Examine Bird Return Rates to Restored Ecosystems

By: Stephen Katzenberger

Adviser: Kern Ewing

**Research Question**

What types of habitats/vegetation are most suitable for creating appropriate and sustainable bird habitats in lakeside areas?

**Data Collection**

- To collect bird data I relied on visual and audio keys to identify the various species of birds
- For every bird I observed I wrote the type of bird and what type of habitat the bird was in
- I also collected data on the weather and time of day that my observations were taken
- All data was entered into an excel spreadsheet to assess trends

**Quick Facts**

Where: Union Bay Natural Area
When: February 8-21st and April 18 – May 1st
Total Number of Birds Observed: 2,856
Total Number of Species Identified: 30

**Conclusions**

- Heterogeneity in vegetation/habitats is beneficial in bringing bird diversity back to restored ecosystems
- Trees appeared to support the highest amounts of birds and bird species but no one habitat can be completely beneficial to all birds
- Birds are diverse, and have diverse lifestyles that rely on different types habitats in order to be sustainable
- Parks and urban restoration projects should seek to provide a range in habitats to bring back bird diversity and numbers