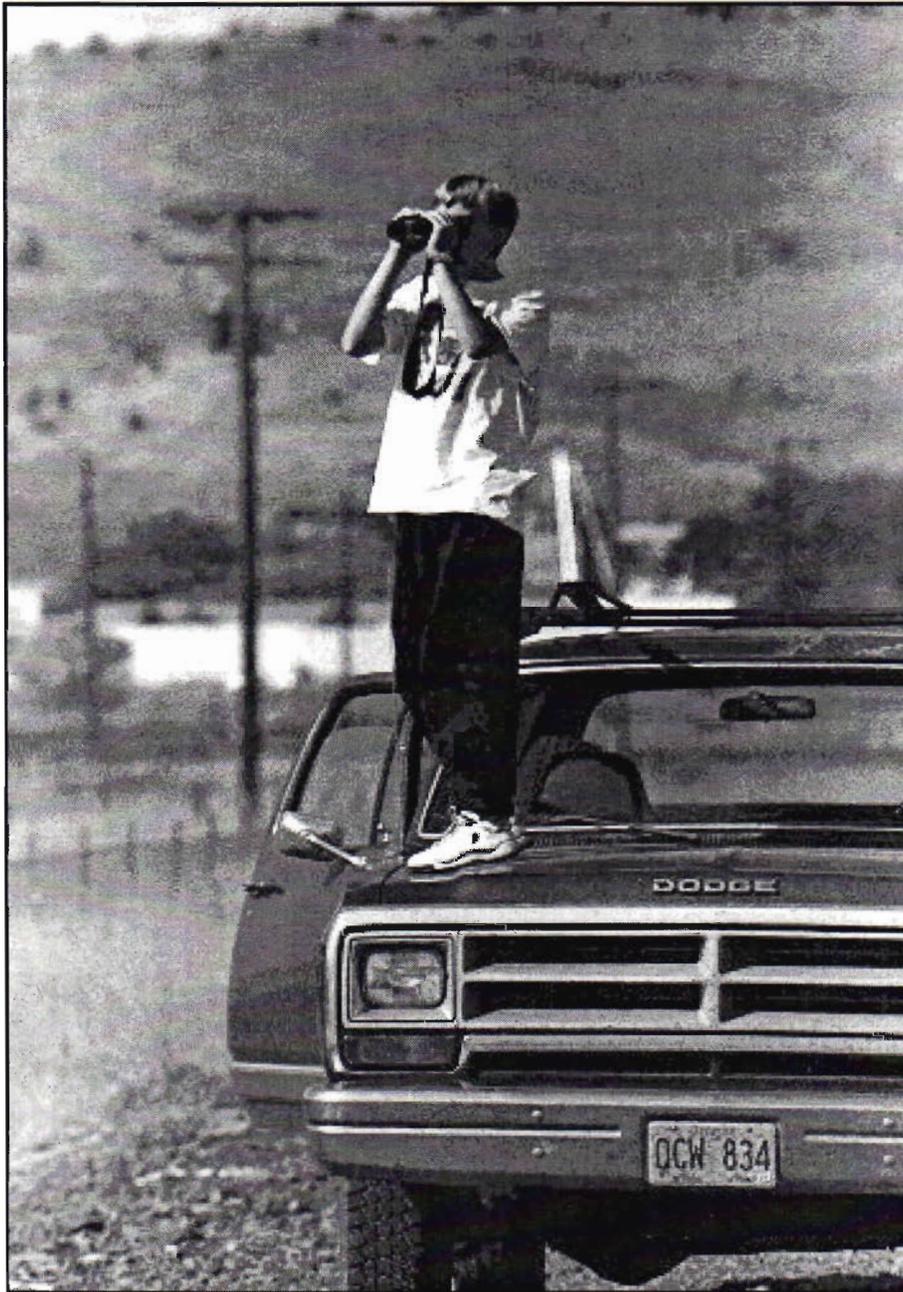


# Oregon Birds

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Noah Strycker, part of *The Next Generation* / Photo by Bob Keefer

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# Oregon Birds

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*The mission of Oregon Field Ornithologists is to further the knowledge,  
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Send all material to the Editor. *Oregon Birds* publishes articles and short notes on the following topics as they relate to Oregon's birds: bird status, distribution, occurrence, and life histories; bird identification and taxonomy; short notes on unusual observations; birding skills and techniques; bird-finding guides for particular species; site guides to birding a particular location; biographies, interviews, history and memoria; field notes; book and media reviews; news briefs; and other similar topics of interest to the readership. Submissions are preferred in electronic form, via e-mail, or sent as four paper copies, double-spaced throughout; send photos via ground mail, or contact the Editor for specifications on scanning images. Be sure all materials are labeled with or accompanied by your name, address, phone number, and e-mail if available. See the OFO web site (url above), or contact the Editor for expanded instructions and tips on preparing material for submission to *Oregon Birds*.

# The Breeding Fox Sparrows (*Passerella iliaca*) of the Northern Cascade Mountains of Oregon

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The sparrows of western North America are especially fascinating and entirely puzzling to amateur students of ornithology and professional taxonomists alike. Numerous subspecies have been described for many of these familiar feeder visitors, some of which are difficult to distinguish from one another, and the arrangement of these subspecies on the landscape is not immutable. To further confound the situation, the traditional methods of determining species limits, plumage and vocalizations, have been enhanced by comparison of DNA, the unseen hereditary material that cannot be described in a field guide. Robert Zink of the Bell Museum of Natural History, St. Paul, Minnesota, best encapsulated this puzzle for one species in particular in a recent article in *Birding* (1999), the journal of the American Birding Association: "The Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) represents one of the biggest unsolved species problems in North American ornithology..."

At present only a single species

of Fox Sparrow is recognized by the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), though 17 to 18 subspecies within four "complexes" have been described. One recent identification guide to sparrows recognizes more than one species within the Fox Sparrow complex in anticipation of a change in official nomenclature, based primarily on Zink's work. For birders and ornithologists in Oregon, the outcome of this deliberation will mean the difference between 1 breeding species with anywhere from 2 to 3 races, or 2 distinct breeding species in the state. An apparently recent range expansion of Fox Sparrows into the western Cascades well north of the previously described range adds intrigue to subject. The possible split of the genus *Passerella* requires that this "new" population of Fox Sparrows breeding along the Cascades summit north of Santiam Summit be described as precisely as available methods permit.

## Taxonomic history

Through the mid-1800s, 4 distinct species of Fox Sparrow were described based on plumage characteristics and bill size (Zink 1999). The Red Fox Sparrow of the far north and the Sooty Fox Sparrow of Northern Pacific Coast were described in the late 1700s; the Slate-colored Fox Sparrow of the Interior West and the Thick-billed Fox Sparrow of the Pacific slope of California and Oregon were described in the mid-1800s. By 1886 and the first edition of the AOU Code of Nomenclature and Checklist of North American Birds, these 4 species were recognized as multiple points in a continuum of a single species.

The understanding of the distribution of the races within the genus *Passerella* in western North America was expanded and refined by Swarth in his landmark 1920 monograph, *Revision of the Avian Genus Passerella, with Special Reference to the Distribution and Migration of the Races in California*. This work focused on California because numerous subspecies could be found side-by-side there (Zink 1999), though he examined some specimens from Oregon as well. Swarth recognized three related groups within the subspecies. He also formally described *P. i. fulva*, placing it within the "slate-colored" (*schistacea*) group of Fox Sparrows, with which he included all of the "thick-billed" races of California. Some specimens



Figure 1.

*Thick-billed frontal* - This frontal view of a Fox Sparrow captured near Marion Forks, Linn Co., leaves no doubt about the reason the name "thick-billed" was chosen for this form. Note the smallish and sharply defined breast streaks, a feature common to all samples from the northern Cascades.

found within Oregon that had been previously referred to as *P. i. schistacea* in published accounts, were assigned to this form by Swarth (Gabrielson and Jewett 1940). He delineated the breeding range for this new subspecies as including a significant portion of the east slope of the Cascades at least to Warm Springs, Jefferson County (then known as "Warm Spring," part of Crook County), and ranges of the northern Great Basin of southeast Oregon. Swarth also stated: "Breeding birds from various points in central Oregon exhibit considerable diversity in size and shape of bill and in relative grayness and brownness of color, though all, I believe, are best referred to as *fulva*." Though relatively few specimens from Oregon were included in this analysis, Swarth's monograph laid the groundwork for further investigation of the *Passerella* in the state.

In their landmark *Birds of Oregon*, Gabrielson and Jewett (1940) recognized three breeding subspecies of Fox Sparrow for Oregon and described the distribution of races with a degree of accuracy that still appears to be essentially correct. *P. i. schistacea* (Slate-colored Fox Sparrow) was described as breeding "in the Blue Mountains of eastern Oregon and southward through Malheur County to [the] Nevada line on higher ranges." *P. i. fulva* (Warner Mountains Fox Sparrow) was described as breeding "in higher sage-covered ranges of southern Harney and Lake Counties and through [the] yellow-pine area of western Lake and all of Klamath County, and from northward along [the] eastern slope of Cascades to Columbia River." Specific arrival and departure dates are cited for Wasco County in the subspecies account, though a minor contradiction, a misprint perhaps, suggests that the birds are "still present to the breaks of the Columbia River south of Bend during May and June." It is

likely that the authors meant "south of The Dalles," a much more likely placement for the breaks of the Columbia River.

The third breeding subspecies, *P. i. mariposae* (Yosemite Fox Sparrow), was first collected in Oregon in Jackson County by Gabrielson (1923) in 1921, later by Gabrielson and Jewett in 1933, and then by Cushing (1938) in Josephine County. This race is referred to in later treatments as *P. i. megarhyncha* (AOU 1957). The breeding range for *mariposae* in Oregon was described in 1940 as "on the western slope of the Cascades in Jackson County and in the Siskiyou of Jackson and Josephine Counties." At this time, no Fox Sparrows were known to breed anywhere north of Crater Lake on the western slopes of the Cascades.

Zink (1986) visited the question of geographic variation in Fox Sparrows in a monograph that examined genetic (allozymes) as well as morphological variation, and employed additional statistical analysis that was unavailable to Swarth. This type of analysis failed to support the traditional recognition of subspecies, though his conclusions, based on theoretical considerations, suggested that three species of Fox Sparrow should be recognized. These groups translate into the groups of subspecies that had been referred to as the Sooty Fox Sparrow (*unalaschensis*), the Red Fox Sparrow (*iliaca*), and the Slate-colored Fox Sparrow (*schistacea*), a synthesis of the previously recognized "slate-colored" and "thick-billed" groups.

Zink (1994) subsequently reported on differences in mitochondrial DNA of Fox Sparrows from samples obtained throughout the range of the species, and this approach allowed specimens to be "unambiguously sorted into four groups." He notes that it is "not surprising" that these four groups correspond to the four groups, or

"species," recognized prior to 1886 and the first edition AOU Code of Nomenclature for North American Birds. It would appear that the results of Zink's exhaustive examination of the Fox Sparrow problem had delivered the ornithological community full-circle to the same recognition it had reached in the mid-19th century.

Recently published field guides offer no consensus on the matter. Zink's arrangement of three species (with the possibility of a further split within the slate-colored group) of Fox Sparrows was adopted by Rising in *The Guide to the Identification and Natural History of the Sparrows of the United States and Canada* (1996). Rising did make the caveat that this revision had not yet been accepted by the AOU. Pyle's recent expanded revision of *The Identification Guide to North American Birds, Part 1* (1997), otherwise known as "the bander's guide," utilizes Zink's grouping of subspecies, though Pyle falls short of recognizing four full species. *P. i. fulva*, *P. i. monoensis* and *P. i. mariposae* are combined as clines in a single form, *P. i. megarhyncha*. The third edition of the *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America* (1999) describes the species as "highly variable," with only brief references to some subspecies. Sibley (2000) in *The Sibley Guide to Birds* describes and illustrates four "main populations" as possibly separate species conforming to Zink's arrangement.

For the modern student of Oregon ornithology or the casual birder attempting to sort through this haze of taxonomic confusion, Zink is suggesting that in fact two Fox Sparrow species breed in Oregon. Based on current known ranges, the "Thick-billed Fox Sparrow" breeds from somewhere at an undetermined northern limit in the Cascades, possibly on both sides of the summit, to the California border and east to around southern Harney County. The "Slate-colored

Fox Sparrow” breeds in the Blue Mountains east to an undetermined point and south in an eastward arc through Steens Mountain and Malheur County.

Adding to the confusion is the fact that only subtle differences in plumage distinguish the two potential species (or three subspecies) in Oregon, and measurements for wing and tail overlap completely. Swarth (1920) describes the plumage for *P. i. fulva* as “about as in *schistacea*.” Differences in bill morphology between *P. i. fulva* (at the low end of the pooled range for *megarhyncha*) and *P. i. schistacea* may be indistinguishable in the field. *P. i. schistacea*, for example, overlaps *P. i. megarhyncha* in 2 of 3 standard bill measurements. The difference in bill depth (measured at the anterior of the nares or nostrils) between *P. i. megarhyncha* and *P. i. schistacea* does not overlap, but the difference may be as little as .6 mm (Pyle 1997).

### Fox Sparrows west of the Cascades Summit

In June 1960, a male Fox Sparrow in breeding condition was collected west of the Cascades summit near the junction of Bugaboo Creek and the North Santiam River by R. C. Banks (1969). This was a first for the western Cascades at this northerly limit. The specimen was identified as *P. i. fulva*, and was deposited in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology without further comment. In July 1968, a female Fox Sparrow in breeding condition was collected in Linn County by W. Thackaberry and H. Nehls, approximately 20 miles south of the Banks location. This specimen was identified as *P. i. megarhyncha*, and was deposited in the U. S. Natl. Museum. Banks wondered at the close proximity of the two races, both apparently prospecting newly created habitat, and speculated upon the future of this zone of contact. Banks mentioned that Alden Miller



and Ward C. Russell of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology had collected around the area of his specimen in 1941 and did not report Fox Sparrows from that locality.

Since the collection of the second specimen, published references to singing or suspected breeding Fox Sparrow locations in the northern Cascades of western Oregon are limited to BBS records. In June 1969, 40 Fox Sparrows were recorded on the Cool Camp BBS near Iron Mountain, Linn County (Sauer et al. 1999), the year after the route was established. The species has regularly been among the top 5 in detection frequency for that route to present, though numbers have declined steadily (Sauer et al. 1999).

Recent efforts to gather information about Oregon avifauna and increased communication among birders on the Internet have produced other reports of Fox Sparrow west of the Cascades summit. Gillson (1999) lists 10 other locations for Fox Sparrows in Linn County reported between 1991 and 1999. Matt Hunter (p.c.) recalls observations of Fox Sparrows in the “upper Clackamas drainage... somewhere in the SE part of Clackamas County...in 1990 or 1991 in several locations in 15-25 yr.old fir plantations (mainly Douglas-fir), that were near to closure of the conifer

Figure 2.  
*Thick-billed profile. The robust bill of northern Cascades Fox Sparrows is mostly bluish, usually much if any hint of yellow as in wintering forms.*

canopy, but not quite.”

I first detected singing Fox Sparrows at Mike’s Meadow at the headwaters of the South Fork Clackamas River, Clackamas County, in 1995. I captured and banded one of these birds in 1997, and posted a photo on my personal web site. I solicited other birders to identify the subspecies, and a lively discussion followed, indicating to me that there were some unresolved questions about this expanding population. The idea for a banding project was born out of the questions raised by this discussion.

In 1998, I began to search for Fox Sparrows on both sides of the Cascades summit. I used recorded songs to capture, band, and measure Fox Sparrows at 8 sites west of the summit and 3 sites east of the summit, as well as at Hoodoo Butte, Linn County, on the summit. I located singing males at other sites on both sides of the summit where capture attempts were unsuccessful or where capture was not attempted. On the west slope, the southernmost site was at Lava Lake, Linn County, just north of Highway 20. The southernmost site on the east slope

**Table 1. Fox Sparrow Locations from the Northern Cascade Mountains**

<i>Location</i>	<i>County</i>	<i># banded</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>Secs.</i>	<i>Administrative unit</i>
Mike's Meadow	Clackamas	3	05S	04E	36	BLM, Salem District, Cascades RA
Forest Service Rte. 42	Clackamas	1	07S	08E	03	Mt. Hood NF, Clackamas RD
Nohom Butte	Clackamas	0	07S	05E	27	BLM, Salem District, Cascades RA
Last Creek	Clackamas	2	07S	08E	15	Mt. Hood NF, Clackamas RD
Olallie Creek	Clackamas	1	08S	08E	22	Mt. Hood NF, Clackamas RD
Forest Service Rte. 4680	Clackamas	2	07S	08E	31	Mt. Hood NF, Clackamas RD
Breitenbush Mountain	Marion	3	09S	03E	26	Willamette NF, Detroit RD
Bruno Meadows	Linn	0	11S	07E	06	Willamette NF, Detroit RD
Forest Service Rte. 2257	Linn	4	11S	07E	27, 28	Willamette NF, Detroit RD
Forest Service Rte. 2266	Linn	0	12S	07E	17, 19	Willamette NF, Detroit RD
Forest Service Rte. 590	Linn	0	12S	07E	16	Willamette NF, Detroit RD
Hayrick Butte	Linn	4	13S	7 1/2 E	02, 03	Willamette NF, McKenzie RD
Lava Lake	Linn	4	13S	07E	19	Willamette NF, Sweet Home RD
Bear Springs	Wasco	0	05S	10E	22, 23	Mt. Hood NF, Bear Springs RD
Clear Creek	Wasco	2	05S	10E	07	Mt. Hood NF, Bear Springs RD
Green Ridge	Jefferson	4				Deschutes NF, Sisters RD
Cold Springs	Deschutes	4				Deschutes NF, Sisters RD

was at Cold Springs Campground, Deschutes County, near Sisters. The northernmost site on the west slope was at Mike's Meadow, Clackamas County, at the headwaters of the South Fork Clackamas River. The northernmost east slope site was near Bear Springs Ranger Station, Wasco County (see table 1). I also captured 2 adult males in the Warner Mountains just east of Lakeview. Additional data was collected for ten Fox Sparrows from three sites in Josephine County in southwest Oregon by Dennis Vroman. These

birds represent a population that has been indisputably identified as of the *megarhyncha* subspecies. These birds were not lured with a recording.

I located birds by playing a recording of Fox Sparrow songs in habitat that appeared to be suitable based on Breeding Bird Survey and Breeding Bird Atlas detections, or at actual locations from these surveys. The original song recording was from a bird of the form that breeds in the Siskiyou Mountains of southwest Oregon (E. Pugh, Wildlife Voices - Sparrows, humid lands) and

was indistinguishable from virtually all of the responses in the Cascades. Though my experience with Fox Sparrow songs away from the Cascades is limited, these songs were also indistinguishable from birds in the Warner Mountains, Lake County, but were distinct from birds at Steens Mountain and in the Trout Creek Mountains, Harney County. Response was not always obtained in places that contained habitat that appeared to be superficially similar to occupied areas. Generally, several birds were found to be defending

territories in proximity to one another, sometimes directly adjacent, with large gaps of similar apparently suitable habitat separating these clusters.

After birds were located, one or more net lanes were cleared, mist-nets were placed as close to the initial response as possible, and the recording was played again within a few feet of the net. Because of the extremely aggressive nature of the males, especially early in the breeding season, some birds were captured literally within seconds of the playback, sometimes with the observer still crouched next to the net. Most birds were easily extracted, and few remained in the net for more than a minute. A few birds actually bounced out of a net several times, though this did not seem to discourage them, and most were still captured.

Capture attempts began as early as the second week of April on the east slope of the Cascades at Green Ridge near Camp Sherman, Jefferson County, by which time males were already vigorously defending territories. Because of limited access from lingering snow, capture attempts on the west slope were delayed until late May or early June. After June, capture became considerably more difficult, and some birds could not be captured after attempts of 2 hours or more. Sites that were nearly pure chaparral (manzanita and snowbrush) were also more difficult because of the stiff winds that would arrive by late morning, and by the lack of net-high vertical cover in which to conceal the nets. As a result, attempts at some sites were unsuccessful.

### Data collection

Morphometric data was collected from each captured bird that could be compared with Pyle (1997). Measurements of wing chord, tail length, exposed culmen, culmen from the anterior of the nares, bill thickness, bill depth at the anterior



of the nares, and bill width at the anterior of the nares. Sex was confirmed by the presence of a cloacal protuberance for males or a brood patch for females. One juvenile bird was captured at Mike's Meadow, but is not included in the data set. Some birds were photographed, and recordings were made of the songs of some birds prior to capture. No attempt was made to assess plumage characteristics of sampled birds. I examined preserved skins of *P. i. fulva*, *P. i. megarhyncha*, and *P. i. schistacea* at Oregon State University's study collection at Nash Hall but found them to be indistinguishable by plumage. Skins of this species are "notorious for fading in collections" (A. Contreras p.c.).

Figure 3. Thick-billed in hand - Northern Cascades Fox Sparrows are always easy to extract from the net and usually quite calm in hand. This photo illustrates the exceptionally long toes (especially the hind toe) and the overall long-tailed and short-winged appearance of these birds.

### Preliminary findings

Any comparison of newly collected data and data from other sources must be approached with caution. The overall sample size of published data is small, and the subset from Oregon may be quite limited. The number and experience of data collectors is unknown, and the range of bias in measurements cannot be assessed (including my own). Some data sets might have been derived from skins, while others originate from living birds, and this might confound any comparison of morphology. Feather wear, especially on the rectrices, can be extreme for this ground-dwelling species, resulting in very short tail measurements. And finally, a personal comment from another

**Table 2. Measurements of Live Fox Sparrows, 1998 – 2000**

	<i>Sample size</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>Sample size</i>	<i>Tail</i>	<i>Exp. Culmen</i>	<i>Bill Depth</i>	<i>Bill Width</i>
<b>MALES ONLY</b>							
Western Cascades sample	17	76 - 83	17	71 - 85	11.7 - 14.8	7.6 - 8.5	5.4 - 6.9
Eastern Cascades sample	10	77 - 83	10	76 - 87	12.3 - 14.6	7.9 - 8.5	6.0 - 7.0
Hoodoo Butte Sample (summit)	4	78 - 81	4	73 - 80	11.7 - 13.7	8.2 - 8.5	6.4 - 7.7
Siskiyou sample	5	78 - 83	5	79 - 85	12.9 - 14.8	8.4 - 9.3	6.5 - 8.1
Warner sample	2	79 - 84	2	81 - 86	14.2 - 15.2	7.6 - 8.0	6.7 - 7.2
<i>megarhyncha</i> from Pyle	93	78 - 87	60	79 - 90	(both sexes) 11.2 - 13.8	(both sexes) 8.0 - 9.9	NA
<i>schistacea</i> from Pyle	46	78 - 86	29	77 - 84	(both sexes) 10.5 - 12.4	(both sexes) 6.3 - 7.4	NA
<b>FEMALES ONLY</b>							
Western Cascades sample	2	75 - 78	2	70 - 71	10.9 - 12.4	6.2 - 7.4	4.8 - 6.3
Siskiyou sample	4	75 - 80	4	77 - 84	9.8 - 10.6	7.8 - 8.8	6.5 - 7.0
<i>megarhyncha</i> from Pyle	32	75 - 84	14	75 - 85	(both sexes) 11.2 - 13.8	(both sexes) 8.0 - 9.9	NA
<i>schistacea</i> from Pyle	34	73 - 83	10	74 - 79	(both sexes) 10.5 - 12.4	(both sexes) 6.3 - 7.4	NA

Fox Sparrow aficionado outlines the problem: “Realize folks, that putting this (the Mike’s Meadow bird) or any other west Cascades FOSP in one of the existing categories, is not necessary, and perhaps not even correct” (M. Hunter). The possibility does exist, of course, that Fox Sparrows in the northern Cascades are derived from any combination of two or even all three of the described subspecies.

**Discussion**

The measurements for exposed culmen and bill depth for males from the western Cascades samples lean heavily toward a *megarhyncha* range (see Table 2). Though seven males from the Cascade birds measured below the low end for *megarhyncha* (.4 - .1 mm), none are within the range for *schistacea*. Four of the males fall within the overlap zone for exposed culmen, though all are still within the range for

*megarhyncha*. Curiously, both Vroman and I both obtained exposed culmen measurements for the combined six females, captured far apart, which are below the range for *megarhyncha*. Both of us also measured culmens for males that are larger than the range for *megarhyncha*. Both of the Cascades females have bill depths within the range for *schistacea*, but not *megarhyncha*. None of the Siskiyou birds overlaps with *schistacea*, as would be expected.

No obvious trend in any measurements can be recognized from northern to southern Cascades sample sites, either with data separated by aspect or pooled. This could be viewed as consistent with Swarth's observation that specimens

of *P.i. fulva* from central Oregon exhibit a considerable diversity in size and shape of bill. The high-end bill depth for all Cascades birds matches nicely with the low end from the Siskiyou sample, with a small degree of overlap. Though the

sample size from the Siskiyou is smaller, bill size does appear to trend larger than the western Cascades birds. This is consistent with Pyle's assertion in his treatment of the subspecies as mentioned above.



Figure 4. Mike's Meadow. At 4,000 ft. elev., Mike's Meadow is a subalpine meadow surrounded by young (less than 30 yrs. old) noble fir and mountain hemlock. The 1 or 2 singing male Fox Sparrows at this site generally remain in the conifers, and are rarely seen or heard in willow or Sitka alder at the immediate edge of the meadow.



Figure 5. Willow-edge habitat. Several male Fox Sparrows were defending territories in this willow-edge habitat in the Warner Mountains, east of Lakeview, but were also fairly common in dry chaparral nearby.

### Site characteristics

Habitat data was not collected in a standardized format for analysis. The shrub *Ceanothus velutinus*, also known as snowbrush, was present at all sites on the eastern slope, usually mixed with Ponderosa Pine or other conifer tree species. Though most sites were essentially regenerating clear cuts, snowbrush formed an under-story beneath mature trees at Cold Springs, Deschutes County. Snowbrush was virtually the only cover on the summit around Hoodoo Butte, Linn County, though some territories included Lodgepole Pine as well. The majority of the Marion, Linn, and Clackamas County sites included some snowbrush, usually mixed with regenerating conifer trees and a variety of shrubs. Singing Fox Sparrows were conspicuously absent from sites that lacked significant overstory but were dominated by Pacific Rhododendron. A sites few lacked ceanothus entirely. Mike's Meadow, Clackamas County, is



dominated by young *Abies* conifers. Though willows and Sitka Alder (*Alnus sinuata*) surround the meadow and line the access road, Fox Sparrows here did not appear to defend these areas. At Bruno Meadows, northern Linn County, males defended territories that consisted of pure Douglas-fir stands

Figure 6. Thick-billed in treetop—Male Fox Sparrows frequently sing from the tops of young conifers 15 - 30 ft. tall. When the cover between these trees is considerably lower, it can be difficult to lure birds into the net.

between 10 and 30 ft. tall. All sites contained some feature that provided for territorial singing posts

elevated above the surrounding shrubs, usually in the form of young conifer trees. Bare soil ranged from complete, as with the pumice soils around Santiam Summit, to nearly absent as with Mike's Meadow. All of the western slope sites had obviously been subjected to timber management treatments within the past 30 years.

### Conclusions

Fox Sparrows may have been present as a breeding species in the northern Cascades west of the summit prior to 1960 and the collection of the Banks specimen, though few roads existed which would facilitate easy access by collectors at that time. Timber harvest, mostly confined to lowland areas prior to the 1960s, has undoubtedly created extensive new habitat areas in the higher Cascades for the species to prospect, as well as roads for observers to utilize. Though wildfires might have served this purpose prior to the "big timber" era, few observers might have accessed these areas to note the occurrence. Whether Fox Sparrows are long-time breeders in the northern part of the western Cascades or a recent "prospector," it is likely that their range has in fact increased dramatically since the 1960s. The habitat created in the aftermath of "bad silviculture" (M. Hunter p.c.) quite often results in the "ceanothus thickets" that Gabrielson and Jewett described as typical for *P. i. fulva*. Away from the eastern Cascades, *fulva* is also known to use willow thickets, as in the Warner Mountains and at Hart Mountain.

It is possible that *schistacea* did at some earlier time breed in the extreme eastern Cascades, since the western limits of the range for this subspecies can be considered "fuzzy" at best. Though there are specimens in U. S. Natl. Museum from "Warm Springs" in north central Jefferson County that refer *P. i. schistacea* (A. Contreras p.c.),

measurements from these may, upon re-examination, conform to the range for *P. i. fulva*. None of the data that I collected indicate that *P. i. schistacea* currently breeds in the eastern Cascades, at least in southwestern Jefferson County or southwestern Wasco County. Swarth specifically states that specimens from central Oregon "are best referred to *fulva*," and Gabrielson and Jewett cite records for *fulva* from as far north as Wasco County on the eastern slope. Connectivity of habitat is certainly more complete from eastern and southern Cascades populations than from Blue Mountains populations, but this does not preclude the presence of *schistacea* as yet another Fox Sparrow form "prospecting" for habitat.

Though not conclusive, data from the live birds I measured points toward a strong if not conclusive influence from the "thick-billed" lineage of Oregon Fox Sparrows throughout the northern Cascades. Examination of genetic material might confirm this, and contacts have been made to facilitate this. If one accepts that Zink has made a compelling case for the taxonomic division between the "Thick-billed" Fox Sparrow and the "Slate-colored" Fox Sparrow, and that *P. i. fulva* and *P. i. megarhyncha* are in fact variations of the "Thick-billed" Fox Sparrow, then there is really no longer any puzzle to be solved from the old Linn County records. Banks' *P. i. fulva* and Thackaberry's *P. i. megarhyncha*, found barely 20 miles apart in the western Cascades, might be the same subspecies and, therefore, the same species. Natural variation of bill size, as well as the lack of specimens from this area of the western Cascades, might explain the independent interpretation of two specimens separated by a relatively short distance. A re-examination of these specimens, side by side, might also prove to be enlightening.

### Acknowledgments

Assistance with capture and banding was provided by Tom Mickel, Brian Sharp, Greg Gillson, Kris Fausti, and Tim Rodenkirk. Dennis Vroman captured birds and collected data in the Siskiyou Mountains. Bob Altman was, as always, a technical advisor and stalwart supporter of worthwhile investigations. Hopefully, the new data that I collected will assist in arriving at a formal determination of the number and nature of the breeding Fox Sparrow species in Oregon, a decision that ultimately rests with the deliberative body of the AOU.

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## OFO Field Trip To Churchill, Manitoba

Chuck Gates, 14265 S. Antelope Dr., Powell Butte, OR 97753

On June 24, 2000, seven intrepid northwest birders set off for Churchill, Manitoba, in search of birds, history, and enjoyable respite. Led by OFO trip leader Paul Sullivan from Beaverton, the group included Jim and Rita Coleman of Portland, Mike Bogar from Milwaukee, LeRoy Fish from Blachly, Henry Gilmore of Vancouver, and myself, Chuck Gates from Powell Butte. The group spent 3 days in Winnipeg and 6 days in Churchill. Overall, we saw or heard over 185 species of birds, several species of mammals, and uncounted plants, mosquitoes, and icebergs. After a couple of days of birding in Winnipeg, we boarded a train for a 36-hour journey to our main destination: Churchill.

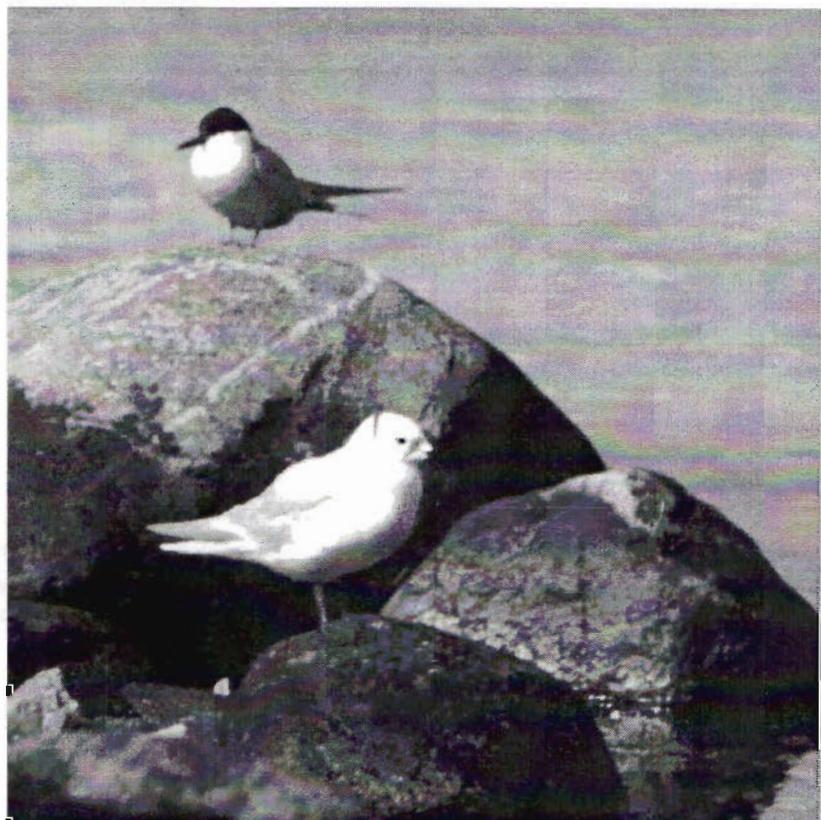
Churchill is a small port village on Hudson Bay about one thousand miles north of Winnipeg. Icebergs in the bay and a land scoured by glaciation dominate the scenery. The land is speckled with ponds of water that pool above the impermeable tundra. Each pond supports an array of vegetation and many nesters seemed to be attracted to these. Beyond the tundra lies the boreal forest and its associated species.

The birding was spectacular. We were treated to multiple sightings of Stilt Sandpipers, American Golden Plovers, Sandhill Cranes, and

Hudsonian Godwits. Tours of the bay produced Common Eiders, Harlequin Ducks, and hundreds of Arctic Terns. Parasitic Jaegers patrolled the icebergs and harassed the large flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls while foxes and weasels hunted

unseen prey in the tundra.

From the beginning of the trip, it had been clear that the main bird everyone wanted to see was Ross's Gull. Although it took a couple of days, we finally located not one, but two Ross's Gulls near the grain



elevators in town. Eureka!! At the same time, Paul picked out a Little Gull from the throngs of "Boneyes." Also at this location, we were treated to great views of Beluga Whales swimming in the mouth of the river.

Each day in Churchill, we set out for a different area or took a different route. This was Sullivan's fourth trip, so he knew most of the good places to bird. Although heavier than usual spring rains prevented some shorebirds from nesting, the passerines seemed to be doing fine. We found good numbers of Common Redpolls, Blackpoll Warblers, and American Tree Sparrows. Diligent birding produced a few Palm Warblers and Swamp Sparrows as well as two Harris's Sparrows. In one area near the Churchill River, we found 3 Northern Waterthrush. Perhaps our best passerines were the Smith's Longspurs we found on the open tundra.

One of my "wish" birds was the Pine Grosbeak. After several fruitless days of searching, we were "Grosbeakless," and I was beginning to lose hope. However, on day five we found a feeder south of town and on that feeder were four of the most beautiful birds I've ever seen. Three bright male Pine Grosbeaks and one female certainly were one of the trip highlights for me. Also at this

location, we found a Slate-colored Junco, a White-throated Sparrow, and several Gray Jays. In the woods near there, we came upon two Rusty Blackbirds foraging in the area.

One bird that brought us a particular amount of delight was the very common Willow Ptarmigan. These birds proved to be very tame and allowed us to get very close to them. Often we would see ptarmigans in full, beautiful breeding plumage standing next to the road and not even the noise of a vehicle seemed to bother them much. In contrast to the showy males, the females were rarely seen.

Often the weather can be a problem in Churchill, but we were spared any real difficulties. It did get near freezing one morning, and the wind was nearly always present, but the combination of wind and cool temperatures kept the plague of mosquitoes down to a trickle, and for that we were thankful. For the most part, we were prepared for the cold mornings and the afternoon temperatures were comfortable. We saw very little rain.

Our six days in Churchill went by very quickly, and before we knew it, we were on the train back to Winnipeg. We did little birding from the train on the way home. Instead, we spent most of our time talking and basking after such a great

experience. We did have a little time on one of our stopovers to get out and find an Alder Flycatcher, and then it was back to the train for cards, conversation, and relaxation.

Upon arriving in Winnipeg, we felt a sense of urgency. We had but one more day in this part of the world. We vowed to make the best of it. We quickly rented two cars and headed for bird country. The next few hours were a blur of Indigo Bunting, Scarlet Tanager, and Great-Crested Flycatcher sightings. We hit the prairie running as we picked up beautiful full views of LeConte's and Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows, and all the while we were serenaded by the sounds of the abundant Clay-colored Sparrows and Sedge Wrens. A plague of mosquitoes in one location was the only thing that slowed our exploration.

After a final foray into the woods of Winnipeg where we found Eastern Bluebirds, Eastern Towhees, Veery, and an unexpected Black Bear, our journey came to an end. The birding was wonderful and the scenery intense, but the best part was the companionship of a great group of people. As we said our good-byes and went our separate ways, we were all aware of the fact that we would forever remember this wondrous place and the people who shared in its sensational beauty.

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## Birding Hot Spots: Millicoma Marsh, Coos County

Tim Rodenkirk, 611 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Coos Bay, OR 97420

After three years of intense listing in Coos County (1998-2000), Millicoma Marsh has become one of my favorite late fall and winter birding spots. Located in the Eastside District of Coos Bay adjacent to the entrance of the Coos River, this man-made area had been a designated disposal spot for dredge material from the bay from the 1930s to 1985. The Port of Coos

Bay initially planted tall wheat grass to help stabilize the area, but since then nature has taken control. Habitats now include freshwater marshes, freshwater ponds, a large tidal saltwater marsh, scrub-shrub wetland, wooded wetland, and wet meadow. Coos Bay School District 9, owner of a portion of the area, implemented a management plan in 1999. The goals of the plan include

managing for biodiversity, education, and recreation, and the plan identified bird watching as one of the appropriate uses of the area (Fereday, 1999).

Access to Millicoma Marsh is from the south end of Coos Bay. From Highway 101, turn east on Newport Ave., following the signs for "Allegany." After crossing a bridge, the main road bears left and

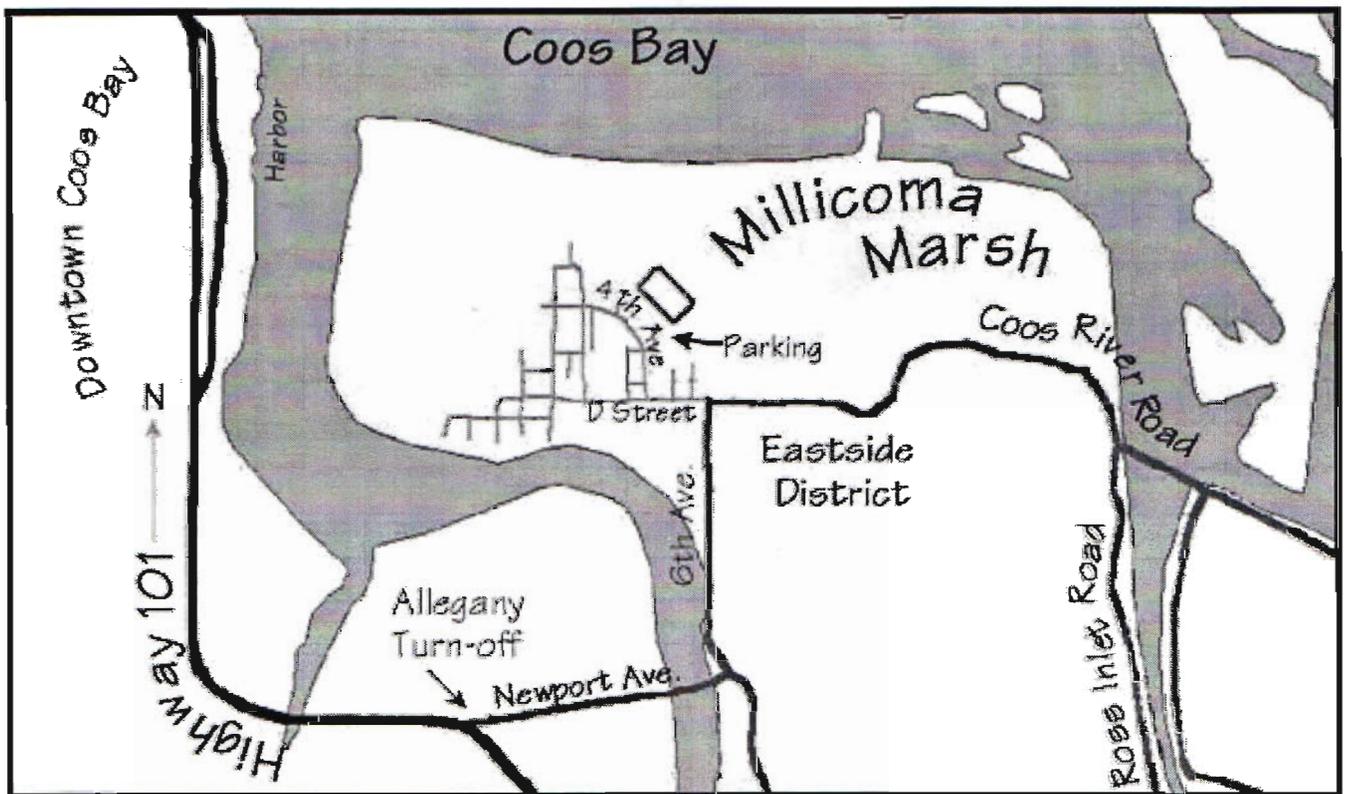
becomes 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Just over a mile from Hwy. 101, at the top of the hill, turn left onto D Street at the direction of a “binocular” sign for wildlife viewing. Follow “D” Street two blocks and turn right at the direction of the binocular sign onto 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Follow 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. about a tenth of a mile to a gravel road that drops down to a small parking area at the south end of a football field. The trail starts at this parking area, and forms a one mile loop which returns to the north end of the field. If the parking area is congested, park along 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.

birds call often, it is worthwhile to learn the call note, which is very similar to that of a Black Phoebe. Once the call note is located, one must wait patiently for this elusive sparrow to show itself (pishing hasn’t helped me much, but others swear by it). There are occasionally Black Phoebes here also, though this species usually doesn’t lurk around in the cattail marsh.

Seed is often spread along the trail here, and Swamp Sparrows will join other sparrows to feed. The period around sunset is usually the best time to look. White-throated

Hawks. During April 1999, a Northern Goshawk bombed through here, made a dive at a Cooper’s Hawk, then headed south without further ado. The cattail marsh is also a good place to hear both Virginia Rail and Sora during the winter, though Sora can be much harder to find. An American Bittern usually winters in the marsh, but it is infrequently seen. Orange-crowned Warblers and Common Yellowthroats have both wintered in the willows and blackberry brush here as well.

Just past the second trail shelter,



Walk east across the football field to the beginning of the trail. A White-tailed Kite or Red-shouldered Hawk can usually be seen or heard from the beginning of the trail, which immediately straddles a dike. Himalayan blackberry hugs the dike as it traverses through a cattail marsh with a few scattered willow and alder trees, and a couple of small trail-side shelters are available to keep birders dry during a rain shower. This area is “Swamp Sparrow central” from November through March. Since the

Sparrows, another out-of-the-ordinary species, can also be found here. In December 1999, bird seed scattered on the trail attracted 13 White-throated Sparrows at the same time! In November 1999, a Clay-colored Sparrow spent two weeks feeding along this portion of the trail, and, starting in November 2000, a Harris’s Sparrow spent the winter with the feeding flock. The sparrow activity attracts birds of prey, including Merlins, Sharpshinned Hawks, and Cooper’s

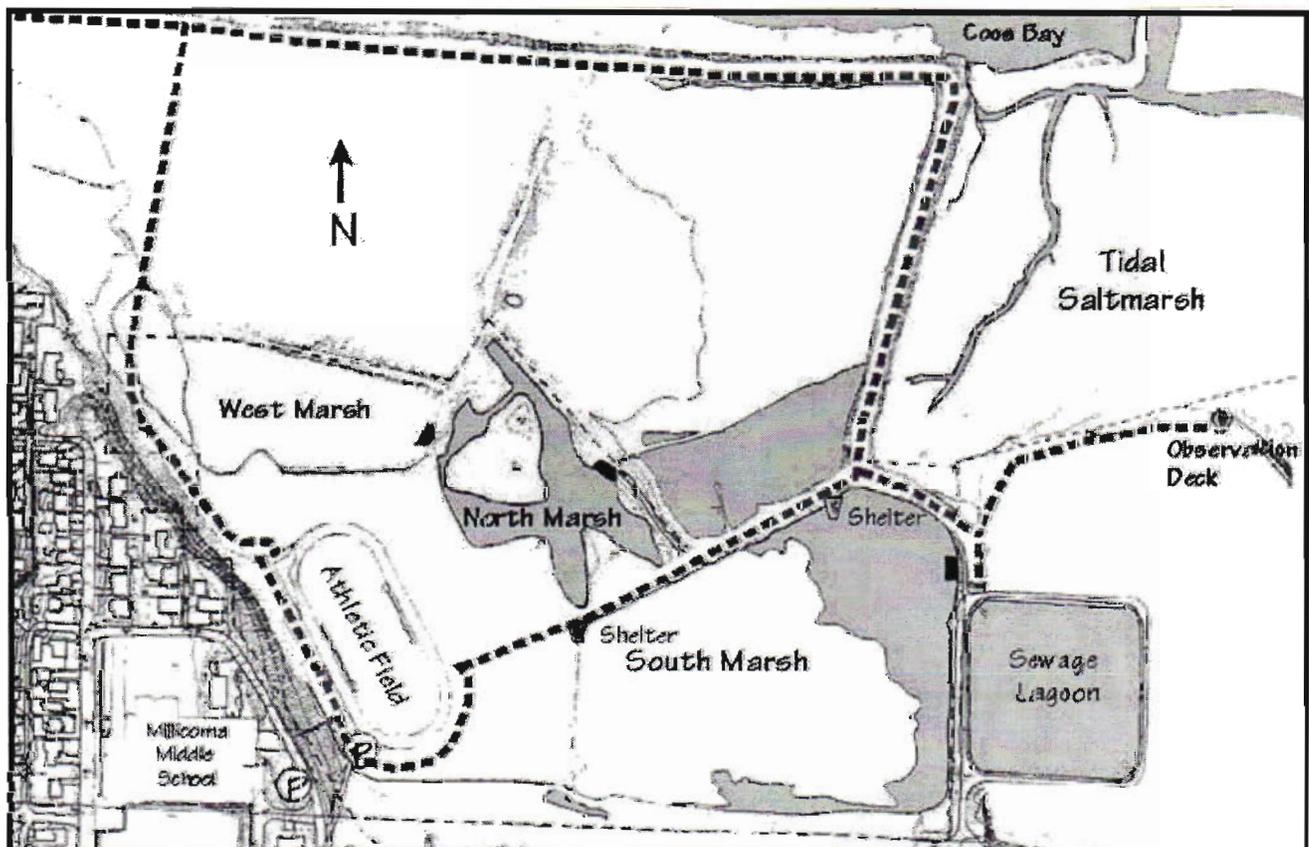
the trail forks. The one-mile loop continues to the left; the trail to the right dead ends in a ¼ mile at a small observation deck. South of this trail intersection a small pond usually has some ducks and a few shorebirds. In the winter months, Cinnamon Teal have been seen here, a rare bird for the season in Coos County. In March and April, Blue-winged Teal might also be found. A variety of shorebirds can be found in September, including Pectoral and Baird’s Sandpiper and Lesser

Yellowlegs. Long-billed Dowitchers are the common winter shorebird, and though I haven't birded the area much in late April or early May, it is perfect habitat for the seldom-seen Solitary Sandpiper. The willows along the pond here have produced Yellow Warblers as late as the first week in December. During the Spring and Fall migration, Willow Flycatchers are frequently seen in the willows along the pond, and a very late *Empidonax* flycatcher (most likely a Dusky) was observed for two

are sometimes found, especially from November through March. At the observation deck, scan for raptors; this is the best spot to find Rough-legged Hawk, a species which is not seen every year in the county. It is also a good spot at dawn and dusk to spot a Short-eared Owl or Barn Owl hunting over the extensive marsh grass. Great Egrets and Great Blue Herons are commonly seen hunting the salt marsh, but check closely, Snowy Egrets are rarely present as well. Other uncommon to

up on a CBC or two. Bald Eagles and Osprey, which winter in Coos Bay, are most often seen flying over this area, and it is also worthwhile to scope the bay for ducks. Fox Sparrows can be found by the score in the thick blackberry along the trail and may be joined by such winter rarities such as Lesser Goldfinch and Common Yellow-throat.

After skirting the edge of the bay for slightly less than 1/2 mile, the trail again divides to the left; it passes through a wooded area and returns



weeks in December 1998.

The trail to the right follows the edge of the pond to a fenced sewage lagoon. Black Phoebes often flycatch from the fence, and rarities such as Say's Phoebe and Western Kingbird have been observed in March, April, and September in recent years. At the sewage pond, the trail drops down to the left and passes a third trail shelter with a panorama of a large tidal salt marsh. On this portion of the trail, Northern Shrike and Palm Warbler

rare birds seen around tidal marsh and grasslands include Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, and Horned Lark.

From the trail intersection, the left fork of the trail continues along the edge of the bay. Birding is best in this area at or near high tide. Thousands of Dunlin can often be seen from the trail, as well as Black Turnstones and Black-bellied Plovers. Marbled Godwits sometimes winter at the edge of the bay, and Ruddy Turnstones have turned

to the north end of the football field and the parking area. Forward, the trail continues along the bay and terminates across from downtown Coos Bay. This is a reliable spot to find an overwintering Clark's Grebe, which can be very difficult to find elsewhere in the Coos Bay area. There are 7 Purple Martin nest boxes on pilings to the east of the trail terminus (thanks to Eric Horvath), and in 2000, 2 of the 7 boxes were used by nesting Purple Martins. These birds can be seen

from late May to late August, but a spotting scope is needed, and it's best to be there right at sunrise!

The trail to the left through the wooded area may have loads of Yellow-rumped Warblers, Ruby and Golden-crowned Kinglets, a few Hutton's Vireos, Varied & Hermit Thrush, and other common winter birds. This is also a good area for woodpeckers, and with luck, a Red-breasted Sapsucker might make an appearance.

Birding at Millicoma Marsh is slow in the summer months, although a few noteworthy birds have appeared. A Yellow-breasted Chat was calling from the dense brush near the second trail shelter in May and June 1999. This species is rarely seen this close to the coast in

Coos County. Yellow Warblers do not commonly breed in the west side of the county, but they do breed here. During the spring migration, a Nashville Warbler has shown up here; this bird breeds in the extreme southeastern corner of the county and is rarely seen in the Coos Bay area. This is also a reliable place to see a Green Heron during the summer and early fall.

Millicoma Marsh has metamorphosed into a premiere late fall and winter birding area. It is a fantastic winter sparrow spot and a great place to see many other birds uncommon or absent in other parts of Oregon during these chilly, wet months. The marsh is adjacent to a middle school (which means lots of kids on the trail during school days

in late morning/early afternoon) and is also a popular dog-walking, jogging and hiking area, so the best time to bird is first thing in the morning or late in the afternoon. Early morning and late afternoon hours are also peak times for bird activity. Although there is a sign that says no dogs at the parking area, it applies to the track and football field and not the trail, so be nice to all those dog-walkers—I'm one of them!

Happy birding!

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## Breeding Western Scrub-Jays in Crook County

Nancy MacDonald, 104 N.E. Marmot Lane, Prineville, OR 97754

On the Prineville Christmas Bird Count on January 2, 2000, two Western Scrub-Jays (*Aphelocoma californica*) were found in the area of Ochoco Dam, which is close to my house. Shortly after this, still in January 2000, a Western Scrub-Jay began visiting my feeder occasionally. I encouraged it by feeding peanuts and occasional other "treats."

In May it was joined by a second Scrub Jay. They visited the peanut site daily, and I judged from their behavior that they were beginning to engage in courtship. They began to become very vocal and active across the creek from my house, where there is dense deciduous foliage as well as a dry creek bed, rocks, weeds, sagebrush, and streamside fauna. At this time, the pair sat perched and exchanged vocal expressions with occasional head bobbing. I guessed that, if they were to nest, it would be near the place where they were displaying. This particular area had very dense foliage and was next to

some very large deciduous bushes about 10 to 12 feet high. The two continued the courtship until about the third week of May, and then they became silent. I did see one bird daily at the feeding site, but stopped seeing two at the same time. I also found many peanuts cached around the yard, but most of the time the bird flew off with peanuts across the creek to the supposed nest site. Around the beginning of June, two birds started coming to the feeding site again. I looked daily for signs of young but didn't see anything. At this time, there was almost constantly a bird perched atop this particular bush every day. I once tried to approach the area where I thought the nest was located, but I was heartily scolded by one of the birds, so I retreated.

By the middle of June, I had given up on finding proof that these two birds had been successful parents. While I felt certain they had attempted breeding, I saw no young, only the male and female that

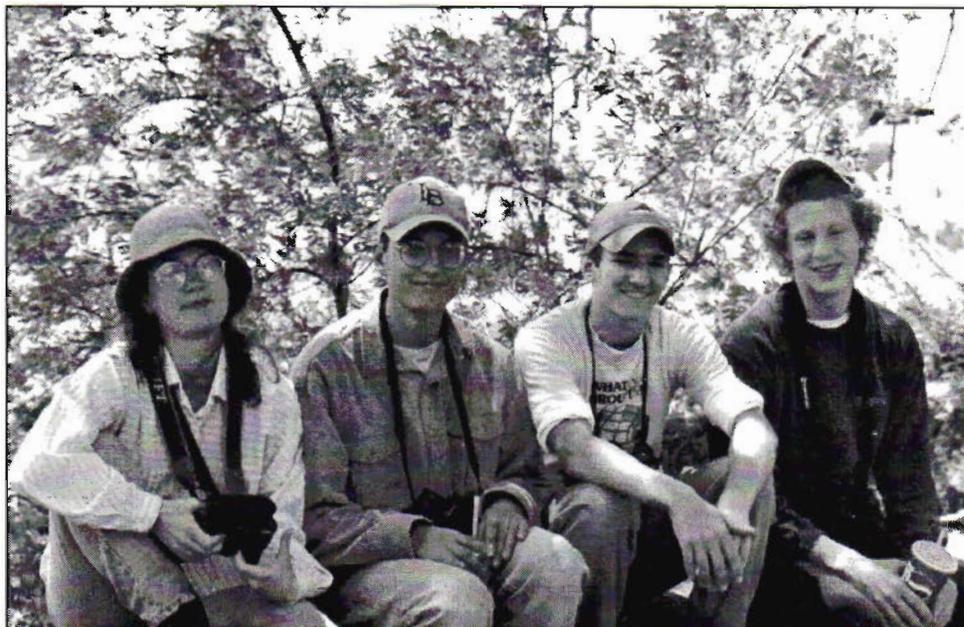
continued to come to the feeding site. Nevertheless, there was a marked increase in the vocal activity of the two during these days. Some days it got quite noisy across the creek, and I looked for signs of more than two birds.

On July 6, we set a live trap for a skunk, as was our practice when the population becomes impossible to live with. We set the trap with fresh strawberries. On the morning of July 7, my husband found that we had captured a Scrub Jay (strawberries had been eaten). The bird was agitated but fine. The remarkable part was that, in the trees above the trap, three other Scrub Jays sat squawking and scolding in deafening voices. My husband, a novice birder but familiar with Scrub Jays, said all birds appeared fully-grown and looked similar. From their behavior throughout May, June, and July, I thought that the presence of four birds suggested that the pair had successfully fledged two young.

## The Next Generation

An exceptional number of active young birders take to the field in Oregon

Compiled and edited by Alan Contreras



*Some of the next generation at Fields oasis, May 2000. L to R: Vjera Arnold, Frank Mayer, Joel Bergman, Shawn Steinberg. Photo by Alan Contreras*



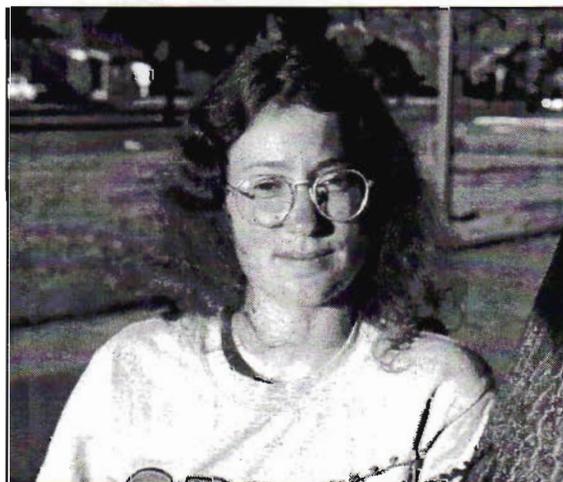
Every now and then in Oregon birding history, a sizable cluster of new young talent appears at about the same time. The late 1990s was one of those periods, and *Oregon Birds* showcases here some of the young birders who have appeared on the scene and are already making their mark. Someday when they are famous, we crusty old birders can claim to have known them. No one will believe us, but then no one believes us half the time now anyway. — Alan Contreras

*At left: Alan Contreras, famous crusty Oregon birder, at about age 16. Photo by Mike Patterson, who has hidden the negatives.*

### Vjera Arnold, 19, freshman, Eugene Bible College, OFO Board member, 1998-2000

I live in Springfield, and started seriously birding in 1995. I got a “jumpstart” on my birding avocation when Alan Contreras gave me a ride to Malheur [heavens, what have I done? - AC], and have now birded all over Oregon, and in Arizona and California with other youth birders. My favorite spots to bird in Eugene/Springfield are Alton Baker Park and Island Park, and I have compiled personal lists of 94 and 74 species, respectively, for the two locations.

I just finished a two-year term on the OFO Board, and enjoyed getting to represent Oregon youth birders by being on the Board. I enjoy birding with other young birders, and hope to someday initiate a northwest youth birder get-together, with the purpose of bringing together the Oregon and Washington youth birders to meet and bird together.



*Vjera Arnold, August 2000. Photo by Alan Contreras*

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For OB 26(4), Winter 2000-2001

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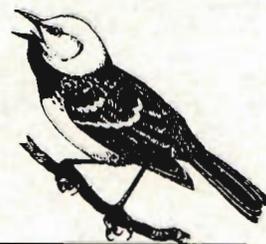
*OFO Bookcase continues on reverse...*

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Telephone _____		
E-mail _____		

**Eleanor Pugh's Natural Sound Cassettes:**  
CASSETTES WITH VOCAL IDENTIFICATION AND/OR NARRATIVE

<b>Mountain Forest Birds</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Seventy-two species of western birds and a few small squirrels that may sound like birds. This cassette compliments the next one listed to cover almost all birds to be generally found in wooded habitats. 90 min.		
<b>Birds of Foothill Woodland</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Newly revised. 75 species of the more common lowland birds. Songs and calls in a format that is easy to use for reference and familiarity. 90 min.		
<b>Birds of the Wetlands</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Songs and calls from lakes, marshes, and streams. Covers loon, grebes, herons, waterfowl, shorebirds, and riparian species etc. 58 species, and marsh choruses to practice identification. 90 min.		
<b>Birds of the High Desert</b> .....	9.00	\$ _____
Calls and songs of the birds east of the mountains in the Great Basin and northern high desert, arranged according to the special favored habitats of desert fauna. 60 min.		
<b>Birds of the Southwestern Low Desert</b> .....	9.00	\$ _____
Calls, songs, and other sounds of 42 species of the Sonoran Desert primarily. 60 min.		
<b>Backyard Bird Songs</b> .....	9.00	\$ _____
Songs and calls of 28 species of birds that generally come to landscaped backyards and feeding stations. In-depth samples of the variety of sounds in their musical language. 60 min.		
<b>Wintering Birds of the Rogue Valley</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Eighty-two species, with calls. Includes grebes, ducks, and others commonly found over the winter. 90 min.		
<b>Learn to Identify Birds by Ear (Western)</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
A self-guided workshop with hands-on practice, back-to-back comparisons of confusing species; generous samples of recordings, including an easy quiz to review species you already know. 68 species. 90 min.		
<b>Learn to Identify Birds by Ear (Eastern)</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Same as above, using 47 eastern species; calls and songs. 90 min.		
<b>Confusing Species</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Back-to-back comparisons of the calls and songs of 56 species, including some shorebirds and visually confusing birds, with tips on distinguishing each by ear. 90 min.		
<b>Night-Birding: Owls and Others</b> .....	9.00	\$ _____
Seven species of owls and 12 other species of birds that call and sing in the dark. 60 min.		
<b>Warblers of the West</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
This is the same as Warblers I and Warblers II. Twenty species, with in-depth comparisons of variations, and tips to identification, especially of, "those confusing spring warbler songs," and call notes. 60 min.		
<b>Shorebirds and Rails</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Various sounds of these birds of the wind and water as they are found in the 3 contiguous western states. 25 species of shorebirds, 3 species of rails.		
<b>Wildlife Voices by Family (choose any 2 per cassette)</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
Owls, Woodpeckers, Flycatchers, 4 difficult Flycatchers, Wrens, Thrushes, Finches, Sparrows I (humid), Sparrows II (arid), Warblers I, Warblers II, Swallows & Swifts, Mammals, Pacific Coastlands, Fall Comes to NW, Shorebirds and Rails (both sides)		

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

<b>Games—Wildlife by Ear</b> .....	13.00	\$ _____
A special cassette of the sounds of familiar native animals are identified on one side. On the other side, the animals are mixed up and unidentified, in order to play at least five different games. Instructions and a pack of special cards are included. 60 min.		
<b>Did You Ever Hear?</b> .....	17.50	\$ _____
A cassette designed to encourage all ages to LISTEN, learn, and explore natural sounds in many habitats. Calls of 47 animals, birds, and insects are arranged in short sections, by habitat. A LISTENER'S GUIDE contains many suggestions, activities, study questions, and information. Excellent illustrations suitable for realistic coloring are included. 60 min.		

CASSETTES WITH NO VOCAL NARRATIVE, FOR UNDISTRACTED LISTENING

<b>Beautiful Bird Songs of the West</b> .....	9.00	\$ _____
Twenty-six species; generous selections of pleasant songs, as heard in the wild. Enclosure; 60 min.		
<b>An Almanac of Western Habitats, Volume I. Northwestern</b> .....	10.00	\$ _____
A series of "sound walks" in various habitats, throughout the year. Enclosure describes events and lists species for each walk. 90 min.		
<b>Pacific Tidelands/Fall Comes to the Northwest</b> .....	9.00	\$ _____
Special sounds along the Pacific Ocean shore and coastal forest-land. Includes shorebirds and bugling elk. Enclosure describes events. 60 min.		

Write for a complete list. Recorded, edited, and produced by Eleanor A. Pugh. High quality normal bias ferric oxide tape will be sent unless high bias tape is specified. Please check your tape player for a "High Bias" switch to be sure.

\$
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**TOTAL**

All items postage paid. Make checks payable to Oregon Field Ornithologists or OFO.



Your name _____		
Your address _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Telephone _____		

<p>Mail OFO Bookcase to:</p> <p><b>OFO Publications</b> c/o Lucy Biggs 25977 Clay Drive Veneta, OR 97487</p> <p>lb@cyber-dyne.com</p>
---

# Year 2000 OFO Listing Forms

Below are the forms for state and county listing for the year 2000. Return your form by **March 15, 2000** to

**Jamie Simmons**  
**1430 NW Terracegreen Place**  
**Corvallis, OR 97330**  
**woodpecker97330@yahoo.com**

An additional form is on the reverse side for your convenience!

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone or E-mail for Questions:**

## Part I. Oregon State Lists

*Oregon Life List (threshold is 300 species):* \_\_\_\_\_

2000 Oregon Year List (threshold is 250): \_\_\_\_\_

## Part II. Oregon County Lists

The threshold for county LIFE totals is 100 species; for county 2000 totals is 150.

County	LIFE	YEAR 2000
Baker		
Benton		
Clackamas		
Clatsop		
Columbia		
Coos		
Crook		
Curry		
Deschutes		
Douglas		
Gilliam		
Grant		
Harney		
Hood River		
Jackson		
Jefferson		
Josephine		
Klamath		

County	LIFE	YEAR 2000
Lake		
Lane		
Lincoln		
Linn		
Malheur		
Marion		
Morrow		
Multnomah		
Polk		
Sherman		
Tillamook		
Umatilla		
Union		
Wallowa		
Wasco		
Washington		
Wheeler		
Yamhill		

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Sherman		
Tillamook		
Umatilla		
Union		
Wallowa		
Wasco		
Washington		
Wheeler		
Yamhill		

## President's Message: Growing OFO

Paul T. Sullivan, 4470 SW Murray Blvd. #26, Beaverton OR 97005, ptsulliv@spiritone.com

As many readers no doubt know, I have a keen interest in birding Oregon county by county. I invest time and effort in building up my list of sightings in each county. Of course, not everyone is interested in this endeavor.

However, there is another county listing that I would like to see us all build. Page 31 of the OFO membership directory lists the distribution of the membership in OFO, county by county. We have no members in 5 counties, and only 1 member in another 4 counties. I would like to see us grow the membership of OFO and extend it to all the counties of the state.

On an OFO Birding Weekend a couple years ago we visited a commercial bird shop in Klamath Falls. We were cordially browsing through the store, when the proprietor asked me who we were. I pointed to the copy of *Oregon Birds* and told him we were Oregon Field Ornithologists. His reply was, "Oh, you're that group from Portland." I insisted very strongly that Oregon Field Ornithologists is not just "those folks from the valley," but the statewide organization of birders in Oregon.

Birders who do not know about OFO ask me what it is and what are the benefits. Of course, I can say we sponsor *Oregon Birds*, OFO Birding Weekends, an annual meeting, other publications, and special projects like the Breeding Bird Atlas, and the forthcoming *Birds of Oregon*. We maintain and publish the official checklist of Oregon birds. So we have a package of offerings.

However, if our organization is to thrive, I believe we have to put together a package that is appealing to a wider audience. Certainly, OFO Birding Weekends have reached one audience. I invite your suggestions for ways to extend the appeal of OFO.

What makes all of this possible are the efforts of volunteers. If we are to grow this organization, I invite you to come forward. At the simplest level, tell a non-member about OFO, share an issue of *Oregon Birds*, or send them a gift membership. Make OFO known in your local bird group. If you have skills or ideas in the publicity world, step forward. We also need someone to get *Oregon Birds* out to bookstores and other outlets. If you're interested in publications, we have a committee for you. If you'd like to be a seasonal Field Notes editor, step forward. We could use help maintaining the membership list, getting copy to the printer, or just picking up the mail. If you are interested, contact me or any board member.

And of course, keep submitting those field notes and writing articles to document this enthusiasm we share for Oregon's birds.

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## Volunteer Opportunities with OFO

Oregon Field Ornithologists is looking for volunteers. The following opportunities exist for you to help:

1. Participate in the Publications Committee.
2. Help distribute *Oregon Birds* to sales outlets.
3. Store the back issues of *Oregon Birds*. The current custodian of these materials lives in an apartment.
4. Pick up mail from OFO post office box and distribute to appropriate persons.
5. Lead an OFO Birding Weekend, lead a field trip or speak at the annual meeting.
6. Help publicize OFO, recruit funding or advertising. Do you have expertise in this area?
7. Be an OFO presence in schools, science fairs, etc. Involve young birders in OFO.
8. Share *Oregon Birds* with a friend. Buy a gift membership.
9. Volunteer to be an OFO presence at birding festivals like the Migratory Bird Day in May. OFO will provide you with our OFO Checklist of the Birds of Oregon to distribute, and it has a membership application built in. Buy and wear an OFO T-shirt.
10. Bring forward your own ideas.

We all thank you. If interested, contact Paul T. Sullivan, 4470 SW Murray Blvd. #26, Beaverton OR 97005 ptsulliv@spiritone.com

# 2001 OFO Birding Weekends

Paul T. Sullivan, 4470 SW Murray Blvd. #26, Beaverton OR 97005

Oregon Field Ornithologists will again offer a series of OFO Birding Weekends for the year 2001. Registration for OFO Birding Weekends is \$15 per person for each weekend. Participants will be sent a packet in advance of the weekend, suggesting lodging, meeting place, and other details.

OFO Birding Weekends normally begin at dawn Saturday and end early Sunday afternoon. They are based in the same city both Friday and Saturday night. Most of our travel is by private cars on public roads, with some walks on trails. Trip leaders will also provide walkie-talkies, which have been purchased by OFO for use on these weekends. Costs of lodging, transportation (car-pooling), and food are up to the individual participants. Participants are encouraged to eat supper together on Saturday night and have a "countdown" of species seen.

I will again be the coordinator and principal guide. Other local leaders have volunteered as well. Trip leaders provide recommendations on lodging and guidance to the birding sites and bird species of the area chosen. A \$15 fee for this service will be split between OFO and the trip leaders: \$5 for OFO, and \$10 for the leader, who will bear the costs of advance preparations, as well as his/her own expenses on the trip. The income to OFO covers the cost of liability insurance.

The 2001 schedule is published in this issue of *Oregon Birds*. As before, the schedule includes the dates for the spring and fall North American Migration Count, the OFO annual meeting, and the Oregon Shorebird Festival. These events are not OFO Birding Weekends and require separate registration.

The intent of OFO Birding Weekends is to introduce birders to new birds, to new areas of Oregon, and to birders from other parts of the state. In the first four years of OFO Birding Weekends, it is clear that these goals are being met. The trips have brought together Oregon birders to explore distant counties, see new "lifers," and add to state and county lists. The trip results are featured in *Oregon Birds*.

You do not need to be a member of OFO to participate in these weekends. However, you must register by the Tuesday before the weekend you plan to attend. Come be part of the fun.

Send your registrations to: Paul T. Sullivan, 4470 SW Murray Blvd. #26, Beaverton, OR 97005.  
Questions? Call (503) 646-7889.

Please make a **separate copy** of this form for **each weekend** you plan to attend.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

TRIP YOU PLAN TO JOIN \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$15 PER PARTICIPANT) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to Oregon Field Ornithologists.

# Schedule of OFO BIRDING WEEKENDS -- 2001

OFO Birding Weekends normally begin at dawn Saturday and end early Sunday afternoon. Participants will be sent a letter in advance of each weekend, suggesting lodging, meeting place, and other details. Costs of lodging, transportation (car-pooling), and food are up to the individual participants.

Participants must register by the Tuesday before the weekend they want to attend. Registration for OFO Birding Weekends is \$15 per person for each weekend. Send your registrations to:

Paul T. Sullivan  
4470 SW Murray Blvd. #26  
Beaverton OR 97005

Questions? Call (503) 646-7889

(Clip this schedule and post it on your refrigerator:)

## **24-25 March                  Jackson County**

We will look for wintering waterfowl and raptors, and for early spring migrants. We also look for the special species of southwest Oregon: Plain Titmouse, California Towhee, Black Phoebe, and enjoy the beauty of the Rogue Valley. Base: Ashland

## **28-29 April                  Umatilla County**

We will look for early spring migrants like Long-billed Curlews, Sandhill Cranes, waterfowl, and songbirds. Base: Hermiston.

## **12 May                          Spring North American Migration Count \***

## **26-27 May                  Malheur County**

Come explore the birding haunts of this spectacular county in another time zone to find spring migrants and early summer nesters. We will look for shorebirds, raptors, waterfowl, and songbirds too. Base: Ontario

## **9-10 June                      Klamath County**

We will visit this county to look for Yellow Rails, White Pelicans, Red-necked and Clark's Grebes, Forster's and Black Terns, plus shorebirds, raptors, and waterfowl on Upper Klamath and Agency Lakes, as well as forest species. Base: Fort Klamath

## **23-24 June                  Union County**

This trip will visit northeast Oregon looking for Veery, Catbird, Gray Partridge, and other specialties of that corner of the state. Leader for the trip will be Ray Korpi. Base: LaGrande

## **7-8 July Lincoln County**

On Saturday we will join a 4-hour Summer Seabirds pelagic trip run by The Bird Guide out of Newport from 8AM-noon: "Here is the perfect trip for beginners and the whole family! A short trip to see shearwaters, phalaropes, jaegers, murrelets, and even Gray Whales!" The rest of the weekend we will spend around Lincoln County. Base: Newport.

A separate registration (\$35 per person) will be required for the pelagic trip. "Limited space; advanced registration required." The Bird Guide, 2367 S. Dogwood St., Cornelius, OR 97113 Phone: (503) 844-6876 or 1-888-673-7890, PIN 0060.

## **14-15 July Mt. Jefferson Wilderness Hike**

Saturday will begin at the Jack Lake trailhead and hike up toward Three-fingered Jack. Sunday will start at the Jefferson Lake trailhead and hike into old growth Douglas-fir forest. Blue Grouse, Gray-crowned Rosy Finches, and Barrow's Goldeneyes are possible. Leader: Steve Shunk.

## **18-19 August Lane County**

The south jetty of the Siuslaw River, Florence, and Fern Ridge Reservoir all offer possible interesting shorebirds, seabirds, and migrant passerines. Base: Eugene.

## **7-9 September Enjoy the Oregon Shorebird Festival \***

Come to Charleston for this annual Oregon birding gathering.

## **15 September Fall North American Migration Count \***

## **TBA in Fall Malheur NWR - OFO Annual Meeting \***

Come enjoy the crisp air at Malheur NWR and look for fall migrants. This is a prime time of year for unusual vagrants. Leaders for this trip will include Tim Janzen and Ray Korpi. Base: Malheur Field Station.

## **13-14 October NE Umatilla County**

We will search for that "most wanted" owl, the Boreal Owl, visit the delta of the Walla Walla River to look for shorebirds, and enjoy the fall colors of the Blue Mountains. Base: Walla Walla, WA.

## **10-11 November Tillamook County**

We will check out the fall migrants on the Nehalem estuary, Tillamook Bay, Cape Meares, and on down to Nestucca Bay. Base: Tillamook.

## **1-2 December Malheur NWR**

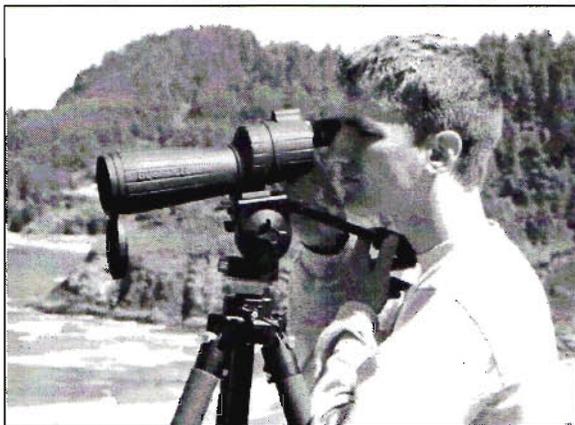
This is the time of year to appreciate those arctic-nesting birds that find Eastern Oregon a relief from the northern days of constant darkness. We will look for winter specialties such as Rough-legged Hawk, Northern Shrike, Bohemian Waxwing, and American Tree Sparrow while we study up to 10 additional species of sparrows and other hardy passerines. Leader for this trip will be Steve Shunk. Base: Bums.

## **December Christmas Bird Counts \***

Don't miss out on this special annual birding event.

\* Events marked with an asterisk are not OFO Birding Weekends and require separate registration.

### Joel Bergman, 17, senior, West Linn High School



Joel Bergman, July 2000. Photo by Alan Contreras.

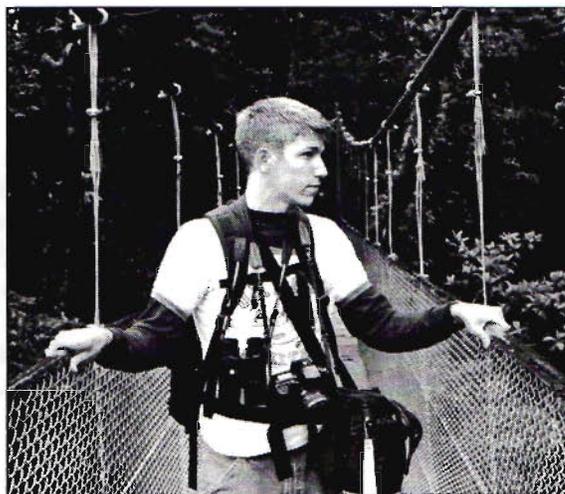
Ever since I can remember my parents had feeders in our yard. My parents taught me the basic backyard birds, and I can remember being fascinated by the bright yellow birds and beautiful woodpeckers. This preliminary interest didn't really blossom until I took an Environmental Science class that placed a large emphasis on birdwatching. I soon found my old interest rekindled and it has since developed into a passion. That, and the first word I ever said was "bird."

Camassia is a place I like to go regularly, since it is behind our school and I have had many opportunities to bird there. Also, I spend two weeks of every summer with relatives in central Oregon, and it is a pleasure to take my cousins out to teach and expose them to birding.

### Luke Bloch, 18, senior, South Eugene High School

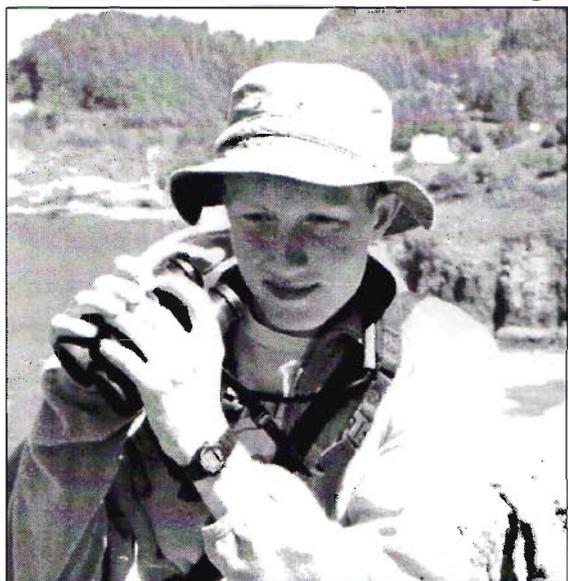
My interest in birding formed when I was a very young boy and lived in a small white house situated next to a large open field. In this field I would identify numerous species of birds such as Killdeer, Ring-necked Pheasant and Barn Owl with the help of my father and his pair of binoculars. When I was about 10, my best friend, Cam Spies from Portland, also became interested in birding, which made my passion for bird watching twice as enjoyable.

During the past summer, Cam, my father, and I went to Costa Rica for two weeks in June. We traveled the country on our own in a rented SUV and identified over 200 species of birds. It was an amazing trip that I hope to do again. In fact, the trip solidified my goal of becoming a field ornithologist in the tropics. I hope to do research on neotropical birds in South and Central America.



Luke Bloch in Costa Rica, June 2000. Photo by Tim Bloch.

### Karl Fairchild, 15, freshman, Philomath High School



Karl Fairchild, July 2000. Photo by Alan Contreras.

I was introduced by my parents to birding at the beginning, but didn't really get into it until I was 8 or 9. I don't really know what triggered my interest, but perhaps it was seeing the Smew in Washington [*can't imagine why* - AC]. I enjoy birding in many different places, but especially the south coast and Eastern Oregon places like Cabin Lake, Ft. Rock, and Hart Mtn.

Probably the craziest birding experience I ever had was a pelagic trip off Depoe Bay, Oregon. Although we saw few birds, we had really rough seas on the way back in and a rough bar crossing; we were followed in by the Coast Guard, which was kind of scary. Many people were hanging over the rail, but I was not one of them.

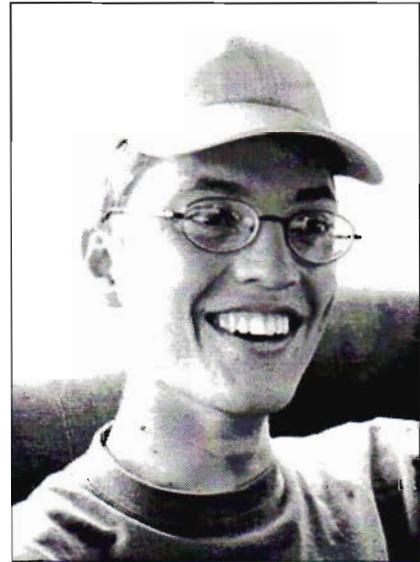
I've visited many locations throughout the United States, including Maryland, Colorado and Washington. This year, I went to Florida in the spring, and then in July, my parents and I went to Maine for a family reunion. Starting in Rhode Island, we drove up the East Coast. This trip yielded incredible results, including Chestnut-sided Warbler, Baltimore Oriole,

Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, Least Tern, and probably most notably, Northern Parula.

**Frank Mayer, 21, OFO board member, 2000-2002**

I started birding at the tender young age of 14, my sophomore year in high school. I had a biology teacher who had a contest every semester to see who could get the most species of birds in a certain period of time. He was very cocky and said that he had never been beat and never would be beat. He also sweetened the deal by saying that if you did win he would buy you pizza. His cockiness made me angry, so I set out to beat him for the first time. Once I started, I could not be stopped. I was a juggernaut. I went on to beat him that semester and 2 other semesters as well. The pizzas were very good.

The best place I have ever birded is in southeast Arizona. My dad and I drove there in late June 1998 and birded for 10 days straight. The combination of new birds, new places, and quality time with my dad made for a great experience that I will never forget. I also like to bird here in the Klamath Basin. More specifically, I like the area on Westside Rd. north of Rocky Point. You never know what will turn up there, not to mention it is one of the prettiest spots on Earth.



*Photo by Jason Schwartz, courtesy Frank Mayer*

**Holly Reinhard, 17, home-schooled, Eugene**



*Holly Reinhard, August 2000. Photo by Alan Contreras*

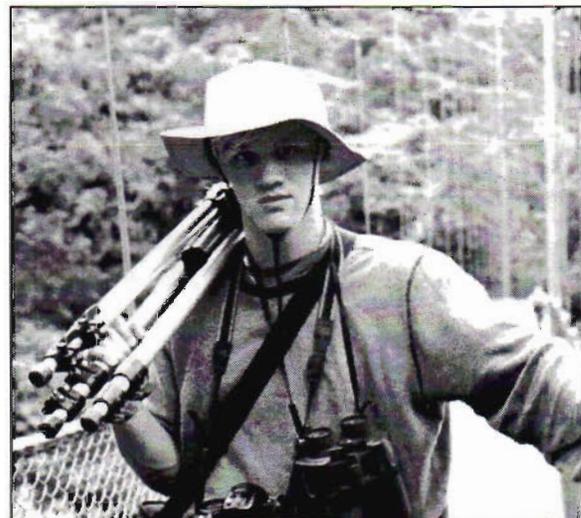
I began birding in late 1998. My family had a bird feeder, and that fall I became interested in the birds that visited there. Since then, my interest in birding has grown more and more, as I contacted Vjera Arnold, a fellow home-schooled birder, and we birded together. I enjoy participating in the ABA Youth BirdQuest, which I have done for two years. My favorite birding experience was when a “juvie” marsh wren, still a baby, perched on my jean leg and we looked at each other for a second before he hopped back down on the ground.

I am a junior in home-school, and plan to continue home-schooling until graduation, after which I think I'll attend college, likely a Christian one. I am interested in several different careers: being a naturalist, a writer, or perhaps a missionary.

**Cameron Spies, 17, senior, Lincoln High School, Portland**

I'm currently a senior at Lincoln High School in Portland. I began my birding career during an excursion to Central Oregon with my fifth grade class. We stayed at the Hancock Field Station near the city of Fossil that was, and still is, surrounded by a beautiful arid habitat. My teacher's husband was a birder, and he pointed out a few species for me on an early morning hike. I instantly fell in love with trying to identify everything that I saw, and I continued this back in Portland.

Over the years since then, my friend Luke Bloch and I have gone on countless birding trips throughout the Northwest, from Southern Washington to Southern Oregon, and from the coast to Malheur Wildlife Refuge. Our most memorable trip, however, was to Costa Rica, where we spent fourteen days and counted almost two hundred species. I don't think I will ever lose interest in birds, and I hope to



*Cam Spies in Costa Rica, June 2000. Photo by Tim Bloch.*

pursue ornithology in one way or another in college. If possible, I would like to do field study abroad in Australia or Africa. At any rate, I will always enjoy birding, and will probably find myself wielding a pair of binoculars, scouring my backyard when I'm ninety years old.

**Shawn Steinberg, 17, senior, West Linn High School**



*Shawn Steinberg, July 2000. Photo by Alan Contreras.*

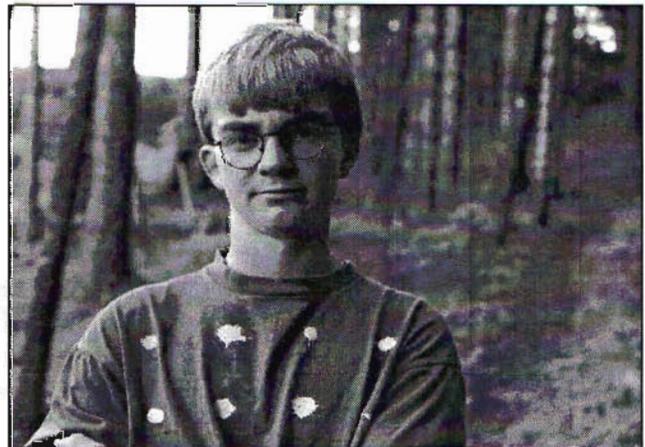
I was first introduced to the concept of birdwatching as a serious hobby as a freshman in West Linn High School. Mr. Jim Hartmann ran a small unit on Biophilia (the love of nature) in his Biology course, which included a segment on birdwatching. As the immature freshman I was, I scoffed at the concept. The next winter, I was in Jim's class again, this time Advanced Placement Environmental Science, which included birds as a bio-indicator and a significant amount of field work. The exact moment I knew I had the "fever" (as Jim describes it) was when I personally identified a Western Scrub-Jay without assistance on a field trip to Sauvie Island. The listing and my serious birdwatching began then.

I enjoy Camassia Nature Preserve as a local migrant spot (it abuts the high school's property) and Sauvie Island is great because that is where it all started. I love birding virtually anywhere. I love the marshes at Malheur, the slopes of Sisters, and the coast of Clatsop County. Those are my top three spots in the state. Although I love the Sisters area, I hate Squawback Road and all that is related to the site, especially that phantom Blue-winged Warbler [*spoken as a true birder - AC*].

One of my most memorable experiences was on ASP's Bird-A-Thon this spring. One of our team leaders, Mike Houck, did particularly good imitations of every species of avifauna. While at Smith Rock on the way home, we heard a high whinnying overhead. Mike gave the group a puzzled look (the sound was a distinct noise, but mysterious for the bird world) and began perfectly imitating the noise. As we were looking overhead, a Golden Eagle flew not 20 ft. off the ground to our right, much to our (and other non-birders') delight. In its talons was a marmot struggling for its life and screaming "Eeeeeee, eeeee." The eagle shut the marmot up with the other talons a few seconds later. The group was in hysterics after Mike's imitation of the struggling mammal (maybe it was just the 48 hours of birding with almost no sleep...).

**Noah Strycker, 14, Creswell, sophomore, South Eugene High School**

My fascination with birds began in fifth grade, when my bird-loving teacher placed a feeder outside a large window in our classroom and often stopped lessons to watch and identify the various species. We had such beautiful birds as Lazuli Buntings, Evening Grosbeaks, Cedar Waxwings, and Pileated Woodpeckers. I was enthralled with all of them. In the spring, we made and mounted about 15 Peterson bluebird boxes on the school grounds, which we eagerly monitored until the end of the school year. The only birds we got to nest were Tree Swallows, but it didn't matter to me what species we got. I couldn't believe you could put up a box and attract birds, and after that there was no looking back.



*Photo by Bob Keefer*

Some of my favorite birding places are Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Dauphin Island in Alabama, Kirk Park and Mt. Pisgah in Eugene, Kern Valley in Southern California, and the Sawtooth Mountains of Idaho. But the place I spend the most time birding is at home on our 20 acres. We have a variety of habitats, including second-growth Douglas fir forest, mixed oak and ash woodland, and open pasture, and access to a neighboring clearcut. I've seen 68 bird species on our property in the past two years, and on a good day in the spring I can see well over 30 species.

My favorite adventure happened last summer right on my own property. I decided it would be fun to photograph Turkey Vultures feeding on a carcass. The problem, of course, was the carcass. The first idea I had was to find a roadkill. It turns out that roadkills are hard to find when you need one. Finally, one hot summer day, I spotted a dead

raccoon by the side of the road: We put it in the trunk of the car and gagged all the way home. But it didn't work very well—vultures circled around it all day but never landed. I needed a new idea.

Inspiration came in the form of a dead deer that I found in our woods. I dragged it to a visible spot in our pasture and hid a blind in a nearby clump of trees, and hoped for the best. Sure enough, the next day we had 15 vultures at a time around the kill. I slipped into my blind and photographed the vultures feeding along with dozens of ravens. I noticed that they ate the eyeballs and gums first [*writeth a future Poe, or perhaps county coroner - AC*]. My only regret is that I forgot to tramp down the long grass in front of the deer, so the photos just show the vultures' red heads. After that, I tried putting out a turkey carcass from Sunday dinner, but all I attracted were praying mantises. I will do better next year.

## Do you know a young birder?

For information about how to contact Oregon's younger birders and special events of interest to younger birders, contact Vjera Arnold at [vireogid@yahoo.com](mailto:vireogid@yahoo.com) or at 706 5th Street, Springfield, OR 97477.

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## Oregon's First Spring Record of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*)

David J. Lauten and Kathleen A. Castelein, 45 Tom Smith Rd., Bandon, OR 97411

Starting near Floras Lake in Curry County, New River runs parallel to the ocean behind the foredunes for about eight miles emptying into the ocean at Twomile Creek south of Bandon, Coos County. Near the beginning and end of New River, open dunes and large overwashes are created by high surf, tides, and winter storms. This habitat is the preferred nesting habitat of Snowy Plovers, and as part of the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, we survey for plovers at New River. In the spring, water levels are high, and mudflats do not exist, but shorebirds will still use the river as a flight corridor. Spring migration also tends to be quick—birds rarely spend much time in one spot; instead, they continue north on their route to the breeding grounds. During summer, as the river levels recede, extensive mudflats form, attracting southbound migrating shorebirds. Fall migration is much longer than spring migration, and these shorebirds tend to spend more time at one location.

On Wednesday, 24 March 2000, we were surveying New River. We were at the southern end of the long open sand spit near the mouth of the river, which was about 50 meters to

our east. Water levels were high, but the edge of the river still provided shorebird habitat. Castelein (KC) was on the south side of a large dune between us. At about 10:15 a.m., Lauten (DL) glanced east towards the river and saw 5 shorebirds on the shoreline. DL could see with his naked eye that four were typical peeps, probably Western Sandpipers (*C. mauri*). The fifth was a slightly bigger, chunkier, taller bird that appeared to be Dunlin (*C. alpina*) size.

DL glanced at the 5 birds with binoculars and immediately noted four Western Sandpipers. Despite sunny conditions with 10-to-15-mile-per-hour winds creating bright, somewhat hazy lighting, DL could immediately see that the larger bird was not a Dunlin, as the bill and plumage were wrong for Dunlin. The bill was short, not droopy and long; there was no black belly; and the back did not have bright rufous coloration. DL thought the bird might be a Sanderling (*C. alba*), but the plumage was not correct for that species either. This bird was not whitish like a basic-plumaged Sanderling nor did it have a rufous-hooded appearance like an alternate-plumaged Sanderling. DL could also

see that the bird had fairly heavy dark streaking on the breast, which would eliminate Sanderling. DL quickly realized this bird was different but was not sure what species it was.

DL immediately radioed KC that there was an interesting shorebird along the river. DL scrambled to get KC's attention, set up a scope on the bird, and kept an eye on it. DL got the scope on the bird and noted the large black chevrons that extended along the flanks. No regularly occurring shorebird on the West Coast has chevrons, and from previous experience, the only species close in this size range of shorebirds was White-rumped Sandpiper (*C. fuscicollis*). DL was sure that this bird was something different and began dictating field marks into a small cassette recorder used for recording field notes. In the meantime, KC was moving east as quick as possible to DL's location to try to see the bird. Suddenly, the birds flew to the north but landed again about 100 feet upriver. DL did not see a white rump.

DL continued describing the bird into the tape recorder. DL noted a bright rufous-brown cap

separated from the side of the face by a distinct white supercilium. There was extensive dark streaking coming across the breast, and the dark markings turned into chevrons along the flanks. The belly and undertail coverts were white. The scapulars were very dark brown to black centered, and DL noted that these feathers were edged in a lighter color from whitish to buff or rufous. This was DL's first impression without a detailed feather by feather view. The bill was short, no bigger than the width of its head, thick at the base and thinner at the tip. DL described the bill on the tape as looking like a Pectoral Sandpiper (*C. melanotos*). The five birds were hugging the shoreline which dipped down a little towards the water. This in combination with the lighting prevented us from getting a good look at the legs and noting the color.

DL pondered on Pectoral Sandpiper, but this bird was streaked, not banded, and the markings continued onto the flanks as chevrons, which is not correct for Pectoral Sandpiper. DL wanted to approach and get a better view, but was reluctant to approach for fear of flushing the birds before KC arrived. KC came running up along the river,

and DL pointed out the bird. KC immediately commented on the cap, supercilium, and chevrons, and tried to focus in on the legs. Suddenly, the birds flew again another 100 feet upriver. We decided to try to approach. We began walking closer when suddenly all five birds flushed in the distance and flew north. DL quickly got binoculars on the birds and noted that the rump was definitely not white but brown, the tail was brown, and there were white outer covert feathers typical of many shorebirds. The open wings were generally uniformly brownish with a distinct but not thick white line separating the flight feathers from the upper coverts. We watched the birds fly off into the distance and out of sight. The entire sighting lasted probably less than five minutes.

It was clear to us right then that neither of us had ever seen that bird before. As it would turn out, we have seen this species, but never in alternate plumage. We suspected that it might be an alternate plumaged Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, but since we have never seen one nor could we remember the field marks, we could not be sure until we arrived back home. Later, the field guides

confirmed that the bird was indeed an alternate plumaged Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.

Sharp-tailed Sandpipers are rare but regular Asian visitors, showing up most often in fall migration. Some falls there are multiple birds, and there is rarely a year that passes without one being recorded. Most of these birds are juveniles. Spring records are much more rare. South of Alaska there is only one previous spring record in the Pacific Northwest at Leadbetter Point, Pacific County, WA, 26 April 1979 (Paulson 1993). There are also three other spring records from California: Kern NWR, Kern County, CA 8-10 April 1984, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, CA 5-9 May 1982, and Pescadero, San Mateo County, CA 14 May 1994 (Mlodinow & O'Brien 1996). This record constitutes a first spring record for Oregon.

#### References

- Mlodinow, S.G., & M. O'Brien. 1996. *America's 100 Most Wanted Birds*. Falcon Press, Helena, Montana.
- Paulson, D. 1993. *Shorebirds of the Pacific Northwest*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington.

Both Bill Tice and Jeff Gilligan have decided to turn over their field notes duties to others. We who are involved with *Oregon Birds* and OFO would like to thank Bill and Jeff for their many years of service in compiling field notes. As many of us who research Oregon's avifauna know, without volunteers to compile this information like Bill and Jeff, much of the data would be lost, obscured, or difficult to find.

## FIELD NOTES: Western Oregon, Summer 2000

Bill Tice, 750 Wood St., Falls City, Or 97344

#### Abbreviations and Format:

ANWR      Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge, Marion Co.  
BSNWR     Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge, Polk Co.  
FRR        Fern Ridge Reservoir, Lane Co.  
SJCR       South Jetty of the Columbia River, Clatsop Co.

**Mallard** - plain type denotes species usually seen.

*Pacific Loon* - italics indicates unusual sightings, late dates, unusual locations, Latin subspecies.

**HARLEQUIN DUCK** - All capitals indicates the rarest sighting, first state records, etc.

**Clark's Grebe**

1 was at Pacifica, Josephine, 27 June for an out of place/season inland sighting (Dennis Vroman).

**Black-footed Albatross**

150 were west of Lincoln City, Lincoln, 10 July (Dave Pitkin).

**Northern Fulmar**

12 were west of Lincoln City, Lincoln, 10 July (Dave Pitkin).

**American White Pelican**

4 were at Smith Lake, Multnomah, 10 June (Ron Spencer *fide* Harry Nehls).

**Brown Pelican**

A large flock of 400+ were at the North Spit, Coos Bay, Coos, 18 July. Most were juveniles (Dave Lauten).

**Black-crowned Night Heron**

One was in Bandon, Coos, 1 June (Tim Rodenkirk); 2 were at Henderson Marsh, Coos, 4 June (Tim Rodenkirk); an adult was in North Bend, Coos, on 3 July (Sue Townsend); 1 was in NE Portland, Multnomah, 20 July (Paul Osborn).

**White-faced Ibis**

Left over from the spring incursion west of the Cascades Mountains: 27 were at Doerfler's Pond, Linn, 1 June (Jeff Harding, Roy Gerig). Later on, 1 was at Henderson Marsh, Coos, 10 July (Tim Rodenkirk), and 1 was at Brookings, Curry, 11 July (Colin Dillingham).

**Sandhill Crane**

One was over Cape Arago, Coos, 15 July (Tim Rodenkirk).

**Brant**

There were many reports of small flocks from the entire length of the coast of summering birds.

**Green-winged Teal**

A pair was at FRR, 20 June (Don DeWitt).

**Blue-winged Teal**

Another bumper year! 40 were reported from the Effluent Pond in Coos Bay, Coos, 4 June (Tim Rodenkirk); 40 were seen at FRR, 5 June (Steve McDonald)

as well as numerous other smaller flocks throughout the region.

**Northern Shoveler**

A female with 8 young were at BSNWR, 4 June (Roy Gerig).

**Gadwall**

2 pairs were seen at FRR, 4 June (Dave Irons); 2 were there 20 June (Don DeWitt). 1 pair was seen at BSNWR, 4 June (Roy Gerig); a male was on the effluent pond near Coos Bay, Coos, 23 June (Tim Rodenkirk).

**Redhead**

8 pairs were seen at FRR, throughout the period (Dave Irons et al.).

**Ring-necked Duck**

Breeding took place for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year at the effluent pond near Coos Bay, Coos, as young were seen there by 23 June (Tim Rodenkirk).

**American Avocet**

1 was seen at Hubbard Creek, Curry, 17 June (Jane Cramer *fide* Nate Wander); 1 was at the mouth of the Sandy River, Multnomah, 27 June (Steve Clark).

**Black-necked Stilt**

5 were at Mohoff Pond, ANWR, 18 July to end of period (John Lundsten, et al.).

**Snowy Plover**

An adult with 2 nestlings were found at the Necanicum Estuary, Clatsop, 28 July (Todd Thornton). This is thought to be the first evidence of nesting in this county since 1985.

**Semipalmated Plover**

An unsuccessful nesting took place at the North Spit, Coos Bay, Coos (Dave Lauten).

**BAR-TAILED GODWIT**

1 was at the mouth of 10 Mile Creek, Coos, 17 July (David Bailey).

**Long-billed Dowitcher**

100 was a sizable flock inland at ANWR, 27 July (Paul Sullivan).

**Wilson's Phalarope**

Breeding took place again at BSNWR, ANWR, and possibly N. Spit of Coos Bay (Roy Gerig, John Lundsten, Tim Rodenkirk *fide* Harry Nehls).

**Red Phalarope**

1 was at SJCR, 16 June (Mike Patterson).

**Pomarine Jaeger**

2 adults were seen off Boiler Bay, Lincoln, 17 June (Phil Pickering); 1 was at the North Spit, Coos Bay, Coos, 10 July (Dave Lauten); 1 was at Boiler Bay, Lincoln, 9 & 11 July (Phil Pickering); 1 was at Rocky Creek Wayside 16 July (Jeff Harding).

**Parasitic Jaeger**

1 was at the mouth of the Necanicum River, Clatsop, 22 July (Todd Thornton).

**Heermann's Gull**

The first bird to be seen this year was a first year bird at Lincoln City, Lincoln, 6 June (Phil Pickering).

**Franklin's Gull**

A first-year bird was seen in Lincoln City, Lincoln, 6 June (Phil Pickering); another first-year bird was at Winchester Bay, Douglas, 18 July (David Bailey); 1 was at the mouth of the Necanicum River, Clatsop, 20 July (Mike Patterson).

**Glaucous Gull**

A late 1<sup>st</sup>-year bird was seen at D-River, Lincoln, 4 June (Jeff Harding).

**Forster's Tern**

11 were seen at FRR, 2 June (Wayne Weber). 1 was there 20 June (Don DeWitt) and again on 10 July (Diane Pettey).

**Black Tern**

4 were at Doerfler Pond, Linn, 2 June (Paula Vanderheul); 2 were at the Fernhill Wetlands, Washington, 20 June (Gene Herb); Nesting most likely took place again at BSNWR as up to 5 birds were present throughout the period (Bill Tice, Roy Gerig).

**Elegant Tern**

3 were found on the Necanicum

Estuary, Clatsop, 18 July (Todd Thornton); 1 was at the SJCR, 19 July (Todd Thornton).

### **Caspian Tern**

2 were at Whitehorse Park on the Rogue River, Josephine, 28 July (Dennis Vroman).

### **Horned Puffin**

1 was seen at Cape Foulweather, Lincoln, 15 July (Jeff Harding).

### **White-tailed Kite**

1 was seen at FRR, 4 June (Dave Irons); 1 was near Pacifica, Josephine, 27 June (Dennis Vroman); an adult with 3 young were north of Central Point, Jackson, 22 July (Dennis Vroman); 1 was seen 9 July on the deflation plain of the Siuslaw River, Lane, (Bill Stotz *fide* Tom Mickel).

### **Red-shouldered Hawk**

3 were seen circling in the sky with legs dangling near FRR, 4 June (Diane Pettey).

### **Swainson's Hawk**

An out of place bird was seen on Sauvie Island, 2 June (Carol Hallett). It or another was seen flying over Oaks Bottoms in SE Portland, Multnomah, 3 June (Mike Houck *fide* Harry Nehls);

### **Prairie Falcon**

An out of place and season bird was at Cascade Head, Lincoln, 9 June (Phil Pickering).

### **Merlin**

A late migrant was at New River, Coos, 1 June (Tim Rodenkirk).

### **CUCKOO Sp.**

A Cuckoo was seen flying at E.E. Wilson, Benton, 3 July. It could not be relocated (Dave Budeau *fide* Al McGie).

### **Spotted Owl**

A young bird was at Fort Stevens State Park, Clatsop, 30 July (Mike Marsh, Henry Gilmore).

### **Barred Owl**

1 was near Smith Lake, Multnomah, 4

June (Ray Korpi); a road killed first year bird was found 6 June near the Lewis and Clark district, Clatsop, very close to where one was killed 2 years ago, and a live bird was heard calling very near there 10 June (*fide* Mike Patterson).

### **Black Swift**

1 or 2 were seen at New River, Coos, 1 June, and 4 were there 10 June (Tim Rodenkirk); 1 was over the deflation plain south of Florence, Lane, 10 June (Diane Pettey); 1 was seen in Eugene, Lane, 16 July (Barb Combs); up to 8 were at Salt Creek Falls, Lane, during the period (mob).

### **Black-chinned Hummingbird**

A female was found on Nicolai Mountain, Clatsop, 29 July (Mike Patterson).

### **Calliope Hummingbird**

A male was seen at Salt Creek Falls, Lane, 15 June (Reid Freeman, Paul Sherrell).

### **Eastern Kingbird**

1 was seen at the Marine Science Center, Lincoln, 12 June (Roy Lowe, Eric Nelson, *fide* Range Bayer); 1 was found near Coberg, Lane, 13 June (LeRoy Fish, Paul Adamus). They were back on territory on the Sandy River Delta, Multnomah, by 17 June for the eighth consecutive year (John Lawes); 1 was on Cape Blanco, Curry, 3 July (Terry Wahl).



*Why they call them waxwings . . .*

*Photo by Steve Dowlan*

### **Ash-throated Flycatcher**

1 was at North Bend, Coos, 10 June (Tim Rodenkirk).

### **Western Scrub-Jay**

1 was in Lincoln City, Lincoln, 16 July (Bill Tice).

### **Wrentit**

Rare for Yamhill County, one was found after much searching in the SW portion on 22 June (Tom Love); 1 was again found NE of Lebanon, Linn, 12 June (Kelly Bettinger).

### **White-breasted Nuthatch**

1 was seen in NE Curry Co., 30 June, where they are rare (Terry Wahl, Jim Rogers).

### **Pygmy Nuthatch**

1 found at Big Lake, Linn, 17 July, was a little west of the bird's usual ponderosa pine habitat (Matt Hunter).

### **Rock Wren**

2 were seen at Big Meadow, e. Linn, 26 June & 8 July (Roy Gerig).

### **Northern Mockingbird**

1 was at Thornton Creek, Lincoln, 17 June (Darrel Faxon).

### **BROWN THRASHER**

1 along the trail at the Marine Science Center, Lincoln, 25 June (Darrel Faxon).

### **NORTHERN PARULA**

1 was near the D-River parking lot, Lincoln, 12 July (Phil Pickering).

### **MAGNOLIA WARBLER**

A male was captured and banded 14 July at Galesville Reservoir, Douglas (Dennis Vroman).

### **Northern Waterthrush**

1-2 were at Salt Creek Falls 15 June, Lane, where they have been seen regularly in past years (Reid Freeman, Paul Sherrell).

### **American Redstart**

A first spring male was found on Cascade Head, Lincoln, 13 June (Phil Pickering). A pair was found on the Wahl Ranch near Langlois, Curry, 25 June; later these were found to have bred (Terry Wahl, Jim Rogers).

### **ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK**

An invasion of this species occurred in Oregon this spring with at least four birds reported: In Lincoln, a male was photographed coming to a feeder in Waldport, 2 June (Ken Crotti), 1 was near the Marine Science Center, 9 June (*fide* Dave Irons), and 1 was in South Beach, 10 June (Rebecca and Nelson Cheek, Jamie Simmons, Wayne Hoffman). In Tillamook, 1 was north of Pacific City, 8 June (Tony Gaines). In Curry, 1 was in Port Orford, 8 June (Ann Larmer *fide* Nate Wander). In Lane, 1 was seen in Springfield, Lane, 11-12 June (Pam Ferree, Don DeWitt).

### INDIGO BUNTING

A male was banded 28 miles west of Grants Pass, Josephine, 29 June (Dennis Vroman).

### Green-tailed Towhee

A rare west-side find was 1 in the Coast Range of NW Benton Co. on 5 June (Bruce Newhouse, Dick Brainerd)

### GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE

One was seen at FRR, 9 June-8 July (Dave Fix, Alan Contreras); it or another was in Eugene, Lane, 23 June (Roy Titus *fide* Tom Mickel); on 11 July, 2 males were seen there.

### COMMON GRACKLE

One was at New River, Coos, 2 June (Tim Rodenkirk).

### Vesper Sparrow

1-4 birds have been found singing on territory this breeding season at New River, Coos, where they had not been noted before (Tim Rodenkirk, Dave Lauten); 1 was seen at the SJCR, 5 July (Todd Thornton); 1 was at the Salmon River, Lincoln, 28 July (Phil Pickering).

### Black-throated Sparrow

1 was in Multnomah Co., 5 June (John Salmon *fide* Harry Nehls). It or another was seen on Powell Butte in Portland, Multnomah, 7 June (Wes Stone). Another was seen 7 June at the Wahl Ranch, Curry (Terry Wahl).

### Brewer's Sparrow

2 were at Santiam Flats, 9 June, for a rare Marion find (Steve Dowlan). 1 was found at the D-River parking lot, Lincoln, 13 June (Phil Pickering); 1 was seen singing on territory near Cave Springs, Josephine, 21 June (Craig Miller); "several" were at Big Meadow in

Bay, Lincoln, 12 June (Darrel Faxon *fide* Range Bayer); another was seen at Floras Lake, Curry, 14 June (Dave Lauten); 1 was at Ten Mile Creek, Coos, 3 June (David Bailey).

### DICKCISSEL

A male was found singing 2-5 July along Oceanview Dr. in Harbor, Curry. Videos were obtained. This would be the 11<sup>th</sup> state record if accepted by the OBRC (Ken Goldwater, Don Munson).

### White-winged Crossbill

1 was seen at Waldo Lake, Lane, 5 June



East Linn Co. 26 June & 8 July (Roy Gerig).

### Golden-crowned Sparrow

A late migrant was seen at the Wahl Ranch, Curry, 4 June (Terry Wahl).

### Lapland Longspur

1 was seen at the South Jetty of Yaquina

(Wayne Weber) and again on 13 June (Tim Rodenkirk).

*Above: Dickcissel, 5 July 2000, video capture by Colin Dillingham*

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## FIELD NOTES: Eastern Oregon, Summer 2000

Kevin T. Spencer, P.O. Box 353, Tulelake, CA 96134

### THE SEASON

Overall, the weather was mild and dry. June reportedly had some light precipitation early in the month, but afterwards was

mild with little to no precipitation. July had average temperatures and was dry, with no thunderstorms reported. Towards the end of July temperatures reached mid-ninety

degrees Fahrenheit.

The summer was highlighted with the discoveries of two extremely rare species. The stage was set a year ago when Steve Shunk found a singing, territorial American Redstart close to where Squawback Road crosses Indian Ford Creek. Although breeding was not evident last year, the bird returned again this year and continued to be seen throughout the summer, attracting quite a bit of attention from birders (American Redstarts are rarely seen in Central Oregon). When Greg Gillson visited the site in late July, not only did he get to see the American Redstart, but also had the incredible luck of finding Oregon's first documented **Blue-winged Warbler** (CM). Many observed this elusive bird as it remained at least through the end of the period. Also, the first documented **Yellow-throated Vireo** for Oregon was seen by just a few observers at Malheur NWR Headquarters.

A Gray Catbird was discovered and seen numerous times in Bend, and was subsequently seen carrying food, however no juveniles were seen. This nesting behavior is well outside its normal breeding range. Gray-headed Juncos were again documented as nesting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year: one family was seen in the Trout Creek Mountains and another in Catlow Valley. Seven pairs of Eastern Kingbirds counted in Crook Co. was an unusually high number for that area of the state. A small number of Bobolink were seen near Paisley in the same location as last year. Might nesting be occurring there?

Other comments and observations included unusually high numbers of White-faced Ibis in Harney, Klamath, and Lake Counties, and above average numbers of Blue-winged Teal. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was seen for a short time in Harney Co. by two lucky observers. One discouraging note is the lack of sightings of Upland Sandpiper in the Logan Valley for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. However, they are still being seen in the Bear Valley area. The famous Great Gray Owl nest at a

LaPine golf course apparently went down in a wind storm, and a replacement will likely be difficult to find or measure up to the scores of observers that were able to see them over the past several years.

## REPORTERS AND REPORTS

Reports were submitted by 9 individuals. Other sources of observations included: OBOL, Portland Rare Bird Alert, OBOL Digest, and Grant County Bird Club newsletter.

## FORMAT, ABBREVIATIONS

The format used for each sighting in this report is: # individuals, location, date, COUNTY ABBREVIATION (INITIALS OF OBSERVERS); next record.

Abbreviations used in this report:

CG	campground	mob	many observers
SP	State Park	L.	Lake
R.	River	Mtn.	Mountain
Ck.	Creek		
Res.	Reservoir		
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge		
MNWR	Malheur NWR, Harney Co.		
MIWMA	Miller Island WMA, Klamath Co.		
SLWMA	Summer Lake WMA, Lake Co.		
HQ	Headquarters		
GCBC	Grant County Bird Club		
OFO	Oregon Field Ornithologists		

**Mallard** - plain type denotes species usually seen.

***Pacific Loon*** - italics indicates unusual sightings, late dates, unusual locations, Latin subspecies.

**HARLEQUIN DUCK** - All capitals indicates a rare sighting.

**ROSS' GULL** - all capitals and underlined indicates the rarest sighting, first state records, etc.

### **Common Loon**

1, Prineville Res., Crook, 16 June (DP);  
1, Chickahominy Res., Harney, 27 June (RG).

### **Pied-billed Grebe**

2 adults, with young, Hatfield Res.,  
Deschutes, 9 July (JM).

### **Eared Grebe**

Present, Burns Sew. Ponds, Harney, 10  
June (MC, PV); "lots", Mann L.,  
Harney, 12 June (MC, PV); 8-10, Hatfield  
Res., Deschutes, 9 July (JM); 200,  
Gutierrez Ranch, Crook, 22 July (CG,  
PTS, OFO).

### **Red-necked Grebe**

2, Klamath Marsh NWR, Klamath, 19  
June (JG); 1 adult, 1 young, Rocky Point,  
Klamath, 8 July (KS, FM).

### **Horned Grebe**

2 prs., Wright's Pond, Harney, 14 June  
(MC, PV).

### **Western Grebe**

20, s. end, Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June  
(WW).

### **Clark's Grebe**

2-3, Ochoco Res., Crook, 12-22 June,  
*considered rare for Crook* (CG, DP, PTS);  
80, s. end Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June  
(WW); 40, Warner Valley, Lake, 3 June  
(WW); present, Burns Sew. Pond,  
Harney, 15 June (MC, PV).

### **Western/Clark's Grebe**

25 that were too distant to ID, n. end,  
Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW).

### **American White Pelican**

2, Ochoco Res., Crook, 6 June (CG).

### **Double-crested Cormorant**

1 fledged immature, Drew's Res., Lake,  
3 June (WW); 120 at a nesting colony,  
Pelican L., n of Adel, Lake, 3 June  
(WW).

### **Great Blue Heron**

40 at a nesting colony, Pelican L., n. of  
Adel, Lake, 3 June (WW).

### **Black-crowned Night Heron**

6 juv., Gutierrez Ranch, Crook, 19 July  
(CG).

### **Great Egret**

1, Willow Ck. WMA, 16 July was the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Gilliam record (RG sighting; CC, RK on  
record).

### **CATTLE EGRET**

1, s. of Burns, Harney, 25 June (Jack  
Alban).

### **Green Heron**

3 fledged, 3 mi. n of Warm Springs,  
Deschutes R., was a *first nesting record for  
Jefferson* (JaL).

### **White-faced Ibis**

Large numbers in Klamath, Harney, and

Lake Cos. through period (DF et al., KS); 28, w. of Newberry Crater turnoff, Hwy 97, summer, for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Deschutes record (JP); 2, Gutierrez Ranch, Crook, 19 July (CG); 1, Bear Valley, Seneca, Grant, 14 July (RG); 14, near Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW), *not previously reported area in Co.*

#### **Trumpeter Swan**

1, Gutierrez Ranch, Crook, 19 July (CG).

#### **Ross's Goose**

1 injured bird throughout period, s. of Burns, Harney (HN).

#### **Snow Goose**

1, MIWMA, most of June (FM, KS, JF).

#### **Wood Duck**

1 male, Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW), *where uncommon in summer*. 2 male, 1 female, Benson Pond, Harney, 11 June (MC, PV); several broods, Wood R. Wetlands, n. of Agency L., Klamath, 5 July (KS).

#### **Blue-winged Teal**

Unusually high numbers observed and reported: 2 pr., Prineville Res., Crook, 9 June (BN); 20, MNWR, 26 June (DHz); 1 female with a brood of 10, n. of Kent, Sherman, 7 July (RG); 20, with possibly 3 broods, Tumalo Res., Deschutes, 8 July (JM); 20 & 6, Hatfield Res., Deschutes, June & 9 July (DH, C&MM, & JM); 4, SLWMA, 19 June (JG).

#### **Ring-necked Duck**

12, Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW).

#### **Greater Scaup**

3, Hines, Harney, 12 June (HN); 1 pr., Tingley L., Klamath, 19 June (JF).

#### **Bufflehead**

2, nw. end, Drew's Res., Lake, 26 June (JG)

#### **Hooded Merganser**

4, Drew's Res., Lake, 26 June (JG).

#### **Bald Eagle**

Adult on nest, s. end Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW).

#### **Osprey**

1 adult, nest, Rock Ck., Klamath, 25 July (PJ); 1 pr., nest, Palmer Jct., Union, 19

June (MD); 1 adult, Twin L., Wallowa, 21 June (M&MLD).

#### **Cooper's Hawk**

1, Rock Ck., Klamath, 25 July (PJ); 1, Red Hill Lookout, Wallowa, 5 July (M&MLD).

#### **Northern Goshawk**

1, Squawback Rd., n. of Sisters, 7 July Deschutes, (DA); 1, Squawback Rd., Deschutes, 1 August, (DP, DW); 1 imm., Canyon Mtn. trailhead, Grant, 11 June (GCBC); 1, Tiger Saddle, Umatilla, 13 June (MD); 1, near upper Willow Ck., Lake, 15 June (KS, FM); 1 pr., Little Looking Glass Ck., Union, 16 June (MD); 1 adult, Kirkland Cabin, Wallowa, 20 June (MD); 1, Trout Creek Mtns., Malheur, 16 July (SD); 1, Buck Crossing trail, Baker, 20 July (M&MLD); 1, Rock Ck., Klamath, 25 July (PJ).

#### **Swainson's Hawk**

5, including a nest with 2 downy young, se. of Arlington, Gilliam, 17 June (ML); 2-3, Merrill to Malin, throughout period, Klamath, (KS).

#### **Peregrine Falcon**

1, Wood River Wetland, n. of Agency L., Klamath, 5 July (KS).

#### **Merlin**

1 adult, Twin L., Wallowa, 21 June, was a *rare summer observation* (M&MLD).

#### **Gray Partridge**

5, se. of Arlington, Gilliam, 17 June (ML); 20+, Pruitt Rd., e. of Paulina, Crook (CG).

#### **Chukar**

1 adult, 15 young, above Cottonwood Ck., Harney, (JL, et al.); 4, se. of Arlington, Gilliam, 17 June (ML).



#### **Spruce Grouse**

3, near Duck L., Baker/Wallowa county line, 19 July (M&MLD).

#### **Ruffed Grouse**

"Family", near Snow Mtn. Lookout, Harney, 4 August (M&CM); 12, eastern Crook Co., 22 July (PTS).

#### **Blue Grouse**

1 adult, 6 juv., near Twin L., Wallowa, 24 July (M&MLD).

#### **Yellow Rail**

Found at regular locations in Klamath throughout period: Westside Rd., U. Klamath; Dixon Rd., Fort Klamath; Klamath Marsh (fide KS, mob).

#### **Virginia Rail**

1 adult, 7 young, Upper Klamath NWR, Klamath, 23 July (PJ).

#### **Semipalmated Plover**

1, MIWMA, 16 July (FM).

#### **Snowy Plover**

2-3, SLWMA, 30 June (RG); 2, Borax L., Harney, 1 July (JJ).

#### **Black-necked Stilt**

2, Prineville Res., Crook, early June (BN); 2, Gutierrez Ranch, Crook, 22 July (PTS).

#### **American Avocet**

1, Ochoco Res., Crook, 16 June (DP); 1, Prineville Sew. Ponds, Crook, 13 July (CG); 1, Hatfield L., Deschutes, 17 June (P&JH); 5, Gutierrez Ranch, Crook, 22 July (PTS).

#### **Greater Yellowlegs**

1, SLWMA, 30 June (RG); 2, Smith Rock St. Pk., Deschutes, 4 July (DH, PM); 25, MIWMA, 16 July (FM).

#### **Lesser Yellowlegs**

1, MIWMA, 16 July (FM).

#### **Upland Sandpiper**

No sightings from Logan Valley for fourth consecutive yr. (GCBC); "several", Bear Valley near Seneca, Grant, 18 June (TR); 8, Bear Valley, Grant, 25 June (VA); 1, Bear Valley, Grant, 13 July (RG).

#### **Long-billed Curlew**

3, Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW).

#### **Short-billed Dowitcher**

1, Smith Rock St. Pk., Deschutes, 4 July (DH, PM).

**Long-billed Dowitcher**  
200, SLWMA, 28 July (RG).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**  
1, MIWMA, 16 July (FM).

**Western Sandpiper**  
3, Lakeview Sew. Ponds, Lake, 29 June (RG); 120, MIWMA, 16 July (FM).

**Least Sandpiper**  
40, SLWMA, 30 June (RG); 185, MIWMA, 16 July (FM); 6, Borax L., Harney, 1 July (JJ).

**California Gull**  
1 adult, Twin L., Wallowa, 19-24 July (M&MLD).

**Western Gull**  
1 adult, John Day Dam, Sherman, 5 July (RG).

**Bonaparte's Gull**  
2, likely nonbreeders, Drew's Res., 3 June Lake (WW); 3, MNWR, 26 June (DH); 2, SLWMA, 28 July (RG).

**Franklin's Gull**  
1, Lake Abert, Lake, 1 July (M&CM).

**Common Tern**  
2, Narrows, MNWR (JC, BT, DMc).

**YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO**  
1, MNWR, 6 June- 27 June (JC, BT, DMc).

**Band-tailed Pigeon**  
3, Fields, Harney, 1 June (M); 1, Frenchglen, Harney, 13 June (AC); 1, Page Springs, Harney, 1 June (SSh).

**Barn Owl**  
Probable pr., near Fort Rock, Lake, 10 July (NP).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl**  
1, Indian Ford CG, n. of Sisters, Deschutes, 22 June (fide DD).

**Flammulated Owl**  
1, near Warner Ski area along Hwy 140, Lake, 3 June (WW); 2, Stein's Pillar, Crook, 4 June (CG); 1, Ochoco Ranger Station, Crook, 15-16 June (CG, DP); 2, Twin Pillars, Crook, 10 June (DT).

**Northern Pygmy Owl**  
2 adults, 2 fledged, Low. Annie Ck., Crater Lake NP, Klamath, 23 July (EH).

**Burrowing Owl**  
1, Eightmile Canyon Rd., Gilliam, 16 June (ML); pr., Narrows-Princeton Rd., Harney, 29 June (JG); pr., Mickey Hot Springs, Alvord Basin, Harney 1 July (JJ); 2 prs., Denio Jct., Harney, 5 July (SSh).

**Barred Owl**  
1 adult, 1 subadult, E. Broady Ck., Wallowa, 19 July (M&MLD).

**Great Gray Owl**  
Long time nest at Quail Run Golf Course in LaPine apparently a blow-down from wind (*fide* DHe); 1, Sunriver, 2 June Deschutes, (DI); 1 adult, E. Broady Ck., Wallowa, 21 June (MD); 1 adult, Mill Ck. watershed., Umatilla, 29 June (MD).

**Long-eared Owl**  
1 in aspen grove, Hart Mtn. Hot Springs, 1 July (M&CM).

**Short-eared Owl**  
1 adult, n. of Pendleton; Hwy 11, Umatilla, 12 June (MD).



*Western Screech-Owl found on OFO Weekend, Crook Co. in July. Photo by Chuck Gates.*

**Common Nighthawk**  
100+, Bend, Deschutes, 5 July (DT)--  
*foraging big hatch?*

**White-throated Swift**  
1, 10 mi. n of Smith Rocks, Deschutes, 11 June (DM); 15, *some low between cars*, Roaring Springs, Harney, mid-June (AC, MC, PV); 1, L. Billy Chinook, Jefferson, 18 June (PTS).

**Black-chinned Hummingbird**  
1, near Frenchglen (Page Springs?), Harney, 2-4 June (JF); 1, Page Springs CG, Harney, 22 July (M&CM); 1 female, MNWR HQ, 29 July (HN); 1, Summer L., Lake, 13 July (M&CM).

**Anna's Hummingbird**  
3, Summer L., 15 July *are very uncommon in Lake Co.* (CM).

**Costa's Hummingbird**  
1, near Sawyer Park, 10 June is *rare, but an annual visitor in Deschutes* (*fide* CM),

**Selasphorus sp.**  
Rufous and Calliope returned to feeders, Deschutes, 5 July (JM).

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird**  
2, fem, Trout Creek Mtns., Malheur, 16 July (SD).

**Calliope Hummingbird**  
3 *within 1 ft. of red shirt*, Squawback Rd., n. of Sisters, Deschutes, 30 July (PTS); 3 adults, end of Dutchman Ck. trail., Baker (M&MLD).

**Lewis' Woodpecker**  
8-12, Cabin Lake RS, Lake, 23-25 July (EH, RR, mob).

**Williamson's Sapsucker**  
1 female, nest/young, *5ft. high in a 9 in diam. aspen*, Bull Prairie, Warner Mtns., Lake, 19 June (JG); 1 pr., nest, Odessa CG, Klamath, 19 June (JF); 1 pr., Indian Ford CG, Deschutes, 23 June (DD, RF, VA).

**Red-naped Sapsucker**  
1, Hwy 58 and Little Deschutes Riv., Klamath, 1 June (GG); 1 male, upper Willow Ck., Warner Mtns., Lake, 16 June (KS, FM); 1 female, nest/young, *12 ft. high in aspen*, Bull Prairie, Warner Mtns., Lake, 19 June (JG).

**Red-breasted Sapsucker**  
1, Rock Ck., 25 July Klamath, (PJ); several, including *1 active nest in aspen*, Aspen Pond, Stukel Mtn., Klamath, 19 June (JF); 1 pr., Dismal Ck. CG, Warner Mtns., 15 June Lake, (KS, FM).

**Red-breasted and Red-naped Sapsucker pair**  
Male Red-naped with female *daggetti*

Red-breasted, Cold Springs CG, Deschutes, 25 June (A&TM).

**Red-naped x**

**Red-breasted Sapsucker**

1, Minam St. Pk., Wallowa, 17 June (TR).

**White-headed Woodpecker**

Nest, Indian Fork CG, Deschutes, 10 June (NP); 1, Quartz Mtn., Lake, 3 June (WW).

**Black-backed Woodpecker**

10, Elk L. "burn", Deschutes, 11 June (DM); 2 adults, feeding fledglings, Elk Lk., Deschutes, 30 July (PTS); 1, Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW); 1, Quartz Mtn., Lake, 3 June (WW); 1, McKay Ck., 19 June (KO, CG).

**Three-toed Woodpecker**

1 pr., 2 juv., Mottet Ck., Umatilla, 19 June (MD); 2 birds & nest, Elk L. "burn", Deschutes, 10-11 June (NP, DM); 2 adults, feeding fledglings, Elk Lk., Deschutes, 30 July (PTS); 1, above Little Looking Glass Ck., Union, (MD).

**LEAST FLYCATCHER**

1, Petric Dike, n. end Agency L., Klamath, 20 June-8 July (JA, FM, KS); 1, Page Springs CG, Harney, throughout period (Wink Gross, mob); 2, Holliday St. Pk., Grant, 14 July (RG).

**Cordilleran Flycatcher**

1, Rhinehart Bridge, Union, 17 June (TR); 1, Willow Ck., e. of Heppner, Morrow, 18 June (TR).

**Gray Flycatcher**

1, 11 mi. s. of Fox, Grant, 14 July (RG).

**Ash-throated Flycatcher**

2, ne. end of Redmond, Deschutes, 11 June (JM).

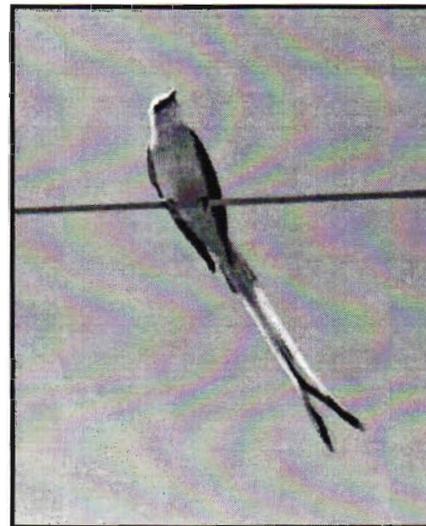
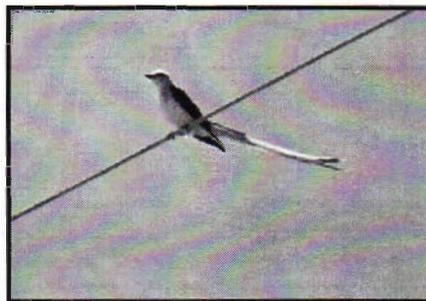
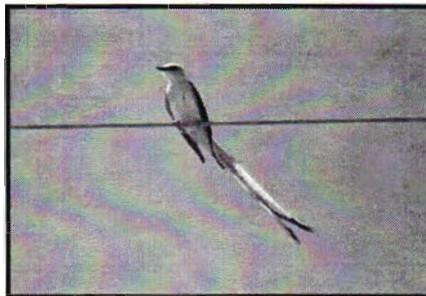
**Eastern Kingbird**

Once rare in Cent. Oregon: now nest locally in Crook Co. (CM); 1, near Fort Rock, Lake, 11 June, represented a rare sighting for Lake (NP); 1, Richardson's Rock Ranch, Jefferson, 19 June (KO, CG); 1, Ochoco Res., Crook, 16 June (DP); 7 prs., Gutierrez Ranch area, Crook, 19 July (CG).

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER**

1 adult male, s. of Burns, Harney, 15

July (photos by SD).



**Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

1, Drew's Res., Lake, 3 June (WW); 4, Ochoco Ranger Station, Crook, 16 June (DP).

**Cliff Swallow**

150, under Drews Ck. Bridge, Lake, 3 June (WW).

**Bank Swallow**

300 in a post-breeding concentration, Wood River-Loosely Rd., Klamath, 27 July (PJ); 2000, Lowen, Harney, 28 June (HN); 300, MNWR, 28 June (HN); 12, nesting, Low. Bridge, Deschutes, 17 June (PTS); 200+, 138 nest burrows, Bend, Deschutes, 20 June (DT).

**Tree Swallow**

"Thousands" roosting in cattails, Upper Klamath NWR, Klamath, 23 July (PJ).

**Swallow sp.**

15,000, mostly Tree, Bank, Violet-green, s. end of Agency L., Klamath, 22 July (EH).

**Juniper Titmouse**

1, w. of Adel, Fish Ck. Rim, Lake, 19 June (TR); 4, Drake Ck., 7 mi. w of Adel, Lake, 29 June (RG).

**Black-capped Chickadee**

6, Deschutes River St. Pk., Deschutes, 29 July (JG).

**White-breasted Nuthatch**

2, Quartz Mtn., Lake, 3 June (WW).

**Pygmy Nuthatch**

1 in Lodgepole Pine, Big L., Deschutes, 12 July (HN).

**Say's Phoebe**

Pr. with 2 nearby fledged young, Round Butte Pk., 12 July (MRu); 1, Smith Rock St. Pk., Crook, 3 July (CG).

**Loggerhead Shrike**

3, Powell Butte/Gutierrez Ranch area, 19 July Crook, (CG).

**YELLOW-THROATED VIREO**

A 1<sup>st</sup> state record if accepted was 1 at MNWR HQ, 9 June (CC, JC, AC, DTa).

**RED-EYED VIREO**

1, Indian Ford Ck., n. of Sisters, Deschutes, 28 July-4 Aug., (TC, JG, OS, M&CM, mob).

**Western Scrub-Jay**

2 ad, 2 young, near Prineville, Crook, 7 July, represent another range expansion (NM).

**Pinyon Jay**

About 100, Cabin Lake RS, Lake, 1 August (SSp); 75, Squawback Rd., n. of Sisters, Deschutes, 3 July (WS); 100, Sisters, Deschutes, 22 July (RR); 6, s. of Madras, Jefferson, 17 June (PTS); 2, Lone Pine Rd., Crook, 17 June (PTS); 25, Powell Butte, Crook, 23 July (PTS).

**Bewick's Wren**

2, Page Springs CG, Harney, 11 June (HN); 2, Willow Ck. WMA, Gilliam, 16 July (RG); 2, Trout Creek Mtns., Malheur, 16 July (SD).

**Winter Wren**

1, eastern Crook Co., 22 July (CG, PTS, OFO); 10+, Little Looking Glass Ck., Umatilla, 18 June (MD).

**House Wren**

Reported less than normal this summer (HN et al.).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

1, Trout Ck. Canyon, Malheur, 1 June (M); 1, Stukel Mtn., Klamath, 13 June (KS); 1, se. of Summer L., Lake, 30 June (RG).

**American Dipper**

1 adult, 2 fledged, Mill Cr., Crook, 23 July (CG, PTS, OFO); 1, Twenty Mile Ck., s. of Adel, Lake, 20 June (RG, DHe).

**Veery**

1, Sumpter, Baker, 16 June (TR); 1, Minam St. Pk., 17 June Baker, (TR); 1, Willow Ck., e. of Heppner, Morrow, 18 June (TR); 2, Ochoco Ranger Station, Crook, 6 June (CG); 1, near Bridgeport, Grant, June (TH).

**Swainson's Thrush**

1, Squawback Rd., Deschutes, 4 August (M&CM); 1, Trout Ck./Trout Ck Mtn. Rd., Malheur, 17 June (SD); 1, Ingle Ck., Grant, June (TH).



Gray Catbird, Bend. Photo by Dave Tracy.

**Gray Catbird**

1, Page Springs CG, Harney, 4 June (JF); 1, MNWR HQ, 11 June (HN, JL, mob); 1, Bend, Deschutes, 1 June- through period, was seen carrying food on 12 June (fide DT, mob); many, Minam St. Pk., Wallowa, 17 June (TR).

**Northern Mockingbird**

1, Glass Butte, Harney, 9 June (JL, et al.).

**American Pipit**

1-5, East Rim, Steens Mtn., Harney, 6-23 July (MIMc, DP, M&CM, CD); 6, Smith Rock St. Pk., Deschutes, 4 July (DH, PM).

**Cedar Waxwing**

2 prs., Frenchglen and Page Springs CG, Harney, 2-31 July (SSh).

**BLUE-WINGED WARBLER**

1, Indian Ford Ck., n. of Sisters, Deschutes, 24 July through end of period, is the 2<sup>nd</sup> state record, 1<sup>st</sup> substantiated by photograph; it was subsequently seen by many observers (GG).

**Orange-crowned Warbler**

1, Glass Butte, Lake, 27 June, was at an unusual location for the date (RG).

**McGillivray's Warbler**

1, Fields, Harney, 12 June, was a late migrant (AC); several nesting pairs, Shelton Wayside, Wheeler, 20 June (RK).

**Nashville Warbler**

1, Page Springs CG, Harney, 11 June, is an unusual date and location for a bird south of the Blue Mountains in the county (MC, PV).

**Wilson's Warbler**

2, Page Springs CG, Harney, 24 June (DB).

**Yellow Warbler**

13, Page Springs CG, Harney, 24 June (DB).

**VIRGINIA'S WARBLER**

1 female, Trout Creek Mtns., Malheur, 16 July (SD).

**NORTHERN PARULA**

1, female, MNWR HQ, 10 June (CC, JC mob); 1, male, MNWR HQ, 11 June

(CC, JC, DA, mob).

**Yellow-rumped****"Audubon's" Warbler**

2, carrying food, Warner Mtns., Fremont NF, Lake, 19 June (JG).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler**

2, Squawback Rd., Deschutes, 1 Aug., (DP, DW); 2, Glass Butte, Lake, 27 June (RG); 1, near Gerber Res., Lake, 14 June (KS); 2, w. of Adel, Lake, 15 June (FM, KS); 1, Prineville Res., Crook, 13 June (CG).

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER**

1 male, MNWR HQ, 13 and 27 June, 1-5 July (RG, DP).

**AMERICAN REDSTART**

1 male, Indian Ford CG, Deschutes, 10 June (NP, CD, LJ); 2 or 3 birds, including adult female and juvenile, Squawback Rd., Deschutes, 1 July-end of period, (A&TM, DP, DW, CM, GG, mob); 1 male, MNWR HQ, 11 June (AC); 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> yr. male, banded, Petric Dike, n. end Agency L., Klamath, 20 June (JA); 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> yr. male, Fields, Harney, 11 June (AC).

**OVENBIRD**

1, Jack L., Jefferson, 19 June, was a first record for the county (PTS).

**Yellow-breasted Chat**

1, Crooked River Canyon, Crook, 13 June (CG).

**Green-tailed Towhee**

Present, Glass Butte, Lake, 27 June (RG); 2, s. of Madras, Jefferson, 17 June (PTS); 5, Metolius River, Jefferson, 18 June (PTS).

**Brewer's Sparrow**

Family, Ajax Rd., near John Day Riv., Gilliam, 6 July (RG).

**Black-throated Sparrow**

several, Warner overlook, Hart Mtn., Lake, 19 June (TR).

**Grasshopper Sparrow**

1, Sand Hollow Rd., Morrow, 18 June (TR); 2, Richmond Rd., w. of Condon, Gilliam, 6 July (RG).

### Fox Sparrow

8, Quartz Mtn., Lake, 3 June (WW).

### Lincoln's Sparrow

4 pr., Twin L., Wallowa, 21 June (M&MLD);  
5+ pr., end of Dutchman Ck. trail, Baker, 23  
June (M&MLD).

### White-crowned Sparrow

3 pr. of the *oriantha* race, Twin L., Wallowa,  
21 June (M&MLD).

### GRAY-HEADED JUNCO

1 immature, Trout Creek Mts., Malheur, 17  
June (SD), and a family group, Catlow Valley,  
Harney, 7 June (JC, BT, DMc) represented  
the second year where breeding evidence of  
this subspecies has been found in SE  
Oregon.

### ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK

1, m., Bend, Deschutes, 11-12 June  
(D&CMc); 1, near Sisters, Deschutes, 13  
June (CG).

### Bobolink

3, Paisley, Lake, 24 June, were in the same  
location as at the OFO Meeting last year  
(M&CM).

### Red-winged Blackbird

400, MNWR, 28 June (JG)—this species is

not usually counted during the summer and  
is often not reported. More interesting was 1  
female, Twin L., Wallowa, 24 July, at an  
elevation of 6700 feet in an area without  
cattails (M&MLD).

### Brewer's Blackbird

300, MNWR, 28 June (JG).

### Brown-headed Cowbird

7, Page Springs CG, Harney, 24 June (DB).

### Yellow-headed Blackbird

1, Rimrock Springs, Jefferson, 17 June (PTS);  
50, MNWR, 28 June (JG).

### Tricolored Blackbird

1, Borden Beck Park, Deschutes, 17 June  
(P&JH); 1, Barnes Butte Rd., Crook, 23 June  
(RF, FM).

### Bullock's Oriole

8, Page Springs CG, Harney, 24 June (DB).

### COMMON GRACKLE

1, The Dalles, Wasco, 4 June (KA).

### GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE

1, Plush, Lake, 19 June (DHe, RG); 4  
including a possible female, Wood River  
Wetlands, n. end Agency L., Klamath, 5 July  
(KS).

### PINE GROSBEAK

1 pr. doing display flight, Summer Ck.,  
Union, 5 June (MD).

### Red Crossbill

2 adults, several young, Bend, Deschutes, 5  
July (JM); 150, Cabin Lake RS, Lake, 23 July  
(RR).

### Gray-crowned Rosy Finch

2 adults, 4 fledged, Cloudcap, Crater Lake  
NP, Klamath, 24 July (EH).

### Black-Rosy Finch

5, East Rim Steens Mtn., Harney, 6 July-end  
of period, (DP, MMc, mob).

### Purple Finch

1, female, near Twin Pillars trailhead, Crook,  
10 June (DT); there are only 1 or 2 records for  
Crook. (CM).

### American Goldfinch

7, Page Springs CG, Harney, 24 June (DB);  
8, Deschutes River St. Pk., Sherman, 29 July  
(JG).

### Lesser Goldfinch

2, Plush, Lake, 19 June (DHe, RG); 2 males,  
Page Springs, Harney, 4 June (JF); pr.,  
Kimberly, Grant, 19 June, represents a slight  
breeding range extension (DP).

### OBSERVERS

DA-Dan Albright, KA-Kent Aldrich, JA-John Alexander, VA-Vjera Arnold, DB-David Bailey, AC-Alan Contreras, CC-Craig Corder, JC-Judy Corder, TC-Tom Crabtree, JC-John Crowell, MC-Marcia Cutler, MD-Mike Denny, M&MLD-Mike and Merry Lynn Denny, DD-Don DeWitt, CD-Chad Dorsey, SD-Stephen Dowlan, DF-Darrel Faxon, LE- Leroy Fish, JF-Jeff Fleischer, RF-Reid Freeman, CG-Chuck Gates, RG-Roy Gerig, GG-Greg Gillson, JG-Jeff Gilligan, GCBC-Grant Co. Bird Club, DH-Dean Hale, DHe-Dan Heyerly, DHZ-Dave Helzer, EH-Eric Horvath, P&JH-Patricia & Jeff Harding, TH-Tom Hunt, DI-Dave Irons, LJ-Liz James, JJ-Jim Johnson, PJ-Pamela Johnson, RK-Ray Korpi, ML-Margaret LaFaive, JaL-Jan Luelling, JL-John Lundsten, OFO-Oregon Field Ornithologists, M Maitreya, CM-Craig Miller, DM-David Mandell, FM-Frank Mayer, NM-Nancy McDonald, D&CMc-Don & Carol McCartney, MMc-Mike McDermitt, DMc-Don McDonald, PM-Patty Mehan, JM-Judy Meredith, A&TM-Allison & Tom Mickel, CM-Craig Miller, M&CM-Marilyn & Craig Miller, HN-Harry Nehls, BN-Bruce Newhouse, KO-Kimdel Owen, JP-Jim Peterson, DP- Diane Pettet, NP- Nathan Pieplow, RRI-Ron Rizzo, TR-Tim Rodenkirk, RR-Roger Robb, OS-Owen Schmidt, SSp- Stuart Sparkman, KS-Kevin Spencer, PTS-Paul Sullivan, WS-Wesley Stone, SSh-Steve Shunk, DTa-Dan Taylor, BT-Bill Thackaberry, DT-Dave Tracy, WW-Wayne Weber, DW-Dave Wendt, PV-Paula Vanderheul.

## HY Northern Mockingbird in Jackson Co.

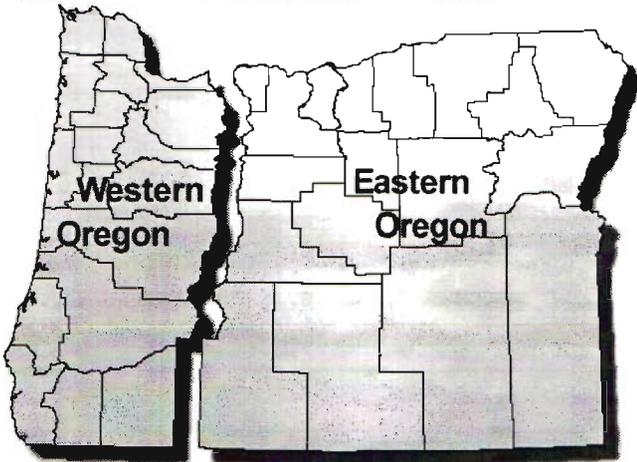
After perusing the photo files, I found the following pictures of a Northern Mockingbird, taken 22 August 1998, a juvenile (hatch year) bird mist-netted and banded near Lower Table Rock, Jackson Co. Photos/Dennis P. Vroman. In light of recent articles on nesting Mockingbirds in Oregon, publishing these seemed appropriate.



# FIELDNOTES

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

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



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Oregon Field Ornithologists members bird all over the state, and often find birds that are of interest to local birders. OFO supports publication of local field notes and encourages OFO members to contact local newsletter publishers or field notes editors whenever birding in or near the Oregon locations listed below. If you would like to add a local newsletter or revise any of the information below, please contact the Editor, *Oregon Birds*, Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440.

Area	Publication	Publisher	Address	Field Notes Editor	Phone
Bend	Eagle Eye	Central Oregon Audubon Society	P.O. Box 565 Bend, OR 97709	Craig Miller <a href="mailto:cmiller@bendnet.com">cmiller@bendnet.com</a>	541-389-9115
Coos Bay	The Tattler	Cape Arago Audubon Society	P.O. Box 381 North Bend, OR 97459	Inactive	541-267-7208
Corvallis	The Chat	Audubon Society of Corvallis	P.O. Box 148 Corvallis, OR 97339	Lorn Fitts <a href="mailto:fitts@uacs.orst.edu">fitts@uacs.orst.edu</a>	541-753-6077
Eugene	The Quail	Lane County Audubon Society	P.O. Box 5086 Eugene, OR 97405	Allison Mickel	541-485-7112
Grants Pass	The Siskin	Siskiyou Audubon Society	P.O. Box 2223 Grants Pass, OR 97528	Eleanor Pugh	541-866-2665
Hood River		Columbia Gorge Audubon Society	P.O. Box 512 Hood River, OR 97031		
John Day	The Upland Sandpiper	Grant County Bird Club	P.O. Box 111 Canyon City, OR 97820	Tom Winters	541-542-2006 (h) 541-575-2570 (w)
Klamath Falls	The Grebe	Klamath Basin Audubon Society	P.O. Box 354 Klamath Falls, OR 97601	Kevin Spencer	916-667-4644
La Grande	The Rav-on	Grande Ronde Bird Club	P.O.Box 29 La Grande, OR 97850	Bill & Chris Dowdy	541-963-4768
Newport	Sandpiper	Yaquina Birders & Naturalists	P.O. Box 1467 Newport, OR 97365	Range Bayer <a href="mailto:rbayer@orednet.org">rbayer@orednet.org</a>	541-265-2965
Portland	Audubon Warbler	Audubon Society of Portland	5151 NW Cornell Rd. Portland, OR 97210	Harry Nehls <a href="mailto:hnehls@teleport.com">hnehls@teleport.com</a>	503-233-3976
Port Orford	The Storm Petrel	Kalmiopsis Audubon Society	P.O. Box 1265 Port Orford, OR 97465	Colin Dillingham	541-247-4752 (h) 541-247-3644 (w)
Roseburg	Wing-Tips	Umpqua Valley Audubon Society	Box 381 Roseburg, OR 97470		
Salem	The Kestrel	Salem Audubon Society	189 Liberty St. NE 209A Salem, OR 97301	John Lundsten <a href="mailto:lundjie@open.org">lundjie@open.org</a>	503-585-9442



*Harlequin Drake/ Photo: Steve Dowlan*

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