engine that generates the mysterious bond that passengers feel at the end of a voyage. Whatever the secret, this "salty, historic treasure" has been lovingly restored by her Pacific Catalyst owners, Captain Bill and Shannon Bailey. She carries 12 passengers in sublime comfort and is equipped with a full complement of double sea kayaks and a motorized inflatable to enable explorations both near and far—cascading waterfalls, glaciers, and hikes through pristine rain forests. The use of sea kayaks allow us a special seal's-eye view of the marine world! Beginning sea kayakers will find this an ideal setting in which to learn. Unlike the big cruise ships, *Catalyst* is trim enough to explore the narrowest of fjords, slipping quietly past electric blue icebergs. Each evening, as we feast on yet another superb dinner of sustainably harvested seafood and share the day's discoveries, there is little doubt that there is no better way to experience Southeast Alaska.

This year's voyage begins in Petersburg, Alaska, and will include Thomas Bay and a visit to the Baird Glacier, Frederick Sound, the Brothers Islands, Endicott Arm, the fjord magic of Ford's Terror, and Dawes Glacier, one of the southernmost of the tidewater glaciers. As is typical of the myriad photographic and natural history opportunities that await you on any of our *Catalyst* voyages in Southeast Alaska, we should see both brown and black bears, Steller's sea lions at their haul-outs, harbor seals and their pups, bald eagles, post-breeding aggregations of harlequin ducks, and fascinating seabirds such as the marbled murrelet and pigeon guillemot. Timing for this year's trip places special emphasis on humpback whale biology and behavioral ecology and coincides with the beginning of intensified humpback whale foraging activities in Frederick Sound. If lucky, we may observe the spectacular bouts of synchronized lunge-feeding behavior that occurs when groups of humpbacks work cooperatively to entrap schools of small fish or krill through the creation of a near-surface "bubble net," which serves to disorient their prey. With the "net" in place, the humpbacks lunge upwards, mouths agape, engulfing thousands of small prey fish.

In addition to learning about the natural history of Southeast Alaska, we'll discuss the impact that global warming is having on the region's glaciers and how changes in ocean temperature and prevailing currents may affect the small fish populations on which marine mammals and seabirds depend for food. We'll offer mini-workshops that help you improve how you see and portray the world around you. Refining your understanding of natural history and honing your technical skills in whatever medium you prefer to use—photography or art—enables you to present your work in a more compelling and meaningful way. Our goal is to create a book based on our shared experiences and observations that truly captures the essence of Southeast Alaska—as well as the challenges looming on the horizon.

Price: \$4,100 (includes a \$500 deposit)

Group Size: 12 Trip Rating: 2-3

Price Includes: 6 nights/7 days aboard the *M/V Catalyst*, all meals and beverages (including wine and beer), 2 nights' lodging (July 27 in Petersburg and August 3 in Juneau), two group dinners ashore, the services of our 5 naturalist/photographer leaders and the *Catalyst*'s four-person crew, full sea kayak outfitting and expert

instruction, gratuities to the *Catalyst*'s crew, boat/hotel transfers, and a copy of the photo book. The price quoted is *per person* based on double occupancy; a single supplement of \$250 is required of participants preferring non-shared hotel accommodations. **Does not include** roundtrip airfare from your point of departure to Petersburg, Alaska or your return from Juneau.



CONSERVATION IN FOCUS (3): THE SALISH SEA & SAN JUAN ISLANDS

September 29-October 6, 2013 8 Days/7 Nights
Jenny Hahn, Dr. Geoff Hammerson, Audrey Benedict, Bob Rozinski & Wendy Shattil, Sarah Drummond and the *M/V Catalyst* Crew

Thousands of years before Europeans first arrived in the Pacific Northwest, the Coastal Salish people flourished along the shores of one of the most biologically rich inland seas in the world—the Salish Sea. Named in honor of those first inhabitants, the Salish Sea straddles the Canadian border and includes Washington's Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the San Juan Islands, and British Columbia's Gulf Islands and the Strait of Georgia. Connected to the Pacific Ocean primarily via the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Salish Sea receives an almost constant influx of nutrient-rich freshwater from British Columbia's Fraser River, the Skagit, and the many smaller rivers of Washington's mainland—all of which provide the essential building blocks for the region's extraordinary biodiversity. The strong currents and

extreme tidal exchanges that typify the Salish Sea create optimal conditions for nutrient upwelling and for the proliferation of the photosynthetic plankton forming the basis of the food chain.

Life in the San Juan Archipelago is governed by the sea's rhythms—its extraordinary biological richness attributed to the rain shadow cast by the Olympic Mountains and the greater diversity of habitats available to plants and animals in these islands than occurs along the wetter mainland coast. Not surprisingly, the San Juan Islands provide critical habitat for marine mammals such as migrating grey whales, resident and transient populations of orcas, harbor seals, Steller and California sea lions, and river otters. More than 165 species of birds depend on the Salish Sea and adjacent terrestrial habitats for their survival. The overwintering seabirds and sea ducks we'll see—murrelets, guillemots, murres, rhinoceros auklets, scoters, and harlequin ducks—will have recently arrived from their North Pacific breeding areas. All seven species of Pacific salmon, including rainbow/steelhead and coastal cutthroat occur in the Salish Sea. Near-shore and deep-water habitats are also home to several “giants” of the marine world, including the North Pacific giant octopus, plumose anemone, giant red sea urchin, and the geoduck, largest of the burrowing clams. Once again, our “classroom afloat” is the superbly comfortable *M/V Catalyst*, a 76-foot lovingly-restored wooden boat built in 1932 as the floating laboratory for the University of Washington. Jenny Hahn, one of the Northwest's foremost naturalists, kayak guides, and an award-winning author, joins our naturalist team at the helm and will also share the cultural history of the coastal First Peoples as well as the culinary delights to be found at the sea's edge. Guest scientists for this voyage include Dr. Joe Gaydos, director of the SeaDoc Society, a science-based marine conservation program associated with the UC Davis Veterinary Medicine/Wildlife Health Center, and Russel Barsh and Madrona Murphy, founders of Kwiáht, the Center for the Historical Ecology of the Salish Sea. To extend our learning beyond the intertidal zone, Dr. Gaydos and his dive team will conduct a “virtual dive” for us—transmitting live coverage of the magical deep-sea world to a big-screen TV on board the *Catalyst* for us all to enjoy—without having to don a wet suit!

Today, over 7 million people live in the watersheds that nourish the Salish Sea. Many scientists and citizens are trying to do the right thing to secure the future environmental health of this extraordinary inland sea. The impacts of a burgeoning population, global warming, ocean acidification, commercial fishing pressures, fish-farming, and the threat of a major coal shipping port at Cherry Point all pose significant environmental challenges for the future. Our goal is to create a book that truly captures the essence of the Salish Sea region—as well as the challenges looming on the horizon. Refine your natural history understanding, be inspired, and learn how you can make a difference!

Price: \$2,550 (includes a \$500 deposit)

Group Size: 12 Trip Rating: 2-3

Price Includes: 5 nights/6 days aboard the *M/V Catalyst*, all meals and beverages (including wine and beer), 2 nights' lodging (September 29 & October 5 in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island), two group dinners ashore, all instruction by our photographic and naturalist leaders, guest lecturers, full sea kayak outfitting, *Catalyst*'s four-person crew and all gratuities, a copy of our group-produced photo book, and a copy of Jenny's *Pacific Feast*. The price quoted is *per person* based on double occupancy. The *Catalyst* has only one single-berth cabin. A single supplement of \$250 is required of any participant preferring non-shared hotel accommodations or for whom we have no roommate. **Does not include** roundtrip airfare or travel from your point of departure to Friday Harbor, San Juan Island. Seminar begins with dinner and lodging in Friday Harbor on September 29 and concludes with dinner and lodging in Friday Harbor on October 5. Travel home or to other destinations may be scheduled for the morning of October 6th.

Need more information? Visit the **Pacific Catalyst** website at www.pacificcatalyst.com for boat pictures, cabin details, interior spaces and amenities, and crew biographies.



CLOUD RIDGE STAFF & GUEST LEADERS

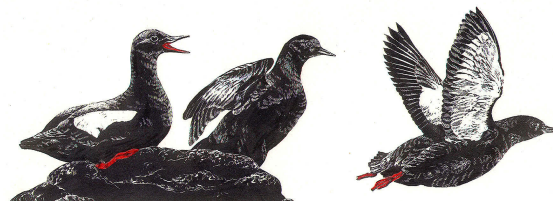
Audrey Benedict is the Founder and Director of Cloud Ridge Naturalists. Trained in geology and biology, her 40-year love affair with high mountains and the global ocean realm have taken her from the Arctic to the Antarctic, as well as up and down the North and South American Cordillera. Audrey is the author of the definitive *The Naturalist's Guide to the Southern Rockies: Southern Wyoming, Colorado, and Northern New Mexico* and *Valley of the Dunes: Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve*, the latter with photographers Bob Rozinski and Wendy Shattil, and is currently working on a book on seabirds as conservation ambassadors for the global ocean. She serves on the SeaDoc Society's Board of Directors and is excited about being actively involved in ocean conservation. Audrey divides her time between her Colorado mountain home near the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area and her tiny Frost Island retreat in the San Juan Islands.

Dr. Geoff Hammerson is Senior Research Zoologist for NatureServe and lives in Port Townsend, WA. Geoff is the lead biologist on Cloud Ridge's naturalist team, helping design and guide our field discovery program around the world. He is the author of the definitive field guide *Amphibians and Reptiles in Colorado*, as well as *Connecticut Wildlife*. Geoff and his river colleagues are currently completing their much-anticipated book on the natural history of Colorado's Yampa River. A superb zoologist, Geoff is always adding new dimensions to his natural history expertise. He's a popular instructor wherever he goes, teaching field biology and ecology at Wesleyan University and other institutions. Geoff is best known for his remarkable talent for coaxing the most reluctant animal to share its secrets with an appreciative audience.

Bob Rozinski & Wendy Shattil are the rarest of species—full-time professional nature photographers. They've worked individually and as a team for more than 30 years and are known world-wide for their award-winning images and reputations as environmental photographers of endangered species and at-risk ecosystems throughout North America. Fellows of the International League of Conservation Photographers, Bob and Wendy have produced twelve books, and their images have appeared in *National Wildlife*, *Audubon*, *Nature Conservancy*, *BBC Wildlife*, *Nature's Best*,

National Geographic publications, and many others. Constantly working to create new ways of illuminating key conservation issues, Bob and Wendy are superb teachers and always generous in sharing their expertise. To see more of their photographic work visit their website: www.dancingpelican.com

Jennifer Hahn is a naturalist, a writer, illustrator, teacher, wild harvester, and coastal traveler. She has 30 years of wilderness travel experience, including guiding natural history trips by sea kayak in the San Juan Islands for 22 years, solo-kayaking from Southeast Alaska to Washington, and has spent many seasons guiding in Southeast Alaska. She is author of the award-winning *Spirited Waters: Soloing South Through the Inside Passage*, and *Pacific Feast: A Cook's Guide to West Coast Foraging and Cuisine*. Jenny teaches courses in wild foraging, indigenous plant uses, and seaweed biology as an adjunct professor at Western Washington University's Fairhaven College and for other venues. The expertise, poetic voice, and infectious enthusiasm Jenny brings to her natural history teaching is a rare gift. To learn more about Jenny's books and wild harvesting visit: www.pacificfeast.com



Pigeon Guillemots by Sarah Drummond

Sarah Drummond is a naturalist and artist who grew up traveling with Cloud Ridge and is now a member of our naturalist staff. She received her B.A. from Maine's College of the Atlantic, where her studies emphasized ecology, island ecosystems and art; her M.A. is from Arizona's Prescott College. Research for her thesis on the role and impact of artists who accompanied major exploring expeditions prior to the invention of photography began during a Watson Foundation fellowship, and is the focus of a book she's currently working on. Sarah also creates books for children, including *Raven and the Red Ball*, which is awaiting publication. Sarah is an adjunct faculty

member at College of the Atlantic and teaches both art and natural history in a variety of venues. She spends her summers as a naturalist/kayak guide in Southeast Alaska aboard the *M/V Catalyst*. As an artist, Sarah's work celebrates the beauty and diversity of the natural world and she prides herself on working directly from life, in the field, whenever possible. To see more of her artwork visit: www.sarahdrummondart.com

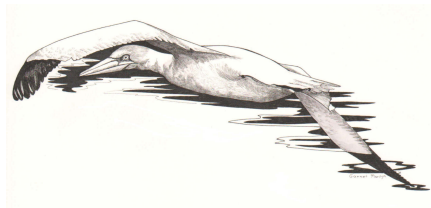
Marilyn Hailbronner's drawings—rendered in pen and ink and color wash—grace Cloud Ridge's brochure and website. She serves as a member of Cloud Ridge's naturalist staff and is our advisor on wilderness travel and medical issues. Summers will find Marilyn working aboard the *M/V Sea Wolf* as a naturalist/kayak guide in Glacier Bay. Her work as a naturalist artist is a reflection of her love for the natural world and her passion for conservation, which takes her to wilderness areas around the world. Among many projects, she is currently working on a children's book on the Magellanic penguins of Argentina's Peninsula Valdés. To see more of Marilyn's artwork visit her website: www.wildinkwell.com

Dr. Joe Gaydos is a wildlife veterinarian and Chief Scientist for the SeaDoc Society, and lives on Orcas Island with his family. The SeaDoc Society, a science-based marine conservation program of the UC Davis Veterinary Medicine/ Wildlife Health Center, funds and conducts research and uses this information to educate people about our marine resources and to help improve management and policy decisions regarding the stewardship of those resources. Joe has focused SeaDoc's efforts on the ecosystem-level challenges facing the Salish Sea for more than a decade. He's published extensively on shared human and marine wildlife health issues for species such as harbor seals, river otters, and killer whales. Joe has also testified on the current state of marine science for numerous commissions and governmental agencies. He has an incredible knack for connecting people to the magic and vulnerability of the marine world, whether through his keynote addresses, lectures, his field teaching, or by conducting one of his infamous "virtual dives" that opens a window on the marine world never to be forgotten.

Russel Barsh spent his boyhood on Long Island Sound as a devoted beachcomber and fossil-hunter. As a doctoral student in paleontology at Harvard, Russel was privileged to study under the late Dr. Loren Eiseley and Dr. Stephen Jay Gould—each a role model in multidisciplinary science. His friendships with Native Americans opened his eyes to new science challenges, convincing him to get a law degree and to defend the environmental integrity of traditional cultures. Russel taught at the University of Washington and helped develop its American Indian Studies Center. He then served as an advisor to United Nations agencies on indigenous and tribal peoples living in sensitive ecosystems, establishing the UN's Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Russel co-founded Kwiáht (Center for the Historical Ecology of the Salish Sea) at the urging of his longtime friend and Samish Tribal leader, the late Ken Hanson. "Kwiáht" means "a clean place" in the Native American language of the Central Sound—a one-word mission statement embracing the use of science to inform and promote good stewardship of cultural and biological resources in the San Juan Archipelago. Now based on Lopez Island, he and his staff scientists, student interns, and dedicated volunteers manage the San Juan Islands Marine Health Monitoring Network and the Islands Plant Diversity Bank, as well as school programs meant to inspire young stewards.

Madrona Murphy is a native Lopezian, whose love for the San Juan Islands eventually brought her back to Lopez Island after she earned a degree in botany and political science from Oregon's Reed College. With a special interest in plant genetics, she worked as a technician at the University of Washington's Center for Cell Dynamics at Friday Harbor Laboratories before establishing and managing Kwiáht's genotyping laboratory. Madrona capitalizes on her knowledge of how indigenous peoples used the land and shaped the ecosystems that we see today to inform her botanical surveys and her design of re-vegetation plans for restoration projects. Her interest in population genetics also includes studies of local populations of salmon, coastal cutthroat trout, camas, small mammals, and the rare Island Marble butterfly.

NEED MORE INFORMATION? Visit our website at www.CloudRidge.org for photos of our 2013 destinations, our annual “Field Notes” post, archived descriptions and images from previous trips, slideshows and video clips from our adventures afield, and the latest offerings from Cloud Ridge Publishing. Or email us at: clouderidgeadb@earthlink.net



A WORD ABOUT EXPEDITION TRAVEL

Our expeditions are rated to assist you in choosing the trip that's right for you. Because of the moderate agility required on most expeditionary-class ships, the *M/V Catalyst*, in sea kayaks, in skiffs or Zodiacs, or on raft-based trips, participants with significant medical issues—physical disabilities, wheelchair-confinement, chronic heart disease and/or severe respiratory illnesses requiring supplemental oxygen, or any other known and potentially debilitating medical conditions—are advised **NOT** to register for these trips. By forwarding the registration form and your deposit you are certifying that you are in good physical health and capable of performing all normal activities without assistance.

(1) EASY: Hotel, lodge, ship, or small boat-based trips, no camping, hikes of up to 2 miles, and minimal exposure to high elevations.

(2) EASY TO MODERATE: Lodge, ship, or camping based, hikes of 2-4 miles, optional sea kayaking, small plane travel, and moderate elevation gains.

(3) MODERATE TO STRENUOUS: Expedition ship, small plane, small boat or raft-based, remote wilderness localities, possible primitive camping, and trail or off-trail hikes of up to 6-8 miles, at elevation.

(4) STRENUOUS: Expeditionary and rugged in nature, primitive camping, full-day hikes in steep mountainous terrain, as well as possible sea kayaking or whitewater rafting.

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

To register for one of Cloud Ridge's seminars, fill out the registration form and send it to us, along with your **non-refundable** deposit. In the event a trip is full, we'll add your name to a wait-list and return your deposit. Balance of all tour fees is due **90 days** prior to departure, unless otherwise noted. Registrations **within 90 days** of departure must include payment in full.

TRIP CANCELLATION & TRAVEL INSURANCE

To protect your travel investment in the event of illness or injury to you or to a family member prior to or during a trip, we **strongly advise** that all participants purchase trip insurance, including a **trip cancellation/interruption policy** and/or **emergency medical evacuation coverage**. All international expedition outfitters **require** medical emergency/evacuation coverage. Emergency evacuation from remote wilderness areas is expensive and not included in standard medical insurance policies. Participants covered by Medicare are advised that Medicare does not provide coverage for individuals traveling outside the U.S.

Don't leave home without it!

OUR CANCELLATION POLICY

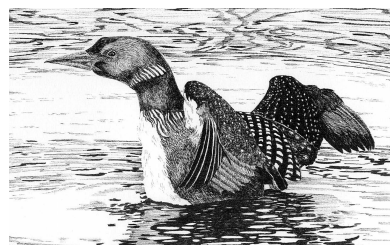
All cancellations must be made in writing. Because we must send payments to our travel suppliers well in advance of our departures, we cannot offer refunds beyond those described below. We appreciate your understanding! Cancellation refunds are made according to the following schedule:

- ◆ Cancellation received **90 days or more** prior to a trip's departure, all trip costs, less the deposit, will be refunded. The deposit will also be refunded if we are able to fill your space from a wait-list.
- ◆ Cancellation received **less than 90 days** prior to departure, no refund is possible unless we can fill your space from a wait-list.

BROCHURE CREDITS: Brochure design and text is by **Audrey Benedict**. Editing by **Alice Levine**. Brochure and website artwork is by **Marilyn Hailbronner** and **Sarah Drummond**. Cloud Ridge's sage grouse logo by **Barbara Bash**. Website photography by **Audrey Benedict**, **Bob Rozinski & Wendy Shattil**, **Geoff Hammerson**, and **Joe Gaydos**. Printing by **Silver Star Printing** (Boulder, CO). Website: **Clyde Lovett** (www.crestonecreations.com)

Write or call us at:

Cloud Ridge Naturalists
Audrey Benedict, Director
8297 Overland Road
Ward, Colorado 80481
Phone: (303) 459-3248



CLOUD RIDGE NATURALIST'S REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S): (Mr./Ms./Mrs./Dr.)

(1) _____

(2) _____

ADDRESS:

Street or P.O. Box _____

City _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code** _____

PHONE: (Day) _____ **(Evening)** _____ **(Emergency Contact)** _____

EMAIL: _____

I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER FOR THE FOLLOWING CONSERVATION IN FOCUS TRIP(S):

Trip: (1) Scotland to the Norwegian Arctic ☐ **(2) Southeast Alaska** ☐ **(3) Salish Sea/San Juan Islands** ☐

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK, PAYABLE TO CLOUD RIDGE NATURALISTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF: \$ _____
PLEASE INDICATE THE TYPE OF PAYMENT BELOW:

☐ **Deposit** *(All deposits are shown in parentheses, payable to Cloud Ridge Naturalists unless otherwise noted. Cloud Ridge cannot accept credit cards for payment at this time.)*

☐ **Payment in Full** *(The balance for all Cloud Ridge trips is due, less the deposit, 90 days prior to departure. If you are registering for a trip within 90 days of departure, payment in full is required.)*

In addition, I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to Cloud Ridge Naturalists:

\$ _____ **Cloud Ridge Supporter (\$25)**

\$ _____ **Cloud Ridge Sponsor (\$50 or more) Sponsor Premium:** ☐ **None** ☐ **CRN King Penguin T-shirt/Circle Size: S M L XL**

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Male () **Female** () **Your Age** _____; () **Double** () **Single Preferred** (single supplement required) () **Two Twins**
() **Roommate preferred** **Name of roommate, if known:** _____

DIET PREFERENCES:

() **Regular Diet** () **Vegetarian w/fish** () **Vegetarian/no fish** () **No Dairy** () **Gluten-free** () **Diabetic**

FOOD ALLERGIES?: () **No** () **Yes** **If yes, please specify:** _____

SPECIAL NOTE: ALL CLOUD RIDGE TRIPS ARE NON-SMOKING

PASSPORT INFORMATION REQUIRED ONLY FOR INTERNATIONAL TRIPS:

TRAVELER 1:

Full Name (as it appears on your passport): _____

Passport # _____ **Expiration Date** _____ **Date of Birth** _____

TRAVELER 2

Full Name (as it appears on your passport): _____

Passport # _____ **Expiration Date** _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Mail your registration form to: Cloud Ridge Naturalists, 8297 Overland Rd., Ward, CO 80481

CONTRIBUTIONS

Cloud Ridge Naturalists is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c) 3 organization providing educational opportunities in the natural sciences and financial support to entities and individuals conducting research in critical areas of conservation concern. If you feel that you would like to become a **Supporter** (\$25) or a **Sponsor** (\$50 or more), we are extremely grateful. Contributions help support our conservation mission!

GLOBAL OCEAN CONSERVATION SUPPORT

If you'd like to support organizations involved in global ocean conservation, we can recommend the following websites for more information:

- ❖ **Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)**
www.nrdc.org and www.onearth.org
- ❖ **The SeaDoc Society** (nonprofit program/UC Davis Veterinary Medicine/Wildlife Health Center)
www.seadocsociety.org
- ❖ **Kwiaht: Center for the Historical Ecology of the Salish Sea** www.kwiaht.org



*Cloud Ridge
Naturalists*

8297 Overland Road
Ward, CO 80481

Return Service Requested

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