

# Oregon Birds

*The quarterly journal of Oregon field ornithology*



Volume 29, Number 4, Winter 2003

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# Oregon Birds

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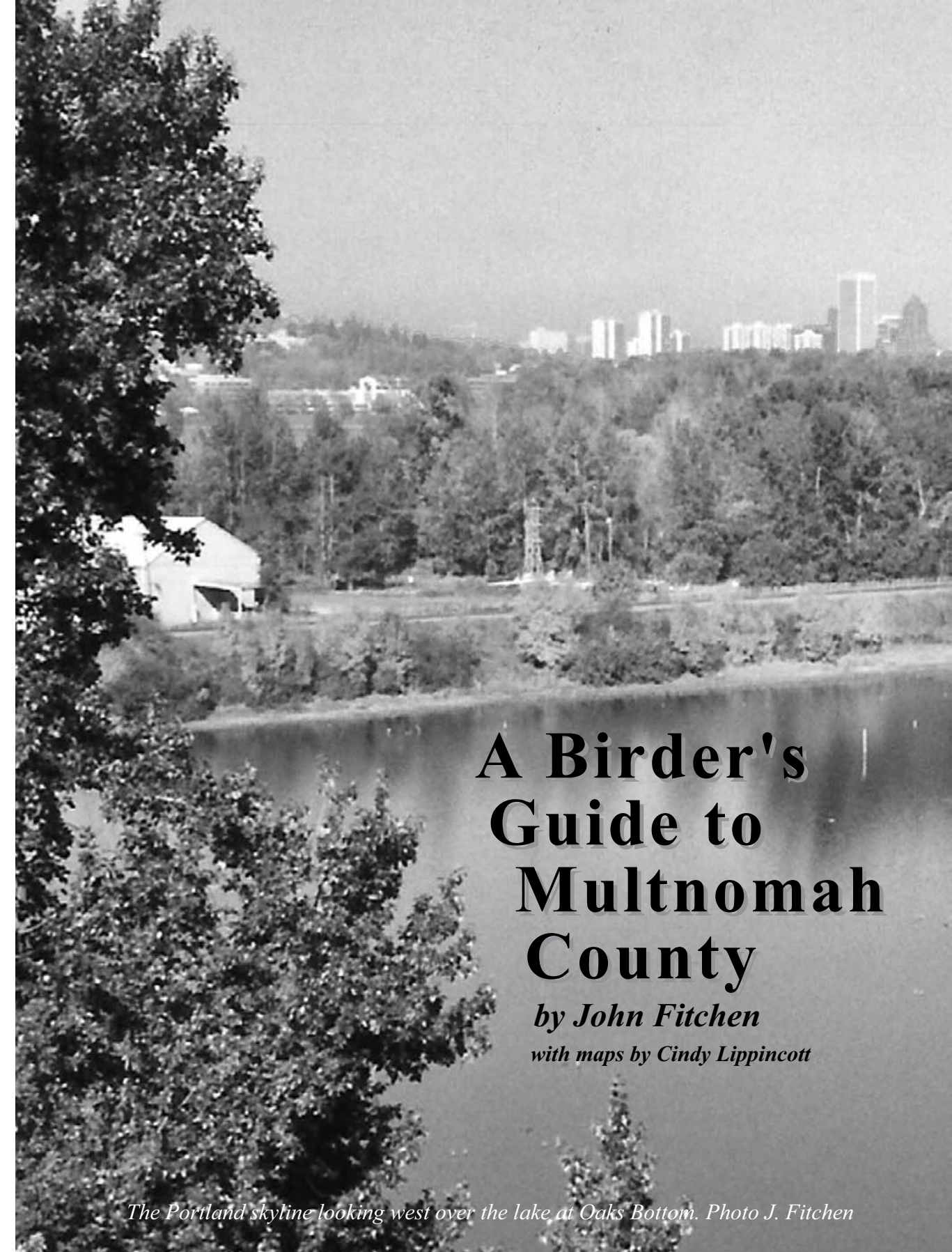
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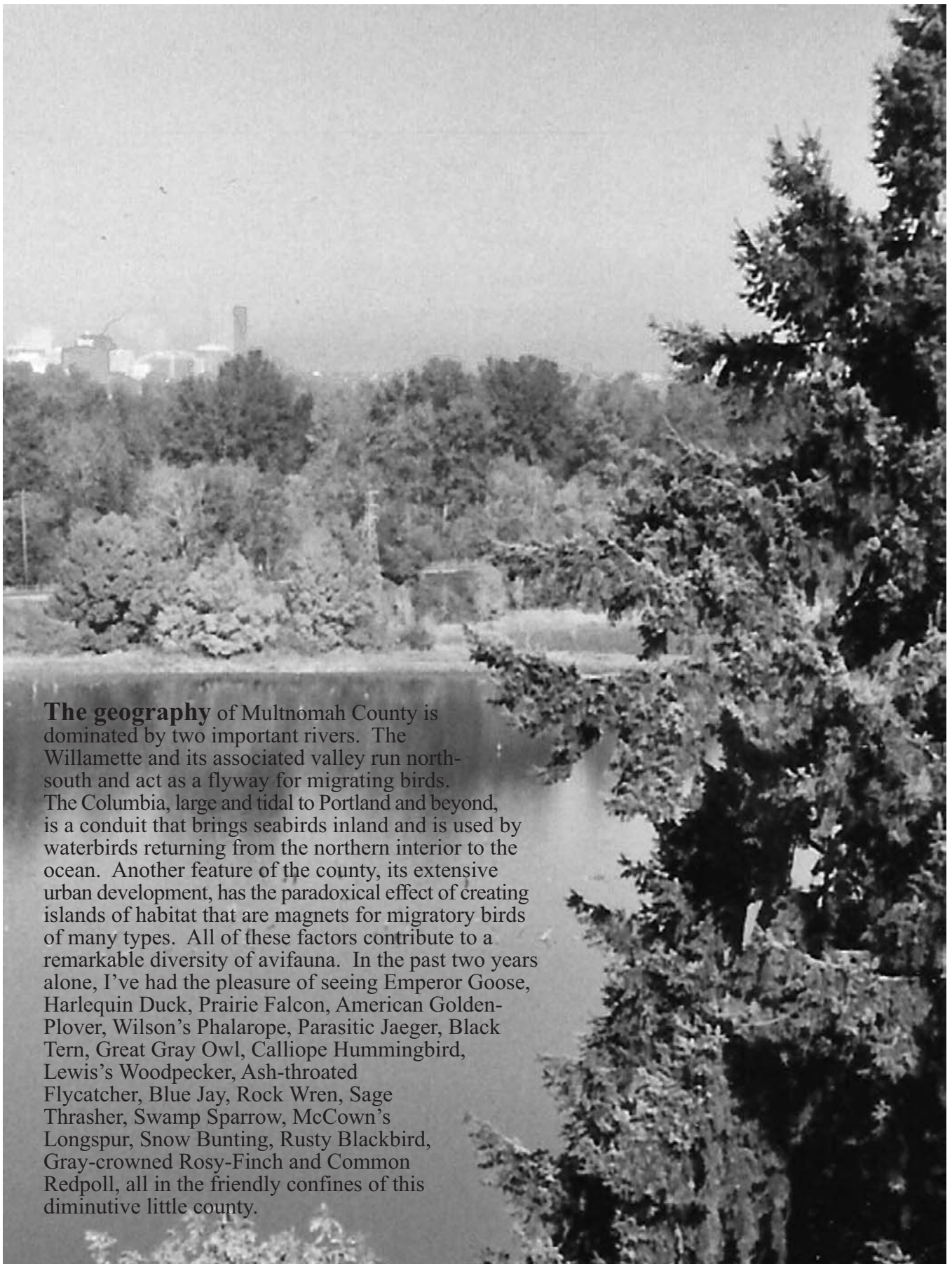
**A Birder's  
Guide to  
Multnomah  
County**

*by John Fitchen*

*with maps by Cindy Lippincott*

*The Portland skyline looking west over the lake at Oaks Bottom. Photo J. Fitchen*





**The geography** of Multnomah County is dominated by two important rivers. The Willamette and its associated valley run north-south and act as a flyway for migrating birds. The Columbia, large and tidal to Portland and beyond, is a conduit that brings seabirds inland and is used by waterbirds returning from the northern interior to the ocean. Another feature of the county, its extensive urban development, has the paradoxical effect of creating islands of habitat that are magnets for migratory birds of many types. All of these factors contribute to a remarkable diversity of avifauna. In the past two years alone, I've had the pleasure of seeing Emperor Goose, Harlequin Duck, Prairie Falcon, American Golden-Plover, Wilson's Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Black Tern, Great Gray Owl, Calliope Hummingbird, Lewis's Woodpecker, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Blue Jay, Rock Wren, Sage Thrasher, Swamp Sparrow, McCown's Longspur, Snow Bunting, Rusty Blackbird, Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch and Common Redpoll, all in the friendly confines of this diminutive little county.





At only 435 square miles, Multnomah is the smallest of Oregon's 36 counties. Home to Portland, the state's largest city, it is the most populous county in the state with a density of 1,518 persons per square mile (2000 Census). By comparison, Harney County, the largest in Oregon, has a landmass of 10,135 square miles and a population density of less than one person per square mile. Some 312 species of birds have been recorded in Multnomah County, a species density of one per 1.4 square miles. The combination of lots of people and lots of birds in a relatively small space makes for accessible birding and extensive coverage. Consider, in contrast, the plight of the peripatetic birder in Harney County, where the species density is one per 34.8 square miles - lots to cover and few birders to cover it. Of course, Harney birders can do just fine by hanging out at Malheur Headquarters and waiting for the birds to come to them.

This guide is based primarily

on first-hand observations in the field. In 2002, Iain Tomlinson and I decided to make a run at the Big Year record for Multnomah County. We spent more than 2,500 man-hours in the field and each walked over 1,200 miles in pursuit of the county record. We ended the year with a collective total of 227 species, and individually beat the old record (200 species) with room to spare (see *Oregon Birds*, 29(2): 74-79, Summer 2003). That article described the *how* of a Multnomah County big year effort. This article, based on data gathered during the big year and ongoing county birding thereafter, describes the *where* of birding Multnomah County—a compilation of the best sites and the birds they harbor, together with maps and directions to help you find them.

Additional information used to produce this guide has been gleaned from regular monitoring of Oregon Birders On Line (OBOL), and from reference to a checklist of Multnomah County birds prepared by Steve Summers and Craig Miller and published by Oregon Field Ornithologists in 1993. The checklist contains all the species ever recorded in the county (as of 1993) and assigns a "degree-of-difficulty" code to each bird. The scheme, similar to that adopted by the American Birding Association, is as follows; Code-1: Nearly always detected with minimal effort; Code-2: Infrequently to often detected, usually requires some

special effort; Code-3: Scarce and hard to find, usually requiring intensive, specialized searching; Code-4: Found only occasionally and not expected to be encountered every year; Code-5: Less than five records for the county. Because they convey an immediate and economical approximation of the relative rarity of specific sightings in the county, I have included code designations in brackets after birds mentioned in the text.

The Summers/Miller checklist was published more than 10 years ago and is now out of print. For ease of reference, a revised version of the checklist is appended at the end of this guide. The updated version adds 14 new species recorded since 1993 (golden-plover split, Slaty-backed Gull, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Williamson's Sapsucker, Gray Flycatcher, Tropical Kingbird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Canada Warbler, Summer Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Grasshopper Sparrow, McCown's Longspur, and Smith's Longspur) and deletes 1 (Northwestern Crow), for a revised total of 312 species. Difficulty codes have been adjusted to reflect recent experience. Specifically, the difficulty codes of 19 birds have been reduced, and the difficulty codes of 15 birds have been increased (see Checklist for details). Almost all of these adjustments are one-point changes, but in three cases





*Dipper habitat at Tanner Creek. Photo/J. Fitchen*

two-point adjustments have been made (American White Pelican from Code-5 to Code-3, Mountain Chickadee from Code-2 to Code-4, and Chipping Sparrow from Code-1 to Code-3). The code adjustments reflect a conservative approach. For example, the relative ease of finding American White Pelican over the past couple of years suggests that it is really a Code-2 bird in the county, but until the recent trend is confirmed over a longer period of time, it seems prudent to reduce it only to Code-3.

Multnomah County is small, small enough that you can cover a lot of it in a single day. In May 2003, Iain Tomlinson, Tom Love, David Mandell and I did a county Big Day that started at 2:00 a.m. with owling at Tideman Johnson and Mount Tabor Parks in southeast Portland, caught the dawn chorus at Wapato on Sauvie Island, returned to Mount Tabor shortly after dawn, moved on to Larch Mountain and Eagle Creek, then worked west along Marine Drive to Vanport Wetlands and back to Sauvie Island. We called it quits at 9:30 p.m. with a total of 125 species, having driven a mere 147 miles. The point is that the distances are modest and a day of birding in the county can cover several different venues, even at a relaxed pace.

The site descriptions that follow are organized into three sections: East County, Central County, and West County. The flow

is from the eastern extreme of the county (Eagle Creek/Bonneville Dam) westward to Skyline Boulevard/Forest Park. An overview map (previous page) gives the general location of the sites to be covered. This is supplemented with maps showing site-specific details and, in many cases, the position of nearby spots worth checking. At the beginning of each site description, the best “regular” birds seen at the site are listed. “Regular” does not necessarily denote birds that are always present, but rather birds that are annual and likely to be seen at the right time of year. Also listed are “Highlights,” birds that are relatively unusual, but that have been seen at the site in recent years. These highlights are chosen not because they are the rarest birds ever found at the site, but because they are high-code birds that, with some luck, you might encounter.

## EAST COUNTY

### 1. Eagle Creek/Bonneville Dam

*Best regular birds:* American Dipper [2]

*Highlights:* Harlequin Duck [4], Barrow's Goldeneye [4]

Eagle Creek enters the Columbia River just above Bonneville Dam. Only the final quarter-mile of the creek is in the county. The mouth of Eagle Creek provides a sheltered

cove for ducks and other water birds, especially in fall and winter.

*Directions:* To reach the mouth of Eagle Creek, take Interstate 84 east to Exit 41, turn left at the bottom of the off-ramp and immediately left again following the course of the creek. This paved road will bring you back under the freeway to a parking area (0.2 mile). If you turn right instead of left at the bottom of the off-ramp, you will head into the Eagle Creek Recreation Site and past a suspension footbridge on your right. The county line is approximately 100 yards upstream from the bridge. [Note: There is no westbound on-ramp to I-84 at Eagle Creek. To return to Portland, take I-84 eastbound to Exit 44 (Cascade Locks), where you can get off the freeway and re-enter westbound.]

In winter, the mouth of Eagle Creek provides opportunities for close comparison of Common [2] and Barrow's [4] Goldeneye, as well as good looks at Western Grebe [2], Common Merganser [1], and Bald Eagle [1]. In spring and fall, look for Harlequin Duck [4] in the creek close to the off-ramp bridge. These birds breed higher up Eagle Creek in the summer. At any time of year, look for American Dipper [2] at Eagle Creek, one of the most reliable sites in the county for this species.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* On your way to or from Eagle Creek, take Exit 40 to access **Bonneville Dam**. Stop at the security checkpoint, then bear right and follow signs to the visitor center. The main spillway will appear on your left. When the shad are running (peaks in June), this spot can attract huge numbers of gulls. **Bradford Island** (situated between the two halves of the dam) has produced Peregrine Falcon [2] and Northern Shrike [2]. The higher grassy areas on the island have excellent habitat for sparrows. On the south side of I-84 at Exit 40, **Tanner Creek** is another reliable site for American Dipper [2]. Park (fee) and walk along the creek for about a quarter-mile to a weir, listening for the loud calls of the dippers. The trail continues for a strenuous mile



up to Wahclella Falls, worth the hike to see the impressive cascade of water.

## 2. Larch Mountain

*Best regular birds:* Blue Grouse [2], Ruffed Grouse [3], Northern Pygmy-Owl [3], Gray Jay [2], Hermit Warbler [1], Red Crossbill [2], Evening Grosbeak [2]

*Highlights:* Northern Goshawk [4], Calliope Hummingbird [3], Rock Wren [4], Mountain Bluebird [5], Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch [5]

At an elevation of 4,056 feet, Larch Mountain is the highest readily-accessible point in the county and provides the best opportunity for finding mountain species. Birding above Mile 4 is best from mid-May through mid-October. [Note: Larch Mountain Road is closed above Mile 10 (or lower) from late fall to about May (varies year-to-year) by deep snow.]

*Directions:* From downtown Portland, take Interstate 84 east to Exit 22 (Corbett). At the top of the exit ramp, turn right (south) onto Corbett Hill Road, which winds its way 1.3 miles up the hill. When you come to a fork at the top of the hill, bear left (east) onto Crown Point Highway (Columbia River Scenic Highway). Proceed 1.8 miles and bear right onto Larch Mountain Road. *Note your odometer reading, as*

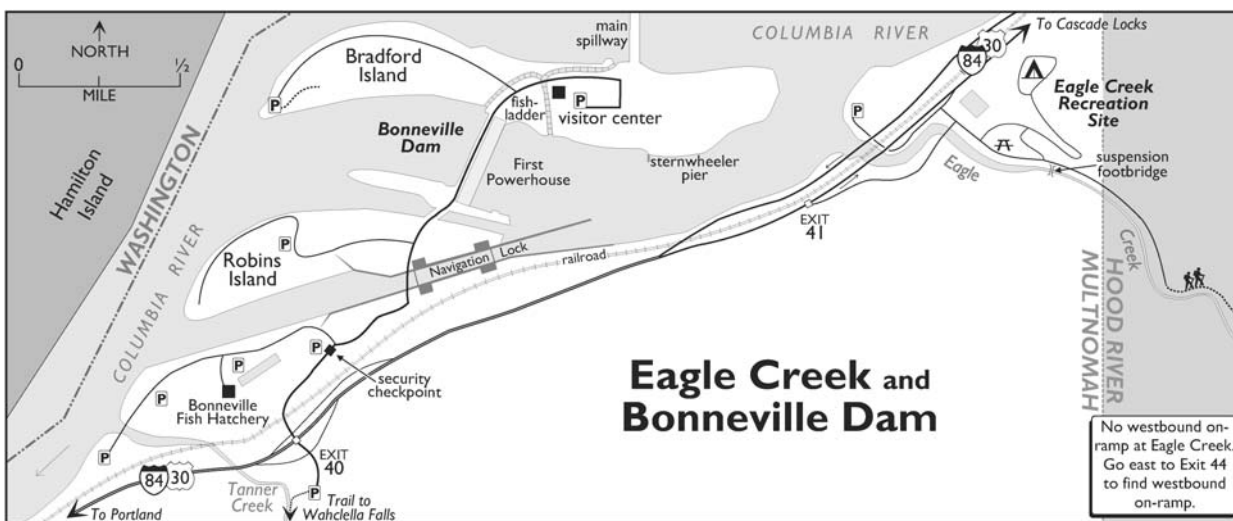


Looking west to Bonneville Dam from the mouth of Eagle Creek. Photo/J. Fitchen

birding spots along Larch Mountain Road are best identified by their distance from this point. Over the next 14 miles, the road works its way to the summit of Larch Mountain. As you drive, pay attention to the green milepost signs as these, together with your odometer reading, will help you find the specific birding locations described below.

At **Mile 1.3**, stop at the pullout on the right to check the large maple trees scarred by rows of wells drilled by Red-breasted Sapsuckers [2]. In May 2003, a Red-naped Sapsucker [5] joined the Red-breasted for several weeks. At **Mile 4.3**, park (free) in the large gravel

area on the right and walk the logging road with a blue gate. Look for Ruffed Grouse [3] year-round, and from May to September, Pacific-slope Flycatcher [1] and Hermit Warbler [1]. At **Mile 8.4**, there is a pullout on the left at a gated logging road. Park here and walk across the road through a stand of Douglas-fir to an overgrown clear-cut. Resident birds at this site are Northern Pygmy-Owl [3], Gray Jay [2], and Red Crossbill [2]. From May through September, visitors include Rufous Hummingbird [1], Hermit [1] and MacGillivray's [2] Warblers, and Evening Grosbeak [2]. At **Mile 9.0**, immediately after the sign for Mount







*Sherrard Point at the summit of Larch Mountain. Photo/I. Tomlinson*

Hood National Forest, park by the gate on the right and walk 300 yards to the clear-cut on your right (partially obscured by a buffer of tall trees). It is important here to walk down into the heart of the clear-cut. Look for resident Blue Grouse [2], Northern Pygmy-Owl [3], Red-breasted Sapsucker [2], Hairy [1] and Pileated [2] Woodpeckers, Gray Jay [2], Common Raven [1] and Red Crossbill [2]. Visitors include Calliope Hummingbird [3] and Western Bluebird [3] in May, and Common Nighthawk [3], House Wren [1], and Chipping Sparrow [3] from May through September. At **Mile 12.1**, a gated logging road angles off to the right. Walk about a quarter-mile down this road to another clear-cut. Look for the same birds described at Mile 9.0 as well as Townsend's Solitaire [3]. From **Mile 12 to 14**, is the best site in the county for Blue Grouse [2]. Look for the birds in the grass at the side of the road. In the **Summit Area**, check for Blue Grouse [2], Gray Jay [2], Varied Thrush [1], and Chipping Sparrow [3] around the upper and lower parking lots (fee). Take the quarter-mile trail (marked) that leads to the summit (Sherrard Point). On the way, be alert for Blue Grouse [2], Northern Goshawk [4], Red-breasted Nuthatch [1], and Varied Thrush [1]. From the exposed summit, scan for Clark's Nutcracker [4], Mountain Bluebird [5], and Townsend's Solitaire [3]. Check the scree below the face for Rock Wren

[4] and Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch [5].

*Nearby sites worth checking:* If you are looking for a shortcut to proceed on to Bonneville Dam, take **SE Brower Road** to the right (just before Milepost 4 as you *descend* from the mountain). The pavement eventually gives way to a graded gravel road that becomes **Palmer Mill Road** and winds down to Bridal Veil Falls and the Columbia River Scenic Highway. Watch for Blue Grouse [2] and Ruffed Grouse [3] along Palmer Mill Road. Go right (east) on the Columbia River Scenic Highway (no access to I-84 at Bridal Veil) about 7 miles to Ainsworth State Park where you can re-enter I-84 at Exit 35 and drive east to Bonneville Dam.

### 3. Sandy River Delta

*Best regular birds:* Western Kingbird [4], Red-eyed Vireo [3], Yellow-breasted Chat [3]

*Highlights:* Clark's Grebe [4], Surf Scoter [4], Red-breasted Merganser [4], Eastern Kingbird [5], Harris's Sparrow [4]

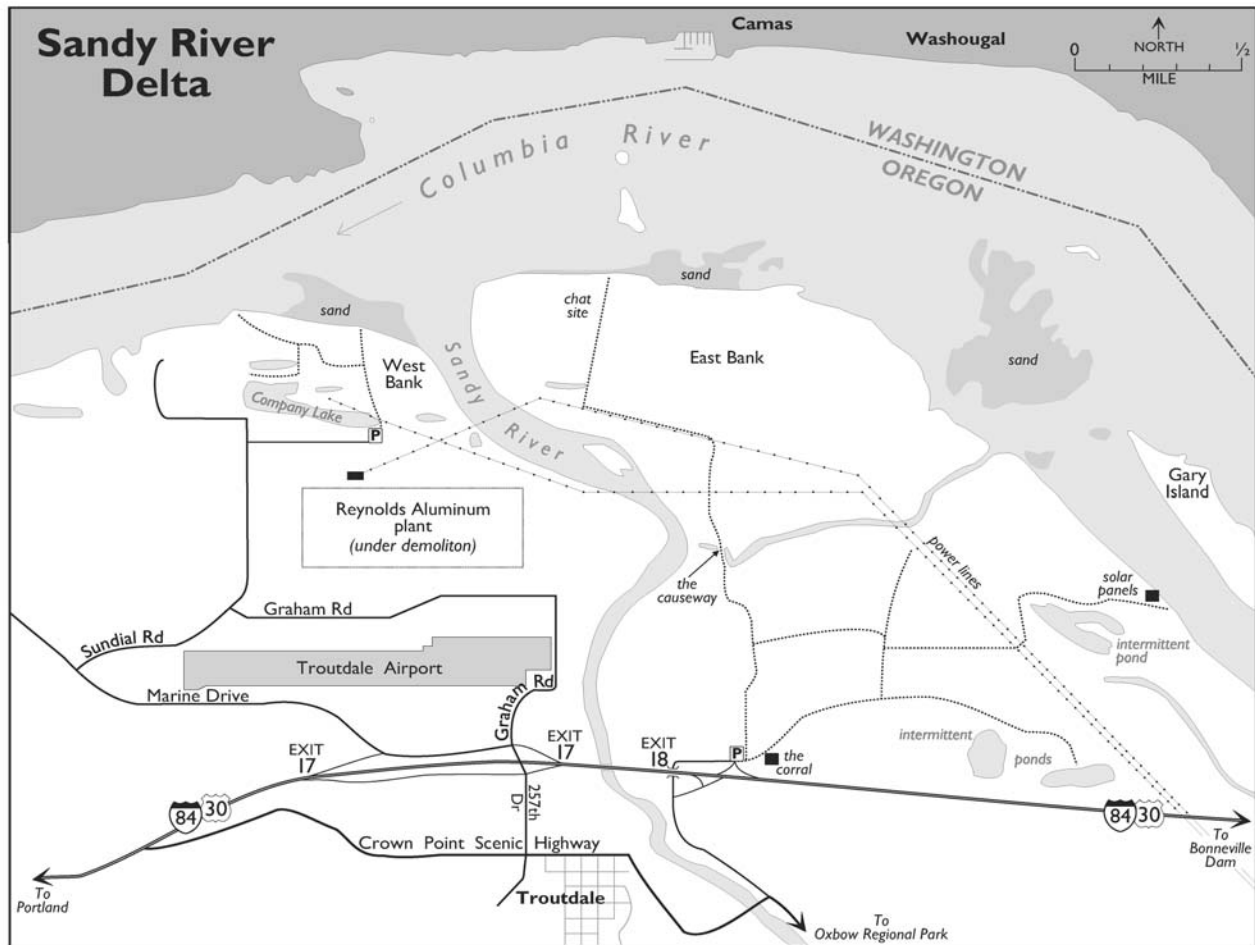
As the first substantial area of open country at the western end of the Columbia Gorge, the Sandy River Delta has significant potential for attracting eastern species. Recent finds at this site include Ash-throated Flycatcher [5], Sage Thrasher [5] (at The Corral), and Clay-colored Sparrow [5]. The east bank of the delta has extensive grasslands, stands

of cottonwoods, and, in spring, good shorebird habitat at two intermittent ponds east of Exit 18 along Interstate 84. The west bank, site of a Reynolds Aluminum plant, has similar habitat and easier access to the Columbia River. Because the aluminum plant is currently being demolished, the area is temporarily closed to public access. Reportedly the site will reopen when demolition is completed (summer 2005).

*Directions:* To reach the **east bank** area from downtown Portland, take Interstate 84 east to Exit 18. At the bottom of the off-ramp, turn right (north) back under the freeway. The road curves right (east) and parallels the interstate. Just before re-entering the freeway, there is a dirt parking area on the left. Park here (free) to access the extensive system of dirt roads and trails.

To reach the **west bank** of the Sandy River Delta, get back on Interstate 84 westbound and go 0.4 mile to Exit 17. At the light at the bottom of the off-ramp, turn right (north) on Graham Road. The road traverses the east end of the Troutdale Airport, then curves left (west), and in about a mile intersects Sundial Road. Turn right (north) and proceed 0.5 mile to the entrance to the former Reynolds Aluminum plant (on your right). At present, a gated dirt road leads north from the facility's parking lot over the dike and on to the Columbia River (about a five-minute walk). The future route to the river may change when demolition of the plant is completed.

On both sides of the Sandy River, check the stands of cottonwoods for Red-eyed Vireo [3] in late May and June. These stands are also good for Great Horned Owl [2], Downy [1] and Hairy [1] Woodpeckers, Black-headed Grosbeak [1], Bullock's Oriole [1], and Purple Finch [1]. On the **east bank** of the delta, the willows by the causeway (see map) are good for Willow Flycatcher [1], Swainson's Thrush [1], and Yellow Warbler [2] in summer, and Hermit Thrush [1] in winter. In spring, check the causeway area for Yellow-breasted Chat [3]. This species has also been seen in the more open country on the



way to the Columbia River (see map). Walk the extensive grasslands to the northeast of the Exit 18 parking lot and scan the sapling stakes for Western Kingbird [4] (May) and occasional Eastern Kingbird [5] (May through July), as well as Northern Shrike [2] on exposed perches in winter. The grasslands are good for migrant and wintering sparrow flocks that sometimes include rarer species such as Harris's Sparrow [4]. Following the dirt road that parallels the freeway to the east will bring you to two intermittent ponds. In late spring and early fall, the muddy edges of these ponds attract shorebirds including peeps, yellowlegs, and Solitary Sandpiper [3]. In spring, the ponds are also good for Blue-winged [2] and Cinnamon [1] Teal. This general area has also produced American Bittern [2]. On the **west bank** of the delta, a brief walk brings you to the

Columbia River. [Note: You can also reach the Columbia on the east bank, but it is a 2.5-mile walk from the Exit 18 parking lot.] The river is good for loons, grebes, ducks, gulls, and raptors. Scan from the shoreline for Osprey [1], Bald Eagle [1], Merlin [2], and Peregrine Falcon [2]. The main channel may have several species of wintering grebes including Horned [2], Eared [3], Western [2], and rarely, Clark's [4]. Interesting ducks include Surf Scoter [4] (late fall) and Red-breasted Merganser [4] (spring). Check the sandy edges and shoals for Bonaparte's Gull [2], Caspian Tern [2], and Snow Bunting [5], a rare visitor that appeared in November 2002.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* A bit out of the way, but still worth checking, is **Oxbow Regional Park** in the Sandy River Gorge. The route from Exit 18 is circuitous but well

marked. From the off-ramp at Exit 18, drive 2.8 miles south to the Stark Street bridge (the *second* bridge you come to that crosses the Sandy River). Drive across the bridge and go 1.9 miles to the traffic light at SE Troutdale Road. Turn left (south) on Troutdale and go 1.6 miles to SE Division Street. Turn left (east) on Division and drive 3.8 miles to SE Hosner Road. [Note: Division Street inconspicuously becomes Oxbow Drive during this leg.] At SE Hosner, turn left (north) and descend to the entrance of the park (fee). Oxbow Park has a good selection of woodland species, and is the best site in the county for Ruffed Grouse [3]. In April and May, walk the Flood Plain Trail (on your left 0.2 mile after the entrance), listening for the percussive drumming of this species, often felt before it is heard.

## CENTRAL COUNTY

### 4. Mount Tabor Park

*Best regular birds:* Olive-sided Flycatcher [1], Hammond's Flycatcher [2], Cassin's Vireo [2], MacGillivray's Warbler [2]  
*Highlights:* Dusky Flycatcher [4], Townsend's Solitaire [3]

This urban park, which sits atop a hill in southeast Portland, contains three reservoirs and a variety of habitats including stands of Douglas-fir, large maples, shrubs, and open grass fields. It is the best site in the county to look for warblers and flycatchers during the spring migration.

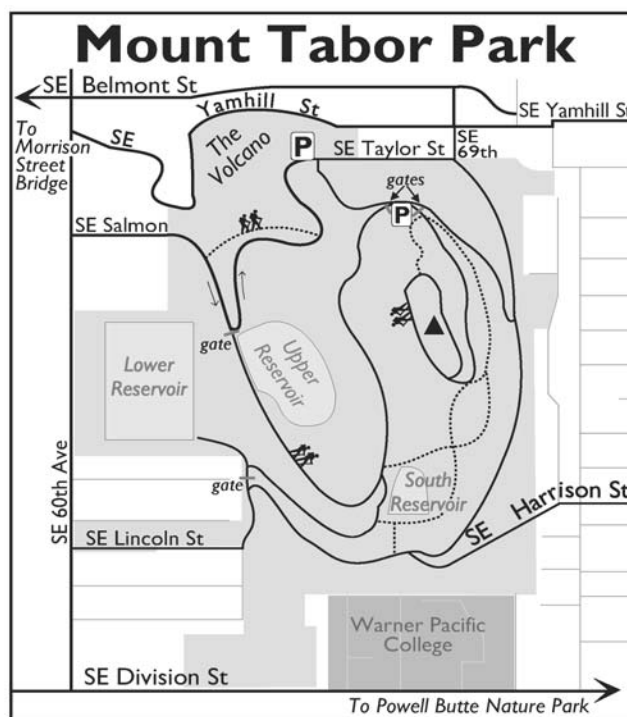
*Directions:* From downtown Portland, take the Morrison Street Bridge and continue east for about 3 miles on SE Belmont Street. Turn right (south) on SE 60th Avenue and then left (east) on SE Salmon Street, which takes you uphill through a gate and into the park. The road curves right, then sharp left, and winds up the hill 0.6 mile to a basketball court, small amphitheater and substantial parking lot (free) on your left. This area is referred to by birders as "The Volcano." Keep right and continue 0.2 mile uphill to a smaller parking lot on your right. To reach the summit, park here (free) and either walk up the gated paved road or take the series of steps that go up to the right about 50 yards past the gate. [Note: Mount Tabor Park is closed to vehicular traffic on Wednesdays, affording birders a chance to explore the park on foot without traffic noise and other distractions.]

Resident birds at Mount Tabor include Cooper's Hawk [2], Band-tailed Pigeon [1], Chestnut-backed Chickadee [1], Red-breasted Nuthatch [1], Hutton's Vireo [1], and Lesser Goldfinch [3] (particularly near the South Reservoir). The park shines during spring migration when it attracts large numbers of migrant passerines. Look for flocks of warblers throughout the park, but

especially in the maples at the summit and near The Volcano. Common species include Orange-crowned [1], Yellow-rumped [1], Black-throated Gray [1], Townsend's [1], and Wilson's [1] Warbler. Uncommon are Nashville [2], Yellow [2], Hermit [1], and MacGillivray's [2] Warblers. Rare eastern warblers such as Tennessee [5], Blackpoll [5], and Canada [5] have also occurred. Look for Cassin's [2] and Warbling [1] Vireos associated with the warbler flocks. Flycatchers favor the brush and mid-story in the southeast corner of the park. Western Wood-Pewee [1] as well as Hammond's [2] and

of Snowy Owl [5], Barred Owl [4], Black-chinned Hummingbird [5], Williamson's Sapsucker [5], and Summer Tanager [5] have been reported at Mount Tabor.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* About 5 miles to the east, 600+-acre **Powell Butte Nature Park** contains open grasslands, an abandoned orchard at the top of the hill, and a dense Douglas-fir woods to the west. To reach Powell Butte from Mount Tabor Park, return to the intersection of SE 60th and Salmon, turn left (south), and go 0.6 mile to SE Division Street. Turn left (east) and drive 4.9 miles to SE 162nd Avenue. Turn right (south), go 0.6 mile, cross Powell Boulevard, and continue up the hill a half-mile to the parking lot (free). The grass fields above the parking lot at Powell Butte are the best spot in the county for Ring-necked Pheasant [2] and Lazuli Bunting [2]. A vagrant Blue-gray Gnatcatcher [5] was reported here in May 2001.



Pacific-slope [1] Flycatchers are easy to find. A bit tougher but regular, Olive-sided Flycatcher [1] can be seen calling from the tops of tall trees near the summit. Dusky Flycatcher [4], difficult to distinguish from Hammond's, is probably annual in the park. A Gray Flycatcher [5] appeared in May 2002 near The Volcano. Other birds to watch for in spring include Anna's Hummingbird [2], Calliope Hummingbird [3], Townsend's Solitaire [3], Swainson's Thrush [1], and Western Tanager [1]. In winter, look for Varied Thrush [1] and Fox Sparrow [1]. Very rare occurrences

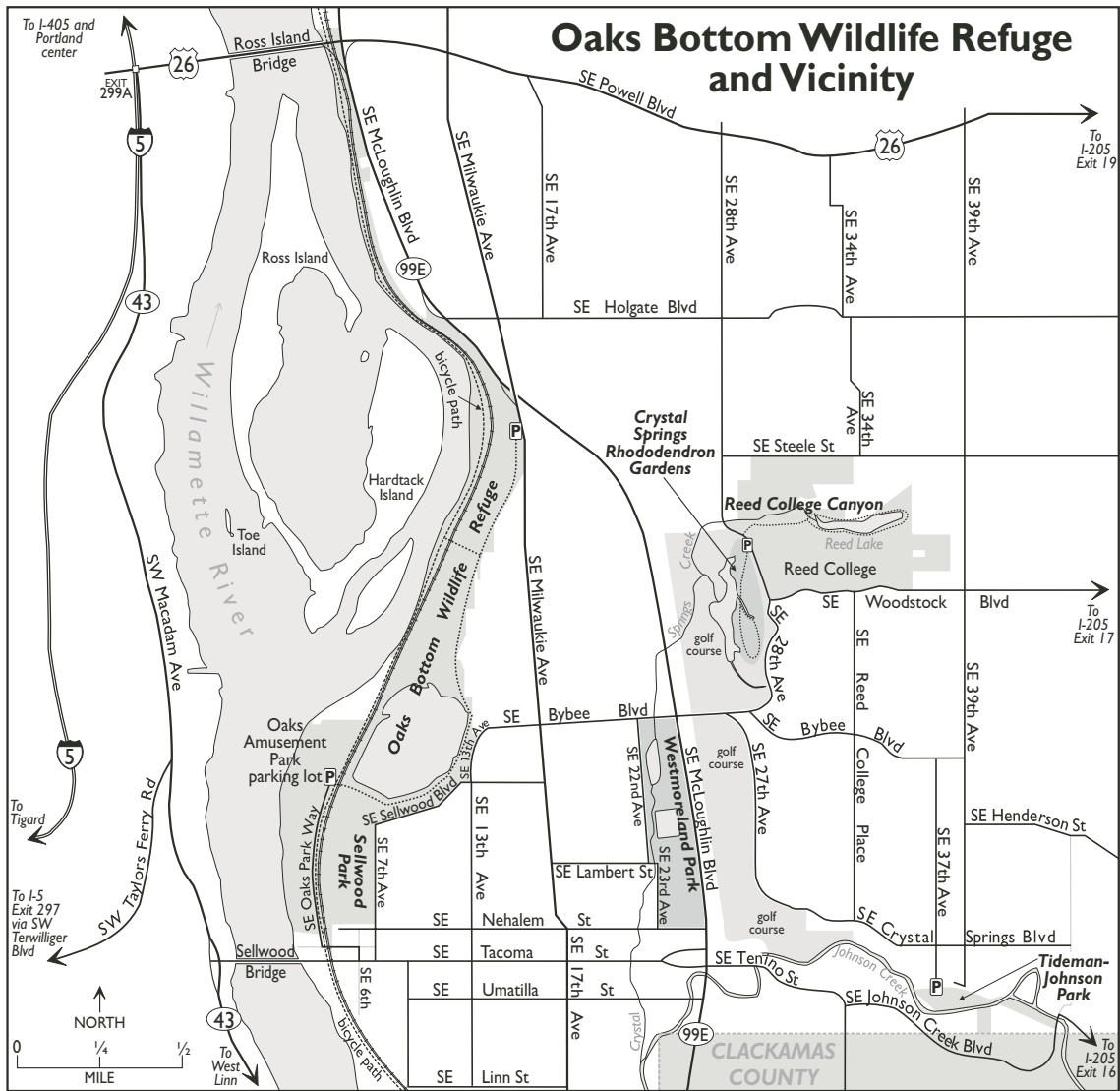
### 5. Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

*Best regular birds:* Wood Duck [1], Osprey [1], Hutton's Vireo [1]  
*Highlights:* Marbled Godwit [5], Say's Phoebe [4], Common Redpoll [5]

Considering its central location in the city, Oaks Bottom is a remarkable spot for birds. There is a shallow lake which reveals mudflats when the water level is low (late summer, early fall). The site also contains grasslands at the north and south ends, and riparian habitat along the lake.

*Directions:* Oaks Bottom can be accessed from either SE Milwaukie (north end) or Oaks Amusement Park (south end). For access to the north end, take the Ross Island Bridge and exit onto 99E at the east end of the bridge. Drive 1.2 miles south and exit onto SE Milwaukie Avenue. At the top of the off-ramp, bear right





and go about 100 yards to the small parking lot (free) on your right. A gravel trail starting at the south end of the parking area leads down into Oaks Bottom. For access to the south end, take the Sellwood Bridge eastbound and turn left (north) on SE 6th Avenue after crossing the bridge. Go one block and turn left (west) on SE Spokane Street. Cross the railroad tracks and take an immediate right (north) onto SE Oaks Park Way. Drive to the amusement center's entrance and park (free). From here, you can either walk up to the paved bicycle path that runs along the railroad tracks on the west side of the lake, or go under the tracks and walk along the dirt path that parallels the south and east sides of

the lake.

From the bicycle path on the west side, scan the lake for a variety of ducks (especially in winter) including Eurasian Wigeon [2], Greater Scaup [2], and Common Goldeneye [2]. Great Blue Herons [1] congregate here and are sometimes accompanied by Great Egrets [2]. Water levels are best for shorebirds in late summer and fall. Scope the muddy edges for Semipalmated Plover [1], both yellowlegs, Western [1] and Least [1] Sandpipers, and Long-billed Dowitcher [1], as well as unusual visitors. A Marbled Godwit [5] stopped by for a few days in October 2003 and a Snowy Egret [5] occurred here in September 2001. In spring,

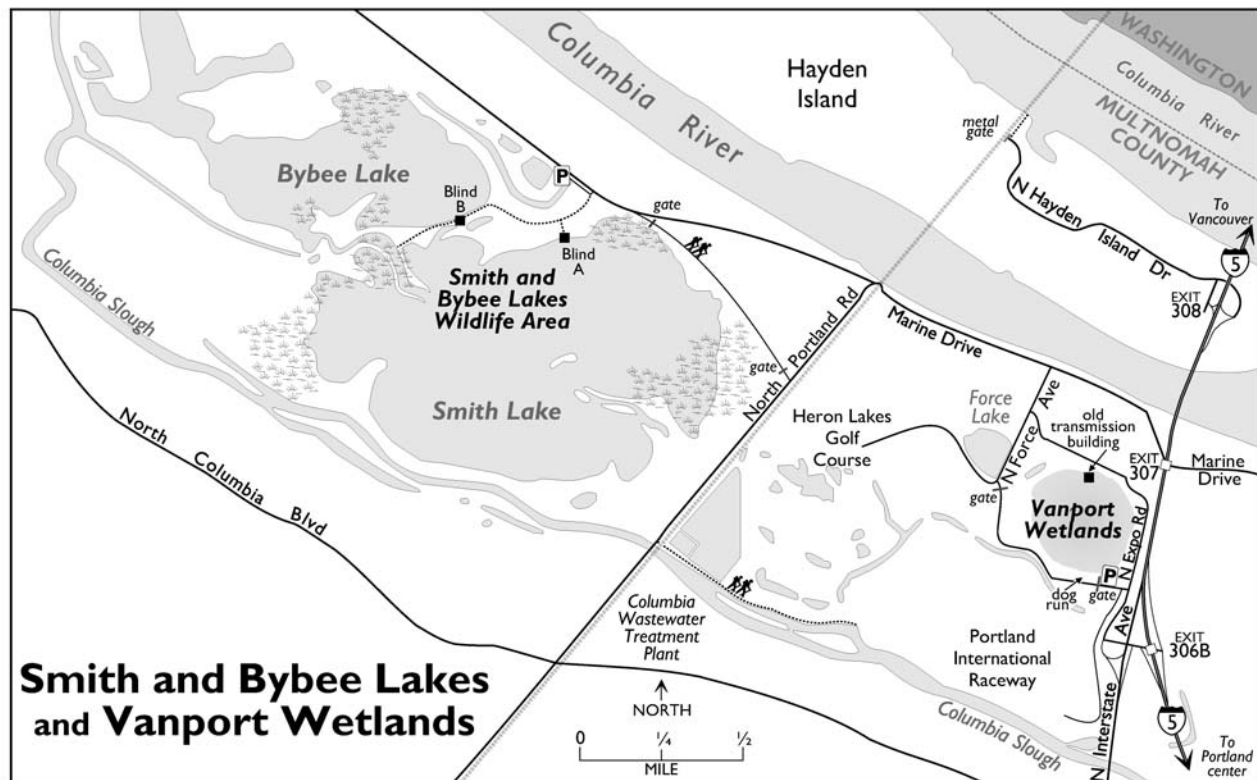
look for migrating swallows over the water, including the uncommon Bank Swallow [4]. Say's Phoebe [4] and Common Redpoll [5] have occurred along the railroad tracks on the west side of the lake in winter. Nesting birds in the wooded areas around the lake include Cooper's Hawk [2], Western Screech-Owl [2], and Hutton's Vireo [1]. These species are joined by Hermit [1] and Varied [1] Thrushes in winter.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* **Sellwood Park** is situated on the bluff above the south end of Oaks Bottom. To reach it from the north end, drive south on SE Milwaukie, turn right (west) on SE Bybee which curves left (south) and becomes SE 13th

Avenue. Turn right (west) onto SE Sellwood Boulevard and continue until you see the park on your right. From the south end of Oaks Bottom, retrace your route to SE Spokane Street, turn left (north) onto SE 7th Avenue and look for the park on your left. This park contains a stand of Douglas-fir in the southwest corner that is fairly reliable for wintering Townsend's Warbler [1]. From Sellwood Park, return to SE Bybee and drive east to SE 22nd Avenue, turn right (south) and **Westmoreland Park** will appear on your left. This is an excellent spot for close-up study of wintering gulls including Mew [1], California [1], and Thayer's [1], as well as a full spectrum of intergrades between Western [2] and Glaucous-winged [1] Gulls. This is

also the best site in the county for Eurasian Wigeon [2]. Rarities such as Emperor Goose [4] and Slaty-backed Gull [5] have shown up in winter. To reach **Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**, continue east on Bybee, bear left (north) onto SE 28th Avenue along the east side of Eastmoreland Golf Course. When you come to a three-way intersection (Woodstock Boulevard), turn left (this actually keeps you on SE 28th) and go about 100 yards to the parking lot (free) on your left. Walk down into the garden along the gentle paved path to a wooden bridge that crosses an arm of the pond. This is a good spot for waterfowl in winter, including Canvasback [2] and Redhead [3]. Wood Duck [1] is resident, as is the elusive Green

Heron [2]. From the Crystal Springs parking lot, continue another 0.1 mile north on SE 28th Avenue and turn right (east) into the Reed College campus. Park (free) and walk east to reach the **Reed College Canyon**, a reliable site for Hooded Merganser [2] in winter that can also be productive for songbirds during spring migration. **Tideman Johnson Park**, a nearby spot that is good for Western Screech-Owl [2], can be reached from Westmoreland Park by taking Bybee east to SE 27th Avenue and turning right (south). After about half a mile, 27th Avenue bears left (east) and becomes SE Crystal Springs Boulevard. Go half a mile, turn right on SE 37th Avenue and follow it to the parking area (free) where it dead-ends on the park.



## 6. PDX/Marine Drive

*Best regular birds:* Common Loon [2], Horned Grebe [2], Western Grebe [2]

*Highlights:* Red-throated Loon [3], Pacific Loon [3], Swainson's Hawk [5], Short-eared Owl [3], Western Kingbird [4]

Marine Drive traverses the north side of Portland International Airport (PDX) and affords good views of the Columbia River and the open fields around the airport. A problem is that there are relatively few turnouts, and there never seems to be one exactly where you need it. An alternative and often more productive approach is to park at one of the designated areas (e.g., the lots both left and right of Marine Drive 0.8 mile east of NE 33rd) and walk east along the strip of land between the road and the river.

*Directions:* From downtown Portland take I-5 north to Exit 307 (Delta Park, Marine Drive), bear right when the off-ramp splits and follow signs to Marine Drive east. At the stop sign, turn left and proceed to a 4-way stop. Continue straight and bear right onto Marine Drive, watching for the Columbia to appear on your left in about a mile.

During migration and winter, the Columbia River hosts good numbers of loons, grebes, and gulls, all of which can be observed from the paths along the riverbank. Look for Red-throated [3], Pacific [3], and Common [2] Loons; Horned [2], Red-necked [3], Eared [3], and Western [2] Grebes; and Bonaparte's [2], Western [2] and Glaucous [3] Gulls. In the grasslands along the river and around the airport, Swainson's Hawk [5] and Western Kingbird [4] have occurred in spring as has Short-eared Owl [3] in winter.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* The **181st Street marsh**, a little-known and underbirded site, is situated at the east end of Airport Way. To reach it, turn right (south) off Marine Drive on NE 185th Drive, go 0.2 mile and turn right (west) on NE Riverside Parkway for 0.5 mile to the traffic light at Airport Way, turn right and go 0.4 mile, then turn left on NE

Mason Street. Find a place to park and walk the unmarked dirt road immediately to your left after you turn onto Mason. This will bring you, in about 50 yards, to a bluff overlooking the marsh. This spot is good for American Bittern [2], Virginia Rail [2], and Sora [2] in spring, and Swamp Sparrow [3] has occurred in winter. This site can also be accessed directly off I-84. Take Exit 13, turn north on 181st Street (which becomes Airport Way as it curves to the west) and go 1.4 miles to NE Mason. Also worthwhile is exploring the *open spaces between developments* east of the airport. Check, for example, the fields at the southwest corner of NE 148th and Marine Drive (geese, meadowlarks, and blackbirds), and the southwest corner of NE 185th and Marine Drive (ditto). In spring, be on the lookout for water-filled "scrapes" at construction sites. These may attract migrating shorebirds, including Black-bellied Plover [3] and Solitary Sandpiper [3]. In May 2002, a Long-billed Curlew [5] made a brief stop at one of these scrapes.

## 7. Vanport Wetlands

*Best regular birds:* Blue-winged Teal [2], Redhead [3], Black-bellied Plover [3]

*Highlights:* White-faced Ibis [5], Ross's Goose [4], Brant [4], American Golden-Plover [4], Semipalmated Sandpiper [4], Wilson's Phalarope [4], Black Tern [4], Bank Swallow [4]

Formerly known as Radio Towers Pond, this close-in mitigation site has produced an extraordinary diversity of shorebirds and waterfowl. Originally a natural wetland, the area was drained and converted to farmland beginning in the late 1920s. In 1931, KGW Radio bought the property and built a state-of-the-art transmission facility including two 625-foot towers. In May 1999, the Port of Portland purchased the 90-acre site to compensate for wetlands impacts at other locations on Port property. Public access to the site is restricted, but depending on water level and vegetation, it can usually be

adequately scoped from the grassy dog run along the southern edge of the pond, or from the gated pull-out in the northeast corner of the site.

*Directions:* From downtown Portland take I-5 north to Exit 306B (Expo Center). At the bottom of the off-ramp, turn left (west) at the traffic light and cross under the freeway and the Max line. Following signs to Portland International Raceway, turn right (north), go 0.1 mile, and turn left. Instead of turning immediately left again into the raceway entrance, stay straight for 30 yards to the small gravel parking areas (free) on your right and left. Walk north across the grass field to the fence along the south side of the wetland, and deploy your spotting scope.

When the water level is low enough to reveal mudflats, this is an excellent site for migrating shorebirds. Look for Black-bellied [3], American Golden [4], and Semipalmated [2] Plovers; both yellowlegs; Solitary [3], Spotted [1], Semipalmated [4], Western [1], Least [1], Baird's [2], and Pectoral [2] Sandpipers; Dunlin [2]; Short-billed [3] and Long-billed [1] Dowitchers; Wilson's Snipe [1]; and Wilson's [4] and Red-necked [2] Phalaropes. As the water rises in fall and early winter, the site attracts wintering ducks and geese. Among the large flocks of Green-winged Teal [1] and American Wigeon [1], look for their Eurasian counterparts. Huge flocks of Canada Geese [1], rotating between this site and nearby grasslands, may be accompanied by Greater White-fronted [2] and Snow [2] Geese, as well as rarer species such as Ross's Goose [4] and Brant [4]. A surprising number of ducks spend the summer at this site. In addition to the expected Blue-winged [2] and Cinnamon [1] Teal, watch for Redhead [3], Ring-necked Duck [1], and both species of scaup. Rare visitors to this site have included White-faced Ibis [5], Black Tern [4], Bank Swallow [4], and Vesper [4] and Harris's [4] Sparrows.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* Immediately to the west of Vanport Wetlands, **Force Lake** is a shallow



pond that can be good for ducks, grebes, and shorebirds. The latter are more likely to be present in fall when the water level is low and muddy edges are exposed. To reach Force Lake from the Vanport Wetlands parking area, drive 0.5 mile north on N. Expo Road, turn left (west) and go 0.4 mile to N. Force Avenue. Turn left (south) and drive 0.2 mile. The pond, and a couple of parking pullouts (free), will appear on your right. Another nearby body of water worth checking is the

### **Columbia Wastewater Treatment Plant.**

To reach this site from Force Lake, drive 0.3 mile north on N. Force Avenue, turn left (west) on N. Marine Drive and go 0.7 mile to the stoplight at N. Portland Road. Turn left (south) and drive 1.0 mile to a pull-out on your left. [Note: If you cross the Columbia Slough you've gone too far.] Follow the paved bicycle path under the railroad bridge and to the east along the north side of the slough. In about 100 yards, the wastewater ponds will be visible on your left. Walk along the bicycle path to the southeast corner of the ponds where the fence is lower and the ponds can be scoped without obstruction. This site can be good for a variety of ducks and has also produced Peregrine Falcon [2], Semipalmated Sandpiper [4], Red-necked Phalarope [2], and Northern Shrike [2].

**Hayden Island**, a good site for easy access to the Columbia River, is just a mile north of Vanport Wetlands. To reach this site, re-enter I-5 and drive north to Exit 308 (Jantzen Beach). Stay left at the bottom of the off-ramp, pass under I-5, and continue west onto Hayden Island Drive. Follow this winding street 1.3 miles to the end of the pavement and a metal gate. Park and walk right (north), paralleling the railroad trestle about 200 yards to the Columbia River. Birds at this site are similar to those described on the river along Marine Drive.

## **8. Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area**

*Best regular birds:* Marsh Wren [1], Red-eyed Vireo [3], Yellow Warbler [2], Lincoln's Sparrow [1]

*Highlights:* American White Pelican [3], Red-breasted Merganser [4], Northern Shrike [2]

This nearly 2,000-acre park within the Portland city limits features two large, shallow lakes, marshlands, stands of cottonwoods, open grasslands, and riparian habitat. A



*Iain Tomlinson and companions on the path to the Columbia River along the railroad trestle on Hayden Island. Photo/J. Fitchen*

paved path leads to blinds overlooking each of the lakes.

*Directions:* From downtown Portland, take Interstate 5 north to Exit 307 (Delta Park/Marine Drive). As you come down the off-ramp, stay left following signs to Marine Drive west. This will bring you back under the freeway to a stoplight. Turn right and drive west on Marine Drive for 2.1 miles, then turn left (south) into the parking lot (free) at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area (no pets allowed).

Take the paved path that starts at the east end of the parking area then turns south and west and meanders through an extensive stand of cottonwoods. In late May and June, look for Red-eyed Vireo [3] and Yellow Warbler [2]. Winter visitors include Hermit [1] and Varied [1] Thrushes, and Great Horned Owl [2] is resident in these woods. The open country beyond the

cottonwoods is good for wintering sparrows including Lincoln's [1], White-throated [2], and occasionally, Harris's [4]. Also in winter, look for Red-shouldered [4] and Rough-legged [2] Hawks, Peregrine Falcon [2], and Northern Shrike [2]. In spring, check the marshy areas for rails, Marsh Wren [1], Common Yellowthroat [1], and Yellow-headed Blackbird [3]. In fall and winter, the lakes attract large numbers of ducks, including Canvasback [2], Redhead [3], Common Goldeneye [2], and

**Red-breasted Merganser** [4]. During migration, Bonaparte's Gull [2] and Caspian [2] and Common [4] Terns may stop at the lakes. A non-breeding flock of American White Pelicans [3] has appeared in summer the past few years.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* Continuing west along Marine Drive, watch for **open fields** to the south of the road. Be mindful of signage here as some of this land is posted.

These short-grass fields can be productive for Horned Lark [3], American Pipit [2] and Western Meadowlark [1]. Rare sightings of McCown's [5], Lapland [5], and Smith's [5] Longspurs have occurred in this area (fall and winter). Continue west on Marine Drive to **Kelley Point Park**, situated at the confluence of the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. After entering the park, drive to the last parking lot (free) and walk west to the point. The stands of cottonwoods can be good for nesting songbirds, and the point is fairly reliable for Caspian Tern [2].

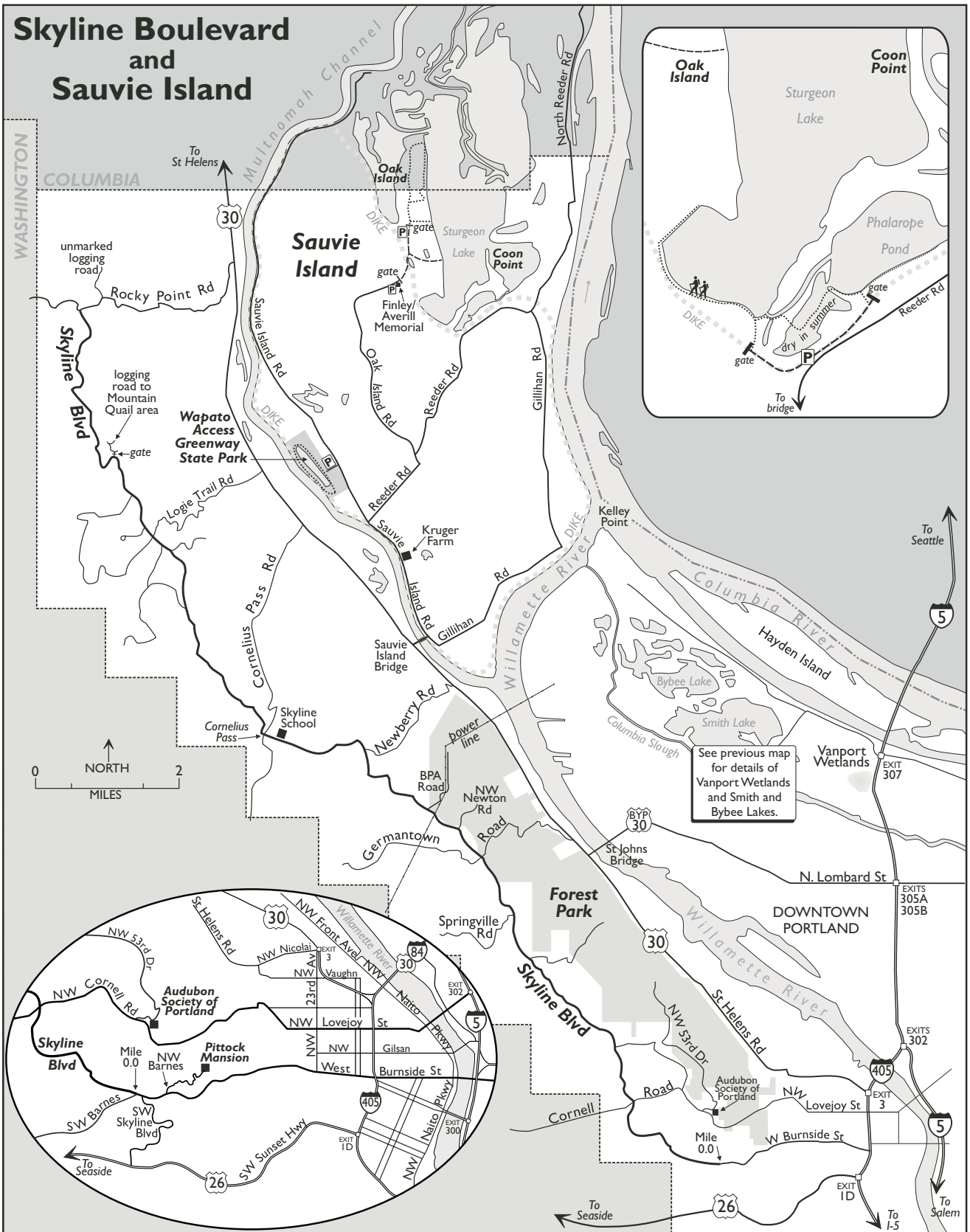
## **WEST COUNTY**

### **9. Sauvie Island**

*Best regular birds:* Tundra Swan [1], Rough-legged Hawk [2], Virginia Rail [2], Sora [2], Sandhill Crane [1], Baird's Sandpiper [2], Pectoral Sandpiper [2]

*Highlights:* American White Pelican [3], Trumpeter Swan [4], Emperor

# Skyline Boulevard and Sauvie Island



Goose [4], White-tailed Kite [4], Red-shouldered Hawk [4], Prairie Falcon [5], Parasitic Jaeger [4], Franklin's Gull [4], Common Tern [4], Northern Shrike [2]

Sauvie Island is one of the best birding venues in Oregon. Roughly the southern half of the island is in Multnomah County. The mixture of farmland, marshland, oak woodlands, lakes, ponds, and dense riparian brush attracts a diverse cross-section of avifauna. Particularly prevalent are wintering waterfowl, raptors, and during migration, shorebirds. Three of the best birding spots - Coon Point, Oak Island Road, and Wapato Greenway-are described in detail below.

*Directions:* To reach Sauvie Island from downtown Portland, take US-30 west approximately 10 miles to the Sauvie Island Bridge. Turn right (east) and cross the bridge. As you come down off the bridge, the road curves left (north) and becomes Sauvie Island Road. Parking permits (Day: \$3.50; Annual: \$11.00) are required at many locations on the island. These permits can be purchased at Sam's Cracker Barrel Grocery just north of the east end of the bridge.

**Coon Point:** One of the keys to Coon Point is getting down off the dike during the warm months. Often productive is a circuit that includes walking along the mudflats at the south end of Sturgeon Lake, then doubling back and walking to (and through) Phalarope Pond to the east (see map inset).

*Directions:* From the east end of the Sauvie Island Bridge, continue north on Sauvie Island Road 1.9 miles to NW Reeder Road. Turn right (east) and drive 3.2 miles to Coon Point (not well-marked) where there is a gravel parking area (permit required) on your left at the base of the dike. A paved ramp leads up to the top of the dike. Access to a small portion of the dike is permitted year-round; more extensive access is permitted from April 16 through September 30. During that timeframe, turn left (west) at the top of the dike, walk

about 300 yards to a gate and then down off the dike to Sturgeon Lake. As the summer progresses, a "trail" through the tall grass will be formed by the birders who have preceded you (see map).

The tall grasses along the dike attract wintering sparrows including Lincoln's [1] and White-throated [2]. In May 2001, a singing Grasshopper Sparrow [5] was at this site. From the top of the dike, scan the tops of the tall trees for Bald Eagle [1] year-round. In fall and winter, look for White-tailed Kite [4], Rough-legged Hawk [2], Merlin [2] and Peregrine Falcon [2]. Red-shouldered Hawks [4] have been seen from the dike in late summer. Huge numbers of ducks and geese winter on and around Sturgeon Lake. The dike is an excellent vantage point from which to scan for unusual ducks like Eurasian Wigeon [2] and Eurasian Green-winged Teal (potential split). Scope the flocks of geese for Snow Goose [2], Ross's Goose [4], and Brant [4] as well as the rare Emperor Goose [4]. These birds generally associate with large flocks of Canada Geese. Look for the Emperor's distinctive orange legs in flocks on the ground, and for the all-white tail in groups of birds in flight. In fall, Yellow-headed Blackbirds [3] have been seen in the area. During fall and early winter, impressive evening flights of ducks, geese and cranes may pass over the dike at Coon Point. A non-breeding flock of American White Pelicans [3], probably the same group of birds seen at Smith and Bybee Lakes, has summered at Sturgeon Lake for the past few years. Shorebirding on the fringes of Sturgeon Lake is best from July through September. Water levels during this period seem to vary mystically, somehow distantly associated with tides and the volume of flow at Bonneville Dam. On days when mud is exposed, the southern end of the lake can be full of shorebirds. Some of the more interesting species include Black-bellied [3] and Semipalmated [1] Plovers; Semipalmated [4], Baird's [2] and Pectoral [2] Sandpipers; Short-billed Dowitcher [3]; and Red-necked Phalarope [2]. Rare, but occasionally reported, are Pacific [4]

and American [4] Golden-Plover. Other fall migrants to look for are Parasitic Jaeger [4], Franklin's [4] and Bonaparte's [2] Gulls, and Common Tern [4].

**Oak Island:** The Oak Island Nature Trail traverses stands of mature oak, open grasslands, and riparian habitat along the west side of Sturgeon Lake. The road to Oak Island passes through farmland and open fields with occasional large oaks that are attractive perches for raptors.

*Directions:* If you are proceeding to Oak Island from Coon Point, turn back the way you came on NW Reeder Road. Drive 1.9 miles, and turn right (north) onto Oak Island Road. Alternatively, if you are going to Oak Island from the Sauvie Island Bridge, drive 1.9 miles north on Sauvie Island Road, turn right (east) on NW Reeder Road, go 1.2 miles, and turn left (north) onto Oak Island Road. About 2.5 miles from the Reeder Road turn-off, Oak Island Road curves 90 degrees to the right (east) and continues another 0.6 mile to the end of the pavement. The William L. Finley and Edgar F. Averill Memorial is on the right where the pavement ends. This site features a sheltered feeder and extensive brambles that attract an assortment of sparrows in winter, especially if someone has kept the feeder stocked with seed. Just past the end of the pavement, there is a gravel parking area (permit required) and a gate (closed from October 1 through April 15).

The paved portion of Oak Island Road is excellent for wintering raptors, including Bald Eagle [1], Northern Harrier [1], Rough-legged Hawk [2], Merlin [2], and Peregrine Falcon [2]. Rarities seen along this stretch of road include Ferruginous Hawk [5] and Prairie Falcon [5]. Look for resident owls, including Barn [2], Western Screech [2] and Great Horned [2], and for Northern Shrike [2], an uncommon winter visitor. In summer, watch the roadside for California Quail [1] as well as Chukar and Northern Bobwhite (introduced and not countable). Check the feeder at the Finley/Averill Memorial for



wintering passerines including White-breasted Nuthatch [1], White-throated Sparrow [2], and Purple Finch [1]. From April 16 through September 30, the gate beyond the memorial is open and you can continue on the gravel portion of Oak Island Road to Oak Island proper. When the road divides about a half mile past the gate, stay left and continue another half mile to a parking area (permit required) and another gate. Lewis's Woodpecker [4] has occurred near the parking area in fall, and Acorn Woodpecker [4] formerly bred in the nearby oaks. Walk around the gate to the nature trail through the oak woodland. The trail is good for Western Wood-Pewee [1], White-breasted Nuthatch [1], House Wren [1], Western Wood-Pewee [1], and Bullock's Oriole [1]. After about a half-mile, turn right onto a trail that leads to the west side of Sturgeon Lake, a different angle from which to scan for waterbirds similar to those described at Coon Point.



South end of Sturgeon Lake from the dike at Coon Point, Sauvie Island.  
Photo/J. Fitchen

**Wapato Access Greenway State Park:** Formerly known as Virginia Lake, this seasonal body of water is more marsh than lake. A wooden platform near mid-lake affords clear views of the wet areas, and a two-mile path around the lake traverses mixed woodlands, dense brambles, cottonwoods, and riparian habitat.

*Directions:* From the Sauvie Island Bridge, drive 2.4 miles north on Sauvie Island Road and turn left (west) into the gravel parking area (free) at the entrance to the park. Walk west about a quarter-mile along the dirt and gravel track to a grassy area with a picnic shelter. Bear left and then right and follow the path that goes through dense brush a couple hundred yards to the viewing platform. To circle the lake, bear right at the picnic shelter and continue north along the lake.

The woodlands at Wapato

are the best site in the county for Red-breasted Sapsucker [2] any time of year. Cassin's [2] and Red-eyed [3] Vireos, Bullock's Oriole [1], and Evening Grosbeak [2] are summer visitors, and Northern Pygmy-Owl [3] is a rare winter visitor. In spring and summer, look for Blue-winged [2] and Cinnamon [1] Teal, Virginia Rail [2], Sora [2], and Willow Flycatcher [1] from the wooden viewing platform. Red-shouldered Hawk [4] has also been seen from the platform in summer.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* About a mile north of the bridge, on the east

side of Sauvie Island Road, the fields around **Kruger's Farm** are an excellent spot for wintering geese and blackbirds. Careful study of blackbird flocks at this site has yielded all five species (Red-winged [1], Tricolored [3], Yellow-headed [3], Rusty [5], and Brewer's [1]) in a single morning. Check the goose flocks for Greater White-fronted [2], Snow [2], and Ross's [4] Goose. In spring and summer, look for Purple Martin [2] in nest boxes on the pilings along the Multnomah Channel across the road from Kruger Farm. **Gillihan Road**, which loops around the southern end of the island, can be productive for raptors in winter and for shorebirds in flooded fields in spring. To reach Gillihan Road, bear left off the east end of the Sauvie Island bridge. The fields by **Reeder Road**, both before and after Coon Point, are good in winter for swans (including both Tundra [1] and

Trumpeter [4]), geese and raptors.

**10. Skyline Boulevard/Forest Park**  
*Best regular birds:* Red-breasted Sapsucker [2], Western Bluebird [3], Cassin's Vireo [2]

*Highlights:* Mountain Quail [4], Short-eared Owl [3]

With an area of approximately 5,000 acres, Forest Park is the largest wooded park within the city limits of any municipality in the nation. Bounded by St. Helens Road (US-30) on the east, West Burnside on the south, Skyline Boulevard on the west, and Newberry Road on the

north, the park occupies the east face of Portland's west hills, rising some 1,200 feet from the Willamette River to the crest of the ridge.

A good approach to birding this area is to drive the length of Skyline Boulevard from south to north making side trips into Forest Park at various points along the way (see *Directions* below). Alternatively, Skyline Boulevard can be accessed by

several roads that climb up the ridge from US-30; namely, Germantown Road (at the St. John's Bridge), Newberry Road, Cornelius Pass Road, Logie Trail Road, and Rocky Point Road.

*Directions:* For the "grand tour" of the full length of Skyline Boulevard, take Burnside west to the top of the hill and continue straight when Burnside veers off to the left. You are now on Skyline Boulevard. [Note: This is a good place to zero your trip odometer, or at least to take note of a precise odometer reading, as many of the birding sites along Skyline Boulevard are poorly marked and best located by mileage.]

**Audubon House:** The headquarters of the Audubon Society of Portland is situated to the east of Skyline Boulevard. From the point where Skyline diverges from Burnside (i.e.,

where you zeroed your trip odometer), drive 1.6 miles north to Cornell Road. Turn right (east), go 1.5 miles and Audubon House will appear on your left. Check the feeders at the back of the building for close looks at Band-tailed Pigeon [1], Steller's Jay [1], and Chestnut-backed Chickadee [1]. In the nearby dense woods, Western Screech-Owl [2] and Barred Owl [4] are resident.

**Newton Road:** Return to Skyline Boulevard and go 4.6 miles north to Germantown Road. Cross Germantown and continue on Skyline 0.4 mile to NW Newton Road, an inconspicuously marked gravel road on your right with an open green gate. Drive down the hill 0.4 mile to the parking area (free) and walk any of the several trails in the area. Hutton's Vireo [1] is resident here. Summer breeders include Pacific-slope Flycatcher [1], Cassin's Vireo [2], and Black-throated Gray [1] and Wilson's [1] Warblers.

**BPA Road:** Return to Skyline Boulevard and drive 0.5 mile north to an unmarked dirt road on your right, the beginning of which is at 9640 Skyline Boulevard. It looks as if you are entering a private driveway, but you will note a green gate with "BPA Road" inscribed in white letters. Park and walk east on the dirt road about a quarter-mile to a powerline right-of-way, and continue downhill along the powerline. Band-tailed Pigeon [1], Common Raven [1], and Red Crossbill [2] are resident in the area. Summer breeders include Rufous Hummingbird [1], Swainson's Thrush [1], Orange-crowned [1] and MacGillivray's [2] Warblers, and Evening Grosbeak [2].

**Skyline School:** Continue 1.5 miles on Skyline Boulevard to Newberry Road. Cross Newberry and continue 1.2 miles to Skyline School on your right. The school is surrounded by open fields and grasslands where Western Bluebird [3] may breed. Short-eared Owl [3] has been seen hunting the fields around the school in winter.

**Clear-cuts:** Three-tenths of a mile

past the school, Skyline crosses Cornelius Pass Road. Stay on Skyline (which turns right after crossing Cornelius Pass) and go 4.9 miles to an unmarked logging road on your right that leads into a replanted clear-cut. Walk around the closed blue gate and go left up the hill. After about a quarter-mile, take the track to the right and go about 250 yards. Mountain Quail [4], a tough bird to find in the county, has been seen here in late winter. Other places to look for this elusive bird are the lower elevations on Larch Mountain and other clear-cuts in the West Hills. [Note: There are many other accessible clear-cuts to explore along Skyline Boulevard, especially toward the northern end.]

**Rocky Point Road:** Continue on Skyline Boulevard for 3.0 miles north to Rocky Point Road. Turn right (east) and go 0.4 mile to an unmarked logging road (green gate) on your left. Park and follow this road into a replanted clear-cut on the east slope of Dixie Mountain. Band-tailed Pigeon [1] and Northern Pygmy-Owl [3] (considerably tougher to find here than on Larch Mountain) are resident in this area. House Wren [1], Wilson's Warbler [1] and Evening Grosbeak [2] occur in summer. Continue 2.7 miles down Rocky Point Road to US-30. Turn right (south) and drive 6.3 miles to the Sauvie Island Bridge, or if you're done for the day, continue on to Portland.

*Nearby sites worth checking:* If you are doing the Skyline Loop, a stop at **Pittock Mansion** is a convenient detour at the beginning of your trip. From the intersection of West Burnside and NW 23rd, go 1.1 miles up Burnside, turn right on NW Barnes Road and follow signs to the mansion. Park (free) and wander the grounds, looking for resident birds like Anna's Hummingbird [2], Steller's Jay [1], Purple Finch [1], and Red Crossbill [2]. Summer species include Rufous Hummingbird [1] and Evening Grosbeak [2]. An American Redstart [5] spent a couple of days in the trees around the parking lot in September 2002.

## A Note on Safety

Many of the sites described in this guide are in or near urban areas. Accordingly, simple precautions (lock valuables out of sight in your car, don't go into parks alone at night) make sense. Having said that, I can tell you that despite thousands of hours of birding in the county, I have never encountered a threatening situation. Of course, I usually go birding with Lucy, my black lab, and Iain Tomlinson and his dogs Bones and Pea. Thus, the standard configuration of our deployment in the field is two guys and three dogs, not a particularly vulnerable-looking target.

## Useful Information for Birders

1. Rare Bird Alert (Audubon Society of Portland): 503-292-0661, Ext. 1.
2. Oregon Birders On Line (OBOL): Recent postings to OBOL can be accessed at <http://birdingonthe.net/maillinglists/OBOL.html>.

## Suggested Reading

1. Evanich, Joseph E. *The Birder's Guide to Oregon*. Portland Audubon Society, 1990.
2. Houck, Michael C. and M. J. Cody. *Wild in the City: A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas*. Oregon Historical Society Press, 2000.
3. Fitchen, John and Iain Tomlinson. *A Big Year in Multnomah County*. *Oregon Birds* 29(2):74-79, Summer 2003.

## Acknowledgments

I am grateful to Iain Tomlinson for his thorough and detailed review of the bird accounts, checklist and code designations presented in this guide, and for the countless hours we have spent birding together in the county. Thanks, too, to Harry Nehls for valuable input on the species accounts in the text and checklist. Finally, I am indebted to all the birders of Multnomah County who have posted interesting county birds on OBOL.

## Multnomah County Checklist

(as of December 2003)

### LOONS, GREBES

- Red-throated Loon [3]↓
- Pacific Loon [3]
- Common Loon [2]
- Pied-billed Grebe [1]
- Horned Grebe [2]
- Red-necked Grebe [3]
- Eared Grebe [3]↓
- Western Grebe [2]↑
- Clark's Grebe [4]↑

### TUBENOSES

- Leach's Storm-Petrel [5]

### PELICANS, HERONS

- American White Pelican [3]↓↓
- Brown Pelican [5]
- Double-crested Cormorant [1]
- Magnificent Frigatebird [5]
- American Bittern [2]
- Great Blue Heron [1]
- Great Egret [2]
- Snowy Egret [5]
- Cattle Egret [4]
- Green Heron [2]
- Black-crowned Night-Heron [3]
- White-faced Ibis [5]

### WATERFOWL

- Tundra Swan [1]
- Trumpeter Swan [4]
- Greater White-fronted Goose [2]
- Snow Goose [2]
- Ross's Goose [4]
- Emperor Goose [4]↓
- Brant [4]
- Canada Goose [1]
- Wood Duck [1]↓
- Green-winged Teal [1]
- Mallard [1]
- Northern Pintail [1]
- Blue-winged Teal [2]
- Cinnamon Teal [1]
- Northern Shoveler [1]
- Gadwall [1]
- Eurasian Wigeon [2]
- American Wigeon [1]
- Canvasback [2]
- Redhead [3]
- Ring-necked Duck [1]
- Tufted Duck [5]
- Greater Scaup [2]
- Lesser Scaup [1]
- Harlequin Duck [4]
- Long-tailed Duck [4]
- Surf Scoter [4]
- White-winged Scoter [4]
- Common Goldeneye [2]
- Barrow's Goldeneye [4]
- Bufflehead [1]
- Hooded Merganser [2]
- Common Merganser [1]
- Red-breasted Merganser [4]

- Ruddy Duck [1]

### RAPTORS

- Turkey Vulture [1]↓
- Osprey [1]
- White-tailed Kite [4]
- Bald Eagle [1]
- Northern Harrier [1]
- Sharp-shinned Hawk [2]
- Cooper's Hawk [2]
- Northern Goshawk [4]
- Red-shouldered Hawk [4]↓
- Swainson's Hawk [5]
- Red-tailed Hawk [1]
- Ferruginous Hawk [5]
- Rough-legged Hawk [2]
- Golden Eagle [4]
- American Kestrel [1]
- Merlin [2]
- Peregrine Falcon [2]
- Gyr Falcon [5]
- Prairie Falcon [5]

### GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

- Ring-necked Pheasant [2]↑
- Blue Grouse [2]
- Ruffed Grouse [3]
- California Quail [1]
- Mountain Quail [4]↑

### RAILS, CRANES

- Yellow Rail [5]
- Virginia Rail [2]
- Sora [2]
- American Coot [1]
- Sandhill Crane [1]↓

### SHOREBIRDS

- Black-bellied Plover [3]
- American Golden-Plover [4]↔
- Pacific Golden-Plover [4]↔
- Semipalmated Plover [2]
- Killdeer [1]
- Black-necked Stilt [5]
- American Avocet [4]
- Greater Yellowlegs [1]
- Lesser Yellowlegs [1]
- Solitary Sandpiper [3]
- Spotted Sandpiper [1]↓
- Whimbrel [5]
- Long-billed Curlew [5]
- Marbled Godwit [5]
- Red Knot [5]
- Sanderling [4]
- Semipalmated Sandpiper [4]
- Western Sandpiper [1]
- Least Sandpiper [1]
- Baird's Sandpiper [2]
- Pectoral Sandpiper [2]
- Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [4]
- Dunlin [2]
- Stilt Sandpiper [5]
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper [5]
- Ruff [5]

- Short-billed Dowitcher [3]
- Long-billed Dowitcher [1]
- Wilson's Snipe [1]
- Wilson's Phalarope [4]
- Red-necked Phalarope [2]↑
- Red Phalarope [5]

### JAEGERS, GULLS

- Parasitic Jaeger [4]
- Franklin's Gull [4]
- Bonaparte's Gull [2]↑
- Heermann's Gull [5]
- Mew Gull [1]
- Ring-billed Gull [1]
- California Gull [1]
- Herring Gull [1]
- Thayer's Gull [1]
- Glaucous Gull [3]↑
- Glaucous-winged Gull [1]
- Slaty-backed Gull [5]\*
- Western Gull [2]
- Black-legged Kittiwake [5]
- Sabine's Gull [5]

### TERNs

- Caspian Tern [2]
- Common Tern [4]↓
- Arctic Tern [5]
- Forster's Tern [4]
- Black Tern [4]

### ALCIDS

- Cassin's Auklet [5]

### DOVES, PIGEONS

- Rock Pigeon [1]
- Band-tailed Pigeon [1]
- Mourning Dove [1]

### CUCKOOS

- Yellow-billed Cuckoo [5]\*

### OWLS

- Barn Owl [2]
- Western Screech-Owl [2]
- Great Horned Owl [2]↑
- Snowy Owl [5]
- Northern Hawk Owl [5]
- Northern Pygmy-Owl [3]
- Burrowing Owl [5]
- Spotted Owl [4]
- Barred Owl [4]↓
- Great Gray Owl [5]
- Long-eared Owl [4]
- Short-eared Owl [3]
- N. Saw-whet Owl [3]↑

### NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS

- Common Nighthawk [3]↑
- Common Poorwill [5]
- Black Swift [4]
- Vaux's Swift [1]

### HUMMINGBIRDS

- Anna's Hummingbird [2]
- Costa's Hummingbird [5]
- Black-chinned Hummingbird [5]\*
- Calliope Hummingbird [3]↓



Rufous Hummingbird [1]  
**KINGFISHER**  
 Belted Kingfisher [1]  
**WOODPECKERS**  
 Lewis's Woodpecker [4]  
 Acorn Woodpecker [4]↑  
 Red-naped Sapsucker [5]  
 Red-breasted Sapsucker [2]  
 Williamson's Sapsucker [5]  
 Downy Woodpecker [1]  
 Hairy Woodpecker [1]  
 Northern Flicker [1]  
 Pileated Woodpecker [2]  
**FLYCATCHERS**  
 Olive-sided Flycatcher [1]  
 Western Wood-Pewee [1]  
 Willow Flycatcher [1]  
 Hammond's Flycatcher [2]  
 Dusky Flycatcher [4]  
 Gray Flycatcher [5]\*  
 Pacific-slope Flycatcher [1]  
 Say's Phoebe [4]  
 Ash-throated Flycatcher [5]  
 Eastern Kingbird [5]  
 Tropical Kingbird [5]\*  
 Western Kingbird [4]  
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher [5]  
**LARKS, SWALLOWS**  
 Horned Lark [3]  
 Purple Martin [1]↓  
 Tree Swallow [1]  
 Violet-green Swallow [1]  
 N.Rough-winged Swallow [2]  
 Bank Swallow [4]  
 Cliff Swallow [1]  
 Barn Swallow [1]  
**CORVIDS**  
 Gray Jay [2]  
 Steller's Jay [1]  
 Blue Jay [5]  
 Western Scrub-Jay [1]  
 Clark's Nutcracker [4]↑  
 Black-billed Magpie [5]  
 American Crow [1]  
 Common Raven [1]  
**CHICKADEES, BUSHTIT**  
 Black-capped Chickadee [1]  
 Mountain Chickadee [4]↑↑  
 Chestnut-backed Chickadee [1]  
 Bushtit [1]  
**NUTHATCHES, CREEPER**  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch [1]  
 White-brstd Nuthatch [1]  
 Brown Creeper [1]↓  
**WRENS, DIPPER**  
 Rock Wren [4]↓  
 Canyon Wren [4]  
 Bewick's Wren [1]  
 House Wren [1]  
 Winter Wren [1]  
 Marsh Wren [1]  
 American Dipper [2]  
**KINGLETS**

Golden-crowned Kinglet [1]  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet [1]  
**GNATCATCHERS**  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher [5]\*  
**THRUSHES**  
 Western Bluebird [3]  
 Mountain Bluebird [5]  
 Townsend's Solitaire [3]  
 Veery [5]  
 Swainson's Thrush [1]  
 Hermit Thrush [1]  
 American Robin [1]  
 Varied Thrush [1]  
**MIMIDS**  
 Northern Mockingbird [4]  
 Sage Thrasher [5]  
 Brown Thrasher [5]  
**PIPITS**  
 American Pipit [2]↓  
**WAXWINGS, SHRIKES**  
 Bohemian Waxwing [4]  
 Cedar Waxwing [1]  
 Northern Shrike [2]  
 Loggerhead Shrike [5]  
**STARLING, VIREOS**  
 European Starling [1]  
 Cassin's Vireo [2]  
 Hutton's Vireo [1]↓  
 Warbling Vireo [1]  
 Red-eyed Vireo [3]↓  
**WARBLERS**  
 Tennessee Warbler [5]  
 Orange-crwnd Warbler [1]  
 Nashville Warbler [2]  
 Yellow Warbler [2]  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler [1]  
 Blk-throated Gray Warbler [1]  
 Townsend's Warbler [1]  
 Hermit Warbler [1]  
 Palm Warbler [5]  
 Blackpoll Warbler [5]  
 Black-and-white Warbler [5]  
 American Redstart [5]  
 MacGillivray's Warbler [2]  
 Common Yellowthroat [1]  
 Wilson's Warbler [1]  
 Canada Warbler [5]\*  
 Yellow-breasted Chat [3]  
**TANAGERS, GROSBEEKS**  
 Summer Tanager [5]\*  
 Western Tanager [1]  
 Black-headed Grosbeak [1]  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak [5]\*  
 Lazuli Bunting [2]  
 Indigo Bunting [5]  
**SPARROWS**  
 Spotted Towhee [1]  
 American Tree Sparrow [5]  
 Chipping Sparrow [3]↑↑  
 Clay-colored Sparrow [5]  
 Brewer's Sparrow [4]  
 Vesper Sparrow [4]  
 Lark Sparrow [4]

Black-throated Sparrow [5]  
 Sage Sparrow [5]  
 Savannah Sparrow [1]  
 Grasshopper Sparrow [5]\*  
 Fox Sparrow [1]  
 Song Sparrow [1]  
 Lincoln's Sparrow [1]  
 Swamp Sparrow [3]  
 White-throated Sparrow [2]  
 Golden-crowned Sparrow [1]  
 White-crowned Sparrow [1]  
 Harris's Sparrow [4]  
 Dark-eyed Junco [1]  
**LONGSPURS, BUNTINGS**  
 McCown's Longspur [5]\*  
 Lapland Longspur [5]  
 Smith's Longspur [5]\*  
 Rustic Bunting [5]  
 Snow Bunting [5]  
**BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES**  
 Western Meadowlark [1]  
 Bobolink [5]  
 Brown-headed Cowbird [1]  
 Yellow-headed Blackbird [3]  
 Tricolored Blackbird [3]  
 Red-winged Blackbird [1]  
 Brewer's Blackbird [1]  
 Rusty Blackbird [5]  
 Bullock's Oriole [1]  
**FINCHES**  
 Brambling [5]  
 Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch [5]  
 Purple Finch [1]  
 Cassin's Finch [4]  
 House Finch [1]  
 Red Crossbill [2]  
 White-winged Crossbill [1]  
 Common Redpoll [5]  
 Pine Siskin [1]  
 Lesser Goldfinch [3]↓  
 American Goldfinch [1]  
 Evening Grosbeak [2]↑  
**WEAVER FINCH**  
 House Sparrow [1]

**SPECIES TOTAL: 312**

**CODE KEY:**  
 [1] Common  
 [2] Uncommon  
 [3] Regular but tough  
 [4] Less than annual  
 [5] Fewer than 5 records

**Since 1993:**  
 \* New species.  
 ⇄ Species split.  
 ↓ Decrease code by 1.  
 ↓↓ Decrease code by 2.  
 ↑ Increase code by 1.  
 ↑↑ Increase code by 2.

## Wintering Birds of Prey in Linn County, Oregon

*Jeff Fleischer, 523 Calapooia St SW, Albany, OR 97321  
raptorrunner97321@yahoo.com*

If you have ever traveled on Interstate 5 through the Willamette Valley between Portland and Eugene during the winter months, chances are pretty good that you have noticed perching or soaring birds of prey along the way. Sometimes, on certain stretches of the highway, these raptors seem to be perched on every other fence post or tree. This is an annual winter phenomenon, and at times the numbers can seem pretty impressive. This article is about my systematic attempt over the past two years to assess these numbers of wintering raptors.

A particularly noteworthy stretch of I-5 extends through the full length of Linn County, passing through Albany where I have lived since 1984. Along this piece of the highway, several dozen Red-tailed Hawks and similar numbers of American Kestrels, along with smaller numbers of other raptor species, may be seen. The primary attraction for these raptors is the large populations of small rodents that inhabit the roadside grassways and the thousands of acres of grass fields that surround I-5. Other wintering raptor species I expect to find in the Albany area are Northern Harrier, Peregrine Falcon, Prairie Falcon, Merlin, Bald Eagle, Cooper's Hawk, and Sharp-shinned Hawk. Rarer species that I have seen the past two winters have included Snowy Owl, Burrowing Owl, Short-eared Owl, and Gyrfalcon.



A few years ago I started pondering what the wintering raptor population might be here in Linn County. The more miles I drove on I-5 and elsewhere around the valley, the more I realized that there were many, many square miles used as wintering habitat by a large and diverse population of raptors. Two years ago, I started a project to census these birds to better understand the true numbers that were wintering in this part of the Willamette Valley. During the winter of 2001-2002, I plotted three census paths (two relatively short and one very long route) through a good portion of the area in order to accomplish two tasks: to enumerate raptors present, and to determine the best methodology of censusing the birds. I found out right away that there are literally hundreds of miles of roads that crisscross the valley floor in Linn County. I also realized that while driving these routes, if I had any intentions of counting as many raptors as I could, I would have to travel at slow speeds and devote my total attention to only these birds. To complete the long main census route the first winter required 10-12 hours!

By the time March 2002 rolled around I had developed a huge appreciation for the value that this area had for wintering birds of prey. I also realized that if I was going to survive future years of census work for this multiyear project, I was going to have to revise my approach on how to census this vast area. The resulting changes which I incorporated into the 2002-2003 season allowed for a more complete coverage of the valley. I divided the large unit into two smaller units and added habitat to the survey by increasing the size of the smaller two units. The resulting four routes each took 4-7 hours to census. The methodology used and the specific units censused during 2002-2003 will be the standard for my future efforts.

#### **CENSUS METHODOLOGY**

During the first year of this project, the fact that I had to spend a full day from sun up to sun down to get through the major census unit limited the days that I could do a census. My

work schedule allows for Sundays and another day off during the week. I found that that put a lot of pressure on me on my days off when other things competed for my time. It also made potential count days more dependent on good winter weather which is sometimes a premium here in western Oregon. There were times when I was set to do a count only to find it raining and blowing too hard on count day which effectively put the birds down, making them difficult to see.

For the 2002-2003 season, the restructuring of the area into 4 units instead of 3 helped make my census efforts better fit with my weekly work schedule. Getting off work at mid-morning, I now had enough time to complete a census after any given workday. This greatly increased the number of days available to do a census and allowed me to better schedule counts around the inevitable winter storm systems that hit the valley. As a result, I was able to complete 4 censuses in each of the 4 units.

In addition to giving myself more census days, I refined my counting method. One of my desires for each census was to keep track of what I saw on each road within the units so that I could understand the distribution of the birds in the valley. I learned real quick that the best way to accomplish this was to use a small hand held tape recorder. That way, I could indicate each turn I made onto a new road and then each bird that I saw along that road. I could also keep my eyes on the habitat at all times while driving. This came in handy at times when I was lucky enough to see a falcon zoom by me because I didn't have to take my eyes off the habitat to write something down. When I returned home, I transposed the tape data onto my census forms for a permanent record of my effort.

I used binoculars and a window-mounted spotting scope to view and identify the birds. The window-mounted scope was crucial in this effort. It allowed me to get on a bird much quicker than if I had to stop the vehicle, get out, and take the time to set up the scope on a tripod. I used the window-mounted

scope quite often, and the time saved over the course of completing a unit helped keep the census time down.

The visibility of birds was always an important issue to deal with. On days with lots of wind, rain, snow, or fog, the birds would be less active and therefore less noticeable. I tried not to do a count during adverse weather. Time of season was also important. Census work was much more productive once the deciduous trees lost all their leaves. The perched birds were much easier to see from December through mid-March when trees started growing leaves again.

I determined from the start of this project that I would count every raptor that I saw, regardless of how far it was from the road I happened to be on. In doing this kind of locating, though, I kept in mind where the birds were in case I might happen to see them again from another road. I avoided potential double counting by not counting any bird which I might already have counted from a previous location.

Double counting birds between units was also a consideration during the counting process. During the 2001-2002 season, I purposely censused the majority of the area as one unit on one day to minimize double counting. The previously mentioned problems led me to divide this big unit into 2 smaller units for the 2002-2003 season. To minimize double count potential I made a definite effort to complete the 4 units in as few days as possible. I was usually able to census them within a week-long period.

I don't feel that I had a significant problem with double counting between units. I say this because I noticed that the two primary species in the area, Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels, seemed to have well established territories and didn't stray too far away from them. By keeping detailed notes (road by road as mentioned above), I could almost predict where I was going to see these two species in each census unit. With the exception of maybe the Bald Eagles and the Peregrine and Prairie Falcons which have a much bigger feeding





*Grassfields around Ward Butte near Brownsville, OR. Photo J. Fleischer*

territory, after two seasons of census work, I feel that double counting is not a significant problem. I can cover the units quickly enough without having to worry about birds moving to another unit before I can census it.

#### **CENSUS UNITS**

Following is a map that shows the boundaries of the 4 census units for the winter of 2002-2003. Slightly less than 500 miles of roads exist in these units. A total of 1,986 miles were driven during 92 hours of raptor counting effort. Because of my experiences with censusing during the winter of 2001-2002, I changed the boundaries in each of the units for 2002-2003. The first winter, units 1 and 2 were smaller and units 3 and 4 were one combined larger unit. For the 2002-2003 winter, I increased the size of units 1 and 2 to include additional favorable habitat and

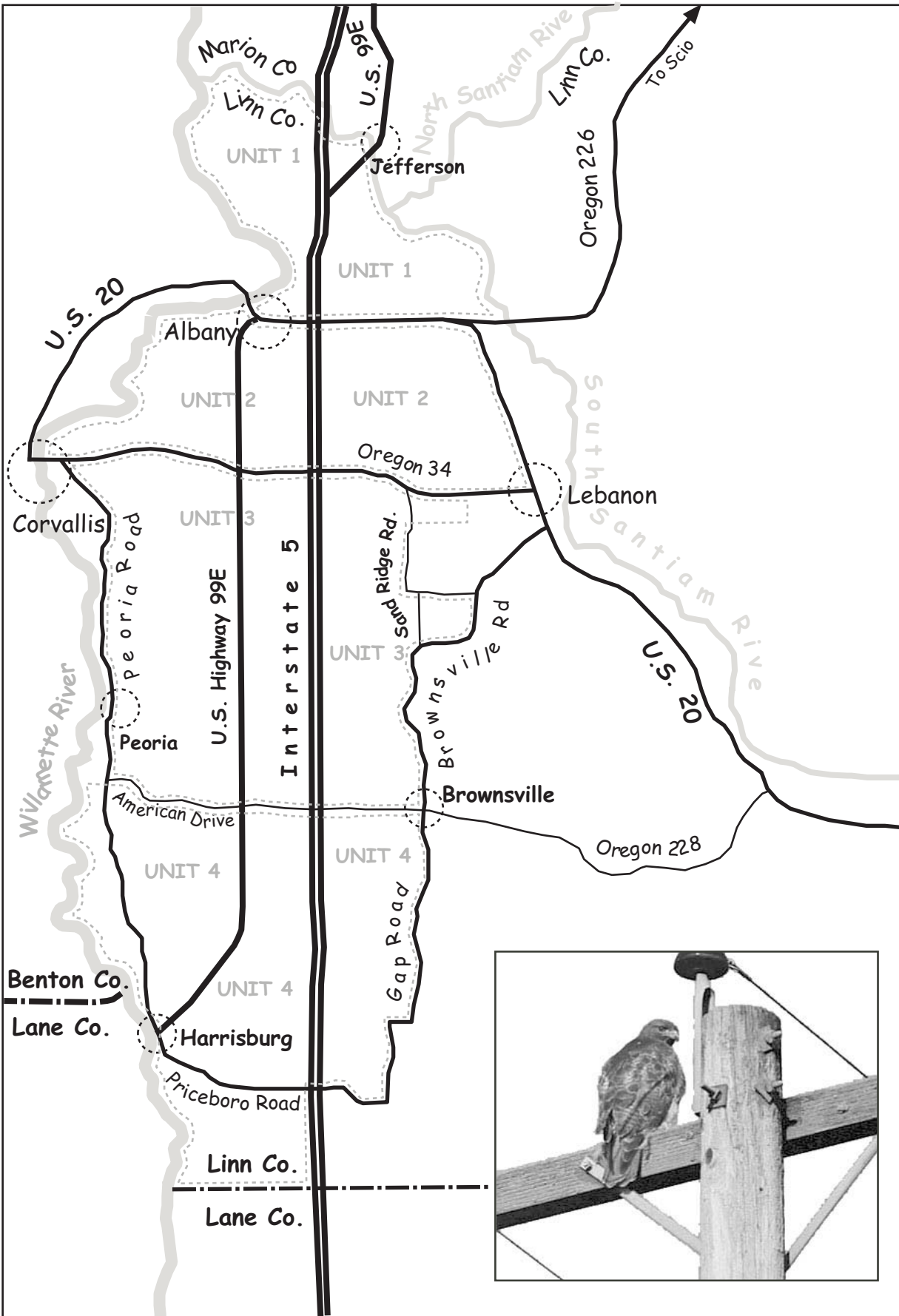
separated the large unit into the two smaller units 3 and 4 to make the total area easier to census. Because of the road by road counting method previously discussed, I was able to separate out the data collected from the large unit the first winter and show it as data for units 3 and 4. That allowed me to compare the second winter's numbers for each unit with what I had found during the first year in the combined unit. Raptor numbers for all 4 units for both years are portrayed in the charts that follow. The units displayed in the map will be the standards for future census work.

The four units were separated by major roads - Highway 20, Highway 34, and Highway 228. In order to ensure that double counting of birds did not occur along these three roads, I made it a point to include portions of each road in different units and censused only

those portions pertaining to the unit that I was censusing that particular day. Even though birds might have moved along these roads between count days, I feel confident that duplication was negligible.

#### **CENSUS RESULTS**

Following are charts showing the numbers of raptors observed in each unit during the first two winters. Even though I will have standard units to census in the future, year to year comparisons of numbers in each unit will probably be only of a general nature. Too many variables related to the intense farming activities throughout the valley floor will make statistical comparisons difficult. Crops will change, tilling changes from year to year will set back rodent populations forcing birds to hunt in different areas, winter flooding will probably occur in parts of the units which will force route



changes and unit access problems, etc. Because of these year to year changes, the importance of the data collected will be more in the total numbers wintering for each species in all of the units combined rather than specifically where in the valley they will be seen.

### **OBSERVATIONS**

Obviously, with only two winters of data to look at, it is too early in the project to be able to do any meaningful comparisons. Two changes occurred between these two winters that impacted the numbers of birds seen. The first occurred during the summer of 2002 when there was a wholesale change in the number of acres of perennial versus annual grasses in the valley. Thousands of acres of established perennial grass fields, with their corresponding established rodent populations, were converted to annual grasses and grains. They were plowed under to make way for fall planting and as a result, the area lost a huge raptor prey base. In future years the annual plowing of soil to prepare for the next year's crops will probably keep rodent populations at lower levels than what would be expected in perennial crop situations. Although hard to prove, these changes may have been one reason for the change in numbers of several species during the second winter.

The other major impact on numbers of birds seen was my changing of the unit sizes as previously discussed. All 4 units experienced coverage changes which in turn affected the numbers of raptors seen. This will not be an issue in future years now that I have determined the standardized census path in each unit.

As far as results go, my census efforts have yielded some interesting things. First of all, because of the expanded period of coverage this past winter (I started censusing in late November) I was able to see that general numbers of birds in the valley continually grow from early December until peaking sometime in early to mid February. I didn't get started the first winter until late January so I didn't know for sure when birds started building up their

winter numbers.

The Linn County portion of the Willamette Valley has a significant wintering population of American Kestrels and Red-tailed Hawks. Most birders who have spent time in the field in Linn County during the winter already know this, but actual numbers are probably higher than what was probably perceived. American Kestrels, the most prevalent wintering raptor, are easily seen while driving the roads as they sit perched on power lines or hover hunt in fields adjacent to roads. With a high count of 262 birds in all four units during February 2003, one can only speculate what the entire Willamette Valley from Portland to Eugene might be supporting. Based on data from this past winter, it appears that this species gradually builds in numbers from December through February before abruptly leaving by late March. A relatively small population of Kestrels stays to nest in the Willamette Valley.

Red-tailed Hawks, the second most numerous raptor, are also easily seen perched on trees, fence posts, power poles, and on the ground throughout the census area. Census data from this past winter indicates a fairly stable population from late December through February, suggesting that migrant birds appear prior to or during early December and noticeably depart during March.

Observations throughout the rest of the year suggest a sizable nesting population of this species, although actual numbers are not known.

This part of the valley also supports a very visible winter population of Bald Eagles. Numbers, based on this past winter's data, suggest an abrupt increase in their population in February and March, with lesser numbers present in December and January. This winter's peak of 54 in early to mid March was an eye opener. One thing is for certain concerning these eagles - they definitely associate with the wintering sheep populations that graze in the valley fields. Wherever the sheep are is where the eagles will most likely be seen. Eagle numbers seem to spike at the onset of lambing season. In addition, the cold wet winters take their toll on adult sheep as well, so the scavenging possibilities on this

food source are very real for the eagles. Several times this past winter, I observed as many as 6 eagles tending one adult sheep carcass. It is interesting to note that my Bald Eagle observations mirror data presented in the new "Birds of Oregon: A General Reference" edited by Marshall, Hunter and Contreras. Research is cited showing that domestic sheep carrion and afterbirth constitute the principle components (exceeding 90%) in the diet of Bald Eagles wintering in the Willamette Valley.

Without a doubt, the species that showed the most change during the first two winters was the Rough-legged Hawk. During the first winter, the census area population was stable at 14-18 birds during January and February. They were easily observed during the counts. This past winter, the one time peak of 3 in early January was a major disappointment for me, since this is my favorite *buteo*. Of course, this is only speculation, but I feel that the wholesale change in farming previously mentioned greatly reduced the acreage of established perennial grass fields in the valley where these particular birds preferred to hunt. The newly planted fields of annual grasses and grains, with their corresponding lower prey base, might have forced these birds to search for better wintering habitat outside of Linn County. Another factor for the reduced numbers the second winter could also be that because these birds nest in the extreme northern parts of North America, it is a valid possibility that during their fall migration south, they came across sufficient wintering conditions further north and decided to not continue further south to the Willamette Valley (at least the Linn County part) in the numbers seen the previous winter. Future years of census work will tell the tale for this species.

The other significant wintering raptor is the Northern Harrier. They were seen in certain parts of the census area, gliding across expanses of grass fields in search of their prey. Numbers for the past two winters revealed a steady population of a couple dozen birds. A few remain each year to nest in the valley.

Besides the more numerous birds mentioned above, a certain



## RAPTOR UNIT COUNTS - LINN COUNTY, OREGON WINTER 2001-2002

UNIT	1				2					3					
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	Total	1	2	3	4		
CENSUS DATE	1-27				2-15					3-08					
			1-27	1-27	Total	2-15	2-08	2-17	2-17	Total	3-08	3-17	3-17	Total	
Red-tailed Hawk			55	65	120	47	37	88	41	213		30	75	30	135
American Kestrel			38	24	62	23	25	84	26	158		22	58	29	109
Bald Eagle			5	8	13	2	1	8	4	15		23	6	1	30
Northern Harrier			11	15	26	10	2	11	5	28		3	16	7	26
Cooper's Hawk				1	1										
Sharp-shinned Hawk								2		2				1	1
Peregrine Falcon			1		1		1		1	2					
Prairie Falcon			2	1	3			2		2				2	2
Merlin				1	1	1				1			2		2
Rough-legged Hawk			7	7	14			11	7	18		1	4	1	6
Burrowing Owl			1		1			2		2			1		1
Snowy Owl								1		1					
<b>TOTALS</b>			120	122	242	83	66	209	84	442		79	162	71	312

## WINTER 2002-2003

UNIT	1					2				
	1	2	3	4	Total	1	2	3	4	Total
CENSUS DATE	12-04					1-16				
	12-04	11-27	12-12	12-09	Total	1-16	1-08	1-10	1-13	Total
Red-tailed Hawk	45	38	16	54	153	42	37	45	34	158
American Kestrel	32	23	53	65	173	32	38	74	66	210
Bald Eagle		1		5	6	2	1	5	10	18
Northern Harrier	4	3	4	4	15	8	4	6	5	23
Cooper's Hawk	3				3		2	1	1	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2				2			1		1
Peregrine Falcon	1	1		1	3				2	2
Prairie Falcon	2		1		3	1	1			2
Gyrfalcon									1	1
Merlin						1				1
Rough-legged Hawk			1		1		1	2		3
Burrowing Owl			1		1			2		2
Short-eared Owl										
<b>TOTAL</b>	89	66	76	129	360	86	84	136	119	425

UNIT	1					2				
	1	2	3	4	Total	1	2	3	4	Total
CENSUS DATE	2-12					3-11				
	2-12	2-11	2-07	2-04	Total	3-11	3-10	3-04	3-05	Total
Red-tailed Hawk	47	48	54	37	186	26	35	23	12	96
American Kestrel	46	41	94	81	262	24	23	60	40	147
Bald Eagle		3	13	25	41	2	12	20	20	54
Northern Harrier	5	2	6	11	24	1		4	5	10
Cooper's Hawk	2	1	3		6	1				1
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1	2		3					
Peregrine Falcon		1		1	2			1		1
Prairie Falcon				1	1			2		2
Gyrfalcon										
Merlin										
Rough-legged Hawk										
Burrowing Owl			1		1			1		1
Short-eared Owl			1		1					
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	97	174	156	527	54	70	111	77	312

excitement existed each time I drove a census route because there was always the potential for seeing several species of falcons, owls, and accipiters. Despite their much lower numbers, when I was able to see a Peregrine or Prairie Falcon, Merlin, Cooper's or Sharp-shinned Hawk, or Burrowing Owl it added some zing to the day. And it goes without saying that the single instances of seeing a Gyrfalcon last winter and a Snowy Owl the first winter were season highlights!

In addition to all the species of raptors that I did see during the first two winters, of equal interest is what I haven't seen yet. Four species come to mind - White-tailed Kites, Red-shouldered Hawks, Northern Goshawks, and Golden Eagles. The

first two can be seen in other parts of the Willamette Valley during the winter. Linn County could support these two species because there is preferred habitat available. Goshawks are more timber oriented and thus would be quite rare on the valley floor. Seeing one of those would generate the same excitement as the Snowy Owl or Gyrfalcon. A few Golden Eagles are seen on the valley floor during spring through fall each year near the town of Brownsville so it is possible they will be seen eventually during the winter as well.

#### CONCLUSION

The wintering population of raptors in the Linn County portion of the Willamette Valley is significant. They are very visible, interestingly varied

in species makeup, and quite numerous. They are well dispersed throughout the area. My efforts the last two winters to figure out a way to enumerate this population have been both fun and trying. I feel that I have developed a method that I can use in future winters that will help me count these birds.

My hope is that other individuals, after reading this article, will feel the desire and excitement to take it upon themselves to conduct similar work in other parts of the Willamette Valley from Portland to Eugene. The net result of increased effort would undoubtedly lead to a better understanding of actual numbers and how important the Willamette Valley as a whole really is to wintering birds of prey.



*Typical productive raptor habitat - perennial grassfields, overgrown fencelines, and treelined creek channels.  
Photo/J. Fleischer*

# Mountain Bluebird Nesting in Central Oregon

Alan D. Reid, 41886 McKenzie Highway, Springfield, OR 97478

In 1998 I started putting up and maintaining nest boxes for Mountain Bluebirds off of U.S. Highway 20 east of Bend. In terms of boxes used, as of 2003 I ended up with one on the lower north slope of Pine Mountain, seven on Moffitt Road and the Sand Spring Area (lat. 43° 42' N, long 120° 51' W), and seven on Obsidian Road, mostly on the lower east slopes of Glass Butte (43° 34' N, 120° 00' W). In general, if a box was not used in the first full year it was available to the birds before the start of nesting, it was never used and I moved it after three or four years.

I made all of my boxes with interior dimensions of 5½ inches square by 11 inches high to a ceiling ¾ inch below the roof. This ¾ inch space is vented on all sides and is intended to reduce the temperature in the nest cavity when the box has bright sun on it. The entrance holes have a diameter of 5/8 inch with an extra layer of board around the hole to make extra distance for predators to reach. The standard instructions are to make holes with a diameter of 9/16 inch, but I think this is calling it pretty close and is not proof against Starlings entering anyway. I put a piece of 1/4 inch hardware cloth on the inside under the hole as a ladder for the nestlings. On the east side of the Cascades I find it necessary to put a three by four inch piece of

aluminum sheet around the hole to keep Flickers from enlarging it. If this happens, Jays can get in to eat the eggs or nestlings. The preferred location for boxes is in scattered juniper or pine on the edge of sagebrush openings, with the floor five to seven feet above ground.

My data only considers boxes that were used (36 nests total) and eliminates nests that were started late due to lack of availability from late placement or use by Starlings before I could get rid of them. I did not include second nestings of a single pair in the same year. Because of the distance from my home on the McKenzie Highway, I was not able to visit these boxes as often as I would have liked to. Therefore, in some cases I had to estimate when nest-building started or the first eggs were laid based on the conditions I observed, but I feel that my results are quite close to the actual timing.

The first nest-start observed (actual observation of a partial nest) was on 20 April, 2000. Seven nests were started in April, 17 nests were started between May 1 and May 15, and 11 nests were started between May 15 and May 31. Eggs were first present once on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April, four times in the first half of May, 12 times in the last half of May, and twice in early June. I was not able to decide on a probable date for first eggs in all cases. Five nests had

young in May; one on 1 May, one on 10 May and three after 20 May. All other nests had young in the first half of June.

Any nests in this area with eggs or young in late June are probably second nestings. Any in July are definitely second nestings. Not all second nestings by a pair in a year are made in the same location. On 31 May 2000, I saw a male with five juveniles in attendance investigating a box with a failed nest. Later, this box had a new nest with eggs and then young. The same boxes are regularly used year after year. The birds can be persistent. During one year an old Forest Service box was stolen after a nest with eggs was present. I had put up a new box one-half mile away on the edge of the same sage opening. It was not used that year or the next. Then another person put up a box in the old location that had an under-sized hole. On my way to Arizona I saw a male Mountain Bluebird try very hard to get in and fail. I did not have any tools with me to fix the hole. Two weeks later on my way home, I went past this box again, and the male was still trying to get in. I managed to whittle the hole slightly larger with my pocket knife, which let the male get in. Later the box had a nest with young.





# FIELD NOTES

## Oregon Birds Regional Editors

### CHANGES TO FIELD NOTES REPORTING FORMAT

After much discussion, Oregon Birds has returned to the regional field notes format that it used in the 1980s. We believe that this format will better facilitate reporting of local phenology and trends, and reduce the size and scale of seasonal field observation summaries that each Field Notes Editor must compile.

There will be an overview written by a statewide writer for each issue, but the focus of OB will be more on local status than has been the case in recent years. For large-scale northwestern status, we recommend that birders subscribe to *North American Birds*, which includes an excellent Oregon-Washington report for each season.

*Oregon Birds* and *North American Birds* have synchronized reporting areas, periods, and deadlines. Field reports for eastern and western Oregon are due to the OB Regional Editor and NAB Regional Editor at the same time.

Season	Months	To Editor
Spring	March-May	10 June
Summer	June-July	10 August
Fall	August-November	10 December
Winter	December-February	10 March

#### North American Birds Regional Editor

**All of Oregon**  
Steve Mlodinow  
4819 Gardner Avenue  
Everett, WA 98203  
425-514-5874

#### North American Birds Sub-Regional Editors

**Western Oregon**  
Harry Nehls  
S.E. 20th  
Portland, OR 97202  
503-233-3976

**Rogue Valley**  
Howard Sands  
10655 Agate Road  
Eagle Point, OR 97524  
541-826-5246

OFO members bird all over the state, and often find birds that are of interest to local birders. OFO supports publication of local field notes and encourages OFO members to contact local newsletter publishers or field notes editors whenever birding in or near the Oregon locations listed below. If you would like to add a local newsletter or revise any of the information below, please contact the Editor, *Oregon Birds*, P.O. Box 220, Mehama, OR 97384

#### Bend

Eagle Eye  
Central Oregon Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 565  
Bend, OR 97709  
Inactive (send field notes to OB)

#### Grants Pass

The Siskin  
Siskiyou Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 2223  
Grants Pass, OR 97528  
Karen Phillips  
kmphillips@earthlink.net

#### La Grande

The Rav-on  
Grande Ronde Bird Club  
P.O. Box 29  
LaGrande, OR 97850  
Joyce Coate  
jcoate@eou.edu  
(541) 963-9404

#### Roseburg

Wing-Tips  
Umpqua Valley Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 381  
Roseburg, OR 97470

#### Coos Bay

The Tattler  
Cape Arago Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 381  
North Bend, OR 97459  
Inactive  
541-267-7208

#### Hood River-The Dalles

The Garryana Rag  
Columbia Gorge Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 64  
White Salmon, WA 98672  
Stuart Johnston  
sfjk@yahoo.com  
509-493-3363

#### Newport

The Sandpiper  
Yaquina Birders & Naturalists  
P.O. Box 1467  
Newport, OR 97365  
Kathy Merrifield  
merrifik@ava.bcc.orst.edu  
(541) 753-2503

#### Salem

The Kestrel  
Salem Audubon Society  
189 Liberty St. NE 209A  
Salem, OR 97301  
John Lundsten  
lundjo@open.com  
503-585-9442

#### Corvallis

The Chat  
Audubon Society of Corvallis  
PO Box 148  
Corvallis, OR 97339  
Joel Geier  
14505 Corvallis Rd.  
Monmouth, OR 97361  
jgeier@attglobal.net  
541 928-2815

#### John Day

The Upland Sandpiper  
Grant County Bird Club  
P.O. Box 111  
Canyon City, OR 97820  
Tom Winters  
ducksouptom@juno.com  
541-542-2006 (h)  
541-575-2570 (w)

#### Portland

Audubon Warbler  
Audubon Society of Portland  
5151 NW Cornell Road  
Portland, OR 97210  
Harry Nehls  
hnehls@teleport.com  
503-233-3976

#### Eugene

The Quail  
Lane County Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 5086  
Eugene, OR 97405  
Allison Mickel  
541-485-7112

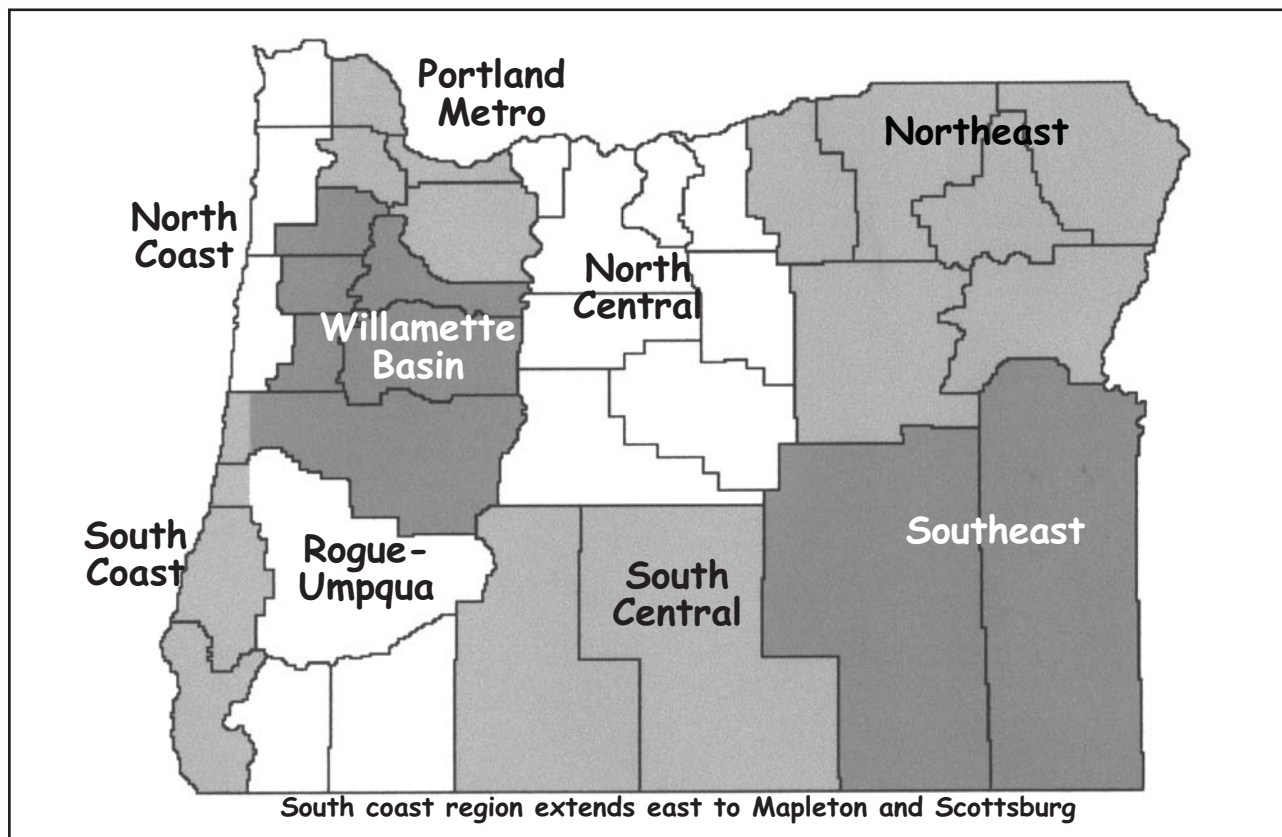
#### Klamath Falls

The Grebe  
Klamath Basin Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 354  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601  
Ken Johnston  
541-883-7671

#### Port Orford

The Storm Petrel  
Kalmiopsis Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 1265  
Port Orford, OR 97465





**North Coast**

Ilene Samowitz  
 11503 Exeter Avenue NE  
 Seattle, WA 98125  
 206-363-1234  
 rockawaybirder@yahoo.com

**South Coast**

Dave Lauten  
 58134 Seven Devils Road  
 Bandon, OR 97411  
 541-347-1603  
 birdsong@harborside.com

**Portland Metro**

Ray Korpi  
 12611 N.E. 99th St.  
 Apt. DD-214  
 Vancouver, WA 98682  
 360-604-0122  
 rkorpi@clark.edu

**Willamette Basin**

Open  
 Contact the OFO Editor  
 Send inquiries to:  
 OregonBirds@aol.com

**Rogue-Umpqua**

Norm Barrett  
 PO Box 97  
 Shady Cove, OR 97539  
 541-878-2214  
 ndbarret@medford.net  
 Dennis Vroman  
 269 Shetland Dr.  
 Grants Pass, OR 97526  
 541-479-4619  
 dpvroman@cdsn.net

**Northeast**

Trent Bray  
 1810 Adams Ave  
 La Grande, OR 97850  
 541-663-0125  
 arkaeoptrx@aol.com

**North Central**

Chuck Gates  
 14265 S. Antelope Dr.  
 Powell Butte, OR 97753  
 541-923-1320  
 cgates@empnet.com

**South Central**

Kevin Spencer  
 858 Rosemont Ct.  
 Klamath Falls, OR 97603  
 Phone Number: 541 884-5739  
 kspencer@tulesd.tulelake.k12.ca.us

**Southeast**

Noah Strycker  
 35995 E. Willis Road  
 Creswell, OR 97426  
 541-895-3123  
 birdboy@bkpix.com

# North Coast Field Notes: Summer 2003

Edited by Ilene Samowitz

## Abbreviations:

ABACFT	American Birding Association Convention Field Trip led by Tim Janzen
AAMB	Astoria Airport Mitigation Bank, Clatsop County
BARJ	Barview Jetty, Tillamook County
BBSW	Boiler Bay, Lincoln County
BCMWB	Beaver Creek Marsh Wetlands Conservancy Preserve, Lincoln County
BGPT	Bird Guide Pelagic Trip
BOSP	Bay Ocean Spit, Tillamook County
BROWN	Brownsmead, Clatsop County
CMNWR	Cape Meares NWR, Tillamook County
ECLK	Eckman Lake, Lincoln County – 2 mi east of Waldport along Hwy 34
FSSP	Fort Stevens State Park, Clatsop County
HSCN	Hatfield Science Center, Newport Lincoln County
IDFL	Idaho Flats is large embayment just east of HSCN, Newport, Lincoln County
OBSP	Ona Beach State Park, Lincoln County
SJCR	South Jetty Columbia River, Clatsop County
SMSP	Saddle Mountain State Park, Clatsop County
SRSP	Seal Rock State Park, Lincoln County
WASP	Warrenton Sewage Ponds, Clatsop County
WRCC	Wireless Road, Clatsop County
YBNJ	Yaquina Bay North Jetty, Lincoln County
YBNFT	Yaquina Birders and Naturalists Field Trips led by Eric Horvath, Chuck Philo, and Laimons Osis.
YBSJ	Yaquina Bay South Jetty, Lincoln County

An outstanding highlight of this season was a baitfish feed, which extended from Yachats, Lincoln County north to Nesokowin, Tillamook County. This phenomenon started on 22 July and was first reported by Betty Bahn. Up to 2500 gulls ate and rested in the mouth of the Yachats River, where it intersects the ocean (BB). By 23 July, the river mouth was silver with anchovies (WH). At least 1000 Western, 500 Glaucous-winged Gulls and Western X Glaucous-winged hybrids, 500 California Gulls and about 50 Heermann's gulls fed on 26 July (WH). At least 4000 California and 2000 Heermann's continued to feed in the North Siletz Bay and the tip of Salishan Spit on 28 July (PP). The next day the flock had grown to at least 7000 Californias and 2500 Heermann's. The incredible late afternoon cloud of thousands of gulls in the air over the spit, flying in and out of the edge of the fog bank was a truly magnificent sight (PP). At least 12,000 gulls were estimated to be in the Siletz Bay on the afternoon of 29 July (DP). Over 5000 gulls remained through 3 August (WH). By 6 August (PP) the thousands were gone.

**Red-throated Loon** - 1 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP), increasing to 2, 22 Jun (MP).

**Pacific Loon** - 25 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP), increasing to 97 on 22 Jun (MP). 1 at SJCR 26 Jun (LC), 1 at SJCR 3 Jul (MP). 1 off BBSW 4 Jul (DT), flying north. 1 off Newport 5 Jul (BGPT). 2 at SJCR 24 Jul (MP).

**Common Loon** - 1 at Pacific City, TILL 6 June (IS). 2 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP), increasing to 3 at SJCR 22 Jun (LC) with 1 still found 26 Jun (LC). 1 at Nehalem Bay State Park, TILL 22 Jun (LC). 1 in sub-adult or basic plumage Yaquina Bay, LINC 29 Jun (JeG). 1 at YBSJ 29 Jul (JeG).

**Red-necked Grebe** - 1 at Pacific City, TILL on 6 June (IS).

**Black-footed Albatross** - 317 off Newport, LINC 5 Jul (BGPT).

**Northern Fulmar** - 621 off Newport, LINC 5 Jul (BGPT).

**Pink-footed Shearwater** - 510 off Newport, LINC 5 Jul (BGPT).

**Sooty Shearwater** - About 10,000 were at the cove at Seaside, CLAT 17 June (HN), 2594 off Newport, LINC 5 Jul (BGPT).

**MANX SHEARWATER** - 1 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP).

**Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel** - 273 off Newport, LINC 5 Jul (BGPT).

**Leach's Storm-Petrel** - 3 seen while conducting seabird surveys 8 mi W of Depoe Bay 17 Jul (DP, MWe).

**Great Egret** - 4 arrived in IDFL 10 Jul (RLo).

**Green Heron** - 1 at IDFL 13 Jul (MC, PV), 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA), and 1 at OBSP 25 Jul (JeG).

**Brant** - 1 at SRSP on 3 and 5 Jun (ABACFT), 2 flew past BBSW on 7 Jun (ABACFT).

**Northern Shoveler** - 3 at SJCR 24 Jul (MP) heading south; notable for location and season.

**Greater Scaup** - 3 at SJCR 3 Jul (MP).

**Harlequin Duck** - 4 at SRSP 2 Jun (JSu). 4-9 at SRSP from 3 Jun - 7 Jun (ABACFT). 1 swam off Yaquina Head, LINC on 7 Jun (JSu). 2 at SRSP 29 Jun (JeG). 8 at SRSP on 13 Jul (MC, PV).

**Surf Scoter** - 80 at Cannon Beach, CLATSOP 2 Jun (JeG). Numbers remained fairly constant at SJCR, 118 21 Jun (MP), 86 3 Jul (MP), 152 21 Jul (MP), and 160 24 Jul (MP). 1 with White-winged Scoters at SRSP on 13 Jul (MC, PV).

**White-winged Scoter** - continued to be seen at SJCR from 21 Jul thru 24 Jul, with 4 21 Jun (MP), 11 on 22 Jun (MP), 1 on 3 Jul (MP), 2 on 21 Jul (MP), and 3 on 24 Jul (MP).



12 bobbed off SRSP on 13 Jul (MC, PV).

**Black Scoter** - 1 female remained at Yaquina Head, LINC on 7 Jun (ABACFT).

**Common Merganser** - 12 at Cannon Beach, CLATSOP 2 Jun (JeG), which was a hen with brood of 11 ducklings, in the estuary at north end of town.

**Osprey** - 1 built nest at Port of Toledo, LINC on its own special tower and platform. The nest contained 1 chick, 30 Jun (PD). 1 nestling exercised its wings at ECLK on 13 Jul (MC, PV).

They were regular over SRSP during late June (STh).

**Bald Eagle** - 1 at Cannon Beach, CLATSOP 2 Jun (JeG). 1 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP), 1 in CLATSOP 25 Jun (MP), 1 at SJCR 3 Jul (MP). Bald Eagles were seen regularly over SRSP from late June - July (JTh, STh).

**Northern Harrier** - 1 at Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge, CLATSOP on 8 Jun (RP). 1 at Nehalem Bay State Park, TILLAMOOK 22 Jun (LC).

**Cooper's Hawk** - 1 at Astoria, CLAT 6 Jun (LC). 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 20 Jul (MP).

**Red-tailed Hawk** - 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP). 2 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 25 Jun (LC). 1 at Mt. Hebo, TILL 5 Jul (JHa). 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA).

**Peregrine Falcon** - 1 adult Newport, LINC 16 June (RB).

**Blue Grouse** - 1 at SMSP 10 Jul and 25 Jul (MP).

**Virginia Rail** - 1 at BCMW on 19 Jul (PA).

**Black-bellied Plover** - 1 in breeding plumage at IDFL on 2 June (JSu).

**Semipalmated Plover** - 9 at OBSP 25 Jul (JeG).

**Black Oystercatcher** - 2 at Cannon Beach, CLAT 2 Jun (JeG).

**Greater Yellowlegs** - 1 at IDFL on 2 June (JSu), 1 at OBSP on 2 June (RLo), 1 at ECLK 13 July (MC, PV). 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA). 1 at OBSP 25 Jul (JeG).

**Wandering Tattler** - 1 at Pacific City, TILL on 6 June (IS). 2 on BARJ on 19 July (QN).

**Spotted Sandpiper** - 1 at Yachats, LINC on 11 July (SaL).

**Whimbrel** - 40 at IDFL 2 June (JSu), 34 11 June (EH), at least 20 30 June (RLo), 4 at Sunset Beach, CLAT on 8 July (IS), at least 30 13 July (MC, PV). 2 at SJCR 22 Jun (LC).

**Marbled Godwit** - 2 visited IDFL on 2 June (JSu). 1 continued to be seen there on 3 June (TJ), 7 June (TJ), and 30 June (RLo).

**Ruddy Turnstone** - 1 at SRSP 13 July (MC, PV).

**Black Turnstone** - 25 at SRSP 13 July (MC, PV). 1 at BARJ on 19 July (QN).

**Surfbird** - 60 arrived at SRSP on 13 July (MC, PV).

**Red Knot** - 1 at SRSP on 2 June (JSu).

**Western Sandpiper** - 2 at SJCR 26 Jun (LC). 3 at Yaquina Bay, LINC 29 Jun (JeG). 44 at IDFL on 30 June (RLo). 1 at OBSP 25 Jul (JeG).

**Least Sandpiper** - 3 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP). 3 at OBSP 25 Jul (JeG).

**Baird's Sandpiper** - 1 seen at on the Necanicum Estuary, CLAT on 15 July (SW).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** - 4 at ECLK and 2 at IDFL on 13 July (JFo, MI).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** - 3 arrived at IDFL on 30 June (RLo).

**Red-necked Phalarope** - 17 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

**Red Phalarope** - 1 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

**South Polar Skua** - 2 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

**Pomarine Jaeger** - 2 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

**Parasitic Jaeger** - 1 at Wandemere, LINC on 3 June (RC). 1 at SJCR 22 Jun (MP).

**Franklin's Gull** - 1 at IDFL on 13 July (MC, PV).

**Bonaparte's Gull** - 12 at IDFL on 2 June (JSu) and 7 on 11 June (EH).

**Heermann's Gull** - Flocks of up to 10 flew north of Yaquina Head and SRSP on 3 June, 5 June, and 7 June (ABACFT). Gulls flew north off BBSW on 4 July (DT), 17 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT), 20 off SRSP on 13 July (MC, PV). 8 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP) with numbers increasing to 120 21 Jul (MP) and 180 24 Jul (MP).

**Ring-billed Gull** - 4 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP). 5 at Yaquina Bay, LINC 29 Jun (JeG). 2 at SJCR 24 Jul (MP).

**California Gull** - 1 at SJCR 22 Jun and 26 Jun (LC). 1 noted at Nehalem Bay State Park, TILL 22 Jun (LC). 120 at Yaquina Bay, LINC 29 Jun (JeG).

**Caspian Tern** - 30 at IDFL on 2 June (JSu). 140 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP). which was the largest number reported

in Clatsop during this reporting period. 50 flew north off BBSW on 4 July (DT), 2 spotted off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT), first hatch-year calls over HMSC on 15 July (RB). Some hatch-year birds seen among adults in Siletz Bay on 29 July (PP).

**Common Murre** - 15000 at Cannon Beach, CLAT 2 Jun (JeG). Numbers varied at SJCR from 621 21 Jun (MP) to 700 3 Jul (MP), to 230 21 Jul (MP) to 700 24 Jul (MP). Up to 1000 flew off BBSW on 4 July (DT). 1480 were off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

A large northward movement off BBSW was observed on 5 July (EH), as well as 6500 flying at about 100/minute was observed as BBSW on 5 July (WH).

**Pigeon Guillemot** - 30 at Cannon Beach, CLAT 2 Jun (JeG). 12 at Pacific City, TILL 6 June (IS). 2 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP). 25 at SRSP 29 Jun (JeG). 5 at SJCR 3 Jul (MP). Over 40 at BBSW on 4 July (DT). 115 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT). 11 at Driftwood Beach, LINC carried fish to their nests on 5 July (MN). Noted at Haystack Rock, CLAT 13 Jul (PJ).

**Marbled Murrelet** - 6 at Pacific City, TILL 6 June (IS). 4 at SJCR 21 Jun (MP) with possible *CRAVERI'S MURRELET*. The bird was a small, black and white alcid that flew by at less than 200m. It was all black from above, all white below. The chin, throat and upper breast were immaculate white. There were no white or pale at the scapulars. The underwing was gray, lighter than the upper wing, but not white or even a flashy pale gray. MP could not absolutely exclude juvenile Marbled Murrelet. 1 hatch-year off BBSW on 4 July (DT), 7 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

**Cassin's Auklet** - 1 at SJCR 22 Jun (MP). 1 at BBSW on 4 July (DT). 1 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

**Rhinoceros Auklet** - Numbers varied at SJCR from 16 21-22 Jun (MP), 7 3 Jul (MP), 6 21 Jul (MP), to 1 24 Jul (MP). 1 off BBSW on 4 July (DT).

**Tufted Puffin** - 10 at Cannon Beach, CLAT 2 Jun (JeG), noted at Haystack Rock, CLAT 13 Jul (PJ). 2 flew past BBSW on 3 June, 5 June, and 7 June (ABACFT). 2 off Newport, LINC on 5 July (BGPT).

**Band-tailed Pigeon** - 36 4 miles east of Waldport, LINC 22 June (JKC). Noted at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT on 28 June (MP). Noted at BCMW on 19 Jul (PA). , 1 at SJCR on 21 July (MP).

**Mourning Dove** - 1 in South Beach yard on 1 July (WH).

**Great Horned Owl** - 1 at Beverly Beach State Park, LINC 31 Jul (PA).

**Barred Owl** - 1 at Beaver Creek, LINC on 1 June (LO).

**Common Nighthawk** - 1 heard over Fox Creek, LINC on 4 June (MN). 1 flew over Wandemere, LINC in the pre-dawn on 19 June (RC).

**Black Swift** - 1 fly over in Toledo, LINC on 1 July (CP). 1 seen along July 17 along Hwy 34 about ten miles east of Waldport on 17 July (HN).

**CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** - There were, at least 2 at SMSP 10 Jul (MP); one adult male; one small square-tailed female/juvenile. Rare for county; raises possibility of breeding in Coast Range.

**Rufous Hummingbird** - 3 at Rockaway Beach, TILL at least 2 males and one female on 6 June (IS).

4 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT on 9 June (LC), 5 noted at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT on 25 June (LC).

**Red-breasted Sapsucker** - 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 28 Jun (MP).

**Hairy Woodpecker** - 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP). 1 at Oswald West State Park, TILL 30 Jun (PA). 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA). 1 noted at Beachside State Park, LINC 23 Jul (PA). 1 at Beverly Beach State Park, LINC 31 Jul (PA).

**Pileated Woodpecker** - 1 pair in nesting hole in Rockaway Beach, TILL 6 June (IS). 1 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 9 Jun (LC), 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP), 1 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 25 Jun (LC), 1 at Oswald West State Park, TILL 30 Jun (PA), 1 at Mt. Hebo, TILL 5 Jul (JHa).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** - 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 28 Jun (MP). 1 at Mike Miller Park, LINC on 1 July (YBNFT). 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA).

**Western Wood-Pewee** - 1 at Mike Miller Park, LINC on 1 July (YBNFT).

**SAY'S PHOEBE** - 1 at Necanicum Estuary, CLAT on 19 June (SW).

**Cassin's Vireo** - 1 at Mike Miller Park, LINC on 1 July (YBNFT).

**Hutton's Vireo** - 3 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 9 Jun (LC), 1 in CLAT 20 and 25 Jun (MP), 1 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 25 Jun (LC), 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA).

**Warbling Vireo** - 4 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 9 Jun (LC), 1 in CLAT 20 and 25 Jun (MP), 7 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 25 Jun (LC), 1 at Mt. Hebo, TILL 5 Jul (JHa), 1 at SMSP 10 Jul (MP).

**Gray Jay** - 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 20 Jul (MP).

**Western Scrub-Jay** - 1 visited a yard in Newport, LINC on 24 June (RF). 1 in Garibaldi, TILL on 21 July (BW, JW).

**Purple Martin** - Lots of activity at the HMSC colony on 11 June (EH). 1 in CLAT (MP) 25 Jun. 6-10 pairs at HMSC on 28 June (DP).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** - 1 to 2 pairs nested in a sandy beach bluff at Wandemere, LINC as of 3 June (WN, RC).

**Bushtit** - 1 in CLAT on 25 Jun (MP).

**Rock Wren** - 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 28 Jun (MP). Rare for county; found on top of Nicolai Mt rocks.

**American Dipper** - 1 in CLAT 20 and 25 Jun (MP).

**Western Bluebird** - 1 adult female and fledgling outside of Lincoln City on 7 July (DS).

**Varied Thrush** - 1 at Mt. Hebo, TILL 5 Jul (JHa), 1 on SMSP 10 and 25 Jul (MP).

**Wrentit** - 1 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 9 Jun (LC), 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP), 1 at Mt. Hebo, TILL 5 Jul (JHa), 1 at BOSP on 19 July (QN). 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA), 1 at Beachside State Park, LINC 23 Jul (PA), 1 at Beverly Beach State Park, LINC 31 Jul (PA).

**Yellow Warbler** - 1 in CLAT 25 June (MP). 1 pair visited SRSP on 29 July (JTh, STh).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** - 9 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 9 Jun (LC), 1 in CLAT 20 and 25 Jun (MP), 1 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 25 Jun (LC).

**Hermit Warbler** - 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP), 1 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 25 Jun (LC), 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 28 Jun (MP), 1 at Mt. Hebo, TILL 5 Jul (JHa), 1 near Lincoln City, LINC on 7 July (DS), 1 at SMSP 10 Jul (MP).

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER** - 1 at home in Cape Meares Village, TILL 16 June (MT). It was a recent window kill. Based upon the new Birds of Oregon this will be the 9th state record.

**MacGillivray's Warbler** - 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 28 Jun (MP).

**Western Tanager** - 1 seen on Beaver Creek land, LINC on 2 June (LO), 1 outside of Lincoln City, LINC on 7 July (DS), 1 heard at Mike Miller Park, LINC on 1 July (YBNFT).

**GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE** - an experienced mid-western birder possibly saw 1 bird in the parking lot of Care Meares, TILL 14 June (HN, BW, JW).

**Vesper Sparrow** - 1 at BOSP on 6 July (HN).

**Lazuli Bunting** - 1 5 Jul at Mt. Hebo, TILL 28 Jun (JHa, BT, DoM). They heard a Lazuli Bunting singing near the Tillamook/Yamhill County line on Mt. Hebo in the warm sun.

**Purple Finch** - 4 including both sexes and 2 young in Rockaway Beach, TILL on 6 June (IS). 3 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 9 Jun (LC), 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP), 1 at SJCR 22 Jun (LC), 1 at Nehalem Bay State Park, TILL 22 Jun (LC), 1 at Lyngstad Heights, CLAT 25 Jun (LC), spotted at Mike Miller Park, LINC on 1 July (YBNFT), 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA).

**Red Crossbill** - 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP), 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 28 Jun (MP), 1 at Oswald West State Park, TILL 30 Jun (PA), spotted at Mike Miller Park, LINC on 1 July (YBNFT), few were spotted at BOSP on 19 July (QN). 1 at Nicolai Mountain, CLAT 20 Jul (MP), 1 at SMSP 25 Jul (MP), 1 at Beverly Beach State Park, LINC 31 Jul (PA).

**Evening Grosbeak** - 1 in CLAT 20 Jun (MP), 1 at Mt. Hebo, TILL 5 Jul (JHa), 1 at SMSP 10 Jul (MP), 1 at SRSP on 12 July (JTh, STh), 1 at BCMW 19 Jul (PA).





# South Coast Field Notes: Summer 2003

*Edited by Dave Lauten*

## Abbreviations:

BMNWR – Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, COOS

CS – Coos Spit sites including ponds, COOS

MM – Millicoma Marsh, COOS

NJS – North Jetty, Siuslaw River, LANE

SJS – S. Jetty Rd. sites, Siuslaw River, LANE

TME – Tenmile Estuary, COOS



*Long-tailed Duck, 5 July, mouth of the Siuslaw River, Lane County. Photo/N. Strycker*

**Red-throated Loon** - At least 1 was noted at Florence LANE 3 Jun (MP).

**Pacific Loon** - A typical few lingering summer birds: 1 at Florence LANE 3 and 5 Jun (MP), 2 noted off Sea Lion Caves LANE on 5 July (ALC, NKS, VA), and 2 off the SJS LANE 11 July (VA).

**YELLOW-BILLED LOON** - 1 first summer bird was in the Coos River off CS COOS 18 July, a rare summer record (TR).

**Western Grebe** - At least 1 was off Florence LANE 3 and 5 June (MP), and up to 30 were off Heceta Head LANE 5 July (RL, RR, VA).

**Clark's Grebe** - 3 were off Heceta Head LANE 5 July (RL, RR).

**Northern Fulmar** - 1 sick bird was

noted on the beach near NJ Siuslaw River LANE 13 July (DP).

**White Pelican** - For the second summer in a row, 8 were noted in Coos Bay COOS on 28 June where they are quite rare (Tom Gaskill).

**Brown Pelican** - Widespread and common throughout the period.

**American Bittern** - 1 reported, at SJS LANE on 5 Jul (VA).

**Great Egret** - Up to 20 pairs were nesting with Great Blue Herons on the CS COOS (TR, DL, KC). TR reported up to 30-40 at MM COOS in June, and DL was informed that a second colony of unknown numbers was nesting on private land up Catching Slough COOS; the birds at MM were most likely from this colony.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** - Very uncommon in summer, 1 was

seen well flying north at CS COOS 12 June (TR).

**Brant** - At least 1 was noted at Florence, LANE 5 Jun (MP).

**Gadwall** - 5 were at CS COOS on 19 June (TR).

**Blue-winged Teal** - Still lingering from spring, at least 1 was in Florence LANE 5 Jun (MP) and 2 males were at CS COOS 8 June (TR). 5-6 at New River COOS on 2 July were most likely early fall migrants (DL).

**Cinnamon Teal** - A pair at MM COOS 11 June may have nested again this summer, but was not confirmed (TR). 6 at New River COOS on 25 Jul were migrants (DL, KC).

**Northern Pintail** - The first migrant, a female, was at CS COOS on 14 Jul (TR).

**Green-winged Teal** - 2 males at CS COOS on 19 Jun were the last of the spring birds, while 1 at CS COOS 31 Jul was the first of the fall migrants (TR).

**Ring-necked Duck** - For the 5<sup>th</sup> time in the past 6 years, breeding occurred on the CS COOS: a female with 4 chicks was noted on 21 Jul (TR).

**Greater Scaup** - 10 were noted at CS COOS on 18 Jun, and several were noted overwintering through July at the same location (TR).

**Harlequin Duck** - A very high 24+ were noted at the mouth of Bob Creek LANE on 26 Jun (Roberta Zais), and 2 were noted there on 5 July (ALC, NKS, VA).

**White-winged Scoter** - At least 1 was noted at Florence LANE on 3 Jun (MP).

**Long-tailed Duck** - A very worn male was off SJS LANE on 5 and 12 Jul (ALC, NKS, VA).

**Bufflehead** - Last of the spring migrants was noted 13 June at CS COOS, and the first of the fall was a female noted there 25 July (TR).

**Hooded Merganser** - At least 1 was noted at Florence LANE 5 Jun (MP), 1 was at CS COOS 17 Jun and 2 were there on 26 Jun (TR). A female with chicks was at Dean Creek WMA on 22 Jul, confirming breeding near the Douglas County coast (TR).

**Common Merganser** - Of interest was 1 flying north over the ocean off SJS on 1 Jun (Will Russell, fide RHo); the bird appeared to lack the black bar on the white wing panel, suggesting it may have been of the Eurasian subspecies.

**Ruddy Duck** - Up to two pairs lingered into June at CS COOS. On 14 Jul, a female was noted with 3 chicks at CS COOS, confirming the first county



breeding record (TR).

**American Kestrel** - 1 at New River COOS on 17 July was most likely a migrant, as the coastal plain is not a known breeding area (DL, KC).

**Peregrine Falcon** - 1 noted catching and eating a Bonaparte's Gull at Pony Slough COOS and 1 at CS COOS on 17 June indicate local birds (TR).

**Black-bellied Plover** - Fall migrants were noted by 17 Jul at New River COOS (DL, KC). High count for the period was 21 at BMNWR COOS 27 Jul (DL, KC).

**Snowy Plover** - This summer's coastal breeding population was 92 adult plovers, which is about the same as the last 4 years. Breeding occurred at traditional sites from Sutton Beach LANE to New River COOS. No plovers nested at Floras Lake CURRY this summer (DL, KC).

**Semipalmated Plover** - Summering birds were at CS COOS on the Snowy Plover breeding area, but despite some displaying no nests were located (DL, KC). 38 at CS COOS on the effluent ponds on 17 June may also have been oversummering birds (TR). By early July migrants were moving down the coast. Peak count was 400 at BMNWR on 27 July (DL, KC).

**Greater Yellowlegs** - 3 were still at CS COOS on 5 June (TR). First southbound migrant was noted at New River COOS 26 Jun (DL, KC). High count was 28 at CS COOS 17 July (TR).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** - Only 1 was noted at CS COOS on 13 Jul (TR).

**Willet** - Uncommon along the coast especially in summer, singles were noted at New River COOS 25 Jul (DL, KC) and at Bandon Beach COOS 27 Jul (DL, KC).

**Whimbrel** - Lingering spring birds were 2 at New River COOS 10-11 Jun (DL, KC, TR). 1 at Tenmile Estuary COOS 28 Jun was the first southbound bird (DL, KC). High count for the season was 57 at Empire COOS 18 Jul (TR).

**Long-billed Curlew** - Uncommon on the coast at any time of year, singles were noted 27 Jun at Bandon Beach COOS (DL, KC) and 30 Jun at New River COOS (DL, KC). 6 at Empire COOS on 23 Jul was a nice count (TR).

**Marbled Godwit** - Seemingly less common in the past few years, the

only records were 1 at Empire COOS on 23 Jul (TR) and 2 at Bandon Beach COOS on 27 Jul (DL, KC).

**Ruddy Turnstone** - Only reports were 1 at New River COOS on 22 Jul (DL, KC) and 5 at BMNWR COOS 27 Jul (DL, KC).

**Sanderling** - 6 at New River COOS on 10 Jun is typical of a few summering birds (DL, KC). 4 at CS COOS on 13 Jun may have been southbound migrants (DL, KC), and 4 at New River on 26 Jun were more typical of first southbound migrants (DL, KC). 27 was the high count at New River COOS on 27 Jul (DL, KC).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** - Single adults were at CS COOS on 13 and 19 Jul (TR). Single juveniles were noted on 24 and 28 Jul at CS COOS, and increased to 2 birds on 29 and 31 Jul (TR).

**Western Sandpiper** - 2 on 4 and 9 Jun at CS COOS were most likely oversummering birds (TR). 13 at CS COOS on 13 Jun were all southbound adults in worn plumage (DL, KC). High counts were 1,500 at CS COOS on 13 Jul (TR), 1,000 at CS COOS on 17 Jul (TR), 600 at BMNWR COOS on 19 Jun (DL, KC), and 900 at BMNWR COOS on 27 Jul (DL, KC). First juveniles were noted at BMNWR COOS on 27 Jul (DL, KC) and at CS COOS on 28 Jul (TR).

**Least Sandpiper** - Last of the spring birds was 1 at CS COOS on 4 Jun (TR). Singles at CS COOS on 16 and 17 Jun may have been southbound migrants (TR). Larger southbound movements commenced in mid-Jul, with 800 at BMNWR COOS on 19 Jul and 390 at BMNWR COOS on 27 Jul being peak counts (DL, KC). First juvenile was noted at CS COOS on 24 Jul (TR).

**WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER** - Certainly one of the birds of the year, Oregon's long awaited first confirmed record was an adult videotaped at New River COOS on 28 Jun (DL, KC); it could not be relocated the next day.

**Baird's Sandpiper** - 1, presumably a northbound bird, at CS COOS on 4 Jun was a rare spring/summer find and the latest spring COOS record (TR). First and only southbound migrant for the summer was on 29 Jul at CS COOS (TR).

**Dunlin** - 2 at CS COOS on 4 Jun were tardy northbound birds and the latest

spring COOS record (TR).

**BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER** - Juveniles are rare but regular in fall, so an adult at CS COOS on the Snowy Plover breeding area on 7 Jul was a stunning find (DL, KC); there is only one previous Oregon record of an adult, in spring 1981.

**Short-billed Dowitcher** - Unusual were 1-3 that were heard and seen 8 - 19 Jun at CS COOS (TR); there are few if any summer records or evidence of oversummering birds anywhere in Oregon. Typical southbound migrants were first detected 10 Jul when 18 were noted at Tenmile estuary COOS (DL, KC) and 20 on 13 Jul at CS COOS (TR).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** - Very late and the latest COOS spring record ever, 4 were heard on 7 Jun at CS COOS (TR). Typical southbound birds were singles on 14 and 15 Jul at CS COOS (TR, DL, KC). 10 was the peak count on 25 Jul at New River COOS (DL, KC).

**Wilson's Snipe** - 1 on 5 Jun at CS COOS may have been a very late spring migrant (TR); there are no breeding records from COOS. Singles on 11 Jul at Siltcoos LANE (VA) and 27 Jul at CS COOS (TR) were the first southbound migrants.

**WILSON'S PHALAROPE** - TR noted a pair at CS COOS on 5 Jun, and a single male on 6 Jun. On 14 Jul, TR noted a male still present and its behavior suggested breeding. On 20 Jul, TR finally found a chick in the presence of the male, confirming the first COOS breeding record. The chick was last noted on 29 Jul.

**Red-necked Phalarope** - At least 1 noted on 5 Jun in Florence LANE was a very late spring migrant (MP). 1 on 24 Jul at CS COOS was the first southbound migrant (TR).

**Bonaparte's Gull** - A movement was noted beginning 4 Jun when 17 were at New River COOS (DL, KC). Other records were 1 on 8 Jun at Pony Slough COOS (TR), 2 at Tenmile estuary COOS 9 Jun (DL, KC), 2 on 10 Jun at New River COOS (DL, KC), and 5 on 21 Jun at Tenmile estuary COOS (DL, KC). None were reported thereafter.

**Heermann's Gull** - Very common after the beginning of June.

**Herring Gull** - A rare summer find and tardy bird was 1 on 3 Jun at

Florence LANE (MP).

**ELEGANT TERN** - 6 on 31 Jul at Gold Beach CURRY were the only ones reported this summer (DM).

**HORNED PUFFIN** - 3 noted flying north on 5 Jun off Sea Lion Caves was the sixth county record for LANE (Megan Edwards Crewe, DiP, fide MP). 1 off Cape Arago on 19 Jul was yet another recent summer COOS record (DI, NKS) - are they breeding somewhere?

**Tufted Puffin** - At least 1 on 5 Jun off Sea Lion Caves LANE (MP) and 1 on 14 Jun off Heceta Head LANE (DiP) raise the question of breeding somewhere in that vicinity.

**Common Nighthawk** - 1 on 2 Jun in Bandon COOS was the first spring migrant (DL, KC).

**Black Swift** - 2 on 14 Jun at Heceta Head LANE (DiP) could be migrants, but could also be from an unknown coastal nesting location.

**Bank Swallow** - Always rare away from known coastal breeding sites, 1 on 1 Jun was at CS COOS (TR).

**SEDGE WREN** - The other bird of the year, Oregon's first was discovered by TR late in May at CS COOS. The bird continued to sing to the delight of numerous observers throughout June and into early July, and was noted carrying nesting material on several occasions, although whether it found a suitable mate was very questionable! Many pictures and video were taken.



*Sedge Wren, 4 June, North Spit of Coos Bay, Coos County. Photo/O. Schmidt*

Former Oregonian and recently relocated Reid Freeman, deciding he needed to be sure the Oregon birding community was not teasing him, was the last to see it on 10 Jul.

**Northern Mockingbird** - 1 that has been sporadically seen at CS COOS near the Sedge Wren site was noted on 21 Jun by TSn.

**American Pipit** - 1 was very late on 5 Jun at Siltcoos LANE (MP).

**American Redstart** - A first year male was in Brookings CURRY on 15 Jul (PHi), providing Curry with a rare

(and possibly first) July record. **Vesper Sparrow** - After nesting at New River COOS over the past several years, none were noted this summer (TR, DL, KC).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** - Continuing with the pattern of scattered reports along the coast, singles were noted on 3 and 5 Jun in Florence LANE (MP) and on 2 Jul in Brookings CURRY (PHi).

**Evening Grosbeak** - At least 1 was reported on 3 Jun in Florence LANE (MP).

## Portland Metro Field Notes: Spring 2003

*Edited by Ray Korpi*

### Abbreviations:

FW	Fernhill Wetlands, Washington Co.
JBW	Jackson Bottom Wetlands, Washington Co.
SI	Sauvie Island, county denoted if known
TRNWR	Tualatin River NWR, Washington Co.
VW	Vanport Wetlands, Multnomah Co.

**American White Pelican**-12, Sturgeon Lk., COLU, early Jul (HBN).

**American Bittern**-1, TRNWR, 11 Jun (PJ).

**Great Egret**-Records for June and July may represent early wanderers, but some could be nesting locally: 1, SI, 15 Jun (EK); 1, JBW, 2 Jul (DM);

1, TRNWR, 11 and 23 Jul (PJ, DR); 1, Steelman Lk., SI, COLU, 12 Jul (PJ).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron**-1, Force Lk., MULT, 17 Jun, is one of the few summer records I can recall; the wintering birds usually are first found in late Sept. to mid Oct. (IT,

JF).

**White-faced Ibis**-1, VW, 7 Jun (CS, IT).

**Gadwall**-2, TRNWR, 11 Jun (PJ).

**Blue-winged Teal**-1, VW, 1 Jun (EMV); 2, TRNWR, 11 Jun (PJ).

**Green-winged Teal**-2, TRNWR, 11 Jun (PJ).

**Redhead**-1 pr., VW, 1 Jun (EMV).

**Ring-necked Duck**-1, TRNWR, 11 Jun (PJ).

**Greater Scaup**-3 male and 1 female at VW, 1 Jun (EMV) were an interesting late spring find.

**Peregrine Falcon**-1, TRNWR, 11 Jun (PJ, DR).

**Blue Grouse**-1 female with 2 quail-sized young, FR1828, Mt. Hood NF, CLAC, 15 Jul (WG).



**Mountain Quail**-Birds were “vocal” on Larch Mtn., MULT, 15 Jun (RL).  
**Virginia Rail**-1, Pascuzzi Pond Wetlands Conservancy Preserve, WASH, 13 Jun (BV).  
**Sora**-1, Pascuzzi Pond Wetlands Conservancy Preserve, WASH, 13 Jun (BV).  
**Sandhill Crane**-3 noted as early, SI, 7 Jul (fide HBN).  
**Semipalmated Plover**-1, TRNWR, 23 Jul (PJ, DR).  
**Black-necked Stilt**-The birds first found this spring at TRNWR were last found on 11 Jun (PJ, DR).  
**Lesser Yellowlegs**-1, TRNWR, 11, 17, and 23 July (PJ, DR).  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper**-1, TRNWR, 23 Jul (PJ); 1, FW, 26 Jul (PJ).  
**Pectoral Sandpiper**-4, Mollala s.p., CLAC, 24 Jul (ES, NaW).  
**Wilson's Phalarope**-2, 1, TRNWR, 23 July (PJ, DR, Carol Hayden); 1, FW, 25-26 Jul (JR, PJ, MhK).  
**Red-necked Phalarope**-1 female, FW, 4 Jul (DB); 1, FW, 26 Jul (LM).  
**Franklin's Gull**-1, Willow Bay, SI, COLU, 30 Jul (fide HBN).  
**Caspian Tern**-As usual, birds were found along the Columbia R. in late June and July. 1, TRNWR, 2 Jul (TL); 1, Scoggins Valley Pk., WASH, 8 Jul (JHa).  
**Common Nighthawk**-1, calling and booming, s. of Vernonia, WASH, 29 Jul (WG). I saw no reports of birds in the lowlands of the area this summer.  
**Calliope Hummingbird**-1 female,

Warren, COLU, 3 Jun (DCg).  
**Northern Flicker**-An *intergrade HY male* with typical red-shafted markings as well as the red nape mark of yellow-shafted was begging for food near Mt. Tabor, MULT, 22-27 Jul (PJ).  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher**-1 singing on Mt. Tabor, MULT, 14 Jun; GL noted this as a late date for his records at Tabor.  
**Pacific-slope Flycatcher**-2 on Mt. Tabor, MULT, 16 Jun, were singing (GL).  
**Eastern Kingbird**-Despite several reporters going to the Sandy R. Delta, this species was not reported during the period.  
**Red-eyed Vireo**-Reported from its usual MULT colony sites at Virginia Lk., SI; Sandy R. Delta; Oxbow Park; and Smith & Bybee Lks. 1 sighted at Multnomah Falls, MULT, 23 Jun (PJ) was from an not-so-usual site.  
**Clark's Nutcracker**-Noted near Timberline Lodge, CLAC, 4 Jul (SHg).  
**Chestnut-backed Chickadee**-1, Smith & Bybee Lks., MULT, 8 Jun (PJ) was an unusual date and location, esp. given the lack of evergreens at this site. Wandering does occur in nearby neighborhoods in fall, but this seems a bit early.  
**Rock Wren**-A banner year for this species on the west slope of the Cascades: 1, Larch Mtn., MULT, 12 Jun-28 Jul (PJ, MhK, IT, BS, AA); 1, south slope, Bald Mtn., Mt. Hood NF, CLAC, 15 Jul (WG); 2 with a young bird, 25-29 Jul, were at Tamarack

Quarry, 1 mi. s. of Trillium Lk., may be a first nesting record for Clackamas Co. (BN, ES, NWa).  
**Mountain Bluebird**-1 pr., near Timberline Lodge, CLAC, 29 Jun, is a location where this species nests locally in CLAC (MLaF).  
**Hermit Warbler**-“Many” were singing at Larch Mtn., MULT, 15 Jun (RL).  
**Wilson's Warbler**-1 singing on Mt. Tabor, MULT, 16 Jun; GL noted this as a late date for his records at Tabor.  
**Yellow-breasted Chat**-1 singing, Scoggins Valley Pk., WASH, 8 Jul (JHa).  
**Western Meadowlark**-A pale bird was near Timberline Lodge, CLAC (an admittedly odd location), 29 Jun (MLaF).  
**Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch**-Several reports were made about single birds being found just above Timberline Lodge, CLAC, in late Jun and Jul (mob).  
**Cassin's Finch**-Noted near Timberline Lodge, CLAC, 4 Jul (SHg).  
**Red Crossbill**-1, Powell Butte, MULT, 2 Jun (DB); 100+, Larch Mtn., MULT, 15 and 22 Jun (RL, PO); 6-8, Larch Mtn., MULT, 28 Jun (PJ, MhK).  
**Lesser Goldfinch**-2 females were attending a fledgling on the ground, Mt. Tabor, MULT, 4 Jun (PJ).  
**Evening Grosbeak**-1 over sw Portland, MULT, 29 Jul, was somewhat unusual given the species' absence in the lowlands of late (MkM).



*Bewick's Wren, banded 8 June near Stayton, Marion County. Photo/S. Dowlan*



# Willamette Basin Field Notes: Spring 2003

Edited by Joel Geier

## Abbreviations:

### Symbols and Abbreviations:

\* indicates special-status species.  
+ following a number indicates "at least"

n., s., e., w. = north, south, east, west

ad. = adult

f. = female

fl. = fledgling

h.y. = hatch-year

juv. = juvenile

m. = male

m. ob. = multiple observers

pr. = pair (implies adult male & female)

ABA = American Birding Association

BBS = Breeding Bird Survey

NF = National Forest

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

SF = State Forest

SP = State Park

STP = sewage treatment pond(s)

## Locations:

ANWR = Ankeny NWR, MARI  
BSNWR = Baskett Slough NWR,  
POLK

DHW = Duckflat Rd. x Hunsaker Rd  
wetlands n. of Marion, MARI  
EEW = E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area,  
BENT

FNWR = William L. Finley NWR,  
BENT

FRR = Fern Ridge Reservoir &  
vicinity, LANE

MTPI = Mt. Pisgah, LANE

PVW = Pioneer Villa wetlands, LINN

WV = Willamette Valley

**Pied-billed Grebe** - Ad. with 2 striped  
juv. at FRR 18 Jun (SM). Several  
families with small chicks at FRR 23  
Jul (DDe, DA).

**Western Grebe** - Pr. with 2 half-  
grown juv. at FRR 27 Jul (DI). 1 at  
BSNWR 9 Jun - 5 Jul (BTi).

**Clark's Grebe** - Ad. tending nearly  
full-grown juv. at FRR 27 Jul (DI).

**American White Pelican** - 5 at FRR  
by 1 Jun (RR). 10 to 20+ at FRR  
throughout period (NKS); high counts  
of 23 on 13 Jul (JSu) and 24 on 27 Jul  
(DDe).

**Double-crested Cormorant** -



*Black Tern on a nest at Fern Ridge Reservoir, 18 June 2003. Photo/S. Maulding*

Unusual in WV during breeding  
season. 1 at BSNWR 9 Jun (BTi). 10  
at FRR 2 Jul (VA).

**American Bittern** - At FRR, many  
on 4 Jun, including one flock of 5  
(MP), reports thru season (m. ob.). 1  
at EEW 15 Jun (DBo). 1 at BSNWR  
18 Jun (TSn).

**Great Egret** - Noted in West Eugene  
Wetlands, LANE 7 Jun (ABA field  
trips), earlier than expected for post-  
breeding migrants (fide TM). 6 at FRR  
by 29 Jul (NKS). 1 at near Coburg,  
LANE 31 Jul (PJ).

**White-faced Ibis** - 1 at FNWR 1 Jun  
(Carolyn Paynter, TSn, SBr).

**Gadwall** - 1 m. at ANWR 8 Jun (MC,  
PV). 1 m. at Tangent STP, LINN 9  
Jun (JF). Up to 12 in marshes along  
Royal Ave, FRR 13-22 Jun (DI; SGo).  
In four locations around BSNWR 13  
Jun; still there and presumed nesting  
26 Jun (BTi).

**Blue-winged Teal** - 1 m. at BSNWR  
8 Jun (EK). 4 at FRR 1 Jun (RR). 20  
at FRR by 13 Jun (DI). 9 m. still in  
area 27 Jun (SGo), 3 on 20 Jul (HR),  
1 on 31 Jul (RR).

**Northern Shoveler** - Small numbers  
at FRR thru 25 Jun (HR, VA). 2 broods  
at BSNWR 5 Jul (BTi). Hen with  
brood at Livermore Rd. wetland n. of  
BSNWR, 16 Jul (RGe).

**Northern Pintail** - 1 m. at ANWR 8  
Jun (MC, PV). 1 to 2 at FRR 4-22 Jun  
(MP, DI, SGo).

**Green-winged Teal** - Pr. at ANWR 8

Jun (MC, PV). 2 at FRR 25 Jun (VA)  
and 16 Jul (LaM). 4 at PVW 14 Jul  
(TSn).

**Redhead** - 21 at FRR by 1 Jun (RR).  
Numbers there approached 100 by 7  
Jun (DA, DFi, DI); 10 still present 25  
Jun (VA, HR). Hen with brood at FRR  
on 16 Jul (LaM); 2 hens each with 6  
or 7 young by 23 Jul (DDe, DA); 4  
broods by 27 Jul (DDe, DA). Pr. at  
BSNWR 8-13 Jun (EK, BTi), but gone  
by 18 Jun (TSn).

**Ring-necked Duck** - 2 at BSNWR 9  
Jun (BTi). 4 still at FRR 25 Jun (VA,  
HR); 1 there 16 Jul (LaM).

**Lesser Scaup** - 1 m. stayed at Dayton  
STP, YAMH thru 9 Jun (TH). 1 at  
Creswell STP, LANE 27 Jul may have  
summered there (NKS).

**Harlequin Duck** - 3 female-  
plumaged birds at Quartzville Creek,  
LINN 24 Jul (HH).

**Bufflehead** - 1 was noted  
intermittently at FRR 4-13 Jun (MP,  
DI), 3 Jul (DA), and 16-20 Jul (LaM,  
HR). 1 at Creswell STP, LANE 27 Jul  
may have summered there (NKS).

**Barrow's Goldeneye** - 1 of 7 hens at  
Lost Lake, LINN had 7 small young  
14 Jun (WW). Two broods totaling 13  
chicks were on the lake 22 Jun (MNI).

**Hooded Merganser** - 5 h.y. birds were  
near a nest box at Fay Lake (elev. 4300  
ft), LINN 23 Jul (RGe).

**Ruddy Duck** - 4 at Lane County  
Community College, LANE 1 Jun  
(RR). 2 pr. at BSNWR 9 Jun (BTi);

some still there 18 Jun (TSn). 2 m. at Livermore Rd. wetland, POLK 16 Jul (RGe).

**White-tailed Kite** - 1 imm. at FNWR 12 Jul (PV). 1 juv. at FRR 11 Jul (TSn, DDe); 2 juv. at FRR 27 Jul (DI). 1 to 2 seen regularly throughout period n. of Grande Ronde, YAMH 19 Jul (Lfi).

**Bald Eagle** - At nest in West Salem, POLK, first flight by fl. was 7 Jul; both young fledged by 14 Jul (JLu).

**Cooper's Hawk** - Nest with 1 fl. defended by ad. f. in 50 ft high tree NE of Lebanon, LINN 4 Jul (JHa).

**Red-shouldered Hawk** - Reports from 3 locations around Eugene, LANE (Charlie Quinn, SGo fide TM). 1 at FNWR 27 Jul (EK).

**Peregrine Falcon** - Ad. in Creswell area, LANE 17 Jun (ALC). 2 imm. at ANWR 14 Jul (JLu). Single birds noted intermittently throughout season at FRR (m. ob.).

**Blue Grouse** - Booming in Upper Soda area, LINN 2 Jun (JF). 2 booming at Gold Bog Lake, LANE 18 Jul (HH, DFa), a rather late date.

**Mountain Quail** - Hen with just one chick at Vineyard Mtn, BENT 17 Jul (ME, EE); cold, wet spring weather may have resulted in failed broods for quail species.

**Northern Bobwhite** - Two calling at FRR 3 Jun (LaM) likely released/escaped birds rather than members of a self-sustaining population.

**Virginia Rail** - Ad. with 2 or 3 chicks at FRR 10 Jul (ECa).

**Sora** - 2 juv. at FRR 27 Jul (DI).

**American Coot** - Ad. with orange-headed chick at FRR 18 Jun (SM).

**Black-bellied Plover** - 1 at FRR 13 Jul (JSu).

**Semipalmated Plover** - 1 at Livermore Rd wetland, POLK 9 Jun (BTi) may have been a late northbound migrant. 2 at FRR 13 Jul (JSu) were followed by singles 16-31 Jul (LaM, NKS, RR).

**Black-necked Stilt** - 1 at FRR 1 Jun (RR). 2 pr. there 15 Jun (RHo). Pr. with downy chicks at FRR 20 Jun (BH fide AP). 5 at FRR 25 Jun (VA). Last report was 1 at FRR 2 Jul (DDe).

**Greater Yellowlegs** - 1 at FRR Royal Ave 15 Jun (RHo), 2-3 on 25 Jun (HR, VA) and 4 on 2 Jul (DDe, Reid Freeman) may have been summering birds or early southbound migrants. High counts of 30 at FRR 13 Jul (JSu)

and 10 at DFW 17 Jul (RGe). Many at FRR 29 Jul (NKS).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** - 1 at FRR 11 Jul, 4+ later in the month (DDe). 2 along the Willamette River, YAMH 16 Jul (FSc). Some still at FRR 29 Jul (NKS).

**Solitary Sandpiper** - 1 at small pond along Santiam Wagon Rd near Big Lake, LINN 9 Jun, very late for a migrant but "displaying no particular behavior" that would suggest nesting (SSh). 1 territorial bird in pines and spruce at Gold Bog Lake, LANE 18 Jul (HH, DFa). 1 likely migrant at EEW, BENT 21 Jul (DBu). 1 at FRR 29 Jul (NKS) & 31 Jul (DDe).

**Spotted Sandpiper** - Half-grown young noted at PVW 10 Jul (JF).

**Whimbrel** - 1 at FRR 16 Jul (LaM and others), a rare migrant in WV.

**Long-billed Curlew (\*)** - 15 at FRR 28 Jul (NKS), a remarkable flock for a species that is rare in WV. 3 still there on 29 Jul, 1 on 30 Jul (DDe, NKS).

**Marbled Godwit** - 1 at FRR 27 Jul (DI).

**Western Sandpiper** - Flocks at BSNWR 4 Jul (MkM, MMA) marked the start of southbound migration. 30 at FRR 13 Jul (JSu). 10 at Livermore Rd. wetland, POLK 16 Jul (RGe). Many at FRR 27 Jul (DA, PSh, DDe).

**Least Sandpiper** - 3 at FRR 22 Jun (SGo), 4-5 there 2 Jul (DDe, Reid Freeman) marked start of southbound migration which peaked with 20 at FRR 13 Jul (JSu), many at Willamette River, YAMH 16 Jul (FSc), 60 at Livermore Rd. wetland, POLK 16 Jul and 200 "peep" sp. at DFW 17 Jul (RGe). Many still at FRR 29 Jul (NKS).

**Pectoral Sandpiper** - 1 at FRR 5 Jun (DA, DFi, DI), an unusual late spring migrant. 1 at DFW 17 Jul (RGe). 1 to 2 at FRR 26-31 Jul (PSh, DA, DDe, RR).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** - 16 dowitchers at Livermore Rd. wetland, POLK 16 Jul were mostly this species (RGe).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** - 2 at FRR 22 Jun (SGo), 55 there by 16 Jul (LaM), noted thru end of period. 6 at PVW 14 Jul (MNi).

**Wilson's Snipe** - Some present thru the breeding season at FRR (NKS) and EEW (DBu). 1 winnowing at FRR Royal Ave 15 & 22 Jun (RHo, SGo).

1 flushed from nest with 4 eggs at Gold Bog Lake, LANE 18 Jul (HH, DFa).

**Wilson's Phalarope** - 1 to 6 thru period at FRR 5 Jun (m. ob.); juveniles noted 13-27 Jul (JSu, LaM, DI). 1 at ANWR 8 Jun (MC, PV). 2 juv. at BSNWR 5 Jul (BTi). 1 juv. with 2 ad. at Livermore Rd. wetland, POLK 16 Jul (RGe). 7 including 3 juv. at PVW 14 Jul (MNi).

**Ring-billed Gull** - Noted at FRR Royal Ave 4 Jun (MP).

**California Gull** - 3 juv. at FRR 27 Jul (DI).

**Caspian Tern** - 2 at BSNWR 13 Jun (BTi). 1 to 5 at FRR 18-23 Jun (SM, m. ob.). 1 of 3 there 10 Jul was color-marked with pink under wings (ECa). Begging juvenile heard 1 mi w. of Willamette R., se. POLK 30 Jul (MLi).

**Forster's Tern** - 3 at FRR 7 Jun (DA, DFi, DI).

**Black Tern** - 6 at FRR 1 Jun (RR). Nest with 2 eggs at FRR 18 Jun (SM). Over 30 including many fl. at FRR 13 Jul (JSu), 60+ by 27 Jul (DI). 20 still there 31 Jul (RR). 2 at BSNWR 8 Jun (EK) thru 5 Jul when pr. seen carrying fish into tall grass (BTi). 5 at Doerfler Pond w. of Tangent, LINN 9 & 20 Jun (JF, MNi).

**Barn Owl** - Pr. fledged 3 young at Fink Family Farm, YAMH by 31 Jul but all crashed on first flight, possibly due to harassment by crows (Lfi).

**Western Screech-Owl** - Ad. with 1 downy chick in nest box n. of Lebanon, LINN 14 Jun (JHa). Ad. f. feeding two fl., Parsons Cr. near Mohawk, LANE 26 Jul (RAN)

**Barred Owl** - 1 to 2 at Silver Falls SP, MARI 12-15 Jun (LC, MP).

**Short-eared Owl(\*)** - 1 or 2 at Royal Ave, FRR 2 Jul (VA) was only breeding-season report.

**Common Nighthawk(\*)** - 1 sw. of Philomath, BENT 1 Jun (KF), in Coast Range where the species nests in small numbers. Also reported regularly from Cascades including "booming" courtship display at Lost Lake, LINN 22 Jun (MNi). At lower elevations in WV, this species has become a very sparse nester. Booming noted among 10 birds s. of Dayton, YAMH 19 Jun (FSc), 1 at Belts d. grasslands 20 Jun (MNi), and 2 at Albany, LINN 24 Jun (JF). 9 other low-elevation reports of 1 to 3 birds from Eugene, Corvallis, Independence, and Grande Ronde



areas (JaS, SGo, CWa, LFi, PJ, JeG).  
**Black Swift (\*)** - Several at Salt Creek Falls, LANE 6 Jun (NKS), 10 there 27 Jul (RR). 1 at Alsea, BENT 17 Jul was flying over hay fields (WH).  
**Vaux's Swift** - Juveniles heard in chimney nest in Monmouth, POLK 9 Jul (Maggie Meikle). Flocks of 10 to 15 over Eugene, LANE by 23 Jul (MaP).  
**Calliope Hummingbird(\*)** - 1 ad. f. at Lost Lake, LINN 4 Jul (MD, MLD).  
**Rufous Hummingbird(\*)** - Many near Lane Community College, LANE 18 Jun included a surprising number of males for that late in spring (LaM). 1 at Leaburg, LANE 19 Jul was first male there since the spring (AR), suggesting south-bound migration. Dozens of females and juveniles on Horsepasture Mtn, LANE 25 Jul (DDe).  
**Acorn Woodpecker** - Sightings away from established colonies included 1 in Camp Adair area, POLK 4 & 9 Jun (JeG, Lynn Rainwater) and, as of 4 Jun, "more this year than in all years combined, all singles" in se. POLK (MLi).  
**Williamson's Sapsucker** - 1 probable at Lava Lake trail, LINN 16 Jun (RCa). Two reports highly suggestive of breeding: 1 ad. on Parson's Cr. near Mohawk, LANE, 26 Jul, sap-welling birch trees with 1 begging juv., extended view at close range (RAN). Location away from Pacific Crest also unusual. 1 ad. m. on Woodpecker Ridge, Mt. Jefferson Wilderness, LINN 27 Jul, with a possible ad. f. and 2 juv. sapsuckers of undetermined species (JHa, Dan Thackaberry).  
**Red-breasted Sapsucker** - 1 at Lost Lake, LINN 22 Jun nesting in a snag for 2nd year in a row (MNi), 2 there 17 Jul (JeG). Pr. at Gold Bog Lake, LANE 18 Jul (HH, DFa).  
**Downy Woodpecker** - Ad. with juv. in McMinnville, YAMH 10 Jul (CK).  
**Hairy Woodpecker** - Ad. with fully formed young near Lane Community College, LANE 18 Jun (LaM).  
**Three-toed Woodpecker(\*)** - Pr. near ODOT gravel pile, Santiam Pass, LINN 2 Jun (JF). 2 at Waldo Lake, LANE 18 & 24 Jun (VA, PSh).  
**Black-backed Woodpecker(\*)** - Noted at Waldo Lake, LANE 18 & 24 Jun (VA, PSh), nest with live young found 26 Jun (TM). Pr. along Pacific Crest Trail near Hwy 20, LINN 29

Jun (RCa).  
**Pileated Woodpecker** - Two nestlings in tall snag, McDonald SF, BENT 6 Jun (HH). Ad. feeding two nestlings, Eugene ridge-line trail, LANE 28 Jun (ECa). 1 fledged juv. on Parsons Cr. near Mohawk, LANE 26 Jul (RAN).  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher (\*)** - Low-elevation detections in valley during breeding season included 1 in Eugene (Spyglass), LANE 1 Jun (RR) and 1 in Lewisburg, BENT 3-12 Jun (PA). Pr. visiting nest near end of branch high in fir tree, Gold Lake, LANE 18 Jul (HH, DFa).  
**Western Wood-Pewee** - 1 at Lost Lake, LINN 20 Jul (JeG), notable for montane location.  
**Willow Flycatcher(\*)** - 1 at Detroit Flats, MARI 5 Jun (MkM) perhaps a late migrant. Concentrations included: several in McDonald SF, BENT 6 Jun (HH), 3 at EEW 25 Jun (JeG), many in Lane Community College area, LANE 18 Jun (LaM, DA, PSh, DJo), several along Eugene Ridge Trail, LANE 2 Jul (LaM, PSh, BBe). Last report of season was 12 Jul at FRR (HR); lack of reports after this date likely due to cessation of calling rather than absence.  
**Black Phoebe** - Pr. at nest along Willamette R. s. of Dayton, YAMH was feeding 1+ nestling s of Dayton 5 Jun, absent (and possibly fledged) by 19 Jun when inspection of the nest found 3 eggs that did not hatch (FSc). 1 ad. at PVW 10 Jul (JF, MNi).  
**Ash-throated Flycatcher** - 1 present thru the summer again at Cherry Ridge Road, FRR (NKS). 1 at Detroit Flats, MARI 5 Jun (MkM).  
**Western Kingbird** - 1 at Richardson Gap, LINN 11 & 12 Jun (JHa). Pr. exchanging places on nest near McMinnville, YAMH 13 Jun (CK, QN). Pr. feeding half-grown young at MTPI 11 Jul (DDe). 2 in w. Eugene, LANE 23 Jul likely post-breeding dispersants (DDe).  
**Eastern Kingbird** - 1 foraging along fence at OSU sheep farm w. of Corvallis, BENT 5 Jun, extended view & good description (Suzanne Austin).  
**Hutton's Vireo** - Noted in wetland below Hills Creek Dam, LANE 23 Jul (NKS), at the eastern limit of oaks in the Cascades foothills.  
**Red-eyed Vireo** - 2 singing at Elijah Bristow SP, LANE 8 Jun (BN, DDe), pr. building and entering nest 17 Jun

(SM, DiP), still 2 singing 18 & 24 Jun (VA, PSh). 3 singing in gallery forest s. end of Grand Island, YAMH 30 Jun, a traditional "colony" (DoA). 1 singing along Willamette River s. of Horseshoe Lake near St. Paul, MARI 29-30 Jul, a new location (DoA). 1 singing in unusual oak habitat, then coming down for a drink on Bunker Hill nw. of ANWR 18 Jun (JLu).  
**Gray Jay** - One Coast Range report of 2 on Trask Mountain, YAMH 3 Jun (SBU).  
**Common Raven** - 10 reports totaling 14 birds from low elevations in LANE, LINN, BENT, & POLK on birdnotes.net (MP, HR, VA, JeG, MNi, EK).  
**"Streaked" Horned Lark(\*)** - Any Horned Lark found in the WV during breeding season is presumably of this subspecies (*strigata*). Besides the concentration around BSNWR which may be the largest in the WV (although reporting is limited by access), this species was reported from the following locales: Camp Adair area, BENT/POLK: 5 incl. juv. and attending ad. pr. 25 Jun; 15 including 2+ juv. and 5 still-territorial males 13 Jul (JeG). Sauter Rd, YAMH: 13 on 2 Jul found by late-evening driving (CK). Meadowview Rd near Eugene airport, LANE: Some singing plus one chase in clover field, 11 Jul (Arch McCallum). E. of Sublimity, MARI: heard at two stations along Scio BBS route, 21 Jun, new location (JHa). Belts Rd. grasslands, LINN: 1 to 2 territorial males 18 Jun & 10 Jul (MNi, JF). Independence airport, POLK: Singing male(s) noted 26-31 Jul (PJ). Gap Rd., LINN: 1 ad. & 1 juv. at Gap Rd., LINN 8 Jun (MD, MLD). Bond Butte Rd, LINN: 1, 20 Jun (MNi). S. end of DeLashmutt lane, YAMH: None found 2 Jul, where some found last year (CK).  
**Purple Martin(\*)** - 1 to 4 at Royal Ave, 4 Jun to 2 Jul (MP, VA, SGo, HR). Noted at FRR 3 Jul (DA, PSh). Some over regenerating logged area w. of Cottage Grove, LANE 28 Jul (HLo).  
**Tree Swallow** - Eggs in nest boxes se. of Lebanon, LINN 20 Jun (RGo).  
**Violet-green Swallow** - 2 with eggs in nest box se. of Lebanon, LINN 20 Jun (RGo). Large post-breeding flock at FNWR 27 Jul (EK).  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** -



Four reports on birdnotes.net: 1 at Luckiamute Landing, POLK 3 & 10 Jun (JeG). 2 at Elijah Bristow SP, LANE 18 Jun (VA). 2 at EEW 9 Jul (JeG).

**Bank Swallow** - 1 at FRR Royal Ave 13 Jun, well seen (DI). 1 at FRR 6 Jul (SGo).

**Cliff Swallow** - High counts from colonies: 60 at Alton Baker Park, LANE 17 Jun & 30 at Island Park, LANE 26 Jun (VA). 56 at Belts Rd. grasslands, LINN 18 Jun (MNI). 50 nesting under bridge in Corvallis, BENT 25 Jun (DBo). 10 at EEW 9 Jul (JeG). Pr. finished nesting in new colony n. of Grande Ronde, YAMH 31 Jul (LFI).

**Barn Swallow** - 18 successful nests at farm n. of Grande Ronde, YAMH 31 Jul (LFI). Post-breeding flock of 50 in Camp Adair area, POLK 22 Jul (JeG).

**Black-capped Chickadee** - Pr. fledged 7 young from nest box se. of Lebanon, LINN 16 Jun (RGo).

**Bushtit** - 1 at Albany, LINN 25 Jul had a vestige of a black ear patch (DF).

**White-breasted Nuthatch(\*)** - Species believed to be declining due to loss of oak woodland habitat. Reports on birdnotes.net this season were from Lewisburg (BENT), Mt. Pisgah (LANE), BSNWR (POLK), Vanderpool Tract greenway (BENT), Champoeg SP (MARI), FNWR (BENT), and Camp Adair area (BENT) (PA, MP, EK, JeG, PJ, PV).

**Rock Wren** - 1 singing on rock face at Hills Creek Dam, LANE 11 Jun; 2 still in area 23 Jul, may have bred (NKS). 1 calling from rocks in Hoodoo area, LINN 22 Jun (MNI).

**House Wren** - 7 nestlings about to fledge se. of Lebanon, LINN 20 Jun (RGo).

**Marsh Wren** - 2 at Snag Boat Bend Annex, LINN 9 Jun, a new location for county (JF).

**American Dipper** - Ad. feeding a juvenile at Lost Lake, LINN 22 Jun (MNI). Family at Quartzville Creek, LINN 24 Jul (HH).

**Mountain Bluebird** - Pr. visiting snags in Santiam Pass area, LINN 2 Jun (JF). 2 at Waldo Lake, LANE 18 Jun (VA); 2 pr. carrying food there 26 Jun (PSh fide TM).

**Townsend's Solitaire** - Ad. with fl. at Moon Falls, Umpqua NF, LANE 27 Jul (BA).

**Swainson's Thrush** - 2 imm. at Beazell Memorial Forest, BENT 29 Jul (MC).

**Wrentit(\*)** - 1 at Fall Creek Reservoir, LANE 8 Jun (Barbara Combs) and pr. at Hills Creek dam, LANE 23 Jul (NKS) were at edge of species' range in lower Cascades (fide TM). 1 singing n. of Grande Ronde, YAMH 25 Jul (LFI) at n. edge of range. 1 singing 1 mi e. of EEW in POLK 11-31 Jul (JeG) marked continued expansion into mid-WV floor. Late-season dispersal noted with 1 in Eugene, LANE 24 Jul (SGo) and 1 at Fisher Unit FRR 30 Jul (DA).

**Northern Mockingbird** - 1 at FRR Royal Ave 24 Jun (NKS).

**Orange-crowned Warbler** - Singing birds and 1 fl. in McDonald SF, BENT 6 Jun (HH).

**Nashville Warbler** - 1 along Deception Creek Road, LANE 8 Jun (VA). Ad. feeding fl. near Lane Community College hills, LANE 18 Jun (LaM, DA, PSh, DJo). 1 in willow habitat at Lost Lake, LINN 27 Jun (RGe).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** - 1 ad. m. singing at Lost Lake, LINN 27 Jun thru 7 Jul (RGe, m. ob.); not found 12 Jul (DS).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** - One low-elevation report at FNWR 12 Jul (PV).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** - Juv. in Camp Adair area, POLK first noted 23 Jul (JeG).

**American Redstart** - 1 m. singing 2 mi w of Creswell, LANE 27 Jun (Sally Nelson).

**Northern Waterthrush** - 1 singing at Lost Lake, LINN 14 Jun thru 7 Jul (WW, MNI, m. ob.), banded, showing



*Northern Waterthrush banded on 11 July, Lost Lake, Linn County. Photo/S. Dowlan*

full cloacal protuberance 11 Jul (SD). **MacGillivray's Warbler** - Family group at Horsepasture Mtn, LANE 25 Jul (DDe). 1 ad. f. at EEW, BENT 29 Jul (JeG) likely a post-breeding dispersant.

**Wilson's Warbler** - 2 ad. In Camp Adair area, POLK 22 Jul (JeG) likely post-breeding dispersants.

**Yellow-breasted Chat(\*)** - 2 at LCC, LANE 1 Jun (RR), many in area by 18 Jun (LaM). 1 at Fall Creek Reservoir, LANE 8 Jun (Barbara Combs). 2 to 4 at Hills Creek Dam wetland, LANE 8 Jun thru 23 Jul (VA, NKS). 1 at Gap Rd. rice ponds, LINN 17 Jun (MNI). 1 at Holmes Rd east of Gap Rd, LINN 17 Jun (JF). 2 to 3 along Mt. Richmond Road 4 mi nw of Yamhill, YAMH 14 Jul, a new breeding site for species (DoA, CK).

**Western Tanager** - Pr. carrying food to presumed nest with young on lower Soap Creek, POLK 6 Jun (JeG), a notably early date. Juv. attended by ad. f. at Eugene Ridge Trail, LANE 2 Jul (LaM, PSh, BBe). 1 apparent dispersant in Corvallis, BENT 17 Jul (MH). Ad. m. followed by begging cowbird chick at EEW, BENT 31 Jul (JeG). Migrant flock of 20 in Camp Adair area, POLK 31 Jul (JeG).

**Green-tailed Towhee** - 1 at Hoodoo area, LINN 17 Jun (JF).

**Spotted Towhee** - Two nests with 3 eggs in each found 21 & 22 Jul at EEW, BENT (DBu), notably late for nesting.

**Chipping Sparrow** - Diminished as a nesting species in the WV, only a few reports. Up to 4 at MTPI 4-7 Jun (MP, VA). 1 on Eugene Ridge Trail, LANE 2 Jul (LaM, PSh, BBe). Noted in Kings Valley area, BENT 29 Jul (MC).

**Brewer's Sparrow(\*)** - 1 s. flank of Hoodoo Butte, LINN 17 Jun (JF). 3 counter-singing males there 19 Jun, one caught and banded, showing 3+ cloacal protuberance (SD). 2 there thru 29 Jun (MNI). Many heard near Big Meadow, LINN 27 Jun (RGe).

**Vesper Sparrow(\*)** - 9 incl. 6 m. singing on s. side of MTPI 11 Jul (DDe), typical numbers for this breeding spot. 2 at Luckiamute Landing, POLK 22 Jun (JeG), fewer than in recent years. None found in Thomas Creek area e. of Scio, LINN 17 Jun (JHa), where found on BBS in past years. 2 e of Sublimity, MARI



*Brewer's Sparrow banded on the southern flank of Hoodoo Butte, Linn County. It was a male in breeding condition. Photo/S. Dowlan*

17 Jun (JHa). 2 m. singing in Christmas tree farm on Bruce Rd just w. of FNWR, BENT 4 Jun (WW). Pr. at edge of soccer fields in Willamette Park, BENT 16 Jul (DBo). 2 m. singing in shrubby grassland along Tub Run Rd w. of Gap Rd., LINN 08 Jun (WW). 1 at Belts Rd. grasslands, LINN 18-20 Jun (MNI).

**Savannah Sparrow** - Juv. near EEW, BENT 20 Jun (JeG). High count of 210 in a 100-acre orchard grass field at Camp Adair area, BENT 13 Jul included many juv. (JeG).

**Grasshopper Sparrow**(\*) - 3 in Belts Rd. grasslands, LINN 18 Jun (MNI). 1 at Royal Ave area, FRR 1-18 Jun (RR, RHo, SM). 2 pr. observed and 1 nest site found there 20 Jun (NKS). :

**Fox Sparrow** - 1 singing at Lost Lake, LINN 5 Jun (MkM) was the earliest report from the Cascades this year. Abundant in Hoodoo area, LINN by 22 Jun (MNI).

**Lincoln's Sparrow** - 1-2 noted at Lost

Lake, LINN a regular location 22 Jun (MNI) thru 4 Jul (MD, MLD). Many at Gold Bog Lake, LANE 18 Jul (HH, DFa).

**White-crowned Sparrow** - First juv. noted in Camp Adair area, BENT was on 20 Jun (JeG).

**Dark-eyed Junco** - Breeding indications from the WV floor included 1 recently fledged juv. in Santa Clara, LANE 10 Jun (MaR) and 1 singing at Champoeg SP, MARI 16 Jun (PJ). 2 fledged from nest in McMinville yard, YAMH 10 Jul (CK).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** - 1 at Alton Baker Park, LANE 23 Jun (PSH).

**Black-headed Grosbeak** - 2 in a Corvallis neighborhood, BENT 17 Jul judged to be post-breeding dispersants since not present there earlier in breeding season (MH).

**Lazuli Bunting** - 1 singing at Lava Lake trail head, LINN 22 Jun, an unusual but not unprecedented location (MNI). 1 at Hoodoo Butte, LINN 29 Jun (MNI). 25 to 30 m. singing on s. side of MTPI 11 Jul, normal numbers for this location (DDe). Pr. tending 2 juv. in Camp Adair area, POLK 23 Jul (JeG).

**Tricolored Blackbird** (\*) - 1 ad. m. at FRR 13 Jul (JSu).

**Western Meadowlark**(\*) - 4 in grassland with scattered shrubs along Tub Run Rd, LINN 8 Jun (WW). 8 at Belts Rd. grasslands, LINN 18 Jun (MNI). 1-2 at FRR Royal Ave 25 Jun thru 20 Jul (VA, HR). 1 juv. in Camp

Adair area, POLK 6 Jul, later found dead (Lynn Rainwater).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** - 1 m. near FNWR 1 Jun (TSn). Noted at FRR Royal Ave 4 Jun (MP), 4 there 18 Jun (VA), 5 on 25 Jun (HR). Noted at BSNWR 8 Jun (EK). 1 ad. m. at Doerfler Pond, LINN 9-20 Jun (JF, MNI).

**Bullock's Oriole** - Pr. nesting s. of Monroe, BENT 8 Jul (Sharon, Jim Kavanagh). Juv. in Camp Adair area, POLK 8 Jul (JeG). Ad. feeding fl. in Hills Creek Dam wetland, LANE 23 Jul (NKS).

**Cassin's Finch** - 2 including an ad. m. on Parsons Cr. near Mohawk, LANE 26 Jul (RAN)

**Red Crossbill** - A common resident in mid- to high elevation forested portions of the region, 7 in Corvallis, BENT 4 Jun (MH) were unusual for the WV floor. Small flocks were also seen s of Creswell, LANE thru 5 Jun (HLo). This species was notably numerous in coniferous areas of LANE during the period (TM).

**Pine Siskin** - 1 at Lewisburg, BENT 12 & 23 Jun (PA) notable summer occurrence in the WV.

**Lesser Goldfinch** - Detections on periphery of confirmed breeding areas included Jasper County Park, LANE 7 Jun (VA), Champoeg SP, MARI 16 Jun (PJ), and 2 at Belts Rd. grasslands, LINN 18 Jun (MNI).

**American Goldfinch** - Active nest at Hills Creek Dam wetland, LANE 11 Jun (NKS)

## A Note on Photographs:

I am always amazed at the quality and quantity of photos that I receive for each issue of Oregon Birds. GREAT JOB everyone! Graphic images add a great deal to the visual impact of our quarterly journal of field ornithology, and it is always a thrill to see your name associated with an especially interesting photo. Here are several reminders that will ensure that your photos are placed in the proper issue in the proper place:

Try to incorporate your last name and the date that the photo was taken in the file name. An example would be: dowlan120103 for a photo I took on December 1, 2003. Even better, dowlan120103MOQU for the same photo on the same date of a MOUNTAIN QUAIL.

Always include captions with your electronic submissions of photos that include the date and location. If you are submitting slides or prints, please write the captions (or at least date and location) on the hard copy. Remember that I only use photos that are relevant to the current FIELD REPORTING SEASON. I'm happy to receive photos in advance of the field reporting season that they go with, but if I receive a photo AFTER the field reporting season has already been published, I'm unlikely to use it (unless, of course, it is attached to a particular article).

I prefer to receive electronic submissions in a .JPG format at 200 dpi, no larger than 7 inch width.

Try to include the appropriate Field Reporting Season in the title of your email when you send electronic submissions. Please send all electronic submissions to OregonBirds@aol.com.

*The Editor*



# Field Notes: Rogue-Umpqua, Summer 2003

(Jackson, Josephine and western Douglas Counties)

Edited by Norman Barrett and Dennis P. Vroman

In general we have not mentioned reports of typical numbers at typical locations, focusing rather on notable high and low numbers, nesting, unusual locations and possible range changes, rarities and others that may interest readers of OB. OBRC review species are noted; we do not discuss their status by county. We otherwise indicate rare county records when known, up to the 10th record for a county.

## Abbreviations:

EL	Emigrant Lake, JACK
LCR	Lost Creek Res., JACK
MRS	Manzanita Rest Stop (north of I-5 exit 61), JOSE
WS	Whetstone Savannah Nature Conservancy Reserve, JACK

County names are given in 4-letter format for sites other than cities.

\* OBRC review species

\*\* OBRC review species not yet proven to occur in Oregon by specimen, photo or recording

Description submitted to OBRC

**Green Heron** - three 8 Jul at EL JACK (JEF); bird in flight 12 Jul near downtown Grants Pass JOSE (DV); several 3 Jul just west of Drain DOUG (NaW).

**Bald Eagle** - bird seen 4 Jul just west of Drain along S. Elk Cr. DOUG (NaW).

**Northern Goshawk** - adult pair with 2 young in nest 9 Jul upper Six-mile Cr. (Biscuit fire area) near Selma JOSE (MiC)

**Golden Eagle** - bird seen 6 Jul along the road to Mt Ashland JACK (PJ).

**Wild Turkey** - 15 just west of Drain DOUG 7 Jul (NaW).

**California Quail** - adult pair with 3 just hatched young 29 Jul north of Grants Pass JOSE (DV).

**Semipalmated Plover** - one at LCR 29 Jul (NB).

**Western Sandpiper** - 20 at LCR 8 Jul were first of fall migration (NB)

**Least Sandpiper** - 30 at LCR 8 Jul were first of fall migration (NB)

**Caspian Tern** - 2 flying at EL 8 Jul were early fall migrants (JF).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** - unexpected bird 28 Jul at Skeeter Swamp banding station JACK (NB).

**Common Poorwill** - single bird 14 Jun about mid-way up Limpy Cr. Rd. west of Grants Pass JOSE (DV), one seen in roadway 25 Jul near Takilma JOSE (RoC).

**Costa's Hummingbird** - molting male

12 Jul visiting feeder north of Grants Pass JOSE (DV)

**Willow Flycatcher** - 3 birds perched 10 Jul on power line just west of Drain DOUG (NaW).

**Black Phoebe** - nest with nearly fledged young 15 Jul west of Indian Mary Park JOSE (DV).

**Red-eyed Vireo** - 2 just west of Drain DOUG 6 Jul (NaW).

**Black-billed Magpie** - at least one 6 Jul along lower Dead Indian Memorial JACK (PJ).

**Cliff Swallow** - most nesting birds have dispersed, 2 nests with young 15 Jul near Indian Mary Park JOSE (DV, DiP & SM).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** - bird 12 Jun at WS was unexpected (DV).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** - 5 birds (some likely juveniles) seen 15 Jul near northbound MRS (DV, DiP & SM)

**Hermit Thrush** - above average number 28 Jul at Skeeter Swamp banding station JACK (NB).

**Northern Mockingbird** - unexpected summer bird 12 Jun near sw. Grants Pass city limits JOSE (JVH); one 22 Jun 2 miles north of Rogue River (at E. Evans Creek Rd) JACK (WH).

**Nashville Warbler** - captured individual 12 Jun at WS was unexpected (DV).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** - late migrant "Myrtle" race bird 6 June upper Whittaker Cr. Rd. DOUG (RHo et al.).

**Yellow-breasted Chat** - 5 birds at 4 locations 3 Jul just west of Drain DOUG (NaW).

**Chipping Sparrow** - early fledged juvenile 7 Jun north of Grants Pass JOSE (DV)

**Vesper Sparrow** - bird 8 Jul just west of Drain DOUG (NaW).

**Western Meadowlark** - 3 just west of Drain DOUG 10 Jul (NaW).

**Bullock's Oriole** - 5 "second year" males captured 12 Jun at once at WS (DV).



Second-year male Bullock's Oriole banded on 3 June at the Applegate River Banding Station near Provolt, Josephine County. Photo/D. Vroman



# NORTH CENTRAL OREGON FIELD NOTES: SUMMER, 2003

*Edited by Chuck Gates*

## Abbreviations:

CPM = Camp Polk Meadow

TH = Trailhead

DRSP = Deschutes River State Park

RS = Ranger Station

CRR = Crooked River Ranch

T.P. = Treatment Plant

FBNM = Fossil Beds National Monument

RM = River Mile

**Common Loon** – 1, Ochoco Res., CROO, 1 Jun, (MaR); 1, Suttle Lake, JEFF, 11 Jun, (SSH); 2, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Eared Grebe** – 2, Antone Reservoir, WHEE, 13 Jun, *Rare Wheeler Bird*, (DAn); 400, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG); 16, Hatfield L., DESC, 27 Jun, (CG, PL, SK, JMe)

**Western Grebe** – 28, Ochoco Res., CROO, 25 Jul, (CG)

**Clark's Grebe** – 2, Davis Lk, DESC, 23 Jul, (PSh, DA, LaM); 2, Ochoco Res., CROO, 25 Jul, (CG)

**White Pelican** – 16, Ochoco Res., CROO, 13 Jun, (DAn); 9, Ochoco Res., CROO, 20 Jul, (JeG); 110, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**American Bittern** – 1, Houston Lk., CROO, 15 Jun, (SN); 1, Hosmer Lk., DESC, 26 Jul, (HHo, JM)

**Black-crowned Night-heron** – 1, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG);

**White-faced Ibis** – 13, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 19 Jul, (CG)

**Trumpeter Swan** – 1, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG)

**Greater Scaup** – 1, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, *Extremely rare in summer*, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Common Goldeneye** – 1, Torso Lake, DESC, 11 Jun, (SS) *Late date for this species*

**Barrow's Goldeneye** – 15, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Hooded Merganser** – 12, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Northern Goshawk** – 1, Ochoco Mnts, CROO, 2 Jun, (NM); 1, Sugar Pine Ridge Trail, DESC, 12 Jun, (SS);

1, Sisters, DESC, 15 Jun, (RR); 1, Indian Ford Campground, DESC, 5 Jul, (MC)

**Red-shouldered Hawk** – 1, Tumalo Res., DESC, 30 Jul, *This bird seems to be expanding its range into Central Oregon*, (HHo, PL)

**Swainson's Hawk** – 1, Paulina Hwy, CROO, 7 Jul, (CG)

**Rough-legged Hawk** – 1, RM 130.0 - 119.2 John Day R., WHEE, 13 June, (Pbo) *This bird seemed to be injured or sick which may explain this very late sighting.*

**Chukar** – 6, Crooked R., CROO, 20 Jul, (PTS); 2, John Day FBNM, WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG)

**Ruffed Grouse** – 5, Hwy 33, CROO, 25 Jul, (CG); 5, Hosmer Lk., DESC, 26 Jul, (HHo, JM)

**Blue Grouse** – 3, Hosmer Lk., DESC, 24 Jul, (PJa)

**Mountain Quail** – 2, SE of Madras, JEFF, 14 Jun, (PTS); 7, Wildcat Wilderness Trail, CROO, 7 Jul, (JHo); 4, FS Rd. 3820, WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)

**Sora** – 1, Sunriver, DESC, 24 Jun, (DS); 5, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 13 Jul, (JMe, HHo); 1, Houston Lk., CROO, 20 Jul, (CG)

**Sandhill Crane** – 14, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG); 2, Hosmer Lk., DESC, 24 Jul, (PJa); 8, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Semi-palmated Plover** – 1, Hatfield L., DESC, 27 Jun, (CG, PL, SK, JMe); 2, Ochoco Res., CROO, 19 Jul, (CG); 2, Hatfield L., DESC, 24 Jul, (JM); 6, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Black-necked Stilt** – 2, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 19 Jul, (CG);

**American Avocet** – 1, Hatfield L., DESC, 20 Jun, (HHo); 25, Gutierrez

Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG); 7, Prineville T.P., CROO, 20 Jul, *2 adults & 5 offspring first breeding record for this location*(CG);

**Greater Yellowlegs** – 1, Redmond T.P., DESC, 9 Jul, (KO); 18, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG); 18, Wickiup Res., DESC, 18 Jul, (SSH)

**Lesser Yellowlegs** – 1, Hatfield L., DESC, 9 Jul, (JM)

**Willet** – 1, Hatfield L., DESC, 9 Jul, *Uncommon county record*, (JM); 5, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 19 Jul, (CG);

**WHIMBREL** – 1, Wickiup Reservoir, DESC, 27 Jul, *Fewer than 5 records in Deschutes Co.* (JM, HHo)

**Sanderling** – 1, Ochoco Res., CROO, 30 Jul, (CG)

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** – 1, Hatfield L., DESC, 28 Jun, (JM); 1, Hatfield L., DESC, 9 Jul, (JM); 1, John Day FBNM, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG); 1, Hatfield L., DESC, 24 Jul, (JM); 1, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe); 1, Ochoco Res., CROO, 30 Jul, (CG) *This is an unusually high number of sightings for this rare species*

**Western Sandpiper** – 10, Hatfield L., DESC, 28 Jun, (JM); 7, Redmond T.P., DESC, 9 Jul, (KO); 2, John Day FBNM, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG); 30, Ochoco Res., CROO, 19 Jul, (CG); 4, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Least Sandpiper** – 20, Redmond T.P., DESC, 9 Jul, (KO); 5, John Day FBNM, WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG); 10, Tumalo Res., DESC, 20 Jul, (DeH); 52, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe); 60, Ochoco Res., CROO, 30 Jul, (CG);

**Baird's Sandpiper** – 1, Wickiup Res., DESC, 20 Jul, *Early summer sighting*,

(DeH)

**Short-billed Dowitcher** – 2, Prineville T.P., CROO, 20 Jul, *Rare in Crook Co.*, (CG)

**Long-billed Dowitcher** – 2, John Day FBNM, WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG); 20, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 24 Jul, (JM); 32, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe); 12, Ochoco Res., CROO, 30 Jul, (CG);

**Wilson's Phalarope** – 2, Wickiup, DESC, 24 Jun, (DS); 3, Redmond T.P., DESC, 9 Jul, (KO); 11, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG); 40, Allen Cr. Res., CROO, 19 Jul, (JeG)

**Red-necked Phalarope** – 2, Ochoco Res., CROO, 30 Jul, (CG)

**Bonaparte's Gull** – 1, Prineville T.P., CROO, 6 Jun, (CG); 2, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 13 Jun, (HHo); 7, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Caspian Tern** – 1, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 11 Jun, (HHo); 3, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 24 Jun, (DS); 4, Ochoco Res., CROO, 2 Jul, (CG); 1, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Forster's Tern** – 2, Little Houston Lk., CROO, 5 Jun, (PTS); 1, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 11 Jun, (HHo)

**Black Tern** – 2, Little Houston Lk., CROO, 7 Jun, (PTS); 1, Fossil Sewer Ponds, WHEE, 13 Jun, *Fewer than 10 county records*, (DAn); 40, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 19 Jul, *Many nests and young*, (CG);

**Barn Owl** – 1, DeMoss Co. Park, SHER, 6 Jun, (M&MLD)

**Flammulated Owl** – 2, 3360 Rd. off Mill Cr., CROO, 1 Jun, (PTS);

**Western Screech Owl** – 2, 3Rd. & Garner Prineville, CROO, 1 Jun, (PTS)

**Pygmy Owl** – 1, Cache Creek Toll Station, DESC, 26 Jun, (KO); 1, Ochoco NF, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG); 4, Hwy 33, CROO, 25 Jul, (CG)

**Long-eared Owl** – 1, Off China Hat Rd., DESC, 25 Jun, (DT)

**Short-eared Owl** – 1, MP 36 Hwy 97, SHER, 3 Jul, (M&MLD)

**Saw-whet Owl** – 1, Independent Mine, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG, DeH, PM)

**Common Poorwill** – 3, Off Camp Creek Rd., CROO, 1 Jun, (CG); 2, Green Ridge Road - MP 5 and 6, DESC, 1 Jul, *Uncommon and local in Deschutes Co.*, (JMe)

**White-throated Swift** – 1, Crooked R., CROO, 20 Jul, (CG);

**Black-chinned Hummingbird** – 4,

Service Creek, WHEE, 15 Jun, (DH, PM)

**Anna's Hummingbird** – 1, Bend, DESC, 1 Jun, *Singing male stayed throughout the summer*, (DT); 1, CPM, DESC, 16 Jun, (SSh)

**Calliope Hummingbird** – 2, CPM, DESC, 26 Jun, (NA, DAu); 2, Wildcat Wilderness Trail, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG);

**Lewis' Woodpecker** – 2, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSh); 1, NE of Sisters, DESC, 15 Jun, (SSh); 1, Entrada Lodge, DESC, 24 Jun, *Eggs were laid in a nest box but nest failed* (DS)

**White-headed Woodpecker** – 1, Indian Ford Rd., DESC, 2 Jun, (SNe); 3, Sisters, DESC, 15 Jun, (RR); 2, w.

of Bend, DESC, 1 Jul, (JMe); 1, 200 Rd. near Summit Prairie, CROO, 7 Jul, (CG); 3, Hwy 42, CROO, 12 Jul, (PM); 1, Ochoco NF, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG); 3, Cold Springs Campground, DESC, 20 Jul, (MAS); 1, Spanish Peak, WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)

**Three-toed Woodpecker** – 2, Mnt Hood Meadows, HOOD, 10 Jun, (WLo, RGr); 1, Elk Lk., DESC, 14 Jun, (SNe RMa SMa); 1, Cache Creek Toll Station, DESC, 26 Jun, (KO); 3,

Cache Mnt Burn, DESC, 5 Jul, (MC);

**Black-backed Woodpecker** – 2, Hash Rock Burn, CROO, 13 Jun, (CG); 2, Cache Mnt Burn, DESC, 5 Jul, (MC); 1, Hwy 42, CROO, 12 Jul, (PM); 1, Rock Cr. Trail, WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)

**Pileated Woodpecker** – 7, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSh); 4, Walton Lk., CROO, 12 Jul, (DeH, PM)

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** – 7, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSh); 2, Near Black Butte Ranch, DESC, 15 Jun, (BS); 1, Davis Lk, DESC, 23 Jul, (PSh, DA, LaM); 1, Hosmer Lk., DESC, 24 Jul, (PJa); 1, USFS Rd 33, CROO, 25 Jul, (CG)

**Willow Flycatcher** – 1, Summit Prairie, CROO, 17 Jun, (CG); 1, GI Ranch, CROO, 19 Jul, (CG)

**LEAST FLYCATCHER** – 1, 2060 Rd Near Black Butte Ranch, DESC, 8 Jun, *First county record, seen by multiple observers*; (WG)

**Pacific-Slope Flycatcher** – 1, Sugar Pine Ridge Trail, DESC, 12 Jun, (SSh); 1, Trout Creek Swamp, DESC, 15 Jun, (SK, JMe, HHo); 1, West Branch Rd., WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG); 1, Paulina Cr., DESC, 29 Jul, (DS)

**Cordilleran Flycatcher** – 1, CPM, DESC, 13 Jun, (SSh); 1, Lookout

Mnt Trail, CROO, 1 Jul, (DH)  
**Eastern Kingbird** – 1, Camp Polk Sisters, DESC, 7 Jun, (MM); 1 Sizemore Rd Sisters, DESC, 8 Jun, (DMc) *Rare Deschutes County records*; 2, Deschutes River Canyon, WASC, 15 Jul, (RR)

**Loggerhead Shrike** – 2, Off Camp Creek Rd., CROO, 14 Jun, (CG); 1, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 24 Jun, (DS); 2, SE of Madras, JEFF, 6 Jul, (CG); 3, John Day FBNM, WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG)

**Cassin's Vireo** – 1, Near Black Butte Ranch, DESC, 10 Jun, (DFa); 1, Hwy 42, CROO, 12 Jul, (DH); 2, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (CG, PL, SK, DH, JMe)

**Gray Jay** – 2, Mt. Pisgah, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG)

**Scrub Jay** – 1, Fairgrounds Tygh Valley, WASC, 20 Jun, (PJ); 1, Sisters, DESC, 20 Jul, (JeG)

**Clark's Nutcracker** – 1, North of Wasco, SHER, 13 Jun, *Rare county record*, (DAn); 1, Hwy 42, CROO, 12 Jul, (DeH); 1, Mt. Pisgah, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG); 1, Wolf Mnt Lookout, WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)

**PURPLE MARTIN** – 3, RM 157.1 - 148.4 John Day R., WHEE, 10 Jun, (PBo) *1st county record*

**Black-capped Chickadee** – 1, Pine St Sisters, DESC, 15 Jun, (BS)

**Chestnut-backed Chickadee** – 8, Jefferson Lk Trail, JEFF, 13 Jun, (SSh)

**Brown Creeper** – 1, Mt. Pisgah, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG); 1, East of Summit Prairie, CROO, 19 Jul, (CG); 1, Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (JMe); 1, Wolf Mnt., WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** – 2, Wildwood CG, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG)

**Townsend's Solitaire** – 2, Hwy 33, CROO, 25 Jul, (CG); 1, Eastern Ochocos, WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)

**Veery** – 3, Ochoco RS, CROO, 20 June, (PJ); 1, Ochoco Ranger Station, CROO, 1 Jul, (DH)

**Swainson's Thrush** – 4, Metolius Valley, JEFF, 15 Jun, (PTS); 2, Indian Ford Campground, DESC, 26 Jun, (KO)

**American Pipit** – 1, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 24 Jul, *Very rare in summer* (JM)

**Cedar Waxwing** – 10, Les Schwab Fields, CROO, 4 Jun, (CG); 10, Gutierrez Ranch, CROO, 11 Jul, (CG)

**Nashville Warbler** – 4, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSh)

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** – 1, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSH); 4, Meyers Canyon, WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG)  
**Hermit Warbler** – 14, Jefferson Lk Trail, JEFF, 13 Jun, (SSH); 2, NFS 1014, DESC, 12 Jun, (JM); 6, Sugar Pine Ridge Trail, DESC, 12 Jun, (SSH); 1, Trout Creek Swamp, DESC, 15 Jun, (SK, JMe, HHo); 1, Hosmer Lk., DESC, 20 Jul, (DeH)  
**American Redstart** - 1, Pine St-Indian Ford Junction, DESC, 7 Jul, (HHo)  
**Northern Waterthrush** - 2, Sizemore Rd Sisters, DESC, 12 Jun, *Rare away from Hwy 97 Corridor*, (DMc)  
**Common Yellowthroat** – 1, Barnes Butte Lk., CROO, 3 Jun, (CG); 1, Pine St Sisters, DESC, 15 Jun, (BS)  
**Yellow-breasted Chat** – 1, Crooked R., CROO, 24 Jun, (NM); 1, Crooked R. Canyon, CROO, 20 Jul, (PTS)  
**Green-tailed Towhee** – 2, Little Bear Cr Rd., CROO, 14 Jun, (CG); 1,

Wickiup Res., DESC, 27 Jul, (PL, SK, DH, JMe)  
**Lark Sparrow** – 2, Houston Lk Rd., CROO, 3 Jun, (PTS); 80, Burnt Ranch Rd., WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG)  
**Sage Sparrow** – 1, Rd 54 Crooked River Grasslands, JEFF, 14 Jun, *Rare county sighting*, (PTS); 2, Bussett Rd., CROO, 3 Jun, (PTS); 2, Off Camp Creek Rd., CROO, 14 Jun, (CG)  
**Lazuli Bunting** – 2, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSH); 2, Hwy 42, CROO, 12 Jul, (CG); 2, Mitchell, WHEE, 19 Jul, (JeG)  
**Tri-colored Blackbird** – 100, Barnes Butte Lk., CROO, 3 Jun, (CG); 1, S. of Prineville, CROO, 3 Jul, (PVV)  
**COMMON GRACKLE** - 1, I-84 3 miles west of The Dalles, 5 Jun, (DF); 1, RM 148.4 - 139.2 John Day R., WHEE, 11 Jun, WHEE, (PBo)  
**Bullock's Oriole** – 1, DeMoss Co. Park, SHER, 6 Jun, (M&MLD); 1,

CPM, DESC, 25 Jun, (JoG); 2, Marmot Ln., CROO, 4 Jul, (NM); 2, SE of Madras, JEFF, 6 Jul, (CG); 3, John Day FBNM, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG)  
**Purple Finch** – 2, Pine St Sisters, DESC, 15 Jun, (CG); 1, Eastern Ochocos, WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)  
**Cassin's Finch** – 8, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSH); 18, Off Camp Creek Rd., CROO, 14 Jun, (CG); 3, Meyers Canyon, WHEE, 20 Jul, (JeG)  
**Red Crossbill** – 8, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSH); 3, Hatfield Lk., DESC, 13 Jul, (JMe, HHo); 90, Mt. Pisgah, WHEE, 18 Jul, (JeG); 9, Hwy 33, CROO, 25 Jul, (CG); 1, Eastern Ochocos, WHEE, 30 Jul, (JoM)  
**Lesser Goldfinch** – 5, Crooked R. Canyon, CROO, 20 Jul, (CG); 2, South of Prineville, CROO, 30 Jul, (PVV)  
**Evening Grosbeak** – 3, Eyerly Burn, JEFF, 14 Jun, (SSH)

## South Central Field Notes: Spring 2003

*Edited by Kevin T. Spencer*

### Abbreviations:

LKNWR	Lower Klamath NWR, Klamath Co.
Lk.	Lake
MFS	Malheur Field Station, Harney Co.
MNWR	Malheur NWR, Harney Co.
NAMC	North American Migrant Count
NF	National Forest
s.p.	sewage ponds
SP	State Park
UNWR	Umatilla NWR, Morrow Co.
@	about

**Common Loon** - 1, N end Agency Lake, 6 June, KLAMATH (KTS) *possibly same bird seen NAMC in May 2003*  
**Western Grebe** - 50, north end Agency Lake, 6 June, KLAMATH (KTS); on nests, Wood River Wetland, N end Agency Lk., late Jun, KLAMATH (JMe)  
**American White Pelican** - 70+, Flagstaff Lk., 14 July, LAKE (JeG)  
 American Bittern, 1, Wood River Wetland, N end Agency Lk., late Jun, KLAMATH (JMe)  
**LEAST BITTERN**, 1, Wood River Wetlands, 5 July, KLAMATH, (CKi)  
 Snowy Egret, 1, Schoolhouse Lk., Summer Lake WMA, 13 July, LAKE,

(CM, MM)  
**Green Heron** -1, Lk. Ewauna, 27 Jul, KLAMATH (Bruce Craig)  
**White-faced Ibis** - 18, flying over, Rocky Point, Upper Klamath Lk., 30 July, KLAMATH (PJ)  
**White-winged Scoter** - 1, Crump Lk., Warner Valley, 17 Jun, LAKE (Scott Hein)  
**Cooper's Hawk** - 1, Little Deschutes R., 6 June, KLAMATH (KTS)  
**Northern Goshawk** - 1, Willow Ck. CG, North Warner Mtns, 15 July, LAKE (JeG)  
**Swainson's Hawk** - 1, Nicholson Rd., near Fort Klamath, late Jun, KLAMATH (JMe) *present at this location for at least last several*

*breeding seasons-ed.*; 2, Lower Klamath Lk. Rd., 20 Jun, KLAMATH (MAS, OFO et. al.); 2, near Stateline, SE of Merrill, all season, KLAMATH (KTS); *seemingly more common in last several years-ed.*

**Peregrine Falcon** - 1, near Klamath Falls Airport, 5 July, KLAMATH (CKi); 1, Davis Lk., July, KLAMATH (AHe, DHe) *unusual summer season observations*

**Prairie Falcon** - 6, Fort Rock, LAKE, 6 July, (RR)

**Mountain Quail** - calling, several loc., Klamath River Canyon, 20-21 June, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Yellow Rail** - 5-10, Silver Lake Hwy along Klamath Forest NWA, "few" at Mare's Egg Spring on Westside Rd., Upper Klamath Lk., and Dixon Rd. near Fort Klamath, all calling during June and 1<sup>st</sup> week of July, KLAMATH (KTS, CKi, MOB); 1+, Crystalwood Lodge, near Malone Sp. Upper Klamath Lake, 21 July, KLAMATH (SSH) *new information*

**Virginia Rail** - 2, Lover's Lane, Paisley, 7 Jun, LAKE (DoA)

**Snowy Plover** - 4-2, Summer Lake WMA, LAKE, 19-20 July, (NKS)

**Willet** - 43, Shirk's Lk., Upper Guano Valley, 16 Jun, LAKE (RGe)

**Whimbrel** - 1, Shirk's Lk., Upper Guano Valley, 16 Jun, LAKE (RGe)



*rare for Co.* Long-billed **Curllew** - 10, Shirk's Lk., Upper Guano Valley, 16 Jun, LAKE (RGe)

**Marbled Godwit** - 2, Summer Lake WMA, LAKE, 19 July, (NKS)

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**, 1 adult, Summer Lake, LAKE, 20 July, (NKS)

**Wilson's Phalarope** - numerous, Lover's Lane, Paisley, 7 Jun, LAKE (DoA)

**PARASITIC JAEGER**, 1, Schoolhouse Lk., Summer Lake WMA, 8-13 July, LAKE, (MSL, CM, MM)

**Franklin's Gull**, 30, Schoolhouse Lk., Summer Lake WMA, 28 June, LAKE, (CM, MM); 2, July 13; 1, near Hart Lk, LAKE, 14 July (JeG)

**Bonaparte's Gull** - 1, Schoolhouse Lk., Summer Lake WMA, 28 June, LAKE, (CM, MM); 10, imm., Wood River Wetlands, 8 June, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Caspian Tern** - 4, Wood River Wetlands, 8 June, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Common Tern** - 3, Schoolhouse Lk., Summer Lake WMA, 28 June, LAKE, (CM, MM)

**Forster's Tern** - 40, Schoolhouse Lk., Summer Lake WMA, 28 June, LAKE, (CM, MM)

**Black Tern** - 40, Schoolhouse Lk., Summer Lake WMA, 28 June, LAKE, (CM, MM); 2, *juvenals*, Rocky Point,

Upper Klamath Lk., 30 July, KLAMATH (PJ); 14, Klamath Forest NWR, 22 June, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Spotted Owl** - 1, calling, near Malone Sp., Westside Rd., Upper Klamath Lk., 22 Jun, KLAM (MMa, MkM) *east-side old growth in area*

**Barred Owl** - 1, east of Diamond View Lk., Diamond Peak Wilderness, 10 Aug, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Long-eared Owl** - nest, 1 ad., 2 yng., near Coleman Lk., 7 Jun, LAKE, (DoA); 1, Coleman Rim, 15 mi. SE Adel, 17-18 Jun, LAKE (RGe)

**Great Gray Owl** - 1, east side Klamath Forest NWR and Military Pass Rd., late June, KLAMATH (CKi)

**Vaux's Swift** - 1, **drinking from Crystal Ck.**, near Rocky Point, 30 July, KLAMATH (PJ)

**Anna's Hummingbird** - 1, Moore Park, Klamath Falls, throughout season, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Costa's Hummingbird**, 1, Chiloquin feeder, 5 Jun-13 Jul, KLAMATH (WS) *few Co. records-ed.*

**Rufous Hummingbird** - 1-3, Rocky Point, 28-30 July, KLAMATH (PJ); *postbreeding movement likely*

**Lewis's Woodpecker** - "a few", Hole-in-the-Ground, 8 Jun, LAKE (DBo)

**Red-naped Sapsucker** - 1, near HQ Klamath Forest NWR, late June, KLAMATH (CK)

**Red-breasted Sapsucker** - 1, near Gerber Res., 19 June, KLAMATH (KTS); 1, Willow Ck CG, North Warner Mtns., 14 July LAKE (JeG)

**Red-naped Sapsucker** - entering nest cavity, Hwy 58 and Little Deshutes R., 2 Jun, KLAMATH (HLo, MOB), *later, a mixed pair reported entering same cavity*

**White-headed Woodpecker** - 3, Malone Sp., Westside Rd., Upper Klamath Lk., 22 Jun, KLAMATH (MMa, MkM)

**Black-backed Woodpecker** - 1, in burn near Thompson Res., LAKE, 20 July, (NKS)

**Pileated Woodpecker** - 2 ad, 1+ yng, at nest, near S entrance Crater Lake NP, 20-27 Jun, KLAMATH (EH, KTS); 1, Malone Sp., Westside Rd., Upper Klamath Lk., 22 Jun, KLAMATH (MMa, MkM)

**Western Wood-Pee-wee** - nest, Moore Park, Klamath Falls, 20 Jun, KLAMATH (MAS, OFO et. al.)

**LEAST FLYCATCHER**, 1, Crystalwood Lodge, Westside Rd. near Rocky Point, 3 July, KLAMATH (SSh, DHa) *few Co. records*

**Cordilleran Flycatcher** - 1, Willow Ck. Campground, North Warner Mtns., 14 July LAKE, (JeG), *songs, calls, most were like Cordilleran; occasionally similar to Pacific-sloped*

**Ash-throated Flycatcher** - 1, near Gerber Res., 19 June, KLAMATH (KTS); 1, Coleman Rim, 15 mi. SE Adel, 17-18 Jun, LAKE (RGe)

**Loggerhead Shrike** - 3, near Fort Rock, LAKE, 6 July, (RR)

**PLUMBEOUS VIREO**, 1, near Robber Rock, Klamath R. Canyon, 20 Jun, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Western Scrub Jay** - 5, canyon between Coleman Lk and Cahill Res., 8 June, LAKE (DoA); 3, in juniper habitat, near Warner Valley, 1 in Big Valley, 14 July, LAKE (JeG)

**Pinyon Jay** - 5, Cabin Lake, LAKE, 6 July, (RR)

**Black-capped Chickadee** - 1, willows along Crystal Ck., Upper Klamath Lk., 28-30 July, KLAMATH (PJ); 2, Wood River Wetlands, 6 June, KLAMATH (KTS); 1, Malone Sp, Westside Rd., Upper Klamath Lk., 22 June, KLAMATH (MMa, MkM) *typical along willow margins on Upper Klamath Lake*

**Chestnut-backed Chickadee** - 1, Malone Sp, Westside Rd., Upper



*White-winged Scoter, 17 June, Crump Lake in the Warner Valley, Lake County.  
Photo/S. Hein.*

Klamath Lk., 22 Jun, KLAMATH (MMA, Mkm)

**Oak Titmouse** - 1, Kerr Ranch site, Klamath R. Canyon, 21 June, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Juniper Titmouse** - family of 4-5, W of Adel, 4 July, LAKE (PB, BS);

**Bushtit** - numerous pairs, canyon between Coleman Lk. and Cahill Res., 8 June, LAKE (DoA)

**White-breasted nuthatch** - nest, Moore Park, Klamath Falls, 20 June, KLAMATH (MAS, OFO et. al.)

**Rock Wren** - 1, Drake's Peak, 8 June, LAKE, (DoA)

**Canyon Wren** - 1, 3 mi. S of BLM CG., Klamath R. Canyon, 20 June, KLAMATH (KTS)

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** - 1, Little Deschutes R., 6 June, KLAMATH; 1, along Paradise Ck., 23 June, KLAMATH; 1, Mud Sp., North Warner Mtns., 24 June, LAKE; *all in lodgepole pine habitat* (KTS)

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** - 3, canyon between Coleman Lk. and Cahill Res., 8 June, LAKE (DoA); 14, Coleman Rim, 15 mi. SE Adel, 17-18 June, LAKE (RGe) *in 6 stands Mountain Mahogany*

**Mountain Bluebird** - several, Hole-in-the Ground, 8 June, LAKE (DBo)

**Swainson's Thrush** - 1, Little Deschutes R., 6 June, KLAMATH (KTS)

**American Robin** - nest, Moore Park, Klamath Falls, 20 June, KLAMATH (MAS, OFO et. al.)

**GRAY CATBIRD**, 1, Little

Deschutes R. near Hwy 58, 2-6 June, KLAMATH (HLo, KTS) *2<sup>nd</sup> Co. record in last 15 yrs.-ed.*

**Sage Thrasher** - 12, Cabin Lake Road, LAKE, 6 July, (RR)

**Cedar Waxwings** - 3-4, Wood River Wetlands, 8 June, KLAMATH (KTS) *in willow/cottonwood riparian*

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** - 1, canyon between Coleman Lk and Cahill Res., 8 Jun LAKE (DoA); 1, Coleman Rim, 15 mi. SE Adel, 17-18 June, LAKE (RGe)

**AMERICAN REDSTART**, 2, male and female, 12-26 June, Malone Sp. CG, KLAMATH (DV, MOB)

**Ovenbird**, 1, Fox Lake, SW of Keno, 5 June, KLAMATH (Sheri Kies, KBO)

**Northern Waterthrush**, 1-3, Hwy 58 and Little Deschutes R., through June, KLAMATH (HLo, MOB); 1, Crescent Ck. CG, KLAMATH, 13 July (JeG); 1, banded, Wood R. Wetlands, Agency Lk., 10 June KLAMATH (KBO); *likely out of range*

**Western Tanager** - very common, 100-125, Klamath R. Canyon point counts on both sides, 20-21 June, KLAMATH (KTS) *pine/oak woodland*

**Green-tailed Towhee** - 20-25, Weyerhaeuser pine plantations near Long Ck., 23 June, LAKE (MSL, KTS) *species becoming more common as pine plantations mature*; 1, Hole-in-the Ground, 8 Jun, LAKE (DBo)

**California Towhee** - 1, near CA border on Klamath R., 20 June,

KLAMATH (KTS)

**Brewer's Sparrow** - 15, Cabin Lk. Rd., LAKE, 6 July, (RR)

**Vesper Sparrow** - 0, Paisley BBS, Weyerhaeuser pine plantations near Long Ck., 23 June, LAKE (MSL, KTS) *common species after clearcuts 20 yrs ago; declined as plantations closed crowns and grasses out-competed by other veg.-ed & MStL*

**Sage Sparrow** - 6, Cabin Lk. Rd., LAKE, 6 July, (RR)

**White-crowned Sparrow**, 1-2, juveniles, along Crystal Ck., willow uplands, west side of Upper Klamath Lk., 30 July, KLAMATH (PJ) *1<sup>st</sup> documented record of breeding White-crowned Sparrow in Klamath Co.-ed.*; 2, Skull Ck., 23 June, LAKE, (KTS) *most western known breeding for LAKE*; 3-4, Willow Ck., North Warner Mts., 24 June, LAKE (KTS)

**Black-headed Grosbeak** - 1, eating Amelanchier fruit, Rocky Point, 28-30 July, KLAMATH (PJ); nest, Moore Park, Klamath Falls, 20 Jun, KLAM (MAS, OFO et. al.)

**Red-winged Blackbird** - forming small flocks, Rocky Point, 28-30 July, KLAMATH (PJ)

**Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch** - 6, near The Watchman, Crater Lake NP, 20 Jun, KLAM (EH, RK, MAS, OFO et. al.)

**Lesser Goldfinch** - nest, Moore Park, Klamath Falls, 20 Jun, KLAMATH (MAS, OFO et. al.)

**American White Pelican** - 2, Thief Valley Res., UNIO, 20 June (TrB, MRH & SR); 2 birds on the Columbia R., MORR, 29 June (VA).

**Double-crested Cormorant** - 1, John Day, GRAN, 7 June (TH).

**American Bittern** - 4, Ladd Marsh WMA, UNIO, 1 June (MRH).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** - 4, Ladd Marsh WMA, UNIO, 10 June (TrB); 1, at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 29 June (CC).

**White-faced Ibis** - Several birds near Prairie City, GRAN, July (TH).

**Turkey Vulture** - 3 adults near Ukiah, UMAT, 23 June (MD & MLD); 2, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 17 July (RAn).

**Canada Goose** - 300, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 23 July (CC).

## Northeast Field Notes: Summer 2003

Trent Bray, 1810 Adams Ave, La Grande, OR 97850, [arkaeoptrx@aol.com](mailto:arkaeoptrx@aol.com)

### Abbreviations:

CG = Camp Ground

NF = National Forest

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

SP = State Park

WMA = Wildlife Management Area

WWTP = Waste Water Treatment Ponds

**Common Loon** - 1, Unity Res., LAKE, 7 June (BWi & TW).

**Pied-billed Grebe** - 2, Thief Valley Res., UNIO, 6 June (TrB, MRH & SR).

**Horned Grebe** - 1, Bear Valley, GRAN, 7 June (TH).

**Western Grebe** - 1, Unity Res., LAKE, 7 June (BWi & TW); 15, Thief Valley Res., UNIO, 20 June (TrB, MRH & SR).

**Clark's Grebe** - 1 individual with Westerns at Thief Valley Res., UNIO, 20 June (TrB, MRH & SR).

**Wood Duck** - 1, Mt. Vernon, 1 June (AFr); 1, John Day, 1 June (TH).  
**Gadwall** - 1, Unity Res., BAKE, 7 June (BW & TW); 1, Downey Lake, WALL, 8 June (RAn).  
**Cinnamon Teal** - Several birds near Bear Valley, GRAN, June (TH); 3, Wallowa, WALL, 11 June (RAn).  
**Blue-winged Teal** - 2, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 July (CC).  
**Osprey** - 1 adult at isolated forest pond one mile south of Divide Well C.G., Umatilla NF., UMAT, 9 June (MD & MLD).  
**Bald Eagle** - 1 adult & 1 immature at Thief Valley Res., UNIO, 20 June (TrB, MRH, & SR).  
**Northern Harrier** - 1, Wallowa, WALL, 11 June (RAn).  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk** - 2 birds on territory off FSRD 5327, Umatilla NF., MORR, 17 June (MD & MLD); 1 adult female on Arbuckle Mt., Umatilla NF., MORR, 17 June (MD & MLD); 1 sub-adult along FSRD 2110 at 4 mile pond, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 June (MD & MLD).  
**Cooper's Hawk** - 1 adult male along FSRD 2107, Umatilla NF., MORR, 3 June (MD).  
**Northern Goshawk** - 1 adult male near Divide Well CG., Umatilla NF., UMAT, 9 June (MD & MLD); 10, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 19 June (RAn).  
**Swainson's Hawk** - 1 near Bridgeport, GRAN, 7 June (BW & TW); 2, at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 June (CC).  
**Red-tailed Hawk** - 7, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn).  
**Ferruginous Hawk** - 1 adult on nest in Jack Canyon, UMAT, 9 June (MD & MLD); 1, Wallowa, WALL, 11 June (RAn); 3 imm. birds on a nest one mile east of Vinson, UMAT, 16 June (MD & MLD).  
**Golden Eagle** - 3 birds along HWY 74, between Vinson and Nye Jct., UMAT, 18 June (MD & MLD); 9 individuals along HWY 237, between North Powder & Union, UNIO, 20 June (TrB, MRH, & SR).  
**American Kestrel** - 5, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn).  
**Merlin** - 1 in John Day, GRAN, June (O'L).  
**Prairie Falcon** - 1, Bear Valley, GRAN, June (TH); 1, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 9 June (RAn).  
**Chukar** - Several in Bear Valley,

GRAN, June (TH); 7, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 17 July (RAn).  
**Gray Partridge** - Several along Long Creek, GRAN, June (TH).  
**Ruffed Grouse** - Several in Bear Valley, GRAN, June (TH).  
**Blue Grouse** - 1 adult with 7 chicks along Potamus Point Rd., Umatilla NF., MORR, 9 June (MD & MLD); 11 birds feeding on grasshoppers along FSRD 1006-120, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 14 July (MD & ON).  
**Wild Turkey** - 2 adults and 13 poult off FSRD 3972, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 23 July (MD & ON).  
**Mountain Quail** - 1 adult on Gilman Flat, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 23 June (MD & MLD); 1 adult with 3 chicks along HWY 395 at MP 58.6 beside Camas Cr., UMAT, 22 July (MD & ON). *This is apparently only the second Umatilla County record.*  
**Virginia Rail** - 1 individual calling at the Elgin WWTP, UNIO, 2 June (TrB).  
**Sora** - 1 juvenile individual at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**Sandhill Crane** - 1 pair nesting in Ladd Marsh WMA, UNIO, 10 June (TrB).  
**Semipalmated Plover** - 1 adult bird at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 23 July (CC).  
**Black-necked Stilt** - 40 birds at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**American Avocet** - 34 birds at Ladd Marsh WMA, UNIO, 10 June (TrB).  
**Greater Yellowlegs** - 6 birds at La Grande WWTP, UNIO, 2 June (TrB).  
**Lesser Yellowlegs** - 2 birds at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC); 8, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 31 July (CC).  
**Solitary Sandpiper** - 20 birds at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 July (CC).  
**Spotted Sandpiper** - individuals at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 June (CC).  
**Upland Sandpiper** - Several birds at Bear Valley, GRAN, June - July (O'L & TH).  
**Long-billed Curlew** - 2 near La Grande with young, UNIO, 20 June (TEB, MRH & SR).  
**Semipalmated Sandpiper** - 2 individuals at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**Western Sandpiper** - 150 birds at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**Least Sandpiper** - 15 birds at Cold

Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**Long-billed Dowitcher** - 12 birds at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**Short-billed Dowitcher** - 1 very vocal individual at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**Wilson's Snipe** - 1 adult at stock pond along FSRD 3971, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 8 July (ON & MD).  
**Wilson's Phalarope** - 8 juvenile birds at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).  
**Red-necked Phalarope** - 1 individual at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 26 July (CC).  
**Caspian Tern** - 1 individual at Thief Valley Res., UNIO, 20 Jun (TrB, MRH & SR).  
**Forster's Tern** - 2 birds at Thief Valley Res., UNIO, 20 Jun (TrB, MRH & SR).  
**Black Tern** - 5 birds at Ladd Marsh WMA, UNIO, 17 - 25 July (KA & TrB) *are extremely rare visitors to Union County.*  
**Barn Owl** - 1 individual calling over FSRD 2107, Umatilla NF., MORR, 3 June (MD); 1 adult in Jack Canyon, UMAT, 9 June (MD & MLD).  
**Burrowing Owl** - 1 individual along Bagwell Rd., North Powder, UNIO, 20 June (TrB, MRH & SR); 2 adults and three young along Sag Road south of Halfway, BAKE, 4 July (FC).  
**Western Screech-Owl** - 3 individuals along Big Creek, UNIO, 15 June (TrB & MRH).  
**Barred Owl** - A nesting pair on Robert's Butte, WALL, July (FC).  
**Great Gray Owl** - 2 birds in the Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 16 June (RAn); 2 birds at Jct. of FSRDs 3990 & 3986, Umatilla N.F., GRAN, 29 July (MD & ON).  
**Long-eared Owl** - 1 adult near Divide Well CG., Umatilla NF., UMAT, 9 June (MD & MLD); 1 adult along FSRD 920 off HWY 395, Umatilla N.F., GRAN, 8 July (ON & MD); 8, Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla N.F., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).  
**Flammulated Owl** - 1 individual calling near FSRD 2107, Umatilla N.F., MORR, 3 June (MD); 1 adult calling just off FSRD 3971-160, Umatilla N.F., GRAN, 22 July (MD, ON). This seems late for this species to still be vocal.  
**Common Nighthawk** - 2 individuals at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF.,



MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).  
**Common Poorwill** - 1 bird along FSRD 2107, Umatilla N.F., MORR, 2 & 3 June (MD); 1 calling along FSRD 5327, Umatilla N.F., MORR, 16 June (MD & MLD).

**Vaux's Swift** - 7 birds along FSRD 2107, Umatilla NF., MORR, 2 June (MD).

**White-throated Swift** - several birds seen near Dayville, GRAN, July (TH).

**Black-chinned Hummingbird** - 7, Five Points Creek, UNIO, 8 July (TrB).

**Calliope Hummingbird** - 1 individual at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird** - 1 adult male 1.2 miles nw of Dale, along FSRD 700, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 8 July (ON & MD).

**Rufous Hummingbird** - 1, at Chico, WALL, 22 June (RAN); 6 adults with 14 young at Five Points Creek, UNIO, 8 July (TrB).

**Lewis's Woodpecker** - 5 birds on Gilman Flat, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 23 June (MD & MLD); 4 birds along Grouse Cr., Umatilla N.F., MORR, 24 June (MD & MLD); 1 adult along FSRD 3963, Umatilla N.F., GRAN, 8 July (ON & MD).

**Red-breasted Sapsucker** - 1, Joseph, WALL, July (fide FC).

**Williamson's Sapsucker** - 1, Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD); 5, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN).

**Downy Woodpecker** - 2 nesting pairs in the Strawberry Mt. Wilderness, GRAN, 1-4 July (DHI).

**Hairy Woodpecker** - 1 individual at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla N.F., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**White-headed Woodpecker** - 1, Catherine Creek SP., 24 June (TEB & MMc).

**Black-backed Woodpecker** - 1 male along FSRD 2107, Umatilla NF., MORR, 3 June (MD); 4 birds at nest cavity above Gilman Flat at 3691' in the Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 June (MD & MLD).

**Northern Flicker** - 15, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN); 1 bird at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Pileated Woodpecker** - 3, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN); 2 birds along FSRD 920, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 8 July (MD & ON).



*Calliope Hummingbird, 25 July, Five Points Creek, Union County. Photo/T. Bray*

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** - 2 birds along FSRD 2107, Umatilla NF., MORR, 4 June (MD); 8, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN).

**Western Wood-Pewee** - 36, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN).

**EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE** - 1 individual heard calling near Hilgard Gun Club, UNIO, 20 June (TrB). Details to be sent to OBRC.

**Willow flycatcher** - 19, Flora, WALL, 14 June (RAN).

**Least Flycatcher** - 1 individual seen and heard calling at Clyde Holliday SP., GRAN, June - July (fide TW).

**Hammond's Flycatcher** - 3, Wallowa, WALL, 11 June (RAN).

**Dusky Flycatcher** - 1 individual calling at Catherine Creek SP., UNIO, 3 June (TrB); 13, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAN).

**'Western Flycatcher'** - 1 bird reported as Pacific-slope in the Strawberry Mt. Wilderness, GRAN, 1-4 July (DHI); 2 birds reported as Cordilleran in the Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 8 July (RAN).

**Say's Phoebe** - 2, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAN).

**Ash-throated Flycatcher** - 1, John Day, GRAN, July (O'L).

**Western Kingbird** - 1 pair nesting above Grouse Cr., Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 June (MD & MLD); 1 pair nesting off FSRD 3972, Umatilla N.F.,

GRAN, 14 July (MD & ON); 10, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 23 July (CC).

**Eastern Kingbird** - 5, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 July (CC); 1 adult along the Albee Rd., UMAT, 23 July (MD & ON).

**Loggerhead Shrike** - 1, Dayville, GRAN, June (TH).

**Gray Jay** - 3, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN); 1, FSRD 3972, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 23 July (MD & ON).

**Clark's Nutcracker** - 14, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAN).

**Common Raven** - 24, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN).

**Horned Lark** - 12 birds along Sandridge Rd., UNIO, 16 Jun (TrB).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** - a pair continuing to nest along the Grande Ronde R., UNIO, 1 June (TrB); 1, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 July (CC).

**Bank Swallow** - 1000 + individuals at Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 26 July (CC).

**Cliff Swallow** - 10, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 16 July (CC).

**Bushtit** - Several in John Day, GRAN, June (O'L); several nesting along Dog Cr, GRAN, June (CcG).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** - 91, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAN).

**White-breasted Nuthatch** - 1, Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Pygmy Nuthatch** - 15, Gilman Flat, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 23 June (MD & MLD).

**Brown Creeper** - 1, Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Rock Wren** - 11, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAn); 1, Rhinehart Canyon, UNIO, 21 June (TrB); 1, Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Canyon Wren** - 1 singing individual at Rhinehart Canyon, UNIO, 25 June, and seen through the period (MiM & TrB).

**Bewick's Wren** - 1, Rhinehart Canyon, UNIO, 21 June (TrB); 1, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 26 July (CC); Several at Troy, WALL, 28 July (FC).

**House Wren** - 1 pair at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Western Bluebird** - 4, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 2 June (RAn); 9, FSRD 3971, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 8 July (MD & ON).

**Mountain Bluebird** - 11 birds on Gilman Flat, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 23 June (MD & MLD).

**Townsend's Solitaire** - 1 pair on nest with eggs at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Veery** - 5, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAn); 1, heard in the Strawberry Mt. Wilderness, GRAN, 1- 4 July (DHI).

**Swainson's Thrush** - 5, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 17 July (RAn).

**Hermit Thrush** - 66, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn); 5, Arbuckle Mountain, Umatilla NF., MORR, 17 June (MD & MLD).

**Variied Thrush** - 1, heard in the Strawberry Mt. Wilderness, GRAN, 1- 4 July (DHI).

**Gray Catbird** - 21, Rhinehart Canyon, UNIO, 21 June (TrB, MRH, & SR); 3, Chico, WALL, 22 June (RAn).

**Cassin's Vireo** - 13, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn).

**Warbling Vireo** - 13, Flora, WALL, 14 June (RAn).

**Red-eyed Vireo** - 1 individual singing at the Joseph City Park, WALL, 24 July (FC).

**Orange-crowned Warbler** - 8, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn); 3 pair at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR,

24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Yellow warbler** - 20, Chico, WALL, 22 June (RAn).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** - 44, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn).

**Townsend's Warbler** - 19, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn); 17 on the Flora BBS count, WALL, July (FC).

**MacGillivray's Warbler** - 6, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAn); 1 pair at Five Points Creek, UNIO, 18 July (TrB).

**Yellow-breasted Chat** - 2, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAn); 7, Rhinehart Canyon, UNIO, 21 June (TrB).

**Western Tanager** - 4 pairs at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Green-tailed Towhee** - 2, Medical

**Lark Sparrow** - 2 adults on Gilman Flat, Umatilla NF., GRAN, 23 June (MD & MLD).

**Grasshopper Sparrow** - Several nesting pairs, Zumwalt Prairie, WALL, July, (FC).

**Lincoln's Sparrow** - 3, Kelly Prairie, Umatilla NF., MORR, 18 June (MD & MLD).

**White-crowned Sparrow** - 2, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 16 July (RAn).

**Lazuli Bunting** - 14, Chico, WALL, 14 June (RAn); 3, Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD); 16, La Grande feeder, July (MPM).

**Bobolink** - 2 males at Ukiah, UMAT, 9 June (MD & MLD); 2 singing males at Ladd Marsh WMA, UNIO, 20 June (TrB, MRH & SR).

**Red-winged Blackbird** - 1 adult male in old clearcut along FSRD 5327, Umatilla NF., MORR, 17 June (MD & MLD).

**Western Meadowlark** - 27, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** - 15, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 July (CC).

**Brown-headed Cowbird** - 24, Chico, WALL, 22 June (RAn).

**Pine Grosbeak** - 1 adult male on Arbuckle Mt., Umatilla NF., MORR, 17 June (MD & MLD).

*This is the first known record for Morrow County, Oregon;* 1 pair near Aneroid Lake in the Eagle Cap Wilderness, WALL, 28 July (FC).

**Bullock's Oriole** - one female harassing a Steller's Jay at edge of old clear-cut at 4985' along

FSRD 5327, Umatilla NF., MORR, 17 June (MD & MLD); 1 pair nesting along Grouse Cr., Umatilla N.F., MORR, 24 June (MD & MLD).

**Cassin's Finch** - 9, Flora, WALL, 15 June (RAn); A small group seen in the Strawberry Mt. Wilderness, GRAN, 1- 4 July (DHI).

**Red Crossbill** - 12 + birds at Target Meadows CG., Umatilla NF., UMAT, 12 July (DHI, ASk, PBC, MD & MLD).

**Pine Siskin** - 2, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 9 July (RAn).

**American Goldfinch** - 15, Cold Springs NWR, UMAT, 5 July (CC).

**Evening Grosbeak** - 4, Wallowa-Whitman NF., WALL, 9 July (RAn).



*Oregon Junco nest, 17 June, Ditch Creek, Umatilla N.F., Morrow County. Photo/M. Denny*

Springs, UNIO, 10 June (TrB & MRH); 2, Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD); 2, below the Lick Creek Trailhead, Umatilla NF., UMAT, 12 July (MD, MLD & PBC). This is a newly discovered site as of this date.

**Spotted Towhee** - 34, Chico, WALL, 15 June (RAn); 2 pair at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).

**Brewer's Sparrow** - 14, North Powder, 1 June (TrB).

**Vesper Sparrow** - 9, Chico, WALL, 15 June (RAn).

**Chipping Sparrow** - 6 pair at Upper Jones Canyon, Umatilla NF., MORR, 24 & 25 June (MD & MLD).



# Southeast Field Notes: Spring 2003

*Edited By Noah Strycker*

## Abbreviations:

C.G.	Campground
HQ	Headquarters
Lk.	Lake
MNWR	Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Harney Co.
m. ob.	many observers
Mtn.	Mountain
Res.	Reservoir

**American White Pelican** - 15, Bully Creek Res., MALH, 4 Jun (EM).  
**Snowy Egret** - 1, Page Springs C.G., HARN, 27 Jun (NKS).

**Common Goldeneye** - 1 female was on the pond at Roaring Springs Ranch, HARN, on 10 Jun (HH, ALC, LBI); 2 males were at Mann Lk., HARN, on 28 Jun and were probably summering there (NKS).

**Snowy Plover** - 24, Alvord Hot Spring, HARN, 1 Jun (TrB); 3 were at Lower Borax Lake Res., HARN, on 21 Jun (M) and 1 was there 28 Jun (NKS).

**Bonaparte's Gull** - 1, Lower Borax Lake Res., HARN, 21 Jun (M).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** - 1 was singing at the Fields Oasis, HARN, on 15 Jun and remained for a couple days (M, CH, m. ob.).

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird** - a possible fledgling was coming to a feeder near Vale, MALH, in mid-Jul (EM).

**Williamson's Sapsucker** - 1 male was near Fish Lake on Steens Mtn., HARN, on 24 Jul (EMV).

**Least Flycatcher** - 1 was singing at Frenchglen, HARN, 8-13 Jun (ALC, HH, RGe); 1 was at Burns Junction, MALH, on 9 Jun (ALC, HH, LBI).

**Black Phoebe** - 1 was near the Krumbo Res. Road, MNWR, on 17 Jun (LR) for probably the third Harney County record.

**Western Scrub-Jay** - 1-2 birds were still being seen in Hines, HARN, through at least 30 Jun (LH, RV).

**Bushtit** - possibly nested at the Fields

Oasis, HARN (TrB).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** - 2 were at Dry Creek in the Trout Creek Mountains, MALH, in late Jun (PBo).

**Northern Mockingbird** - 1 was at Lower Oregon Canyon in the Trout Creek Mountains, MALH, in late Jun (PBo); 1, 5 miles west of Hines, HARN, 7 Jul (PBo).

**Tennessee Warbler** - 1 singing male, MNWRHQ, 7 Jun (KR0); 1, Upper Twelvemile, Trout Creek Mountains, MALH, 27 Jun (PBo).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** - 1 female was at MNWRHQ, 1 Jun (PV, MC, m. ob.).

**Magnolia Warbler** - 1 male was at

the Fields Oasis, HARN, on 1 Jun (TrB).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** - feeding fledglings at Home Creek Canyon, HARN, in late Jul (DMo).

**Black-and-white Warbler** - 1 singing male, MNWRHQ, 8 Jun (ALC, HH, m. ob.).

**Ovenbird** - 1 was at MNWRHQ on 8 Jun (LBI, ALC, HH).

**Western Tanager** - 25-30 were noted at MNWRHQ on 24 Jul (EMV).

**Black-throated Sparrow** - 1, Cottonwood Creek, HARN, 26 Jun (SL); 1 pair, Wright's Point, HARN, 29 Jun (NKS); 1, 5 miles west of Hines, HARN, 1 Jul (PBo).

**"Gray-headed" Dark-eyed Junco** - 2 were reported at Cottonwood Creek in the Trout Creek Mountains, MALH, 28 Jun (PBo).

**COMMON GRACKLE** - 1 female remained near Malheur Field Station, HARN, through at least 7 Jun (WG).

**GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE** - 1 male, flying toward MNWRHQ, 1 Jun (PV); probably the same bird was at MNWRHQ on 3 Jun (TrB) and 6 Jun (KR0).

**Black Rosy-Finch** - 4-6, Steens Mtn. Summit, HARN, 24 Jul (EMV).



*Black-throated Sparrow, 29 June, Wright's Point, Harney County. Photo/N. Strycker*



AA	Al Ahlgrim	DCo	Dave Copeland	HB	Howard Browsers
ACr	Andy Crabtree	DdC	Debby de Carlo	HBN	Harry Nehls
ADa	Andy Dale	DDe	Don DeWitt	HG	Hank Gross
AF	Aaron Fischer	DE	Dennis Edge	HH	Hendrik Herlyn
AFr	Ann Frost	DeH	Dean Hale	HHo	Howard Horvath
AHe	Anne Heyerly	DeJ	Den Johnson	HHr	Hans Hemstetiller
AJ	Alvaro Jaramillo	DEv	Duncan Everud	HLo	Hydie Lown
AbJ	Abby Jaworski	DF	Darrel Faxon	HR	Holly Reinhard
AK	Abe Karam	DFa	Daniel Farrar	HS	Howard Sands
AL	Andrew Laughlin	DFi	David Fix	HSm	Horton Smith
ALC	Alan Contreras	DG	Dorothy Gates	IS	Ilene Samowitz
AM	Andrew Marshall	DGr	Don Grafe (used by ALC)	IT	Iain Tomlinson
AMa	Anne MacDonald	DHA	Dave Hazelton	JA	Jim Anderson
AMc	Alan McGie	DHe	Dan Heyerly	JaS	Jamie Simmons
AMi	Alison Mickel	DHI	Don Haller	JB	JoAnne Bernt
AP	Allen Prigge	DHr	Dave Herr	JBl	Joe Blowers
AR	Alan Reid	DHt	Dave Haupt	JC	Joe Corvino
AS	Anne Sexton	DHz	Dave Helzer	JCa	Jim Carlson
ASh	Ann Shales	DI	Dave Irons	JDe	Jennifer DeLuca
ASk	Aaron Skirven	DiH	Diane Horgan	JeC	Jeff Cooney
BA	Bob Altman	DiL	Diane Low	JeG	Joel Geier
BB	Betty Bahn	DiP	Diane Pettey	JF	Jeff Fleischer
BBe	Bob Bender	DJ	Dave Johnson	JFi	John Fitchen
BC	Bob Carlton	DJo	Dave Jones	JFo	Joe Fontaine
BE	Bill Evans	DK	Doris Kasper	JG	Jeff Gilligan
BG	Bill Gray	DKi	Douglas Kirkpatrick	JGk	John Gerke
BGl	Barbara Gleason	DL	Dave Lauten	JGr	Jeff Grass
BGP	Bird Guide Pelagics	DLa	Dave Lawrence	JH	Jill Hubbard
BH	Bill Hunter	DLu	Donna Lustoff	JHa	Jeff Harding
BiC	Bill Clemons	DM	Don Munson	JHe	Jim Hein
BLe	Bob Llewellyn	DMA	Dennis Manzer	JHo	Jerry Honl
BLo	Bill Looney	DMc	Don McCartney	JiA	Jim Arneson
BLo	Bob Loeffel	DMo	Dennis Moore	JiH	Jim Harleman
BM	Barry McKenzie	DoA	Don Albright	JimS	Jim Shaw
BMo	Berk Moss	DoH	Don Haller	JJ	Jarod Jerousek
BN	Bruce Newhouse	DoH	Don Haller	JK	John Kemper
BoL	Bob Loeffel	DoM	Don MacDonald	JKC	Jorrie (& Ken) Ciotti
BoS	Bob Stubblefield	DP	Dave Pitkin	JL	Jen Lair
BrB	Brett Baumann	DPa	Dael Parsons	JLi	Jim Livaudais
BS	Bob Stites	DPe	Don Pederson	JLu	John Lundsten
BSt	Bill Stotz	DR	Doug Robberson	JM	Jim Moodie
BT	Bill Thackaberry	DS	David Smith	JMe	Judy Meredith
BTa	Brandy Taylor	DT	Dave Tracy	JMo	Jerry Moresello
BTi	Bill Tice	DV	Dennis Vroman	JO	Jim Olson
BTw	Bill Tweit	DvM	David Mandell	JoC	John Crowell
BV	Brian Vaughn	DW	Davey Wendt	JoG	John Gerke
BW	Barbara Woodhouse	DWe	Dave Westerfield	JoM	John Mathews
BWi	Barbara Winter	DWh	Dave Whistler	JoS	Joan Suther
CB	Carolyn Bird	EdM	Ed McVicker	JR	John Rakestraw
CBu	Chris Butler	Eca	Ellen Cantor	JRi	John Riutta
CC	Craig Corder	EE	Elsie Eltzroth	JSc	James Schultz
CcG	Cecil Gagnon	EH	Eric Horvath	JSr	Jim Souper
CCo	Cliff Cordy	EHa	Emily Hancock	JSu	John Sullivan
CG	Chuck Gates	EHe	Eric Henze	JT	Julia Tracy
CH	Christine Hodges	EK	Erik Knight	JuC	Judy Corder
CK	Carol Karlen	EIE	Elias Elias	JVH	Jean Van Hulzen
CL	Carol Ledford	EM	Esther Marple	JW	John Williams
ClB	Clint Brummit	EMg	Elizabeth Magnus	JWo	John Woodhouse
CKi	Charlotte Kisling	EMV	Ed McVicker	JWr	Justin Wrinn
CM	Craig Miller	ES	Elmer Specht	KA	Karen Antell
CP	Chuck Philo	FC	Frank Conley	KaS	Karen Sharples
CR	Craig Roberts	FF	Fran Ferro	KC	Kathy Castelein
CS	Carrie Stevenson	FLM	Friends of Ladd Marsh	KCl	Kelsey Claudson
CV	Cort Vaughan	FLo	Frank Lospalluto	KF	Karan Fairchild
CWa	Clare Watson	FM	Frank Mayer	KG	Kevin Goldwater
DA	Dennis Arendt	FP	Fred Pratt	KH	Kelli Hoffman
DAn	David Anderson	FSc	Floyd Schrock	KJ	Ken Jones
DaB	Dan Bowers	GA	George Armistead	KL	Kevin Lair
DB	David Bailey	GF	Gary Fredricks	KLa	Kit Larson
DBo	Don Boucher	GG	Greg Gillson	KIF	Karl Fairchild
DBr	Dave Brown	GK	Greg Krutzikowsky	KLu	Kristin Luke
DBu	Dave Budeau	GL	Gerard Lillie	KM	Kathy Merrifield
DC	Dick Cronberg	GN	Ginger Nielson	KO	Kimdel Owen
DCg	Donald Cogswell	GS	Gar Shaffer	KP	Kay Patrick

KRo	Kent Rodecap	MW	Mike Wihler	SaB	Sara Brown
KS	Kevin Smith	MWe	Matt Wells	SB	Steve Berliner
KSh	Karen Shaw	NA	Ned Austin	SBr	Sandy Bryce
KTS	Kevin T. Spencer	NaW	Nancy Wallwork	SBU	Sean Burgett
KVS	Karen Viste-Sparkman	NB	Norm Barrett	SC	Sue Carr
LaM	Larry McQueen	NE	Norman Edelen	ScS	Scott Staats
LBa	Lou Balaban	NF	Nancy Findholt	SD	Steve Dowlan
LBl	Luke Bloch	NFu	Norma Funai	SDo	Steve Dougill
LBu	Lansing Bulgin	NKS	Noah K. Strycker	SF	Scott Findholt
LC	Lee Cain	NM	Nancy MacDonald	SG	Sandy Greenberg
LFi	Linda Fink	NW	Nancy Wallwork	SGo	Steve Gordon
LGi	Linda Gilbert	O'L	Clarence & Marilyn O'Leary	SH	Sharon Haller
LH	Larry Hammond	ON	Otis Nelson	ShC	Sheila Chambers
LHe	Linda Hendrix	OS	Owen Schmidt	ShL	Shirley Loeffel
LJ	Laura Johnson	PA	Paul Adamus	ShS	Shawn Steinberg
LM	Leslie Meserve	PaH	Pat Heron	SHg	Sherry Hagen
LN	Liz Northrup	PaS	Patrick Sullivan	SHo	Susan Holt
LO	Laimons Osis	PB	Phil Bartley	SJ	Stewart Janes
LP	Lea Peeters	PBa	Phil Bartley	SJa	Steve Jaggars
LR	Luke Redmond	PBe	Patty Bernardi	SK	Steve Kornfeld
LS	Lars Skålnes	PBC	Pendleton Bird Club	SL	Steve Lay
LSm	Larry Small	PBo	Patty Bowers	SLo	Shirley Loeffel
LTh	Lance Thurman	PC	Pete Carr	SM	Sylvia Maulding
M	Maitreya	PD	Pat Dickey	SMc	Steve McDonald
MA	Matt Adamson	PeB	Peg Boulay	SN	Stephanie Niewinski
MaC	Marv Cooper	PeT	Pepper Trail	SNe	Sally Nelson
MaH	Marjorie Hipp	PH	Patricia Harding	SOE	Sally Olson Edge
Mai	Mike Aizpitarte	Phi	Phil Hicks	SP	Stacy Peterson
MaK	Mark Kramer	PJ	Pamela Johnston	SPi	Sarah Pinnock
MaM	Marcia Maffei	PJa	Paul Jacobsen	SR	Sara Robson
MaM	Marjorie Moore	PL	Peter Low	SSe	Steve Seibel
MaP	Margie Paris	PM	Patti Mehan	SSh	Steve Shunk
MaR	Mark Rudolph	PO	Paul Osborn	ST	Sue Tank
MAS	Mary Anne Sohlstrom	PP	Phil Pickering	StS	Stuart Sparkman
MaS	Matt Smith	PSh	Paul Sherrell	SW	Steve Warner
MB	Mike Bogar	PSt	Peter Stoel	SWr	Sheran Wright
MBa	Marshall Beretta	PT	Pat Tilley	TB	Tanya Bray
MBe	Mark Berry	PTS	Paul T. Sullivan	TC	Tom Crabtree
MC	Marcia F. Cutler	PV	Paula Vanderheul	TE	Tom Ewert
MD	Mike Denny	PVV	Patti VanVlack	TeJ	Terry Johnson
ME	Merlin Eltzroth	PWa	Pat Waldron	TeM	Terrie Murray
MH	Matt Hunter	QN	Quinton Nice	TG	Troy Guy
MhK	Mahesh Ketkar	RAn	Ralph Anderson	TH	Tom Hunt
MHo	Mel Holt	RB	Range Bayer	TJ	Tim Janzen
MG	Mike Greenberg	RC	Rebecca Cheek	TJW	Terry J. Wahl
MiC	Michelle Cannon	RCa	Randy Campbell	TL	Tom Love
MiM	Mike Marsh	RCo	Robb Coulter	TM	Tom Mickel
MiN	Michael Nomina	RGe	Roy Gerig	TP	Tom Phillips
MiR	Mitch Ratzlaff	RGo	Raylene Gordin	TRo	Tom Rodhouse
MJ	Marlin Jones	RGr	Rick Greenspan	TR	Tim Rodenkirk
MK	Michel Kleinbaum	RH	Richard Holland	TrB	Trent Bray
MkC	Mark Colley	RHa	Ron Halvorson	TrS	Tracy Stainbrook
MkM	Mark Miller	RHo	Rich Hoyer	TS	Tim Shelmerdine
MkN	Mark Nebeker	RJ	Rod Johnson	TSe	Trent Seager
MLaF	Margaret LaFaive	RK	Ray Korpi	TSn	Tom Snetsinger
MLD	MerryLynn Denny	RL	Robert Lockett	TT	Todd Thornton
MLi	Mike Lippsmeyer	RLo	Roy Lowe	TTA	Tony Taylor
MM	Marilyn Miller	RLa	Renee LaChance	TW	Tom Winters
MMa	Marcia Marvin	RLe	Ralph Lewis	VA	Vjera Arnold
MMc	Michael McMains	RLR	RL Rowland	VE	Virgil Evans
MMi	Meredith Millman	RM	Rick McKenzie	VH	Vicki Hoover
MN	Michael Noack	RMa	Rick Maulding	WB	Wayne Bowers
MNi	Mark Nikas	RoC	Romain Cooper	WE	William Evans
MoG	Marilyn O'Grady	RP	Richard Pomeroy	WG	Wink Gross
MOp	Mary Oppenheimer	RR	Roger Robb	WH	Wayne Hoffman
MP	Mike Patterson	RS	Richard Smith	WLo	Wendell Long
MPM	Mike Mahoney	RSG	Rebecca Geier	WN	Walt Nelson
MR	Mike Rodegerdts	RT	Richard Thomasetti	WS	Wesley Stone
MRH	Mariah Hey	RuS	Ruth Sullivan	WT	Wren Tracy
MSL	Marty St. Louis	RV	Rick Vetter	ZS	Zanah Stotz
MSt	Margaret Stephens	RW	Ralph Wodtli		



*Horned Lark. Illustration by Tomas Larsen*

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