

Bend and Surrounding Areas —Leader: Chuck Gates November 9-10, 2013

On Saturday and Sunday, November 9-10, Tony Kutzen, Howard Horvath and myself led a Field Trip for the Oregon Birding Association in Deschutes County. This trip was in association with the annual fundraiser for the East Cascades Audubon Society. We went to the area around Wickiup Reservoir on Saturday and birded around Bend on Sunday. We had an especially enjoyable group and a good time was had by all.

We saw 83 species. Here is the list of birds we saw:

Highlights:

2 Trumpeter Swans at Hatfield Lake
2 Surf Scoters at Wickiup Reservoir
1 White-winged Scoter at Wickiup Reservoir
1 Horned Grebe at Wickiup Reservoir
1 Merlin at Farewell Bend Park in Bend (nice scope views)
1 Northern Pygmy-Owl on the south side of Wickiup
13 Black-backed Woodpeckers near the Brown Mt Road on Hwy 42 (to see photos go to <https://app.box.com/s/neoq0gfofb1psbpwlm3f> and <https://app.box.com/s/o29svlkk50m8xz0sd19l>)
15 Pygmy Nuthatches as arms length in Bend's Sawyer Park

The whole list is below:

Canada Goose
Tundra Swan
Trumpeter Swan
Gadwall
American Wigeon
Mallard
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Canvasback
Ring-necked Duck
Lesser Scaup
Surf Scoter
White-winged Scoter
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser
Ruddy Duck
California Quail
Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
Horned Grebe
Eared Grebe
Western Grebe
Double-crested Cormorant
Great-blue Heron
Bald Eagle

Northern Harrier
Cooper's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Merlin
Sora
American Coot
Killdeer
Wilson's Snipe
Ring-billed Gull
California Gull
Rock Pigeon
Eurasian Collared Dove
Mourning Dove
Northern Pygmy-Owl
Anna's Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Hairy Woodpecker
Black-backed Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Steller's Jay
Western Scrub-Jay
Clark's Nutcracker
Black-billed magpie
American Crow
Common Raven
Mountain Chickadee
Bushtit
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Pygmy Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Western Bluebird
Mountain Bluebird
Townsend's Solitaire
American Robin
European Starling
American Pipit
Cedar Waxwing
Spotted Towhee
Savannah Sparrow
Song Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Red-winged Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Cassin's Finch
House Finch
Red Crossbill
American Goldfinch
Evening Grosbeak
House Sparrow

-- Chuck Gates
High School Teacher (Retired)
NAMC State Coordinator - East Cascades Audubon Society
Online Oregon Birding Site Guide - birdingoregon.info

Rogue Valley — Leader: Russ Namitz September 28, 2013

We started out the day at Kirtland Ponds (White City, Jackson County) and saw the continuing AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER as well as many of the other regulars, but no Sabine's Gull. We had a flyby MERLIN and a 2 PEREGRINE FALCONS, one of which decided to nab and dine on a NORTHERN SHOVELER. The resident NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD(S) put on a good show.

Still quite a few PECTORAL SANDPIPERS & EARED GREBES at Agate Lake. We did not find any Great-tailed Grackles at Emigrant Lake.

The creme brulee of the day, after searching various other meadow locations, was Harry's GREAT GRAY OWL at milepost 19 on Dead Indian Memorial Rd up at Howard Prairie.

Good birding,

Russ Namitz
Medford, OR

OBA 2020 Field Session - Pamela Johnston September 14, 2013

Twelve birders joined Tyler Hallman of Oregon 2020 and me at Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge in Sherwood for a field session on bird census skills, Sept. 14, 2013. After viewing the birds visible from the visitor center overlook as census subjects, Tyler discussed methods of counting them and ways to make your online reports, your personal citizen science, more useful to formal science. We had a nice flying challenge in the form of American Goldfinches that dip and shift as they go by. We walked refuge trails and considered the best way we could record what we saw, which included Cedar Waxwings, Pileated Woodpecker, and Western Bluebirds.

Once the waterfowl have settled into the Willamette Valley, we expect to put together another session like this at Ankeny NWR, before the CBC season begins. Watch the schedule for the next one. We'd love to see you there to when it's time to tackle a field covered with geese.

Santiam Pass — Leader: Jeff Harding August 11, 2013

Participants in the Oregon Birding Association Santiam Pass Field Trip enjoyed cool weather Sunday in the

high part of Linn County, and made a foray into Jefferson County. We tallied 57 species, including a few in Marion county on the way in. Black-backed Woodpeckers put on a show at two locations, vocalizing and interacting. As expected for August, birding was often slow, but we managed to find 9 species of warblers, including an active flock of some 15 Hermit warblers, often coming in close.

Locations: Detroit Flats : Hoodoo Butte Trail : Lost Lake : Patjens Lake Trail : Ray Benson Snow Park : Suttle/Scout lakes Area

Species:

Canada Goose - *Branta canadensis*
Mallard - *Anas platyrhynchos*
Bufflehead - *Bucephala albeola*
Barrow's Goldeneye - *Bucephala islandica*
Hooded Merganser - *Lophodytes cucullatus*
Common Merganser - *Mergus merganser*
Great Blue Heron - *Ardea herodias*
Turkey Vulture - *Cathartes aura*
Osprey - *Pandion haliaetus*
Red-tailed Hawk - *Buteo jamaicensis*
Spotted Sandpiper - *Actitis macularius*
Western Sandpiper - *Calidris mauri*
Least Sandpiper - *Calidris minutilla*
California Gull - *Larus californicus*
Vaux's Swift - *Chaetura vauxi*
Downy Woodpecker - *Picoides pubescens*
Hairy Woodpecker - *Picoides villosus*
Black-backed Woodpecker - *Picoides arcticus*
Northern Flicker - *Colaptes auratus*
Olive-sided Flycatcher - *Contopus cooperi*
Hammond's Flycatcher - *Empidonax hammondii*
Warbling Vireo - *Vireo gilvus*
Steller's Jay - *Cyanocitta stelleri*
Clark's Nutcracker - *Nucifraga columbiana*
American Crow - *Corvus brachyrhynchos*
Common Raven - *Corvus corax*
Northern Rough-winged Swallow - *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*
Tree Swallow - *Tachycineta bicolor*
Violet-green Swallow - *Tachycineta thalassina*
Black-capped Chickadee - *Poecile atricapillus*
Mountain Chickadee - *Poecile gambeli*
Red-breasted Nuthatch - *Sitta canadensis*
House Wren - *Troglodytes aedon*
Bewick's Wren - *Thryomanes bewickii*
Golden-crowned Kinglet - *Regulus satrapa*
American Robin - *Turdus migratorius*
Cedar Waxwing - *Bombycilla cedrorum*
Orange-crowned Warbler - *Oreothlypis celata*
Nashville Warbler - *Oreothlypis ruficapilla*
MacGillivray's Warbler - *Geothlypis tolmiei*
Common Yellowthroat - *Geothlypis trichas*
Yellow Warbler - *Setophaga petechia*
Yellow-rumped Warbler - *Setophaga coronata*
Black-throated Gray Warbler - *Setophaga nigrescens*
Hermit Warbler - *Setophaga occidentalis*
Wilson's Warbler - *Cardellina pusilla*

Chipping Sparrow - *Spizella passerina*
Fox Sparrow - *Passerella iliaca*
Song Sparrow - *Melospiza melodia*
White-crowned Sparrow - *Zonotrichia leucophrys*
Dark-eyed Junco - *Junco hyemalis*
Black-headed Grosbeak - *Pheucticus melanocephalus*
Red-winged Blackbird - *Agelaius phoeniceus*
Brewer's Blackbird - *Euphagus cyanocephalus*
Red Crossbill - *Loxia curvirostra*
Pine Siskin - *Spinus pinus*
American Goldfinch - *Spinus tristis*

Cape Falcon —Leader: Rhett Wilkins

July 8, 2013

On behalf of Oregon Birding Association, I thank the five brave birders (you know who you are) who joined me for the hike up to Cape Falcon's ocean overlook this morning. Our prime target was Marbled Murrelet, and we were not disappointed. Below is our full trip list with notes and highlights.

- PACIFIC LOON (1 juvenile)
- Western Grebe (6)
- Brown Pelican (3)
- Brandt's Cormorant (1)
- Pelagic Cormorant (20+)
- Double-crested Cormorant (4)
- BRANT (2 adults flying low over the water and northbound - Great spot, Susan!)
- Bald Eagle (1 adult)
- Black Oystercatcher (presumably 2 birds, sporadically heard and seen)
- Glaucous-winged Gull (1 adult)
- Western Gull (lots)
- HEERMANN'S GULL (1 adult breeding flying northbound)
- CASPIAN TERN (4+)
- Common Murre (200+)
- Pigeon Guillemot (30+)
- MARBLED MURRELET (3 well-seen birds on the water with distant scope views. 1 adult non-breeding, and the other 2 possibly in juvenile plumage as they appeared less crisp than the first bird.)
- RHINOCEROS AUKLET (4)
- TUFTED PUFFIN (1 adult breeding flying low over the water and northbound)
- Band-tailed Pigeon (1 heard only)
- Hummingbird sp. (presumably Rufous in open habitat closer to top)
- Northern Flicker (7+)
- Pacific-slope Flycatcher (7+ heard only)
- Steller's Jay (5)
- American Crow (2)
- Common Raven (3+)
- Violet-green Swallow (7+)
- Cliff Swallow (2)
- Chestnut-backed Chickadee (15+)
- Brown Creeper (7+ heard only)
- Pacific Wren (15+)
- WRENTIT (4+ well-seen and heard)
- Golden-crowned Kinglet (15+ heard only)
- Varied Thrush (8+ heard only)

- American Robin (6+)
- Swainson's Thrush (20+)
- Cedar Waxwing (1 heard at top of overlook)
- Orange-crowned Warbler (2 seen near top)
- Wilson's Warbler (20+)
- Song Sparrow (1 singing at top of overlook)
- Red Crossbill (1 heard over head)

It was a great outing, with Marbled Murrelet lifers for some!

Rhett Wilkins
OBA Director and Field Trip Coordinator

Baskett Slough — Leader: Brandon Wagner May 18, 2013

A small group of us enjoyed some time at Baskett Slough NWR today. We started at 7am, and we had some great looks, probably the most fun being a couple of BLACK TERNS flying close by. Full highlights:

- 3 Black Terns: 2 along Headquarters Rd./dike and 1 earlier along Narrows
 - 3 American Bitterns: actually seen!
 - 4 Greater White-fronted Geese
 - 1 American White Pelican
 - 3 Black-bellied Plovers
 - 2 Black-necked Stilts
 - 4 Wilson's Phalaropes
 - 1 Yellow-headed Blackbird: great close looks
 - 1 Townsend's Warbler
 - 2 Bullock's Orioles
- and great looks at Horned Larks, Western Tanagers, and Black-headed Grosbeaks

[Full report of all 75 birds here.](#)

Brandon Wagner
Independence, OR

Scappoose Bottoms — Leader: John Gatchet March 24, 2013

The Oregon Birding Association Trip to Scappoose Bottoms with an obligatory stop on Sauvie Island enjoyed sunshine and warm temperatures along with 77 bird species. Rentenaar Road proved very productive with the HARRIS'S and two WHITE-THROATED SPARROW that were well seen by our group of eleven. A MERLIN was seen perched in a tree and then flew our direction for all to see in flight. A VIRGINIA RAIL was seen by several and heard by all along Rentenaar.

From the dike at the end of Rentenaar Road everyone got to look as a NORTHERN SHRIKE perched on the fence line running to the east. It kept hunting in the field and returning to its perch on the fence. At the observation platform we saw a RED-SHOULDERED HAWK sitting in a tree and enjoyed views through the scopes. Other birds of interest were two TUNDRA SWAN and a REDHEAD. An OSPREY was perched on one of the pilings along the Multnomah Channel.

Along the Crown Z Trail in Scappoose Bottoms a CHIPPING SPARROW was seen by some, but this migrant quickly got away from us. VIRGINIA RAIL were heard and again seen by some in the group. Two CINNAMON TEAL were seen well by everyone.

A flock of 69 GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE were in a field along Honeyman Road in Scappoose Bottoms. This is an unusually large group for this area.

The trip participants worked really well together at locating and identifying birds. This made for an enjoyable trip and a number of individuals gained some life birds.

John F. Gatchet
Gresham, OR

Hood River County — Leader: John Gatchet February 24, 2013

We had sunshine and light winds on Sunday for the Hood River County OBA Field Trip that started at Eagle Creek and ended at Hood River. No Snowy Owl or Harlequin Duck were relocated, but we had a great group of birders that included Paul Bueschur, Clay Crofton, Dwight Porter and Elizabeth O'Connor. Everyone contributed to spotting, hearing and identifying birds which made this a lot of fun.

Several miles before crossing into Hood River County a PILEATED WOODPECKER flew across I-84. An EARED GREBE at the Cascade Locks Marina was a good find and there were GREATER SCAUP in the area and further east at the Rock Quarry and in Hood River. Two female NORTHERN SHOVELER at the waterfront estuary in Hood River were seen "shoveling" for food. This is a hard to find duck species in the county. One female HOODED MERGANSER was seen on a woodland pond in Cascade Locks and a male and female were on a pond deep in the trees along Herman Creek Road.

Great views of a WESTERN GULL were had by all at the Eagle Creek Overlook and likewise for several AMERICAN DIPPER seen and heard singing on the creek. Dipper were seen and heard singing on Dry Creek in Cascade Locks. A RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER and two HAIRY WOODPECKER were seen there as well.

Seven BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON were seen in Hood River. While looking for the Snowy Owl in the spot where it was seen in Hood River we had a dozen YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER, several EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE, eight AMERICAN GOLDFINCH, a BEWICK'S WREN and two first year WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW among a group of GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW.

This group was a delight to lead and they even had adults and kids looking at birds through the scopes in Hood River.

John F. Gatchet
Gresham, OR

Yamhill County — Leader: Christopher Adlam December 1, 2012

The OBA trip for Yamhill County yesterday was met with the coldest weather yet this winter, but the four of us — Andy Frank, Clay Crofton, Rhett Wilkins, and I — were rewarded with some good finds nevertheless. Most notable were 6 SNOW GEESE and 1 NORTHERN SHRIKE on Grand Island, 1 GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, 1 HORNED GREBE and 1 GREATER SCAUP at the Sheridan Sewage Ponds. And of course the now famous and reliable FERRUGINOUS HAWK (plus 3 ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS) at Delashmutt Lane. We totaled 58 species for the whole day.

Here are the details:

We were happily surprised at our meeting spot (Grand Island Grocery and Deli at Hwy 221 and Fairview Rd.) to hear and ACORN WOODPECKER and then a WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH in an oak grove in someone's backyard.

On Grand Island, the water level was lower than it has been for a long time, and so water birds were hard to come by. Several flocks of TUNDRA SWANS passed overhead and the 6 SNOW GEESE were a good find. Also noteworthy were the flock of 40 MEADOWLARKS, a MARSH WREN, NORTHERN SHRIKE and DARK-MORPH RED-TAIL.

We headed to Durham Lane for the gulls, but unfortunately the sheep had been moved and the gulls were now far away. The handful that remained were THAYER'S, RING-BILLED, MEW and GLAUCOUS WINGED. On the upside, we ran into Paul Sullivan and Carol Karlen there. A few minutes later Pam Johnston drove by. A real social hotspot, with a great panoramic view of the dump!

We followed Paul and Carol to the hawk field and enjoyed the FERRUGINOUS HAWK, 3 ROUGH-LEGGEDS and 11 RED-TAILS.

We then left our escort and headed for the Sheridan Sewage Ponds, where we found:

- 1 Greater White-fronted Goose
- 8 Cackling Goose
- 20 Canada Goose
- 3 Mallard
- 500 Northern Shoveler
- 14 Green-winged Teal
- 2 Ring-necked Duck
- 1 Greater Scaup
- 50 Lesser Scaup
- 3 Bufflehead
- 6 Hooded Merganser
- 2 Ruddy Duck
- 1 Pied-billed Grebe
- 1 Horned Grebe
- 2 Double-crested Cormorant
- 1 Bald Eagle
- 40 American Coot
- 6 California Gull
- 1 Northern Flicker
- 1 Western Scrub-Jay

All in all some good birds, and certainly good company. Thanks to Andy, Clay, Rhett and the OBA for giving Yamhill County a chance! Dreaming of warm days and lots of songbirds...Christopher Adlam