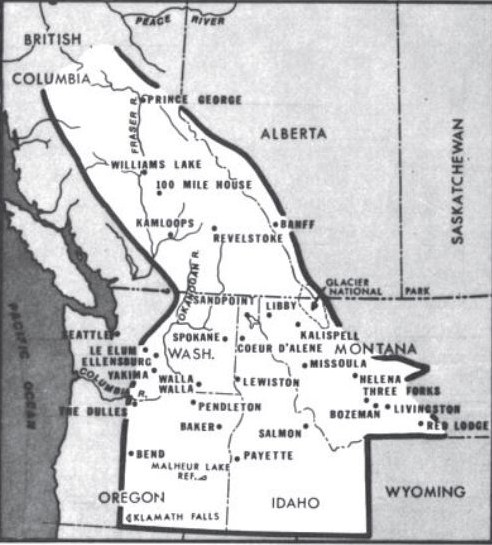
**1974**

*Autumn 1973*

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**

**/ Thomas H. Rogers**



During August nearly every part of the Region faced continuation of the severe drought that plagued it all year long. September brought some relief to southern interior British Columbia, eastern Washington and Oregon and Idaho, with higher than normal rainfall and slightly cooler temperatures. Western Montana continued dry, however, with the exception of Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. which had above-normal precipitation all fall. October

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brought a return to drought conditions except for an area extending along the east base of the Cascade Mountains from Oregon north into British Columbia and curving east to Walla Walla, Wash. The end of the month brought an unseasonable storm which dumped several inches of snow on most of the Region and froze standing waters in several localities. However, conditions soon moderated and the month settled down to become extremely wet, close to the wettest on record in some areas. However, only slightly below-normal temperatures prevailed, so precipitation fell as rain in the lowlands, removing the snow cover and opening most waters again. Red Rock Lakes was the exception. Snowfall was very heavy in the mountains. Oddly, Helena, Mont. missed out on the heavy precipitation. At most localities birds appeared in large numbers and great variety. The goose migration was excellent. Ducks were an exception, apparently because of mild weather delaying the movement from Canada. Shore birds and gulls appeared in unusual numbers and variety, with many rarities. Low water presumably exposed many mud flats, although some localities were bypassed because of dried-up ponds. A large number of late stragglers, well distributed through the spectrum of bird families, was reported, no doubt the result of mild conditions. A reportedly poor conifer seed crop apparently was the cause of extensive appearances of the “northern finches”, most notably the Pine Grosbeak, which staged a widespread and spectacular movement into the lowlands. The indications are strong that weather was the big factor, with the prolonged drought affecting the amount and distribution of food and watering places, causing unusual movements and concentrations of birds, and generally mild conditions delaying migration southward. Altogether it was a highly interesting season, with much to see and many surprises.

LOONS AND GREBES -- An Arctic Loon was seen with Com. Loons on Banks L, Grant Co., Wash., Oct. 21 (JA) and one was found on Upper Klamath L., Ore., Nov. 12 (CR & OS). Two Horned Grebes on Upper Klamath L, Nov. 12 provided what is apparently the first winter record for that area (CR & OS). Five were still in Wolf Lodge Bay on Coeur d’ Alene L. on the very late date of Dec 2 (SGS). A peak of 4160 Eared Grebes was reached at Malheur N.W.R., Aug. 30. The greatest number of W. Grebes was 2125 at Malheur N.W.R. Around 200 were estimated in the Kootenai R. valley of n. Idaho in October.

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- White Pelicans reached a peak of 8500, nearly twice last year’s high, at Malheur N.W.R. and one there Dec. 3 set a new late date. Rather late dates for the species were registered at Canyon Ferry Res. near Helena Oct. 6 and along the Snake R. west of American Falls, Ida. Oct. 28. Double-crested Cormorants produced a big count of 240 at Canyon Ferry Aug. 25 and another at Malheur N.W.R., 300 on Aug. 30.

HERONS, IBISES -- Malheur N.W.R. had a peak of 835 Great Blue Herons Aug. 30. The same refuge had highs of 1050 Common and 550 Snowy Egrets. Three Cattle Egrets were reported for the Burley-Rupert, Ida. area (WHS), but with no details. Black-crowned Night Herons reached a high of 3360 at Malheur and were estimated at 30 in August at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash. Six Am. Bitterns were present in the display pool at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. most of the fall White-faced Ibis numbers reached 245 at Malheur N.W.R. Aug. 30 and one there Oct. 11 was three weeks later than last year.

WATERFOWL -- The peak number of 2700 Whistling Swans at Malheur Nov. 10 was far below last year’s figure of 15,500. The peak at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., the last of October, was 500. At the latter refuge Trumpeter Swan numbers remained around 200 until November, when about half of them left, presumably over the mountains to Idaho, after the freezeup. A huge concentration of 40,000 Canada Geese, including Lesser, some Western and Cackling, was at Stratford, Grant Co., Wash., Oct. 8 (JA). Numbers were down at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., Malheur N.W.R. and McNary N.W.R., apparently because of a lag in the migration. The peak numbers at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., was only 1200, compared to 4000 last fall. Turnbull N.W.R. had a peak of 3900 in mid- October. White-fronted Geese were seen in surprising numbers at Kootenai N.W.R., 100 flying over Nov. 4, and at Cold Springs N.W.R., Umatilla Co., Ore., 80 on Sept 13 and 62 on Sept. 26. Up to 14 were sighted near Richland, Wash. but McNary N.W.R. had only five large flocks of Snow Geese circled over Salmon, Ida. the night of Nov. 1-2, lost in low clouds following the early snowstorms. At Malheur N.W.R. the peak of 23,500 in mid-November was much higher than in recent years. Duck numbers were generally down from last year, apparently because of delayed flights out of Canada, although dry breeding season conditions in some areas cannot be ruled out. Census figures for the Columbia Basin including Washington and Oregon, with last year’s figures in parentheses, were: Oct. 16-18, Mallard, 97,175 (158,200), other ducks, 28,300 (24,600); Nov. 19-21, Mallard, 234,000 (427,700), other ducks, 19,135 (36,500) However Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, Ida. had a tremendous **391,000** Mallards at the end of November and Gadwall at Malheur N.W.R. reached 22,600, highest since 1967. At Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. Am. Wigeon at 14,200 were the most numerous species at the mid-September peak. Two Oldsquaw ducks were seen Sept. 23 in Jasper NP. From one to five White-Winged Scoters were seen at several scattered localities in e. Washington and n Idaho. Up to eight Surf Scoters at a time were observed on three lakes in e. Washington. Ruddy Ducks were estimated at 10,000 in Klamath Co., Ore. on Oct. 20-21 (PAS).

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- Good numbers of Turkey Vultures appeared, the most being 17 at Baker Aug. 29. A **White-tailed Kite** was observed at close range at Sunriver, 15 mi. south of Bend Oct. 25 (JB). Many sightings of single Goshawks were reported but none m w. Montana. In the Pocatello, Ida. area 80-90 Red-tailed Hawks waited out a storm, leaving with better weather Sept. 2. Rough-legged Hawk numbers appeared excellent. Two of the scarce Ferruginous Hawk were seen in

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the Burley-Rupert area (WHS) and concentrations of about 15 each were near Kilgore and Henry’s Lake Flat in s.e. Idaho Sept. 2 (CHT). The Bald Eagle gathering at West Glacier, Mont. reached a peak of 157, of which 117 were imm. birds Nov. 21. A Gyrfalcon was observed watching ducks on a pond at Vernon, B.C. Nov. 5 (BAS) and one was reported in s.e. Idaho Nov. 21 (MRC).

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- An unusual number of Sharp-tailed Grouse, 200, was reported for the Nampa, Ida. area Aug. 20. Populations of California Quail, Ring-necked Pheasant and Gray Partridge appeared as good as last year or better in e. Washington but Malheur N.W.R. reported a continuing downward trend for the first two species. Chukars continued decreasing there as well as in s. Washington, where drought dried up watering places. A flock of 25 Turkeys was seen in a grain field near Victor, Mont.

CRANES AND RAILS -- Sandhill Cranes were found almost entirely in e. Oregon and s. Idaho. In Blaine, Co., Ida. 292 seen on Sept. 5 remained for two weeks. At least 100 flew over Indian Rock Lookout near Bates, Ore., Sept. 25 and seven were found resting the next day near the lookout! At Malheur N.W.R. the peak was 1500 Sept. 15. What was believed to be a Yellow Rail was flushed from a field near Pocatello Oct. 29 (FR, *fide* CHT).

SHOREBIRDS -- Single Semipalmated Plovers turned up at Fortine, Mont. where they have been sighted only four times in 53 years. It was a good season for seeing Am. Golden Plover at Reardan, Wash. where up to five were seen on several dates in September. They were found elsewhere only at Vernon, B.C.: two on Sept. 14. A few Black-bellied Plover showed up. The largest group was 15 at Canyon Ferry Res., and a Ruddy Turnstone there on Sept. 2 was the first record for that locality (SM). Long-billed Curlews went almost unnoted, except for 200 near Baker. A very late date for the Spotted Sandpiper was Oct. 20 at Coeur d’ Alene L. (SGS). A Willet appeared at Baker Aug. 14 and 20-30 were seen near Wallula, Wash., Sept. 27 (NFM). A **Red Knot** in winter plumage appeared at Reardan Aug. 18 (JA) and a **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** was studied at length near Sunnyside, Wash., Oct. 13 (PM). The Lesser Yellowlegs movement through Reardan was impressive, with up to 100 at a time in late August and the first half of September. Twenty-five Pectoral Sandpipers at First and Second Vermilion Lakes, Banff N.P., Sept. 25 were the first ever there (JEVG). A staggering *600* Baird’s Sandpipers were at Salmon Arm. B.C., Aug. 22 (RJC & GPS). Long-billed Dowitchers reached a peak of 17,800 Aug. 31 at Malheur N.W.R. A Short-billed Dowitcher, one of very few records for Montana, was identified at Fortine July 29 (WW). Stilt Sandpipers, always scarce in the Region, made very good showings with five at Ronan, Mont. (WW) and up to five in late August and early September at Rearden (JA). A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** at the Helena settling reservoir Aug. 23 was only the third or fourth for Montana (PM McK & LS). Am. Avocets peaked at 4900 at Malheur N.W.R. Aug. 10. A **Red Phalarope** Sept. 7 and 11 at Reardan was one of very few ever recorded in e. Washington (JA).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS -- Single Parasitic Jaegers were sighted at Penticton and Kelowna B.C., Richland, Wash., Malheur N.W.R. and in Montana at Canyon Ferry Res. and Hebgen L. near West Yellowstone, Mont. (TM). At Richland a Long-tailed Jaeger was also seen (REW). Single **Glaucous Gulls** appeared at Banks L., Grant Co., Wash., Nov. 22 (JA) and at Penticton Nov. 11 (RC & SRC). California Gulls, attracted to spawning Kokanee salmon along the Okanagan R. near Penticton, numbered 1445 in mid- October (RC). Single Mew Gulls were sighted at Medical L. Spokane Co., Sept. 15 & Oct. 6 (JA) and at Vaseux L. near Penticton Nov. 10 (RC & SRC). Forster’s Tern, estimated at a peak of 3000 Aug. 15 at Malheur N.W.R., remained through September. A Com. Tern got as far east as Reardan Sept. 21 (JA). Caspian Terns were noted only at Malheur and Richland.

PIGEONS AND OWLS -- A Band-tailed Pigeon near Springdale, Wash. Oct. 21 added to the few records east of the Cascade Mts. Barn Owls were becoming common at McNary N.W.R. in late November and one was flushed on Bateman I. near Richland Nov. 10 (CC, MCo & REW). A few Snowy Owls showed up in the Vernon area and in e. Washington. One of the scarce Hawk Owls was seen in the Nampa area Sept. 14 & 17. A **Barred Owl** received a concussion in an encounter with a window near Spokane Oct. 11 and was photographed, banded and later released (DD). Another was reported Sept. 6 along the shore of Priest L. in n. Idaho (KB, TR & DR). Two Great Gray Owls were found in the Mission Range near Mt. McDonald southeast of Flathead L. in Montana Sept. 6 (CJH). One of the seldom-seen Saw-whet Owls was at Helena Nov. 8 (GH).

***A Barred Owl, Spokane, Wash., October, 1973. Photo/ Denis Dahlke.***

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NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS --

The Com. Nighthawk had a few very late stragglers. At Missoula one on Oct. 1 tied the late record and Bozeman had one on Oct. 12. A huge flock of Vaux’s Swifts, estimated at 1100, was watched Sept. 1 as the birds flew in and out of the chimney of an old factory building near Klickitat, Wash. (BT). White-throated Swifts were still at Lewis and Clark Caverns west of Three Forks, Mont. on the record late date of Sept. S (DRS). Broad-tailed Hummingbirds were described as common at a feeder at Salmon, until their departure around mid-August (HBR).

WOODPECKERS -- Two Lewis’ Woodpeckers at Crater L. N.P. Sept. 4 made the second sighting in as many years. Williamson’s Sapsucker was sighted only at Okanagan Falls, B.C., in the Salmon area and in the Wallowa Mts. of n.e. Oregon. Two White-headed Woodpeckers were seen in Klamath Co., Ore., Oct. 20 or 21 (PAS) and one was noted at Indian Rock Lookout Oct. 15 (RH). The only Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers reported were one north of Bonners Ferry and one at Indian Rock Lookout (RH).

FLYCATCHERS AND SWALLOWS -- Single Ash-throated Flycatchers were seen at Pocatello and Richland Sept. 7 and Oct. 7 respectively. Most species of swallows showed some late stragglers, some very late. At Bozeman Sept. 2 was a late date and Sept. 18 was Weydemeyer’s latest date ever at Fortine. Five Rough-winged Swallows were seen on telephone wires in a snowstorm at Kelowna Nov. 5 (JBu & RY). Around 200 Barn Swallows were at Medical and West Medical Lakes Aug. 30. Some late individuals were at the Yakima R. mouth near Richland Nov. 10 and six at Pocatello Oct. 28 were very late.

***An albino swallow, Salmon, Ida., Summer, 1973. Photo/ Mrs. O. Brenneman****.* *[A slightly different photo of the same bird appeared in Vol. 27 No. 5 – ALC]*

JAYS AND NUTCRACKERS -- A **Blue Jay** appeared near Spokane in early September for the third consecutive year (JR). Six Scrub Jays were seen Nov. 3 south of Pocatello where there is a small resident population (MRC). One at Nampa Aug. 11 was the first sighted there in 23 years. A Clark’s Nutcracker at Walla Walla, Wash. Nov. 4 was highly unusual (JW).

CHICKADEES AND CREEPERS -- A few Boreal Chickadees were noted in the Salmo Pass area, Pend Oreille Co., Wash. and six were found at Pyramid L., Jasper N.P. About ten were found along the Pasayten R. in the North Cascade Mts. of Okanogan Co., Wash., Sept. 2 (EH). Three Chestnut-backed Chickadees in a park in Spokane Sept. 26 were highly unusual (KL). Brown Creeper numbers still appeared to be way up. Many flocks of 8-10 were seen all through November at Pocatello in the greatest numbers Trost had ever seen.

WRENS, MIMIC THRUSHES, THRUSHES -- Bewick’s Wren was noted Nov. 8 at Yakima Indian Res. and several were seen and heard near Richland Nov. 10. A Mockingbird visited a birdbath in Richland Aug. 25- 26 (EM) and one was seen at Malheur N.W.R. Aug. 17. Am. Robins had mostly migrated out in September and early October but flights of presumably northern birds appeared at Spokane in late October and early November but mostly moved on by mid-November. At Baker numbers surged to a group of 75 on Nov. 18 and then dropped to zero. Small flocks remained around Vernon where mountain ash berries were abundant. A Swainson’s Thrush appeared Sept. 9 at Nampa where it is rarely seen and a very late bird was at Spokane Oct. 23 (Mrs. SOS). A late brood of W. Bluebirds left the nest Sept. 3 at Spokane. Mountain Bluebirds were generally scarce. However an estimated 100 were seen at Peola, Garfield Co., Wash., Aug. 2.

KINGLETS, PIPITS, WAXWINGS; -- A Ruby-crowned Kinglet at Lavington, B.C. from Nov. 10 to 16 was very late. Water Pipits started appearing in late August in the western part of the Region and reached a peak of at least 1000 Sept. 21 at West Medical L. and Reardan. At Prineville, Ore. the birds appeared with the Nov. 5 snowstorm, seeking bare ground under eaves of buildings. Up to 120 Bohemian Waxwings at a time were seen in Jasper N.P. Sept. 20-24. They were arriving in the Okanagan, n. Idaho and e. Washington as early as October 18 (Spokane), in very large numbers in some localities. Flocks of over 1000 were at Vernon and at least that many were at Missoula by November’s end. A flock of several thousand appeared just after the storm of Nov. 1 brought a foot of snow to Helena. Bozeman reported thousands in November.

SHRIKES AND STARLINGS -- Two Loggerhead Shrikes tarried along lower Crab Creek in c. Washington Oct. 12 (MP) at the same time N. Shrikes were appearing in c. and e. Washington. Huge flocks of Starlings, numbering in hundreds and thousands, passed through the Okanagan in August and September, spending most of their time in the grasslands where grasshoppers were in near-epidemic numbers around Vernon and left without depleting the supply of mountain ash berries as they usually do.

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- Missoula had a record late date of Oct. 2 for the Solitary Vireo and a Red-eyed Vireo was there on the very late date of Sept. 21. A Tennessee Warbler, scarce in s. British Columbia, was sighted at Shuswap L. north of Salmon Arm Aug. 25 (GPS & MGS). A female **N. Parula** at Missoula Sept. 21

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(RLH) was apparently the second sight record for Montana. Three Black-throated Gray Warblers were observed at close range at Baker Sept. 22 (BW). A migrational wave of Connecticut Warblers was noted in Jasper N.P. Aug. 30 (LLG).

BLACKBIRDS AND TANAGERS -- Bobolink numbers were impressive at the only two localities reporting them. Lavington, B.C. had 112 on Aug. 26 (MC) and a flock of 35 at Malheur N.W.R. Sept. 6 contrasted with no [autumn] observations in 1972 and 1971. Three **Rusty Blackbirds** were examined at length at Turnbull N.W.R. Oct. 13. Possibly the species is regularly passed by as Brewer’s (MP). Five Brewer’s Blackbirds were seen Sept. 22 in Jasper N.P. where the species is listed as rare (JEVG). An unusual concentration of W. Tanagers occurred from early August to mid-September at Missoula. They were seen daily, often in groups of five or six to a dozen and Sept. 2 at least 60 were counted on a walk of 20 blocks through mostly residential area (RLH).

FINCHES -- Evening Grosbeaks put in good appearances in e. Washington and Oregon and at Coeur d’Alene and Missoula. Pine Grosbeaks staged a widespread incursion over most of the Region, from Bozeman on the east to Yakima and Baker on the west and from the Okanagan to Richland and s. Idaho. They mostly appeared following the snowstorm at the first of November. Hand estimated total numbers at Missoula in the hundreds and flocks up to 50 were seen at Spokane. Even s. Idaho, Richland and Yakima had a few. A flock of about 250 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches, mostly Hepburn’s, was seen Nov. 22 west of Hartline, Grant Co., Wash. and about 250 were observed near Coulee City, Wash., Nov. 17. A few Com. Redpolls had appeared. Pine Siskins were widespread but mostly in small numbers. Red Crossbills were arriving in fairly good numbers in the lowlands adjacent to coniferous areas. The cone crop was reputed poor around the Okanagan and in n.e. Washington. A flock of 25 White -winged Crossbills was sighted at Coolin, Ida. Sept. 6 (KB) and the species was noted at Bozeman Dec. 1 (ETH & RAH).

SPARROWS -- The Green-tailed Towhee at Bozeman had a late last date of Sept. 17. The species was also seen at Indian Rock lookout into September (RH). The first Rufous-sided Towhee in three years at Crater Lake N.P. was seen Oct. 17. The first Harris’ Sparrow of the fall appeared at Enderby, B.C. Sept. 14 (JMa). Two visited a feeder regularly at nearby Lavington to Nov. 20 (JG) and up to six were seen in the Nampa vicinity in late November. One was seen twice at Spokane in November (JA) and one or two were at a feeder at Richland Oct. 21 - Nov. 12 (EM). One frequented a feeder at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. for a few days in early November (TWP). White-crowned Sparrows were common at Hart’s Pass on the Cascade Mts. crest between Whatcom and Okanogan Cos., Wash. Sept. 2 (EH). The species moved through the Region in about average numbers. At Fortine Oct. 31 was Weydemeyer’s latest date ever by 17 days for the birds. The usual sprinkling of Golden-crowned Sparrows occurred in e. Washington and Oregon but an imm. bird at Missoula Oct. 8-9 and another Oct. 21 were more unusual (PW; RLH). A single Lapland Longspur was found at Missoula Nov. 5. The first in e. Washington were seen at Reardan Aug. 30. Four Snow buntings were seen Sept. 16 at Summit L. near Prince George, B.C. and 50 were found on Apex Mt at 7000 ft. elevation near Penticton Oct. 20. A few had appeared in the United States portion of the Region by late October and November.

CORRIGENDUM -- The hummingbird photographed at Missoula in the spring of 1973, as reported in *Am Birds* 27:797, was a Black-chinned, not a Broad-tailed.

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*Autumn Migration, 1973*

**NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION**

**/ John B. Crowell, Jr. and Harry B. Nehls**



August, September and October continued the abnormally dry conditions which had prevailed in the Region since December, 1972. October was, however, very cloudy and thus a bit cooler than normal. November finally reversed the drought conditions by bringing copious amounts of rain to lower elevations and snow to upper elevations. Precipitation in western Oregon, at least, equaled or exceeded prior records for November rainfall. November also brought invasions of Rough-legged Hawks, Snowy Owls, and northern finches to most of the southern portion of the Region. There were, as usual, a number of startling ornithological finds.

LOONS, GREBES, PELAGICS -- A half-dozen Yellow-billed Loons were noted after Oct. 25 from Victoria, B. C., Bellingham, Wash. and along Hood Canal in Washington for the earliest regional concentration ever recorded. Red-necked Grebes appeared unprecedentedly early with three at Victoria Aug. 5 (RS, *fide* VG), and with 20 at nearby Cordova Bay. Aug. 10 (E & ARD *fide* VG). Up to 11 Horned Grebes frequented s. Vancouver I. the latter half of August (VG). Although single Eared Grebes appeared at Olympia, Washington, Aug. 8 (G & WH), and at Netarts, Oreg. Nov. 24 (RFi, HN *et al*.), on s. Vancouver I. numbers increased from five on Aug. 18 to 17 by Nov. 10 (VG, RS *et al*.). “Thousands” of W. Grebes “arrived overnight” at Bellingham Sept. 16 (TW); an estimated 2500 were at Duncan, B.C., Nov. 15 (JCo) and 4000 were at Vancouver, B.C., two days later (WW). Thirteen Pied-billed Grebes at Reifel Refuge Oct. 7 are said to be “the largest number ever reported from one locality in the Vancouver area” (WW). Black-footed Albatrosses appeared in numbers from 29 to 60 for each of the five offshore boat trips from Westport and Ilwaco, Wash., in August, September, and early October (TW, FZ *et al*.). Northern Fulmars also were present for those trips in numbers varying between 82 and 534; a lightphase N. Fulmar struck a downtown Victoria building Nov. 27. (*fide* VG). Each of the off-shore boat trips also turned up Pink-footed Shearwaters (50-200), the rare Flesh-footed Shearwater (1-5), New Zealand Shearwaters on four of the five trips (30-870), and the expected thousands of Sooty Shearwaters. From 50 to 150 Sooties were seen off Florence, Oreg. as late as Oct. 27 (AC). A detailed description of a **Manx Shearwater** seen at quite close range from the jetty at Westport, Wash. Sept. 7 (CC, KA) was furnished to the editors. A count of 236 Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels out of Westport Sept. 8 is remarkable in view of the dearth of individuals the next day when only three were seen; the boat trip from Ilwaco Sept. 8 recorded only 20. On Oct. 7 a boat trip from Westport encountered 39 Fork-taileds; two individuals, one found dead in the water at Tillamook Bay Nov. 24 (HN *et al*), the other being picked alive from the surf at Neskowin, Oreg. Nov. 23 (DM), were both very late records.

PELICANS, HERONS -- Two White Pelicans appeared briefly at Bellingham Bay Oct. 14 (TW). Brown Pelicans, after maintaining fairly constant numbers of visitants in late summer and fall in each of the preceding years, finally showed a marked decline this year, judging by the reduction in reports received; two birds at Victoria Aug. 12 (RF, *fide* VG) were surprisingly far north. A Great Blue Heron was noted Aug. 25 at Manning P. P., where the species rarely occurs (WW *et al*.). More than the normal number of reports of Green Herons were received from Vancouver, Victoria, and points south, with most of the records concentrated in the first 30 days of the period. On Oct. 30 a bird which could only have been a Cattle Egret was observed for several hours at the headquarters of the Skagit Wildlife Recreation Area near Mount Vernon, Wash., (Bob Jeffrey, *fide* TW); it is the first confirmed sighting of this species from the state, although the editors have been holding for simultaneous publication the entirely credible report of a **Cattle Egret** seen repeatedly in December, 1969 on Long Beach peninsula, Pacific Co. Wash., by Don Tiller who was then with the U.S.F.&S. at the Willapa Bay N.W.R. (*fide* David B. Marshall). On Nov. 19 a **Cattle Egret** was discovered and carefully studied by the Goodwills at Saseenos in the Sooke District near Victoria for what is believed to be the first record for British Columbia; it is highly possible the same individual bird was involved in both sightings this fall. Great Egrets, normally uncommon to rare in the Region except on the s. Oregon coast in late summer and

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fall, staged a massive influx into the Region this year; numerous observations were made in w. Oregon and w. Washington, with at least one record south of Vancouver. The maximum count at any one locality was an astonishing 52 at Coos Bay, Oreg. on an unstated date (HR, *fide* HN). Black-crowned Night-Herons were observed at Finley N.W.R. south of Corvallis Aug. 22 - Sept. 1, at Ocean Shores, Wash., Aug. 27 (EH), and at Fern Ridge Res. west of Eugene, Oreg. Oct. 10 (JG).

WATERFOWL -- Whistling Swans appeared in small numbers at many places in the Region south of Vancouver after mid-October. A few Trumpeter Swans were in Whatcom Co., Wash., after Nov. 1; two ad. and three imm. birds were observed at Sooke, B.C., near Victoria, Nov. 24 (VG, RS). The first White-fronted Geese of the season appeared during the last three days of August in the vicinity of Corvallis and Eugene and for the next two months individuals and small groups were noted at numerous points in the s. half of the Region. Snow Geese showed up first Sept. 20 at Vancouver; on Oct. 2 an estimated 2000 birds were seen at the Skagit Flats (ZS), and on Oct. 28 there were 1500 at Reifel Refuge (MS). The source of Black Ducks seen occasionally in the last two years at Seattle and at Sauvie I. near Portland is in all probability a private duck breeding farm at Marysville, Wash., from whence stock has been released and has evidently bred successfully in the wild. We are indebted to Thomas W. Weir of Bellevue, Wash., for this helpful information. A migratory movement of Am. Green-winged Teal along the ocean at Long Beach, Wash., was evident Sept. 29 (JBC, HN). A Blue-winged Teal was seen in the vicinity of Duncan, B.C., as late as Oct. 9 (VG *et al*). Two male Cinnamon Teal were still present on L. Washington at Seattle at the end of the period (MP). A female N. Shoveler accompanied by five young was seen at Duncan, B.C., Aug. 11 (JCo); 25 individuals of this species were at Willapa Bay, Wash., on Aug. 25 (HN *et al*.). A concentration of 150 Shovelers was at Ladner, B.C., Oct. 13 (MS, *fide* WW). Two female Redheads were early arrivals at Iona I., near Vancouver Sept. 12 where on Oct. 3 a male was also seen (BM, *fide* WW); others were recorded only at Olympia and at Duncan early in November. An extremely high count of 543 Ring-necked Ducks was made near Olympia Nov. 10 (G & WH); 182 birds of this species were observed at Duncan Nov. 28 (VG); an early record was an individual at Ilwaco, Wash., Aug. 25 (HN, *et al*.). Canvasbacks seem to have been still down in numbers this fall with the only good count coming from Samish I., Wash., where 350 were noted Nov. 18 (NL). A male Tufted Duck was at Stanley Park in Vancouver Sept. 27 (WW), and another, distinguishable by plumage differences, was at Kitsilano Beach, Vancouver, Oct. 24 (BK, *fide* WW). There were an estimated 700 Barrow’s Goldeneye at Olympia Nov. 3 (G & WH), a remarkable concentration when the bird is so scantily observed elsewhere. An Oldsquaw was found at Tillamook, Oreg. Nov. 17 (WE, WT *et al*.); a few others were seen on the Washington coast, in Puget Sound, and in the Strait of Georgia, the high count being 45 on Oct. 24 off Sea I., south of Vancouver (BM, *fide* WW). A young male **King Eider**, said to be the fourth record for British Columbia, was discovered at Pt. Grey, Vancouver, Nov. 17 and was still present at the end of the period (R & SC *et al*., *fide* WW). A White-winged Scoter at Eugene, Nov. 1-2, was out of the ordinary (RB, LM, CW), as were two birds shot by hunters on Sauvie I. near Portland Nov. 25 (RK). A strong southward movement of Surf Scoters as early as Aug. 25 was noted at the Columbia R. mouth (HN *et al*.); 2500 were concentrated at Pt Roberts Oct. 7 (WW). The 25 Black Scoters at Olympia on Oct. 28 (G & WH) and the 161 at Vancouver Nov 17 (BM, *fide* WW) are noteworthy as were the 80 Hooded Mergansers at Bellingham Nov. 3 (TW). The Aug 18 count of 35 Com. Mergansers at Willapa Bay (TL, HN) is surprisingly early for so high a number.

HAWKS, EAGLES -- A White-tailed Kite was again repeatedly seen east of Medford in late summer and early fall (*fide* OS). Single Goshawks were seen at eight widely spaced s. localities, with three of the sightings the last week of August. Five Sharp-shinned Hawks seen in the vicinity of Victoria Oct. 13 (RS, *fide* VG) and eight at Ocean Shores Oct. 27 (EH) suggest migratory movements. Two Swainson’s Hawks were seen at Mt. Rainier, Wash., Aug. 22 (EH). Rough-legged Hawks staged an astonishing invasion after mid-October with reports emanating almost entirely from Vancouver south through the Puget Sound trough and the Willamette Valley, although Ocean Shores, the s. side of the Columbia R. mouth, and Tillamook were coastal points touched by the influx also; observers much afield were unanimous that the numbers of individuals present surpassed anything in recent experience. A couple of Golden Eagles were seen in the s. Willamette Valley of Oregon m November, while at least four individuals were recorded on s. Vancouver I. during the fall. Bald Eagles were noted at several localities on the Oregon coast, in the Willamette Valley, on the lower Columbia, and on Puget Sound during the report period. Marsh Hawks were much in evidence at favored spots after Oct. 1, which is encouraging; approximately 35 were seen on Sauvie I, Nov. 10 (HN). Osprey reports were considerably reduced from the numbers of the last two years, coming from only five localities with the latest and southernmost being one at Fern Ridge Res. west of Eugene Oct. 10 (JG). As many as five individual Gyrfalcons appeared at Vancouver, in n. Washington, and at Victoria during November, but no other points in the Region reported them. Single Prairie Falcons were seen at Harts Pass in the N. Cascades, Sept 2 (EH, JM), and at Emigrant L. in the Cascades of s. Oregon Oct. 27 (OS). About a score of Peregrine sightings were made in the s. half of the Region throughout the report period. Merlins were reported to about the same extent, with an observation Oct. 13 of five individuals passing a point on s. Vancouver I. in about ten minutes (VG, RS), being particularly intriguing.

GAMEBIRDS, CRANES, RAILS -- A female Spruce Grouse with four young and another with two young were discovered along the N. Fork Pasayten R. in Washington’s N. Cascades Aug. 18 (JM). Six in a family group also were seen at Manning P.P. Sept. 14 (M & VG) Seven White-tailed Ptarmigan were found on Mr. Baker Sept. 10 (DS) and a hen with four young was seen on Mt Rainier Aug. 22. A covey of 50 Mountain Quail at Finley N.W.R. through August and into early September (FZ) is an unusual occurrence. A Sandhill Crane was at Willapa Bay Sept. 9 (RV, *fide* TW), two were seen at Victoria Oct

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6 (E & ARD, *fide* VG), and three were at Pitt Meadows near Vancouver Sept. 15 (GAP, *fide* WW). Sauvie I. again served as a stopover point for hundreds of migrating cranes in October, with 83 birds still there Dec. 1 (RK). A Virginia Rail with two tiny chicks was found at Saanich, B.C., Aug. 18; at least one Virginia Rail was present there until Nov. 1, while a Sora remained until Oct. 20 at the same spot (VG *et al*.).

SHOREBIRDS -- Snowy Plovers were reported only from Neskowin, Oreg. Nov. 23 (DM) where five were present, and from Ocean Shores, Sept. 6 (JM) where two were observed. American Golden Plovers were well reported from Aug. 15 to the end of October along the s.w. Washington and n. Oregon coasts and in the lowlands e. of Puget Sound and the Straits of Georgia; the high count was 80 birds at Ocean Shores Sept. 4-5. An estimated 800 Black-bellied Plovers at Leadbetter Pt., Aug. 18 (TL, HN) was a high total for this Region; the 152 at Victoria Nov. 10 (VG, RS) was a large count for so late in the season. The only Long-billed Curlew reported was at Willapa Bay Sept. 8 (CC, KA). Whimbrel were well reported from the vicinity of Vancouver, s. Vancouver I., the s.w. Washington and n. Oregon coasts and inland at the Nisqually delta and at Fern Ridge Reservoir, almost all done before the end of September; high count was 35 at Leadbetter Pt., Aug. 18. Solitary Sandpipers were recorded up to three in number from Manning P. P., Iona I. near Vancouver, Bellingham, Saanich, and Eugene, all Aug. 1-Sept. 18. Wandering Tattlers were scarce, although 35 were reported from Cleland I. off Tofino, B.C., Aug. 12 (KT, *fide* VG). A Willet was at Blacky Spit s. of Vancouver Sept. 23-Oct. 20 (MSc); single birds also occurred at Bay Center, Wash., Aug. 31. (*fide* HN) and at Newport, Oreg. Sept. 24 (GB, PR, *fide* F’Z). A concentration of *191* L. Yellowlegs at Iona I. Aug. 26 (BM, *fide* WW) was the highest Regional count for this species of which we have a record. Red Knots were recorded alone or in groups up to five birds at only seven localities from Vancouver s. to Tillamook, Aug. 21-Nov. 17. Rock Sandpipers were noted only at Pt. Roberts, Victoria, Grays Harbor. and Tillamook, the earliest date being for two at the latter place Sept. 7-8 (KA, CC; DS). Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were identified repeatedly in the vicinity of Vancouver, Sept. 11-Oct. 19, at Ocean Shores, Sept. 22 & Oct. 21, at Whidbey I., Wash., Sept. 29 & Oct. 6, at Nisqually delta, Oct. 15 & 22, at the Samish Flats, Oct. 9 and at Eugene, Aug. 22-23; again this year none were found at Leadbetter Pt., despite repeated search. Pectoral Sandpipers were noted widely, both coastally and inland from Vancouver south to Eugene: 175 at Sea I., near Vancouver, Oct. 1, was the peak count. A count of 18 Baird’s Sandpipers at Iona I., Aug. 20 (GAP, *fide* WW) is a remarkable but not unprecedented concentration. Five Stilt Sandpipers seen at Iona I. Aug. 23 (BM, *fide* WW, TW) is the largest number ever recorded in this Region; the four at Saanich Aug. 2S (KT, *fide* VG) is the second-highest count. Single Stilt Sandpipers were seen there Aug. 26-30 (VG *et al*.) and at Beach Grove, B.C., (BM *et al*., *fide* WW). Lone Semipalmated Sandpipers were recorded at Westport, Leadbetter Pt., Saanich (two Aug. 18), and Iona I. Aug. 12-28. An estimated 1000 W. Sandpipers were noted at Leadbetter Pt., Aug. 18, at Tillamook Aug. 31. and at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., Sept. 12 (HN); 10,000 are said to have been at Iona I., Aug. 26 (BM, *fide* WW). Two Buff-breasted Sandpipers were seen at Comox, B.C. Aug. 21 (WC, *fide* VG); another was discovered at Ocean Shores Aug. 26-27 (EH). Three different species of godwits were seen in the Region this fall, where two of them are extremely rare! Marbled Godwits were reported from Ocean Shores, Hoquiam, Westport, Tokeland, Leadbetter Pt., Tillamook and Newport in numbers between one and 17 Aug. 31-Nov. 17. A **Bar-tailed Godwit** was seen at Pt. Brown, s. of Ocean Shores, where it was photographed and carefully studied on Sept. 4, for the first Washington record of this species (NL, TW). Stuart Johnston tells us that the bird at Saanichton Inlet on s. Vancouver I., Sept. 9, 1972, reported to him as a Marbled Godwit by an observer (*Am. Birds* 27:108) was photographed in color by Doug Sparling and “upon subsequent examination by the provincial museum, the bird was determined to be a **Bar-tailed Godwit**!” **A Hudsonian Godwit** was discovered at Victoria on Sept. 4 and remained there until at least Sept. 8, seen and photographed by many observers (VG, SJ *et al*); the sighting is only the second known record also from s. British Columbia. An Am. Avocet appeared at Baskett



***A Hudsonian Godwit, Cadboro Bay, Victoria, B.C., Sept. 6, 1973. Photo/Stuart Johnson.***

Slough, near Dallas, Oreg. Sept. 20-30 (JMi; *fide* FZ). An early Red Phalarope was seen off the Columbia R. Sept. 8 (TL, *fide* HN), but it was not until November that a spate of records ensued from the n. Oregon coast, with a few birds even being blown inland to the s. Willamette Valley. Wilson’s Phalaropes were seen singly at Iona I., Aug. 22 (BM, *fide* WW), and at Whidbey I., Wash., (EH) and Saanich (KT, *fide* VG) Aug. 25.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS, ALCIDS; -- Up to seven Pomarine Jaegers were seen on each of five boat trips from Westport and Ilwaco, Aug. 12 - Oct. 7; one was in the Strait of Juan de Fuca at Victoria Sept. 1 (KT, BH, *fide* VG). Parasitic Jaegers were well reported from the s.w. Washington coast, from Puget Sound, and from the Vancouver-Bellingham-Victoria triangle in numbers up to six in a day Aug. 11-Oct. 27. The only report for Long-tailed Jaeger was of one at Whidbey I., Sept. 29 (EH). The number of Skua reports, however, was at an

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all-time high; one was inside Grays Harbor and four were seen at sea from there Sept. 8, where three more were found on a boat trip from Westport the next day (TW); single birds were seen at both Winchester Bay and Charleston, Oreg. Sept. 15 (AC *et al*.) and another was at Pt Grenville, Wash., Sept. 6 (RV, JW, *fide* TW). Glaucous Gulls were seen at Victoria Oct. 20 and four more times until the end of the period (KT, JT, VG); two first-year birds were identified at the Everett, Wash., city dump Nov. 24 (EH). Up to 15 Franklin’s Gulls a day were reported from the Straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca and from Puget Sound, from Aug. 16 through October; a previously unreported observation for this species is one seen at Tierra del Mar, Tillamook Co., Oreg. July 8 (JG) for the third w. Oregon record in the past year. There were four records involving six individual Heermann’s Gulls from n. Washington and s. Vancouver I. after Nov. 14, which makes all of these individuals quite late; another was seen at Newport, Oreg. Nov. 26. Up to 12 Sabine’s Gulls were seen on each of the five off-shore trips between Aug. 12 and Oct. 7; single birds were seen at Newport, Sept. 28 (VM, *fide* HN), and at Fern Ridge Res. Sept. 18 (DS) where a few birds had been observed four years earlier. Common Terns were widely reported up to Nov. 7, including a Sept. 25 observation of six at Fern Ridge Reservoir; maximum was an amazing 485 at Blacky Spit and Crescent Beach south of Vancouver Sept. 9, (BM, *fide* WW), while 300 occurred Sept. 6 at Victoria (VG *et al*). Up to five Arctic Terns were observed at Vancouver, Victoria, Bellingham, Ocean Shores, Westport and off the Columbia R. Aug. 12 - Oct. 8 Two Caspian Terns at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., Oct. 26 (HN) were very late. Aside from being found regularly on waters around s. Vancouver I., Ancient Murrelets were otherwise surprisingly recorded at the Nisqually delta -- three near Tacoma Nov. 16, and one at Dash Pt., south of Seattle Oct. 28 (ZS). Rhinoceros Auklets were seen regularly after Sept. 29 on s. Puget Sound; on Aug. 13 there were an estimated 1000 birds in the Grays Harbor channel (TW), while on Sept. 8, 58 birds were found at sea from there. Rhinoceros Auklets were “very common during August” at Victoria, but were “very scarce in October and November” (VG). Three Tufted Puffins were at Cape Meares, Tillamook Co., Oreg. Aug. 31 (HN), two were seen at Victoria Aug. 2, Aug. 23, and one Sept. 12 (VG *et al*.), and a dead bird was on the beach at Newkowin, Tillamook Co., Nov. 23 (DM).

OWLS, FLYCATCHERS -- Ten Screech Owls were noted Oct. 14 at Durrance L., s. Vancouver I., (JT, *fide* VG). A close look was obtained Nov. 4 at Sauvie I., of a **Hawk Owl** (JG *et al*.) for the first Oregon record of this species; diligent search in subsequent days and weeks failed to turn up another sighting. A Burrowing Owl was seen at Eugene, Nov. 1-2 (AC, LM, CW). A pair of Spotted Owls was heard frequently in early September at Wolf Creek in s. Oregon (EP). A spectacular invasion of Snowy Owls, giving every evidence of being bigger than the incursion of 1966-67, was apparent by the first week in November in s. British Columbia and n. Washington, with one bird going as far south as Newport, Oreg. at that time; by the end of the month, numerous sightings had been made from Vancouver to the s. end of the Willamette Valley, peak counts being 33 at Boundary Bay Nov. 18 (MP *et al*.), 17 at Surrey, B.C., and on the Skagit Flats, both Nov. 25, at least 13 at Victoria on Nov. 18, and 19 at Ocean Shores Nov. 17. Short-eared Owls were particularly well reported from s. Vancouver I., the Nisqually Flats and the s. Willamette Valley by the end of the report period. A Com. Nighthawk was seen at Manning P. P., where it is uncommon, Aug. 25 (WW *et al*.). Black Swifts have only rarely been recorded from Oregon; thus the five at Lebanon Sept. 2 (WT), 30 at Corvallis Sept. 20 (WE), one there the next day (WHo, *fide* FZ), and one at Tillamook, Sept. 22 (JBC), all are of interest. Elsewhere, Black Swifts were seen regularly in the vicinity of Victoria until Sept. 22; 16 were noted at Vancouver Aug. 16 (GAP, *fide* WW). Anna’s Hummingbirds, rather peculiarly, were seen at the n. end of the s. half of the Region -- at Cadboro Bay, Victoria, Sept 9, and Oct. 12 after which date the bird was seen regularly (RMG, *fide* VG); at White Rock, B.C., where two were present Nov. 18 (MSc); and at Seattle Aug. 21, two on Sept. 10 (DC, *fide* PM), and at a feeder after October 25 (ZS). A late Rufous Hummingbird was at White Rock Sept. 30 (MSc). A Lewis’ Woodpecker was seen at Seattle Sept. 1 (EH) and one was at Fern Ridge Res. Oct 13 (AC); six appeared at Finley N.W.R., Sept. 2 and from then through November up to a score were present there (FZ). Five E. Kingbirds were at Pitt Meadows, east of Vancouver, Aug. 19 (WW); two were there Sept. 2 (BM, *fide* WW). Well-described birds identified as **Tropical Kingbirds** were seen at Devil’s Elbow S.P., near Florence, Oreg., Sept. 30 (TLu, IE *et al*.), and at Eugene Nov 3 (ESh, PT); another bird at Taft, Lincoln Co., Oreg. Oct. 13, was undoubtedly this species also (RFe). A W. Kingbird was at Everett, Wash., Aug. 31 (EH). Individual Say’s Phoebes were found at Seattle, Sept 24 (JR, *fide* ES), and at Finley N.W.R., Oct. 27 (FZ) and Nov. 3 (TLu, *fide* FZ).

LARKS THROUGH THRUSHES -- At Saanich Nov 18, 60 Skylarks were counted (RS, *fide* VG). Up to 40 Bank Swallows were at Iona I. Aug. 20 - Sept. 23 (BM, *fide* WW). Two late Barn Swallows were seen at the Samish Flats, Nov. 4 (NL, *fide* TW), and another was at Saanich the next day (RMG, *fide* VG). A Cliff Swallow was seen at Pt. Roberts, Nov. 23 (MP, *et al*.), while two others were seen at Bellingham, Nov. 6 (JD, *fide* TW) Up to 100 Purple Martins were seen at Seattle, Aug. 11-Sept. 3 (VG *et al*.); elsewhere the species was recorded in lesser numbers at Ilwaco, Sept. 6 (TW), at Finley, N.W.R., Aug. 5-6 (FZ), and at L. Whatcom near Bellingham Aug. 7 (JD, DH, *fide* TW). Steller’s Jays invaded the Willamette Valley lowlands in large numbers this fall (FZ). Lone Black-billed Magpies were noted at L. Whatcom, Oct. 10 (RS, *fide* TW), at Chuckanut Bay, Wash., Nov. 20 (EZ, *fide* TW), and at Manning P.P., Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 (V & MG). Flocks of 25 ravens at Saanich Aug. 26 and of 28 there Sept. 9 (VG, SJ), and of 41 on Samish I., Nov. 10 (NL, *fide* TW) are very unusual aggregations. Single Clark’s Nutcrackers at Eugene, Nov. 3 (*fide* AC) and near Estacada, Oreg. Nov. 21 (RFl, HN), were out of the ordinary. On Aug. 18 along a 3 mi stretch of trail on the W. Fork Pasayten R. in the N. Cascades, 15 Boreal Chickadees were counted; Mountain Chickadees were also present (JM). Three Boreal Chickadees were also seen at Manning P. P., Aug 26,

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and six were seen there Oct. 20 (WW *et al*.). A **Pygmy Nuthatch** was found at Ocean Shores Sept. 9, feeding in some lodgepole pines (G & WH) for the third known w. Washington record; another was in W. Vancouver Nov. 4-12 (WW *et al*.). House Wrens were noted at Saanich Aug. 3 - Sept. 3 (SJ, *fide* VG), at Bellevue, Wash., Aug. 29 (EH), at Samish I., Sept. 7 (NL, *fide* TW), and at Eugene, Oct. 29 (CW). A Rock Wren was heard singing at San Juan I., Wash., Aug. 5 (NL, *fide* TW). Four Gray Catbirds were seen at Pitt Meadows, Aug. 19 (WW), and one was last seen there Sept. 8 (GAP, *fide* WW). Varied Thrushes were reported abundant in the Puget Sound lowlands very early in the fall (ZS); they were also noted as being more prevalent at Wolf Creek, Oreg., than last year (EP). On Nov. 26 at Seattle a Hermit Thrush was observed “foraging on the ground under street-lighting” one-half hour after dark (MP). A Mountain Bluebird was discovered at Victoria Nov. 10 (E & ARD, JT, *fide* VG). Two Townsend’s Solitaires were at Victoria Oct. 28 (RS, *fide* VG); one was also noted at Vancouver Sept. 21 (BM, *fide* WW).

GNATCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS -- At Talent in s. Oregon, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was observed on the late date of Sept. 1 (JB, *fide* OS). Five Bohemian Waxwings were found near Harts Pass in the N Cascades Aug. 18, suggesting that breeding may occur in the area (JM). Small numbers of Bohemians appeared m November at Vancouver, Saanich, and Bellingham where 85 were seen Nov. 22 (TW). Cedar Waxwings were abundant at both Vancouver and Victoria early in the fall. Northern Shrikes staged an invasion reduced from record levels of last year’s, first appearing on s. Vancouver I. (VG) and at Whidbey I., Wash., (MP) on the very early dates of Sept. 23 and Sept. 30, respectively, and thereafter at numerous points from Vancouver south to Eugene; the only individual found at a coastal locality was the bird at Westport Oct. 7 (TW). A Solitary Vireo was seen at Finley N.W.R. on the modestly late date of Sept. 7 (FZ); however, single birds were recorded at Victoria Sept. 9 (JT, *fide* VG) and at Saanich Sept. 18 (SJ, *fide* VG). A Red-eyed Vireo was still at Vancouver, Sept. 14 (GAP, *fide* WW); up to ten could be found at Bellevue, Wash., Aug. 23-29 (EH). A **Philadelphia Vireo** was discovered in Victoria’s Stanley Park on the late date of Oct. 28 (BK) and was subsequently seen on Oct. 31, Nov. 12, 14 and 17 (DA, EM); the bird was very tame, could be approached within six or eight feet, and was consequently photographed and well described (*fide* WW). On Sept. 25 a **Tennessee Warbler** was carefully observed for several minutes on the U. W. campus at Seattle in comparison with Orange-crowneds under favorable conditions with supporting details fully supplied (MP); it is the first known record for w. Washington. A Nashville Warbler was at Coquitlam, B.C., Sept. 16 (MS, *fide* WW) and two were at Victoria, Sept. 29 (RS, *fide* VG), both late dates. A Palm Warbler was seen at Reifel Refuge Oct. 16 (MS *et al*., *fide* WW). A **Northern Waterthrush** was found at Manning P. P., Sept. 13 (DSi); with credible supporting details supplied. A Com. Yellowthroat was still at Hoquiam, Wash., Oct. 28 (EH). A **Painted Redstart**, of all things, turned up at W. Vancouver Nov. 4 (BK) and was well seen the same day by nine other observers; it is the first record for British Columbia, but not the first for Canada; see *Auk* 89:898 (1972).

BLACKBIRDS, FINCHES, SPARROWS -- Displaced Yellow-headed Blackbirds were at Saanich, Aug. 26 (VG, SJ, RS), at Pitt Meadows, Sept. 2 (BM, *fide* WW), at Reifel Refuge Sept. 11 (V & MG), and at the Skagit Game Range Sept. 22 (MP). Rusty Blackbirds were identified at Duncan Oct. 4 (SB, *fide* JCo), at Saanich Oct. 17 (V&MG) and Oct. 21 (RS, *fide* VG), and at Pitt Meadows Nov. 3 where four were present (WW). “Hundreds” of Brown-headed Cowbirds were on the Skagit Flats Oct. 2 (ZS) and about 40 in one flock were at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., Oct. 26 (HN); a flock of 35 was seen at Saanich Aug. 26 (VG, SJ, RS). A W. Tanager was noted at Vancouver Oct. 4 (BM, *fide* WW). Evening Grosbeaks were much in evidence only at Vancouver all fall, in the Puget Sound lowlands until mid-October, and at Corvallis throughout October. On Aug. 18, along the w. fork of the Pasayten R. in the n. Cascades 15 Pine Grosbeaks were noted. A mild incursion of this species occurred alter mid-October, with birds appearing at Vancouver, on s. Vancouver I., and widely in the lowlands w. of the Cascades from Bellingham s. to Olympia, maximum was 35 birds Nov. 10 at Vancouver. Gray-crowned Rosy Finches staged a more modest irruption, appearing at points between Vancouver and Seattle, including s. Vancouver I., after mid-October in numbers up to 60. The entire Region from Vancouver s. to Eugene experienced large flocks of Pine Siskins after mid- September. The numbers of Am. Goldfinches, from Duncan southward, were much remarked upon, particularly through September. Red Crossbills, not to be outdone, were prevalent throughout s. British Columbia, w. Washington and w. Oregon s. to Douglas County, including coastal areas. What is said to be the second state record for the **Lark Bunting** was made upon careful observation of an individual bird at Cape Flattery, Wash, Sept. 2 (KT, BH, *fide* TW). A Lark Sparrow was discovered at Boundary Bay, Sept. 2 (BK, *fide* WW). A late Chipping Sparrow came to a feeder in Portland, Nov. 12- 19 (*fide* HN). The only report of Harris’ Sparrow was one at Lummi Flats Nov. 25 (TW). Records of single White-throated Sparrows came from Vancouver Oct. 6, Victoria Nov. 19 and thereafter; and Finley N.W.R., Oct. 27. Lincoln’s Sparrows were much noted in British Columbia and in n. Washington, in numbers up to 20 in a day from the end of August into the last week of the report period, but with most records concentrated before mid-October. Lapland Longspurs were seen widely but in small numbers from Tillamook n. to Ocean Shores on the coast and from Seattle n. to Vancouver on the sounds and straits alter the first week in September; 25 at Ocean Shores Oct. 11 was the maximum one-day count. Snow Buntings were more abundant, but only from Vancouver s. to Olympia, including Victoria; birds were also seen at Ocean Shores and three were at Newport, Oreg., all in November.

OBSERVERS -- Kevin Aanerud, Dick Asher, John Ballard, Steven Bazett, Robert Bender, Gene Burreson, Wayne Campbell, Richard & Sydney Cannings, John & Martha Casteel, David Chelmer, John Comer (JCo), Alan Contreras, Craig Corder, John B. Crowell, Jr., E. & A. R. Davidson, Jim Duemmel, William Elliott, Ianto Evans, Richard Ferrell (RFe), Roy Fisk (RFi), Ralph Fryer, Jeff Gilligan, Margaret & Vic Goodwill, B. Hay, Dennis

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Heinemann, Wayne Hoffman (WHo), Glen & Wanda Hoge, Eugene Hunn, Stuart Johnston, Brian Kauteski, Ran Klein, Norman Lavers, Tom Love, Tom Lund (TLu), Bruce MacDonald, Don MacDonald, R. Mackenzie- Grieve, Phil Mattocks, Larry McQueen, James Micuda (JMi), Ed Moody, James Morris, Vaughn Morrison, Harry Nehls, Michael Pertone, G. A. Poynter, Eleanor Pugh, Jeanette Rathfelder, Hilda Reiher, Peter Rothlisberg, Ran Satterfield, Madelon Schonten (MSc), Zella Schultz, Michael Shepard, Eva Schultz (ESh), David Simon, Rod Slemmons (RSI), Eleanor Stopps, Otis Swisher, Jeremy B. Tatum, Keith Taylor, William Thackaberry. Phil Thomas. Rex Van Wormer. Terrence Wahl, Clarice Watson, Wayne Weber, Joseph Welch, Fred Zeillemaker, Eleanor Zimmerly.

*The Winter Season, 1973-74*

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN -INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**

**/ Thomas H. Rogers**

Winter weather over the Region was generally mild and extremely wet, continuing the pattern set in November. However at the end of December temperatures plummeted, often well below zero F. and did not rise until mid-January, when Chinook conditions melted the rather sparse snow from the valleys and reduced it in the mountains. Heavy rains in the lowlands added to the melt and brought floods at Libby and Missoula, Mont. and at Spokane and Yakima. February and March continued mild and wet. A fair number of late stragglers, a few of which stayed to winter, was observed. The January cold snap drove many birds out of some areas. All in all, the winter, generally warm with little snow cover and much open water, appeared an easy one for bird life. Abundant moisture, both rain and snow, brought promise of full lakes and ponds during spring and summer as well as excellent growth of vegetation. Alas, it also presaged further flooding -- what will happen when the 197 inches of snow, 70 inches above normal, melts at Crater Lake National Park. The outstanding bird events were the abundance of owls, particularly Snowy but also a number of species considered rare, and the great incursion of Pine Grosbeaks.

LOONS AND GREBES -- A few wintering Com. Loons were noted at Wenatchee, the Tri-cities (Pasco-Richland-Kennewick), Wash. and at Summer L., Lake Co., Ore. Single Horned Grebes were seen near Walla Walla and Wenatchee and on Coeur d’Alene L., Ida. the latter on Jan. 1. The Eared Grebe was reported only at Wenatchee and Medical L., Wash, Twenty W. Grebes, about twice last year’s number, were at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash. the third week of March.

PELICANS THROUGH BITTERNS -- A single White Pelican, the only one reported, was noted in the Nampa, Ida. area and represented a decrease. In the same area 20 Double-crested Cormorants were seen Dec. 27 and 24 were at McNary N.W.R. Feb. 2. An Am. Bittern was seen at Sunnyside Game Refuge near Mabton, Wash. on the remarkable date of Mar. 6 (JW).

SWANS -- The cold spell of January greatly reduced Whistling Swan numbers in Idaho and e. Oregon and Washington, where some winter. Spring migrants were first noted at Malheur N.W.R. Feb. 10, nearly two weeks later than last year and built up to 4700 by Mar. 2, much below last year’s peak. The birds were moving through more northerly areas in good numbers during March. Thirteen Trumpeter Swans were reported killed by flying into power wires across the Stuart River at Ft. St. James in c. interior British Columbia, according to newspaper accounts. Local conservationists are urging removal of the wires. One Trumpeter from the resident population at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney Wash. was shot at Chapman L. just south of the refuge in December. At Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. two Trumpeters with yellow neck bands Feb. 12 proved to be birds banded the previous August in Saskatchewan.

GEESE AND DUCKS -- The January freezeup drove many Canada Geese out but numbers were again high by March. White-fronted Geese appeared at Malheur Feb. 27 and peaked at 100 the first week of March. At La Grande, Ore. 160 were counted Mar. 16. A total of seven Snow Geese seen in the Walla Walla-Tri-cities area and at Baker, Ore. in December were very late. February 11 started the northward movement of the species at Malheur N.W.R., but elsewhere the birds were seen in March. The spring movement of ducks through Malheur N.W.R., mostly Pintail, showed a peak of 35,700 at the end of the period, compared to 73,200 and 116,800 in March of 1973 and 1972 respectively. The general decrease was attributed to the abundant flooded meadow habitat throughout the Harney Basin which attracted the Pintails. About ten Gadwall and 250 Ring-necked Ducks at mid-December; winter records are unusual there (WW). A Eur. Wigeon pair near Spangle, Spokane Co. on Feb. 23 was very early for this species, rare in Washington. Fourteen Blue-winged Teal at Vernon and some at Penticton, B.C. Dec. 26 were the first recorded in winter for the North Okanagan (RC). Thirty Wood Ducks found in the Nampa, Ida. area Dec. 27 were unusual. The species was not noted elsewhere in the Region. Flooding of the Spokane R. with consequent muddiness caused a marked decrease in diving ducks during January in the Spokane area. The highest number of Com. Goldeneye was 1500 at Turnbull N.W.R. in March. A thousand Com. and 200 Red-breasted Mergansers were at Minidoka N.W.R. in s. Idaho Dec. 5.

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- A Turkey Vulture at Nampa Dec. 27 was a winter rarity. A few spring migrants had reached the Sunriver, Ore. area by the third week of March and Malheur N.W.R. by Mar. 15. Goshawk sightings were rather plentiful for that species

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and the birds staged a moderate invasion in the Okanagan area of s. British Columbia. In general, hawk numbers seemed at least up to normal with the exception of the Baker area, where Red-tailed and Rough-legged numbers were way down. A Golden Eagle was incubating by the end of March in the Pocatello area. A single Gyrfalcon and a Peregrine Falcon were noted in n.w. Montana (WW), and one of the latter was seen in n. Idaho (EL).

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Only scattered small remnant groups of Sharp-tailed Grouse were found in the Pocatello area (CHT). The species was reported elsewhere only at Malheur N.W.R., near Yakima and near Bozeman. A few small coveys of Gambel’s Quail still persisted from introductions in the Salmon, Ida. area many years ago. They were common only along the Lemhi R. In the same area, where the Turkey was planted three years ago, the population was low but increasing. These birds were again observed on Bozeman Pass east of Bozeman, in numbers larger than last year.

CRANES AND RAILS -- A single Sandhill Crane on the Baker CBC was remarkable. Earliest spring appearance was Feb. 19 at Malheur N.W.R. Elsewhere they were migrating in March. Eight were on territory near Downey, Ida. Mar. 23 (CHT). At least two Virginia Rails wintered at Pocatello and one was seen at Penticton, B.C. Jan. 15 (SRC).

SHOREBIRDS AND GULLS -- No Long-billed Curlews had been observed in the Pocatello area by the end of March. The species appears to have been wiped out by agriculture along the Snake R. in that area, where ten years ago hundreds nested (CHT). A **Glaucous Gull** collected at Flathead L. furnished the first Montana specimen and either the second or fourth state record (*fide,* PDS). An ad. Glaucous-winged Gull appeared at Silver L., Spokane Co. Feb. 18 and stayed for a day or two (JA & WH). *Seventy-five* Herring Gulls were seen at Coeur d’ Alene L. Feb. 24. About 20-25 Ring-billed Gulls put in a very unusual appearance at Salmon, Ida. the last week of March (HBR). Any gulls at all are unusual there. Several dozen of the species were observed near Kalispell, Mont., an unlikely locality, Apr. 3 (WW).

OWLS -- Single Barn Owls were seen in the Nampa area in December and at Heppner, Ore. Mar. 24. A highway-killed bird was brought in from Jerome, Ida. Mar 30 (CHT). A Great Horned Owl at *Walla Walla* in late January was very unusual. It was a tremendous winter for sighting Snowy Owls, which were seen in some numbers in at least *16* localities, a few as far south as s. Idaho and e. Oregon. A Hawk Owl was seen near Salmon Arm, B.C. in early December (BW), one was at Prince George Dec. 30 (EB) and a third was observed at Moscow, Ida. Jan. 30 (EL). Pygmy Owls put in a good appearance, especially in the more westerly part of the Region. Single sightings at Nampa and Walla were particularly noteworthy. The Barred Owl was noted only at Vernon -- one Dec. 26. A Great Gray Owl visited a porch of a house in the foothills near Bozeman, allowing approach as close as eight feet Feb. 3-4. One at Summerland, B.C. Mar. 6-19 was apparently the first ever for the s. Okanagan (SRC). Another was found in a canyon near Cashmere, Wash. (WED) and one was seen at Moscow in early March (*fide* JWW). A Boreal Owl collected at Pullman Jan. 10 furnished the first confirmed record for Washington (REJ). Single Saw-whet Owls were sighted at Vernon, Nampa, Walla Walla, McNary N.W.R. and at Ennis L. near Ennis, Mont. In the Spokane area more owls than hawks were noted during the period.

DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- An unusual sighting of 50 Mourning Doves was made Dec. 30 at McNary N.W.R. where they are seldom seen in winter. An Anna’s Hummingbird remained at a feeder near Cashmere, Wash. until about Dec. 10 (WED). A Lewis’ Woodpecker wintered in the Bitterroot Valley near Hamilton, Mont. (OF). One of the red-breasted race of the Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers was seen Jan. 13 at Naramata, B.C. This race is always rare there (CR). One or two Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers were seen in February and March in ponderosa pine areas burned last summer near Spokane. The only other record was of a pair near Ukiah, Ore. Feb. 16 & Mar 24.

FLYCATCHERS AND SWALLOWS -- Say’s Phoebe was recorded at Warm Springs, Ore. Feb. 11 and later in the month at Malheur N.W.R. and at Wenatchee. Elsewhere they were arriving in March, with Mar. 26 an early record for Missoula. The earliest Tree Swallow observation was at Summer L., Lake Co., Ore. Mar. 10 but Malheur had them two days later, nearly two weeks later than last year. Rough-winged and Barn Swallows had arrived only at Pocatello, Mar 23 & 31 respectively. The only Cliff Swallow sightings were at the Tri-cities Mar. 19 and Pocatello Mar. 23.

JAYS THROUGH NUTHATCHES -- A Blue Jay was seen on three dates in January at Nampa. Twenty-six Com. Crows were still at Prince George Dec. 30, Clark’s Nutcracker put in few appearances in the lowlands. Mountain Chickadees appeared in residential areas in Missoula in noteworthy numbers, at times outnumbering the Black-capped two to one. A Chestnut-backed Chickadee appeared in Baker on three dates in February and early March. The only other records were at Coolin, Ida. and in the vicinity of Yakima. The White-breasted Nuthatch, rare in s.e. Washington, was seen at Kamiak Butte north of Pullman (JWW). The Pygmy Nuthatch was observed at Missoula Mar. 23, where they are seldom seen (RAH).

WRENS THROUGH THRUSHES -- Bewick’s Wren had an all-time high of 25 on the Tri-cities CBC and was singing there from early December on. Fifteen were sighted in four areas at Yakima and a pair was found nesting in a hanging basket of artificial flowers, with five eggs Mar. 27. A Mockingbird was netted, photographed and released at Sunnyside Game Refuge near Mabton, Yakima Co., Wash. Mar. 5 (JW) and was seen again there Mar. 12-13 (JW & PM). A Sage Thrasher was seen at Cove S.P., Jefferson Co., Oreg.

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Jan. 26 (JWo & KZ) and two, one singing, were seen on Yakima Firing Range Mar. 24. At Malheur N.W.R. the species was first observed Mar. 29. American Robins wintered in big numbers only in the Pocatello area, where thousands, more than usual, were reported. At Bozeman flocks remained into late December. The spring movement was apparent first at Spokane where numbers increased in late January and early February. Other areas reported growing numbers from late February on. Wintering Varied Thrush numbers appeared to be up in Idaho, Oregon and Washington in the Region and a pair was seen repeatedly near *Bozeman* at the end of March (CVD). This is the first record there since the 1920s. Mountain Bluebird numbers far outstripped those for the Western. “Huge flocks” were reported for the area around Sunriver in c. Oregon in mid-March and an encouraging sighting of a flock of 35 was made at Lewiston, Ida. Mar. 24.

KINGLETS THROUGH SHRIKES -- A single Golden-crowned Kinglet on the Helena Christmas count was apparently the first winter observation for that area. A very late Ruby-crowned Kinglet at Bozeman *Dec. 29* was far later than the previous record late date of Nov. 18 (DRS & PDS). A remarkably early or possibly wintering Water Pipit was closely examined near Bozeman Mar. 9 (SC, PDS). The winter was good but not record one for Bohemian Waxwings, which penetrated as far south as Baker and Prineville, Ore. Peaks of at least 2000 were reached at Missoula in late December and at Spokane in late January. The usual sprinkling of Cedar Waxwings wintered, mostly in the w. part of the Region. However, in the Nampa-Boise area *300* were reported Jan. 16, many more than normal. Three Loggerhead Shrikes were seen in early December at Malheur N.W.R., whereas the Northern was present there all winter. A few of the former species were reported for the Nampa area and one was carefully identified at Turnbull N.W.R. Mar. 3 (MV).

WARBLERS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- Single Yellow-rumped warblers were seen in December at the Tri-cities, a “Myrtle” Dec. 16 and an “Audubon’s” Dec. 21. A flock of 300 warblers, some of them “Audubon’s”, was reported at Toppenish N.W.R., Toppenish, Wash. Mar. 25 (GG). A die-off caused House Sparrow numbers to drop drastically at Pocatello, making native species more obvious and perhaps more abundant at feeders. A male Yellow-headed Blackbird near Three Forks, Mont. Mar. 31 provided a record early date (CJ, *fide* HNM). Most of the wintering Red-winged Blackbirds apparently were in the Yakima area where a flock estimated at 2000 was found near Wapato Dec. 15 and a similar number at Toppenish N.W.R. Jan. 30. A N. Oriole at *Naramata* for about a week Dec. 26 - early January was the first ever for winter in interior British Columbia (CR). Spring migrants of this species had reached the Ellensburg- Yakima area by the latter half of March. Two each of Rusty and Brewer’s Blackbirds were sighted at Canmore, just east of Banff N.P. Jan. 6 (BL & VL). A **Rusty Blackbird** Feb. 9 west of Bozeman was a rare sighting (HC, ETH & RAH) and a Brewer’s at Fortine, Mont. in early February was either very early or wintered (WW).

FINCHES -- Evening Grosbeaks appeared in perhaps average numbers and were seen on the Malheur N.W.R. CBC for the second year in a row. A male Cassin’s Finch at the *Tri-cities* Dec. 1-2 was apparently the first record ever there (TG, EM & REW). Pine Grosbeaks rather flooded the Region, having been reported at seventeen localities and generally in numbers above average to very high. Hand analyzed his records for Missoula for the last seventeen years and noted he had seen the birds on twice as many days this winter as in the *sixteen previous winters combined* and the number of birds tallied was more than *five times* as many. The birds showed up even at Richland, Wash. and at Nampa. Numerous sightings and good numbers were reported for Gray-crowned Rosy Finches, mostly in the w. part of the Region. Five at Prince George Dec 30 were far north for the species (EB). Fifty of the seldom-noted Hoary Redpolls were seen at Prince George Dec. 30 and a few were mixed with flocks of Com. Redpoll at Vernon December - March and one or two were seen at Ennis, Mont. with the Common Dec. 15 (ETH, JS & MS). Up to four were seen on two dates at Helena, where there are apparently no previous records (LS). Common Redpolls were noted as unusually common at Fortine and as occurring in good flocks at Bozeman. In the Okanagan they were abundant. A few showed up as far south as Bend, Ore. and Pocatello. No great incursion of Pine Siskins occurred in most of the Region but they were present in unusual numbers in the Okanagan Valley throughout the winter. The CBC total of 440 there was a 23-year record high. Red Crossbills made few incursions into the lowlands and then generally in small numbers. Surprisingly, White-winged Crossbills appeared in three localities, these widely separated A flock was seen in the Bozeman cemetery from Dec 1 to sometime in March and one stayed around a yard in Ephrata, Wash. for several weeks in late winter. (BJ). Twelve at Kamiak Butte north of Pullman, Wash. Mar 7 were apparently Whitman County’s first record (JWW).

SPARROWS -- A Rufous-sided Towhee wintered in an unusual locality, Coeur d’ Alene, visiting a feeder regularly Jan. 7 - Mar. 15. A **Gray-headed Junco**, closely observed, frequented a feeder Jan. 15 and for five days following at Wenatchee (WED). Tree Sparrows were observed in a few localities Dec. 28 - Mar. 25, mostly in small numbers but the Salmon, Ida. CBC had 62. A single Chipping Sparrow appeared in Heppner, Ore Mar. 23. This may be compared with the Mar. 18 date for one at Nampa, the only other locality reporting the species. Only three Harris’ Sparrows were noted wintering in the Okanagan. Two records for the species were obtained at Walla Walla, the first Jan. 26 and the second Mar. 24-Apr.2. One appeared at Missoula Mar 27. White-crowned Sparrows appeared to winter in fair numbers in the Wenatchee and Yakima areas and in the Nampa area. They were abundant on Yakima Indian Reservation Mar. 18. The Wenatchee CBC had the highest-ever count, 603. On that count were eight Golden-crowned Sparrows, considered normal and one was sighted at Nampa Jan. 3. The only White-throated Sparrows were an adult at Salmon Arm, B.C. Dec 30

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and two different birds at Bozeman in late December and early January. A dearth of Song Sparrows at Baker was blamed on a possible lack of influx of northern birds. Possibly the highest-ever count of *54* at Christmas at Wenatchee had some bearing on the question. Lapland Longspurs were found only near Davenport, Wash where two were seen Dec. 8 (JA). Snow Buntings were observed at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. in unusual numbers. Some 400 were there Jan 2 and smaller flocks were present for several weeks. A flock of about 100 near Salmon Arm was an unusual number for the Okanagan. Only a few of the birds got any farther south.

CORRIGENDA & ADDENDA -- In *Am. Birds* 28 80 the Parasitic Jaeger sighting at Canyon Ferry Res. was by Robert L. Eng, who also collected the first state specimen Oct. 27, 1973 at Freezeout L. west of Great Falls.

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*The Winter Season, 1973-74*

**NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION**

**/ John B. Crowell, Jr. and Harry B. Nehls**

The winter of 1973-74 in the Northern Pacific Coast Region was relatively mild, with no prolonged cold spells or periods of sustained snowfalls in the lowlands. Precipitation was another matter; lower elevations experienced an abundance of rain, and higher elevations received much snow through December, January and February; March was somewhat wetter than normal, too. Ornithologically speaking, the season was another good one, as the following pages attest.

LOONS, GREBES, SHEARWATERS, HERONS -- Yellow-billed Loons were seen at seven different localities in Puget Sound and the Strait of Georgia, but not elsewhere, at various times throughout the winter season. An Arctic Loon on the Willamette R. at Eugene, Oreg., Dec. 27 (LM) was an unusual inland record, as were two Red-throated Loons at Fern Ridge Res., w. of Eugene Dec. 5 (AC, HN) and one Red-throated at Corvallis, Oreg. Dec. 23 (FR, *fide* FZ). Red-necked Grebes were very scarce during the season, except that 258 on the Victoria, B.C., CBC was an outstandingly high total. Eared Grebes, as usual, were found occasionally on Puget Sound and on the waters near Victoria during the winter. Four N. Fulmars were seen during the first two weeks of December in the vicinity of Victoria (V & MG, TW); a single fulmar and a lone Sooty Shearwater were found dead on the beach at Ocean Shores, Wash., Dec. 15 (EH). A dead Short-tailed Shearwater was found on the same long stretch of beach the next day (AW). The counts of 886 Brandt’s Cormorants and 724 Pelagic Cormorants on the Victoria CBC Dec. 30 were good totals. The Region enjoyed an unprecedented number of wintering Great Egrets with single birds noted repeatedly in the vicinity of M. Vernon, Wash., at Sauvie I., near Portland, and with up to nine in one place at Salem, Newport, Eugene, Coos Bay, Grants Pass and Medford, Oreg. Am. Bitterns were at Seattle in late February (*fide* PM), at Finley N.W.R., Dec. 9 (*fide* FZ), and on the Ocean Shores and Tillamook, Oreg. CBCs.

WATERFOWL -- Whistling Swans appear to have been present in the s. half of the Region in usual wintering numbers; of particular interest are the 50 or more individuals seen at Florence on the c. Oregon coast Dec. 29 (AC *et al*.). Some 100 Trumpeter Swans, two with neck bands, spent the winter in the vicinity of Mt. Vernon, Wash. (TW). On Feb. 4, three birds of this species were seen near Duncan, B.C.; one bore a blue neck band (VG). A single Trumpeter Swan spent two months at Ocean Shores, commencing in mid- December (G & WH). Approximately 18,000 “Dusky” Canada Geese (about 3000 more than normal) wintered in w. Washington and w. Oregon, according to a U.S.F. & W.S. report (FZ); this report is in happy contrast to last year’s report which described the wintering total of 15,000 as the lowest in fourteen years. By hindsight one can conclude that the bitter cold spell in the first half of December 1972 probably forced numbers farther south than customary. A Brant was identified at Bayview S.P., Skagit Co., Wash., Feb. 24 (EH). Thousands of Black Brant were found at Padilla Bay, Samish I., Wash., Jan. 11 (SJ). An ad. Emperor Goose stayed at Finley N.W.R. Dec. 23 - Jan. 9 (FZ). The usual few individual White-fronted and Snow Geese were in the Willamette Valley in December and January. The 11,000 Snow Geese which wintered on Washington’s Skagit Flats were half the usual number; comparatively few were said to be young birds (TW). Individuals of the Eurasian subspecies of Green-winged Teal were seen on s.e. Vancouver I., at Whidbey I., Wash., and in Portland from the end of December through the rest of the season. An adult male **Baikal Teal** was shot two miles e. of Finley N.W.R., Jan. 12 by David Horning, who donated the specimen to the Oregon State University collection (*fide* FZ); the record is a first for this Region, although there is the usual question as to the possibility of the bird being an escape from some park or aviary collection. A male Blue-winged Teal turned up on the newly-inaugurated Gray’s Harbor, Wash., CBC. A Cinnamon Teal at Seattle Jan. 13 and one at Samish I., Feb. 9 (*fide* PM) both are very early records. European Wigeon were well reported in widely scattered singles and pairs in w. Washington and w. Oregon to the s. end of the Willamette Valley and at coastal points. Except during January, Wood Ducks were at favored places in the middle one-third of the Region. Up to a half-dozen Redheads were found at Duncan and Saanich, B.C., plus at Seattle and Ocean Shores throughout the report period. There were good concentrations of Ring-necked Ducks at favored localities in the s. portion of the Region through much of the winter: over 400 were at Duncan, B.C., during December, but by mid-March all had gone (JCo); Finley N.W.R. started with 82 birds in December and had 96 in March (FZ); peak numbers for the Victoria area were 200 on Jan. 12 (VG, RS). Canvasback continue at low numbers with approximately 100 individuals on both the Tillamook and Eugene

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CBCs. Those were the two maximum one-day counts. A male Tufted Duck was at Ladner, B.C., from Feb. 28 to the end of the period (WW *et al*.) Up to 16 Barrow’s Goldeneyes wintered around Victoria (VG), while almost that number appears to have spent the season in the Seattle area (SJ). The Bellingham, Gray’s Harbor, Seattle and Tillamook CBCs all recorded from 200 to 800 Bufflehead, which together indicated there were good wintering numbers in this Region. Over 50 Oldsquaws were found for the Bellingham CBC; further south no more than six individuals at a time were noted at Seattle, Olympia, Ocean Shores, Tillamook and Florence. Another good sighting was added to the very small number of Washington records for **King Eider**; a pair consisting of a first year male and female was photographed at Bellingham, Dec. 29-30 and Jan. 19 (TW *et al*.). A peak of 500 Com. Mergansers on Quamichan L., Vancouver I. Dec. 23 is a high count, as was the 200 on nearby Elk L, Jan. 16; by March, the number was down to 20-30 birds in a day (VG, RS). The two Red-breasted Mergansers at Fern Ridge Res. (AC, HN) and one at Finley N.W.R. (WE, *fide* FZ) all in the first week of December were noteworthy inland sightings. A female **Smew** was discovered at Reifel Refuge Feb. 28 and was seen by many observers after that up to the end of the period (WW, TW *et al*.); the record is the second for the Vancouver area in the last four years.

HAWKS -- A White-tailed Kite was again found at Medford, this time for the CBC, Dec. 29. There were reports of eight Goshawk sightings (one involving two birds) in the Region this winter from Duncan s. to Coos Bay, Oreg. Sharp-shinned Hawks showed up encouragingly on many of the Region’s CBCs, the maximum being eleven at Victoria; individuals were seen repeatedly and often in the vicinity of Victoria and on the Skagit Flats through the winter. Otherwise, we have reports of twelve sightings from nine locations through the winter. The CBCs did less well with Cooper’s Hawk numbers, the maximum count being eight at Seattle; Cooper’s Hawks, too, were seen often through the winter in the Victoria area and on the Skagit Flats, but otherwise there were reports of sightings from only three locations outside the CBC period. A **Swainson’s Hawk** was noted in the Malahat District of s. Vancouver I on Mar. 19, in the act of worrying a Turkey Vulture; it is the first spring record for Vancouver I. (RF, *fide* VG). Last fall’s heavy invasion of Rough-legged Hawks was reflected in the remarkable CBC totals for this species, e g., Bellingham 28, Ocean Shores 20, Corvallis 26, Eugene 44, Tillamook 29. Three wintered in the Medford area (OS) and four were still to be found at Tillamook as late as March 23 (JBC *et al*.). Golden Eagles were noted at several widely separated locations in w. Oregon in March; one was at Sauvie I. from mid-December to late January, and up to three spent the winter on s. Vancouver I. John Comer reports an intriguing yet mystifying phenomenon involving an all-day movement at Bald Eagles *southeastward* over Duncan B.C. Mar. 16; Duncan is on the s.e. side of Vancouver I. The movement was occurring at an estimated 3,000 foot elevation and consisted primarily of immature birds of which 30 were counted by the participating observers. Bald Eagles were particularly numerous in n. Puget Sound and in the Straits of Georgia at times this winter, with impressive counts of 78 individuals -- 63 of them adults -- on the short ferry ride from Active Pass in the Gulf Is. to Swartz Bay n. of Victoria Feb. 16 (GAP, *fide* VG), 20 between Anacortes, Wash., and Sydney, B.C., Feb. 17 (DP, SJ), 24 Cowichan Bay area of s.e. Vancouver I., Jan. 10 (VG) and 20 on the Victoria CBC. Along the Skagit R between Rockport and Marblemount, Wash., Jan. 19 there were 30 Bald Eagles, of which half were immature birds. Away from these favored areas, there were reports of one or two individuals from Fern Ridge Res, Tillamook, Sauvie I., Newport and Alsea, Oreg. Marsh Hawks showed well on the Sauvie I., (43), Tillamook (54) and Eugene (59) CBCs, all of which are high totals, but were thought to be at average or lower numbers in n. Washington (TW). Ospreys were noted only at Siltcoos L. near Florence, Oreg. Mar. 20 (AC), and at a nest site in N. Saanich, B.C., Mar. 28 (VG). Gyrfalcons were seen in greater numbers than ever before, with repeated observations of single birds in various color phases coming from lowland n. Washington between Bellingham and Mt. Vernon, and from Saanich and Cowichan Bay n. of Victoria. Other sightings occurred at Whidbey I., Wash., Ocean City Park, Gray’s Harbor Co., Wash., from Finley N.W.R. and from Eugene, mostly in December, but up until Mar. 2. A Prairie Falcon frequented the Lummi Flats near Bellingham Jan. 1-Mar. 15 (JD, TW *et al*.); another was seen at Finley N.W.R. Mar. 12 (FZ). Three Prairie Falcons were recorded on the Medford CBC. Up to three Peregrines at a time were reported through the winter from about fifteen well-separated localities in the s. portion of the Region n. of Eugene; the status of Merlins could be similarly summarized. American Kestrels and Red-tailed Hawks continue to be the most plentiful year-round raptors in the Puget Sound-Willamette Valley trough.

**S.A.**

GAMEBIRDS, CRANES, RAILS –Ring-necked Pheasants, Bobwhite and California Quail have declined markedly in w. Oregon in recent years; although the severe winter of 1968-69 may have been a contributing factor along with possibly diminished favorable habitat, it would seem reasonable to suspect very strongly that a coincident increase in the population of opossums has had something to do with the decline. ‘Possums are an introduced species to the Northwest and, judging by the number of dead individuals to be seen along the lowland roads of the Region, must be foraging everywhere. Ground-nesting species such as the pheasant, Bobwhite and California Quail, as well as the towhee and other songbirds would inevitably suffer severe nest depredations from night-marauding ‘possums!

A single Sandhill Crane at Salem Jan. 19 (SW, *fide* FZ) was out of season; a group of 36 Sandhills which had lingered at Sauvie I. through year-end ultimately departed in mid-January (HN). Returning migrants were seen over Eugene Mar. 16 (LM) and were stopping over at Sauvie I. in numbers up to 400 Mar. 22 (CS

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*fide* HN). A few Virginia Rails winter regularly in the Region; and this year an influx of migrants was noted by early March.

SHOREBIRDS -- Again this year the only winter season reports of Semipalmated Plover were from the Tillamook CBC, where eight were present. Killdeer were said to be scarce or uncommon at many points in the s. portion of the Region, including the Willamette Valley, particularly in January and February, although the Eugene CBC recorded 3288 individuals, which was comparable to the count there of two years ago before last year’s cold-weather-induced crash. Approximately 100 Black-bellied Plover showed up on the Tillamook and Gray’s Harbor CBCs; an estimated 150 birds wintered in the vicinity of Vancouver (VG). The 220 Surfbirds on the Tillamook CBC was a high total. Common Snipe were well enough represented on some of this year’s CBCs to allay fears that their scarcity last year as a consequence of the early December 1972 prolonged freeze might have substantially impacted population numbers. A Whimbrel found at Tillamook for the CBC and two individuals at Newport, Jan. 19 (WHo, *fide* FZ) were probably the northernmost wintering sentinels of their species. A Wandering Tattler at Newport on Jan. 19 (WHo, *fide* FZ) and one on Great Chain I., B.C., Feb. 13 and Mar. 2 (WC *et al*., *fide* VG) are very unusual records of wintering individuals. Three Willets at Newport Dec. 9 & Dec. 19 (Who, RB *fide* FZ), and one Jan. 19 (WHo, *fide* FZ) are also extraordinary! A few Greater Yellowlegs evidently spent the winter in the Region, the ten or so on s. Vancouver I. being the northernmost outpost (VG); by early March migrants were drifting into the Region. As many as 32 Rock Sandpipers wintered at Victoria (VG). A Least Sandpiper at Victoria Mar. 14 is said to be the first March record there (V & MG). Dunlin always winter in large numbers on the Washington coast; 19,000 were found for the Gray’s Harbor CBC this year; they are also commonly found in winter in Oregon’s Willamette Valley. Long-billed Dowitchers in numbers up to 54 were found on the Eugene, Sauvie I., and Tillamook CBCs. Red Phalaropes were found at Ocean Shores and Tillamook for the CBCs there, the 47 at the latter place being a remarkably high count; Tillamook also listed a single **N. Phalarope**, which is an unprecedented winter season record for anywhere in the Region, as far as we know.

GULLS, ALCIDS -- Glaucous Gulls were noted at Salem, a most unusual location, in early February (TM *fide* RL and Sauvie I., Oreg. at Olympia, Yelm, Anacortes, Bellingham, Wash., and at Victoria, Sooke and Saanich on Vancouver I. at various times during the winter. A **Slaty-backed Gull** was closely and carefully observed at length under good conditions at Victoria’s Clover Pt. Mar. 1; careful notes were made and color film taken to substantiate the sighting (V & MG); the record is the first for the Region, to our knowledge. Two W. Gulls at Eugene Nov. 26 (LM) and at Fern Ridge Res., Dec. 5 (AC, HN) were far displaced from the coast which is the almost exclusive haunt of their kind. Although Bonaparte’s Gulls were present in good numbers for CBCs at Bellingham and Victoria, numbers dwindled rapidly thereafter until early March brought the first returning individuals to Puget Sound. Single Heermann’s Gulls appeared at Ocean Shores and at Tillamook for the CBCs there, both of which were on Dec. 16. Two Black-legged Kittiwakes were seen on both counts also; a bird was at Friday Harbor, Whidbey I., Dec. 15 and Jan. 3 (TW), while three were seen at the Jordan R. on Vancouver I., Dec. 19 (VG), and at Newport, Oreg. (WHo, *fide* FZ), Dec. 9, An extremely detailed account has been received from Phillip D. Ellerbee and James R. Miller of a lengthy observation made by them on the beach at Leadbetter Point, Jan. 27, 1974, of a **Red-legged Kittiwake**; the bird was observed down to a distance of three feet, and at one point sought shelter under the observers’ cars. The observers appreciated at the time the rarity of their find, and took commendable pains to check the accuracy of their identification and to obtain a detailed description of it on the spot. The record is the first for Washington and the second for the Region of which we have knowledge.

*[Next 2-3 sentences are choppy in the Amer. Birds Field Notes.]*

Marbled Murrelets were numerous at Friday Harbor, Feb. 17-18 (SJ). An estimated 6400 Ancient! (??) *[flock of 25 Mourning Doves at Burlington, Wash., attests to the general mildness of the winter.]* The San Juan Is in December and January (TW); oddly all had disappeared from the Region after Feb. 7. A Cassin’s Auklet was seen at Westport, Oreg. on the Columbia R., 32 mi from the ocean Feb. 12 (DR, MS *fide* FZ). A few Rhinoceros Auklets were to be found in Puget Sound and around the s. end of Vancouver I. during the winter.

DOVES, OWLS, NIGHTHAWK, HUMMINGBIRDS -- Finley N.W.R. commenced the report period with about 100 Mourning Doves; their number had doubled in January, was up to 300 by February, but in March fell off to 75, presumably as the birds began to move with the advancing season. A flock of 25 Mourning Doves at Burlington, Wash., attests to the general mildness of the winter. The recording of four Barn Owls on the Gray’s Harbor CBC is of some interest as is the count of eight Screech Owls on the same count. The Sauvie I. **Hawk Owl**, reported in *Am. Birds*: 28, 96 was seen again, finally and opportunely for the CBC there, another turned up at Oak Bay, Victoria Dec 10 (RF, *fide* VG), and then on Jan. 9 the same observer had the extraordinary good fortune of seeing the same or another bird at Saanich (*fide* VG). The Burrowing Owl seen in November at Eugene was found again Jan 3 (DD, *fide* LM); one was found again for the fifth consecutive year at Agate L., near Medford (OS). Numbers of Snowy Owls, particularly in n. Washington, surpassed anything in memory of presently active observers and seems to have been comparable to the great invasions in 1916-17 and 1917-18 mentioned in the literature. There were up to 100 of these great owls on the Samish Flats in early January, decreasing to 40 or so by the end of the month, and to 20 or so by the end of the report period (NL, *fide* TW); 107 Snowy Owls were recorded on the Ladner CBC, 32 on the Bellingham CBC, 79 on the Samish Isl. CBC, 25 on the Gray’s Harbor CBC. Individuals were seen at many localities s. through the Puget Sound and Willamette Valley trough to Eugene where there were at least four during

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January. Birds were also seen on the coast at Ocean Shores, Tillamook, Newport, Waldport and Florence, Oreg., through March. A Great Gray Owl spent the winter e. of Sedro Wooley, Wash., until early March (Wash. State Game Dept., TW *et al*.). Long-eared Owls turned up at the w. Oregon locations of Dallas, Finley N.W.R., Cottage Grove and Medford. Short-eared Owls seem to have been well represented, at least until mid-January, on the e. side of Puget Sound and in the Willamette Valley; *68* were listed for the Sauvie 1 CBC. A Saw-whet Owl was at Siltcoos L. near Florence, Dec. 27 (AC *et al*.). A **Com. Nighthawk** was seen at Federal Way, Wash., on the afternoon of Feb. 15; the observer’s attention was first drawn to the bird by the familiar call note and it was discovered in flight about 100 ft. away, perhaps 40 ft. in the air over a field area for about a half-minute before it disappeared (BB). During the week of March 23-30, *three* nighthawks were heard but not seen from a boat cruising the San Juan and Gulf Is. (DH, *fide* TW). Is it possible that individual nighthawks occasionally pass the winter in our Region by becoming torpid as other members of their family are known to ‘hibernate’? Anna’s Hummingbirds seem to have been more prevalent at Victoria than anywhere else during the winter season; 13 were recorded for the CBC there, all at Saanich; five feeders there were regularly visited through most of the winter by one, two or three birds; some of the visitors did not appear until February, while others stopped coming anywhere from early February to mid-March (tide M & VG). Other Anna’s Hummingbirds were seen at Siltcoos L. near Florence, Oreg. Mar. 17 (AC), at Seattle Feb. 25 (DC *fide* PM); a pair was at Ferndale, Wash., through December, and a male was noted at Bellingham Jan. 21 (TW). A “great migration” of Rufous Hummingbirds was evident at Coos Bay, after Feb. 1 (HR); “hundreds” were at Siltcoos L. Mar. 17 (AC); one was at a Seattle feeder for several days in January (DC, *fide* PM).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, CORVIDS, PARIDAE — A Say’s Phoebe was found on Sauvie I., Feb. 27 (HN); other single birds were seen at Junction City, Oreg. Mar. 9 and at nearby Eugene ten days later (*fide* LM); one was also seen at Medford in late February, Mar. 3 and Mar. 23 (OS). Violet-green and Tree Swallows arrived almost simultaneously in the Region in mid-March; two Tree Swallows at Finley N.W.R. Feb. 9 (FZ) were thus very early this spring (FZ). Individual Rough-winged Swallows were seen at Florence, Oreg. (RFl, *fide* LM) and at L. Sammamish S.P. in n. Washington (SJ) Mar. 21; another was at Reifel Refuge Mar. 23 (TW). Two pairs of early Barn Swallows were at Medford by Mar. 22 (OS). A Cliff Swallow was watched at close range for some time on the Bellingham waterfront on the surprisingly late date of Dec. 29 (AB *fide* TW); ten were early at Finley N.W.R. Mar. 30 (FZ), while several hundred were at the Fern Ridge Res. dam Apr. 7 (JBC, WE, WT). A Black-billed Magpie was seen at N. Bend, Wash., Jan. 6 (ED’A, *fide* PM). Mountain Chickadees were in Medford, Eugene and Seattle in small numbers during the winter, and at a few other lowland locations as well; one wintered at Aberdeen, Wash. (GH). Two Bushtits were engaged in nest-building at Bellevue, Wash., Feb. 15 (SJ).

NUTHATCHES THROUGH SHRIKES -- Two Pygmy Nuthatches were discovered in Salem in mid-December and remained there through the end of March (AT, RL *et al*.). Two Wrentits were observed at Finley N.W.R., Dec. 23 (FZ). Numbers of Long-billed Marsh Wrens wintered in the vicinity of Bellingham, Victoria and Seattle. An imm. Mockingbird was found at Tacoma, Wash. for the CBC and was still there in apparently weakened condition Jan. 3 (EH). It seemed to a number of observers that Am. Robins wintered in larger numbers than usual in the Willamette Valley. Varied Thrushes were particularly plentiful at Medford all winter (OS). Hermit Thrushes were very scarce, with the Victoria area affording the only repeated sightings. Western Bluebirds were said to be present in good numbers in the Rogue R. valley (OS) where 290 were seen on the Medford CBC, and in the Salem area (RL) this past winter; several flocks of up to ten birds were seen around Corvallis up to Feb. 10 (FZ); Eugene recorded 57 W. Bluebirds for its CBC and two individuals were discovered at Victoria Mar. 31 (M&VG). Three Mountain Bluebirds appeared at Saanich Mar. 26 (RF, *fide* VG). Single Townsend’s Solitaires showed up at several places in the s. Willamette Valley during the winter, at Bellingham for the CBC, at Padilla Bay, Wash., Dec. 23 and at Hobart, Wash., Mar. 31 (SJ). Three were seen on Mt. Finley, Vancouver I., on Feb. 6 (LR, *fide* VG). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher had returned to Roxy Ann Butte near Medford by Mar. 30 (OS). A **White Wagtail** visited the Region for the second consecutive year; the bird was evidently of the *ocularis* race and was discovered near Autzen Stadium at Eugene Feb. 3 by Tom Lund; it was seen by many others subsequently and was successfully photographed. The bird was apparently in the process of changing from juvenal to adult plumage which was quite advanced when the bird was last seen Mar. 26 (*fide* LM). Water Pipits are erratic winter wanderers in



***White Wagtail, Eugene, Ore., Feb. 17, 1974. Photo/ Larry McQueen.***

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this Region; nearly 200 were on Sauvie I. for the CBC, but they had departed by early January (HN); an estimated 100 were on the Skagit Flats, Feb. 9 (BT, *fide* PM) and 75 were at Finley N.W.R., Jan. 1 (FZ). Elsewhere, Water Pipits were seen at widely scattered points in small groups of less than ten. Between four and five score Bohemian Waxwings were at Bellingham through December, but they disappeared until Mar. 18 when 20 were seen there again (TW). At Guemes I., Wash., on Dec. 23 there were 25 Bohemian Waxwings (TW), and at Saanich Dec. 8, four were seen (RS, *fide* VG) with a small flock of Cedar Waxwings. The latter species was little noted this winter, although Salem had a flock of 100 after Jan. 28 (RL). Medford found twelve N Shrikes for its CBC, but curiously none were to be found after Jan. 1 (OS); Northern Shrikes were reported throughout the winter, however, from the Willamette Valley and the Puget Sound lowlands n. to Bellingham, and at Victoria.

VIREOS, WARBLERS, BLACKBIRDS, FINCHES -- Hutton’s Vireo showed up on most of the Region’s CBCs, with 11 at Tillamook apparently the maximum. An early Solitary Vireo appeared at Eugene Mar. 22 (RFI, *fide* LM). There were at least four December records of Orange-crowned Warblers in the s. half of the Region. Migrants were at Eugene in mid- March and on s. Vancouver I. by month’s end. The Gray’s Harbor CBC turned up 185 Yellow-rumped Warblers -- 175 “Myrtles” and 10 “Audubon’s”, a high winter count in this Region. A few Yellow-rumped Warblers were around the Corvallis area after Jan. 1 (FZ), and were to be found on s. Vancouver I. all winter (VG). A very early Black-throated Gray Warbler was seen at Eugene Mar. 29 (LM). Up to four Townsend’s Warblers at a time were found in December or very early January -- mostly on CBCs -- at Victoria, Samish I, Salem, Eugene, Cottage Grove, Oreg. and Medford; the 59 in one loose flock at Tillamook for the CBC repeats a phenomenon which has been observed in March at Tillamook in 1967 and in 1970. Another Regional record for the **Northern Waterthrush** was supplied by the sighting and careful identification of an individual at the Skagit Game Range near Mt. Vernon, Washington, on the surprising date of Jan. 24, 1974, by an observer familiar with the species (AW). A Com. Yellowthroat was seen on the Eugene CBC. From Dec. 1 to Dec. 29 a male Yellow-headed Blackbird frequented the Lummi Flats near Bellingham (TW *et al*.); a female or imm. male of this species was seen several times by different observers at Seattle Feb. 27 - Mar. 21 (*fide* PM). On Mar. 3 there were 125 Tricolored Blackbirds at Medford (OS). A male **N. Oriole** was said to be at Bellingham Dec. 26 (*fide* TW) and the same or another bird was at a suet feeder in Ferndale Dec. 28 (GG, *fide* TW); these may be the first winter season records of N. Oriole for the State of Washington. A Rusty Blackbird was carefully observed in good light at Duncan, B.C. Dec. 23 (VG, RS); another was seen there Mar. 20 (VG). Individual Rusty Blackbirds were also seen on the Saanich Pen. in company with Brewer’s Blackbirds Jan. 17 (V & MG) and near Victoria Jan. 31 & Mar. 9 (VG). Brown-headed Cowbirds wintered in some numbers, as indicated by counts of 50 or more on the Bellingham and Seattle CBCs and the 147 recorded for the Sauvie I. CBC. A male **Western Tanager**, well described, appeared in Eugene for the Dec. 30 CBC there (LH *et al*.). Evening Grosbeaks were in evidence much of the winter at favored spots in the Washington and Oregon lowlands, and by March were being seen more widely in considerable numbers. Numbers of Purple Finches at Olympia built up to 50 by Jan. 1, held at that point for two months, then began to diminish (G & WH). A few individuals were also seen at Seattle after Jan 10 for the rest of the winter (SJ), at Corvallis all winter (FZ), and at Medford after Feb. 8 (S). A male Cassin’s Finch was seen regularly at Eugene Nov. 3 -- Jan 19 (LM *et al*.); one frequented a feeder at Shady Cove, Oreg. on the Rogue R. from mid-February to early March (ABr, *fide* OS), and four pairs were at Tzuhalam Dec. 23 for the first Vancouver I. record (VG, RS). Pine Grosbeaks in small numbers were in the Puget Sound lowlands and the San Juans from December until early February. They were also on Vancouver I. Dec. 27 - Mar. 16 (VG *et al*.) where 26 were recorded on the Victoria CBC. An estimated 100 or so Gray-crowned Rosy Finches in one or two flocks were to be found in Whatcom Co., Wash., next to the Canadian border from Dec. 1 until Feb. 22; they frequented beach and gravel areas; up to 40 were seen on Mary’s Peak w of Corvallis, Feb. 17 (JW, *fide* FZ) and Mar. 16 (WHo, CL *fide* FZ). Pine Siskins, as is their wont, were seen abundantly in some places and not at all in others during the course of the winter; spots favored were S. Vancouver I., Bellingham, Seattle, Gray’s Harbor, Olympia, Portland, and, for a time, Finley N.W.R. Medford listed over 400 Lesser Goldfinches on its CBC. Red Crossbills were much in evidence at places on the Washington coast and in the foothills of the Cascades, but were rather scarce around Puget Sound (EH), except at Olympia in December (GH). They were seen regularly on the n. Oregon coast and on s. Vancouver I. through the season. A female White-winged Crossbill was found at Victoria, Dec. 8 (RS, *fide* VG). Larger-than-normal numbers of Savannah Sparrows appear to have wintered in the s. half of the Region, particularly in the Willamette Valley, with reports of up to 35 birds for a given locality. A Vesper Sparrow appeared at Finley N.W.R. Mar. 25 (FZ). A Lark Sparrow was at Saanich Dec. 5 (KM, *fide* VG), another was at Corvallis, Dec 29 (FR, *fide* FZ), and eight were noted on the Medford CBC. Three Tree Sparrows were found at Seattle for the CBC and one or more were seen there until the last week of March (EH et at.). A Tree Sparrow was at Sauvie I., Jan. 19 (HN, CS) and another was at Duncan during all of March (JCo). Two Chipping Sparrows wintered in Eugene (LM), where a **Clay-colored Sparrow** was also found on Feb. 2 and was seen until at least Mar. 8 by many observers. The bird was in a large flock of juncos and other sparrows and constitutes the first Oregon record of which we know. Two of the three Harris’ Sparrows were to be found off and on during the winter on n. Washington’s Lummi and Skagit Flats (EH, NL *et al*.); a bird was also seen at Saanich Jan 29 (V & MG). Reports were received of up to a score of White-throated Sparrows from Victoria s. to Eugene at various times during the winter; five were found for the CBC at the latter place. Fox Sparrows were well rep-

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***A Clay-colored Sparrow, Eugene, Ore., Feb. 8, 1974. Photo/Larry McQueen.***

resented on most of the Region’s CBCs. Lincoln’s Sparrows were reported singly or in pairs from Bellingham s. through the Puget Sound and Willamette Valley through to Corvallis and Eugene, where eight and six individuals, respectively, were listed for the CBCs at those two places; single birds were also noted at Saanich, Feb. 9, and at Victoria and Tillamook for the CBCs. A light, bright-colored Song Sparrow thought to be of an eastern subspecies wintered at Eugene until Mar. 8 (LM). Lapland Longspurs were found in numbers up to 40 at the Lummi Flats in December and after that in fewer numbers (JD *fide* TW); three were at the Samish R. mouth, Mar. 8 (NL), three were at Ocean Shores, for the Dec. 16 CBC, and one was at Fern Ridge Res. Dec. 30 for the Eugene CBC. On Dec. 1 there were 225 Snow Buntings on the Lummi Flats where 109 were recorded for the Bellingham CBC; they disappeared shortly afterward. Ocean Shores found 25 Snow Buntings for the CBC and Tillamook listed two for its count. Otherwise, Snow Buntings were seen in no greater numbers than three at Victoria several times in December, at Seattle in late February, at Samish I., Mar. 1, and on Great Chain I., Feb. 21 & Mar. 2.

OBSERVERS -- Range Bayer; Alex Benedict; Blair Bernson; Ann Briggs (ABr); Wayne Campbell; David Chelimer; John Comer (JCo); Alan Contreras; John B. Crowell; Ellie D’Arms; David Dudley; Jim Duemmel; William Elliot; Randy Floyd (RFI); Ralph Fryer; George Gleason; Vic & Margaret Goodwill; Dennis Heinemann; Wayne Hoffman (WHo); Glen & Wanda Hoge; Larry Holbrook; Eugene Hunn; Stuart Johnston; Norman Lavers; C. Littlefield; Robert Lucas; Phil Mattocks; Ken Mayall; Thomas McCamant; Larry McQueen; Harry Nehls; Dennis Paulson; G. A. Poynter; Fred Ramsey; Hilda Reiher; Dick Reynolds; Leila Roberts; Ron Satterfield; Michael Scott; Chuck Smith; Ernie Spragg; Otis Swisher; William Thackaberry; Augusta Thompson; Bill Twitte; Terry Wahl; Arthur Wang; Wayne Weber; Sally Weick; John White; Fred Zeillemaker.

*Spring Migration, 1974*

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**

**/ Thomas H. Rogers**

The spring period began with good reserves of moisture both in the soil and as very heavy snow pack in the mountains. April precipitation was above normal and temperatures were cool, with a few exceptions. Spokane and Missoula were rather dry with normal temperatures while Helena and Bozeman had mild conditions. A warming trend began late in the month but from about May 10-20 spring had a severe setback over nearly all the Region. Baker, Ore. averaged 12°F. below normal and some southern British Columbia localities had the coldest May on record. Most of the month’s moisture fell during this chilly period, as rain in the lower valleys and more snow in the mountains. by the end of the month temperatures had risen to about normal. However, the weather left its mark on the migration in at least some localities. Bozeman reported many early arrivals in April but the May stormy period grounded or displaced many birds. A similar situation was observed at Suttle L. in the mountains west of Sisters, Ore. About half the displacement reports were for the storm period, with the next highest number coming before May, one in May before the storm period and two, after it. Reporters at some other localities considered that the storm had delayed or prolonged the migration. The outlook for summer looked excellent at the end of May, with vegetative growth abundant, water levels high and much snow yet in the mountains, and, barring floods, highly favorable feeding and nesting conditions seemed in store.

LOONS AND GREBES -- Common Loon were migrating through beginning Mar. 30 at Pocatello. Single birds appeared at unusual localities: Salmon, Ida., Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., and Reardan, Wash., all in April. The Red-necked Grebe was noted only at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., and at Newman L. and Reardan, Wash. A Horned Grebe near Baker was Ann Ward’s first since 1956 in e. Oregon. A peak of 120 W. Grebes was noted on L. Lowell in the Nampa, Ida. area May 18. The peak at Malheur N.W.R. was 2440, up about 50 per cent over 1973. One at Ennis, Mont., Apr. 20 tied the early record there.

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS -- White Pelicans were noted mostly in s. Idaho and c. Oregon. At Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., the peak of 1500 contrasted with 600 last year. The birds built up to 100 in May on Helena Valley Reservoir, where they do not breed. Double-crested Cormorants were reported at Helena and Three Forks, Mont., Malheur N.W.R. and

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at Minidoka N.W.R. in s. Idaho where 150 nests were noted. A **Green Heron** at Pocatello May 5 was the third in two years there (RO). A Snowy Egret was observed at L. Helena May 5 (SM) and two Black-crowned Night Herons were there Apr. 20 (LB & GH). Eleven White-faced Ibis were seen along the Raft R. south of Minidoka, Ida. Apr. 29 and one adult was observed for a week in mid-May near Reardan, Wash. (TF, WH, JA *et al*.) The species was reported breeding at Market L. in the Minidoka area, the first breeding record for the state (CHT). A high breeding population was reported at Malheur N.W.R.

WATERFOWL -- Seven Mute Swans were seen again this year east of Bozeman (PDS). They are suspected of coming from Livingston. A like number was seen on the Snake R. near Baker, Ore. Mar. 10 (AS). Twenty-eight Trumpeter Swans wintered at Turnbull NWR., Cheney, Wash. Three, two of which had been shot, were found dead in the area. The White-fronted Goose was reported only from the LaGrande, Ore. area. A single Ross’ Goose was at Turnbull N.W.R. in April Thirty-two Snow Geese stopped briefly near Baker. Mallard numbers were up at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash. but Am. Wigeon were down. The former species peaked at 1400 at Turnbull. A male Eur. Wigeon was seen in the Spangle, Wash. vicinity Apr. 3 (WH). American Wigeon and Ruddy Duck numbers dropped from last year at McNary N.W.R. Probably 1000 of the latter were on Soap L., Grant Co., Wash. Apr 13 and about the same number was the peak at Turnbull N.W.R. in late April. A single White-winged Scoter was reported at Coolin on Priest L. in n. Idaho May 30 and four were at Turnbull N.W.R. May 24. A pair of Hooded Mergansers was on the Jefferson R., Broadwater Co., Mont. Apr. 20. The species is unusual there. A Red-breasted Merganser at Salmon, Ida., was Roberts’ first ever observation there. *Fifteen* were seen on Banks L., Grant Co., Wash., Apr. 13.

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- Turkey Vultures were reported from ten localities, mostly in the western and southern part of the Region. Goshawks were seen at nest sites in May in the Bozeman area and a pair at Sunriver, Ore. was suspected of nesting. Very few Sharp-shinned and Cooper’s Hawks were reported. A few of the latter were noted in the Spokane area and they were at nest sites in the Bozeman area in May. Two of the scarce Ferruginous Hawk appeared near Mansfield, Wash. Mar. 24 (early). The species was also seen m the Kennewick and Yakima, Wash. areas, near Baker and at Malheur N.W.R. Incubating birds were found in mid-April in the Pocatello area. Of seventeen nests found in that area along Little Lost R. none were active May 28, which has been the situation for the last three years, reason unknown. Some nesting activity by Golden Eagles was observed in c. Oregon but Jim Anderson, an eagle bander for years in the area, found many nests unsuccessful this year for unknown reasons. A Bald Eagle nest site was located at Suttle L. northwest of Sisters, Ore. The principal concentration of Ospreys was in n. Idaho, around Priest L. and the Chatcolet L. - St. Jo R. area. The Prairie Falcon was reported only in s.c. Montana, n.e. Oregon and c. Washington. The only Merlin sightings were in the mountains of n.w. Montana and in s.c. Oregon.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Sharp-tailed Grouse were reported only in the Nampa, Ida. area and south of Creston, Wash. The Sage Grouse colony at the latter locality remained steady, with 30 males strutting Apr. 13. The species was noted at Salmon and Rupert, Ida. The Turkey was observed on Bozeman Pass east of Bozeman and at Salmon, where the birds were rare but increasing. Recently introduced Ring-necked and Japanese Green Pheasants were decreasing at Kootenai N.W.R. where habitat is marginal.

CRANES -- By early May the breeding population of Sandhill Cranes, subspecies *tabida*, reached 600 at Grays L., Caribou and Bonneville Co., Ida. and over 50 nests were checked May 10. This is the largest known nesting concentration of the subspecies in North America. At Malheur N.W.R. the first chicks were off the nest May 4. Farther west migrants were moving through, with a lower than usual 600 near St. Andrews, Douglas Co., Wash. Apr. 13 and smaller numbers elsewhere.

SHOREBIRDS -- A Snowy Plover was observed at Rupert, Ida. Apr. 11 and another at Malheur N.W.R. May 19. A **Ruddy Turnstone** at Malheur N.W.R. May 19 was the first ever there. Seventy-five Long-billed Curlews were counted Apr. 18 near Baker, Ore. A **Whimbrel** was positively identified at Summer L., Lake Co., Ore. Apr. 9 & 14 (JJ). The tiny colony of Upland Sandpipers at Newman L. junction east of Spokane was still holding on, with two birds seen in mid-May, the only ones reported for the Region. A **Red Knot** at Malheur N.W.R. May 19 was the third ever there. A very few Dunlin were observed in Washington. Singles were seen at Davenport, Reardan and St. Andrews and three were at Mabton. Three **Short-billed Dowitchers** were identified at Market L., Roberts, Ida. May 27 (MRC). Seven Marbled Godwits were sighted near Genesee, Ida. Apr. 28 (JWW). Two Black-necked Stilt appeared at Malheur N.W.R. Apr. 24.

GULLS AND TERNS: -- An ad. Glaucous-winged Gull appeared along the Columbia R. about ten mi. east of The Dalles, Ore. Apr. 5 (MRC). California and Ring-billed Gull hatching was occurring the second week of May, two weeks late, in the Pocatello area. Franklin’s Gull appeared to continue its upswing in numbers at Malheur N.W.R., with over 1000 nests predicted. A very few Bonaparte’s Gulls were seen in s. Idaho, e. Oregon and Washington and at Central Park east of Bozeman, Mont. The latter sighting was on a record early date, Apr. 20. About 35 pairs of Caspian Terns were nesting on an island in the Columbia R. north of Richland, Wash.

PIGEONS AND OWLS -- Single **Band-tailed Pigeons** appeared at four localities. One was seen May 13 at Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery on the Metolius R. northwest of Sisters, Ore. Workers there said it had been there several days (JM). One was at Malheur N.W.R. May 18; this is only the eighth record there. One was

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seen near Tower Mt. just southeast of Spokane May 21 and apparently furnishes the fourth record for the Spokane area (WH). At Pullman, Wash. one appeared in a city yard Apr. 8 (ROw). A Flammulated Owl was studied at very short range at 6000 ft. in Cassia Co., Ida. May 21 (WS). Barn Owls, reported only at Rupert, Ida. appeared less common there. A Snowy Owl was still near Harrington, Wash. Apr. 13. One stayed even later at McNary N.W.R., where it had remained since Apr. 19 and was found oil-soaked from unknown causes May 29 and was taken to Pioneer Park, Walla Walla for cleaning and care. Two remained near Vernon, B.C. until May 5. In the Pullman-Moscow area at least nine were present, one remaining until May 19. Burrowing Owls were seen in several localities in e. Oregon and Washington and s. Idaho. At Rupert more nesting than usual was noted. The Great Gray Owl was again reported from the foothills south of Bozeman and single Saw-whet Owls were noted at Sunriver and Malheur N.W.R.

POORWILLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS -- Single Poor-wills were seen in the Nampa area Apr. 28 & May 24, at Malheur N.W.R. May 28 and in Moses Coulee west of Coulee City, Wash. May 10. Twenty Vaux’s Swifts over the cliffs along the s. fork of the Snake R. in s.e. Idaho Apr. 21, although not known previously to breed there, make this a strong possibility (CHT). Some 400-500 of the birds entered a chimney at Whitman College, Walla Walla May 19 (SMu & CS). A White-throated Swift at Asotin May 12 was Weber’s first sighting in Asotin and Whitman Co., Wash. Black-chinned Hummingbirds showed up at several points in the extreme western part of the Region. They were seen repeatedly at Walla Walla and single birds were sighted at Yakima, “Tri-cities” (Pasco-Richland-Kennewick, Wash.) and Baker. A male Rufous Hummingbird was seen near Livingston, Mont. in late May. They are rare there in spring (UC).

WOODPECKERS -- Scant numbers of Lewis’ Woodpeckers were reported from many localities, with Salmon, Ida. the only place noting them as common. For the second year one was seen near headquarters at Crater Lake N. P. during the spring. Williamson’s Sapsucker was reported only from the Prineville, Ore. area and the White-headed Woodpecker only from that area, nearby Sunriver and in the Wenatchee area. The Black-backed Woodpecker was found in the Sunriver area and in last year’s burn on the west edge of Spokane.

FLYCATCHERS -- May 10 was a record early date for the E. Kingbird in Gallatin Co., Mont. The Ash-throated Flycatcher was noted only at Bend and Malheur N.W.R., Ore. A migrating concentration of Hammond’s and Dusky Flycatchers was found at Davenport, Wash. May 25. In the open farm country of c. Washington patches of deciduous trees in towns and moist spots seem to act as oases for migrants. Several singing males and nesting pairs of Gray Flycatchers were again seen northwest of Yakima along Wenas Creek and in Hardy Canyon and the birds were found in Klickitat Co. north of Goldendale, Wash. in the same area as last year. An Olive-sided Flycatcher appeared May 24 in the Tri-cities, an unusual locality (EM).

LARKS AND SWALLOWS -- A Horned Lark nest with three eggs was found Apr. 13 near Ringold, Wash. Most species of swallows at Malheur N.W.R. were up to a week early and at Three Forks, Mont. the Rough-winged set a record early date of Apr. 20. Three Barn Swallows were at Prineville, Ore. on the surprising date of Mar. 23, the same arrival as Violet-greens. The former species posted an early arrival date, Apr 22 at Charlo, Mont. and in Gallatin Co., Mont., Apr. 18. Most species were nesting before the end of the spring period.

JAYS THROUGH CREEPERS -- A **Blue Jay** remained for two hours in a deciduous grove about five mi. northwest of Pocatello Apr. 7 before flying off west (CHT). A Steller’s Jay nest with young was discovered at Sunriver, Ore. May 31 and young Black-billed Magpies in the nest were found there the last week of May Young of the latter were just out of the nest at Yakima May 25. A Com. Raven nest atop a tower at Yakima Firing Range contained six young Apr. 20. A pair of Mountain Chickadees nesting in a birdhouse near Spokane had young several days old May 31 The Common Bushtit was noted at Bend, Ore. Apr. 11 Two White-breasted Nuthatches were still at Kamiak Butte, Whitman Co., Wash. Apr. 13 and single sightings were made Apr. 21 near Swan Valley on the South Fork of the Snake R. and May 29 on Scout Mt. near Pocatello They are rare in these areas. A Red-breasted Nuthatch was feeding a well-fledged young near Coeur d’Alene Apr. 28. A Brown Creeper was sighted on two dates m May at Malheur N.W.R., where it is listed as rare.

DIPPERS THROUGH THRUSHES -- Dippers went almost unobserved. In the Yakima area the high, muddy Tieton and Naches Rivers were given as the reason for their absence. The Winter Wren was found on Kamiak Butte, Apr. 24, near Sunriver May 2 and sang regularly along a stream on Tower Mt near Spokane during April and May. A **Mockingbird** showed up at Rupert, Ida. May 19 (WS). A Gray Catbird finally appeared at Vernon, BC May 31, about two weeks late and the species had not been observed yet at Baker. One at Salmon, Ida May 30 furnished a rare sighting. The earliest Sage Thrasher observation was at Malheur N.W.R. Mar. 29, about normal. Two Varied Thrushes stayed from about Mar 31 to Apr. 7 near Spring Hill north of Bozeman. This is only the second record of the species for that area (P, *fide* CVD). Hermit Thrushes were migrating Apr 2, when one was seen at Pocatello, until the end of the period. Up to six were found at the cemetery in Davenport May 18. Mountain Bluebird sightings much outnumbered those for the Western and their numbers looked fairly good. A group of at least 11 Townsend’s Solitaires was found feeding in juniper on the MSU campus in Bozeman.

PIPITS THROUGH WARBLERS -- Water Pipits were detected moving into the Region in very small numbers in s. Idaho and e. Oregon and Washington.

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The earliest sighting was of four near Springfield, Ida. Mar 9. The Starling success story included an account of the birds moving into a colony of old Rough-winged Swallow holes at Pocatello. Fifteen nests there averaged 6-7 young per nest. There was no dearth of warblers, including the Bluelisted Yellow, which seemed to be having no problems. A **Black-and-white Warbler** was heard singing at Helena May 16 (PM). Virginia’s Warbler was recorded at Rupert and a **Magnolia Warbler** observed at close range at Helena May 24 was a rare find (PM). A **Black-throated Gray Warbler** was sifted out of an outstanding warbler movement in the Davenport, Wash. cemetery May 18 and was examined again next day (WH & JA). Two days earlier cold snowy weather grounded a massive group of warblers at Suttle L. northwest of Sisters, Ore., with 20 Townsend’s and 50 **Hermit Warblers** the more interesting ones (JM). A male **Blackpoll Warbler** was carefully identified at close range in Bozeman May 19. This is the first record for anywhere near there (DQ & MQ). Another male was positively identified at Malheur N.W.R. May 27-29 and constitutes the second record for the refuge and the state (JF). The N. Waterthrush was first seen at Bozeman May 27 and was not reported elsewhere.

HOUSE SPARROWS AND BLACKBIRDS -- A large winter die-off of House Sparrows left the population low at Pocatello. *Coccidiosis* was suspected. Bobolinks arrived at Malheur N.W.R. May 13, at Central Park east of Bozeman May 24, at Charlo, Mont., where they seem to be increasing, May 23, and at Rigby, Ida. May 31. They were not noted elsewhere. A concentration of migrating Yellow-headed Blackbirds numbering at least 500 was seen at ponds in the Four Lakes area, Spokane Co. Apr. 27. March 31 was a record early date for the species when a male appeared at Three Forks, Mont. An **Orchard Oriole** visited a feeder in Walla Walla Apr. 30 and perhaps the same bird was seen along a nearby stream May 24-27 (CM, JM & SMu) A **Common Grackle** appeared Apr. 15 along the Columbia R. at Umatilla, Ore. (MRC).

FINCHES -- Evening Grosbeak numbers built up during April and peaked in May in good numbers. Most localities experienced their decline or disappearance by the end of May but the birds were still in Bozeman then and were common yet at Missoula, Pocatello and in the Nampa area. A flock of about 30 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches frequenting the cliffs high above Park L., Grant Co, Wash. Apr. 13 were extremely late for this elevation (JA). A mixed flock of this species and **Black Rosy Finches** was seen in the Gallatin Valley south of Bozeman May 21 (ETH & RAH). About 50 of the former were seen at the 8000 ft. level at Bannock Pass southeast of Salmon, Ida. May 23. The birds were abundant from 6500 ft. up at Crater Lake N. P. as receding snow left bare ground. Very few Red Crossbill reports were received, these mostly at Pullman, Wash. where they were plentiful and in the Spokane area, where some nested nearby, bringing in their families. Three birds at Lavington, B.C. May 7 completed the picture. Amazingly, White-winged Crossbills featured nearly as many reports. Two were still at Kamiak Butte north of Pullman Apr. 13 and a small group lingered in the cemetery at Bozeman at least to May 9, a late date.

SPARROWS -- Single male Lark Buntings were found north of Bozeman May 17 and south up the Gallatin Canyon about May 18 and the species was reported at Rupert, Ida. May 22 (WS). The scarce Grasshopper Sparrow was reported only near Pocatello and at Turnbull N.W.R. Clay-colored Sparrows were on the breeding grounds east of Manhattan, Mont. on the record early date of May 10. White-crowned Sparrow numbers were large, particularly in the w. part of the Region. At Malheur N.W.R. 300 were recorded Apr. 26 and “huge numbers” were reported for Prineville. At Sunriver 761 were banded, much above last year’s number but only 16 Golden-crowned Sparrows, usually running 10 per cent of the White-crowned, were banded (GM). The species was noted at several other localities in e. Oregon and Washington. A White-throated Sparrow, Ann Ward’s first ever at Baker, Ore., was present May 23 and a very early Fox Sparrow was there Feb. 28. Two breeding territories of Lincoln’s Sparrow were noted at Suttle L. northwest of Sisters, Ore. The only Lapland Longspurs reported were two near Creston, Wash. Apr. 12. Four Snow Buntings were seen Mar. 24 near Mansfield, Wash.

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*Spring Migration, 1974*

**NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION**

**John B. Crowell, Jr. and Harry B. Nehls**

April and May brought approximately average temperatures and rainfall to the Region after almost six months of considerably-above-average precipitation. The snowpack in the Cascades and in the mountain ranges to the east which contribute run-off to the Columbia River system were at near record levels as the report period ended.

LOONS, GREBES, PELAGICS, HERONS: -- Two Com. Loons were seen at Cottage Grove, Ore., Apr. 28 (AC, SG). Two individuals of this species were seen at Matheson L., Vancouver I., B.C., May 18, one sitting on a nest (VG); Common Loons nested at the same location last year. Hundreds of Arctic Loons were in the waters surrounding s. Vancouver I. through April. with a few individuals still present at the end of May (VG). Red-throated Loons were seen in small numbers in coastal areas of the s. portion of the Region through the third week of May. Two Red-necked Grebes at Yaquina Bay, Ore. May 26 (PR, *fide* FZ) were unusually late, as was the individual at Tillamook, Ore., May 12 (JG) and the Horned Grebe at Ocean Shores, Wash., May 26 (JM). Eared Grebes were to be found about s. Vancouver I., up to May 12 (VG). A. W. Grebe at Fern Ridge Res. near Eugene, Ore., May 19 (LM) was a bit out of the ordinary. but matched last year’s similar record. A boat trip out of Westport, Wash., May 19 turned up 14 Black-footed Albatrosses, one N. Fulmar, 27 Pink-footed Shearwaters, four Flesh-footed Shearwaters, and up to 10,000 Sooty Shearwaters (TW *et al*.). A freshly-dead Short-tailed Shearwater was found on the beach at Westport, May 12; the specimen was forwarded to Point Reyes Bird Observatory (SJ, BT). Single Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels were discovered at the mouth of the Columbia R. May 10 (HN), and- this one dead -- at Ocean Shores May 20 (JM); over *200* individuals were seen on the boat trip from Westport, May 19 (TW *et al*.). Green Herons were reported in six different w. Washington localities and at five different spots in w.

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Oregon during the report period:, which is a better-than-usual representation. A Great Egret was at Eugene, Apr. 6 (AC). *Seven* ad. Black-crowned Night Herons were found at Salem May 14 (JG), an immature was noted at Finley N.W.R.s. of Corvallis, Ore., May 26 (FZ), and another individual was discovered at Kalaloch, Wash., May 19 (CW, *fide* TW). An Am. Bittern was found repeatedly at Seattle Apr. 25-May 8 (SJ, EH, PM); the first at Finley N.W.R. was seen Apr. 16 (RR, *fide* FZ), where possibly two pairs were present during May (FZ); three individuals were found at Scappoose, Ore., May 18 (JG) and single birds were at Sauvie I., Apr. 20 (HN) and at Cottage Grove May 11 (AC, SG).

WATERFOWL -- A lone Whistling Swan was at Finley N.W.R. Apr. 25 (FZ), one day earlier than last year’s similar record. Canada Geese were migrating through the s. half of the Region from the second week of April to mid-May; large numbers passed up the Washington coast (JM); the wintering population of the Dusky subspecies left the Willamette Valley refuges between Apr. 19 and Apr. 23 (FZ). Two Brant were found at the s. jetty area of the Columbia R. mouth May 4 (HN *et al*.); an adult was found and photographed there May 22 (HN). Seven Brant were photographed in a flock of Black Brant at Dungeness, Wash., Apr. 7 (MC). A flock of 2500 Black Brant was seen at Ocean Shores Apr. 13 (EH, GH, JM); 4000 were at Tofino, B.C., May 2 (JCo). A single Black Brant at Finley N.W.R. Apr. 25-May 23 (FZ) was quite unusual.



***Brant, Columbia River, south jetty, May 22, 1974. Harry Nehls.***

White-fronted Geese were migrating from early April until the third week in May with flocks up to 500 at Finley N.W.R. during that period (FZ) being the largest observed assemblages. Single Snow Geese appeared at Finley N.W.R., Apr. 13-23 (FZ), at Victoria, B.C., Apr. 14 (MC), at Ocean City, Wash., Apr. 19 (JM) and at Duncan, B.C. May 3 (JCo); three were noted at Seattle Apr. 23 (EH). A **Ross’ Goose** was reported at Ankeny N.W.R., in Oregon’s Willamette Valley, May 14-15 (DP, *fide* FZ), for the first w. Oregon and second Regional records of which we have knowledge. Four pairs of possibly breeding Gadwall were at Seattle during the spring (EH). Up to a dozen Gadwall frequented the Saanich Pen., Vancouver I., Apr 6-29 (RS; V & MG); one was at Ocean Shores May 11 (EH, JM). Eight Pintail were seen at Cowichan Bay, Vancouver I., May 19 (RS, *fide* VG). Individual males of the Eurasian Green-winged Teal were noted at Baskett Slough N.W.R., Apr. 27 (FZ) and at Tsehum Harbor, B.C. from the beginning of the report period to Apr. 25 (VG, RS). Late Am. Green-winged Teal were three individuals at Fern Ridge Res. May 19 (AC). Up to four Blue-winged Teal were seen at Finley N.W.R., at Ocean Shores, at Tillamook and at Seattle Apr. 25-May 21; 22 males were to be found at Saanich Apr. 27-May 28 (V & MG, RS). Up to three Eur. Wigeon were at Saanich until Apr. 29 (VG), while a single male lingered at Ocean Shores until May 11 (EH, JM), apparently a record late date for the Region. Seven pairs of N. Shovelers were counted at Duncan, B.C., May 30 where three days earlier a female with seven young had been observed (JCo). The 200 individual shovelers at Fern Ridge Res. Apr. 6 (AC) was a large concentration for w. Oregon, and the five individuals at Westport May 12 (SJ) were late. Two Redhead at Fern Ridge Res. Apr. 15 (JG) and one at Ocean Shores May 11 (EH, JM) are both noteworthy records, as is the Ring-necked Duck at Ridgefield N.W.R., Ridgefield, Wash., May 11 (JW, *fide* PM). A Tufted Duck was found at Ladner, B.C., Apr. 27 (TW). A surprisingly late record of a pair of Com. Goldeneye at Fish L. on Oregon’s Santiam Highway would be regarded with incredulity except for the fact that two male Barrow’s Goldeneyes (which species has probably bred there in the past were also present for the four observers (AC, SG, MPa, PT). An imm. male Com. Goldeneye was at Seattle on the late date of May 20 and another male was at Cowichan Bay, Vancouver I., May 19 (RS, *fide* VG). Seven Barrow’s Goldeneyes were noted at Seattle on the late date of May 3 (SJ). The last Bufflehead records for the season are of four individuals at Oak Bay, Victoria. May 25 (VG, RS) and an unspecified remnant still present May 27 of what had been up to 90 birds present at Seattle from Apr. 3 (SJ). Oldsquaw were present in numbers up to 100 in a day of birding along the s. side of the Straits of Juan de Fuca, Apr. 7-9 (MC); an individual was at Yaquina Bay, Apr. 17 (FZ), and at Seattle Apr. 8 (SJ); Oldsquaw were common during April around s. Vancouver I. (VG). Surf Scoters were migrating in large numbers past the Columbia R. the last week of April and the first week of May, with an estimated 1500 per hour flying past for part of the day on May 4 (HN). A group of 14 Black Scoters were seen there that day (HN); three Black Scoters were still at Tillamook Bay May 18 (JBC, RFi). A male Com. Merganser was seen on the Winchuck R. in s.w. Oregon, Apr. 27 (AC). On the same date, an unusual concentration of 137 Red-breasted Mergansers was counted at Victoria (VG, RS), while on May 24 a late pair was seen at the same place (RM-G *fide* VG).

HAWKS, GAMEBIRDS, RAILS -- Goshawks were recorded during the report period at Cottage Grove, May 11 (CWa, SG, *fide* AC), at Ridgefield, Wash., Apr. 12 (G & WH), at Seattle, May 2 (EH), at Redmond and Issaquah, Wash., May 5 (EH, BT), and at Hart L., Wash., May 25 (EH). Only ten sightings of Sharp-shinned Hawks and fewer than that of Cooper’s Hawks

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were reported, with one probable nesting record of the latter coming from s. Vancouver I. Reports of Swainson’s Hawks seen during the report period came from Saanich, Apr. 12 (VG, RS), from near Warrenton, Ore., on the coast, May 4 (RL), and from Ridgefield N.W.R., May 11 (JW, *fide* PM). There was considerable overflow from the wintering population of Rough-legged Hawks, with a consequent record number of spring-season sightings occurring from Eugene n. to Bellingham; birds at Ocean Shores and L. Tenell near Bellingham May 12 and at Cathlamet, Wash., May 11 were the last. Three ad. Golden Eagles were seen e. of Ashland, Ore., May 24, and two were seen not far away the next day (OS); an individual at Finley N.W.R. Apr. 8 “eventually soared off with passing vultures” (FZ). Two ad. Golden Eagles were seen regularly in the Malahat Dist. n. of Victoria during the spring (RS, VG); one was noted at Sidney I. off s. Vancouver I. May 5 (RG, *fide* VG). Bald Eagles were observed at three locations in w. Oregon and at five locations in w. Washington at various times during the report period. Ospreys were noted at eleven different locations, a few of which were nest sites, not quite so good a showing as last year, but nevertheless encouraging. No reports of Peregrine sightings were received. Merlins were observed singly at Fern Ridge Res., Finley N.W.R., Corvallis, Ocean Shores, Victoria and Saanich between Apr. 11 and May 9. At least nine Sandhill Cranes were seen at Sauvie I., w. of Portland, Apr. 6 where some were heard but not seen on Apr. 20. (HN, CS); 68 birds of this species were at Cape Flattery, Wash., Apr. 24 (DP, *fide* PM) and a single individual turned up near Saanich Apr. 28 - 29 (RS, *fide* VG). Virginia Rails were noted singly at a few favored spots, but Soras were more widely recorded, with two at Cottage Grove, May 11 (MPa, *fide* AC), one at Banks, Ore., May 12 and five at Scappoose, Ore., May 18 (JG) being of particular interest. The last Am. Coot departed Finley N.W.R. May 22 (FZ).

SHOREBIRDS -- On Apr. 23 there were *500* Semipalmated Plovers at Ocean City (JM); a bird of this species was still at Finley N.W.R. May 26 (FZ). Snowy Plovers in number up to three, were noted at Tillamook, at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., and at Ocean Shores Apr. 24-May 22. On Apr. 7 two Am. Golden Plover were discovered at Dungeness (MC) and on Apr. 28 a bird was observed at Coos Bay (AC, SG). A late Black-bellied Plover was at Finley N.W.R. May 18 and a late Surfbird was at Westport May 12. At Gray’s Harbor there were 11 Ruddy Turnstones May 12 (SJ, BT) and at Victoria there were up to that many May 1-16 (VG *et al*.). Three Black Turnstones still at Kalaloch, Wash., May 19 (TW) were late. A Long-billed Curlew was at Samish I., Wash., Apr. 12 (NL, *fide* TW). Whimbrel occurred in possibly record concentrations, the 300 at Tofino May 2 (JCo), 100 at the Samish Flats near Bellingham May 9 (NL, *fide* TW), 70 at Bellingham May 5 (TW), 35 at Blaine, Wash., May 12 (JD, *fide* TW), 31 at Nehalem, Ore., May 18 (JBC, RFi) and 16 at Tillamook May 12 (JG) all being of interest. Whimbrels were seen repeatedly at Ocean Shores after Apr. 10 to the end of the report period, with 25 birds being the maximum (JM). Individual Solitary Sandpipers appeared May 2-11 at Seattle; Burlington, Wash.; Corvallis; Finley N.W.R. and Saanich; a bird was seen again at Saanich May 22. These sightings together represent the largest number and widest geographic dispersion of Solitary Sandpipers ever experienced in the Region during a single report period. Wandering Tattlers were at coastal points in the Region Apr. 27-May 26, the maximum for a single day being 15 at Ocean Shores May 11 (EH, JM). A Willet was found at Tokeland, Wash., May 12 (SJ, BT). The 100 Greater Yellowlegs at Finley N.W.R., in late April (FZ) was an unusually large concentration for this Region, with few reports coming this season from other places; the last sighting for this species was on May 8 at Saanich (V & MG). Lesser Yellowlegs were seen only singly or in pairs at six scattered locations Apr. 13-May 11 Red Knots appeared in the Region this spring in a number of impressive concentrations; there were 250 at Ocean Shores Apr. 23 where 800 were found May 11 (EH, JM), 125 were at Gray’s Harbor May 12 (SJ, BT). A total of 82 Rock Sandpipers was counted at Victoria May 6 (RS, *fide* VG); one was at Ocean Shores May 11 (JM) The only Pectoral Sandpiper reported this spring was one at Brownsville, Ore., May 3 (HT, *fide* FZ). Baird’s Sandpipers were noted several times; two were at the s jetty of the Columbia R., Apr. 27 and six were there May 3 (BL, HN); single individuals were seen at Ocean Shores May 8 (JM) and May 12 (GH, JM). Least Sandpipers reached a peak number of 400 at Finley N.W.R. in April (FZ); 1500 were seen at Metchosin, B.C., May 2-4 (VG *et al*.). There were approximately 1000 Dunlin at Finley N.W.R. through part of April, with the last bird being seen May 5 (FZ); at the s. jetty of the Columbia, there were 800 Dunlin Apr. 27 (HN). Hundreds of Short-billed Dowitchers were at Ocean Shores in late April and early May, where the first five individuals of the season had appeared on Apr. 13 (JM); the species was also recorded at the s. jetty of the Columbia R, at Westport, at Seattle, and at Victoria in numbers up to 54 between Apr. 2 and May 22. Long-billed Dowitchers first showed up at Ocean Shores May 8 where 100 were present three days later (EH, JM); an estimated *13-15,000* “mostly if not all” Long-billeds were at Tofino, B.C., May 2 (JCo). Long-billed Dowitchers were also noted at Finley N.W.R., at Tillamook, at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., at Gray’s Harbor, at Seattle, at Metchosin, B.C., and at Saanich in numbers up to 145 between Apr. 20 and May 31. A Semipalmated Sandpiper, studied in contrast with Westerns, was at the s. jetty of the Columbia R. on May 10 in breeding plumage (HN); another, similarly plumaged, was observed at Seattle, May 24-26 (EH, SJ, PM *et al*.) The astonishing total of *200* Buff-breasted Sandpipers was found at Tofino, B.C. May 2 by John Comer, who had found an individual there last spring; there are only twelve other sightings of this species for the Region in the last nine years, with none of them involving more than three individual birds! On Apr. 30 there were two Marbled Godwits at Victoria (RS, *fide* VG). Hundreds of Sanderling were to be seen at Westport on May 12 (SJ). An Am. Avocet in breeding dress turned up at N. Saanich, B.C., May 14 (RF, *fide* VG). Great numbers of Red Phalaropes were on the ocean close to shore at Crescent City, Calif., and at Brookings, Ore., May 22 (JH); 270 were seen at sea off Westport May 19 (TW), at Newport, Ore., 25 were seen between the Yaquina Bay

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Jetties, May 11 (RJ, *fide* FZ); elsewhere up to a dozen individuals were found at the n. jetty of the Columbia R. May 11 (JW, *fide* PM), at Ocean Shores May 11-12, and at Westport, May 12. At various times during May Wilson’s Phalaropes were to be seen at several places from Seattle n. to Bellingham, at Saanich, at Dungeness, at Westport, and at Finley N.W.R. Northern Phalaropes were in the hundreds on the sea off Westport May 19 (TW); at Westport May 12 (SJ); and migrating past the Columbia R. mouth May 2-4 (BL, HN) A few individuals were seen at Brookings May 22 (JH), at Finley N.W.R., May 5-24 (FZ), at Fern Ridge Res. Apr. 21 (JG), and at Victoria, May 1-14 (RS, VG); up to 40 were on the Tillamook Co. coast May 18 (JBC, RFi).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS AND ALCIDS -- Four Pomarine and 15 Parasitic Jaegers were seen on the boat trip from Westport May 19 (TW *et al*.); five on the latter species were seen at the entrance to Gray’s Harbor the day before (TW) where up to four birds at a time were seen intermittently between Apr. 27 and late May (GH, EH, JM). A dead Parasitic Jaeger was found March 30 on the Yaquina Bay n. jetty (LN, *fide* FZ). An imm. Glaucous Gull was at the n. jetty of the Columbia R. May 11 (JW, *fide* PM); individuals were also seen at Saanich Apr. 12 and at Victoria, Apr. 16 & 22 (VG, RS). Three California Gulls were at Baskett Slough N.W.R. near Dallas, Ore., Apr. 22 (JMi, *fide* FZ), one was at Tillamook May 18 (JBC, RFi), and a few were at Victoria Apr. 9-May 20 (V & MG, RS). On Apr. 27 Bonaparte’s Gulls were migrating north past the Columbia R. mouth at the rate of 100 birds per hour; on May 19, about 200 individuals were counted in Gray’s Harbor and at sea (TW *et al*.), while the day before some 35 individuals were seen along part of the Tillamook Co. coast (JBC, RFi). At Seattle about 35 birds were seen Apr. 27 and in excess of 50 birds were noted May 5 (SJ). The last Bonaparte’s Gulls were seen at Victoria in late May, where the migration had brought much fewer numbers than last year (VG). There were up to 18 Black-legged Kittiwakes at Ocean Shores all through the report period (EH, J M); 29 were seen in Gray’s Harbor May 19 (TW *et al*.). Single kittiwakes were seen from the Port Angeles ferry, Apr. 14 (MC), at Brookings, Ore., Apr. 28 (AC, SG), at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., May 4 & 10 (HN), and at Victoria May 24 & 28, where two individuals were also seen May 25 (VG). Three Sabine’s Gulls were observed at Tofino, May 2 (JCo), 45 were at sea from Westport, May 19 (TW *et al*.), and one was over the ocean at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., May 22 (HN). A heavy migration of Com. Terns involving 500-700 birds an hour moved past the Columbia R. entrance, May 2-4 (BL, HN); 100 were at Westport May 12 (SJ, BT) At Ocean Shores, Com. Terns were regular from late April to Late May; 60 birds on May 26 being the top count (JM), while 300 were counted, all near shore, on the boat trip from Westport, May 19 (TW). Some 300-400 birds were at Samish I., May 11-14 “ten times” normal numbers (NL, *fide* TW). Six Arctic Terns were carefully studied on the beach at the s. jetty of the Columbia R. May 10 (HN); one was seen at Bellingham May 11 (TW), 18 were observed at Tillamook May 12 (JG), nine were at Victoria May 16 (RS, *fide* VG), and ten were seen out of Westport May 19 (TW *et al*.). The first Caspian Terns were at Leadbetter Pt. (F & JK, *fide* PM) and at Ocean Shores (EH) Apr. 13; one was at Sooke Harbor, Vancouver I., May 16 (V & MG), two were at Samish I., May 17 (NL, *fide* TW), two others were at Cape Meares, Tillamook Co., Ore., May 18 (JBC, RFi) and a few were noted around Gray’s Harbor May 18-19 (TW *et al*.). Fifteen Pigeon Guillemots were seen in Tillamook and Netarts Bays and on the ocean between those points, May 18 (JBC, RFi); one was at Seattle May 5 and six were seen at Westport May 12 (SJ). Three Marbled Murrelets and nine Ancient Murrelets were spotted from the Port Angeles-Victoria ferry Apr. 11 (MC); a dead individual of the latter species was found at Ocean City May 10 (EH, JM). Two Cassin’s Auklets--one at Port Angeles, the other off Victoria--were seen Apr. 11 (MC). Fifty Rhinoceros Auklets were seen at Ocean Shores, May 20 (JM); six of these birds were at Yaquina Head and four were at Sea Lion Caves near Florence, Ore., May 26 (PR, *fide* FZ) At Pt. Grenville, Wash., Apr. 26, there were 80 Tufted Puffins standing in pairs at nesting burrows on the s.e rock (GH, JM); six were at Cape Meares May 18 (JBC, RFi).

DOVES, OWLS, NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS -- Fred Zeillemaker reports that Mourning Dove numbers this spring at Finley N.W.R. were the highest in at least five years. Six Pygmy Owls were recorded at Carbon Creek in Mt. Rainier N.P. Apr. 7 (EH). A Spotted Owl was again heard at Wolf Creek, Josephine Co., Ore., the last week of May (EP). A Snowy Owl was still at the Eugene airport on the incredibly late date of May 5, single birds were found lingering still on Apr. 27 at Ladner, B.C. (TW), on Apr. 24 at Ocean City (JM), on Apr. 21 at both Leadbetter Pt. (FK, *fide* PM) and at the Skagit Flats near Mt. Vernon, Wash., (JW, *fide* PM) One or two birds were at the Lummi Flats near Bellingham Apr. 20 and two or three birds were still on the Samish Flats Apr. 19 (TW) where 20 birds had been present Apr. 1 (NL, *fide* TW); a Snowy Owl was at Newport, Ore., still on Apr. 12 (LN, *fide* FZ). These records brought to an end the biggest documented invasion of Snowy Owls to the Pacific Northwest Region which began with the advent of the first few birds seven months earlier. Lone Short-eared Owls at Newport, Wash., Apr. 20 (JB, *fide* PM) and at Seattle Apr. 22 (ES, *fide* PM) were a bit late. A Saw-whet Owl at Finley N.W.R. May 31 (WE, FR, *fide* FZ) is of interest, as is the record of two heard at Ocean City Apr. 26 (EH). A very early Com. Nighthawk was seen at Eugene Apr. 17 (TL, *fide* LM); the first one for Victoria appeared May 20 (RF, *fide* VG). Four Black Swifts were recorded at Seattle May 16 (KB, *fide* PM). Vaux’s Swifts were present in particularly good numbers in w Oregon after May 1.

HUMMINGBIRDS, WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS -- A male Black-chinned Hummingbird was at a feeder in Shady Cove in Oregon’s Rogue R. valley, repeatedly through much of the spring season (JH). A bright male Costa’s Hummingbird was seen at Eugene, Apr. 12-16 (DS, LM *et al*.) for what appears to be the second record for w. Oregon -- both in the last two years. A suspected three pairs of Anna’s Hummingbirds were in the Saanich area most of

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the spring (VG *et al*.). A male Allen’s Hummingbird was at the Shady Cove feeder May 25 (TM); three males of this species were found along the Winchuck R., near Brookings, Ore., Apr. 27 (AC, SG). Calliope Hummingbirds were seen repeatedly through much of the spring at the Shady Cove feeder (JH, TM). Lewis’ Woodpeckers were seen only at Finley N.W.R. until May 11 (FZ), at Cottage Grove, Ore., where one was found May 11 (AC), and at Saanich, where one appeared May 2 (RF, *fide* VG). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker of the *nuchalis* race was seen at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., of all places, Apr. 24; the bird was observed to fly over the dunes and out over the estuary, headed northward. On May 12 a long-dead individual of the *ruber* race was picked up on the beach at Westport. A *nuchalis* race bird was observed at Saanich May 16 (RMG, *fide* VG). Western Kingbirds appeared at Saanich, B.C. May 21 (RM-G, *fide* VG), at Burlington, Wash., May 7-8 (NL, KW), at L. Sammamish, Wash., May 10 (JB, *fide* PM) and at seven localities in Oregon: one at Medford Apr. 27 (OS); one at Wolf Creek May 3 (EP); *nine* in the Cottage Grove area May 11 (AC); at Finley N.W.R. where the peak was 12 on May 3, with the last being seen on May 17 (FZ); at Baskett Slough N.W.R. on Apr. 27 (SD, *fide* FZ), one at Yaquina Head May 25 (WE, *fide* FZ), and three at Nehalem May 18 (JBC, RFi). Black Phoebes were found May 25 nesting under three bridges along the Applegate R. and Forest Creek in the Medford area (TM, OS *et al*.). A Say’s Phoebe was at Cottage Grove May 10 (MPa, *fide* AC) and the same or another individual was seen at Eugene May 18 (*fide* LM). A Hammond’s Flycatcher was identified at Fort Stevens S. P., Clatsop Co., Ore., May 3-4 (BL, HN *et al*.); two singing individuals were at Schaefer S. P., Mason Co., Wash., May 12 (EH), and two were observed at Victoria May 11 (VG, RS). A Dusky Flycatcher was calling at Seattle May 14 (EH). Western Flycatchers arrived the last week of April and were generally thought to be commoner than they had been last year. Olive-sided Flycatchers at Seattle Apr. 13 (DC, *fide* PM), and at Corvallis, Apr. 24-28 (EE, *fide* FZ) were early arrivals. A Bank Swallow was seen at Ocean Shores, May 11 (EH, JM) and three were seen at the n. jetty of the Columbia R. May 12 (JW, *fide* PM). Rough-winged Swallows were recorded in number up to a half-dozen the first week of April at Fern Ridge Res., at Corvallis at Sauvie I. and then on May 18 at Tillamook. Three Barn Swallows and one Cliff Swallow at Seattle Apr. 6 (FK, *fide* PM) were early arrivals; 300 of the latter birds at Fern Ridge Res. Apr. 7 (JBC, WE, WT) was a surprising early concentration. Purple Martins arrived in the Willamette Valley and Puget Sound trough in mid-April, but were in good numbers only at Fern Ridge Res. where they utilized nest boxes for night roosts (TL, *fide* LM); in May a few martins were seen on the Oregon coast and on s. Vancouver I.

JAYS THROUGH SHRIKES -- A Gray Jay in the hills n.e. of Cottage Grove, May 11 (AS, *fide* AC) was out-of-the-ordinary. Two Mountain Chickadees were spotted seven miles e. of Forks, Wash., Apr. 9; three were on Hurricane Ridge Road in Olympic N.P., Apr. 14 (MC). Red-breasted Nuthatches were all but unreported this season. Three Pygmy Nuthatches were found at Mora Ranger Station near LaPush, Wash, Apr. 10 (MC) for another Olympic Peninsula and Washington coastal record of this inland species. A singing Mockingbird was at Salem, Ore., May 15-16 (DD, *fide* TM). A Gray Catbird was recorded Apr. 14 at Port Angeles (MC) for the only w. Washington occurrence known to us. A Sage Thrasher was found at Fern Ridge Res. Apr. 14 (RF1, *fide* LM) and another was discovered at the s. jetty of the Columbia R. May 4 (HN *et al*.); it is extremely rare in w. Oregon. Several pairs of W. Bluebirds utilized nesting boxes about Eugene this spring, where no nesting has been known to occur for some years (LM); nine individuals were seen at Cottage Grove May 11 (AC), a male was seen at L. Samish, Wash., Apr. 15 (*fide* TW) and a female was at Victoria, May 18 (VG, RS). A pair of Mountain Bluebirds was seen on Samish I., Apr. 1-4 (NL, *fide* TW), and a pair was at an apparent nest site in logged-over land e of Bellingham Apr. 21 (*fide* TW). Townsend’s Solitaires, in number up to three at one time, were seen at Wolf Creek twice, at Eugene, and Yaquina Head in Oregon, at Hobart, at Camano I., and e. of Issaquah in Washington, and at Saanich on Vancouver I. Apr. 16-May 21 A nest of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was again found on Roxy Ann Butte near Medford June 3 (OS). Up to 60 Water Pipits were to be found at Seattle, Apr. 16-May 27 (SJ) and up to 75 could be found during the same period in the environs of Victoria (VG *et al*.). Cedar Waxwings were very scarce, apparently, appearing at only a few spots in the Region during April and May A few N. Shrikes were still in the s. Willamette Valley the first ten days of April. A Loggerhead Shrike was found at Eugene the last few days of April (LM *et al*.).

VIREOS, WARBLERS, BLACKBIRDS AND TANAGERS -- Hutton’s and Solitary Vireos were relatively well reported this spring from Grants Pass, Ore., n. to Victoria. Red-eyed Vireos were recorded only from Eugene Apr. 21 (DG, *fide* LM) and May 2 (JG). An early Warbling Vireo put in an appearance at Corvallis, Apr. 9 (RJ, *fide* FZ), but the species was not well reported this spring, except possibly from Seattle A **Tennessee Warbler** was found at Ruby Beach, n of Kalaloch, Wash., May 20 by four observers, some of whom at least, were familiar with the species (VB, JHe, CJ, RR, *fide* TW); the find marks the second occurrence of this species in w. Washington known to us, the other being last fall. Orange-crowned Warblers appeared widely and abundantly in the s. portion of the Region by the end of the first week in April. Nashville Warblers could be found in favored spots in s w Oregon after mid-April, and were recorded at Corvallis, Finley N.W.R., and Monmouth, Ore., later in the season; individuals were also noted at Seattle and Samish I., Wash., in late April or in May. An early Yellow Warbler was at Sekiu, Wash., Apr. 9 (MC); an apparently still migrant group was observed at Lost L. on the Santiam Highway in the Oregon Cascades May 24 (AC *et al*.). A Black-throated Gray Warbler at Eugene Apr 7 (JG) and another at Corvallis Apr. 9 (EE, *fide* FZ) both were early arrivals for a generally early migration movement which seems to have been widespread within the next two weeks. Townsend’s Warblers were on the move by the second week of April in w. Oregon, with an early peak at Eugene the following week (LM),

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the movement through Finley N.W.R. was characterized as the best show for this species experienced in the observer’s five years there (FZ); at Wolf Creek, May 16-18 a grounded ‘wave’ of warblers was half comprised of Townsend’s Warblers (EP). Hermit Warblers, too, seemed to move earlier than usual this year, also reaching an early peak at Eugene in the third week of April (LM), and being common at Wolf Creek after Apr. 20 (EP). A **Palm Warbler** was found at Leadbetter Pt., Wash., Apr. 13 and again Apr. 20 (FK, *fide* PM) for one of w. Washington’s very few records of this species and possibly the first spring record. A MacGillivray’s Warbler at Hobart, Wash., Apr. 20 (SJ) was early, as were the single Wilson’s Warblers at Eugene, Apr. 5 (DDu, *fide* FZ) and at Alsea, Ore., Apr. 8 (JCa, *fide* FZ). Yellow-headed Blackbirds were at Fern Ridge Res., Brownsville, Ore., Finley N.W.R., the s. jetty of the Columbia, Nisqually, Wash., Seattle, Samish I., Victoria and Saanich at various times during April and May, usually up to four individuals at a time. Northern Orioles are not common in the Region; only a few were noted from Wolf Creek n. to Seattle after mid-April; one was at Saanich May 24 (RF, *fide* VG). Brown-headed Cowbirds, after becoming quite common in the Region during the sixties, seem not to be increasing their numbers further. A. W. Tanager at Eugene, Apr. 14 (DG, *fide* LM) was two and a half weeks ahead of the principal migration. A male Lazuli Bunting was again found at Saanich this year, May 27 & 29 (V & MG); many more of this species were at Wolf Creek during May this year than last (EP). Evening Grosbeaks were conspicuously abundant through interior w. Oregon and w. Washington all during the spring season. Purple Finches seemed to be more noticeable than usual in n.w. Oregon this spring. A **Gray-crowned Rosy Finch** was discovered on a lawn in company with a flock of Pine Siskins at Eugene Apr. 22 and was closely observed (AC *et al*.). Up to 20 were seen on Hurricane Ridge in the Olympics Apr. 8 and at Snoqualmie Pass e. of Seattle Apr. 15 (MC). Three Com. Redpolls were observed at Yellow L. e. of Issaquah, Wash., Apr. 26 (JB, *fide* PM). Pine Siskins were present in large numbers away from the coast in w. Oregon and w. Washington lowlands all during April and until late May: numbers at Eugene were described as “incredible,” at Salem as “tremendous” and in Portland as “abundant” Four siskin nests were found at Seattle during May, from which at least six young had fledged by the end of the month (SJ). Red Crossbills were commonly observed through the s. portion of the Region n. of Eugene, including coastal areas, during the report period, with the flock of 1500 at LaPush Apr. 10 (MC) being the largest reported concentration. Two male Lark Buntings in full breeding dress were discovered in a field near Otis, Lincoln Co., Ore., May 26 (R & RH, *fide* HN). Grasshopper Sparrows had returned to their previously used nesting area w. of Eugene by the last week of April five individuals were seen there in late May (*fide* LM). Vesper Sparrows were seen at Olympia (G & WH), in the Seattle area (EH, SJ *et al*.), and near Victoria (VG) during late April and early May, at all of which places the species is markedly uncommon. Individuals of the Slate-colored variety of the Dark-eyed Junco were noted at Corvallis and at three places in Washington, the latest sighting occurring Apr. 20 at Olympia (G & WH). Individual Tree Sparrows were seen Apr. 3 at Seattle (SJ) and Apr. 13 at Duncan where one wintered (JCo). A Chipping Sparrow was found May 11 at Ocean Shores, where the species is rare (EH, JM); indications are that on Vancouver I. the species has made a good recovery from the low numbers which prevailed a year ago (VG). Single Harris’ Sparrows were recorded at the Lummi Flats near Bellingham, Apr. 4 (JD, *fide* TW), at the Skagit Flats (JW, *fide* PM) and near Olympia (G & WH) the last week of April. Lingering Golden-crowned Sparrows were still to be found at Eugene (LM), just n. of Grants Pass (OS), and at Monroe, Ore., (FZ) all on May 19; the species was last noted at Victoria May 25 (ARD, VG, RS). White-throated Sparrows were seen at Esquimalt on Vancouver I. where one wintered until Apr. 24 (*fide* VG), at Corvallis Apr. 20 (LN, *fide* FZ), at Samish I., May 5 (NL, TW), and at Duncan, May 6-8 (JCo). Presumably migrant Lincoln’s Sparrows were observed in a number of localities the latter half of April, with one at Duncan May 9 (VG) the latest. A Lapland Longspur was found at Seattle at various times through the third week in April by a number of observers; other lone birds were seen at Ocean Shores, Apr. 20-May 8 (GH, EH, JM) and at Victoria, Apr. 27-May 1 (VG, RS).

OBSERVERS -- John Beaufort, Vida Blauvelt, Ken Brunner, John Casteel (JCa), David Chelimer, Mark Collie, John Comer (JCo), Alan Contreras, John B. Crowell, Jr., A. R. Davidson, Steve Davis, Dick Denton, David Dudley (DDu), James Duemmel, William Elliott, E. Eltzroth, Roy Fisk (RFi), Randy Floyd (RFI), Ralph Fryer, Richard Gibbs, Jeff Gilligan, Dan Gleason, Vic & Margaret Goodwill, Sayre Greenfield, Robert & Ruth Harris, Janet Herrmann (JHe), Joseph Hicks, Glen & Wanda Hoge, Eugene Hunn, Robert Jarvis, Stuart Johnston, Cliff Jones, Fay & Jan Krause, Norman Lavers, Bob Loehning, Robert Lucas, Tom Lund, R. Mackenzie-Grieve, Phil Mattocks, Tom McCamant, Larry McQueen, James Micuda (JMi), James Morris, Harry Nehls, Lars Norgren, Michael Patterson (MPa), David Pearson, Eleanor Pugh, Fred Ramsey, Robert Randall, John Ratti, Richard Rogers, Peter Rothlisberg, Ron Satterfield, David Simon, Aaron Skirvin, Charles Smith, Ernie Spragg, Otis Swisher, Howard Taylor, William Thackaberry, Phillip Thomas, Bill Tweit, Terry Wahl, Clarice Watson (CWa), Keith Wiggins, John Wingfield, Charles Wood, C. Fred Zeillemaker.

*The Nesting Season, 1974*

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**

**/ Thomas H. Rogers**

With few exceptions June in the Region was abnormally hot and dry with many days reaching 90°F. and above. The situation reversed itself over most of the Region in July, with the first half generally cool and wet, giving some localities precipitation totals well over normal, but by mid-month temperatures returned to normal and dry weather returned. The Helena and Bozeman areas were exceptions, the drought of June continuing through July. Generally speaking, moisture reserves from the heavy winter and spring precipitation carded the Region through the dry periods in very good shape, with water levels high. The rapid runoff of snowmelt in June caused some flooding in the Salmon, Ida. and Baker, Ore., areas and probably did some harm to nesting but waterfowl and other marsh nesters appeared to have benefitted greatly. Vegetation accomplished excellent growth, promising abundant food and cover. Land birds appeared to have had a good nesting season in most localities. Army Corps of Engineers activities connected with dam building along the Snake River destroyed marsh habitat in Asotin Co., Wash.

LOONS AND GREBES -- Much concern was expressed for the future of the Com. Loon on the small mountain lakes of s. British Columbia, where constant harassment by fishermen and boaters appears to have eliminated them from many of the lakes. An upcoming ban of motors on some of the lakes may improve the situation (JG). The Red-necked Grebe nesting population continued to increase at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. where about 12 pairs produced about 25 young. A pair with a nest with seven eggs was found on Benewah L. just west of St. Maries, Ida. June 16. One bird at Three Forks, Mont. June 23 was remarkable. Only a few records exist for that area, these only in spring and fall (RR, DRS, PDS). Many Western Grebes, some with young, were seen on Davis L. west of LaPine, Ore. July 18-19.

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- Practically all the White Pelicans reported were at L. Helena where 250 were counted in June and in s.w. Idaho, with 153 counted July 15. No nesting was reported. Double-crested Cormorants were seen at the breeding colony near Trident, Mont. and were much commoner at nearby Ennis. High counts of the species at L. Helena were 48 and at Helena Valley Res., 80, both in July.

HERONS AND IBIS -- A Cattle Egret, apparently the third for Idaho, was seen feeding with cattle on Minidoka N.W.R. near Minidoka June 20 (GM & CHT). Single Great Egrets were seen at Market L. Wildlife Management Area, Roberts, Ida. and in s.w. Idaho. The species showed a marked increase at Malheur N.W.R. with 350 present. The refuge had 1000 Black-crowned Night Herons, the highest number in recent years. Up to 11 immature birds were noted frequently July 26-Aug. 2 at the n. end of Osoyoos L. in s. British Columbia, where very few records exist for them (SRC). Malheur had 80 White-faced Ibis, the highest in recent years. Fifty-three young of this species were banded at Market L. in June (CHT).

WATERFOWL -- A Mute Swan was seen July 3 at Three Forks, Mont. away from the point of introduction at Livingston. A brood of four Trumpeter Swans was observed at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. and a pair with one small cygnet was seen near Harrison, Mont. June 23. Cygnet production at Malheur was up to nine, compared to six last year. A single bird was noted in s.w. Idaho July 17. Canada Geese production at Turnbull N.W.R. was good, with 180 young. Kootenai N.W.R. and vicinity showed very good production at about 225 and the increase at Salmon, Ida. not noted for this species, was good. Duck production in general showed large increases over 1973. Malheur N.W.R. came up with a 60 per cent increase, this largely in the surface-feeders and Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash. had nearly a 40 per cent increase owing to larger brood sizes. Kootenai N.W.R. did very well on Mallards but Com. Goldeneye were down, producing less than 100 young. By contrast, Minidoka N.W.R. had a 38 percent drop in breeding pairs. A **European Wigeon**, reported too late for the spring write-up, was on Vaseux L. south of Penticton Apr. 6-24 (SRC). The Harlequin Duck was reported only at Trick Falls in Glacier N. P., Mont, June 13. Three White-winged Scoters seen from the Keller ferry, Ferry Co., June 30 provided the third summer record for e. Washington.

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- A pair of Turkey Vultures apparently nested near Mara L. in the Vernon, B.C. area for the birds were seen frequently and in late July were accompanied by three young. A pair of Goshawks nested on Indian Creek between Prairie City and John Day, Ore., and had fledged two of three young by July 16. Sharp-shinned and Cooper’s Hawks were scantily reported and the latter was described as alarmingly scarce in the North Okanagan of British Columbia. However a pair was reported nesting on Browne Mt. five miles southeast of Spokane. One young Golden Eagle was fledged at Benham Falls in c. Oregon and a nest of the Bald Eagle was seen at Suttle L. northwest of Sisters, Ore. In the Baker, Ore. area five nests of the former species were observed to have fledged at least one bird each. Ospreys were noted nesting at many localities. A study of the birds on upper Holter Res in the Helena area showed 11 pairs compared with ten last year but they had fewer eggs per nest and more infertile eggs, resulting in fewer young fledged (VY). Observations of single Prairie Falcons were made on three dates in s.w. Idaho and once in s. British Columbia.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- The Ring-necked and the recently introduced Japanese Green Pheasant were reported holding on but not thriving at Kootenai N.W.R. A pair of the recently introduced Chinese Bamboo Partridge, *Bambusicola thoracica*, was seen June 16 along S. Naches Road in the Yakima area (ERC). Good hatching success for Chukar was noted at Salmon, Ida. and the Turkey population was increasing rapidly there.

CRANES AND RAILS -- A pair of Sandhill Cranes at Ladd Marsh near LaGrande, Ore., raised one chick and a pair with two small young was seen at Ennis, Mont. June 23. Several pairs nested in upper Lemhi R valley near Leadore, Ida. Nesting success for the species at Malheur N.W.R., based on a sample of 50 nests, was 36 per cent, compared with a success of about 20 per cent last year, based on 45 nests. A Virginia Rail with two chicks was seen at Turnbull N.W.R. July 27.

SHOREBIRDS -- The fall migration of far-north-breeding shorebirds was underway in July as usual but observations in the Spokane area were scanty because of high water levels. Five Long-billed Dowitchers in a flooded field near Cusick July 5 were 11 days earlier than any previous record in e. Washington (PM). Two Long-billed Curlews were seen near Merrit June 18 and one, at White L. west of Okanagan Falls June 20, in the s. Okanagan Valley of British Columbia where the species is scarce (WCW). The species was also scarce in the Walla Walla area with only one sighting, June 2. Small young of these birds were noted June 22, at Three

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Forks, Mont. Largest numbers were reported in s.w. Idaho, with 83 June 4. Noteworthy among those species breeding within the Region were three Upland Sandpipers seen in June in the Spokane Valley near Newman L and Hauser L. junctions. Three Am. Avocets, the first in seven years at Kootenai N.W.R., visited on June 20 only.

GULLS AND TERNS -- A large colony of California and Ring-billed Gulls bred on an island in the Columbia R at Richland, Wash. Large downy young were seen exercising their wings June 27. Malheur N.W.R. reported the Franklin’s Gull population as 1000, the same as last year and twice the 1972 number. At least ten Bonaparte’s Gulls July 1 at Nulki L. near Vanderhoof, BC were suspected of nesting. The first Montana record for the **Least Tern** was obtained July 20 near Wilsall when a bird in imm. plumage was carefully observed under good conditions (PDS). Forster’s Tern bred on islands in the Columbia R. near Richland and young were awing by July 14. Up to 20 pairs of Black Terns at Kootenai N.W.R. suggested nesting there.

PIGEONS AND OWLS - A Band-tailed Pigeon was seen south of Ashcroft, B.C. (WCW), another was found in Cowiche Canyon west of Yakima June 18 (HD), and a third was seen at Middleport, Stevens Co., Wash. June 9 (EH). Two Flammulated Owls were heard in the Blue Mts. 15 mi. south of Pomeroy, Wash. June 10 (EH). The only Pygmy Owl observations were two at a low elevation--2124 ft.--along Coeur d’ Alene L, Ida., one near Cougar Bay and one at Chatcolet Bay, both June 9. The Burrowing Owl was noted only near Baker and Brothers, Ore. and near Quincy, Yakima, Walla Walla and Sprague, Wash. At Yakima it was considered as becoming rare but more sightings were made this year at Walla Walla. The **Barred Owl**, still pushing into the Region, was found near Park Rapids, east of Colville, Stevens Co., Wash. June 23 (DP & TRW) and one or two were seen there up to July 11. This is the first summer record in the area. Two Barred Owls were found roosting west of Troy, Ore., June 18. One was photographed June 19 and one was again seen July 22 (BT) Karl Hulbert. A **Spotted Owl** nest with two downy young found and photographed in Chelan Co., Wash. in late May is apparently the first nest record for the state (JF & KF). A brood of half grown young Short-eared Owls was uncovered by a mower near Bozeman. Two pairs were seen near Lowden, Wash. all summer, one pair producing a brood which apparently was destroyed by predators. Quincy, Wash. and s.w. Idaho were the only other localities reporting them.

SWIFTS AND HUMMINGBIRDS -- An unusual sighting was made of about 25 Vaux’s Swifts July 28 when about half the group entered a church chimney in Walla Walla. A single White-throated Swift was again reported at Asotin, Wash. June 24 (JWW). Black Swifts were observed in Jasper N. P., Alta., near Smithers and at Nulki L. south of Vanderhoof, B.C., and at Ellensburg and between Cashmere and Wenatchee, Wash. Black-chinned Hummingbirds were reported in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia; at several localities in e. and c. Washington; south of Prairie City, Ore. and in both n. and s.w. Idaho. Anna’s Hummingbird was believed to be breeding at Cle Elum, Wash. (PMo).

WOODPECKERS -- A few Lewis’ Woodpeckers were observed in Idaho and e. Washington and in the Bitterroot Valley of w. Montana. Nesting was noted at Kootenai N.W.R., near Spokane and at Ft. Simcoe S.P. west of Toppenish, Wash. Williamson’s Sapsucker nests were found in three localities: near Prairie City, Ore. (AW), on Huckleberry Mt. west of Springdale, Wash. (S.A.S.), and on Anarchist Mt. east of Osoyoos in extreme s. British Columbia, where three nests were found (SRC, WCW). A nest of the White-headed Woodpecker was observed at Black Butte Ranch near Sisters, Ore. during June and July (JJ). A nest of the Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker was found July 11 at L. Thomas in e. Stevens Co., Wash (DB & EB). Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers were found nesting at 8500 ft. elevation near Clayton, Ida (HBR); at Calispell Bog, Pend Oreille Co., Wash. (PM, KB & JWn), and in two localities near Vernon, B.C. (JG).

FLYCATCHERS -- The song of what was believed to be a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was heard July 9 at Cottonwood Creek in Jasper National Park (WCW). A Least Flycatcher was studied at length and its song recorded June 18 along Umtanum Cr., Yakima Co., Wash. (TRW & JD). The species was noted at three stops on the breeding bird survey in the Brookmere- Aspen Grove area of s. British Columbia (WCW). A number of Gray Flycatchers were noted in mid-June near Wenas Creek northwest of Yakima (PM, TRW) Single W. Flycatchers were heard in two places well north of their known breeding range: one July 2 in Prince George and the other the same day at Pine Pass between Prince George and Dawson Creek (WCW).

SWALLOWS AND JAYS -- Violet-green and Tree Swallows had a bad nesting season in interior British Columbia, presumably because of cold, wet weather in late May and early June. Three pairs of Violet-green Swallows nested in a colony-type nest box, along with a pair of House Sparrows at Spokane. Three pairs of Tree Swallows nesting at Phillips L., west of Baker, Ore appeared to have some sort of community arrangement, for three or four adults in rapid succession fed young at the same nest hole! At Prairie City, Ore well-fledged young Com. Ravens were seen June 24.

CHICKADEES AND WRENS -- A pair of Chestnut-backed Chickadees with a nest was seen June 11 and several times later near Fish L. about 15 mi north of Leavenworth, Wash. One bird of this species was seen on Browne Mt., five miles southeast of Spokane May 25 (THR). On the same mountain a brood of recently fledged Winter Wrens was seen July 1 and three young Rock Wrens with their parents July 27 and another pair with three young was found July 26 at Steptoe Butte near Steptoe, Wash.

MIMIC THRUSHES AND THRUSHES -- A Mockingbird was seen June 12 on the U.S. Atomic Energy Reservation, Benton Co., Wash. (REW & NW) and a

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singing male was noted June 30 in French Canyon near Tieton, Yakima Co., Wash. (HD). A third bird was seen at Steptoe Butte, Whitman Co., Wash. June 10 (EH). A pair of Gray Catbirds at Lavington, B.C. raised two young plus a Brown-headed Cowbird. The parasitism of the Gray Catbird is highly unusual (JG). Populations of both Western and Mountain Bluebirds apparently continued low. Very few nests were reported and the latter species was described as alarmingly scarce in the Vernon, B.C. area. Of 100 nest boxes put up in the foothills west of North Powder, Ore., two were used by Mountain Bluebirds and 12 by Western (MB). A Townsend’s Solitaire nest with five eggs was located July 5 along Aberdeen L. road 12 mi. southeast of Vernon and young in flight were seen south of Bozeman July 23.

PIPITS, WAXWINGS, WARBLERS -- A pair of Water Pipits appeared to be nesting at about 7000 ft. elevation in the Colockum Pass area of n.e. Kittitas Co., Wash. and several birds were seen in the Lemhi Range south of Salmon, Ida. at an elevation of 10,000 ft. July 20. A Bohemian Waxwing was noted at Wabasso Campground July 8, and two at Cottonwood Creek July 9, both localities in Jasper N.P. Four Tennessee Warblers were observed June 9 near L. Helena where the species has been recorded only a few times (SM & NM). A nest of the Nashville Warbler with five eggs was found on Browne Mt., five mi. southeast of Spokane, June 15 but the eggs later disappeared (THR). A Virginia Warbler was reported July 28, and a nesting, Black-throated Gray Warbler July 12, both in Cassia Co., Ida. One or two Blackpoll Warblers were seen at Pine Pass, 130 mi. northeast of Prince George, and at two localities in Jasper N.P., all observations in early July. Seven singing N. Waterthrushes were heard at Calispell Bog, Pend Oreille Co., Wash. June 30 and nine were found on the Brookmere, B.C., breeding bird survey June 19. An Ovenbird was found dead in Helena June 13 and is apparently only the second ever recorded there (SM).

BLACKBIRDS -- Bobolinks, rare in e. Oregon and Washington, were seen on Yakima Indian Reservation (single birds); at Prairie City, Ore. (three males June 25 and two males with two imm. birds July 27 (AW), and near Cusick, Wash. (30--DP). A pair of Orchard Orioles was sighted near Walla Walla, Wash. June 12 (JW). A few Rusty Blackbirds were recorded in the Prince George area in early July. The Com. Grackle was observed and apparently breeding in Deer Lodge, Mont. This is the farthest west record for the species in that area (PDS). A young Brown-headed Cowbird was seen being fed by a Red-winged Blackbird, an unusual host, near Spokane and one south of Bozeman was fed by both an Audubon’s Warbler and a junco! Birds do get confused.

FINCHES -- Evening Grosbeaks were abundant in the forest around L. Wenatchee and Fish L. north of Leavenworth, Wash. Cassin’s Finch was unusually scarce in the Bozeman area and was scarce around Fortine, Mont. where it normally is common. In the Spokane area numbers appeared good with several nestings reported. At Missoula the species appears to have become less plentiful since House Finches have become established. Gray-crowned Rosy Finches were observed at high elevations in the Salmon, Ida. area and in Crater Lake N.P. Pine Siskins were common to abundant in many coniferous forest areas of e. Washington and/n Idaho. A young bird just out of the nest was being fed by an adult May 31 at Coeur d’ Alene. By contrast Am. Goldfinch numbers were scanty in most areas, with only the Pullman, Spokane and Yakima, Wash. areas reporting good numbers. Red Crossbill numbers were good on breeding bird surveys at Brookmere and Canford and later in the Smithers area of British Columbia. They also made a good showing around Pullman, Spokane and Bozeman. However, in the Vernon area numbers were poor. Phenomenal numbers of White-winged Crossbills were reported apparently breeding in subalpine forest of s. British Columbia, apparently in response to a bumper spruce cone crop. Numbers were also high in Yoho and Jasper National Parks. A male in song was found in the mountains south of Hamilton, Mont. July 14 (RAH, ETH & PDS).

SPARROWS -- The rare Grasshopper Sparrow was believed down in numbers in some e. Washington breeding areas. The species was noted in the valley east of Spokane, in the vicinity of Potholes Res., Grant Co, and near Asotin. No other reports were received for the species. Two **Black-throated Sparrows** were observed near Malheur N.W.R. June 14 (CHW). Sage Sparrows were noted as very common along the Columbia R near the Vernita Bridge in Benton Co. July 24 but elsewhere were scarce in Washington, the only state reporting them. Clay-colored Sparrows were heard singing near Jasper, July 5-6 (RR & REW) and one was singing at Pyramid L. in Jasper N.P. July 8 (WCW). The species was noted in the Bozeman area and appeared to be increasing in the N. Okanagan of British Columbia. The nest of a Brewer’s Sparrow was found July 4 at White L. near Oliver, B.C. (SRC) and the species was noted singing during June and July on Browne Mr. southeast of Spokane (DB, EB, DK & THR). Two White-crowned Sparrows were sighted near the top of Stevens Peak near Wallace, Ida. June 30 (SS). About ten stragglers moved through the Coeur d’ Alene area at the end of May (RM) and one was seen at Madras, Ore. June 3 (JJ). The birds were seen at higher elevations in the Salmon area. A White-throated Sparrow was singing at L. Kathlyn near Smithers, B.C. July 1 (WCW).

AREA COMPILERS (**in boldface**) and observers --James Acton, John Annear, William Bannon, Mike Black, Allen Bolton, Jay Bowerman, Ken Brunner, Zelia Butler, Dick & Eileen Byers, Steve R. Cannings, Robert E. Cardinal, Phil Cheney, Mr. & Mrs. James Clark, Mark R. Collie, Matt Coe, Sharon Cotterell, Emily R. Cragg, Jerry Delbert, **Helen Doornink**, Yakima Valley; (JD) J. Duemmel, James Fackler, Kim Feringer, Brad Flatt, Margaret Ford, Slevin Ford, Mary Fraser, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Frost, Ben Glading, **James Grant**, s. interior British Columbia; Arnold Haack, Audrey Haight, Warren Hall, Ralph L. Hand, Bill Harms, Mr. & Mrs. B. L. Harvey, Eve T. & Ray A Hays, Mr. & Mrs. James Heckathorn, C. J. Henry, John Hill, Joe & Ivy Hilty, **James H. Holcolm**, Crater

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Lake N.P.; Mrs. Ray Holliday, **George D. Holton**, Helena area; Dallas & Charlotte Hooper, Alice Horschel, Virginia Humphreys, Dick Humphries, Eugene Hunn, Frances B. Huston, **Julie Johnson**, c. Oregon; Dan Knierim, Carolyn Lagergren, Earl Larrison, Greg McDonald, (RM) Ron McDow, Patricia McKinney, **Eldon L. McLaury**, Malheur N.W.R.; Phyllis Madden, Nell & (SM) Sid Martin, (PM) Phil Mattocks, Sally and **Niel F. Meadowcroft**, Walla Walla area; Dean Medino, Helene Mir, Bobby Moate, (PMo) Peggy Modie, Levi Mohler, Louis Moos, Robert Morgan, **Lowell Napier**, Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash.; Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Nelson, Ron Newville, Dennis L. Paulson, (DP) Dave Pearson, **Del Pierce**, Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida.; **Margaret J. Polumsky**, Nez Perce Co., Ida. - Asotin Co., Wash.; George Ray, Roy Richards, Hadley B. Roberts, Hazel Roe, Thomas H. Rogers, Larry Roumpf, (RR) Robert Rumely, Jack Schultz, **Belle Shaw**, s.w. Idaho; W. H. Shillington, Roland Shook, Donald R., Steve and **P.D. Skaar**, Bozeman, Mont. area; **Mrs. S. O. Stanley**, for Spokane Audubon Society, n.e. Washington; Edgar Stephenson, Esther Stewart, (SS) **Shirley Sturts**, Coeur d’ Alene, Ida. area; (BT) Butch Taylor, Bill Thoren, **Charles H. Trost**, Pocatello, Ida. area; Mr. & Mrs. Ted Trueblood, Mr. & Mrs. B. L. Vandermeer, Terry R. Wahl, **Ann Ward**, n.e. Oregon; Clarice H. Watson, John W. Weber, Wayne C. Weber, Tom Weir, Winton Weydemeyer, (JW) Jack Winchell. (JWi) John Wingfield, **Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Woodley**, Pasco- Richland - Kennewick, Wash. area; Norman Woodley, Jeff Woodruff, **Maurice B. Wright**, Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash.; Vince Yannone and Katherine Zahl.

*The Nesting Season, 1974*

**NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION**

**John B. Crowell, Jr. and Harry B. Nehls**

The breeding season of 1974 brought with it a cool, rather damp June and July with disappointing numbers of cloudy days, resulting in below-normal temperatures. The excessive snow pack in the mountains of the Region thus was still notably present even at the end of the period; too few observations are made at high elevations to permit any judgments about impact on montane birds, however. The abnormal numbers of shorebirds which were present at coastal points even during much of June is cause for speculation as to breeding success or lack of it for many of these species this year in their northern nesting grounds. An impressive number of rarities was produced by the Region’s continually growing and enthusiastic cadre of observers.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- Common Loons in small numbers were found at coastal points and on favored inland lakes in s. British Columbia throughout June and July. A **Yellow-billed Loon** in winter plumage was carefully studied by two observers at Neah Bay, Wash., July 14 in good light for about twenty minutes; a detailed account of the observation was supplied to the editors (JW, SW). A few Arctic Loons summered on salt water in the Straits of Juan de Fuca; an unusual concentration of 500 individuals of this species was discovered on the ocean near Florence, Oreg. June 11 (FR). Observers on the British Columbia mainland s. of Vancouver found a few Red-throated Loons through June (*fide* WW). On July 28 there were 20 Red-necked Grebes at Victoria (WW). A Horned Grebe was at Saanich, B.C., throughout July (VG *et al*.). Western Grebes summering on salt water were almost nonexistent this year, with reports of up to four coming only from Victoria (VG) and of “much less than usual” from the Vancouver area (WW). Sixty Black-looted Albatrosses, 100 N. Fulmars, one Flesh-looted Shearwater, and two Short-tailed Shearwaters were counted 25 mi. at sea from Newport, Oreg. July 21; sixty per cent of the Fulmars were dark-phase birds (WE, DM, FR, MS). Six Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels and sixteen Leach’s Storm-Petrels were mist-netted on Tatoosh I., Wash., June 12 (DP, *fide* PM), three of the former species were seen in Queen Charlotte Strait, B.C., June 29 (WW), and “many” of the former were seen July 21 at sea 25 mi. from Newport, Oreg.; a few Leach’s Storm-Petrels were seen further at sea in the succeeding two days (FR, MS *et al*.). Individual Leach’s Storm-Petrels were found dead on the beach at Ocean City, Wash., June 2 & 6 (JM). The vanguard of late summer visitant Brown Pelicans was reported in the Region as far north as Grays Harbor, Wash., by the last week in July. A survey on June 25 at Mandarte I. five miles e. of Sidney, B.C., turned up 482 nests containing 1456 eggs and 30 young of the Double-crested Cormorant and 443 nests with 1167 eggs and one young of the Pelagic Cormorant (B.C. Prov. Museum, *fide* VG); Double-crested Cormorants apparently failed to nest at all on Colville and Castle Is., Wash., this summer, although Pelagic Cormorant nesting there seems to be on the increase (TW). Nesting by Double-crested Cormorants at Fern Ridge Res. near Eugene, Oreg., and Gold Ray Dam near Medford, Oreg., this season was suspected from the continual presence of individuals in both places. A survey of the Chain Islets and Great Chain I. near Victoria on June 11-12 resulted in a tally of 221 nests containing 126 eggs and no young of the Pelagic Cormorant (B.C. Prov. Museum, *fide* VG), suggesting that egg-laying was still in progress. High counts of Great Blue Herons were attained at Tsawwassen, B.C. June 18 with 104 (BH, *fide* VG) and at Crescent Beach, B.C., June 28 with 60 birds present; on Aug. 5 there were 275 individuals at the latter place (BM, *fide* WW). Green Herons were present at a number of localities in w. Washington from Olympia n. to Bellingham during the season; one was seen at Oregon City, Oreg. June 6 (JBC), a pair was found n. of Corvallis, Oreg. July 27 (*fide* FR), and up to five were seen at Gold Ray Dam the latter half of July (OS). Great Egrets invaded Oregon’s Willamette Valley in the last days of July; two had been noted at Coquille near the coast in Coos County, June 18 (JO). A Snowy Egret, little recorded in w. Oregon, was found at Salem July 25 (FS, HH). Two ad. Black-crowned Night-Herons were noted repeatedly on Westham I. s. of Vancouver during July (BD, ND, *fide* WW); an adult and an immature of this species were seen at Newport July 31 (CW, *fide* HN). American Bitterns were recorded singly at Reifel Refuge, s. of Vancouver July 6, near Olympia July 31, and at Finley N.W.R., s. of Corvallis June 15.

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WATERFOWL -- On June 8, 47 Black Brant still lingered at Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (HN, CS); seven were at Ocean Shores, Wash., June 23 (G & WH), single individuals were seen at four locations in s. British Columbia during June, and one was at Samish I, Wash., July 22 (NL, *fide* TW). An ad. White-fronted Goose was found at Saanich, June 1, in company with some domestic geese (VG). There were small numbers of Pintail and Am. Green-winged Teal in the Vancouver area throughout the report period (WW *et al*.). A brood of twelve Blue-winged Teal was seen at Duncan, B.C., July 10 (JCo); seven were at Yaquina Bay, Oreg. Aug. 4 (FR). Cinnamon Teal, Am. Wigeon, and N. Shovelers nested successfully at Duncan also (JCo). Two male Ring-necked Ducks were seen at Iona I., s. of Vancouver, June 27 (WW), where six Canvasback ducks also were observed July 20 (BK, *fide* WW); a Canvasback was present at Fern Ridge Res. June 15 (LN). Several hundred Greater Scaup summered in the vicinity of the British Columbia-Washington border, while a few individuals were seen at other localities in Washington and on Vancouver I. A few Lesser Scaup were observed through the period at various spots in s. British Columbia, but a flock of 50 at Tillamook, Oreg. July 20 (RFi *et al.*) is surprising. A female and one juv. Com. Goldeneye at Cowichan Bay, Vancouver I., July 4 (JCo), and 2 females at Crescent Beach, B.C., June 27 (WW), are of interest. Adult Barrow’s Goldeneye with young were observed repeatedly during the breeding season on Lightning L., in Manning P.P. (V & MG, RS). Two female Buffleheads were seen at Sooke Harbour, Vancouver I, June 10 & July 11; a male was seen in the Shawnigan District n. of Victoria, July 15 (VG). Oldsquaw were seen in unprecedented summertime numbers in the Vancouver area this year, the one-day maximum count being 25 on July 29 at Pt. Roberts (WW); up to four individuals were noted at Victoria all summer (VG) and others were seen in the waters and islands between Vancouver and Victoria. A high count of 158 Harlequin at Mitlenatch I., B.C., July 17 (MSh) is impressive; ten days later, 23 individuals of this species were counted at Victoria (BK, WW). White-winged Scoters were found regularly at Ocean Shores, around s. Vancouver I., and on the mainland in the vicinity of Vancouver during the report period. Surf Scoters were more prevalent in the same areas, and were also still present along the Oregon coast in June. A female Black Scoter was seen at Cannon Beach, Oreg. June 10 (JB, HN) and four representatives of this species were at Ocean Shores, June 26 (WH). A Ruddy Duck was at Reifel Ref. s. of Vancouver, June 15-27 (WW) and another was at Olympia, June 22-26 (G & WH). A female Hooded Merganser with eight young was seen at Saanich, June 20 and a female was seen alone in the Renfrew District, Vancouver I., July 11 (VG); single individuals were also seen at Manning P. P. June 24, at Vancouver July 1, and at Iona I. July 25. On July 23 a female Com. Merganser with five young were seen at Sooke Harbour, B.C., where up to eight individual adults had been seen earlier in the month (VG); another female with five young were seen at Pitt L, B.C., June 17, where a male Red-breasted Merganser was observed the same day (WW). A male Red-breasted Merganser was seen at Pt. Roberts, July 29 (WW).

HAWKS, EAGLES, CRANES -- A White-tailed Kite was seen at Finley N.W.R., June 4-5 (CM *et al*., *fide* FZ) and again July 13 & 20 (FZ). Five Goshawk nests were found on the Rogue River National Forest this summer (OS). Cooper’s Hawks reports were few and Sharp-shinned Hawks seem to have been virtually unobserved. A Swainson’s Hawk was recorded at Manning P.P., July 13 (RS, *fide* VG). A Rough-legged Hawk was seen at Bare I., near Sidney, B.C., July 31 (ARD, *fide* VG), a very unusual date. No Golden Eagle nesting activity occurred this year in Vancouver Island’s Malahat District at last year’s nest, but an adult was observed in the area June 22 & 27 (RS, VG). A young Golden Eagle fledged from a nest on Roxy Ann Butte near Medford (OS). Bald Eagles were to be found regularly in the Gulf Islands between Victoria and Vancouver throughout the report period, being particularly noticeable at Active Pass; a dozen were seen at Prince Rupert June 20, while five had been counted on the preceding day in Queen Charlotte Strait (WW). A Bald Eagle was seen at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., June 18 (MS, OS). The only report of successful Marsh Hawk nesting was from Finley N.W.R. (FZ) where four young were out of the nest the last week of July (FZ) Five active Osprey nests were known on s. Vancouver I. this season (VG *et al*.); three pairs---one of which did not appear to be nesting--frequented Fern Ridge Res throughout the report period (LN); a successful nest was observed at Elma, Wash. (G & WH). A few individual Ospreys were otherwise observed in the s. half of the Region. An ad. Peregrine was seen on s. Vancouver I. in mid-July (VG) and an immature was seen near Vancouver July 9 (ND, *fide* WW). Several Merlins were observed near Saanich in early June and in early July; another was seen at Cadboro Bay, Victoria, July 27 (RM-G, *fide* VG). An adult and a half-grown young Sandhill Crane were observed at Pitt Meadows e. of Vancouver July 23 (WW). Juvenile Virginia Rails were seen at Saanich July 1 & 20 where four Soras had also been seen on June 8 (VG *et al*.).

SHOREBIRDS -- A nest containing four Semipalmated Plover eggs was discovered on the w. jetty of Iona I., s. of Vancouver, June 15; the eggs had not hatched June 27, so nothing is known about the success of the nesting attempt (BK, WW). No nesting of the species occurred this season at Ocean Shores where successful nesting took place last year (GH, JM). Semipalmated Plovers were present at three other places in the Region in June, and southward migration was evident by the first week in July. Snowy Plovers were seen at the s. jetty of the Columbia R. June 18 (MS, OS), at Leadbetter Pt., June 8 (HN, CS), and at Ocean Shores June 23, where two pairs appeared to be defending territory (GH). A lone **Am. Golden Plover** was at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., June 22 (HN), a very surprising date. The 90 Black-bellied Plovers at Leadbetter Pt., June 8 (HN, CS) and the 1000 at Mud Bay near White Rock, B.C., on June 22 (MSc *et al*.) are surprisingly large counts for June; as many as 2000 were present at Mud Bay in July, while on Aug. 11,5000 were counted there (MSc). Surfbirds were back in the Region by early July, evidenced by up to 38 at Victoria from July 6-27 (VG *et al*.). On July 11 there were 67 Surfbirds

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***Bar-tailed Godwit, Leadbetter Point, Willapa Bay, Wash., June 8, 1974. Photo / Harry B. Nehls****.*

at Mitlenatch I. (MSh). A count of 25 Ruddy Turnstones at Ocean Shores July 27 (G & WH) was a large concentration for this Region. Two Black Turnstones were seen there on the unusual date of June 29 (DP, DPa, *fide* PM). Two young Com. Snipe at Saanich June 29 gave evidence of the first successful breeding of that species in the Victoria region (VG). The number of June records of Whimbrel, which is not known to nest in the Region, is puzzling; on June 8 there were 38 at Leadbetter Pt. (HN, CS); June 15 there were two at Sea I., s. of Vancouver (BK, *fide* WW); June 22 two were at the s. jetty of the Columbia (HN); June 23 there were 16 at Ocean Shores (G & WH), where 8 were found June 29 (DPa, DP, *fide* PM); on that date two birds were at Saanich (VG, RS) and six were at Crescent Beach, B.C. (BK, *fide* WW). By July Whimbrels were widely present at Oregon coastal points. A Solitary Sandpiper was seen at Vancouver July 31 (BK, *fide* WW). The latest Wandering Tattler was one at Cannon Beach, June 10 (JB, HN); a few had returned to the Straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca by mid-July. For the third consecutive year, a Willet was at Crescent Beach; this bird was seen first June 22 and was still present at the end of the period (MSc *et al*.). A Willet was also recorded at Yaquina Bay, Lincoln Co., Oreg. July 31 (CW, *fide* HN). Greater Yellowlegs, like Whimbrels, were uncommonly present in the s. half of the Region during June, with five at Leadbetter Pt., June 8 (HN, CS), 22 at Crescent Beach, B.C., June 22 (MSc), two at Ocean Shores June 23 (G & WH), one at Victoria (RS, *fide* VG) and three at Westham I., s. of Vancouver, June 27 (BK, *fide* WW), and single birds at Ocean Shores (DPa, DP, *fide* PM) and at Duncan, B.C. (JCo) on June 29; by July, Greater Yellowlegs were at many of these same locations and were also on the Oregon coast and in the Willamette Valley. An early Lesser Yellowlegs was at Iona I., June 29 (BK, *fide* WW), but it was not until the last week in July that this species was seen in a few other localities. On June 8 there were 18 Red Knots and one Pectoral Sandpiper at Leadbetter Pt. (HN, CS); a Red Knot was at Ocean Shores July 27 (G & WH), and a few Pectoral Sandpipers appeared the last week of July at locations just s. of Vancouver and at Victoria. On July 30 at Iona I., Bruce MacDonald had a careful look from 75-100 feet with binoculars and scope for about two minutes at a subsequently well-described **White-rumped Sandpiper** (*fide* WW); the record is, we believe, the first of this species for the Region. On July 29, five Baird’s Sandpipers were found at Iona L., where two days later ten individuals were counted (BM, *fide* WW). Two Least Sandpipers were at the Samish Flats near Bellingham June 20 (NL, *fide* TW) and two were at Ocean Shores June 23 (G & WH); the last few days of June brought a trickle of returning migrants and by the latter half of July, Least Sandpipers were well represented at favored localities through much of the s. portion of the Region. Dunlin were present during June and July at five different places in the Region, eight being the maximum except for a flock of 50 at Leadbetter Pt. June 8 (HN, CS) which probably were northbound still. Short-billed Dowitchers were represented in June by 70 birds at Leadbetter Pt. June 8 (HN, CS), by one at Iona I., June 15 (BK, *fide* WW) and by 200 birds at Ocean Shores June 29 (DPa, DP, *fide* PM); July records for this species were seven at Victoria July 1 (where the species was consistently found thereafter, 18 on July 19 being the maximum), twelve at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., July 20 (HN) and 30 at Iona I., July 25 (WW). Records of Long-billed Dowitchers before mid-July consisted of one at Saanich June 1-2, six at Reifel Refuge June 15, one at Victoria June 29, two at Saanich the next day, and 13 there July 7; thereafter, small groups appeared at five favored localities, all in the Vancouver-Victoria area except for Baskett Slough N.W.R. near Salem, where two birds were present July 29. Semipalmated Sandpipers were recorded four times at Iona I. Single birds being present there June 22 & 30 (BK, *fide* WW), and two birds being found there July 19 & 30 (BM, *fide* WW); elsewhere, individual Semipalmated Sandpipers were noted at Victoria, July 2 (ARD, *fide* VG), at Mitlenatch I., July 18 (MSh, *fide* WW), and at Seattle July 23 (KB, *fide* PM). Western Sandpipers were widely present and in increasingly large numbers after the third week in June. An unprecedentedly early Buff-breasted Sandpiper was noted at Saanich July 22 (RF, *fide* VG). Single Marbled Godwits were at Crescent Beach, B.C., June 28 (W & HHe, *fide* MSc), again July 8 (MSc), and at Ocean Shores July 19 (JM); a number were at Leadbetter Pt., June 8 (HN, CS) in company with six **Bar-tailed Godwits** which were carefully studied and photographed; photographs to Photoduplicate File at Laurel, Md. On July 2, a single Bar-tailed Godwit was seen and photographed at Neah Bay, Wash., by Douglas E. Wood who was accompanied by two other persons; photos to Zoology Dept. at the Univ. of Washington. These records of the Bar-tailed Godwit are the second and third for the State of Washington and are the fourth and fifth for the Region. A rare Hudsonian Godwit was seen at Crescent Beach June 22 (MSc *et al*.) and again June 28 (HA, *fide* TW) and June 29 (B K, *fide* WW). A female Ruff was present at Reifel Ref. June 26-28 (ND, BK, GAP, WW) and was photographed; it is the fourth Regional record of this species in the past three years. An Am. Avocet appeared at Kent, Wash., June 7 (GM, *fide* PM). A Red Phalarope was also seen and photographed at Reifel Ref. June 23 (ND, *fide* WW);

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thousands of Red Phalaropes were found at sea off Newport July 21 (MS *et al*.) in company with large numbers of N. Phalaropes. Six individual Wilson’s Phalaropes were found June 12-15 at Reifel Ref., Iona I, and Westham I. (V & MG, WW); four of these birds were at Iona I., July 31 (BM, *fide* WW). A N. Phalarope was observed at Finley N.W.R., June 7 (FZ); on July 24 there were 600 of this species at San Juan I., in Puget Sound (LB, *fide* TW).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS, ALCIDS -- All three species of jaegers were seen at sea 25 mi. from Newport July 21--four or five Pomarines, “lots” of Parasitics, and three Long-taileds--along with three Skuas (WE, DM, FR, MS). A second year Glaucous Gull was seen and closely approached at Newport on the unusual date of July 21 (WE, FR). The breeding bird surveys of Chain and Mandarte Is. turned up 1794 Glaucous-winged Gull nests containing 4360 eggs and no young at the former locality June 11-12, and 978 nests with 2033 eggs and 476 young on June 25 at the latter place; a nearby islet held 71 more nests with 115 eggs and 40 young (B.C. Prov. Museum, *fide* VG). The Swinomish, Wash., colony was down by half this year, but the Protection I. colony produced normally (TW). A Herring Gull was seen at Lightning L., Manning P.P. June 25 (V & MG). Flocks of imm. California Gulls began to appear in the Region from the east by mid-June, with numbers increasing still at coastal points and in the Puget Sound-Willamette Valley trough by the end of the report period. Ring-billed Gulls seem to follow the same post-breeding route, but in much fewer numbers. Considerable numbers of Mew Gulls are said to have been present at Vancouver and environs in June, with numbers decreasing in July, which is when they became commonly seen at Victoria. First year Franklin’s Gulls were seen at Iona I. and at the Ladner, B.C. sewage pond July 27 (TW); possibly the same bird had been seen at Iona I. three days earlier (BM, *fide* WW). A few Bonaparte’s Gulls were noted at Fern Ridge Res. in June (LN); 45 were at Boundary Bay June 12 and 35 were at Iona I. the next day (V & MG); alone imm. was seen at Victoria June 1 (RS, *fide* VG). Migrant Bonaparte’s Gulls were arriving at Bellingham by mid- July (TW) and 100, mostly adults, were seen at Yaquina Bay July 31 (CW, *fide* HN). As many as 200 Heermann’s Gulls had drifted n. to Ocean Shores by June 23, where there were 2000 on July 17 (JM); on July 20 at Saanich, 50 individuals were counted (RS, *fide* VG). Up to ten Black-legged Kittiwakes were seen at the Columbia R. mouth, at Ocean Shores, and at Victoria, mostly in June, except for two sightings in July at the first two places named. A Sabine’s Gull was recorded at Mitlenatch I., June 11 (MSh, *fide* WW); “many” were found at sea from Newport, July 21 (FR, MS *et al*.). Common Terns were seen at Ocean Shores June 26 (G & WH), but it was not until the last week of July, that up to 30 of these birds were seen there and at Blaine, Saanich, Victoria and Newport. Caspian Terns seem to have occurred more widely in the Region than ever before; they were repeatedly seen in n. Puget Sound, and in the Straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca, as well as at coastal points in the s. portion of the Region throughout June and July. Approximately 400 nests of the Pigeon Guillemot were counted on Mandarte I, June 25 (B.C. Prov. Museum, *fide* VG); another interesting nesting observation involving this species was the three nests discovered in cliffs at Stanley Park in downtown Vancouver (WW). On July 13, 58 Marbled Murrelets were observed at Mitlenatch I. (MSh, *fide* WW). An Ancient Murrelet was identified in the ocean just off-shore from Strawberry Pt., n. of Florence, Oreg. July 24 (DG, *fide* LM). Five Cassin’s Auklets were mist-netted June 12 at Tatoosh I., Wash. (DPa, DP, *fide* PM); five others were seen at Neah Bay, July 14 (JW, *fide* PM). Rhinoceros Auklets were commonly seen throughout the report period at Ocean Shores where 300 on June 2 (JM) was the maximum; the species was also common around s. Vancouver I. during the period (VG). Between 40 and 50 Tufted Puffins were observed at Pt. Grenville, Wash., June 26 (G & WH).

OWLS, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS, WOODPECKERS -- On Aug. 10 the presence of a pair of **Barred Owls**, reported as early as April 24 by Tim Reickert, was confirmed at Bacus Hill, Skagit Co, Wash., when several observer succeeded in calling the birds by use of a tape-recording into view for positive identification (JD, NL, TW); we have published two records for British Columbia in the last five years for this species, and have not published three other reports for the Province because they lacked detail. The present record is, we believe, the first for the State of Washington. A pair of Spotted Owls was confirmed to be along the Nestucca R., Tillamook Co., Oreg., when observed July 28 by a number of capable observers (WE, FR, WT). Five Long-eared Owls were found n.e. of Medford July 4 (PT, *fide* AC). A Short-eared Owl was seen at Sea I., s. of Vancouver June 13 (VG), and two were seen there July 30 (JT, *fide* WW). Single Saw-whet Owls were found June 2 at Finley N.W.R. (WE, FR, *fide* FZ) and June 30 at Saanich (RWC, *fide* VG). A breeding bird survey at Squamish, B.C., turned up 229 Black Swifts (GAP, *fide* WW); up to 100 of these birds were present throughout the breeding season at Duncan (JCo); 50 were at Seattle June 5 (KB *et al*., *fide* PM), and lesser numbers were seen in June at several locations s. of Vancouver (WW). Twenty Black Swifts were at Camano I., Wash., on June 12 in heavy overcast (PM, JW). Vaux’s Swifts were well reported through most of the s. portion of the Region. A Black-chinned Hummingbird was seen at Strike L., Manning P.P., July 10 (RS, *fide* VG). A female Anna’s Hummingbird spent the report period at Eugene (LM) and a male spent the entire period at Saanich (V & MG) Two other sightings were made, June 5 & July 18, at other locations in Saanich of male birds (RM-G, ARD, *fide* VG). A male was seen repeatedly and a female occasionally at Vancouver (PW, *fide* WW), suggesting the possibility of a mated pair. A male Allen’s Hummingbird was regularly seen during June and July at Phoenix, Jackson Co., Oreg., (PT, *fide* AC). Belted Kingfishers are generally regarded as of regular occurrence in Oregon, but in favorable habitat they can be actually abundant, as a survey along Oregon’s lower Luckiamute R., a tributary of the Willamette, made

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July 27 demonstrates; 38 pairs were found (JJ, *fide* FR). A report of a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers nesting in a Wood Duck box at Sutton L., near Florence, Oreg. this season is of interest (*fide* AC). A female Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker was found at Lightning L., Manning P.P., July 11 (RS, *fide* VG), where on June 14 a female N. Three-toed Woodpecker had been seen (V & MG); females of the latter species were seen in Manning P.P. July 7 & 12 also (RS, *fide* VG). A nest of the N. Three-toed Woodpecker was discovered 25 feet above ground in a snag 4 mi. w. of Rainy Pass on the N. Cascades Highway July 1 (WW).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, PARIDAE, WRENS -- Individual E. Kingbirds were seen at Wedderburn, Curry Co., Oreg. June 23 (JO), at Reed I. in the Columbia R. near Troutdale, Oreg. June 15 (MS, OS) and at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., June 14 (TL); one was in Manning P.P. June 13 and three were seen there June 16 (V & MG). Up to six E. Kingbirds summered at Pitt Meadows e. of Vancouver and on June 15 one was seen at Iona I. (WW, BK). Single W. Kingbirds were seen at Finley N.W.R. (FZ) and at Manning P.P. (V & MG) both June 13, at Alberni, B.C. June 20 (RM-G, *fide* VG), and at Saanich on July 10 (V & MG); one was at Mitlenatch I., B.C., May 27-30 (MSh, *fide* WW). An Ash-throated Flycatcher was seen at Eugene in early June (WE, LM, FR). A Black Phoebe was found at Wedderburn, June 23 (JO); a nest of this species was discovered near Rogue River City in the Medford area (*fide* OS). Hammond’s Flycatchers -- rare on Vancouver I.--were recorded there June 23 with four at Thetis L. and two at Goldstream Park (WW) near Victoria. Violet-green Swallows were present at Duncan in only 15 per cent of their 1973 breeding season numbers -- down to 42 from 628 (JCo). A pair of Barn Swallows was found nesting at the Mt. Baker, Wash., ski area at over 5000 ft. elevation July 28, with ten feet of snow still on the ground. At Fern Ridge Res., 33 pairs of Purple Martins utilized nest boxes placed there for the purpose while about 20 pairs used natural cavities to fledge 154 young (TL); up to three pairs were induced to use nest boxes at two other locations in w. Oregon (TL). Martins were recorded along the lower Columbia near Goble, Oreg. and at Clatsop Spit, at Corvallis, and at Saanich during the period. A Boreal Chickadee was found at Poland L. Ridge, Manning P.P., July 13 (RS, *fide* VG). Bushtits were noted as having become extremely plentiful at Duncan by the end of July (JCo). Four Wrentits mist-netted at Eugene during the season all had brood patches (DPy, *fide* LM). Out-of-the-ordinary records of House Wrens this season were one near Campbell Big Tree Grove in n e. Grays Harbor Co., Wash., June 9-10 (JM), one at Portland July 4 (JO), and one at Mitlenatch I. July 17 (MSh, *fide* WW).

MIMIDS THROUGH WARBLERS -- A Mockingbird was discovered along Rt. I-5, 3 mi. n. of Woodburn, Oreg. June 8 (JW, *fide* PM); one was seen in Victoria July 5 & 8 (ARD, V & MG). A Gray Catbird was heard singing near Jericho Beach in Vancouver June 16 (WW). A Hermit Thrush was seen at Tillamook July 20 (RFi, *et al*.). Swainson’s Thrushes proved to be the most common bird along the Columbia R. bottoms on the Oregon side in a June survey conducted from 30 mi e of Portland to Astoria (OS, MS). A **Veery** was heard singing along the Skeena R. 40 miles w. of Terrace, B.C., June 30; the locality is 140 miles n.w. of the known breeding range (WW). A singing Townsend’s Solitaire at the 3000ft. level of Mary’s Peak in the Coast Range w. of Corvallis June 1 was a very unusual find; another on c. Oregon’s Mt. Washington at the 7000-ft. level July 28 (JO) was also noteworthy. A nest containing five eggs of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was found June 3 at Roxy Ann Butte near Medford, the northernmost western outpost regularly inhabited by this species (HN). Three pairs of Red-eyed Vireos frequented Eugene’s Jasper Park in June and July (LM *et al*.). A count of 28 Warbling Vireos on the Squamish, B.C., B.B.S. June 8 (GAP, *fide* WW) was a high one-day count for anywhere in the Region. A good description of two Tennessee Warblers seen in Manning P.P. July 9 was furnished (RS, *fide* VG) Nashville Warblers were found at Newhalem, Wash, June 12 (TW), at Corvallis June 15 (FZ), and at Roxy Ann Butte near Medford at 3200ft. June 28 (OS) A count of 33 Yellow Warblers on the June 8 B.B.S. at Squamish, B.C., (GAP, *fide* WW) is also interestingly high. Townsend’s Warblers were found to be widespread in Douglas fir stands in the lake country on the e side of Oregon’s c. Cascade Mts.; individuals were also found seven mi. n. of Waldo L. on the w. side of the crest (LM, RFl *et al*.). On June 13 at the s. jetty of the Columbia R., Tom Lund discovered a female **Black-throated Green Warbler** in a clump of willows; the next day he observed the same and another differently-patterned female of the same species at the same locality. There can be little doubt about the validity of the sighting since close and prolonged study at distance as little as five feet was possible; the sighting is, we believe, a first of this species for our Region. A Hermit Warbler was observed at Tacoma, June 1 (JW, PM); single individuals were found at Rainier N.P. June 21 & July 12 (RT, *fide* PM); and on Hurricane Ridge in Olympic N.P. July 13 (JW, *fide* PM). A **Palm Warbler** singing at Jasper Park in Eugene, July 25 & 26 (DG, CJ, LM) is the first Regional record in the breeding season report period A N. Waterthrush was heard singing in a small swamp at Lakelse L. near Terrace, B.C., June 30 (WW). A count of 34 MacGillivray’s Warblers on the June 8 Squamish B.B.S. was a large count (GAP, *fide* WW), as were the 40 Com. Yellowthroats noted at Pitt Meadows e of Vancouver June 25 (WW). Yellow-breasted Chats were recorded at L. Sammamish S. P., Whatcom Co., Wash, June 3 & 10 and at Bellevue, Wash., June 25 (JBe, *fide* PM). A male **Hooded Warbler** was discovered July 20 at Washburn S.P. between Junction City and Monroe, Oreg. (AS), and was still present at the end of the report period; this too, is a first for the Region of which we have knowledge. This year two pairs of Am. Redstarts and an additional male were found at Davis L. in Oregon’s c. Cascades; a nest with young was found in late June, and another empty but with juveniles nearby was found on July 20 (DG, CJ, LM). An Am. Redstart was also seen at Lakelse L., near Terrace, B.C., June 30 (WW).

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BLACKBIRDS AND SPARROWS -- An adult male **Bobolink** was observed at close range on the ocean beach three mi. s. of Cape Alava. Wash. June 8 (EP, *fide* PM); the species is rare in our Region and this record is possibly the first for w. Washington. Two pairs of Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported nesting on the Nisqually delta, near Olympia, presumably in June (*fide* PM); a single male was at Sea I., June 13 (V & MG). Northern Orioles were recorded in good numbers on B.B.S.’s in the Medford area this year, with a total of 53 individuals on one route (OS); individuals were seen at a good number of places in the s. Willamette Valley, and a few were recorded in the environs of both Victoria and Vancouver during the report period. At Lakelse L. 15 Rusty Blackbirds including fledglings were counted on June 30 (WW). On June 2 there were 45 Brown-headed Cowbirds at Mitlenatch I. (MSh, *fide* WW). Several Lazuli Buntings nested along n. Washington’s Skagit R. during the period, with a bird at Minkler L., e. of Sedro Woolley being farther west than any individual previously seen in that part of the state (TW). Lazuli Buntings were to be found perhaps more widely than usual in the s. Willamette Valley this season (LN). A pair of Evening Grosbeaks at a feeder in Olympia July 27 (G & WH) was unusual. Up to six Pine Grosbeaks were seen at Manning P.P. July 7-13 (RS, *fide* VG); two were at Prudhomme L., near Prince Rupert, June 30 (WW). Pine Siskins were relatively little reported during the period, though sightings in the vicinity of Victoria and of Olympia were made repeatedly of up to 60 birds at a time. Am. Goldfinches were said to be “especially numerous” at Eugene during the season; a count of 50 at Tillamook July 20 (RFi *et al*.) is high for that place any time. Five Lesser Goldfinches were seen at Vancouver, Wash., June 15 (EH). Red Crossbills seem to have occurred only in a belt from s.e. Vancouver I. eastward through Bellingham to Mt. Baker during the season; one individual was seen at Eugene, July 23 (LM). Two White-winged Crossbills were discovered in Vancouver’s Stanley Park June 9 (BK, *fide* WW); 50 were seen in Manning P.P. in early August (WW). Three Green-tailed Towhees were recorded at Fish L. on the upper Umpqua R., on two occasions during the season (OS). Brewer’s Sparrows were found on six dates June 25-July 15 at five different spots west of there in a small burn dating back 40 or more years; the locality is west of the Cascade crest, and although no sagebrush is present, the grass and shrubs are comparable to the bird’s more usual habitat (OS). Impressively detailed notes of an observation made of a male **Chestnut-collared Longspur** in full breeding dress at Tokeland, Wash., in the early evening of July 7 have been forwarded to the editors; William Tweit recorded the notes shortly after he and Dave Hayward had completed a 15-minute observation at close hand before consulting any text; there can be no reasonable doubt of the authenticity of the record, which is a first for this Region and possibly also for the State of Washington.

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*End 1974*