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Published March, 2007

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Canada Warbler, Malheur NWR
May 26, 2006.
Photo/Alan Contreras

American Redstart, May 28 at Fields Oasis, Harney County.
Photo/Noah Stryker

Bobolink, near Knox Pond,
Photo/Graham Floyd.

Above, the duck standing upright is a probable hybrid American/
Eurasian Wigeon. Note that the flank is not clear grey, but grey
blended with pinkish. Feeding on the left is a Eurasian Wigeon, with
clean grey flanks. Photo/Jeff Harding

Left, Brambling, Eugene, Lane
County 12 April, 2006. Photo/
Mark Nikas
Glossy Ibis photographed at Malheur NWR 28 May, 2006, showing the head. Photo Graham Floyd
Indigo Bunting, 6 May, 2006, one of two attending a feeder with Lazuli Buntings at the home of the photographer in Malin, Klamath County. Photo/Cy Phillips
2006 Oregon Listing Report Form

Return by 31 March, 2007

Name:_________________________  Name:_________________________
Oregon Life - 2006  Oregon Life - 2006
Baker _______ _______  Baker _______ _______
Benton _______ _______  Benton _______ _______
Clackamas _______ _______  Clackamas _______ _______
Clatsop _______ _______  Clatsop _______ _______
Columbia _______ _______  Columbia _______ _______
Coos _______ _______  Coos _______ _______
Crook _______ _______  Crook _______ _______
Curry _______ _______  Curry _______ _______
Deschutes _______ _______  Deschutes _______ _______
Douglas _______ _______  Douglas _______ _______
Gilliam _______ _______  Gilliam _______ _______
Grant _______ _______  Grant _______ _______
Harney _______ _______  Harney _______ _______
Hood River _______ _______  Hood River _______ _______
Jackson _______ _______  Jackson _______ _______
Jefferson _______ _______  Jefferson _______ _______
Josephine _______ _______  Josephine _______ _______
Klamath _______ _______  Klamath _______ _______
Lake _______ _______  Lake _______ _______
Lane _______ _______  Lane _______ _______
Lincoln _______ _______  Lincoln _______ _______
Linn _______ _______  Linn _______ _______
Malheur _______ _______  Malheur _______ _______
Marion _______ _______  Marion _______ _______
Morrow _______ _______  Morrow _______ _______
Multnomah _______ _______  Multnomah _______ _______
Polk _______ _______  Polk _______ _______
Sherman _______ _______  Sherman _______ _______
Tillamook _______ _______  Tillamook _______ _______
Umatilla _______ _______  Umatilla _______ _______
Union _______ _______  Union _______ _______
Wallowa _______ _______  Wallowa _______ _______
Wasco _______ _______  Wasco _______ _______
Washington _______ _______  Washington _______ _______
Wheeler _______ _______  Wheeler _______ _______
Yamhill _______ _______  Yamhill _______ _______

Listing Thresholds:
Oregon State Life List: 300
The threshold for automatic carryover of state life lists is 400.
2006 Oregon Year List: 250
County Life Lists: 100
2006 County Year Lists: 150

Send completed forms to:
Jamie Simmons
1430 NW Terracegreen Place
Corvallis, OR 97330
Woodpecker97330@yahoo.com
Field trips will highlight the specialty birds of the area: the resident woodpeckers and flycatchers; birds of the
high desert and the high lakes. Affordable accommodations will be available, including camping or staying in
the college dorms.

Arch McCallum of Applied Bioacoustics will speak on Empidonax flycatcher vocalizations and identification,
with emphasis on the local occurrence of vocal intermediates between Pacific-slope and Cordilleran Flycatcher.

Arch McCallum is an ornithologist who has worked as an interpretative naturalist and college professor, and is
now a conservation-oriented bioacoustics consultant working out of Eugene. His current work includes projects
on the Breeding Bird Survey in Maryland, management of the Tricolored Blackbird in California, and individual
recognition of Bonin Petrels in Hawaii, all based on bird sounds.

Black-billed Magpie
8 July 2006, Page
Springs Campground,
Harney County.
Photo/Steve Dowlan
**OREGON BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE**
**OFFICIAL CHECKLIST OF OREGON BIRDS**
May 2006

**LEGEND**
* A review species. At least one record verified by photograph, specimen, or video or sound recording—118 species.
** A review species. Sight records only, no verification—14 species.
E Extirpated. No modern records—California Condor and Sharp-tailed Grouse; Northern Bobwhite-no established population.
I Introduced species—8 species.

498 Total species

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**Order ANSERIFORMES**

**Family Anatidae**

Subfamily Dendrocygninae

___* Fulvous Whistling-Duck. Dendrocygna bicolor

Subfamily Anserinae

___ Greater White-fronted Goose. Anser albifrons
___ Emperor Goose. Chen canagica
___ Snow Goose. Chen caerulescens
___ Ross’s Goose. Chen rossii
___ Brant. Branta bernicla
___ Cackling Goose. Branta hutchinsii
___ Canada Goose. Branta canadensis
___ Trumpeter Swan. Cygnus buccinator
___ Tundra Swan. Cygnus columbianus
___* Whooper Swan. Cygnus cygnus

Subfamily Anatinae

___ Wood Duck. Aix sponsa
___ Gadwall. Anas strepera
___ Falcated Duck. Anas falcate
___ Eurasian Wigeon. Anas penelope
___ American Wigeon. Anas americana
___* American Black Duck. Anas rubripes
___ Mallard. Anas platyrhynchos
___ Blue-winged Teal. Anas discors
___ Cinnamon Teal. Anas cyanoptera
___ Northern Shoveler. Anas clypeata
___ Northern Pintail. Anas acuta
___* Garganey. Anas querquedula
___ Baikal Teal. Anas formosa
___ Green-winged Teal. Anas crecca
___ Canvasback. Aythya valisineria
___ Redhead. Aythya americana
___ Ring-necked Duck. Aythya collaris
___ Tuffed Duck. Aythya fuligula
___ Greater Scaup. Aythya marila
___ Lesser Scaup. Aythya affinis
___* Steller’s Eider. Polysticta stelleri
___* King Eider. Somateria spectabilis
___ Harlequin Duck. Histrionicus histrionicus
___ Surf Scoter. Melanitta perspicillata
___ White-winged Scoter. Melanitta fusca
___ Black Scoter. Melanitta nigra
___ Long-tailed Duck. Clangula hyemalis
___ Bufflehead. Bucephala albeola
___ Common Goldeneye. Bucephala clangula
___ Barrow’s Goldeneye. Bucephala islandica
___* Smew. Mergellus albellus
___ Hooded Merganser. Lophodytes cucullatus
___ Common Merganser. Mergus merganser
___ Red-breasted Merganser. Mergus serrator
___ Ruddy Duck. Oxyura jamaicensis.

**Order GALLIFORMES**

**Family Phasianidae**

Subfamily Phasianiniae

___* Chukar. Alectoris chukar
___ Gray Partridge. Perdix perdix
___* Ring-necked Pheasant. Phasianus colchicus

Subfamily Tetraoninae

___ Ruffed Grouse. Bonasa umbellus
___ Greater Sage-Grouse. Centrocercus urophasianus
___ Spruce Grouse. Falciptennis canadensis
___ Dusky Grouse. Dendragapus obscurus
___ Sooty Grouse. Dendragapus fuliginosus
___*E Sharp-tailed Grouse. Tympanuchus phasianellus

Subfamily Meleagridiniae

___* Wild Turkey. Meleagris gallopavo

**Family Odontophoridae**

___ Mountain Quail. Oreortyx pictus
___* California Quail. Callipepla californica
___*E Northern Bobwhite. Colinus virginianus

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**Order GAVIIFORMES**

**Family Gaviidae**

___ Red-throated Loon. Gavia stellata
___* Arctic Loon. Gavia arctica
___ Pacific Loon. Gavia pacifica
___ Common Loon. Gavia immer
___ Yellow-billed Loon. Gavia adamsii

**Order PODICIPEDIFORMES**

**Family Podicipedidae**

___ Pied-billed Grebe. Podilymbus podiceps
___ Horned Grebe. Podiceps auritus
___ Red-necked Grebe. Podiceps grisegena
___ Eared Grebe. Podiceps nigricollis
___ Western Grebe. Aechmophorus occidentalis
___ Clark’s Grebe. Aechmophorus clarkii

**Order PROCELLARIIFORMES**

**Family Procellariidae**

___* Shy Albatross. Thalassarche cauta
___ Laysan Albatross. Phoebastria immutabilis
___ Black-footed Albatross. Phoebastria nigripes
___* Short-tailed Albatross. Phoebastria albatrus
Family Procellariidae
   ___ Northern Fulmar. Fulmarus glacialis
   ___* Murphy’s Petrel. Pterodroma ultima
   ___* Mottled Petrel. Pterodroma inexpectata
   ____ Juan Fernandez Petrel. Pterodroma externa
   ____ Streaked Shearwater. Calonectris leucomeles
   ____ Pink-footed Shearwater. Puffinus carneipes
   ____* Wedge-tailed Shearwater. Puffinus pacificus
   ____ Buller’s Shearwater. Puffinus bulleri
   ____ Sooty Shearwater. Puffinus griseus
   ____ Short-tailed Shearwater. Puffinus tenuirostris
   ____* Manx Shearwater. Puffinus puffinus
   ____** Black-vented Shearwater. Puffinus opisthomelas

Family Hydrobatidae
   ____ Wilson’s Storm-Petrel. Oceanites oceanicus
   ____ Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel. Oceanodroma furcata
   ____ Leach’s Storm-Petrel. Oceanodroma leucorhoa
   ____* Black Storm-Petrel. Oceanodroma melanias

Order PELECANIFORMES
Family Sulidae
   ____* Blue-footed Booby. Sula nebouxii
   ____** Brown Booby. Sula leucogaster

Family Pelecanidae
   ____ American White Pelican. Pelecanus erythrorhynchos
   ____ Brown Pelican. Pelecanus occidentalis

Family Phalacrocoracidae
   ____ Brandt’s Cormorant. Phalacrocorax penicillatus
   ____ Double-crested Cormorant. Phalacrocorax auritus
   ____ Pelagic Cormorant. Phalacrocorax pelagicus

Family Fregatidae
   ____* Magnificent Frigatebird. Fregata magnificens

Order FALCONIFORMES
Family Accipitridae
   Subfamily Pandionina
   ____ Osprey. Pandion haliaetus
   Subfamily Accipitrinae
   ____ White-tailed Kite. Elanus leucurus
   ____ Bald Eagle. Haliaeetus leucocephalus
   ____ Northern Harrier. Circus cyaneus
   ____ Sharp-shinned Hawk. Accipiter striatus
   ____ Cooper’s Hawk. Accipiter cooperii
   ____ Northern Goshawk. Accipiter gentilis
   ____ Red-shouldered Hawk. Buteo lineatus
   ____* Broad-winged Hawk. Buteo platypterus
   ____ Swainson’s Hawk. Buteo swainsonii
   ____ Red-tailed Hawk. Buteo jamaicensis
   ____ Ferruginous Hawk. Buteo regalis
   ____ Rough-legged Hawk. Buteo lagopus

Family Falconidae
    Subfamily Caracarinae
   ____* Crested Caracara. Caracara plancus
   Subfamily Falconinae
   ____ American Kestrel. Falco sparverius
   ____ Merlin. Falco columbarius
   ____* Gyrfalcon. Falco rusticolus
   ____ Peregrine Falcon. Falco peregrinus
   ____ Prairie Falcon. Falco mexicanus

Order GRUIFORMES
Family Rallidae
   ____ Yellow Rail. Coturnicops noveboracensis
   ____ Virginia Rail. Rallus limicola
   ____ Sora. Porzana carolina
   ____* Common Moorhen. Gallinula chloropus
   ____ American Coot. Fulica americana

Family Gruidae
    Subfamily Gruinae
   ____ Sandhill Crane. Grus canadensis

Order CHARADRIIFORMES
Family Charadriidae
    Subfamily Charadriinae
   ____ Black-bellied Plover. Pluvialis squatarola
   ____ American Golden-Plover. Pluvialis dominica
   ____ Pacific Golden-Plover. Pluvialis fulva
   ____* Lesser Sand-Plover. Charadrius mongolus
   ____ Snowy Plover. Charadrius alexandrinus
   ____* Wilson’s Plover. Charadrius wilsonia
   ____ Semipalmated Plover. Charadrius semipalmatus
   ____** Piping Plover. Charadrius melodus
   ____ Killdeer. Charadrius vociferus
   ____* Mountain Plover. Charadrius montanus
   ____* Eurasian Dotterel. Charadrius morinellus

Family Catharidae
   ____ Turkey Vulture. Cathartes aura
   ____* California Condor. Gymnogyps californianus
Family Haematopodidae
___ Black Oystercatcher. Haematopus bachmani

Family Recurvirostridae
___ Black-necked Stilt. Himantopus mexicanus
___ American Avocet. Recurvirostra americana

Family Scolopacidae
Subfamily Scolopacinae
___ Spotted Sandpiper. Actitis macularia
___ Solitary Sandpiper. Tringa solitaria
___ Wandering Tattler. Heteroscelus incanus
___* Spotted Redshank. Tringa erythropus
___ Greater Yellowlegs. Tringa melanoleuca
___ Willet. Catoptrophorus semipalmatus
___ Lesser Yellowlegs. Tringa flavipes
___ Upland Sandpiper. Bartramia longicauda
___ Whimbrel. Numenius phaeopus
___* Bristle-thighed Curlew. Numenius tahitensis
___ Long-billed Curlew. Numenius americanus
___* Hudsonian Godwit. Limosa haemastica
___* Bar-tailed Godwit. Limosa lapponica
___ Marbled Godwit. Limosa fedoa
___ Ruddy Turnstone. Arenaria interpres
___ Black Turnstone. Arenaria melanopechala
___ Surfbird. Aphriza virgata
___* Great Knot. Calidris tenuirostris
___ Red Knot. Calidris canutus
___ Sanderling. Calidris alba
___* Semipalmed Sandpiper. Calidris pusilla
___ Western Sandpiper. Calidris mauri
___* Red-necked Stint. Calidris ruficollis
___* Little Stint. Calidris minutula
___* Long-toed Stint. Calidris subminuta
___ Least Sandpiper. Calidris minutilla
___ White-rumped Sandpiper. Calidris fuscicollis
___ Baird’s Sandpiper. Calidris bairdii
___ Pectoral Sandpiper. Calidris melanotos
___ Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. Calidris acuminata
___ Rock Sandpiper. Calidris ptilonemis
___ Dunlin. Calidris alpina
___* Curlew Sandpiper. Calidris ferruginea
___ Stilt Sandpiper. Calidris himantopus
___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper. Tryngites subruficollis
___ Ruff. Philomachus pugnax
___ Short-billed Dowitcher. Limnodromus griseus
___ Long-billed Dowitcher. Limnodromus scolopes
___ Wilson’s Snipe. Gallinago delicata

Subfamily Phalaropodinae
___ Wilson’s Phalarope. Phalaropus tricolor
___ Red-necked Phalarope. Phalaropus lobatus
___ Red Phalarope. Phalaropus fulicarius

Family Alcidae
___ Common Murre. Uria aalge
___ Thick-billed Murre. Uria lomvia
___* Pigeon Guillemot. Cepphus columba
___* Long-billed Murrelet. Brachyramphus perdix
___ Marbled Murrelet. Brachyramphus marmoratus
___ Xantus’s Murrelet. Synthliboramphus hypoleucus
___ Ancient Murrelet. Synthliboramphus antiquus
___ Cassin’s Auklet. Ptychoramphus aleuticus
___* Parakeet Auklet. Aethia psittacula
___ Rhinoceros Auklet. Cerorhinca monocerata
___ Horned Puffin. Fratercula corniculata
___ Tufted Puffin. Fratercula cirrhata

Order COLUMBIFORMES
Family Columbidae
___ Rock Pigeon. Columba livia
___ Band-tailed Pigeon. Patagioenas fasciata
___* Eurasian Collared-Dove. Streptopelia decaocto
___* White-winged Dove. Zenaida asiatica
___ Mourning Dove. Zenaida macroura

Family Alcidae
___ Thick-billed Murre. Uria lomvia
___* Pigeon Guillemot. Cepphus columba
___* Long-billed Murrelet. Brachyramphus perdix
___ Marbled Murrelet. Brachyramphus marmoratus
___* Xantus’s Murrelet. Synthliboramphus hypoleucus
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___* White-winged Dove. Zenaida asiatica
___ Mourning Dove. Zenaida macroura

Family Cuculidae
Subfamily Coccyzinae
___* Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Coccyzus americanus

Order CUCULIFORMES
Family Cuculidae
Subfamily Cuculinae
___* Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Coccyzus americanus
Order STRIGIFORMES
Family Tytonidae
   ___ Barn Owl. Tyto alba

Family Strigidae
   ___ Flammulated Owl. Otus flammuleolus
   ___ Western Screech-Owl. Megascops kennicottii
   ___ Great Horned Owl. Bubo virginianus
   ___ Snowy Owl. Bubo scandiaca
   ___* Northern Hawk Owl. Surnia ulula
   ___ Northern Pygmy-Owl. Glaucidium gnoma
   ___ Burrowing Owl. Athene cunicularia
   ___ Spotted Owl. Strix occidentalis
   ___ Barred Owl. Strix varia
   ___ Great Gray Owl. Strix nebulosa
   ___ Long-eared Owl. Asio otus
   ___ Short-eared Owl. Asio flammeus
   ___ Boreal Owl. Aegolius funereus
   ___ Northern Saw-whet Owl. Aegolius acadicus

Order CAPRIMULGIFORMES
Family Caprimulgidae
   Subfamily Chordeilinae
     ___ Common Nighthawk. Chordeiles minor
   Subfamily Caprimulginae
     ___ Common Poorwill. Phalaenoptilus nuttallii

Order APODIFORMES
Family Apodidae
   Subfamily Cypseloidinae
     ___ Black Swift. Cypseloides niger
   Subfamily Chaeturinae
     ___ Vaux’s Swift. Chaetura vauxi
   Subfamily Apodinae
     ___ White-throated Swift. Aeronautes saxatalis

Family Trochilidae
   Subfamily Trochilinae
     ___* Broad-billed Hummingbird. Cynanthus latirostris
     ___ Black-chinned Hummingbird. Archilochus alexandri
     ___ Anna’s Hummingbird. Calypte anna
     ___ Costa’s Hummingbird. Calypte costae
     ___ Calliope Hummingbird. Stellula calliope
     ___ Broad-tailed Hummingbird. Selasphorus platycercus
     ___ Rufous Hummingbird. Selasphorus rufus
     ___ Allen’s Hummingbird. Selasphorus sasin

Order CORACIIFORMES
Family Alcedinidae
   Subfamily Cerylinae
     ___ Belted Kingfisher. Ceryle alcyon

Order PICIFORMES
Family Picidae
   Subfamily Picinae
     ___ Lewis’s Woodpecker. Melanerpes lewis
     ___ Acorn Woodpecker. Melanerpes formicivorus

...
__ Pinyon Jay. Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus
__ Clark’s Nutcracker. Nucifraga columbiana
__ Black-billed Magpie. Pica hudsonia
__ American Crow. Corvus brachyrhynchos
__ Common Raven. Corvus corax

**Family Alaudidae**
___ Horned Lark. Eremophila alpestris

**Family Hirundinidae**
Subfamily Hirundininae
___ Purple Martin. Progne subis
___ Tree Swallow. Tachycineta bicolor
___ Violet-green Swallow. Tachycineta thalassina
___ N. Rough-winged Swallow. Stelgidopteryx serripennis
___ Bank Swallow. Riparia riparia
___ Cliff Swallow. Petrochelidon pyrrhonota
___ Barn Swallow. Hirundo rustica

**Family Paridae**
___ Black-capped Chickadee. Poecile atricapillus
___ Mountain Chickadee. Poecile gambeli
___ Chestnut-backed Chickadee. Poecile rufescens
___ Oak Titmouse. Baeolophus inornatus
___ Juniper Titmouse. Baeolophus ridgwayi

**Family Aegithalidae**
___ Bushtit. Psaltriparus minimus

**Family Sittidae**
Subfamily Sittinae
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch. Sitta canadensis
___ White-breasted Nuthatch. Sitta carolinensis
___ Pygmy Nuthatch. Sitta pygmaea

**Family Certhiidae**
Subfamily Certhiinae
___ Brown Creeper. Certhia americana

**Family Troglodytidae**
___ Rock Wren. Salpinctes obsoletus
___ Canyon Wren. Cathreps mexicanus
___ Bewick’s Wren. Thryomanes bewickii
___ House Wren. Troglodytes aedon
___ Winter Wren. Troglodytes troglodytes
___ * Sedge Wren. Cistothorus platensis
___ Marsh Wren. Cistothorus palustris

**Family Cinclidae**
___ American Dipper. Cinclus mexicanus

**Family Regulidae**
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet. Regulus satrapa
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Regulus calendula

**Family Sylviidae**
Subfamily Polioptilinae
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Polioptila caerulea

Family Turdidae
___ * Northern Wheatear. Oenanthe oenanthe
___ Western Bluebird. Sialia mexicana
___ Mountain Bluebird. Sialia currucoides
___ Townsend’s Solitaire. Myadestes townsendi
___ Veery. Catharus fuscescens
___ * Gray-cheeked Thrush. Catharus minimus
___ Swainson’s Thrush. Catharus ustulatus
___ * Hermit Thrush. Catharus guttatus
___ * Wood Thrush. Hylocichla mustelina
___ American Robin. Turdus migratorius
___ Varied Thrush. Ixoreus naevius

**Family Timaliidae**
___ Wrentit. Chamaea fasciata

**Family Mimidae**
___ Gray Catbird. Dumetella carolinensis
___ Northern Mockingbird. Mimus polyglottos
___ Sage Thrasher. Oreoscoptes montanus
___ * Brown Thrasher. Toxostoma rufum
___ * California Thrasher. Toxostoma redivivum

**Family Sturnidae**
___ I European Starling. Sturnus vulgaris

**Family Motacillidae**
___ ** Eastern Yellow Wagtail. Motacilla tschutschensis
___ * White Wagtail. Montacilla alba
___ Red-throated Pipit. Anthus cervinus
___ American Pipit. Anthus rubescens
___ * Sprague’s Pipit. Anthus spragueii

**Family Bombycillidae**
___ Bohemian Waxwing. Bombycilla garrulus
___ Cedar Waxwing. Bombycilla cedrorum

**Family Ptilogonatidae**
___ * Phainopepla. Phainopepla nitens

**Family Parulidae**
___ * Blue-winged Warbler. Vermivora pinus
___ * Golden-winged Warbler. Vermivora chrysoptera
___ Tennessee Warbler. Vermivora peregrina
___ Orange-crowned Warbler. Vermivora celata
___ Nashville Warbler. Vermivora ruficapilla
___ Virginia’s Warbler. Vermivora virginiae
___ Lucy’s Warbler. Vermivora luciae
___ Northern Parula. Parula americana
___ Yellow Warbler. Dendroica petechia
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler. Dendroica pensylvanica
___ * Magnolia Warbler. Dendroica magnolia
___ * Cape May Warbler. Dendroica pensylvanica
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler. Dendroica caerulescens
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler. Dendroica coronata
___ Black-throated Gray Warbler. Dendroica nigriceps
___ * Black-throated Green Warbler. Dendroica virens
___ Townsend’s Warbler. Dendroica townsendi
___ Hermit Warbler. Dendroica occidentalis
___ * Blackburnian Warbler. Dendroica fusca
* Yellow-throated Warbler. Dendroica dominica
** Pine Warbler. Dendroica pinus
* Prairie Warbler. Dendroica discolor
* Palm Warbler. Dendroica palmarum
* Bay-breasted Warbler. Dendroica castanea
Blackpoll Warbler. Dendroica striata
Black-and-white Warbler. Mniotilta varia
American Redstart. Setophaga ruticilla
* Prothonotary Warbler. Protonotaria citrea
** Worm-eating Warbler. Helmithorus vespertinus
* Ovenbird. Seiurus aurocapilla
* Northern Waterthrush. Seiurus noveboracensis
* Louisiana Waterthrush. Seiurus motacilla
* Kentucky Warbler. Oporornis formosus
** Mourning Warbler. Oporornis philadelphia
MacGillivray’s Warbler. Oporornis tolmiei
* Common Yellowthroat. Geothlypis trichas
* Hooded Warbler. Wilsonia citrina
* Wilson’s Warbler. Wilsonia pusilla
* Canada Warbler. Wilsonia canadensis
* Yellow-breasted Chat. Icteria virens

Family Thraupidae
* Summer Tanager. Piranga rubra
* Scarlet Tanager. Piranga olivacea
* Western Tanager. Piranga ludoviciana

Family Emberizidae
Green-tailed Towhee. Pipilo chlorurus
Spotted Towhee. Pipilo maculatus
California Towhee. Pipilo crissalis
American Tree Sparrow. Spizella arborea
Chipping Sparrow. Spizella passerina
* Brewer’s Sparrow. Spizella breweri
* Black-chinned Sparrow. Spizella atricapillus
* Vesper Sparrow. Poecetes gramineus
Lark Sparrow. Chondestes grammacus
Black-throated Sparrow. Amphispiza bilineata
Sage Sparrow. Amphispiza belli
Lark Bunting. Calamospiza melanocorys
Grasshopper Sparrow. Ammodramus savannarum
* Le Conte’s Sparrow. Ammodramus lecontei
* Fox Sparrow. Passerella iliaca
Song Sparrow. Melospiza melodia
Lincoln’s Sparrow. Melospiza lincolnii
Swamp Sparrow. Melospiza georgiana
White-throated Sparrow. Zonotrichia albicollis.
* Harris’s Sparrow. Zonotrichia querula
White-crowned Sparrow. Zonotrichia leucophrys
Golden-crowned Sparrow. Zonotrichia atricapilla
* Dark-eyed Junco. Junco hyemalis
* McCown’s Longspur. Calcarius mccownii
* Lapland Longspur. Calcarius lapponicus
* Smith’s Longspur. Calcarius pictus
* Chestnut-collared Longspur. Calcarius ornatus
* Rustic Bunting. Emberiza rustica
Snow Bunting. Plectrophenax nivalis
* McKay’s Bunting. Plectrophenax hyperboreus

Family Cardinalidae
* Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Pheucticus ludovicianus
* Black-headed Grosbeak. Pheucticus melanocephalus
* Blue Grosbeak. Passerina caerulea
* Lazuli Bunting. Passerina amoena
* Indigo Bunting. Passerina cyanea
* Painted Bunting. Passerina ciris
* Dickcissel. Spiza americana

Family Icteridae
Bobolink. Dolichonyx oryzivorus
* Red-winged Blackbird. Agelaius phoeniceus
* Tricolored Blackbird. Agelaius tricolor
Western Meadowlark. Sturnella neglecta
* Yellow-headed Blackbird. Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus
* Rusty Blackbird. Euphagus carolinus
Brewer’s Blackbird. Euphagus cyanocephalus
* Common Grackle. Quiscalus quiscula
* Great-tailed Grackle. Quiscalus mexicanus
Brown-headed Cowbird. Molothrus ater
* Orchard Oriole. Icterus spurius
* Hooded Oriole. Icterus cucullatus
* Streak-backed Oriole. Icterus pustulatus
* Bullock’s Oriole. Icterus bullockii
* Baltimore Oriole. Icterus galbula
* Scott’s Oriole. Icterus parisorum.

Family Fringillidae
Subfamily Fringillinae
* Brambling. Fringilla montifringilla

Subfamily Carduelinae
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. Leucosticte tephrocosit
* Black Rosy-Finch. Leucosticte atrata
* Pine Grosbeak. Pinicola enucleator
Purple Finch. Carpodacus purpureus
* Cassin’s Finch. Carpodacus cassinii
* House Finch. Carpodacus mexicanus
* Red Crossbill. Loxia curvirostra
* White-winged Crossbill. Loxia leucoptera
* Common Redpoll. Carduelis flammea
** Hoary Redpoll. Carduelis hornemanni
* Pine Siskin. Carduelis pinus
* Lesser Goldfinch. Carduelis psaltria
* Lawrence’s Goldfinch. Carduelis lawrencei
* American Goldfinch. Carduelis tristis
* Evening Grosbeak. Coccothraustes vespertinus

Family Passeridae
1 House Sparrow. Passer domesticus

Official Checklist of Oregon Birds
Updated as of 16 May, 2006
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   Describe your reasons for your identification: your familiarity with the species, field guides used, similar species that were eliminated, references that were consulted, etc.

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Oregon Birds 32:3 Insert xii
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Please send material directly to the Editor, Jeff Harding, oregonbirds@centurytel.net

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Oregon Birds 32(3):103, Fall 2006
Growing up in rural SE Oregon back in the mid 1980’s, my awakening as a birder came with the realiza-
tion that Lazuli Buntings could be found right outside Lakeview. A biologist friend of mine assured me they could be found up on the hillside just east of town and then went on to mention the American Dip-
per, Lewis’ Woodpecker, Western Tanagers and Cedar Waxwings he’d seen during recent outings around Lake County. I couldn’t believe something so colorful could be found on that drab, scrubby hillside. Why hadn’t I seen these incredible birds in all the time I’d spent outdoors as a kid?

In that moment, something changed in my perception of the local environment. The beautiful ponderosa pine forests and austere high-desert steppe of my childhood were transformed. I’d always enjoyed the outdoors while out with my family. We’d go out looking for things, sometimes up in the hills “rock-
- hounding,” searching for pretty rocks like agate or sunstone or go out in the desert “arrowhead hunting.” Grandma would always be more interested in looking around old homesteads for the purple-colored bottles that could be found lying among the old bedsprings, rusted tin cans and discarded work boots all curled up and mummified.

The purpose in this scratching and digging for treasure wasn’t just in the finding. We enjoyed the outdoors and this was our family’s particular form of nature appreciation. Some families went hunting and fishing, some would go out and cut firewood for the winter. Many of the kids I grew up with lived out on farms and ranches with horses, others rode motorcycles. Even though it was a small, remote community, there was always something you could do for fun, and it nearly always involved being outside.

After experiencing that first inspiration, I began to learn the ins and outs of birding. Early on the realiza-
tion hit me that this newfound way of appreciating nature was really an extension of the way my family had approached the subject all along. It’s just that now the treasure had wings and was alive. A plain hillside that used to be lifeless, drab and wind-swept was now alive with wildlife, an ecosystem, home to songbirds with such vibrant colors you could hardly believe they were real.

Fast forward 20 years or so and I now have the honor of being elected president of Oregon Field Ornithologists. Times have changed birding in ways unfathomable to us back then. But the iridescent flash of a hummingbird, or the explosion of color upon seeing a Lazuli Bunting still has the same ability to stir that innate appreciation of na-
ture just as it always has. I’m sure most of you remember that inspired feeling when you really saw a bird for the first time. Birders frequently recall these experiences with each other, but what I’m suggesting is we try and find an opportunity to reach beyond their cohorts and tell non-
birding friends or family about these experiences. You never know who will find life-long inspiration and appre-
ciation for the birds and the habitats they depend upon.

Message from the President

Dave Tracy, davect@bendnet.com

Rufous Hummingbird 19 March, 2006,
Linn County. Photo/Jeff Harding
On 17 May 2006, while staying at the U.S. Forest Service Tupper Fire Guard Station/work center in Morrow County, Oregon, Mike took an evening walk in a half mile wide radius around the guard station to cool off after an unseasonably hot day. While walking, he located seven different calling male Flammulated Owls (Otus flammeolus). This species can cluster or form semi-colonial nesting groups that are often located in preferred nesting habitat, but this was the densest population of Flammulated Owls he had ever encountered over such a small area. The seven individuals were spread around the guard station on three sides and well within ear shot of each other, so we began to ponder what the population densities might be like across the western end of the Umatilla National Forest. These owls were once thought to be very rare (Hoffmann 1927) but are now considered to be a widespread and common species within the preferred western ponderosa pine habitats and elevation ranges of the inter-mountain west (Marshall et al. 2003). The only previous Flammulated Owl investigations in the Blue Mountains occurred on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in Union and Wallowa Counties to the east of the Heppner Ranger District (Goggans 1986, Bull et al. 1990). Flammulated Owl population densities there were as high as 4.6 pairs/100 acres, or 40.5 hectares.

We knew of no nocturnal population surveys for the Heppner Ranger District and the three counties it covers, so we asked our supervisors if we might proceed to do three unaided nocturnal Flammulated Owl surveys in the future weeks.

The Owl

The Flammulated Owl (Otus flammeolus) is a species that is seldom seen, nor is its varied low soft “pa-hoot” call heard by most folks. This rather deep pa-hoot call appears to be an imitation of the much larger Long-eared Owl (Asio otus), a common resident in this region of the Oregon Blue Mountains, no doubt a survival strategy to create less attention from larger owl species while establishing nesting territories (Voss & Cameron 1989). A migratory owl, the male of the species first arrives and becomes vocal in the Blue Mountains of northeastern and north central Oregon in late April and early May (Goggans 1986, Bull et al. 1990). The authors have never heard this owl species vocalize before the 24th of April in the Blue Mountains and very seldom after the 25th of July. Periods of vocalization change over time with early territorial calling occurring near sundown, and as the breeding season progresses this species calls later into the evening (Marshall et al 2003). Flammulated Owls are largely crepuscular, hunting at both edges of the night (Hume
et al 1991). This small insectivorous owl (15-17 cm long) arrives on its nesting territories in the west as temperatures moderate and nocturnal flying insect populations increase (Hayward et al 1994). The Flammulated Owl is the only small dark eyed owl in North America (Eckert et al 1974). This is a cavity nesting species and requires woodpecker excavations in both live and dead trees averaging 20-24 dbh (Bull et al 1990). Snags with cavities are very important for this owl and many other species in the Blue Mountains of Northeastern Oregon (Bull et al 1978).

Methods

The protocol for this survey was based on the well established point count surveys carried out by the USF&W Breeding Bird Survey. We stopped for five minutes every half-mile, for ten stops for each five mile transect. All surveys were entirely aural (by ear) without the aid of tape recorders, electronic devices or voiced imitations of Flammulated Owl calls. We picked three five mile lengths of road on the Heppner Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest Fire Map, each route in a different Oregon county and each route at different elevations and direction of travel.

This small owl becomes a master ventriloquist when disturbed, which makes it difficult to locate. To avoid undue disturbance, we would stop the truck, exit quietly and let things settle for a minute, get a GPS reading in UTMs and elevation then start listening from both sides of the vehicle, never wandering more than 25 feet from the rig. All calling owls detected were counted regardless of distance. The first survey, run on 30 May, was slightly delayed due to a passing thunder cell.

Results

We have compiled the number of Flammulated Owls found at each stop in Table 1. In all, we counted fifty owls through the three surveys.

Survey Route #1, 30 May 2006

This route was carried out on Morphine Springs Road, Morrow Co., starting on a flat gradual slope in a mature ponderosa pine stand and proceeding along the spine of a ridge with mature western juniper along the crown of the ridge and mature ponderosa pine along the flanks of the ridge. We detected 22 calling male Flammulated Owls in five miles with a remarkable concentration of 8 at the final stop. Also heard was one Northern Saw-whet Owl at stop #2.

Survey Route #2, 1 June 2006

Starting from the junction of Forest Service Roads 2100 & 2200, this route goes south along 2200 through mature Ponderosa Pine, Douglas-fir and Western Larch stands around the edges of large open lithosol (see box, page 107) meadows with some standing surface water, followed by a low ridge in the north, flattting out to a plateau with ponderosa pine, western juniper and stiff sage. The first three stops were in Morrow County, the other stops were in Grant County.

We ran this survey under clear skies and no wind. Just after our arrival, a Common Poorwill flew in and lit on the road about fifteen feet from us. As we were getting our data sheets out and pencils ready, a Great Gray Owl started calling just to the east of us, in the Morrow County OHV park. These

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Table 1. Here are the results of the three surveys, showing the date of each survey, the elevation range of the route, start and stop time, and the number of Flammulated Owls detected at each stop.

Table prepared by Mike Patterson
were signs of things to come, as the evening’s survey paid off with 19 calling male Flammulated Owls heard in five miles, along with another Common Poorwill, a begging Great Grey Owl chick, a Northern Pygmy-Owl and a Northern Saw-whet Owl.

Survey Route #3, 6 June 2006

Starting at the junction of Forest Service Roads 2516 & 2100 the route continues west along USFS 2100 in Wheeler County through mature Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, aspen, western juniper, western larch and wet meadows with vernal pools. The evening started out under partly cloudy skies with light winds. We heard single calling Flammulated Owls on the first two stops, but we had a difficult time hearing anything from stops 3 to 5 due to the enthusiastic singing of hundreds of croaking Pacific Chorus Frogs (Pseudacris regilla). We detected one Flammulated Owl at stop 5 despite the interference of the loud frog chorus. This survey produced 9 calling Flammulated Owls in Wheeler County.

Discussion

We found fifty Flammulated Owls in thirty stops during the three surveys. The number of Flammulated Owls detected was a surprise as no one has located this species in these numbers in this part of the Umatilla National Forest. We understand that this form of population sampling is inherently subject to the whims of the weather, hearing proficiency of the surveyors and a working knowledge of regional owl vocalizations. We are confident that these data represent an accurate picture of Flammulated Owl densities. This region may host one of the densest breeding populations of Flammulated Owls in north central Oregon.

The lithosol component and the edge zone it provides seem to be very important to this owl species on this forest. For the Flammulated Owls it is the huge numbers of moths, crickets and nocturnal beetles that inhabit this region, and specifically these lithosol sites, from mid-April into late August that seems to sustain them. It seems clear that habitat types along the survey routes are a magnet to this species and other owl species as well. We urge others to run more three by five surveys in this same region during the same time period.

Acknowledgments

These data were collected for the USDA, Forest Service and are published here with the permission of the Umatilla National Forest Biologist, Charles Gobar. We wish to thank Charlie Gobar, Holly Harris and Randy Scarlet for their permission and for constructive suggestions. Mike also wishes to thank Aaron David for his willingness to walk miles up and down steep canyons under rain and a hot sun on a quest to count and document small vertebrates across a vast landscape. Mike Patterson took the time to review this article, and we appreciate his improvements. Thanks also to gifted wildlife photographer Paul Bannick for generously allowing the use of his Flammulated Owl image.

Literature Cited


On October 2004, members of the Pendleton Bird Club selected the Grasshopper Sparrow for the club’s logo. Although the Grasshopper Sparrow is a breeding species in various locations in Oregon, club members thought it represents a somewhat unique species found in Umatilla County. Grasshopper Sparrows have been noted in many locations throughout the county where there is bunchgrass habitat, although colonies do have a tendency to change locations from year to year. For the past several years, colonies of Grasshopper Sparrows have been reliably found in the rolling grasslands southwest of Pendleton and west of Pilot Rock. For those wishing to observe the species, this is one of the better areas in Umatilla County to check. Although the locally breeding Grasshopper Sparrows arrive in April, they are most reliably seen from mid-May through late July.

Grasshopper Sparrows are not easy to detect. They are a reclusive species with the frustrating habit of diving into cover before careful observation is possible. Probably the best way to observe them is to drive slowly through suitable habitat, glassing any birds seen sitting on fence posts, barbed wire fences or tall vegetation. During the breeding season, stopping and listening for singing males in suitable habitat may also prove successful, but the insect-like song is weak and high-pitched and many of us older birders have difficulty hearing it.

For the past several years Pendleton Bird Club members have been successful finding Grasshopper Sparrows as well as many other grassland species along the following route:

Starting from Pendleton, drive south on highway 395. This route will take you through the town of Pilot Rock where Eurasian Collared Doves were discovered in February, 2005. The birds are still being seen periodically; however the feeder where they were most reliably found is no longer in use. After leaving Pilot Rock, continue driving south on Highway 395. It is worth scanning the rock bluffs along the north side of the road. Several active Ferruginous Hawk nests can be found along the cliffs, and Red-tailed Hawks and Prairie Falcons nest here as well. About six miles south of Pilot Rock (Nye Junction), turn right onto Route 74 and travel approximately 2 mile on Route 74 to the Alkali Canyon Road, turning right on this road. From here until you return to Highway 395, roads are gravel and traffic is light. Thus, pulling off the side of the road to observe birds is generally not a problem. Alkali Canyon Road heads north for several miles before turning west. At this junction, continue north on Mud Springs Canyon Road. Grasshopper Sparrows may be found anywhere along these two roads. In addition to Grasshopper Sparrows and Horned Larks, Vesper and Savannah Sparrows are also common. Although difficult to find most years, during the spring and summer of 2005, a large number of Short-eared Owls nested in this area. Watch for Swainson’s Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, and Long-billed Curlew as well. In addition to the Short-eared Owls, a pair of Burrowing Owls successfully raised a family in the same area. Whether either of these species will return this year remains to be seen.

Stop before dropping down the hill to the Coombs Canyon road junction. The hilltop above the junction is well worth checking out. An excellent stand of bunchgrass can be found on both sides of the road and a Grasshopper Sparrow colony has been located here for the last several years. After driving down the hill, turn right on the Coombs Canyon Road. Most the land along this road has been heavily grazed and birding is not very productive. About six miles from the junction, the Reinhart Road turns south. It is worth driving a mile or two south on the road, as at least one colony was located along the road last year. After two miles, turn around and return to the Coombs Canyon Road, driving east to the junction with Highway 395. At this point, turn left to return to
On 18 December, 2005, we were covering Bastendorff Beach on the Coos Bay Christmas Bird Count when we encountered a flock of shorebirds mixed in with the usual winter assemblage of gulls. During a couple of observational passes through the flock, we saw Dunlin, Sanderlings, Western Sandpipers and an odd shorebird that we decided to examine more closely. This proved to be a Curlew Sandpiper, probably an adult, largely in basic plumage. This constituted the 13th Oregon record and the latest by far, previous records having been from early July through mid-October.

It was also observed by Dan and Anne Heyerly, David Smith, Tim Shelmerdine and Russ Namitz. The bird may have wintered in the area, but was only reported once more, on 23 December by Dan Sanders of Ohio, after the initial sighting.

This bird could be distinguished from the Dunlin by its more delicate bill, very different face pattern with a clear eyestripe instead of the half-ringed look of a Dunlin, longer legs, somewhat paler gray look overall, juvenile wing coverts with noticeable dark shafts and tips, dark primaries contrasting with paler gray tertials and coverts and, even at a distance, by its very dark scapulars, apparently retained from a summer plumage, but with the pale edges worn off and utterly unlike any winter Dunlin (see the following note on plumage). The diagnostic white rump was seen in flight.

It is interesting to note that a sight record of a Curlew Sandpiper in a flock of Sanderlings was made by Maitreya near the north jetty of the Siuslaw River, Lane County, on November 24, 2005. It is quite possible that this earlier report, under review by the OBRC, was correct and that the bird seen in Coos County was the same one.

We are aware of only a few other winter reports (detailed below) in the U.S., a couple in southern Florida and another from the east coast (Michael O’Brien, p.c.). There is no accepted winter record for Curlew Sandpiper in California (Guy McCaskie, p.c.) or Washington (Steve Mlodinow, p.c.). The 35 California records endorsed by the California Bird Records Committee include 27, plus one under review, for fall migrants on dates ranging from 4 July to 24 November, and 8 for spring migrants, on dates ranging from 9 April to 26 May.

In its principal range in Eurasia, Curlew Sandpipers winter mainly in the tropics from west Africa across the southern Arabian peninsula, coastal India to Wallacea, Australia and northern New Zealand, south to southern Africa and southern Australia (Hayman et al., 1986).
Oregon Birds 32(3):111, Fall 2006

Age and plumage of Oregon Curlew Sandpipers

Alan Contreras, 795 E 29th Ave, Eugene OR 97405, acontrer@mindspring.com
with comments from Peter Pyle, Institute for Bird Populations

When I first saw the December 2005 Curlew Sandpiper at a distance through the scope, I could see an odd dark mantle-edge line that I had never seen on a Dunlin. That fact is what persuaded me to keep looking through the flock until Graham Floyd and I relocated the bird. Even at a distance, this plumage was distinctive. This dark line is visible, along with the dark-tipped coverts, in most of the photos. At the time, I thought that the bird was most likely an adult because of this strange pattern of unmolted feathers.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
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<tr>
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<td>21 Jul 1976</td>
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<td>16 Aug 1976</td>
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<tr>
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<td>16 Sep 1982</td>
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<td>Tillamook Bay, Tillamook Co.</td>
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<td>juv</td>
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<td>juv</td>
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<td>23 Sep 1986</td>
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<tr>
<td>juv</td>
<td>Bandon, Coos Co.</td>
<td>25 Sep to 2 Oct 2000</td>
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<td>juv</td>
<td>n. jetty of the Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>18 Sep 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>juv</td>
<td>n. spit of Coos Bay</td>
<td>1 Oct 2001</td>
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<td>19 &amp; 21 Jul 2004</td>
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<td>juv</td>
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<td>adult</td>
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<td>18 Dec 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>adult</td>
<td>n. spit of Coos Bay</td>
<td>13 Sep 2006 (under review by OBRC)</td>
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Table 1: Oregon Curlew Sandpiper records accepted by the Oregon Bird Records Committee

Unlike many shorebird species (and vagrants in general) Oregon records of Curlew Sandpiper include many adults. Accepted Oregon records are shown in Table 1. Note that almost half are of adults (over one year old).

Peter Pyle comments on the plumage of the December 2005 bird as follows.

“Juvenile feathers can be this dark but show a different pattern, with pale fringing rather than dark tips (as on the scapulars). These feathers on the December 2005 bird do not look worn enough or of the right pattern to be retained alternate feathers from the previous year. This plumage appears to be uncommon; one similar molt pattern was on a bird from Connecticut in September:

http://www.aviceda.org/picsimages/newhaven/cusp0401.jpg

I’m going to go out on a limb and guess that these two birds may be second-year (SY) birds (15-18 months old). The fact that the scapulars are tipped chestnut (as opposed to tipped gray with...
chestnut bases) indicates that the feathers were replaced early rather than late in relation to the hormonal cycles dictating color deposition, before the switch had occurred from chestnut to gray. It would thus make the most sense that these were replaced during an early prebasic molt, perhaps in May-Jun, which can occur in non-breeding SYs. Breeding birds typically don’t begin this molt until July-August, after the hormonal switch has occurred, and HYs are too young hormonally to show chestnut-tipped formative feathers. Those chestnut-colored feathers on the back and scapulars are often among the first replaced during a prebasic molt, so this also makes sense. It is possible that these birds are older than SYs but did not breed, as might be expected of an individual in the wrong continent, but even these birds (third-years, etc.) seem to have later molts, whether or not they breed.”

Sources

Hagg Lake below Lee Road. Photo May 2006. Photo /Greg Gillson

Site guide: Hagg Lake, Washington County


Henry Hagg Lake is a deep reservoir on the edge of the Willamette Valley. It is nestled up against the foothills of the Coast Range in western Washington County. As a result, the habitats around the lake include willow-lined creek bottoms, muddy shores, grassy fields, oak knolls, mixed deciduous and conifer woods, and some remnants of mature Douglas-fir forest.

Birds around the lake reflect the high diversity of habitats. In winter loons and grebes join the numerous varieties of diving and dabbling ducks. Accipiters are found year-around. Bald Eagles and Osprey nest. The woods attract many neotropical migrants in spring, and many remain to nest. Birds such as Swainson’s Thrushes, Orange-crowned Warblers, Warbling Vireos, and Black-headed Grosbeaks are abundant. On the wet, brushy hillsides Yellow-breasted Chats and Willow Flycatchers are regular
summer residents. In the more mature forests Winter Wrens, Hairy Woodpeckers, Brown Creepers, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Pileated Woodpeckers are resident. Owls are abundant around the lake, with Northern Saw-whet and Long-eared Owls regular.

Washington County incorporated the entire lake and buffer lands around the lake, back several hundred feet, into Scoggins Valley Park. The well-marked turn-off to Hagg Lake and Scoggins Valley Park is about 5 miles south of Forest Grove on Oregon State Highway 47. The fee booth is 3 miles from the Highway on Scoggins Valley Road. The park charges a fee ($5 in 2006) from March to late November. Facilities include several picnic areas, restrooms, and boat ramps. The lake is very popular for fishing, boating, picnicking, and biking. The facilities are closed in winter. No fishing or boating is allowed then, and the restrooms are closed.

Scoggins Valley Road and West Shore Drive circle the lake. It is about 12 miles around on the roads. This loop is very popular with bikers, as there are dedicated bicycle lanes around most of the lake. In addition, the lake is circled by a network of muddy trails, shared with hikers, fishers, and mountain bikers. Birders should be cautious of slipping on the muddy trails near the lake shore. Another potential hazard is poison oak, especially in spring before the leaves appear. Be alert for this plant on trails through oak or mixed woods.

The roads and trails make all parts of the lake available for birding and other uses. The earlier one arrives the better, as vehicle tire noise and motor boat engine noise can make hearing birds difficult later in the day, especially in summer. The following site guide takes one clockwise around the lake, starting with the dam on the southeast end of the lake.

A) Elks Picnic Area

About 0.3 miles past the fee booth turn left on West Shore Drive and cross over the dam. There is no stopping or parking along the dam. Immediately on the south end of the dam, pull into the Elks Picnic Area. In summer, Black-throated Gray Warblers and Chestnut-backed Chickadees call from the small woods, while Northern Rough-winged Swallows nest along the steep banks of the shoreline. Look over the hillside above for Ospreys and Bald Eagles. Listen for Pileated Woodpeckers calling. Open areas and brushy fence lines across the street have Song Sparrow, Bewick’s Wren, White-crowned Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco. Winter sparrow flocks contain Fox Sparrow and, rarely, White-throated Sparrow. In winter scope the end of the lake from here, paying attention to the rocky fill of the dam itself for Spotted Sandpipers. The area near the dam is good for Horned Grebes, Double-crested Cormorants, Common Loons, and other deep water birds in winter. Another area to briefly scope out this south end of

Hagg Lake is the main feature of Washington County’s Scoggins Valley Park, south of Forest Grove Map/Greg Gillson
the lake is 0.2 miles further at an overlook and small pullout. Again, in winter watch for Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, and Common Merganser. More unusual birds include Pacific and Red-throated Loons, Greater Scaup, and Red-necked Grebes.

B) Lee Road

Another 0.6 miles, or about 0.8 miles from the dam is a private road marked as Cascara Lane. There is a pullout opposite this lane within view of the foot of Lee Road [1]. A two mile loop hike here, down to the lakeshore and back along the road, visits several habitats and is excellent for finding many of the land birds around the lake.

Summer birds right along the road edge at the parking area opposite Cascara Lane include Warbling Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Swainson’s Thrush, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Tanager, Spotted Towhee, Hutton’s Vireo, and Yellow-breasted Chat. One unusual summer species that is regularly found near the foot of Lee Road is Cassin’s Vireo.

Walk down to a quiet backwater arm of the lake on its southwest shore [2]. Approach the water stealthily, watching for Hooded Merganser and Wood Duck. There is an interesting mix of oak and western hemlock here, and along the trail northward. Summer birds include Wilson’s Warbler, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, and Western Tanager. Resident species include Winter Wren, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Hairy Woodpecker, Steller’s Jay, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Purple Finch, and Pileated Woodpecker.

Continuing northward away from the immediate shore line, the trail skirts the lower edge of two meadows [3]. Watch for Tree Swallow, Vaux’s Swift, Downy Woodpecker, Bush-tit, Song Sparrow, Brown Creeper, Bewick’s Wren, and other similar birds either over the meadows or in the trees along the edge. After the second meadow follow the trail back up toward the road. Keep an eye out for poison oak as you near the road.

Once you come out on West Shore Drive, follow it back toward your vehicle. Across the road is a strip of Douglas-fir forest, bounded by a recent clearcut on private land. Walk down a little access road to the edge of the park boundary [4] and look over the clearcut on the hillside. The trees here regularly produce Pileated Woodpecker and Red-breasted Sapsucker. This is a good area for resident Steller’s Jay, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, Pine Siskin, and Hutton’s Vireo. Watch for Townsend’s and Yellow-rumped Warblers from fall through spring. Western Tanager, Western Wood Peewee, and Olive-sided Flycatcher are found in summer.

The clearcut has several different birds. California Quail, Bewick’s Wren, Cooper’s Hawk, Spotted Towhee, and Northern Flicker are resident. In summer listen for Yellow-breasted Chat, Willow Flycatcher, and perhaps Lazuli Bunting on the brushy hillside. Other summer birds include Wilson’s Warbler, Evening Grosbeak, Band-tailed Pigeon, Black-headed Grosbeak, Brown-headed Cowbird, Warbling Vireo, Cedar Waxwing, MacGillivray’s Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow, and Swainson’s Thrush.

Map of the Lee Road area, showing locations mentioned in the site guide. Map/G. Gillson
C) Sain Creek Picnic Area

About 3.0 miles from the dam is the Sain Creek Picnic Area. This area with large oaks and lawn down to the water is a popular recreation site. One can park across the road from the intersection of Sain Creek Road and walk down to the mouth of Sain Creek (watch for poison oak!), and from there to the picnic area and back along the road. In summer expect Black-headed Grosbeak, Red-winged Blackbird, Downy Woodpecker, American Goldfinch, Hutton’s Vireo, Mallard, Wood Duck, Orange-crowned Warbler, Barn Swallow, Cedar Waxwing, Swainson’s Thrush, Purple Finch, Spotted Towhee, White-crowned Sparrow, and similar species. This may be one of the few areas to find White-breasted Nuthatch around the lake. In winter the lake level is much lower and Sain Creek splashes over cobble that occasionally hosts American Dipper. Brushy areas host flocks of Dark-eyed Junco and other winter sparrows.

D) Recreation Area C

Just around the corner from Sain Creek is the boat ramp and Recreation Area C. Because it is so busy, it is best for birds only in winter, when fishing and boating are prohibited and this area is gated off. Park along West Shore Drive, where permitted, and walk down to the shoreline at the mouth of Sain Creek. Scope the Sain Creek inlet for waterfowl including Common Merganser, American and Eurasian Wigeon, Common Loon, and Canada Geese. Scope the shoreline for wintering Spotted Sandpipers. The open picnic areas can host Western Bluebirds in winter. Walk over to the fishing pier where one can scope out the north end of the lake. Western Grebe are common, watch also for Clark’s Grebe and other rare winter birds such as loons or scoters. Careful scooping of the distant shores across the lake from here often turns up Spotted Sandpipers.

California Gulls are regular migrants and winter visitors. Other gulls occur. Rare spring and fall migrants include Bonaparte’s Gulls and Caspian Terns. The brushy line of trees along the back side of the parking lot contains many winter birds. Watch for Varied Thrush, Fox Sparrow, Red-breasted Sapsucker, California Quail, Hermit Thrush, Hutton’s Vireo, Bewick’s Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Townsend’s Warbler.

E) Mouth of Scoggins Creek

There are two brief stops here to scope out the north end of the lake. There is a parking lot 0.3 miles north of Recreation Area C below Scott Hill. There is a pull off and open area another 0.5 miles further. Both areas are good for spotting water birds on the lake in fall and winter. Resident birds include Western Scrub-Jay, Song Sparrow, American Crow, Great Blue Heron, and Bewick’s Wren in the rather open grassy areas. In summer this area adds Western Wood Pewee, Orange-crowned Warbler, Wilson’s Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Swainson’s Thrush, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Black-headed Grosbeak, Warbling Vireo, and Willow Flycatchers. Turkey Vultures are frequent along the lake here or over the hillside.

F) Scoggins Creek Picnic Area

About 4.7 miles from the dam is the quiet little Scoggins Creek Picnic Area at the far northwest corner of the lake. The bedrock edges of Scoggins Creek give habitat for the resident American Dippers. Scores of Band-tailed Pigeons drink from the river here. They are attracted to mineral springs and evidently find something in the water here that they like. Dense Douglas-fir and bigleaf maple crowd the river. Piliated Woodpeckers are often heard in the forested hillside above.

G) Mouth of Wall Creek

Watch for an Osprey nest 0.3 miles after leaving Scoggins Creek Picnic Area. Another 0.3 miles brings you to the intersection of West Side Road into Scoggins Valley Road. A parking area here at the mouth of Wall Creek has a small marshy habitat. A Yellow-breasted Chat usually takes up residence here, and Willow Flycatchers, too. A muddy path out along the forested lakeshore to the southeast often brings sightings of Hairy Woodpecker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Wood Duck, Purple Finch, Dark-eyed Junco, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Warbling Vireo, Rufous Hummingbird, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Hutton’s Vireo, Swainson’s Thrush, and similar species.

H) Tanner Creek

Another mile brings you past open grassy knolls with thickets of ash, oak, willow, and many blackberry tangles. A parking area here across from some residences and pastures has many birds. In summer watch and listen for Rufous Hummingbird, American Goldfinch, Evening Grosbeak, Orange-crowned Warbler, Vaux’s Swift, Red-tailed Hawk, Black-capped Chickadee, Cliff Swallow, European Starling, White-crowned Sparrow, Purple Finch, Western Scrub-Jay, Steller’s Jay, American Crow, and Red-winged Blackbird. Early in the morning, before the traffic noise echoes along the lake shore, listen for the subtle sound of Ruffed Grouse drumming in the woods.

Either from here, or 0.3 miles farther, walk out along the lakeshore. Mosquitoes can be quite aggressive here at the mouth of Tanner Creek in early summer. Birds here include loudly singing Yellow-breasted Chat, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Brown-headed Cowbird, Western Scrub-Jay, Mourning Dove, Brewer’s Blackbird, Tree Swallow, Cedar Waxwing, and...
others. Soras have been recorded here, and Yellow Warblers are possible in the willow clumps. The fall shorebird potential of Hagg Lake is unexplored. But the shallow shoreline here at the mouth of Tanner Creek would likely be the most productive part of the lake for these.

I) Tanner Creek Arm Overlook

Scoggins Valley Road hugs the east side of the Tanner Creek arm of Hagg Lake. There are several pull offs here to scope out this shallow north end of the lake. In summer, Yellow-breasted Chat may be heard easily. In winter, however, this is the area to scope out the ducks. Green-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, Bufflehead, Common Merganser, Lesser Scaup, and others are common. Eurasian Wigeon and the Eurasian form of Green-winged Teal have been reported here.

J) Nelson Road

Another mile brings you to a parking area at Nelson Road. From the parking area, listen and observe birds in the oak grove across the street and the conifer forest along the lakeshore. Residential areas nearby add open pasture lands. Typical summer birds include American Robin, Song Sparrow, Warbling Vireo, Northern Flicker, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Brown-headed Cowbird, Wilson’s Warbler, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Evening Grosbeak, Common Yellowthroat, Black-capped Chickadee, Western Tanager, and Bewick’s Wren.

K) Recreation Area A West

The boat ramp here on the east side of the lake makes it quite busy and noisy for birding in summer. However, the quieter picnic area above the boat ramp is in mature Douglas-fir forest, offering some unique birds such as Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, and Western Tanager. Swainson’s Thrushes are abundant. Yellow-rumped Warblers are abundant migrants.

L) Recreation Area A East

Back near the dam on the east side of the lake is an abandoned recreation area. The habitat here is mature Douglas-fir and maple. Park along the edge of Scoggins Valley Road. Walk past the gates on the paved roads, now growing up with brushy edges. Resident birds include Brown Creeper, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Winter Wren, Hairy Woodpecker, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Hutton’s Vireo, and Dark-eyed Junco. In summer expect Western Tanager, Western Wood-Pewee, American Robin, Cassin’s Vireo, Wilson’s Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow, House Wren, MacGillivray’s Warbler, and Bushtit. Watch for Osprey catching fish on the lake.

Owls

Numerous owls can be found around Hagg Lake throughout the year. Windless, dry nights in April are excellent for hearing these birds. The Stimson lumber mill below the dam operates all night, with hissing steam and owl-like beeping forklifts, so listening for owls at night is best done away from the south end of the lake. Northern Saw-whet Owls are often heard in conifer and mixed woods at the foot of Lee Road, near Stepien Road overlooking the lake, and near Nelson Road. Western Screech-Owls are most frequently heard in the oak groves and deciduous creek bottoms on the east side of the lake, especially near Nelson Road. Great Horned Owls can be heard at Sain Creek and Tanner Creek. Long-eared Owls are rare but regular. Most have been heard near Recreation Area A West, but also recently near Scoggins Creek Picnic Area and Sain Creek Picnic Area. Northern Pygmy-Owls are most-often detected at dawn and dusk near conifer woods in the Scoggins Creek arm of the lake.

From the Editor’s Desk: Right on Schedule

Jeff Harding  39127 Griggs Drive, Lebanon, Oregon 97355 - oregonbirds@centurytel.net

Last weekend, my daughter and I were birding outside Crabtree, Linn County. We were enjoying a magnificent spring day, with scattered clouds and sunshine warming the air. We had the scope on a female Northern Harrier on the ground in a field, when we became aware of a distant sound - the rolling bugle of a flock of migrating Sandhill Cranes. They were not easy to locate, because the call carries for miles, and this flock was flying high on the way north. Lori spotted them first, as they passed west of us: some 25 cranes headed for the gap between Hungry Hill and Miller Butte near Marion, Marion County. Soon we located another flock of around sixty over Crabtree, then a third, this one south-east of us, on a bearing that would bring them right over us.

1940). It is a reliable spectacle, but limited to the last part of February and the first part of March as they head north in the spring and the end of October through November as they pass back south in the fall. Spend enough time in the field on good days on the eastern side of the Willamette Valley in those narrow windows, and you’ll have such red-letter days, too.

Unlike the cranes, Oregon Birds has not held to a reliable schedule and for that, I apologize. This issue should have come out last fall, as the name of the issue claims. There are always excuses, but one of the reasons is that the call of a fine day is too strong. Still, the cranes have inspired me with their scheduled passing, so I’ll try to catch up.

As a first step toward getting back on schedule, We’ll try to publish 34:4, putatively Winter 2006-2007 by April 30. Right now, we don’t have very much material, so it may be a little thin. But if material comes in soon, it would flesh out nicely. I’ll need your help to get back on schedule with magazines that are worthwhile. We rely on members to contribute material and will need articles, photography, brief notes, poetry, and whatever else you would like to see in these pages. There has been more than enough excellent material for the four issues published since last March, but since we are contemplating catching up, we’ll need more. I would also like to hear what you all think of the direction and content. Please send comments to me, at one of the addresses above.

Improved access to field notes: With this issue the detailed field notes have been moved from print to web space, in the OFO web site at www.oregonbirds.org. It will be much easier to drill into the detail electronically, and we will be able to use observers’ full names, instead of initials. By moving the detail off the printed page, we have space to expand the interpretive commentary. We are fortunate that Dave Irons is available to pull the events of the season together for us. He has written an excellent summary for Spring 2006, and I look forward to his future reports.

Again, the detailed field notes are not gone, but moved to a more convenient location for most purposes. Anyone who wants a printed copy, let me know, and I’ll send it along.

The background for the note above is one of the flocks of Sandhill Cranes passing over Crabtree, Linn County on 4 March 2007. Photo/Jeff Harding
Oregon Birds and North American Birds have synchronized reporting areas, periods, and deadlines. Field reports for Oregon are due to the OB Regional Editor and NAB Regional Editor at the same time.

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OFO members bird all over the state, and often find birds that are of interest to local birders. OFO supports publication of local field notes and encourages OFO members to contact local newsletter publishers or field notes editors whenever birding in or near the Oregon locations listed below. If you would like to add a local newsletter or revise any of the information below, please contact the Editor, Oregon Birds, 39127 Griggs Drive, Lebanon, OR, 97355 or oregonbirds@centurytel.net

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South coast region extends east to Mapleton and Scottsburg
Wood Duck – 1 was recorded on the MNWR CBC, 15 Dec (C. Elshoff).

Bufflehead - 1 on the Burns CBC, 17 Dec, was an unusual species for that count (RV).

Hooded Merganser – 29 on the MNWR CBC, 15 Dec (C. Elshoff).

Greater Sage-Grouse – 56 were counted on the Burns CBC, 17 Dec (RV).

California Quail – 8,243 counted on the Burns CBC, 17 Dec, was a new high for that count (RV).

American Bittern – 1 on the MNWR CBC, 15 Dec (C. Elshoff).

Northern Goshawk – 4 on the Burns CBC, 17 Dec, made a new high tally for that count (RV); 2 birds were observed hunting quail in Burns in early Feb, tussling with a Great Horned Owl and each other in the process (K. Rollins).

Merlin – 1 appeared on the Burns CBC on 17 Dec (RV).

Ferruginous Hawk – 1 on the Hart Mountain CBC, 17 Dec (K. Hogan).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE – one was well-photographed at a feeder along Wright’s Point south of Burns, 2-6 Dec (R. Muser).

Western Scrub-Jay – 2 on the MNWR CBC, 15 Dec (C. Elshoff); 7 were seen on the Burns CBC on 17 Dec (RV); 1 on the Hart Mountain CBC was unusual for that count, 17 Dec (K. Hogan).

Black-capped Chickadee – 4 were counted on the Burns CBC, 17 Dec (RV).

Varied Thrush – 1 on the Burns CBC, 17 Dec, was an unusual species for that count (RV).

Bohemian Waxwing – 7 appeared on the Hart Mountain CBC, 17 Dec (M); 1 was recorded during count week on the Burns CBC around 17 Dec (RV).

American Tree Sparrow – 4 along the Center Patrol Road north of Buena Vista, MNWR, 11 Dec (NKS).

Lincoln’s Sparrow – 1 was at P Ranch, 12 Dec (NKS); 1 was recorded during count week on the Burns CBC around 17 Dec (RV).

White-throated Sparrow – An unusual species found on the Burns CBC, 17 Dec (RV).

Observers:

M Maitreya
NKS Noah Strycker
RV Rick Vetter

Abbreviations:

CBC Christmas Bird Count
MNWR Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

Identity Crisis: Common Nighthawk at Malheur Field Station. Photo/Alan Contreras
Oregon birding has changed immeasurably over the past several decades. The exponential increase in the number of skilled observers enjoying our chosen pastime is the most significant change, and now it strains our ability to collect and summarize the events of each season.

Historically, local Audubon Societies and bird clubs compiled local, regional and statewide field notes, and disseminated news about the comings and goings of both rare and common birds. Prior to the founding of Oregon Field Ornithologists (OFO), “The Warbler,” published by the Audubon Society of Portland, was the best source of statewide field notes. For more than 40 years Harry Nehls has acted as a one-person clearinghouse for statewide sightings. In addition to producing field notes for “The Warbler,” Nehls teamed with John B. Crowell Jr. during the 1960’s and 70’s as a regional editor for American Birds (now North American Birds). They crafted seasonal reports with highlights for the Pacific Northwest that included some discussion of trends with common birds. Prior to 1980, a modest cadre of trusted local observers generated the overwhelming majority of data points summarized in these varied compilations.

Since its inception, OFO has endeavored to produce statewide field notes for each of the four seasons. Initially using a narrative style, much like that used in NAB, a series of editors produced highly readable seasonal summaries of both rare and common birds. For many years this style worked well. However, over the past 10 years or so Oregon Birds (OB) editors have consistently struggled to keep pace and looked for creative ways to manage the sea of data each season provides. Initially, the state was divided east and west with a set of field notes covering each side of Cascades. As the workload increased, OFO opted to sub-divide the state into regions -- ultimately nine -- with a local editor for each area. In the opinion of many, this format overly fragmented the data. Recent reports have offered more total sightings, but only limited commentary connecting or analyzing data points in the context of what was happening statewide.

The other major change to the Oregon birding scene has been OBOL (Oregon Birders Online). OBOL and its archives essentially provide field notes in “real time.” One no longer has to wait months for a seasonal report to learn about birds seen in other parts of the state. Most of us keep our finger on the pulse by subscribing to the OBOL listserv, which sends us either individual e-mails of each post, or a daily digest of all the postings. OBOL certainly does not capture all sightings, but it is used by most of the state’s active birders to post their sightings. The majority of truly rare sightings are reported to the list of subscribers. These and other factors have led the OFO Board to conclude that producing field notes in their historic form and publishing them in OB is no longer feasible and that such field notes presented in the current format hold minimal value to most OFO members.

I have offered to try a new format. I will look to capture the flavor of each season by exploring selected interesting trends in more detail. I hope to produce a summary much like the “Changing Seasons” sec-

Eurasian Collared-Dove, 27 May, 2006 in Burns, Harney County. Photo/Noah Styker
tion in NAB. Topics like migration timing and patterns, range expansions, irruptions, weather events and fallouts will be among the themes. If events in Oregon can be connected to continental trends, those will be integrated into the discussion. A brief summary of each season’s rarities will appear in each column.

It should be noted that OFO intends to maintain online compilations of regionally or locally significant reports for each season, which will in part serve as reference material for this statewide column. The regional compilations for spring 2006 by Gross et al. (2007) have been used as reference for some specifics reported in this column. Hence local observers should continue to report significant sightings to their regional compilers.

At the start, this new format will involve some trial and error as we attempt to meet needs of a broad-based readership. I openly acknowledge this first effort is lacking in statewide balance. In order to create a model column on short notice, I drew heavily on my own impressions and observations as well as the impressions of those with whom I most frequently communicate. Since I live/bird primarily in western Oregon and the Willamette Valley, this column is admittedly over-saturated with discussions of events from this part of the state. In the future, I will endeavor to solicit discussion topics from the more active observers in every corner of Oregon. Feedback from readership will be of particular importance. I will welcome suggestions and ideas for topics to delve into. On occasion I may send out queries via OBOL as I did when compiling Townsend Warbler sightings last winter, and White-throated Sparrow observations during the winters of 2002-03 and 2003-04. Prior to publication I sent drafts of this column to several people seeking feedback about the format. I received encouragement and helpful suggestions from several respondents and I thank them for it. In particular I want to thank Don DeWitt, David Fix and Joel Geier for critically reading the draft and offering several extremely useful suggestions for improvements.

**Spring Summary 2006**


**When is Early?**

Spring is the season of anticipation, and for many birders attempting to find seasonal firsts is an annual competition. Local reports often arrive with tags like ‘earliest county record,’ ‘record early’ or ‘two weeks early.’ With some species, defining true arrivals can be complicated. If you find an Orange-crowned Warbler or a Common Yellowthroat in mid-March, can you assume that it just arrived from the south, or is it a locally wintering bird that avoided earlier detection? Over the past five years Barn Swallows have shown up inexplicably during December and January even though their ‘normal’ arrival date falls about 1 April. Singles in Yamhill County 25 March (Pam Johnston) and at Hatfield L. Deschutes County 1 April (Dean Hale) were the first for their respective sides of the Cascades. True outliers were very few during spring 2006. A House Wren at Corvallis’ Stewart L. 5 April (Jamie Simmons) was about three weeks early. Widespread arrivals were reported from 24 April on, which is about the norm. Single Swainson’s Thrushes at Camp Polk Meadows (near Sisters) 29 April and in Bend’s Sawyer
Park 1 May (Dave Tracy) were a full two weeks early for eastern Oregon and even bested the earliest west side reports. A Hermit Warbler at Eugene’s Skinner Butte 9 April (Roger Robb et.al) was nearly three weeks ahead of the next earliest report and was possibly a bird that wintered locally. A Vesper Sparrow found at the Sandy R. mouth e. of Portland 12 March was a month ahead of normal (Iain Tomlinson, John Fitchen). It remained well into May suggesting that it too may have wintered. Aside from this handful of variants, most passerines first appeared within a day or two of expected arrival dates.

The Big Movements

Perhaps no species makes a more conspicuous and compact spring passage than Greater White-fronted Goose. Each year, during the last 8-10 days of April and the early days of May, birds coming north out of the California’s Central Valley and Oregon’s Klamath Basin make a major push through n.w. Oregon. This year was no exception with widespread reports from the Willamette Valley and northern coast 22 April-2 May. Most White-fronted Geese angle across the Cascades in eastern Douglas and Lane Counties and before crossing the Willamette Valley and Coast Range to reach the northern Oregon coast (generally Newport northward). During peak movements, flocks of 250-400 are commonplace along this route. A flock of 250 over Coburg, Lane 20 April (Roger Robb) was the first large flock reported. Peak counts included multiple flocks totaling 1200 birds at North Plains, Washington Co. on 29 April (Greg Gillson, Tim Shelmerdine, Jay Withgott) and 500 at Finley N.W.R. 30 April (Don Boucher et.al). It appears at least a few White-fronts take a path east of this traditional flyway, as evidenced by groups of 180 at Bend’s Hatfield L. 21 April (Craig and Marilyn Miller) and 205 at Houston L., Crook on 23 April (Chuck Gates). A group of 350 White-fronts over Eugene 10 May was at least a full week later than normal (Dave Irons).

Weather is often a component in producing major flights. In a typical spring, the majority of shorebirds (plovers and sandpipers) overfly Oregon. Even our largest estuaries pale in comparison to Humboldt Bay in n. California and Grays Harbor in Washington, which produce daily counts that outnumber the collective total of birds reported in Oregon for the season. However, during the latter days of April, the Oregon coast was consistently buffeted by strong winds out of the northwest. This coincided with the peak flights of several species. These winds appeared to push large numbers of migrant shorebirds inshore where they could be seen moving low right along the open beach or stopping to rest and refuel in estuaries. Western Sandpipers, Dunlin, and Short-billed Dowitchers were all reported in above average numbers. On 2 May up to 40,000 Westerns per hour were counted passing Bandon (Tim Rodenkirk) and tallies of birds feeding at Bandon Marsh topped 60,000 on 3 May (Kathy Castelein, Tim Rodenkirk). Additionally, 45,000 Western Sandpipers passed Boiler Bay on 3 May (Phil Pickering). In the days leading up to this impressive flight, up to 300,000 Western Sandpipers were gathered in one massive flock at Humboldt Bay (David Fix pers. comm.). Dunlin counts at Bandon Marsh hovered around 4000-5000 birds 22 Apr-3 May (Kathy Castelein, Tim Rodenkirk) and 3000 flew past Boiler Bay 3 May (Phil Pickering).

On 30 Apr numerous flocks (30-80 birds) of Short-billed Dowitchers were observed feeding and migrating along the open beaches between Florence and Waldport (Dave Irons, Jenni-
Embedded in these flocks of Short-billed Dowitchers were small numbers of Red Knots. Worldwide, numbers of Red Knots have declined precipitously, particularly along the Atlantic coast where the increasing harvest of Horseshoe Crabs for fertilizer has reduced an important food source (crab eggs) for Red Knots. Almost the entire Atlantic population stops to feed at Delaware Bay with many birds doubling their weight between arrival and departure for northerly breeding grounds (www.whsrn.org). In the Pacific Northwest, Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor along the Washington coast are the most important stopover points for northbound Red Knots. Daily counts of 100+ birds are not uncommon at both sites and peak counts at Grays Harbor can reach 1000+ birds (Steve Miodownik pers.comm.). However, Red Knots have never been more than a very uncommon migrant in Oregon and in recent decades they have been nearly unreported in spring. Only Bandon Marsh consistently produces sightings of this species and in most years the reports number in the low single digits…total. On 30 April no fewer than 28 Red Knots were along Lane and Lincoln county beaches (Dave Irons). Between 30 Apr and 8 May surveys at Bandon, Florence and along Lincoln, Tillamook and Clatsop county beaches produced reports of more than 170 Red Knots. As many as 22 were at Bandon Marsh 2-3 May (Dave Lauten, Kathy Castelein), 20 were at Trestle Bay, Clatsop 3 May (Mike Patterson), 55 were on Bayocean Spit, Tillamook 6 May (Wink Gross) and 34 were on Clatsop Beach 8 May (Mike Patterson). In the context of “normal,” these numbers are both stunning and encouraging.

Passerines Passings

Over the years I’ve noticed that neotropical migrants with extensive north/south ranges have multiple migratory peaks. The local populations of species for which Oregon is the southern end of their breeding range often peak in mid-to-late April and quickly saturate local habitats. Then there is a pause in their movement before a second wave of more northerly breeders move through. There is a simple logic in the underlying timing of these movements. Local populations synchronize their arrival with the leafing out of deciduous trees. Around Eugene, local Pacific-slope Flycatchers start arriving about 15 April and territorial singers abound in nearby foothills by the end of April. Then about the second week of May there is another movement. During this period migrant Pac-slopes can be heard giving their high metallic “tink” position note in residential neighborhoods where they do not breed. Unfortunately, there are no obvious plumage differences between the regional populations (southern vs. northern) of this species.

This is not the case with the Orange-crowned Warbler, which has four somewhat identifiable subspecies, three of which are presumed to pass through Oregon during migration (Dunn and Garrett 1997). In western Oregon the subspecies Vermivora celata lutescens, which breeds in the Coast Range and the Cascade foothills, is the brightest and most yellowish-green population of this species. The nominate subspecies, V. c. celata, is generally much duller with an overall grayish cast, olive green above and a dingier washed out yellow below (fall immatures can even be somewhat brownish). It breeds across boreal Canada and most of Alaska. The third subspecies V. c. oreaster (often referred to as ‘gray-headed’) is also duller green above and pale greenish yellow below, and breeds east of the Cascades in Oregon and throughout the Great Basin and both the Canadian and U.S. Rockies. Early arriving Orange-crowns (usually late-March to mid-April) are generally very brightly colored birds. An assemblage of 50+ Orange-crowns at Skinner Butte 7 April, were all lutescens (Dave Irons, Barry McKenzie et al.). Numbers of northbound Orange-crowns at Skinner Butte typically peak in early to mid-April and then tail off. However, there is usually a

Black-throated Gray Warbler, Coburg Hills of Lane County, 18 May, 2006 Photo/Diane Petty
second, less conspicuous pulse during early to mid-May. On 4 May, a flock of 40 Orange-crowneds on Skinner Butte were predominantly dull-colored birds presumed to be either celata or orestea (Dave Irons). At least one individual was very gray-headed.

In a typical spring summary, reports of passerines focus on arrival dates (particularly for neotropical species) and high counts. Such phenology is generally well-understood and accessible from numerous sources. In spring of 2006 the majority of species came and went in a timely fashion and there were no weather events that produced true ‘fallouts.’ Townsend’s Warblers seemed slightly above average on the west side, not surprising given the record numbers wintering in Oregon 2005-06. Most impressive was a homogenous group of 75 Townsend’s along Gardner Rd. five miles up the Chetco R. from Brookings on 21 April (Tim Rodenkirk). This is one of largest migrant flocks ever encountered in Oregon. The migratory window for Wilson’s Warblers is quite broad. Early arriving birds normally reach w. Oregon about the third week of April and numbers can still be detected moving through the desert oases of southeast Oregon in early June. Reports of 57 Wilson’s at Green Island near Coburg, Lane 7 May and 40 in a Springfield, Lane filbert orchard (Roger Robb) represented the peak of the westside movement, while 129 were tallied by Deschutes Co. observers during the 13 May North American Migration Count (fide Steve Dougill).

**When is Late?**

While arrival dates are closely monitored, departure dates for wintering birds are at best poorly understood. When do lowland flocks of Dark-eyed Juncos leave winter feeding stations for breeding territories? What constitutes a true late date for a “Sooty” Fox Sparrow or a Golden-crowned Sparrow in w. Oregon? Late dates for waterfowl tend to be better known and reported, probably owing to these species’ generally large size and conspicuous habits. Lingerers this season included a Ross’s Goose that remained at Hatfield L. to at least 16 May (Tim Janzen et al.), eight Tundra Swans in Yonna Valley, Klamath Co. to 11 May (Marty St. Louis, Julie Van Moorhem), and a Eurasian Wigeon still at F.R.R. 3 May (Larry McQueen, Roger Robb). This species is generally gone by early April. Most surprising was a Common Goldeneye at Malheur on 31 May (Sheran Wright). Common Goldeneyes are extremely rare statewide after mid-May and virtually unknown June-August.

One species that consistently gives a false notion of being “late” is White-throated Sparrow. This species was formerly known as a rare wintering bird in Oregon. In western Oregon lowlands their numbers have increased to the point where they are now expected in any decent sized flock of Zonotrichia and juncos. Since White-throated Sparrows readily attend home feeding stations, departure dates for locally wintering birds are known to fall about mid-April. A bird that wintered at Chiloquin in Klamath Co. was last seen 23 April (Wes Stone). Aside from a somewhat late staying bird at Springfield 8 May (Roger Robb), wintering birds around Eugene were not reported after early April (m.ob.). Less known is that each year a small number of migrant White-throated Sparrows move through Oregon (mostly e. of the Cascades). Individually,
they are often reported as late, but collectively the timing of this small passage corresponds perfectly with the timing of their migration east of the Rockies. This year, seven White-throated Sparrows were reported in Oregon 2-17 May. Six of the seven birds were detected east of the Cascades and five of those were found 13-17 May. While living in Indiana and Illinois I noticed that the peak northbound movements fell during the first two weeks of May.

Where Were They?

It is important to report all species observed along with a count of individuals, otherwise significant year-to-year variations might be completely overlooked. This was the case with Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs in spring 2006. After being alerted by Washington observers (Steve Mlodinow pers. comm.) that yellowlegs numbers there were about 20% of normal, I queried OBOL subscribers to get their take on the numbers passing through Oregon. It was a big “come to think of it” moment for many of us as we realized that we weren’t seeing many either. Collective reports of Lesser Yellowlegs totaled just 26 birds for the season, barely topping the number (21) of Solitary Sandpipers seen. Oregon gets far more Lessers (almost entirely juveniles) in fall, but historically there are many single site counts of 20+ birds during spring, typically 22-27 Apr (Marshall et al. 2003). Nine Lessers at Yaquina Bay on 7 Apr (Cindy Ashy) was the season’s high count. Numbers of Greater Yellowlegs were not much better. Early in the season 40+ were at F.R.R. (Dave Irons), but these were wintering birds. Peak movements, both east and west of the Cascades, normally fall 20 March-20 Apr (Marshall et al. 2003). Truly an anomaly was a very late pulse of 146 Greaters at Wireless Rd. near Warrenton on 14 May (Mike Patterson). Aside from this spike, there were no counts greater than five individuals (m.ob.) and just 11 birds total were reported from eastern and central Oregon, where this species is usually a conspicuous migrant. To this point, no good explanation for these abysmally low numbers has been presented.

Other than a tally of 30 at Mt. Talbert, Clackamas 29 Apr (Tim Janzen), numbers of Black-throated Gray Warblers were decidedly sub-par. Peak counts at popular Willamette Valley migrant traps were less than half of normal. Ten at Portland’s Mt. Tabor 4 May was the high count there (Gerard Lillie et al.) and daily monitoring of Eugene’s Skinner Butte 10 Apr-15 May produced a high count of just six, where 15-20 can be expected during their peak migration window (m.ob). Pine Siskins, nearly absent during the winter of 2005-06, continued to be scarce through the spring season. There was a brief pulse of west side migrants reported 27 Mar-9 Apr, but they quickly disappeared.

Genetically Confused

With each season there seems to be an increase in reports of obvious and apparent hybrids. I will generally refrain from wading into the genetic quagmire formerly known as “pink-footed” gulls because the various intergrades produced by the crossing and backcrossing of these birds leaves many individuals simply unidentifiable. However, there are many other easily recognizable hybrids. Waterfowl of mixed parentage tend to be the most often reported hybrids. This season a well-documented American X Eurasian Wigeon was at Grand Prairie Park in Linn Co. on 12 March (Jeff Harding photo, see inside front cover). A cautionary note, male Eurasian Wigeon can show a diffuse green eye stripe. Birds with immaculate gray sides showing this trait are often misreported as hybrids. Two Common X Green-winged Teal were at Straits Drain in Lower Klamath N.W.R. on 14 April (Kevin Spencer). For the 3rd consecutive year a male scaup (likely Lesser) X Ring-necked Duck was at Lane Community College ponds (Dave Irons). This bird was last seen 8 April. A Red-breasted X Red-naped Sapsucker was at Glaze Meadows near Black Butte 10 May (Craig and Marilyn Miller). Hybrids of these two species are somewhat expected.
in this known overlap zone.

**The Unexpected**

Up to three wintering Emperor Geese were at Astoria into early March (Mike Patterson) with the last one reported there 18 March (Lee Cain). Three inland Brant were all in the Willamette Valley. Singles were at Brownsville 11 March (Rich Hoyer et al), Baskett Slough N.W.R. 27 March (Jay Withgott), and a late bird was at Finley N.W.R. until 22 April (Joe Fontaine, Jamie Simmons). Two Trumpeter Swans wintering at Coquille were last seen 18 March (Paul Sullivan, Tim Rodenkirk). These birds provided just the 4th Coos County record. The male Falcated Duck spent its 3rd consecutive winter at Eugene/Co- burg and was last seen 20 March. Increased scrutiny continues to produce multiple Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal each winter/spring season. Singles were at Eugene’s Stewart Pond 29 March (Roger Robb et al) and Finley N.W.R. 19-22 April (Rich Armstrong, m.ob). A long-staying Tufted Duck was on Meares L., Tillamook Co. to at least 15 April (Wink Gross) and another spent a week at F.R.R. 23-29 April (Tom Mickel, m.ob). Spring pelagic trips are expanding our knowledge of albatrosses in Oregon waters. An 18 March trip to Perpetua Bank, Lincoln Co. (Greg Gillson) produced four Layson Albatross, and another Layson was off Coos Co. 21 May (Greg Gillson). The May 21 trip also produced a staggering 500 Black-footed Albatrosses. An immature Short-tailed Albatross at Perpetua Bank 18 Mar was the second spring bird there in the past six years and about the 10th modern record for Oregon. Now annual in spring, five Manx Shearwaters were detected including singles at Boiler Bay 2 April and 2 May (Phil Pickering) and three off the mouth of the Columbia R. 12 May (Troy Guy).

A bird identified as a Glossy Ibis at Malheur N.W.R. 28 May (Duncan Evered, Alan Contreras, Graham Floyd, Holly Reinhard), would be a first state record if accepted (see article on page 130). Single Broad-winged Hawks at Malheur N.W.R. 26 April (Michael Marsh) and Baskett Slough N.W.R. 28 April (Bill Tice) were exceptionally rare for spring. A migrant Swainson’s Hawk at New River 3 May was just the 2nd Coos Co. record (Tim Rodenkirk). Curry County’s 4th Ferruginous Hawk likely wintered near Floras L. and was last seen 15 March (Rick McKenzie). The states 3rd and 4th Crested Caracaras appeared in rapid succession. A bird initially discovered at Blodgett, Benton Co. 7 March made daily appearances near the Corvalis Airport 12-18 March (Molly Monroe, m.ob, photo page 126). A second bird spent 28 March on a private ranch in n. Curry Co. (Rick McKenzie, Tim Rodenkirk, Don Munson ph.). Single Common Moorhens at Black Butte Ranch 10 April (David Marshall) and near Riley, Harney Co. 27 May (Noah Strycker) brought the state’s total to 10 records. Spring records of Semipalmated Sandpipers are quite rare for Oregon. A single was at Bandon Marsh 22 April (Maitreya), and two were at the Wasco sewage ponds in Sherman Co 13 May (David Bailey). A dead Horned Puffin was found on Whiskey Run Beach, Coos Co. 9 March (A. Kocourek).

Holdover Snowy Owls from the winter irruption lingered at Eugene 2 March (Mark Nikas), the S.J.C.R. to 17 March (Steve Warner), and near Condon, Gilliam Co. to 1 April (Paul Sullivan, Carol Karlen). A very late Snowy Owl at Umapine, Umatilla Co. 22-24 May was well outside Oregon Birds 32(3):127, Fall 2006
the normal window of occurrence for this species (Mike and Merry Lynn Denny). A White-throated Swift at New River 13 May was a Coos Co. first (Tim Rodenkirk). Slightly less rare were two over the top of Lower Table Rock, Jackson Co. 28 May (Norm Barrett). White-throated Swifts are rare and irregular at this site and there are at least five previous records (per Jackson Co. checklist 2005). Black-chinned Hummingbirds wandered west to Hagg L., Washington Co 10 April and Shady Cove, Jackson Co. 22 May (Norm Barrett). Two Red-naped Sapsuckers also ventured west side with singles at Eugene’s Skinner Butte 7 April (Dave Irons) and Portland’s Mt. Tabor Park 19 April (Gerard Lillie). The only Least Flycatcher of the season was at Benson Pond, Malheur N.W.R. 28 May (Alan Contreras et al.). A Gray Flycatcher at Green I. north of Eugene 4 May was a rare migrant in the Willamette Valley (Roger Robb). There are about 12 records for Lane Co. (Contreras 2006). An E. Phoebe stopped in at Fields 27-28 May (Dean Hale, Maitreya et al., photo page 129). An Ash-throated Flycatcher stopped in at Mt. Pisgah s.e. of Eugene on 25 May (Don Schrouder, Paul Sherrell). An E. Kingbird was at the Wahl Ranch near Cape Blanco 21 May, visiting a site where they have been nearly annual in recent years (Terry Wahl).

A Blue-headed Vireo was at Fields 27 May (Chuck Gates, Khanh Tran). Four Blue Jays reported 1 March-18 April were all west of the Cascades. Wintering birds near Corvallis (Michael Dossett) and Phoenix, Jackson Co. (Margorie Moore et.al) both disappeared in mid-March. Another was near St. Helens, Columbia Co. 18 April (fide Harry Nehls). A very late bird, which remained at a Brookings feeder 12 April-13 May (Linda Steele), was the 3rd for Curry Co. Three Mountain Bluebirds strayed to the west side. A single at the Wahl Ranch near Cape Blanco 12 March was just the 5th record for Curry Co. (Terry Wahl), and two were along Newland Rd. n. of Central Point, Jackson Co. 26 March (Dick Cronberg). A single Gray Catbird was along Hwy 58 at the Little Deschutes R., in n. Klamath Co. on 31 May (Hydie Lown) and two were at Malheur N.W.R. the same day (Sheran Wright). Eight N. Mockingbirds were seen at widely scattered western Oregon locations. Several of the birds remained well into May. Sightings of this species have been increasing very gradually over the past couple decades, raising the obvious questions about possible range extension. Four Sage Thrashers along the northern coast 5-19 May was without precedent. A fifth coastal Sage Thrasher was south at Bandon (Kevin Smith photo). This species averages about 1-2 per spring west of the Cascades. A Brown Thrasher was at Ya-chats 13+ April (Michael Smith fide Range Bayer). A Tennessee Warbler at Astoria’s Coxcomb Hill 5 May (Mike Patterson) was a couple weeks ahead of the normal vagrant window for this species. Earlier still was a Northern Parula at Mt. Tabor Park 9-11 April (Gerard Lillie, Khanh Tran et.al). More expected in fall, a male Black-throated Blue Warbler at Fields 27-29 May provided a very rare spring record (Tim Rodenkirk, Maitreya, m.ob, photo page 129). Adding to the list of early vagrants, a Black-and-white Warbler was at Portland’s Pittock Mansion 21 April (Khanh Tran, Michael Marsh). This bird might have wintered along the West Coast. More expected were an American Redstart at Fields 27-29 May (Tim Rodenkirk, Maitreya) and an Ovenbird at Malheur

Snowy Owl, Umapine, Umatilla County, located May 22 by Jim Toes, photographed on 24 May, 2006. Photo/MerryLynn Denny
The Clay-colored Sparrow that wintered at Millicoma Marsh in Coos Bay was last seen 18 March (Paul Sullivan, Tim Rodenkirk). A very late Clay-colored was singing at Jerry’s Flat along the Rogue R. 19 May (Colin Dillingham et al.). Two Brewer’s Sparrows wandered to the west side. Singles were at Sandy River Delta, Multnomah Co. 16 May (Iain Tomlinson, Andy Frank) and Ecola S.P., Clatsop 25 May (David Bailey). A Lark Sparrow was at the Wahl Ranch, where they are nearly annual in spring, on 20 May (Terry Wahl). Continuing a theme of desert birds straying west, single Black-throated Sparrows were near Salem 6 May (Justin Rodecap), Ecola S.P. 14 May (Steve Warner) and the Whetstone Savannah, Jackson Co. 28 May (Stewart Janes). A Sage Sparrow was at the Portland Airport 5 March (Dave Helzer). A Grasshopper Sparrow was at the Sandy River Delta 6-13 May (Iain Tomlinson, Tom Love), and two were at Denman W.M.A., Jackson Co. 26 May (Norm Barrett). A wintering Harris’s Sparrow remained at Springfield until at least 22 May (Roger Robb, m.ob). Two Chestnut-collared Longspurs detected in February during Horned Lark surveys at the Corvallis Airport remained to at least 10 March (Randy Moore). Six Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (two west and four east) 22+ May was slightly above the spring norm. A male Blue Grosbeak was photographed at Portland’s Oaks Bottom 17 April (Khanh Tran). Two Indigo Buntings attended a Malin, Klamath Co. feeder 6-9 May (Cy Phillips’ photo is on the back cover), and another male was at Denman W.M.A. 19-24 May (Ron Ketchum, Jim Harleman). A Common Grackle was at Page Springs C.G., Harney Co. on 26 May (Sheran Wright). Four Great-tailed Grackles 8+ May was below the recent spring average. Single Baltimore Orioles were at Milwaukie, Clackamas Co 5 May (fide Harry Nehls) and Domingo Pass, Harney Co. 28 May (Bob Archer). Oregon’s 10th and 11th Bramblings attended feeders in Monmouth 24 March-6 April (Richard Bunsie, m.ob.) and Eugene 7-14 April (Mark Rudolph, Maitreya photo, see photo by Mark Nikas on the inside front cover).

Literature Cited


A Report of Glossy Ibis (Plegadis falcinellus) at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Harney County, Oregon

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On May 20 and 28, 2006, an anomalous *Plegadis* ibis was noted near the Malheur Field Station. The bird (presumably the same one) was first noted by Duncan Evered of the Malheur Field Station in the mudhole east of the Center Patrol Road at the road junction at the northwest corner of Wright’s Pond on May 20. He was with a tour group and did not have an opportunity to study it in detail, but thought it looked like a Glossy Ibis based on his experience with the species in Florida. It was seen again about 5:30-6:00 p.m. on May 28 in the same place by Graham Floyd, Alan Contreras and Holly Reinhard. Contreras checked June 2, 4 and 5 and did not see any ibis there. The mudhole had dried somewhat by early June.

On May 28, we observed it through binoculars and a Leupold Variable scope (used in the 25-40 power range) at a distance of about 30-50 yards. Light was above and behind us, but heavily diffused by cloud cover, so light on the bird was good enough to show color but not direct sunlight. The identification of *Plegadis* ibis, even as adults, is notoriously difficult, but our research suggests that this bird was a Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) rather than a White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*), which breeds at the refuge in large numbers. The record has been submitted to the OBRC and is discussed here for the benefit of others who may encounter such ibis. This is the first record in Oregon of a bird likely to be a Glossy Ibis.

The bird had adult plumage everywhere that we could see, including the head. This is apparent in the photos in color. Facial skin in front of the eye was medium-dark gray with no reddish or pinkish tones. Thin pale bluish-white lines on the skin were visible above and below the eye, running to the base of the bill. These lines did not extend behind the eye. There were no white facial feathers. The eye, seen by all of us in good light, appeared very dark brown, almost blackish, with no red tones or flecks visible at any angle.

The legs were mostly gray, with reddish around the knees and somewhat above and below the knees. At some angles, including in flight, the feet were reddish (similar to knee color) according to Floyd. Contreras and Reinhard did not see the feet as well. The bird seemed slightly more slender than the half-dozen White-faced Ibis present (Contreras thought), but that was not always apparent and the other observers did not note such a difference. We otherwise noted no size differences. Photos that support this report were taken by Graham Floyd using a Canon digital camera at 12x optical zoom (about equal to 450mm) with no scope. No changes have been made to the photos other than to crop them for size.

In our opinion the bird is correctly identified as a Glossy Ibis based on our field observations, but the photos, although consistent with the field notes, are not definitive because the facial area was not photographed in direct light. We therefore chose to submit this record to the OBRC as a sight record supported by photos. We recognize that this is a difficult identification and that the OBRC may need to do considerable research on ibis identification as we did. It is possible that we are mistaken, but we found no reliable sources that suggested that a hybrid adult could have a dark eye, gray face and no white facial feathering. Likewise we know of no adult plumage of a pure White-faced that could look like this. Leg color was reddish for a Glossy but in the opinion of most people we asked who have significant experience with the species, this feature is quite variable in Glossy Ibis.

Glossy Ibis have expanded considerably in recent years. Multiple records occurred as far west as Colorado and Idaho in 2006, and a bird very similar to ours was seen in SE California in July, 2006 (see photos by David Vander Pluyem & Oscar Johnson, 31 July 2006, Calipatria, Imperial Co. California on Joe Morlan’s web site at http://fog.ccsf.cc.ca.us/~jmorlan/gallery.htm). Oregon observers should remain alert for this species in the late spring and summer.

Detail of the head of the Glossy Ibis at Malheur NWR 28 May, 2006 Photo/Graham Floyd