

**Martha Jordan** has a degree in Wildlife Science from Oregon State University. Her work with waterfowl began shortly thereafter, although swans were not her focus. She began to look at swans in the late 1970s as an independent citizen and by 1984 had contributed much information to state and federal agencies on the status of Trumpeter Swans in Washington State, including the first swan management plan. She is currently Executive Director of Northwest Swan Conservation Association, a local nonprofit dedicated to swans in Washington State and the northwest. She is self-employed, working as a professional wildlife biologist and as a human and animal bodywork therapist and Guild Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner. Martha is impassioned about the role of swans. She believes their beauty and grace instill in people a sense of awe that makes us want to save them and their habitats. "Swans are ambassadors, bringing people together when other aspects of a project would divide them. I think that over the years I began to realize that to each and every person a swan is something special...it's something about their grace and beauty... ..it's something about that they mate for life...it's something about the grandeur of such a large impressive bird...it's something about how they move that just simply stirs something in each one of us. They're extremely mysterious...I call them 'the knowledge bringers'...You never know what they are going to bring you next."