SOUTH SOUND
BIRD ALLIANCE
EST. 1973

A Washington State Chapter of the National Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2524, Olympia, WA 98507
(360) 352-7299 www.southsoundbirds.org

South Sound Bird Alliance is a volunteer, non-profit organization of more than 1,300 members in Thurston, Mason, and Lewis Counties whose goals are to promote environmental education and protect our ecosystems for future generations.

FEBRUARY 2026

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH SOUND BIRD ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

***Mission**: South Sound Bird Alliance is a 501(c)(3) chapter of the National Audubon Society and represents Lewis, Mason, and Thurston counties in the state of Washington. It is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization whose 1,300 members share interest in birds and other wildlife, their habitats, and natural history. Our goals are to promote environmental education and recreation and to maintain and protect our ecosystems for future generations.*

Purpose: The Board of Directors is responsible for the mission, direction, resources, and policies of the South Sound Bird Alliance (SSBA) chapter. We work with the Washington State Audubon office and National Audubon Society.

Major responsibilities:

- Provide organizational leadership and governance, overseeing policies for the SSBA chapter
- Adopt and manage the annual budget and steward overall financial health
- Promote and advocate for the chapter in the community
- Be a current SSBA member and make an annual contribution that is significant to the person
- Support and assess the performance of the Board officers and committee chairs
- Be an active participant at the SSBA Board and committee meetings. Be willing to voice one's opinion during discussions but also to carry the Board or committee decisions into the community, regardless of one's personal opinion
- Be alert to community concerns that can be addressed by the SSBA chapter's mission, objectives, and programs
- Avoid conflicts of interest and maintain the confidentiality of Board and committee work, when appropriate

Length of term: Directors are elected to a one year term which ends May 30th and starts after the member elections, June 1st, or after being appointed by the Board.

Board meetings and time commitment:

- The Board of Directors meets the first Thursday of the month in January, February, March, April, May, June, October, November and December. These meetings are held on an on-line video conferencing platform from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. There is an in-person retreat held all day in August.
    - Prepare for Board meetings by being familiar with all materials sent out
    - Inform the chapter president in advance if unable to attend a Board meeting.

- Attend other SSBA events as able such as the annual dinner, the annual picnic, program meetings and other events at which the chapter is a participant or honoree.

Committees: Serve on at least one SSBA committee annually. Standing committees of our chapter are Avian Science, Communications, Conservation, Education, Field Trips, Finance, Hospitality, Membership, Outreach, Programs, and Volunteers. Ad-hoc committees are created as needed. Committees meet as needed, work on their strategic plan goals as well as other issues that may arise, and report back to the full Board.