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Front Cover: 1st Prize, 2010 photo contest: Wilson’s Warbler in snowstorm, Malheur, 22 May 2010.*
Photo by Kit Larsen (Eugene)

Back Cover: 2nd Prize, 2010 photo contest: Brown Pelican arrives at Port Orford from the Moon.
Photo by Lois Miller (Port Orford)

*This photo was cropped for use on the cover. The original appears below.
The year 2010 featured an extended late spring snowstorm in much of eastern Oregon that produced some significant fallouts. Summer was notable for lack of much obvious excitement except for a decent flow of vagrants in southeastern Oregon in early June. It was a lackluster year for rare shorebirds (except for Ruffs and an uncooperative Lesser Sand-Plover at Bandon). Several semi-cooperative long-term rarities, e.g. the Painted Bunting at Seaside and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at E. E. Wilson wildlife area, brightened their seasons.

The snowstorm produced our cover photo, Kit Larsen’s prize-winning Wilson’s Warbler that no doubt wished it had stayed another week in Nevada. As you read the seasonal highlights, you will also find that the storm front grounded hundreds of Gray Flycatchers in southeastern Oregon. One group of birders found hundreds of them along the Center Patrol Road at Malheur the fourth week of May, and scores could still be found there on Memorial Day weekend.

It was a good year for west-side Common Poor-wills as well as Rock Wren and Gray Flycatcher, and the best year ever for Rusty Blackbird, with three reports in fall and another in early January, 2011, a photo of which will be in OB 38(1).

A year after Oregon’s fourth Northern Wheatear came the fifth, at Coquille Spit. Other peak highlights were the state’s second Common Ground-Dove, third Yellow-throated Vireo, several Hooded Warblers and such unusual finds as a spring Blackpoll and at least two and possibly three Lazuli Buntings in Jackson County in December.

Solitary Sandpiper probably bred in the Lane County Cascades again, as it did in the 1980s. Oak Titmouse appears to have established a small population in southeastern Douglas County. Western Scrub-Jay had an exceptional year of expansion in eastern Oregon, where it is now resident at Hermiston and has reached Union County. It was a good year for Gray Catbird in eastern Oregon–this species sometimes breeds further west than its normal range, and may have done so in 2010.

Fall and early winter brought a remarkable number of scoters to inland Oregon; some remained to winter: this year there were more scoter species on the Portland CBC than on the Bandon count!

Good Birding!
A single Snow Goose wintered at Nestucca NWR (WG). LC saw 39 migrating over Astoria on May 6. Over 200 Brant were at Bayocean on Mar 14 (WG). B&JW found three male Eurasian Wigeon at Bayocean on May 12. A few Blue-winged Teal were found during the spring: one at Nestucca NWR on Apr 11 (JH) and six at Nehalem STP on May 8 (SS). Two Cinnamon Teal were at Fenk Rd, May 1, and four at Nehalem STP, May 10 (WG). Redheads were found at Bay City STP (Sep 25, Andy Frank), Cannon Beach STP (Oct 31, MP), and two were at Meares Lake Oct 31 (A&CH). A Long-tailed Duck was at Netarts Bay, Dec 18 (JH). Two more joined it on Jan 10 (CK and PTS). A single bird was at Seaside Cove on Jan 5 (DB), and three were seen circling the SJCR before heading to the NJCR on Oct 30 (LC). A male Barrow’s Goldeneye was at Netarts Bay, Jan 16 and 17 (WG).

MP found 6 Mountain Quail on Mt. Hebo, Aug 20. LC found two on Saddle Mtn, Sept 25. Two California Quail were in Neskowin on Aug 21 (WG). LC found 4 Ruffed Grouse and one Sooty Grouse on Saddle Mountain, Sept 25. A juvenile Yellow-billed Loon was at Memaloose Point, Tillamook Bay, Nov 20 (JJ, DS, TS, et. al.) Two Eared Grebes were at Meares Lake on Oct 27 (WG). Dave Cristman found a Clark’s Grebe at Tillamook Mar 13. It or another was at Bay City, Apr 7 (JH and WG). LC had a miserable time tuna fishing about 44 miles west of Neahkahnie on Aug 21, but he did see a Manx Shearwater, in addition to Pink-footed, Sootys, and Short-taileds. Many seabirds were driven close to shore by strong west winds at the end of October. MP, DB, and SW saw both Pink-footed and Buller’s Shearwaters from Silver Point on Oct 25. A Pink-footed Shearwater was off Tierra del Mar on Oct 26 (WG). On those days, multiple Leach’s Storm-Petrels were seen at SJCR, Clatsop Beach, Tierra del Mar, Bayocean, and a dead bird was found at Jewell on Oct 27 (fide HN).

American White Pelicans nested at Miller Sands (Clatsop Co.) during June and July. Approximately 100, including downy young, were counted by Andrew Emlen on July 14 (fide MP). An American Bittern was at the Astoria Airport Mitigation Bank on Mar 23 (LC). Another was heard at Neskowin, May 29 (JH and WG).

Osprey nested at North Rockaway Beach for the first time in Tillamook County in 14 years (B&JW). Three White-tailed Kites were at the Wilson River estuary on Sep 28 (WG). On Jul 27, Rough-legged Hawks were reported from Gearhart Bog (DB) and Tillamook (B&JW). One was at the Astoria Airport Mitigation Bank at the beginning of January (MP and LC). Another was at Nestucca Bay NWR on Jan 28 (JH). No Rough-legged Hawks were reported, but MP found a dark-phase Ferruginous Hawk at Brownsmead on Nov 6 (and probably again on Nov 11). Gyrfalcons were reported from Clatsop Co, Dec 9 (MP) and a dark-phase was at Tillamook Bay, Nov 25 (Greg Baker).

LC reported on out-of-season Sora in Astoria, Jan 3. Two were heard along Goodspeed Road (Tillamook), May 10 (WG), and one was seen at Neskowin, May 29 (JH and WG).

An American Golden-Plover was at SJCR on Sep 18 (MP). A
Pacific Golden-Plover lingered at Camp Rilea (Clatsop) from Jul 20 at least until Jul 28 (MP and Lars Norgren). A Solitary Sandpiper was at Astoria, May 13 (MP). A Willet was at Barview Jetty (Jeff Hayes). It was a somewhat better than average year for Lesser Yellowlegs, which were reported in small numbers from Nehalem STP, Ecola Creek Estuary, Bayocean, and the Nestucca Estuary from late July into early September. A Long-billed Curlew was at Tierra del Mar on Oct 10 (WG). “100 plus” Marbled Godwits were at Necanicum Estuary on Sep 26 (MP). Two immature Ruddy Turnstones were at Tierra del Mar, Aug 16 (WG). One was found at Bay City, Nov 26 (Jack Booth), and settled in for the winter.

Approximately 100 Surfbirds were at Barview Jetty on Feb 5 (WG). 69 were still there, Apr 10 (Jeff Hayes). Five "bright" Red Knots at Bayocean on May 8 (SS) were soon topped by an encouraging 52 at Trestle Bay (Clatsop) on May 20 (MP). The only Fall report was one at Bayocean on Oct 31 (A&CH). Both immature and adult Semipalmated Sandpipers started appearing in late July at numerous locations: Little Beach (Shawneen Finnegan and MP), Bayocean (SS, Russ Namitz, WG), and SJCR (Jeff Gilligan). In the ones-that-got-away file, MP found a "curious looking unidentified peep" that was conceivably a juvenile LITTLE STINT at Little Beach (Clatsop), Aug 9. Baird’s Sandpipers arrived in unusually high numbers in mid-August. Thirty were at Bayocean on Aug 17 (WG). Owen Schmidt counted an amazing 108 on Clatsop Beach between the Gearhart and Peter Iredale access points on Aug 19. Six Pectoral Sandpipers were at SJCR on Sep 26 (MP). Two Rock Sandpipers were at Barview Jetty, Feb 5 (WG). One Fall migrant was at Seaside Cove, Oct 27 (MP). Two Buff-breasted Sandpipers were at Necanicum Estuary, Aug 24 (Jeff Gilligan). LC found 200 Sabine’s Gulls 44 miles off Neahkanie Mountain on Aug 21. Four were at Tierra del Mar, Oct 26 (WG). A juvenile Franklin’s Gull was at Cannon Beach STP on Aug 5 (DB). It or another bird was at Necanicum on Oct 4 (MP). A possible 3rd year Slaty-backed Gull was at Necanicum Estuary on Oct 1 (JJ). A Glaucous Gull, probably of ssp. pallidissimus judging by its large size and absence of markings, was at Tierra del Mar, Mar 15 (WG). Common Terns were at Bayocean, Sep 25 (Andy Frank) and Silver Point, Oct 25 (DB, MP, SW). 15 Arctic Terns were 44 miles off Neahkanie on Aug 21 (LC) and 4 were at SJCR on Sep 20 (MP). A South Polar Skua was about 70 miles off Tillamook County, Sep 21 (WG).

Two Xantus’s Murrelets were about 70 miles off Tillamook County; Sep 21 (WG). Fifty Ancient Murrelets were seen from Silver Point, Oct 31 (MP and DB). Three Cassin’s Auklets were off Tierra del Mar, Oct 17 (WG). In between trips to the rail, or perhaps while at the rail, LC saw two immature Horned Puffins, 44 miles west of Neahkanie on Aug 21. Eurasian Collared-Doves became firmly established in both Tillamook and Clatsop counties during the year (m. obs.)

The only Snowy Owl of the year was a single bird at Netarts Bay that showed up in Dec, 2009 and lingered well into January, 2010. A Short-eared Owl was at Goodspeed Rd (Tillamook) on Dec 19 (JH & WG). Two were at Gearhart on Jan 22 (MP). TS and DS found 4 Northern Saw-whet Owls on God’s Valley Road (Tillamook) Feb 15. Common Nighthawks were almost common around Seaside in August, with 15 seen by LC on Aug 29. The high count of Black Swifts was 29 over Cascade Head (Tillamook) on May 27 (PP). Somewhat more unusual were 6 over Coquille Hill in Astoria on Jun 4 (MP). Black Swifts usually turn inland somewhere between Cascade Head and northern Clatsop County. Calliope Hummingbirds were recorded from Coquille Hill, May 8 (MP) and Cascade Head, May 27 (PP). JH photographed a Red-naped Sapsucker at Neskowin on Jul 10.

Black Phoebes continue their expansion along the north coast with an immature at Cannon Beach STP on Jul 27 (Lou Freed). Six were at the Wilson River estuary (AKA “Rain River”) on Sep 28 (WG). The only Tropical Kingbird of the year was at Fort Stevens SP, Oct 19 (MP). Three Western Kingbirds were at Nehalem Meadows on May 28 (B&GW), and 4 were at Wireless Rd just 2 days later (MP). Dave and Ellen Morrison
reported a FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER at Nehalem Meadows, Apr 5. It could not be refound, and is (as of Feb, 2011) in review by OBRC. A problematic shrike was photographed at Tierra del Mar on May 2 (WG). The vote was close, but Loggerhead Shrike won. Cassin’s Vireos, tough to find on the coast, were in Clatsop Co., Apr 30 (DB) and Cascade Head, May 27 (PP). MP found Townsend’s Solitaires in both counties: on Coxcomb Hill, May 12, and Mt Hebo, Sep 22. A Northern Mockingbird was seen, off and on, all winter at Nehalem Meadows. Single birds were also seen at Bayocean, Nov 20 (DS, TS), and Twin Rocks, Nov 28 (Steve and Diana Parsons).

Three Lapland Longspurs returned to SJCR, Sep 4 (MP). A male retaining much breeding plumage was at Tierra del Mar, Nov 6 (WG). A female Chestnut-collared Longspur was at Pacific City, Oct 31 (CK and PTS). Nashville Warblers are tough to find on the north coast. One was at Rockaway on May 2 (Steve Parsons); another was at Jeffers Garden (Clatsop), Nov 23 (LC). Russ Namitz found a female Black-throated Blue Warbler at the Neawanna Mill Ponds (Clatsop), Nov 5. Palm Warblers have become regular along the coast, with multiple sightings in the Fall of 2010. A Clay-colored Sparrow was at Wireless Road, Jan 20 (MP). MP photographed a Vesper Sparrow at Brownsmead, May 23, and a Lark Sparrow was at Seaside, Apr 9 (DB). Two Swamp Sparrows hung out with all the birders at Neawanna Wetlands in early November (m. obs). A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was along the Necanicum River, May 21 (Doug Ray). That same day, another male was at Cannon Beach (Christina Stanley). Margaret Tweelinckx entertained a male Rose-breasted at her feeder in Cape Meares Village (Tillamook) on Jun 13. Male Lazuli Buntings were at the summit of Cascade Head (Tillamook) on May 27 and 29 (PP); a female was photographed at Nestucca NWR by Tom Shreve on Aug 14. Lazuli is good for the coast, but Painted is better. Dave Bailey reported an “odd bunting” at Neawanna Mill Ponds on Nov 2. On Nov 4, he confirmed that it was an immature male PAINTED BUNTING. It hung around long enough for many birders to see it, provided they put in the time. It was last seen Nov 16. TS and DS, while leading an Audubon group, found a DICKCISSEL at Nehalem Meadows on Feb 20. It was well photographed the next day. An adult male Baltimore Oriole was at Neskowin May 29 and 30 (JH, WG). A Lesser Goldfinch was at Wilson River wetlands, Sep 28 (WG).

Observers

Dave Bailey (DB),
Greg Baker,
Jack Booth,
Lee Cain (LC),
Dave Crisman,
Carol Karlen (CK),
Andrew Emlen,
Shawna Finnegan,
Andy Frank,
Lou Freid,
Jeff Gilligan,
Wink Gross (WG),
Jeff Hayes,
Adrian & Christopher Hinkle (A&CH),
Jack Hurt (JH),
Jim Johnson (JJ),
Dave and Ellen Morrison
Russ Namitz,
Harry Nehls (HN),
Lars Norgren,
Steve and Diana Parsons,
Mike Patterson (MP),
Phil Pickering (PP),
Doug Ray,
Stefan Schlick (SS),
Owen Schmidt,
Tim Shelmerdine (TS),
Tom Shreve

This late Nashville Warbler, found 23 Nov. 2010 at Astoria, was a precursor of several found in Oregon during the winter of 2010-11. Photo by Evan Cain.

Dickcissel. Photo by Ed McVicker.
An immature King Eider near Yachats State Park on 16 May (R. Namitz) and a female near Boiler Bay on 17 December (fide D. Robinson) are the 6th and 7th since 1999.

Albatrosses are rarely seen from shore, but one Laysan Albatross on 26 October and three Black-footed Albatrosses on 3 May passed Boiler Bay (P. Pickering).

348 Northern Fulmars washed ashore during October-December along 4.6 miles of beach north of Ona Beach State Park (B. & S. Loeffel, L. & V. Osis). About 8% were light-phase. In November when most (238) fulmars beached, an exceptional number of fulmars (120-400 fulmars/hour) were also tallied during four, 7-18 November Boiler Bay seawatches, with 5% or fewer of them light (P. Pickering, W. Hoffman). The 348 fulmars is the 2nd highest total since B. Loeffel began these surveys in 1978, and the five highest years have come since 2002.

At least one Murphy’s Petrel was offshore on 12 May (J. Gilligan, O. Schmidt), and a possible Murphy’s was noted during a 6 November Boiler Bay seawatch (W. Hoffman).

1-2 Flesh-footed Shearwaters were spotted during 11 September and 2 October Bird Guide pelagic trips (G. Gillson), and 1-3 Manx or Manx-type Shearwaters were noted during Boiler Bay seawatches on 18 April, 3 May and 7 November (P. Pickering, W. Hoffman).

A Black Storm-Petrel was offshore on 21 September (J. Gilligan, O. Schmidt, J. & B. Carlson, W. Gross).

Each month during January-April, Brown Pelicans were more common and numerous than they had been since at least 1972. In January, there were many counts of 100 to about 900, with 90% or more adults, and many were in breeding plumage (mult. obs.). Numbers diminished in February-March to a peak of 63, but increased again in April with a maximum of 285 (mult. obs.). The rest of the year, their numbers and frequency were typical, with few present after mid-December.

1-4 Black-crowned Night-Herons at Yaquina Bay on 26-27 January (D. Stein) were the only reports.

Red-shouldered Hawks have become regular in fall, but one at Thornton Creek between Toledo and Eddyville on 31 July (D. Faxon) appears to be the 1st early summer record.

An immature Golden Eagle near Siletz on 25 January (W. Hoffman) was the 2nd since 2000, and a Gyrfalcon cruising over Lincoln City on 7 December (P. Pickering) is the 4th since 1992.

A Sandhill Crane on 8 May at the Salmon River (J. Doyle) is only the 7th since 1992 and the first to be photographed.

1-2 juvenile Ruffs near the OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center Nature Trail during 1-3 September (M. Patterson, W. Hoffman, R. Lowe et al.) is the 2nd confirmed record.
1-4 South Polar Skuas were noted during the 11 September and 2 October Bird Guide pelagic trips (G. Gillson), and an adult Xantus's Murrelet of the scrippsi race was about 50 miles offshore on 27 September (T. Janzen).

In December at Boiler Bay, Ancient Murrelets seemed extraordinarily common and numerous (mult. obs.), with peak counts of 341 on 14 December and 61 on 18 December (P. Pickering, W. Hoffman).

At Boiler Bay, a Parakeet Auklet in breeding plumage was noted on 23 April (P. Pickering), and a Horned Puffin passed on 15 May (W. Hoffman). Another Horned Puffin washed ashore north of Ona Beach on 25 November (B. & S. Loeffel, L. & V. Osis).

A Short-eared Owl offshore on 21 September (J. Gilligan, O. Schmidt, J. & B. Carlson, W. Gross) is the 7th since 1994.

At South Beach, a flock of Black Swifts passed on 6 September, and an immature Costa's Hummingbird lingered on 7-8 August (W. Hoffman).

The Lewis' Woodpecker at Thornton Creek on 25 September (D. Faxon, R. Namitz et al.) is the 3rd since 1992. A Black Phoebe was near Seal Rock on 1 January (W. Hoffman) and in Hidden Valley between Newport and Toledo during the 2 January Yaquina Bay Christmas Bird Count (mult. obs.).

Say's Phoebes have become more common in the past 10 years, but the only one in 2010 was at Thornton Creek on 20 March (D. Faxon).

At the Hatfield Marine Science Center, the Ash-throated Flycatcher on 27-31 May (R. Lowe, D. Pettew, C. Philo) was the 4th since 1993, and a Tropical Kingbird was in Newport during 7-22 October (B. Olson, D. Holland).

J. Kaczmarek photographed a Blue Jay near Siletz on 19 May that is the 3rd record.

A Horned Lark visited the Yaquina Bay South Jetty on 9-12 February (M. Wieland, W. Hoffman), and a Bank Swallow passed through Yachats on 16 May (R. Namitz).

A male Mountain Bluebird perched on a log at South Beach State Park on 12 April (T. Seager) is the 6th since 1972 and a Townsend's Solitaire in Newport during 29-30 November (P. Lawson) is the 6th since 2000.

A probable Red-throated Pipit at Yachats on 31 October (A. Contreras) was the 1st reported.

A Sage Sparrow at the Yaquina Bay South Jetty on 11-12 March (C. Philo, W. Hoffman et al.) is the 2nd record.

At the Hatfield Marine Science Center on 27-29 May, there was an immature male BLUE GROSBEAK (R. Chuck, R. Lowe, D. Grafe, et al.) and a Lazuli Bunting (R. Lowe, B. Tice, G. Andrews, E. Bruhnke). The grosbeak was a 1st for the County, and the Lazuli the 6th west of Logsden or Eddyville since 1991.

A Yellow-headed Blackbird was listed on the Beaver Creek State Natural Area sightings board for 18 October, and an immature male was at a Hatfield Marine Science Center feeder on 19-28 October (R. Lowe).

A Brown-headed Cowbird east of Newport on 8 January (J. & L. MacKown) is the 1st January report since 1987.

In Newport, a male, possible Hooded Oriole was noted on 26 December (J. & H. Robbins), and a female Bullock's Oriole on 10-11 January (R. Filby) is the 1st since May 2008 and only record in 2010.

A singing male Cassin's Finch visited Thornton Creek on 22 October (D. Faxon).
Up to five Snow Geese overwintered in the pastures on the eastside of Coos Bay, Coos from 9 November 2009 through 12 March 2010 (T. Rodenkirk, R. Namitz et al.). A juvie overwintered in Lakeside, Coos from 15 December through at least 7 January 2010 (M. Crumrine et al.). Coos's 4th Ross's Goose spent the winter in the eastside pastures of Coos Bay from 26 November 2009 through 12 March 2010 (T. Rodenkirk, R. Namitz et al.).

Curry had a Ross's Goose also, seen on 27 January north of Floras Lake which may have been the same bird seen earlier in the winter (T. Rodenkirk). Brant migration peaked at Floras Lake/New River in Curry/Coos Cos. on 23 April when at least 1000 birds were seen (D. Lauten, K. Castelein). Aleutian Cackling Geese normally disappear from the south coast by the end of April. This year, for the first year ever, significant numbers of birds may have oversummered, there were several records: 200 on 10 June in the New River bottoms area of Curry/Coos Cos. (R. McKenzie), 60 to 70 white-collared cacklers on 22 June near the mouth of Tenmile Creek, Coos (D. Farrar), 73 in Port Orford, Curry on 3 July (K. Andersson), and 35 in Bandon, Coos on 16 July (H. Schubothe).

Curry's 5th and 6th record of Trumpeter Swans were two near Floras Lake from 27 December 2009 through at least 17 February 2010 (T. Wahl, D. Ledig, T. Rodenkirk et al.) and one at Pistol River from 9-31 January (N. Holcomb). The earliest ever "fall" record of American Wigeon for Coos was a bird seen at WPNSCB on 21 July (T. Rodenkirk).

At WPNSCB several species of duck bred, species that have rarely bred elsewhere on the south coast: 25 broods of Gadwall by 30 July, a single brood of Cinnamon Teal on 13 July, and two broods of Ring-Necked Duck by 30 July (T. Rodenkirk). Northern Shovelers bred in Bandon, Coos- a female with chicks was found at Bradley Lake on 20 June (H. Schubothe). Harlequin Ducks may have tried to breed for a 2nd time in Coos when a female was seen far up the S.F. of the Coquille River near Powers the first week of July- the same area they bred the first time (J. Lowe). Two Barrow's Goldeneyes were found in Coos, one in Charleston from 20 December 2009 through 23 January 2010 (H. Schubothe et al.) and one on the east side of Coos Bay on 27 November (T. Rodenkirk). Curry had breeding Hooded Mergansers near Cape Blanco, perhaps a 1st county record (T. Wahl)?

Two spring Laysan Albatross were seen - one off Lane Co. from the M.S. Amsterdam cruise ship on 1 May (R. Merrill et al.) and one off Douglas Co. from a research ship on 4 May (R. Bancroft). Three Black-footed Albatross were a rare sight from land off Cape Arago, Coos on 26 April (M. Wihler). A SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS was well documented from a research ship off Douglas Co. on 5 May (M. Bancroft). The 1 May M.S. Amsterdam cruise ship found MURPHY'S PETRELS in ever south coast county- four in Curry, 12 in Coos, two in Douglas and two in Lane (R. Merrill et al.). The 12 May Star Princess cruise ship also found MURPHY'S PETRELS in a couple counties- two in Curry, 12 in Coos, and one in Lane (J. Gilligan, O. Schmidt et al.). The 27 September Golden Princess cruise ship had high totals of 120 Pink-footed Shearwater and 145 Buller's Shearwaters off Curry Co. (R. Armstrong et al.). There were two reports of Manx Shearwaters- one on 12 May from the Star Princess Cruise ship off Lane Co. (J. Gilligan et al.) and one seen from Cape Ferrelo in Curry Co. on 18 September (D. Munson). The peak number of Fork-tailed Storm-
petrels seen was 1000 off Coos Co. from the *Sapphire Princess* cruise ship on 21 September (J. Gilligan, O. Schmidt et al.). The peak number of Leach’s Storm-petrels was 201 on 1 May off Curry Co. from the *M.S. Amsterdam* cruise ship (R. Merrill et al.). Two rare storm-petrels were found off Coos Co. from the *Golden Princess* cruise ship on 27 September: an **ASHY STORM-PETREL** (*fide* R. Armstrong) and a **BLACK STORM-PETREL** (J. Meredith), the latter being a 1st record for Coos.

**American White Pelicans** were found in Coos Bay, Coos from 6-9 May (R. Namitz et al.), at Pony Slough in North Bend, Coos on 27 May (T. Rodenkirk), and at Port Orford on 23 November for only the 3rd Curry record (K. Andersson). Brown Pelicans made a record showing during the winter of 2009/2010 with a few birds still present when the first northbound individuals started to arrive in April. 500 to 700 Brown Pelicans were in Bandon on 11 January (D. Lauten, K. Castelein) with 60 still in Florence, Lane on 21 March (J. Sullivan).

The first Turkey Vultures appeared at Floras Lake, Curry on 16 January (T. Rodenkirk et al.) and at North Bend, Coos on 19 January (J. Heaney), the latter being the earliest “spring” date on record for Coos. Winter records for Turkey Vulture included one near Cape Blanco, Curry 22-23 December (T. Wahl), one on the Port Orford CBC near Floras Lake, Curry on 26 December (T. Rodenkirk), and two in the Coquille Valley, Coos on 30 December (E. Clough). A **Gyrfalcon** spent the winter of 2009/2010 in the New River bottoms area of Curry/Coos Co. (R. McKenzie) and another was reported near Florence, Lane on 14 March (D. Farrar). A **Prairie Falcon** was found overwintering again near Norway in the Coquille Valley from 2 January through at least 18 February, the 6th winter record for Coos (S. Finnegan, D. Irons et al.).

A **COMMON MOORHEN** was found at WPNSCB on 17 May, for a 1st Coos record (T. Rodenkirk et al.). Curry had its 3rd **Black-necked Stilt** on 18 September in Gold Beach (D. Cavaness et al.). An American Avocet was at WPNSCB on 13 October (T. Rodenkirk, B. Taylor). One of the fall highlights was Coos 2nd (Oregon’s fifth) **LESSER SAND-PLOVER** at Bandon Marsh NWR 19-21 September (R. Namitz et al., ph. D. Farrar). There was a Lesser Yellowlegs overwintering at Millcoma Marsh, Coos the winter of 2009/2010 and again in 2010/2011 (T. Rodenkirk). Coos had a possible overwintering Long-Billed Curlew (last reported 13 December); no birds have overwintered on Coos Bay since 2003 (R. Namitz, T. Rodenkirk et al.). Coos 4th **HUDSONIAN GODWIT** was reported from Pony Slough on 24 August (E. Rees).

Possibly the largest flock of Marbled Godwits (350) ever reported on the south coast was seen flying very low over the pastures near Floras Lake, Curry during a nasty storm on 26 April (T. Rodenkirk). Semipalmated Sandpipers made a good fall showing with 24 reports from all south coast counties from the July through September period, with the last report on 25 September at Bandon Marsh NWR, Coos- one of the latest ever for Oregon (A. Contreras, T. Gholson). The peak total for Baird’s Sandpipers was 38, in Douglas/Coos County from Winchester Bay to Tzenile Creek on 17 August (D. Farrar). There were two adult Pectoral Sandpipers seen this fall, one on 20 July at the Siltcoos estuary, Lane (D. Farrar) and one at the WPNSCB on 21 July (T. Rodenkirk)- almost all Pectorals usually seen are juveniles. There were two juvie **Sharp-tailed Sandpipers** seen this fall, both from Bandon Marsh NWR, Coos- the first juvie was seen quite early on 31 August (K. Castelein) and the second was observed on 21 September, a more typical date for this species (D. Pettey). There was one **Stilt Sandpiper** at Bandon Marsh NWR, Coos on 10 September (T. Rodenkirk).

There were two reports of **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**, one at WPNSCB on 11 September (T. Rodenkirk) and one in Lane at Florence on 12 September (A. & D. Heyerly). There was one **Ruff** briefly seen and photographed in Bandon, Coos along the south jetty on 1 September (*fide* M. Marsh). Due to heavy spring rains and high water levels, Wilson’s Phalaropes did not breed at WPNSCB this year (T. Rodenkirk) although there were a couple spring migrants- three at WPNSCB on 15 May (T. Rodenkirk) and five at the same location on 19 May (R. Namitz, J. Metzier, T. Rodenkirk). Fall migrants are much rarer and there were two records both at WPNSCB- one juvie from 5-7 August (R. Namitz, T. Rodenkirk) and another on 20 August, the latter record is the latest fall date for Coos (T. Rodenkirk). Sabine’s Gulls are normally rarely seen from land so seven records from all four south coast counties in September and October was unusual.

Curry’s 7th **Franklin’s Gull** was photographed off Lone Ranch Wayside on 25 November (D. Munson). With the huge numbers of Brown Pelicans still around in January it was no surprise a few Heermann’s Gulls lingered also, the latest report was one off Kloochehm Wayside, Lane on 17 January (A. Contreras). There were only two reports of Glaucous Gull during the winter of 2009/2010, normally there are a few more. The Glaucous Gull seen on 28 November in Charleston was a new earliest fall date for Coos (T. Rodenkirk). Common Terns, uncommon on the south coast, were reported from eight different locations with the high total being 19 from WPNSCB on 19 September (R. Namitz, T. Rodenkirk). All Arctic Terns reported were from offshore with the high total being 192 off Curry from the *Golden Princess* cruise ship on 27 September (R. & N. Armstrong). There was only a single report of South Polar Skua, nine birds from the *Golden Princess* cruise ship off Curry on 27 September (R. & N. Armstrong). Seven Parasitic Jaegers and one Pomarine Jaeger were seen from shore at the WPNSCB on 19 September (R. Namitz, T. Rodenkirk).

Ancient Murrelets made a good showing along the south coast in the fall with 11 records from all four counties.
PARAKEET AUKLETS were reported in two different counties from the 12 May Star Princess cruise ship, two off Curry (2nd record) and one of Coos for its 1st record (J. Gilligan, O. Schmidt). There was one Horned Puffin reported, a single bird seen just offshore Bandon, Coos on 12 July (S. & A. Liston).

Eurasian Collared-doves continued to increase with high or record numbers on all CBCs. Lane’s 3rd WHITE-WINGED DOVE was reported from Baker Beach Marsh on 1 March (B. & Z. Stotz). A rare Long-eared Owl was heard from near Bear Camp, Siskiyou NF, Curry on 13 November (R. Namitz). Lane’s 1st coastal Common Poorwill was well documented at the Fred Meyer’s in Florence on 14 October (D. Pettey), there are also single coastal records from Coos and Curry Counties. Migrating Black Swift numbers peaked on 26 May with 75+ birds at WPNSCB (R. Namitz, B. Taylor). There was only one fall report, a single bird seen in Bandon on 18 September—only the 3rd fall record for Coos (R. Namitz).

Calliope Hummingbirds appear to be a regular migrant in the Eden Valley area of the Siskiyou NF, Coos—peak numbers this spring were on 24-25 April when up to seven males were seen displaying (T. Rodenkirk). Coos 1st Acorn Woodpecker in over 20 years was on the south slope of Mt. Bolivar, Coos in the far SE corner of the county on 25 April, this species has been extirpated as a breeder in Coos (T. Rodenkirk).

Curry’s 1st EASTERN PHOEBE was on a private ranch near Cape Blanco from 25 May-2 June (T. Wahl et al.). At least three Say’s Phoebes overwintered in Curry Co. during the winter of 2009/2010 and again in 2010/2011 (T. Wahl, K. Andersson et al.). One overwintered in the Coquille Valley, Coos in 2010/2011 for only the 3rd Coos overwintering record (T. Rodenkirk). Curry’s 5th Gray Flycatcher was found up the Elk River on 9 May (J. & C. Rogers). Three Ash-throated Flycatchers were found, one in the Brookings, Curry on 26 May and another on 27 May (both D. Munson) and one on the north spit of Coos Bay, Coos on 15 August (L. Miller). A late Western Flycatcher was seen but not heard on the east side of Coos Bay, Coos on 6 November (T. Rodenkirk). Another Western Flycatcher found the same time of year in Curry in 2007 was recorded and its sonogram was found to be more closely associated with Cordilleran than Pacific-slope Flycatcher (A. McCallum & T. Wahl). There were six reports of Tropical Kingbird, three in Curry and three in Coos with the max number of four at Cape Blanco on 18 October (T. Wahl).

A rare oversummering Loggerhead Shrike was at Siltcoos, Lane from 22 July through at least 20 August (D. Farrar et al.). Western Scrub-jays irrupted into unusual coastal locations in many spots in northern Curry and Coos County in September and October. Three Horned Larks were found: one near Cape Blanco, Curry on 20 October (T. Wahl), another on the north spit of Coos Bay, Coos on 6 November (T. Rodenkirk), and six on the Port Orford CBC on 26 December (T. Wahl, D. Ledig, T. Rodenkirk).

Tree Swallows (25+) began showing up in the Coquille Valley, Coos on 19 December and were around into January of 2011, this is a first for large numbers of Tree Swallows so early in Coos (T. Rodenkirk). Three Bank Swallows were reported during spring migration away from their only known breeding location on the south coast up the Rogue River, Curry: one on 14 May at New River, Coos (T. Rodenkirk), one 22 May near Langlois, Curry (K. Andersson), and one 30 May at WPNSCB (T. Rodenkirk).

Mountain Chickadees were found in coastal Brookings, Curry on 19 October and coming to a feeder in North Bend, Coos from 2-13 November (A. McMann, B. Taylor et al.). A Rock Wren was found in the Port Orford, Curry harbor on 22 May (K. Andersson).

Coos’s 1st (Oregon’s fifth) NORTHERN WHEATEAR was on the Coquille Spit, Bandon, Coos from 24-26 September (T. Rodenkirk et al.). A Mountain Bluebird was near Cape Blanco, Curry on the late date of 1 June (T. Wahl, K. Andersson). There were at least eight Northern Mockingbird reports, all from Coos/Curry except one bird that spent the winter of 2010/2011 in Florence, Lane (K. Larsen, R. Hoyer et al.). On 14 November approximately 1,000 Varied Thrush were seen on the road from Agness to Gold Beach, Curry from the period of 45 minutes before sunrise to sunrise. The bird numbers were estimated by counting numbers on several one mile stretches of this 35 mile route.

Sage Thrashers are rare on the coast and so three reports was amazing: Coos’s 5th 26 May at the WPNSCB (T. Rodenkirk et al.), Coos’s 6th at Bethel.

Common Poor-will at Florence Fred Meyer store. Photo by Diane Pettey.
One of the three Northern Parulas at a feeder in Coos Bay. Photo by J. Randolph.

Indigo Bunting at Bandon. Photo by Manfred Welsch.

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A Ross's Goose was with a flock of Cackling Geese at Parklane City Park in east Portland on October 13th (L. Redmond). One was at Delta Park on December 12th (D. Mandell). A Brant was in Beaverton on January 21st (J. Young) and at Fernhill Wetlands February 5th (S. Nord).

A Canvasback was at Force Lake in N. Portland on August 1st, an unusual summer record for the Willamette Valley (A. Frank). A Tufted Duck graced the huge rafts of scaup along the Columbia River in north Portland from late November through December (m.o.b.). The first fall report of a Surf Scoter was one in West Linn on September 4th (S. Jaggers). Quite a few showed up later in the fall at Hagg Lake, Hayden Island, and the Willamette River in North Portland. Up to six White-winged Scoters were at Hagg Lake on October 24th to 26th. One was at Fernhill Wetlands on October 24th (F. Ryan). A flock of up to 10 were seen on the Columbia River at Hayden Island from November 19th until at least December 4th (D. Helzer, m.o.b.). One was seen at Hagg Lake on November 24th (G. Gillson). Yet another White-winged Scoter was seen along the Columbia River east of the I-5 Bridge on November 29th (L. Norgren).

Two Long-tailed Ducks were at Hagg Lake from October 23rd to 26th (S. Schlick, R. Wilkins, G. Gillson, J. Blowers), one was a Hagg Lake November 24th (G. Gillson), a female was at Hayden Island on November 21st (A. Clausing, A. Frank), and J. Johnson saw one on Smith Lake in N. Portland on November 28th. A female Red-breasted Merganser remained at Fernhill Wetlands from November 15th until at least mid-December (G. Gillson, m.o.b.). Another Red-breasted Merganser was at Hayden Island on November 23rd (C. & A. Hinkle), and one was on the Columbia River in Columbia County on November 28th (D. Coggswell). A pair of Red-necked Grebes were at Hagg Lake from October 23rd to 26th (S. Schlick, R. Wilkins, G. Gillson, J. Blowers), one was a Hagg Lake November 24th (G. Gillson), a female was at Hayden Island on November 21st (A. Clausing, A. Frank), and J. Johnson saw one on Smith Lake in N. Portland on November 28th. A female Red-breasted Merganser remained at Fernhill Wetlands from November 15th until at least mid-December (G. Gillson, m.o.b.). Another Red-breasted Merganser was at Hayden Island on November 23rd (C. & A. Hinkle), and one was on the Columbia River in Columbia County on November 28th (D. Coggswell). A pair of

Red-necked Grebe. Photo by Barbara Scoles.

Gray Flycatcher, Mt. Tabor. Photo by Paul Buescher.

Harlequin Ducks was seen sporadically in May and from October to December at the mouth of Eagle Creek, the only regular location for this species in Multnomah County (m.ob).

A Clark’s Grebe was on Sturgeon Lake, Multnomah County, on May 8th (W. Gross, J. Fitchen). Two were at Fernhill Wetlands from the middle of June into early July. One was at Hayden Island on December 3rd (S. Finnegan) with what remained of the flock of 76 Western Grebes that had been there in early November.

American White Pelicans continue to increase as post-breeding dispersals. Over three hundred birds inhabited Sauvie Island and Smith and Bybee Lakes in August and September. Up to 26 birds alternated between Fernhill Wetlands and Jackson Bottoms. The latest sighting came from Smith Lake on November 26th (J. Johnson).

An immature Broad-winged Hawk was seen soaring over Mt. Tabor on September 28th (T. McNamara). An adult Golden Eagle flew over Oaks Bottom on February 21st (C. and A. Hinkle). In late January a Prairie Falcon was seen along Oak Island Road on Sauvie Island (J. Fitchen), and in December one returned to Harrington Rd. north of Forest Grove for the fourth consecutive winter (L. Norgren).

A Black-necked Stilt graced Oaks Bottom on April 27th (L. Leavens). Roughly twenty Solitary Sandpipers, including a flock of eight, were seen along the lower Columbia Slough on August 18th (D. Helzer). This is an unusually large concentration for Oregon. A remarkable 130+ Lesser Yellowlegs at Coon Point on August 21st may represent the largest flock ever for Oregon (A. and C. Hinkle, M. Scattaregia). A pair of Ruddy Turnstones was along the Columbia River just east of the mouth of the Sandy River on May 9th (S. Muller). Two Black Turnstones were at Fernhill Wetlands on May 3rd (L. Norgren). A Sanderling was on the north end of Sturgeon Lake on August 19th (P. Sullivan); one was at Broughton Beach on September 5th (J. Notis). A total of at least nine Semipalmated Sandpipers were reported this fall from Sauvie Island, Fernhill Wetlands, N. Portland, Jackson Bottoms, and Oaks Bottom. A juvenile Stilt Sandpiper was at Coon Point on August 21st (A. and C. Hinkle). Wilson’s Phalaropes were reported from Fernhill Wetlands, Jackson Bottoms, and Sauvie Island in the fall. Up to two Franklin’s Gulls were at Coon Point from August 19th to 22nd, and one was at “The Wash” on the north side of Sauvie Island on September 10th (W. Gross).

Two Common Terns were seen at Willamette Park just south of downtown Portland on August 7th (F. Ryan). Three were at Fernhill Wetlands from September 6th to 8th (S. Halpren). D. Manzer spotted a Forster’s Tern at Jackson Bottoms on May 14th.

A Parasitic Jaeger was spotted flying west down the Columbia River at Hayden Island on November 20th, a late date for an inland bird (D. Irons, S. Finnegan). Eurasian Collared Doves continue to increase, especially at Sauvie Island where they are now common. A COMMON GROUND-DOVE was found along Gillihan Road on the south end of Sauvie Island on October 31st (D. Mandell). The bird was very difficult to see, and was relocated only a couple more times. It was last seen on November 28th. If accepted by the OBRC, it will be the 2nd Oregon record.

A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was heard calling at Sandy River Delta on July 25th (G. Canterbury). This is around the same time that one was there last year.

A Common Poorwill was flushed at the top of Mt. Tabor on September 22nd (A. & C. Hinkle, M. Scattaregia). It was re-found and photographed that afternoon but subsequently disappeared. A probable poorwill was flushed in a SW Portland yard on October 2nd, but the observer glimpsed a few field marks suggestive of Whip-poor-will (J. Withgott).

A late Rufous Hummingbird was at a SW Portland feeder on November 16th (J. Rakestraw).

A Lewis’s Woodpecker was observed in NW Portland on May 18th (G. Creager), and S. Reams photographed one at Sandy River Delta on May 12th. Two were seen at Tualatin River NWR between September 14th and 20th (C. Corkran). It was a banner year for Acorn Woodpeckers away from their typical Washington County haunts. One was on the east side of Sauvie Island just south of the county line on May 29th (D. Mandell). One or two were at Oaks Bottom from September 23rd to October 4th (C. & A. Hinkle, m.ob.). Two were at Oak Island, Columbia County, during the last week of September (P. Sullivan). One appeared in the Kaiser parking lot in Clackamas on October 30th (C. & A. Hinkle). Two were readily found at West Delta Park in N. Portland from December 3rd through the end of the period (J. Dillon, D. Leal, m.cb.).

Spring migration brought exceptional numbers of unusual flycatchers to the area. A Gray Flycatcher was at Mt. Tabor on May 8th (A. & C. Hinkle), and one was seen on the west bank of Sandy River Delta the same day (W. Gross &

Common Poorwill. Photo by Diane Byrne.
Say’s Phoebe. Photo by Randy Stafford. Randy was one of Oregon’s finest bird photographers. He died in March, 2011.

J. Fitchen). One was at Mt. Tabor from May 18th to 25th (T. McNamara, m.ob.). One appeared atop Larch Mountain on June 27th. Yet another showed up in early September on the bluff above Oaks Bottom (L. Leavens). Among numerous spring Dusky Flycatcher sightings were five at Mt. Tabor on May 12th. Black Phoebes continue their northward expansion. On June 27th one showed up at Tualatin River NWR (M. Reese). Another was near Wapato Jail, NE Portland, on August 22nd (A. & C. Hinkle); later that week a pair visited the Columbia Slough Sewage Treatment Ponds in NE Portland (J. Notis). S. Schlick found one at Emma Jones Nature Park that stayed from September 2nd to October 6th. An Ash-throated Flycatcher was just south of the county line on Sauvie Island off Reeder Road on May 29th (A. Frank); another was at Tualatin River NWR on June 18th (S. Carpenter).

A highlight for the Portland CBC on January 2nd, a Black-billed Magpie near the Columbia Slough Sewage Treatment Plant, remained in the area for at least a week. A Tree Swallow, probably an early migrant, appeared at Smith and Bybee Lakes on December 31st (J. Notis). The Rock Wren that unexpectedly appeared atop Mt. Tabor on May 18th lingered until the 25th (J. Williamson, m.ob.).

D. Mandell found a Veery near Reeder Road just south of the county line on Sauvie Island on May 29th. Others relocated it the next day. J. Hayes saw a late Swainson’s Thrush at Smith and Bybee Lakes on November 5th. Two singing Wrentits were found on the west bank of Sandy River Delta on March 14th (D. Mandell). This is a first record for Multnomah County. Many observers saw and heard them into July before reports dropped off, but as of February 2011 at least one is still present.

Two Northern Parulas graced Pittock Mansion on September 12th, with one lingering until September 17th (B. Seymour, S. Seymour, W. Gross, m.ob). A Palm Warbler showed up in a yard adjacent to Reed Canyon in SE Portland on December 18-19 (A. Clausing). J. Deshler found a singing male Hooded Warbler in Forest Park, Multnomah County, on June 1st. A Yellow-throated Warbler was seen in a SW Portland yard on December 30th (H. Fyfield).

An American Tree Sparrow was found on Sauvie Island, Multnomah County, on January 16th (A. & C. Hinkle). One was photographed at Fernhill Wetlands on October 19th and 20th (G. Gillson, S. Halpern). J. Notis photographed a Clay-colored Sparrow at Hayden Island on November 27th. Several Vesper Sparrows, not annual this far north in the Willamette Valley, were reported. One was at Fernhill Wetlands on May 11th (J. Plissner), and G. Gillson photographed a juvenile at Jackson Bottoms on July 13th. A juvenile was at Oak Island, Multnomah County, on August 21st (A. & C. Hinkle). S. Carpenter saw one at Fernhill Wetlands on September 2nd.

A Rose-breasted Grosbeak came to a feeder in Scappoose on February 2nd (C. Hallet). More surprising was a Blue Grosbeak at Fernhill Wetlands on May 31st (K. Kilduff, S. Shane). A Bobolink lingered at the end of Rentenaar Road, Columbia County from to December 8th to 27th (L. Redmond, m.ob.)

E. Knight photographed a county-first Great-tailed Grackle at Tualatin River NWR on May 29th. A report of a male LAWRENCE’S GOLDFINCH came from Mt. Talbert, Clackamas County, on May 16th (M. Alexander). The wintering male Hooded Oriole continued to visit the hummingbird feeder in Gaston, Washington County, into April.

Birder Quiz: Identify the Authors

1. Adrian Hinkle
2. Christopher Hinkle
3. Hinkle, sp.

1. Christopher Hinkle
2. Adrian Hinkle
3. Hinkle, sp.
The "deep freeze" in December 2009 produced a duck shortage in Marion and Yamhill Counties for the rest of the winter. Despite this, one Eurasian Wigeon (Matthew Schneider, Elizabeth Schneider, Roger Freeman, Dave Swanson) was found on the Silverton (Marion) CBC on 2 Jan 2010, and another was found 11 Mar 2010 (Carol Karlen) at Mountainview Dr (Yamhill). In the following winter, a Eurasian Wigeon was seen in Silverton (Marion) on 31 Dec 2010 (Joe Start).

Marion ducks of interest include a summer Blue-winged Teal pair (M. Schneider), a Canvasback on 22 Jun 2010 (M. Schneider, Jeremy Breeze) all on the Mt. Angel Sewage Ponds, and a single Blue-winged Teal (Barbara Dowlan, Tim Johnson) at Minto-Brown Park on 8 Sep 2010 (Marion). Four or five Redhead (C. Karlen, Paul Sullivan) showed up on 9 & 10 Oct 2010 at Sheridan Wetlands Pk (Yamhill). Sea ducks brought inland by strong winds appeared there; two Surf Scoters noted 29 Oct 2010 (Quinton Nice) remained on 30 Oct 2010, along with a White-winged Scoter (C. Karlen, P. Sullivan).

A Common Loon was on McGuire Reservoir (Yamhill) 14 May 2010 (Paul & Sandy Stephens). The Common Loon found at Staats Lake in Salem (Marion) on 18 Sep 2010 (B. Dowlan) stayed over a month. A summer Double-crested Cormorant (Lars Norgren) was at the Aumsville Sewage Ponds (Marion) on 8 Jun 2010. The Oregon Garden (Silverton, Marion) Green Heron (E. Schneider, M. Schneider) spent a third winter there.

A late Solitary Sandpiper (Alan Contreras, Tristen Gholsen) was at Ankeny NWR (Marion) on 16 May 2010, an American Avocet (C. Karlen, P. Sullivan) appeared at Detroit Flats (Marion) on 30 Jul 2010, and a second county record Buff-breasted Sandpiper (B. Dowlan, Roy Gerig) was at Ankeny NWR on 9 Sep 2010. A juvenile Common Tern (Shawnee Finnegan, Erik Knight) was found on 30 Aug 2010 at Ankeny NWR. Strong winds brought a record Parasitic Jaeger (C. Karlen, P. Sullivan) to Sheridan Wetlands Pk (Yamhill) on 18 Sep 2010.

One young Turkey Vulture was observed at a nest on Chehalem Mtn (Yamhill) before fledging in the week of 8 Aug 2010 (Don Albright). Less common were raptors reported from Yamhill Co. Between 24 Sep 2010 and 25 Oct 2010 a White-tailed Kite pair was observed (C. Karlen, P. Sullivan, Don Nelson) with 4, later 3, fledglings at a nest visible from Orchard St, Sheridan. A Northern Goshawk (C. Karlen, P. Sullivan) appeared at Orchard View Rd 6 Feb 2010, and a Prairie Falcon on Flett Rd 18 Dec 2010 (D. Albright).

A pair of Common Nighthawks (R. Gerig, Crystal Reynolds) displayed on 13 Jun 2010 over a gravel bar at Keizer Rapids St Pk (Marion). A Calliope Hummingbird was seen on Mountainview Dr. (Yamhill), 10 Mar 2010 (L. Norgren), and two were near Silverton (Marion) on the second week of May (M. Schneider, E. Schneider, J. Thomas, P. Reid).

A Costa’s Hummingbird came to a feeder in McMinnville (Yamhill), 12 May 2010 (C. Karlen, P. Sullivan). As many as 3 Lewis’s Woodpeckers wintered at West Side Rd (Yamhill), detected 1 Jan 2010.
(Pamela Johnston, m. obs.), last seen 27 Mar 2010. Two were at Neck Rd starting 8 Nov 2010 (D. Albright, m. obs.). In Marion Co, a Lewis’s Woodpecker (J. Start, Marty Gabe) was in the Silverton Hills for most of September.

A Gray Flycatcher (Steve Shunk) was at Silver Falls St Pk (Marion) on 8 May 2010. A suspected breeding pair of Black Phoebes (R. Gerig, m. obs.) spent most of the year at Ankeny NWR, and single Black Phoebe (M. Schneider, E. Schneider, J. Thomas, Wes Craven) was at Torvend Rd Pond (Marion). A male Red-eyed Vireo (P. Johnston) sang at Willamette Mission State Pk (Marion) on 21 Jul 2010. A Townsend’s Solitaire (M. Schneider) was at Silverton (Marion) on 7 Apr 2010. One Wrentit was seen on Spirit Mtn Rd (Yamhill) 07 Mar 2010 (Carol Karlen and Paul Sullivan), and a pair on 4 Dec 2010 nearby in Grande Ronde (Linda Fink).

Making a great leap, Marion County’s second Wrentit was found at Minto Brown Park on 18 Sep 2010 (B. Dowlan, T. Johnson, Kathy Patterson). It remained through the end of the year, joined by another in mid-December. A Magnolia Warbler (J. Matthews, C. Karlen, P. Sullivan) found at Detroit Flats on 23 Jul 2010 was Marion County’s second record, staying for about a month. On 23 May 2010, a Lark Sparrow (R. Gerig) was discovered at Ankeny NWR (Marion).

Matthew Schneider


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The Airlie (Polk) Trumpeter Swan flock peaked at 43 including 10 immatures in January and were last seen Feb. 26th (J. Geier). The following winter’s high was 45 with only about 6 immatures. An impressive 5 Surf Scoters were at the Philomath STP on Oct 24th ((D. Robinson). Single birds were seen Nov. 6th & 7th (R. Armstrong) at Elliot and Philomath sewage ponds (Benton). 62 Barrow’s Goldeneyes were tallied at Cascade lakes in the McKenzie River drainage on Sept. 19th (M. Nikas). Benton County’s 6th and 7th Red-breasted Mergansers were reported from Thornton Lake on Oct. 25th (T. Gholson) and from the Philomath sewage ponds on Oct. 28th (D. Robinson).

A Red-throated Loon seen Nov. 28th (D. Robinson) from a private pond south of Corvallis (Benton) was the 3rd county record. American White Pelicans first showed up at Finley NWR (Benton) on April 28th (M. Monroe) and continued through at least Sept. 22nd. Numbers peaked at 25. A rare inland Brown Pelican flew over the OSU campus in Corvallis (Benton) on Nov. 22nd (D. Roby). A Black-crowned Night-Heron was seen Aug. 20th (N. Richardson) at Finley NWR (Benton).

A locally rare Ferruginous Hawk was spotted near Independence (Polk) on Aug. 29th (A. Wagner). A Gyrfalcon was seen west of Tangent (Linn) on Dec. 14th (J. Fleischer). There were 9 reports of Prairie Falcons from the 2 winter seasons. Benton County had 1 at Ryals Rd. on Jan. 2nd (J. Geier) and the rest were from throughout Linn County as is normal.

There was 1 spring sighting of Pacific Golden-Plover at WL Finley NWR (Benton) on May 4th (G. Andrews, P. Vanderheul) and 1 fall sighting at Diamond Hill Rd. wetlands (Linn) on Oct. 24th (L. Norgren). A Black-necked Stilt showed up May 17th (Doug Robinson) at a private pond near Finley NWR (Benton). Another stopped by in the fall at Beta Ponds, 5 of Albany (Linn) on Aug 24th (J. Fleischer) and stayed 3 days. 2 American Avocet were seen at the Diamond Hill Rd., wetlands (Linn) on May 9th and continued through the 15th (M. Nikas).

Solitary Sandpipers made a good spring showing in the region with 10 reports between April 17th and May 13th. A Whimbrel was seen off McFarland Rd. (Benton) on May 3rd (D. Robinson). A Long-billed Curlew was at Basket Slough NWR (Polk) on May 18th (D. Faxon) and 2 showed up in the fall at the Diamond Hill Rd. wetlands (Linn) on Sept. 4th (R. Adney). Baird’s Sandpipers made a good showing at the few spots in the region with suitable habitat. The first was reported on Aug. 15th and the last on Sept. 29th. A total of 9 birds were seen, mostly singletons. 2 Ruffs were exceptional spring sightings. A female was found at Basket Slough NWR (Polk) on May 16th (A. Contreras, T. Gholson). The 2nd sighting came the next day from a private pond south of Corvallis (D. Robinson). Small numbers of Red Phalaropes were blown inland after 2 fall storms. 1 or 2 were seen at the Philomath sewage ponds (Benton) on Oct. 25th through the 28th (D. Robinson). One was there again on Nov. 14th (D. Robinson) while another was at Basket Slough NWR (Polk) on Nov. 17th (A. Wagner).

On Jan. 21st Benton County’s 4th Glaucous Gull was found at Toketie Marsh, the same general area as the previous 3 (J. Geier). A Caspian Tern was seen at Bryant Park, Albany (Linn) on Sept. 11th (T. Gholson). There are only about 10 county records, most from the Willamette River like this one. Small numbers of Black Terns passed through Finley NWR (Benton) and the Philomath sewage ponds (Benton) on May 16th & 17th (S Pepin, D. Robinson). Several were back on the 17th (J. Fleischer) at Doerfler’s Pond near Tangent (Linn), an historic breeding site. Benton County’s 2nd
and 3rd records for Common Tern occurred this fall just a day apart. 2 were seen at Stewart Lake on Sept. 17th (J. Simmons) and 2 were seen at the Philomath sewage ponds on the 18th (T. Gholson). Benton County’s 2nd and 3rd records for Parasitic Jaeger both came from the Philomath sewage ponds on Oct. 9th (R. Armstrong) and Oct. 27th (D. Robinson).

For the first time in many years no Burrowing Owls were found in Linn County nor elsewhere in the region. A very rarely reported west side Common Poorwill was found at WL Finley NWR (Benton) on Oct 23rd (D. Robinson). Calliope Hummingbirds appeared at numerous feeders in the spring continuing the trend of recent years. 13 were reported between Apr 15th and May 22nd (m. ob.). A Rufous Hummingbird showed up at Jeff Harding’s feeders east of Lebanon (Linn) on Oct. 31st and stayed to the remarkably late date of Nov. 20th.

The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker wintering at EE Wilson SWA (Benton) was last seen on Mar. 2nd (m. ob.). The bird returned the following winter to the same site and was first seen on Nov. 10th (J. Geier).

Two Loggerhead Shrikes were seen in Linn County in the spring. One was off McLagan Rd. on Mar. 6th (R. Campbell) and a very late one was off Belts Rd. on May 9th (M. Nikas). At least 9 Northern Shrikes were reported in the region from the beginning of the year with a late individual spotted on Belts Rd. (Linn) April 18th (M. Nikas). The first fall bird was reported Oct. 31st at the Philomath sewage ponds (W. Wright). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Peoria (Linn) on Jul 15th was only the 3rd county record and a nice yard bird for Randy Campbell.

A rare west side Mountain Bluebird was at WL Finley NWR (Benton) on Sept. 29th (D. Robinson). WL Finley NWR also hosted 3 Northern Mockingbirds this year. One was seen May 16th to the 26th (S Pepin) on the east side of the refuge while another showed up miles away on the west side on June 14th (T. Nelson). The third bird was a fall visitor dropping in on Nov. 16th (B. Proebsting). A Sage Thrasher Apr. 11th (J. Rivers) on the OSU campus (Benton) was a county first and one spotted in the Belts Rd. grasslands on May 19th (T. Snetsinger) was only the third for Linn County and the first in over 40 years. A young female GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER was seen at Irish Bend (Benton) on Sept. 19th (D. Robinson). This would be the 3rd state record.

A Snow Bunting was atop Mary’s Peak (Benton) on Nov. 14th (A. Bluegray). A Clay-colored Sparrow was seen at EE Wilson SWA (Benton) on Jan 17th (R. Namitz). A Lark Sparrow was seen off Peoria Rd. (Linn) on May 8th (M. Dossett). The last of several wintering Swamp Sparrows at EE Wilson SWA (Benton) were reported Mar. 13th and the first to return there were seen on Oct. 25th (J. Geier). A surprising “gray-headed” Junco was found on the Thackaberry farm east of Lebanon (Linn) on Oct. 11th. Only one Gray-crowned Rosy Finch was reported from Mary’s Peak (Benton) this year, on Nov. 11th (A. Farrand).
The adult male **Tufted Duck** returned for the fifth spring to the Fisher Butte unit of Fern Ridge Reservoir on 27 March (D. Schrouder). It was last seen on 17 April (A. & T. Mickel). A Horned Grebe was found at Fern Ridge Reservoir on 2 May (N. Nielsen-Pincus) where they're rarely found. Additional reports of Horned Grebes from the reservoir include two on 18 September and one on 31 October (J. Sullivan). There are only a handful of reports of Red-necked Grebes from Fern Ridge Reservoir over the years and this year produced two additional reports – two birds on 18 September (D. Irons) and one bird on 3 October (E. Schultz).

A Black-crowned Night-Heron was observed flying over a Ferry St. Bridge neighborhood on 18 April (L. McQueen) for a rare breeding season record. Another interesting sighting from the Ferry St. Bridge area of Eugene was a flock of thirty White-faced Ibis flying southeast over Coburg Rd. in the area of Sheldon Plaza (A. Prigge). Are the wintering Turkey Vultures of the Fern Ridge Reservoir area of Lane County starting to move south into the Lorane Valley or was the bird found on 15 November (D. Gleason) just a late migrant? The first report ever of a Red-shouldered Hawk from the Mohawk Valley was on 11 February (L. Mello).

There are a little over a dozen records of Swainson's Hawk from the Willamette Valley of Lane County during the last week and a half of April though the first week of May. The one seen in southeast Eugene on 15 April (D. DeWitt) is a little earlier than normal. The third winter record of **Ferruginous Hawk** for Lane County was found on 10 January (S. & S. Gordon) at Checkermallow Overlook of the West Eugene Wetlands. The sixth record of **Gyrfalcon** for Lane County comes from Green Island on 27 December (R. Robb).

Sora isn't commonly reported from the high Cascades, but one was found on 23 August at Gold Lake (A. & T. Mickel) while the observers were kayaking along the bog. Another species that isn't commonly reported from the high Cascades is Sandhill Crane, even though they nest in small numbers in the marshes and bogs. One was found at Waldo Lake on 27 August (K. Castelein & D. Lauten). Nine Sandhill Cranes were in the Mt. Pisgah/Cloverdale road area on 17 November (L. McQueen, et. al.) and a flock of thirty-nine were flying low over the McKenzie River near Sacred Heart Hospital at River Bend on 22 November (J. Happy). Are these late migrants or are they attempting to winter locally?

A Pacific Golden-Plover was found in the West Coyote Unit of Fern Ridge Reservoir on 2 September (T. Mickel), a rare inland record. Was the Lesser Yellowlegs found at Delta Ponds after a twenty-five year absence, a pair of Solitary Sandpipers appeared to be breeding at Gold Lake bog on 25 June (T. Mickel). They were still in the area and quite vocal on 4 July (A. & T. Mickel), but no nest or young were found. Photos by Tom Mickel.
on 23 March (S. Gordon) a very early migrant or a very rare wintering bird? A Sanderling, casual inland in Lane County, was found on 2 September in the East Coyote Unit at Fern Ridge Reservoir (T. Mickel). A species not often reported from the Cascades, a Semipalmated Sandpiper was found 12 August at Hills Creek Reservoir (B. Altman & J. Geier).

A Sabine's Gull was seen at Fern Ridge Reservoir from Perkins Peninsula on 22 September (B. Bender & J. Mundall) where there are fewer than ten records. The single bird had increased to three on 27 September (S. Maulding). An immature Black Tern was found on the late date of 17 September (D. Irons & J. Sullivan) at Fern Ridge Reservoir — this date is about a month after the nesting Black Terns had departed.

The first inland record of Arctic Tern for Lane County that I’m aware of was a single bird found with a flock of Common Terns at Fern Ridge Reservoir on 27 September (J. Dunn). Two Forster's Terns were seen at Fern Ridge Reservoir on 13 June (R. Robb) where they’re rare, but nearly annual.

Two different Parasitic Jaegers, one immature and one adult, were found at Fern Ridge Reservoir on 20 & 21 September (J. Sullivan) — what are the chances of seeing two different jaegers on consecutive days?

Eurasian Collared-Doves continued their expansion in Lane County with the first record in Oakridge on 19 April (C. Ferland). A Spotted Owl was heard and seen at the Cascade Raptor Center in the south hills of Eugene outside of their Spotted Owl enclosure on 29 July (L. Shimmel) for a very rare record within Eugene’s city limits, though not the first. A radioed bird spent most of its first winter in about the same area in the 1990’s. Another interesting owl sighting comes from residential north Eugene on 12 December (C. Thomas) when a Barred Owl was found in someone’s backyard. The owl wasn’t found the next day, so evidently it was just moving through. Thirty Common Nighthawks were found in the Crow area on 12 August (D. Irons) for the largest concentration I’ve heard of in the Willamette Valley of Lane County.

The first Calliope Hummingbird of their “invasion” into lowlands areas was found on 18 April at A. & D. Heyerly’s feeder in the Ferry St. Bridge area of Eugene. They were reported from at least ten feeders in the Eugene/Springfield area through the first week of May. A possible female Broad-tailed Hummingbird was photographed on April 30 (A. & D. Heyerly) at their feeder, but none of the photos showed the tail pattern for a conclusive identification. It would be a first Lane County record.

The last report of a Lewis’s Woodpecker, after they were found wintering in high numbers, was 25 April (J. Sullivan) at Royal Ave. in the Fern Ridge Reservoir area. Two Gray Flycatchers were found this spring (28 April & 5 May) in the Eugene/Springfield area (L. McQueen, et. al) for about the eleventh and twelfth records for the county.

Two January reports of Say’s Phoebe (2nd, J. Sullivan & L. Johnson & 17th, D. Irons & S. Finnegan) were quite early for this early migrant. A breeding season report of an Ash-throated Flycatcher on 11 June (N. Nielsen-Pincus) at Alton Baker Park in Eugene makes you wonder about breeding in the area.

A rare sighting of a Clark’s Nutcracker away from the high Cascades comes from the Coast Range near Deadwood on 8 January (D. Crannell). Two breeding season reports of Horned Larks were received this year. The first from the East Coyote Unit of Fern Ridge Reservoir on 3 June (C. Thomas), where there aren’t any records of breeding and the second from the area near the Eugene Airport on 18 July (D. Jones), where there is past breeding records.

A flock of ten Tree Swallows were seen on 2 January at Fern Ridge Reservoir (L. McQueen & D. Arendt) — no reports were received before or afterward until their normal spring arrival date. Two Mountain Chickadees made a rare lowland appearance in the River Road area of Eugene on 24 October (B. & K. Allison). A pair of White-breasted Nuthatch hatched three young in the River Road area of Eugene this summer (B. & K. Allison) for a rare breeding record away from oak habitat. On 23 April, a singing Canyon Wren was heard near the Oakridge airport (C. Ferland) — there are fewer than ten records for the county. A female Mountain Bluebird was found in the East Coyote Unit at Fern Ridge Reservoir on 4 April (A. & D. Heyerly) for an unusual valley record. Larger than normal numbers of Varied Thrush were reported from many Eugene/Springfield feeders during the last couple of months of the year (m. ob.).
A Tennessee Warbler was seen in southeast Eugene on 27 May (D. Gleason) – there are about a dozen records for the county. Singing Yellow-rumped Warblers were found in the south hills of Eugene in mid-June (T. Mickel). Their normal breeding range in Lane County is the high Cascades and in the lodgepole pine forests along the coast. In December there were two reports of Hermit Warblers in the county. The first was from east Eugene on the 20th (L. McQueen) and the second was from Cottage Grove on the 27th (M. Patterson). An unusual inland report of Palm Warbler comes from Alton Baker Park in Eugene on 24 October (J. Sullivan). A Black-and-White Warbler was found in the Ferry St. Bridge area of Eugene on 7 July (A. & D. Heyerly) for the ninth county record.

The fourth county record for American Redstart was photographed on 6 Nov (B. Green) in the Coburg Rd area of Eugene, where it remained for a couple of weeks. An American Tree Sparrow, not annual in the county; was found in the Royal Ave. area at Fern Ridge Reservoir on 10 Jan (A. & T. Mickel). A Clay-colored Sparrow was found with Chipping Sparrows on 1 October in the Ferry St. Bridge area of Eugene (A. & D. Heyerly) – there are about a dozen records for Lane County.

The only report of Vesper Sparrow during the breeding season comes from the Goshen area on 5 June (J. Sullivan & L. Johnson). I’m not sure why they’ve abandoned other breeding sites within the county. After two breeding season reports of Lark Sparrow during 2009, one was reported on 5 June (J. Carlson) at Delta Ponds in Eugene.

A female Rose-breasted Grosbeak was photographed at a Springfield feeder on 19 May (R. Van Camp). A singing male Indigo Bunting was found at Stewart Pond in west Eugene on 17 July (R. Sinnott) and last reported on 6 August (C. Kerst) – there are about a dozen records for the county.

The first record for RUSTY BLACKBIRD in the county was from near the Eugene Airport on 24 October (D. Irons & S. Finnegan).
The Emperor Goose shows up every few years in the Umpqua Valleys. On 23 January 2010, the ninth county record was found near Glide (M. Hamm). It stayed into April. Four Snow Geese were located on the ground in three separate flocks. On 2 December 2010, one immature seen on North Bank Rd. (R. Maertz). On 18 December 2010, two birds were found near Sutherlin (J. Arneson). Finally, one Snow Goose near Riddle on 28 December 2010 (T. Shelmerdine). All of these were slumming with flocks of Canada Geese. Along with the Snow Geese, Greater White-fronted Geese are most often seen as flocks of high squeaky flyovers. There were a few small flocks of the latter feeding on the ground. On 20 October 2010, sixteen were at Stewart Park (Roseburg) (D. Worsley). On 18 November 2010 a small group was seen at Wildlife Safari (Winston) (D. & E. Paulson).

Barrow’s Goldeneye is another bird not encountered in the lowlands every year. An out-of-place female was at Stewart Park on 3 November 2010 (R. Maertz & Keith Phifer). Lately, a mixed group of both Goldeneye have been seen along the North Umpqua River near Whistler’s Bend Park, most recently on the Christmas count 18 December 2010 (R. Maertz).

A White Pelican used to be nearly impossible to find in the county. However, the past three falls a few birds have made a brief appearance. One was at Ford’s Pond 15 September 2010 (K. Phifer). Three were found at Plat 1 (Sutherlin) on 26 October 2010 (R. Maertz).

A late Turkey Vulture was seen 18 November 2010 in Happy Valley (R. Maertz). Also, a late Osprey was seen 11 November 2010 at Wildlife Safari (D. & E. Paulson) and 14 December 2010 on the Umpqua River (J. Hein).

Sandhill Cranes have a narrow viewing window in early spring and fall. The width of their flight path over the county is also quite restricted. They are very hard to find on the ground, but when in flight their honking makes them relatively easy to spot. A nice flock of one hundred were seen floating overhead on 4 March 2010 in Myrtle Creek (A. Chamberlain). A Solitary Sandpiper was found on 11 September 2010 at Ford’s Pond (J. Hein). Gull numbers in the Umpqua Valleys are always low, so a Thayer’s Gull at Stewart Park on 15 December 2010 (D. & E. Paulson) was a treat.

Two Calliope Hummingbirds were seen from 28 April 2010 to 2 May 2010 on Cal Henry Road (M. Hunter). Another Calliope was seen 4 May 2010 (Meredith Jones) in Roseburg. There have been ten reports of Black-chinned Hummers in the county, but only two have been confirmed with photos. A male stayed for a couple of days near Glide on 8 May 2010 (R. Maertz). Two other birds seldom seen in the valleys were a Yellow-shafted Flicker near Glide on 6 November 2010 (M. Wilcox) and a Red-naped Sapsucker in Roseburg on 23 February 2010 (Ken & Keith Phifer).

The biggest birding event of 2010 was the huge influx of Lewis’ Woodpeckers. This event started in late fall of 2009 and continued into late April 2010. They were generally centered along N. Bank Rd. Many years you are lucky
to spot even one in the valleys. I have never seen anything close to this in the county in the thirty years I have been birding here. They did not return in fall 2010. A few Say’s Phoebes winter each year on the ranches but are hard to find. One seen on 20 November 2010 on N. Bank Rd. was rewarding (M. Wilcox).

A Blue Jay provided the fourth county record near Glendale 8 & 9 November 2010 (T. Blankenship). There was a slight influx of Mountain Chickadees in the valley. One in Glide (R. Maertz) for a couple of weeks during October. Another was a one-day wonder on 23 November 2010 near Tiller (J. Edmonds). The last one arrived 25 December 2010 in Roseburg (Mikeal Jones). Rock Wren are always hard to find every year, so the two on 16 April 2010 (Ken Phifer) at Toketee Dam was a good sighting.

In January, a small movement of Mountain Bluebirds must occur. Every Mountain Bluebird I’ve seen in the valleys has been in January, so a single male at Canyonville 28 January 2010 was pleasant. A Townsend’s Solitaire seen in the Coast Range near Loon Lake 23 March 2010 (T. Gholson) provides one of the few records for that area. The largest group of American Pipits was fifty at Ford’s Pond on 15 September 2010 (Keith Phifer).

The third and fourth wintering records for Black-throated Gray Warbler were found on 21 November 2010 at Ford’s Pond and 18 December 2010 at River Forks Park (Roseburg) (Keith Phifer). Nashville Warbler provided the first Roseburg Christmas Bird Count record on 18 December 2010 (V. Steves). A group of four Chipping Sparrows were found at Cleveland Rapids (Roseburg) 18 December 2010 (Keith Phifer). This was the ninth county winter record. Four male Tri-colored Blackbirds were found on 31 May 2010 at Ford’s Pond, where they likely breed (R. & J. Pollock). A RUSTY BLACKBIRD appeared near Tiller for a brief visit 3 November 2010 (J. Edmonds). This was the second county record. A late Brown-headed Cowbird was near Sutherlin on the Christmas Bird Count 18 December 2010 (D. & E. Paulson). One albino House Finch was in Roseburg from 7 July 2010 to 28 July 2010 (S. Troxel). Another one showed up five miles away from 19 August 2010 through 11 September 2010 (S. Queant). It was joined briefly by a second albino on 22 August 2010.

There have been eight reports of Oak Titmouse in the county, but the only one confirmed with photos was in the Tiller area starting 21 September 2010 (J. Edmonds). The group ranged from two to eleven, but mostly a dominant pair that drove out the others. Hopefully, the pair will be our first county breeders.

One late Black-headed Grosbeak was last seen in Roseburg on 15 October 2010 (Ken Phifer). Another male was seen off and on through December 2010 in Dillard (D. & C. Hennessy). Vesper Sparrow seems like it shouldn’t be so hard to find, but many of the regular birders miss it most years. Keith Phifer had one on 21 April 2010 in Roseburg.
These notes are for the calendar year 2010 and arranged in taxonomic order. They were gathered from the Rogue Valley Audubon listserve, Klamath-Siskiyou ebird and personal correspondence. For reference I used the pamphlet: *Birds of Jackson County Oregon: Distribution and Abundance* Third Ed. 2009 by the Jackson County Checklist Committee; published by Rogue Valley Audubon Society.

These field notes predominantly represent birds from Jackson Co. with a few from Josephine Co. (Josephine Co. observers are encouraged to contact me directly at fdlospelutto@gmail.com or to post to RV birds: http://groups.google.com/group/rv-birds?hl=en). I apologize for all omissions and errors.

Greater White-fronted Goose: spring migration flights were noted April 22/23 (FDL) and annual fall migration noted on Sept. 26 (DA).

Snow Goose: a few individuals spotted throughout the winter and fall. On Oct 3 two individuals were spotted with a flock of Greater White-fronted, Canada and Cackling Geese at Lost Creek Reservoir (JT). On Oct. 17 two Snow Geese were seen in Central Pt. with seventy-five Greater White-fronted Geese. (RB). On Oct 18 a lone Snow Goose was at Emigrant Lake (JB, FE). A late lone bird was in the Boise-Cascade pond on April 20(GS).

Tundra Swan: Six birds were on Agate Lake Nov. 27 (MR)

Trumpeter Swan: a pair of birds was reported in early January at Hammel Pond (NB).

Eurasian Wigeon: a few seen at the VA Domiciliary in White City during the winter and scattered singles on ponds throughout the valley. (LKW, GR)

Cinnamon Teal: four birds were seen April 7 on the weekly RVAS walk along Little Butte Cr. in Denman WMA. (DN)

Northern Pintail: one bird was reported from Ashland Pond on Jan.17 (JT) another single on Lost Creek Lake (RK) and a pair was on Emigrant Lake for the Ashland CBC (GR).

Canvasback: a high count of eighteen was reported from Mingus Pond on the Bear Creek Greenway in Central Pt. (LKW). Seven birds were on Mingus Pond Nov 28. (KT)

Redhead: one bird was on Ashland Pond on Jan 12 (JB) and on Dec. 3 two males on Lost Creek Reservoir (NB).

SURF SCOTER: Maggie Rackley found one male with two or three females on Oct 30 at Lost Cr. Lake. Other observers confirmed their presence the following day.

Long-tailed Duck: Jan.3 a single bird on Lost Cr. Lake (LWK)

HARLEQUIN DUCK: a lone female on the ‘Holy Waters’ below Lost Cr. dam on April15 found by Jim Livaudais.

Red-breasted Merganser: a single bird in the ‘Holy Waters’ below Lost Cr. Dam. on May 3. (LN)

Sooty Grouse: heard calling in Oregon Caves Nat. Monument on Feb21 and in the Cascade-Siskiyou Nat. Monument throughout April. (PT, FE, FDL).

Common Loon: on April 22 four birds on Lost Cr. Lake (JT) and on the return birds were seen at same location on Sept.21 (JT) and Oct.27 (GR).

Horned Grebe: three birds on April 15 at Denman WMA (BH) and in the fall two birds were seen on Lost Creek Lake Oct.5 (RB), four birds were seen there on Oct.27 (GR).

Eared Grebe: Seen in same locations as their Horned mates. One bird was at Emigrant Lake Oct. 27 (HF)

Clark’s Grebe: one bird at Agate Lake April 5 (GS, NB).

American Bittern: One bird at Ave G pond April 15 (BH) and vocalizing on April 22 (HS).

SNOWY EGRET: one bird at Ave G pond Aug.22 seen by Norm Barrett. On Aug. 29 Jim Hostick reported a lone bird at Agate Lake.

CATTLE EGRET: one found by Dennis Vroman in a field along Upper River Rd. outside Grants Pass in Jo. Co. on Nov 14. First well documented sighting in several decades. Last reported in early ‘80s on Grants Pass CBC (DV).

Black-crowned Night- Heron: on Aug 30 at Mingus Pond a lone bird (KT). Also two were on the Medford CBC.
EUROPEAN WHITE STORK: no April Fool, one bird meeting the description was seen in the vicinity of the Medford Airport on April 1 by Dianne Keller and David Knutson. There had been a bird in Montague, Ca. in fall 2009 seen by Stewart Janes among others. Descriptions of the Medford bird relayed to Stewart pointed to European White Stork migrating north. (JK)

Osprey: birds back at their nesting platforms at Whetstone Pond and Tou Velle on March 25 (GR) copulating pair observed at Denman April 5 (DA).

Northern Goshawk: a movement of accipters across the Siskiyou Crest on Aug 21 produced a probable female near Mt. Ashland. (PT).

Ferruginous Hawk: single birds on Nov. 3 in W. Medford (RB) and on Dec.7 near the Medford airport (HF).

Rough-legged Hawk: single birds seen at Howard Prairie on Feb 20 (FE, RH), one on Nov.17 along Dead Indian Memorial Highway and a bird on Dec. 20 along Emigrant Cr. Rd near Ashland (DA).

Merlin: a bird was in Ashland in Sept.15 (FE)

Prairie Falcon: a single bird at Agate Lake on Jan.27 (LKW) another single at Agate on Nov 14 (BH). And a single bird out by Emigrant Lake on Dec 5 (PT).

Sandhill Cranes: a flock of birds were heard over Emigrant Lake on Feb.22 (KM). Five birds were out at Howard Prairie (JK). Ten birds were out at Emigrant on Oct 13 (JB) and sixty-eight birds flew over Emigrant on Nov.18 during a KBO staff outing.

Black-bellied Plover: April 9 there was a single bird at Kirtland Ponds (BH) and on Oct. 10 at Agate Lake four birds were seen (JT).

Solitary Sandpiper: April 9 a lone bird in Eagle Pt. (BH) and a lone bird at Agate Lake on Sept.9 (JT).

Red-necked Phalarope: seven birds at Emigrant Lake on Aug. 28 (JB, SB).

Herring Gull: on Oct. 29 a lone bird at Emigrant Lake (HF).

Williamson’s Sapsucker: nesting birds on Conde Cr. Rd. May 30 (DA), a female was at Grouse Gap on July 13 (JT) and a lone male was seen on Dec. 12 near the top the Colestin Valley (DC). In the Illinois Valley of Josephine Co. Greg Bennett and Bill Gray found a male bird, a first record for Jo. Co (RC).

Red-naped Sapsucker: June 6 at Howard Prairie (BH).

White-throated Swift: one bird on Lower Table Rock July 14 (RB).

Barred Owl: a lone bird at Ashland Pond on Jan.27 (TP) and a bird in East Medford Dec.24 (AK).

Sanderling: a lone bird at Emigrant Lake on July 29 (BH) and one on Sept. 8 (DN).

Semi-palmed Sandpiper: a lone bird at Agate Lake on Aug. 30 and Sept.9 (GR, DA, JT).

Baird’s Sandpiper: at the south end of Emigrant Lake a single on Aug.27 (DA).

Pectoral Sandpiper: a lone bird on Sept.9 at Agate Lake (JT).

Red-necked Phalarope: seven birds at Emigrant Lake on Aug. 28 (JB, SB).

Herring Gull: on Oct. 29 a lone bird at Emigrant Lake (HF).

THAYER’S GULL: Norm Barrett found a first year bird and an adult bird at Lost Creek Lake on Oct.29.

GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL: a first year bird at Lost Creek Lake on Oct. 29 along with the two Thayer’s (NB).

Common Tern: two birds at Agate Lake on Sept.19 (JT).

Barred Owl: a lone bird at Ashland Pond on Jan.27 (TP) and a bird in East Medford Dec.24 (AK).

Short-eared Owl: at least 3 wintering birds near Medford Airport seen by many.

Common Poorwill: possibly migrating bird on Oct. 4 in Ashland (PT).

White-throated Swift: one bird on Lower Table Rock July 14 (RB).

Barred Owl: a lone bird at Ashland Pond on Jan.27 (TP) and a bird in East Medford Dec.24 (AK).

Short-eared Owl: at least 3 wintering birds near Medford Airport seen by many.

Common Poorwill: possibly migrating bird on Oct. 4 in Ashland (PT).

White-throated Swift: one bird on Lower Table Rock July 14 (RB).

Black-chinned Hummingbird: along Talent Greenway on May 22 (LKW).

Williamson’s Sapsucker: nesting birds on Conde Cr. Rd. May 30 (DA), a female was at Grouse Gap on July 13 (JT) and a lone male was seen on Dec. 12 near the top the Colestin Valley (DC). In the Illinois Valley of Josephine Co. Greg Bennett and Bill Gray found a male bird, a first record for Jo. Co (RC).

Red-naped Sapsucker: June 6 at Howard Prairie (BH).

White-throated Woodpecker: a bird drumming on the same snag as a Williamson’s Sapsucker near Howard Prairie dam on April 25 (NB).

Gray Flycatcher: seen on a Big Day route April 24 in Ashland (JDA) and a bird in Eagle Point on April 29(HS).

On May 15 one bird was wagging near Little Hyatt Lake (FE).

Say’s Phoebe: a single bird up at Howard Prairie on Jan.4 (HF), a bird near Grouse Gap Sept .29(JT) and a bird in Eagle Point Nov.14 (BH).

Ash-throated Flycatcher: arriving April 19 in Jacksonville (RK).

Eastern Kingbird: a lone bird along the Bear Creek Greenway in Ashland during RVAS monthly walk Aug.15 (JT).

Loggerhead Shrike: near the weigh station on Highway 62 Jan.3 a single bird (LKW). A single bird near the Hall Tract at Denman on Dec. 12 (BH).

Northern Shrike: a single bird at Howard Prairie on Feb.21 (FE) and a single bird at Agate Lake Nov.12 (FDL).

Clark’s Nutcracker: two birds seen near Mt. Ashland campground June 22 (DA) and three birds on July 3 on Mt. Ashland (JB).

Purple Martin: a single bird over Ashland on April 30 (FE).
Violet-green Swallow: a late bird was seen at Lost Creek Lake on Nov. 21 (NB).
Bank Swallow: single bird over Avenue G ponds on May 11 (HS, jk).
Oak Titmouse: a bird reported from Prospect area Oct. 6 (ML)
House Wren: an early bird found in the Colestin Valley on March 21 (JG)
American Dipper: an adult feeding young along Ashland Cr. on April 6 (HF).
Northern Mockingbird: a single bird at the Forensics lab in Ashland June 15 (PT).
Swainson’s Thrush: single bird in Eagle Point on May 11 (HS), a singing bird at Kelly Slough on May 16 (FDL) and a fall migrant in Todd-Oredson Wood in Ashland on Oct. 1 (PT)
Varied Thrush: fourteen birds were on Roxy Ann March 4 (JT) and 30 birds were reported on the Ashland CBC Dec. 29 (BQ, ES).
Orange-crowned Warbler: Twenty-five birds in willow clump in Ashland April 8 (BQ).
Hermit Warbler: report of a bird in Dec. outside of Jacksonville (SJ).
White-throated Sparrow: late birds on April 4 in Jacksonville (RK) and April 28 at Valley of the Rogue State Park (JT).
Golden-crowned Sparrow: one bird was heard singing on a point count survey in the Colestin Valley on June 18 (FDL). Another single was seen on Mt. Ashland on July 13 (JT). There was a bird at the south end of Emigrant Lake along Rosebud Lane on Sept. 1 (DA).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: a female was in Ashland along Oak St. on April 22 (RH). Another bird was reported coming to feeder along Table Rock Rd. on June 1 (GS).
Black-headed Grosbeak: a bird was reported from Gold Hill Oct 19 (MR).
RUSTY BLACKBIRD: one male bird was found by Russ Namitz in Josephine Co. along Lower River Rd. on Nov 13. Likely first documented bird for the county (DV).
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch: on Oct. 31 Karen Hussey of KBO on Grizzly Peak found three birds.
Purple Finch: sixty-five birds south of Emigrant Lake in the roses on Dec. 11 (FDL) and good numbers at the North Mountain Park feedercwatch (GR)
Cassin’s Finch: a few birds at Rye Spring were showing signs of their second pre basic molt red appearing on their head and chin Aug 6 (ODS) In the valley with winter weather, two were seen in Ashland Nov 23 (GR) And they were seen in Medford on Dec. 13 (EL).
Evening Grosbeak: Abundant in the valley and mountains in March and early April. Fifty birds were seen near Hyatt Lake March 24 (GR).

Observers:

Early September brought a few Gr. White-fronted Geese to the Columbia Gorge, with an adult seen at Hood R. delta Sep. 4 (JG) and an imm. at the same location Sep. 12 (JG). Four were seen at Price Rd. wetlands just east of Pine Grove Res., Wasco Co. Sep 18 (CC). Two were seen at Marine Park at Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Dec 14 (DP,RW). Two were seen at Hood River delta Dec 20 (JB).

Two Snow Geese were at Cascade Locks, Hood River Co., Feb 7 (SJ). Ten Tundra Swans were recorded on the inaugural Tygh Valley CBC (TVCBC), Wasco Co. Dec 29 (m. ob.). Two Eurasian Wigeon were at Government Cove, Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Dec 14 (DP,RW). One Canvasback and one Redhead were found among the waterfowl at Government Cove, Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Dec 14 (DP,RW). A pair of Harlequin Ducks was seen on the lower Hood R. Apr 20 (LN). A hen with 5 young was at Camp Sherwood, Hood River Co. Jul 30-31 (AF).

A Surf Scoter was present for the TVCBC, Wasco Co. Dec 29 (m. ob.) The impact of this sighting is downplayed somewhat by the unusually large number of sightings of this species across inland areas of Oregon during the late autumn and early winter of 2010-2011. Still, this is an unexpected species for Wasco Co. away from the Columbia River. Three White-winged Scoters were observed at Marine Park, Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Dec 14 (DP,RW), another example of the remarkable wave of inland scoter sightings this winter.

A flock of 40 Common Goldeneye were at the mouth of Eagle Creek, Hood River Co. Dec 14 (DP,RW). Barrow’s Goldeneyes were noted at Cascade lakes in western Wasco Co., including a hen with young photographed in late July. Five to eight birds were at Upper and Lower Twin Lakes Jul 19 (Lucas & Phil Kahler), while a pair was at Clear L. Jun 13 (JW). Three were seen at Clear L. May 7 (CC). Ten Barrow’s were at the mouth of Eagle Creek, Hood River Co Dec 14 (DP,RW). Three Ruddy Ducks were at Hood R. waterfront Jan 3 (SJ). 30 were tallied on Dec 29 on the Tygh Valley CBC (Judy Meredith).

Two separate groups of eight Gray Partridges were seen on the TVCBC, one on Friend Rd, the other near the junction of Tygh Ridge Rd and US 197, Dec 29, central Wasco Co (JB, JH). 45 Wild Turkeys were found on Upper Fivemile Rd outside The Dalles, Wasco Co Jan 27. A conservative total of 78 was recorded on the TVCBC, Dec 29.

Four Common Loons were at Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Dec 14 (DP,RW). A Horned Grebe was at Clear L., Wasco Co May 7 (CC). Two were reported from Wildhorse Ranch in far southeast Wasco Co Oct 17 (TL). A Red-necked Grebe was located at Marine Park, Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Dec 14 (DP,RW). An Eared Grebe was at Cascade Locks, Hood River Co. Feb 7 (JJ) Black-crowned Night-Herons were reported from the roost at Boat Works Basin in Hood River through Jan and Feb, with a peak number of 7 birds (SJ).

A Ferruginous Hawk was counted on the TVCBC near Wamic, Wasco Co Dec 29. They are irregular that far north in winter. Merlin reports include one at Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Feb 7 (JJ), a female or immature plumaged bird near Odell, Hood River Co Aug 7 (LN), a female at Hood River Dec 14 (DP,RW) and two female-plumaged birds were counted on the TVCBC Dec 29 (m. ob.) A Peregrine Falcon was at the Cascade Locks bridge, Hood River Co Feb 4 (SJ).

This female goldeneye on 21 July, 2010 at Lower Twin Lake south of Mt. Hood was reported as a possible Common, with chicks. Although the wing pattern is reminiscent of Common, the head shape is more like Barrow’s, which is how it is treated in this report. Common Goldeneye bred recently in Umatilla County, so observers are encouraged to observe summer goldeneyes with care. Photo by Phil Kahler.
A big “Thank You” to the nearly 100 people who sent in their listing results this year. “Welcome” to the 10 new people who have joined us for the first time. To those who have stopped reporting, I say, “We miss you; it would be good to hear from you again.” To those who have passed on, we remember the fine times we had in the field together. We shared the joy of new sightings and familiar birds seen again in new settings.

If you lost your lists, or don’t have time to count up your sightings just now, I hope you can gather your stuff by this time next year. We’d enjoy hearing from you.

Some folks only keep a state list. Others only keep a local list: yard, circle, county, or a few neighboring counties. Others strive to cover the state. Some keep a list each year, others only a life list. We welcome them all.

Some former participants have stopped reporting, and their significant totals have been carried forward to give context to the more recent reports. Others have asked that their earlier numbers not be carried forward. A goodly number of bird enthusiasts do not keep lists. All of that is fine. Participation is voluntary – for the fun of it.

I have heard, and am sensitive to, the voices that speak in strong negative tones about listing. The complaint is that listers do not respect birds or other birders. I think that complaint is unnecessary. There are abrasive people in all avenues of life, and birding is no different. Listing is simply keeping track of what one has seen. Many people enjoy it, and it has led them to discover much that we know about birds. Let those who enjoy listing continue to enjoy this wonderful hobby.

I hope that by publishing these results, we can provide a timely picture how many birds can be found around our wonderful state of Oregon, and who has seen them.

Good birding, everyone!

Notable milestones for 2010 include:

Statewide listing:
Jeff Gilligan set a new Oregon state life list record of 488. Another 71 birders also added to their state lists. Five birders passed the threshold of a state life list of 400 species: Chuck Gates, Anne Heyerly, Mark Nikas, Bob Stites, and David Smith. Congratulations to you!

County Listing Highlights

New county life list records:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benton</td>
<td>Jamie Simmons</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clatsop</td>
<td>Mike Patterson</td>
<td>337</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coos</td>
<td>Tim Rodenkirk</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curry</td>
<td>Jim Rogers</td>
<td>335</td>
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<td>Deschutes</td>
<td>Tom Crabtree</td>
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<td>Douglas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josephine</td>
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<td>Lincoln</td>
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<td>Linn</td>
<td>Mark Nikas</td>
<td>259</td>
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<td>Polk</td>
<td>Bill Tice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yamhill</td>
<td>Carol Karlen</td>
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New county year list records:

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<tr>
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<td>Hood River</td>
<td>John Gatchet</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Greg Gillson</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamhill</td>
<td>Carol Karlen</td>
<td>185</td>
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Baird’s Sandpiper was uncommon but relatively easy to come by in Oregon this year. Numbers vary considerably from year to year. Photo 28 August 2010 by Susan Glass, all rights reserved.
Statewide Listing

Totals marked with an asterisk (*) are previously submitted totals; no updated total was received this year. Names marked with † symbol remember deceased birders.

Oregon Life List as of Dec. 31, 2010

396 Russ Namitz
396 Roger Robb
395 Steve Gordon
395 Richard C. Hoyer
395 Larry Thornton
394* Joe Evanich †
393* Patty Bernardi
393* Reid Freeman
393* Phillip Flickinger
389 Jamie Simmons
389* John Lundsten
389 Tom Snetsinger
389 John Sullivan
388* Steve Heini
387* Jan Krabbe †
386 John Fitchen
385 Marilyn Miller
384* Kamal Islam
382 Nanette Armstrong
381* Floyd Schrock
381* Paule Vanderheul
380 Judy Corder
379 Wink Gross
378* Dennis Arendt
378* Noah Stricker
376 Maficia F. Cutler
375* David Anderson
375* Alice Parker
375* Martha Sawyer †
375* Vija Thompson
374* Clarice Watson †
374* Daniel Farrar
373 Howard Sands
372* Becky Carlson
372* Elzy Eltzroth †
371* Norm Barrett
371* Todd Thornton †
370* Eva Schultz
369* Jay Wittgott
367 Linda Gilber
365* Marion Corder †
365* Kimdel Owen
365* Don Coggins
365* Marilynn van Dyk
364* Jim Rogers
364* June Whiten
363* John Rakestraw
363* Lewis Rems
363* Wayne Weber
363* Karan Fairchild
362* Mark Elliott
362* Mike Wiiler
362* Aaron Skirvin
361* Jim Arneson
361* Henry Horvat
361* Jim Moodie
360* Cal Elshoff
359* Jack Hurt
358* Ronald McDow
358* Keith Phifer
357* Elaine Rees
357* Diana Byrne
356 Bob Stites
356* Jack Corbett
356* Gerald B. Smith
356* Steve Summers
356 Craig Corder
356 Merry-Lynn Denny
356 David W. Smith
356 Ron Maertz
356 Carol Karlen
357 Dean Hale
357* Allison Mickel
357* Patrick Muller
356* Steve Dowlan
356 Howard Horvath
356 Ulo Kigemagi
357* Joe Evanich †
357* Alan McGie
357* Joe Fontaine
357* Elzy Eltzroth †
357* Rachel Armstrong
357* Carol Karlen
357* Trent Bray
356* David C. Bailey
356* Dave Irons
357* Henry Gilmore
356* Todd Thomson †
356* Tanya E. Bray
356* Bill Tice
356* Sylvia Maudling
357* Greg Gillson
357* Roger Robb
357* John Sullivan
357* Jeff Harding
357* Craig Corder
357* Tim Shelmirende
357* Paul Sherrill
357* Dan Heyerly
357* Judy Corder
357* Joe Evanich
357* Tim Shelmirende
357* Wayne Weber
357* Marilyn Miller
357* Craig Miller
357* David Copeland †
357* Al Ahingm
357* Darlene Betat
357* Steve Dowlan
357* Paul Sullivan
357* Ed McVicker
357* David Copeland †
357* Tom Love
357* Jay Wittgott
357* Ron Maertz
357* Jeff Gilligan
357* Dave Irons
357* Henry Gilmore
357* Paul Sullivan
357* Greg Gillson
357* David Copeland †
357* John F. Gatchet
357* Craig Miller
357* John F. Gatchet
357* Wayne Weber
357* Marilyn Miller
357* Craig Miller

Top Ten Oregon Year Lists

363 Tim Rodenkirck (2002)
355 Russ Namitz (2007)
355 Phillip Pickering (1986)
351 Tim Janzen (1996)
348 Tim Rodenkerk (2000)
347 Andy & Ellen Stepnowski (2009)
346 Walt Yungen (2002)
345 Donna Lusthod (1987)
345 Skip Russell (1992)
344 Jeff Gilligan (1981)

County Listing

Totals marked with an asterisk (*) are previously submitted totals; no updated total was received this year. Names marked with † symbol remember deceased birders.

County Life Lists as of Dec. 31, 2010

Baker
231* Ann Ward †
221* Craig Corder
210 Paul Sullivan
173 Merry-Lynn Denny
173 Mike Denny
146 John F. Gatchet
145 Judy Corder
144 Carol Karlen
133 Tim Shelmirende
124 Craig Miller
113 Jamie Simmons
112 Wayne Weber
105 Roger Robb

Benton
255 Jamie Simmons
250* Hendrik Herly
246 Tom Snetsinger
245* Rich Armstrong
244 Nanette Armstrong
240* Paula Vanderheul
238* Rick Krabbe
234 Maficia F. Cutler
230 Alan McGie
229* Joe Fontaine
228* Jan Krabbe †
227* Elzy Eltzroth †
226* Noah Stricker

Clackamas
245 Tim Janzen
245* Elmer Specch †
208 Tim Shelmirende
206* Al Ahingm
203* Darlene Betat
203* Steve Dowlan
200 Paul Sullivan
187 Ed McVicker
184* David Copeland †
157 Tom Love
149* Jay Wittgott
139 John F. Gatchet
127 Ronald McDow
120 Jeff Harding
120 Dave Irons
118 Carol Karlen
115 Roger Robb
106 Craig Corder
104 Greg Gillson
100 Judy Corder

Clatsop
337 Mike Patterson
299 Steve Warner
282* Todd Thornton †
278* Jeff Gilligan
254* David C. Bailey
254 Dave Irons
254* Henry Gilmore
241 Paul Sullivan
236* Joe Evanich †
224 Tom Crabtree
219 Greg Gillson
216* David Copeland †
215 John F. Gatchet
213 Tim Shelmirende
211* Donna Lusthoff
211* Skip Russell
207* Walt Yungen
203 Tom Love
201* Lee Cain
198 Henry Horvat
193 Wayne Weber
186 Paul Sherrell
211* John R Gatchet
200 Don Coggswell
178* Jeff Gilligan
158 Jay Withgott
144 Greg Gillson
134 Tom Love
128 MerryLynn Denny
128 Mike Denny
116 Dan Heyerly

Columbia
214* Phillip Pickering
211 John F. Gatchet
203 Henry Horvat
193 Wayne Weber
191 Sylvia Maulding
186 Mike Denny
179 John Sullivan
176 Craig Miller
163 Marcia F. Cutler
163 Jim Carlson
157 Ed McVicker
155 Paul Sherrell
153 Doug Gillson
145 Jim Carlson
141 Mike Denny

Crook
274 Chuck Gates
249 Craig Miller
245 Lewis Rems
236 Karen Pressel
229 Tom Crabtree
221 Dan Heyerly
202 Paul Sullivan
202 Dean Hale
181 Jim Moodie
180 Carol Karlen
179 Tom Gatchet
171 Craig Corder
160 Mike Denny
160 Mike Denny
160 Mike Denny
160 Mike Denny

Deschutes
315 Tom Crabtree
311 Dean Hale
302 Howard Horvat
299 Craig Miller
290 Kim Delwe
281 Louis Mers
277 Marilyn Miller
272 Chuck Gates
260 Jim Moodie
247 Paul Sullivan
235 David W. Smith
231 Patty Meahan
212 Carol Karlen
208 Ulo Kilgeman
206* Skip Russell
201 Greg Gillson
198 Cal Eshoff
197 Tom Love

Douglas
315 Ron Maertz
296* Alice Parker
292* Martha Sawyer
248 Dave Irons
238* Fred Parker
228 Russ Namitz
227* Steve Heinl
224 Paul Sullivan
221* Steve Gordon
205 Howard Sands
202 Tim Shimerdine
194 Keith Philber
192 Jim Arneson
185* Tim Shimerdine
180 Paul Sherrell
176 Ulo Kilgeman
172 John F. Gatchet
171 Jim Carlson
171 Dan Heyerly
167 Hendrik Herlyn
163 Norm Barrett
156 Roger Robb
148 Wayne Weber
146 Sylvia Maulding
145 Craig Miller
144 Eva Schultz
139 Anne Heyerly
133 Marilyn Miller
133 Jeff Harding
127 Tom Snetsinger
122 Jamie Simmons
120 Greg Gillson
118 Craig Corder
118 MerryLynn Denny
118 Mike Denny

Coos
340 Tim Rodenkirk
304 Russ Namitz
301* Larry Thornburgh
296 Alan McGie
266 Mike Withier
255 Paul Sullivan
255 Tim Shimerdine
256 Dave Iorns
252* Colin Dillingham
250 David W. Smith
248 Alan Conneras
242 Hendrik Herlyn
240 Jim Rogers
237* Alice Parker
231 Ulo Kilgeman
229 Dan Heyerly
229 Ron Maertz
228* Walt Yungen
228* David Copeland
222 Roger Robb

Curry
335 Jim Rogers
314 * Colin Dillingham
309* Alex Barron
283 Tim Rodenkirk
270* Angie Dillingham
270 Lois Miller
261* Buzz Stewart
242 Russ Namitz
230 Paul Sullivan
225* Ken Goldwater
221 Dave Iorns
213 Diane Cavaness
211 Jim Carlson
205* Steve Heinl
194 Howard Sands
182 Tim Shimerdine
178* Ulo Kilgeman
178* Steve Gordon
175* Alice Parker
174 Dan Heyerly
171 Romain Cooper
165 Anne Heyerly
165 Roger Robb
165 Mike Denny
161 MerryLynn Denny
151 Greg Gillson
145 Alan McGie
143 Jim Simmons
142 MerryLynn Denny
142 Mike Denny
139 Wayne Weber
135 Marcia F. Cutler
128 Anne Heyerly
127 Judy Corder
126 Mike Patterson
126 Ron Maertz
121 Ed McVicker
121 Ed McVicker
120 Paul Sullivan
116 Dan Heyerly
1158 Jeff Harding
115 Craig Miller
113 Sylvia Maulding
103 Judy Corder
103 Judy Corder
103 Judy Corder
Oregon Field Ornithologists
32nd Annual Meeting – June 17 - 19, 2011
Pendleton, Oregon
Meeting Headquarters: America's Best Value Inn  Programs: Pendleton Center for the Arts

The mission of Oregon Field Ornithologists is to further the knowledge, education, enjoyment, conservation, and science of birds and birding in Oregon.

Evening meals Catered by Kinship Cafe, Tamastslikt Cultural Institute

FRIDAY, JUNE 17:

5:00 - 8:00 p.m. – Registration and Social Hour - PENDLETON CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 214 NORTH MAIN STREET. (Drinks by donation at Social Hour)

6:00 p.m. – Dinner: Lasagna (w/Vegetarian option) with salad, garlic bread and Huckleberry pie.

7:30 p.m. – Evening Program: Mike Denny – Riparian Habitat Coordinator/Co-outreach and Education Coordinator, Walla Walla County Conservation District

“Seasonal Passerine Use of Lithosol (rocky soil) Openings in the Blue Mountains of Northeast Oregon”

Mike was born in Klamath Falls, Oregon and grew up in southeast Africa where he started birding at age eight in Zambia. He returned to Oregon to attend high school then on to Walla Walla College where he studied Biology and Art. Mike married his birding love MerryLynn and settled in College Place, WA. He has worked for the US Forest Service doing avian surveys, small mammal surveys and much of the Canada Lynx Prey Base Habitat work, as well as many vegetative surveys in the northern Blue Mountains on the Umatilla and Wallowa Whitman National Forests. Mike illustrated the ABA Birders Guide to Idaho (1997), and co-authored “Birds of the Inland Northwest and Northern Rockies” (2008), “Where the Great River Bends: A Natural and Human History of the Columbia at Wallula” (2008), and “Birds of Interior BC and the Rockies” (2009). Mike is the Vice President of the Blue Mountain Audubon Society and serves on the board of Tri-state Steelheaders. He greatly enjoys birding in the Pacific Northwest with MerryLynn.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18:
MEET AT: AMERICA’S BEST VALUE INN, 201 SW COURT AVENUE, PENDLETON

6:00 a.m. – Breakfast: On your own

6:30 a.m. – Pick up Box Lunch: See registration form for options

7:00 a.m. – Field Trips: Depart from AMERICA’S BEST VALUE INN at 7:30. (Time will be confirmed after Friday evening program)

4:30 p.m. – Social Hour - Pendleton Center for the Arts (Drinks by donation at Social Hour)

5:30 p.m. – Dinner: Baked Salmon, OR Barbequed Chicken OR Vegetarian with Wild Rice, Green Salad, Pasta Salad, Fresh Bread and Huckleberry Cake

7:00 p.m. – Oregon Field Ornithologists Membership Annual Meeting
7:45 p.m.  — Evening Program: **David H. Johnson** — Executive Director — Global Owl Project (GLOW)

David has 32 years of experience in the natural resource field, having held wildlife, fisheries, and forestry positions in Minnesota, Wyoming, Oregon, Washington, and managed many international projects. He holds a M.S. degree in Wildlife Science, a B.S. degree in Biology with a Minor in Archaeology; and Vocational Technical Institute Diplomas in Natural Resources Technology and Civil Engineering. David is President of the environmental consulting company “Talon Scientific”. Starting in 1987, David was deeply involved in the early years of the Spotted Owl issue and was the first Spotted Owl Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. In 2002, he started the Global Owl Project, an international program now involving 450+ researchers, scientists, geneticists, volunteers and students working in 65 countries. A farm boy from Minnesota, David has had a passion for owls since a screech owl landed on his pup tent when he was 11 yrs old.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 19**

**MEET AT: AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN, COURT AVENUE**
6:00 a.m. — Breakfast — On your own

6:30 a.m. — Pick up Box Lunch: See registration form for options

6:30 am — **UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT FIELD TRIP DEPARTS FROM AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN, COURT AVENUE** — All participants must pre-register — See Instructions.

7:00 a.m. — 1/2 Day Field Trips Depart from AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN, COURT AVENUE (Time will be confirmed after Saturday evening program)

**LODGING IN PENDLETON:**
Annual Meeting Headquarters: **AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN, COURT AVENUE**
2 person King $68, 2 person 2 Queen $78 all plus tax. Mention you are with the "OFO" Conference.

Other Lodgings: Visit [www.pendleton.thechamber.net](http://www.pendleton.thechamber.net) for more options

**SPECIAL FIELD TRIP: BURROWING OWL RESTORATION OF THE UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT**
Guided by David Johnson and Umatilla Chemical Depot Staff.

***IMPORTANT REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPANTS ***

To participate in this field trip, scheduled for Sunday morning all participants must provide your full name exactly as it appears on a government ID(Driver’s License), plus the ID (Driver’s License) number NO LATER THAN JUNE 4TH. All participants will need to bring ID! Minimum age is 15 years old to participate. A SATURDAY TRIP CAN BE ADDED IF NEEDED.

Umatilla Chemical Depot (35 miles west of Pendleton) - Shrub-steppe habitat. L-b. Curlews (many), Loggerhead Shrike, Black-throated Sparrow (probable), Grasshopper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting and others. A good part of the field trip would be looking at Burrowing Owls, hearing about the recovery project for Burrowing Owls, and maybe even watching young owls get banded.

*** *** *** ***

**OTHER FIELD TRIPS:** Times and day of trips will be announced at meeting. As always, trips will be juggled depending on available leaders and interest. Other options may be added.
Ukiah and Tower Burn (60 miles south of Pendleton) - Grassland, wet meadow, Blue Mt. coniferous forest and regenerating burn. Bobolink, Lewis’s Woodpecker, Green-tailed Towhee, Dusky Grouse (possible), Williamson’s Sapsucker, and many other Blue Mountain species.

Divide Well Campground (60 miles south of Pendleton) - Mixed conifer forest. Flammulated Owl (virtual certainty to hear [close] and likely to see) is the main draw here; Common Poorwill is very likely.

Upper Umatilla River (up to 30 miles east of Pendleton) - River, riparian, ponderosa pine and low-elevation mixed conifer forest. Red-eyed Vireo, Veery, Gray Catbird, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Willow Flycatcher, and many other species.

Tollgate, Langdon Lake, Target Meadows (45 miles northeast of Pendleton) - Lake, mixed conifer forest, spruce forest. Am, Three-toed Woodpecker, breeding Common Goldeneye, N. Goshawk (possible), Calliope Hummingbird, Lincoln’s Sparrow.

Emigrant Road and Emigrant Springs State Park (25 miles southeast of Pendleton) - Grassland, foothills brush, ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forest. Swainson’s Hawk, Gray Catbird, Yellow-breasted Chat, Chestnut-backed Chickadee.

Coombs Canyon and Yellow Jacket (35 miles south of Pendleton) - Grasslands and mixed conifer forest. Grasshopper Sparrow, Swainson’s Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk (likely), Chukar (possible), Williamson’s Sapsucker.

Burrowing Owl. Photo by Noah Strycker.
Oregon Field Ornithologists 32nd Annual Meeting  
June 17 - 19, 2011

REGISTRATION DEADLINE – JUNE 10TH  
(See special Early Deadline for Chemical Depot Registration!)

Make checks payable to OFO and mail registration to:  
Mary Anne Sohlstrom, OFO Treasurer, 4792 Lancaster Dr #108, Salem, OR 97305  
Questions: (503) 463-9540; email: masohlstrom@msn.com

Names:  
Address:  
City, State, Zip:  
Email/Phone:  

MEALS

All dinners include choice of: Ice tea, Huckleberry Lemonade, Coffee (reg. or decaf)  
Friday Dinner: Lasagne (vegetarian or Non-vegetarian, Salad, Garlic Bread, Huckleberry Pie  
Saturday Banquet: Entree with: Wild Rice, Green Salad, Pasta Salad with Vegies, Fresh Bread, and Huckleberry Cake

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<th>Participant No. 1</th>
<th>Participant No. 2</th>
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<td>FRIDAY DINNER:</td>
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<td>SATURDAY BANQUET - ENTREE CHOICES:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baked Wild Salmon:</td>
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<td>Barbequed Chicken:</td>
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<td>Vegetarian:</td>
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Box Lunches include: Fruit Cup, Chips, Cookie, Water or Soda, and Sandwich: Ham, Beef, Turkey, or Chicken Salad

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MEETING REGISTRATION

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<td>OFO/WOS** Family</td>
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<td>Non-member Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student</td>
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</table>

TOTAL ALL (MEALS + REGISTRATION) $ 

*Washington Ornithological Society Members may register at OFO member rates  
**Membership: Individual $30.00; Family $35.00; Sustaining $50.00; Student $14.00
County Year Lists for 2010

Benton
- 204 Rich Armstrong
- 168 Nanette Armstrong
- 154 Marcia F. Cutler

Clatsop
- 234 Mike Patterson
- 216 Steve Warner
- 126 Diana Byrne
- 103 Henry Horvat

Columbia
- 176 Don Coggswell
- 165 Paul Sullivan
- 162 Henry Horvat

Coos
- 272 Tim Rodenkirch
- 254 Russ Namitz
- 149 Keith Philfer
- 129 Roger Robb

Crook
- 223 Chuck Gates
- 175 Kimdel Owen

Curry
- 149 Diane Cavaness

Deschutes
- 244 Lewis Rems
- 225 Howard Horvath
- 214 Kimdel Owen
- 206 Jim Moodie
- 201 Dean Hale

Douglas
- 206 Ron Maertz
- 177 Keith Philfer

Harney
- 147 Henry Horvat
- 146 Kimdel Owen
- 144 Paul Sullivan
- 141 Harry Fuller
- 135 Keith Philfer

Hood River
- 200 John F. Gatchet
- 113 Paul Sullivan

Jackson
- 210 Norm Barrett
- 174 Henry Fuller

Jefferson
- 128 Kimdel Owen

Josephine
- 146 Romain Cooper

Klamath
- 121 Roger Robb

Lake
- 131 John Sullivan
- 119 Roger Robb

Lincoln
- 145 Paul Sullivan

Linn
- 120 Jeff Harding

Marion
- 148 Matthew Schneider

Umatilla
- 197 Marilyn van Dyk

Washington
- 249 Greg Gillson
- 194* Roy Gerig

Tillamook
- 235 Phillip Pickering (1988)
- 181 Bob Slites
- 131 Paul Sullivan
- 120 Tim Shermundine

Yamhill
- 185* Paul Sullivan
- 152 Marilyn van Dyk
- 114 Quinton Nice

All-time County Year List Records

Baker 204 Craig Corder (1988)
Clackamas 209 Tim Janzen (1995)
Clatsop 252 Todd Thornton (2001)
Coos 272 Tim Rodenkirch (2000-2010)
Crook 234 Chuck Gates (2006)
Curry 269 Don Munson (1999)
Deschutes 244 Lew Rems (2010)
Douglas 247 Martha Sawyer (1983)
Gilliam 153 Craig Corder & Judy Stevens (1994)
Grant 185 Paul Sullivan (1988)
Harney 237 Phillip Pickering (1986)
Hood River 200 John F. Gatchet (2010)
Jefferson 209 Lewis Rems (1992)
Klamath 240 Kevin Spencer (2007)
Lake 241 Steve Summers (1991)
Lane 289 Dave Iorns (2007)
Lincoln 241 Phillip Pickering (1986)
Linn 224 Mark Nikas (2008)
Morrow 224 Craig Corder (1980)
Multnomah 225 Iain Tomlinson (2009)
Polk 210 Roy Gerig (2002)
Sherman 181 Phillip Pickering (1989)
Tillamook 234 Phillip Pickering (1985)
Wasco 224 Craig Corder & Judy Stevens (1992)
Yamhill 185* Paul Sullivan

Note: The All-time County Year List Records list the record holders for each county, with the year and county name(s) in parentheses indicating the highest recorded number of years served. The list includes records from 1983 to 2010, with some overlaps indicating multiple record holders in certain years. The specific record holder and the year of the record are also provided.
Ruddy Turnstone is not always easy to find. This cooperative bird at Tillamook was photographed by Jack Booth.

100 species in all 36 Oregon Counties
This category recognizes the birders who have seen 100 species in each of Oregon's 36 counties. The birders (with the year the 100 mark was reached):

- 1986 Dennis Rogers
- 1986 Barb Combs
- 1989 Phil Pickering
- 1989 Linda Weiland
- 1991 Walt Yungen
- 1994 Donna Lushhoff
- 1994 Paul Sullivan
- 1996 Dave Copeland
- 2001 Tim Shelmerdine
- 2005 Barb Bellin
- 2006 John F. Gatchet
- 2006 Roger Robb
- 2008 Carol Karlen
- 2009 Craig Corder

Count Circle and Motorless Listing
Here are the results of the count circle listing. The intent is for birders to focus on a 15 mile diameter circle closer to home, which can be visited with less use of time, gas, and travel. The results are presented in alphabetical order by county and observer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Life</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>List</th>
<th>year</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>232</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>Mike Patterson</td>
<td>Clatsop county, centered at UTM 10T 446930E 5115160N</td>
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<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>Steve Warner</td>
<td>Clatsop county, from Saddle Mt. to Haystack Rock at Cannon Beach.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>239</td>
<td></td>
<td>Don Munson</td>
<td>Curry county, centered 4 mi NE of Brookings, or 124° 14' 36&quot;W, 42° 06' 13&quot;N</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>221</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>Jim Moodie</td>
<td>Deschutes county, Bend CBC circle</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>248</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>Kimdel Owen</td>
<td>Deschutes &amp; Crook counties, Redmond CBC circle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>158</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>Keith Phifer</td>
<td>Douglas county, Roseburg/Sutherlin CBC circle</td>
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<td>150</td>
<td>Harry Fuller</td>
<td>Jackson county, Ashland CBC circle</td>
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<tr>
<td>172</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>Roger Robb</td>
<td>Lane county, circle centered in Alton Baker Park(Eugene) a bit NW of the Knickerbocker footbridge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>184</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>Vjera Thompson</td>
<td>Lane county, Eugene CBC circle</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jeff Harding</td>
<td>Linn county, centered near Providence Church between Lebanon &amp; Scio</td>
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<tr>
<td>175</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tom Snetsinger</td>
<td>Linn county, centered SE of Halsey. Includes Peoria, Diamond Hill wetlands, Lone Pine Butte.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>193</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Jack Hurt</td>
<td>Tillamook county, Neskwon</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2010 Motorless list
199 Andy Frank

Final note: From time to time, birders drop out of reporting their lists, for various reasons. Their past published reports are a matter of public record. Carrying these numbers forward gives context to results reported today. However, if you would rather not see your past results carried forward in future Listing Results, simply let me know, and I will gladly honor your wishes.

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

Birders starting their year's list by covering the coast at Bandon, Coquille Valley CBC, January 1, 2011. Photo by Kelle Herrick.
A Virginia Rail was at Price Rd wetlands, Wasco Co Jun 13 (JW). Several reports of Sandhill Cranes (1-3 birds per sighting) came from Camas Prairie, Wasco Co from Mar 24 through Aug 7 (CC).

A Sanderling at Hood River delta Aug 14 was considered to be somewhat early (JG). Two Semipalmated Sandpipers and EIGHT Baird's Sandpipers were at Hood River delta Aug 14 (JG,CK,PS). Three Red-necked Phalaropes were also at Hood River delta Aug 14 (CK,PS).

A lingering Bonaparte’s Gull was at Hood River marina May 10 (SS). Mew Gull numbers at Hood River waterfront peaked at 21 birds on Dec 28 2009, with varying numbers of birds (one to 11) seen several times at that location thru Feb 22 (SJ). A flock of 25 Ring-billed Gulls was at Hood River delta Aug 14 (JG,CK,PS). An unexpected pair of adult Western Gulls was seen engaging in courtship behavior at Hood River delta Apr 20 (LN). An adult SABINE’S GULL was reported from Hood River delta Sep 12 (JG).

Eurasian Collared-Dove was reported from several locations in both counties through the year. The TVCBC recorded 17 birds (vs. 60 Mourning Doves) Dec 29 (m.ob.).

Two or three Flammulated Owls were heard in the early morning hours of Jul 24 along Forest Road 27 in west-central Wasco Co (SS). A Barred Owl was reported from Post Canyon west of Hood River Mar 15 (Deb Castorina). A N. Saw-whet Owl was active near Cascade Locks, Hood River Co Feb 7 (JG).

A White-throated Swift was observed over White River State Wildlife Area northwest of Tygh Valley, Wasco Co May 20 (JB). A spring report of Black-chinned Hummingbird came from Tygh Valley May 20 (JB).

Several observers noted Lewis’s Woodpeckers in the Tygh Valley area May – Aug, including an interesting report of adults feeding ripe cherries and carpenter ants to young in the nest on Jun 27 (Barbara Fox). An est. 30 adults were in the Tygh Valley area May 15 (JH). Other records include one in Tygh Valley Oct 21 (JH) and one on the TVCBC Dec 29.

Williamson’s Sapsucker was reported from the burn near Cooper’s Spur, Hood River Co Aug 14 (JG) and Sep 5 (SC). A Three-toed Woodpecker and Black-backed Woodpecker sightings came from the Cooper Spur area on the north side of Mt. Hood, Hood River Co. beginning on Aug 14, when JG reported one Three-toed and five Black-backed. On Sep 21 SS saw one of each, while SC found 4-5 Black-backed and one Three-toed at this location. Two more Three-toed were found in the vicinity of Cloud Cap Oct 16 (JB). A Three-toed Woodpecker was at Camas Prairie May 7 (SC).

A N. Yellow-shafted Flicker was found in the Maupin area on the TVCBCWasco Co Dec 29. (m.ob.). Two vocal Pileated Woodpeckers were found in the oak-pine foothills east of Mosier, Wasco Co Jan 18 (SJ). Two Eastern Kingbirds were reported, one from Fairgrounds Rd, Tygh Valley, Jun 13 (JW) and one at Hood River Aug 22 (CK).

Twelve Bank Swallows were observed “at the swallow colony” at Hwy. 197 in The Dalles, Wasco Co May 20 (JB). A Pacific Wren was found near Mosier, Wasco Co Jan 18 (SJ). On Jan 16 there were 3000 Am. Robins in Hood River (SJ). One “actively mewing” Gray Catbird was found at Kelly Springs Rd southwest of Pine Grove, Wasco Co Jun 13 (JW). An Am. Pipit was at Hood River waterfront Jun 3 (SJ).

A late-ish (for this area) Com. Yellowthroat was at Wildhorse Ranch in far southeast Wasco Co Oct 17 (TL). Three Vesper Sparrows were reported from Springer Mill Rd southwest of Dufur, Wasco Co May 30 (Dave Catterson).

Four Savannah Sparrows were found east of Tygh Valley, Wasco Co on the TVCBC Dec 29 (JB, CF, SJ). A Swamp Sparrow was observed in a marshy area at Wildhorse Ranch, Wasco Co Oct 17 (TL). There were two sightings of a White-throated Sparrow at a feeder in Hood River in Jan (fide SJ). One tan-striped bird was recorded on the TVCBC, Wasco Co Dec 29 (JB, CF, SJ). An adult Harris’s Sparrow graced the TVCBC on Dec 29. The bird was picked out of a feeding flock of Golden-crowned and White-crowned Sparrows at the end of Driver Rd south of Wamic, Wasco Co. An excellent description was provided by Steve Dougill. A healthy total of 125 Golden-crowned Sparrows was tallied on the TVCBC Dec 29 (m.ob.).

An adult male BALTIMORE ORIOLE was reported visiting a feeder in Hood River May 7 (fide Josh Hayes, via OBOL).

Several unusual duck and geese sightings occurred throughout the region this year. Six Ross’s Geese spent a week at Houston Lake (Crook) starting on 24 Mar (C. Gates). A hybrid American X Eurasian Wigeon appeared at Hatfield Lk. (Deschutes) on 24 Oct (P. Low). A hybrid Cinnamon Teal X Blue-winged Teal was located at Prineville Sewer Ponds on 9 Jun (C. Gates). Unusually high numbers of Greater Scaup appeared in the region. Wickiup Res. (Deschutes) produced 130 birds on 18 April (Jim Moodie) and smaller groups appeared in the Prineville area (Crook), Suttle Lk. (Jefferson), and Hatfield Lk. (Deschutes). In addition to Moodie, Greater Scaup observers included T. Crabtree, J. Meredith, and P. Low. A total of 35 different Surf Scoters were tallied in the region. Sightings included as many as 14 at Wickiup Res. (Deschutes) on 31 Oct (S. Dougill, J. Meredith, M. Ob.), 12 at Suttle Lk. (Deschutes) on 28 Oct (P. Low), 5 at Haystack Res. (Jefferson) on 16 Oct (R. Namitz), and 2 at the Prineville Sewer Ponds (Crook) on 21 Nov (C. Gates). The Prineville Surf Scoter was still being seen on the last day of the year. A single White-winged Scoter was seen briefly at Wickiup Res. (Deschutes) on 13 Nov (P. Low) and two (male and female) Long-tailed Ducks were found in Bend (Deschutes) on 18 Dec (S. Kornfeld, T. Crabtree, M. Ob.). Two Red-breasted Mergansers were seen on Lk. Billy Chinook (Jefferson) on 8 Jan (C. Miller, M. Miller).

Pacific Loons were recorded in higher than normal numbers. One bird was seen at Prineville Res. (Crook) on 30 Oct (C. Gates), 2 individuals were found on Wickiup Res. (Deschutes) on 7 Nov (Dean Hale, M. Ob.), 3 were seen on the Columbia R. (Sherman) on 13 Nov (P. Sullivan, C. Karlen), and two birds were found on Suttle Lk. (Jefferson) between 4 Dec and 15 Dec (S. Shunk, P. Low).

Red-necked Grebes are always unusual in this region. Single birds were located at John Day Dam (Sherman) on 22 Dec (S. Johnston), Hay Cr. Res. (Jefferson) on 24 May (K. Owen), Haystack Res. (Jefferson) on 17 Sep (S. Dougill), Blue Lk., (Jefferson) on 28 Oct (S. Shunk). Two birds were found together at Suttle Lk. (Jefferson) on 27 Oct (P. Low).

Western Grebes are not typically found in Deschutes County in mid-winter. This year, birds were found in Bend (Deschutes) between 10 Dec and 31 Dec (T. Crabtree, P. Low, C. Miller, M. Ob.). This species was also observed on Ochoco Res. (Crook) throughout December (C. Miller, C. Gates).

Houston Lk. (Crook) continues to be the only location in Central Oregon that is reliable for American Bittern. The birds were noted there regularly from 8 May to 3 Sep (C. Gates, M. Ob.).
A Black-crowned Night-heron was tallied on the Prineville CBC (Crook) for the first time ever on 31 Dec (C. Gates, M. Ob.) A single individual was also located in Bend (Deschutes) on 13 May (H. Horvath) for an unusual county sighting.

A good number of abnormal diurnal raptor sightings occurred during the year. Two Red-shouldered Hawks were regularly seen at Tumalo Res. (Deschutes) between 1 Aug and 12 Aug (L. Rems, M. Ob.), and 2 different birds were found at Hosmer Lk. (Deschutes) on 12 Aug (M. Oppenheimer, M. Ob.). A single bird was tallied on the ECAS Green Ridge Hawkwatch (Jefferson) on 25 Sep (P. Low). A Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk was located at Lone Pine (Crook) on 6 Nov (P. Low). A single very late Rough-legged Hawk remained in the Prineville area (Crook) until 8 May (P. Van Vlack) and a very unusual Merlin sighting occurred along Dawson Cr. (Crook) on 11 Jul (C. Gates). Peregrine Falcons continue to be seen more and more often. Sightings occurred in nearly every month between February and October with a total of 32 individuals counted (M. Ob.).

Shorebirds, as usual, make up a portion of any annual rare bird summary. Black-bellied Plovers appeared in larger than normal numbers. Single birds were found at Hatfield Lk. (Deschutes) on 8 Apr (J. Moodie), Gutierrez Ranch (Crook) on 8 May (C. Gates, K. Owen, P. Low), Redmond Sewer Ponds (Deschutes) between 10 and 12 Nov (K. Owen, H. Horvath). This constitutes the latest date known for this species in the region. Between 1 and 3 Black-bellied Plovers were regularly seen at Houston Lk. (Crook) between 16 Aug and 25 Oct (C. Gates, M. Ob.). Two American Golden-Plovers made a brief appearance at Hatfield Lk. (Deschutes) on 18 Sep (L. Rems, J. Meredith, S. Dougill, M. Ob.). Sanderlings were found on Houston Lk. (Crook) on 6 Aug (S. Dougill) and along N. Shore Rd. (Crook) on 16 Aug (C. Gates, K. Owen, S. Staats). Single Semipalmed Sandpipers were found at Hatfield Lk. (Deschutes) between 7 July and 21 Aug (L. Rems, P. Low, J. Meredith), and Redmond Sewer Ponds (Deschutes) between 17 Jul and 30 Jul (S. Dougill). Two Semipalmed Sandpipers were found together at Houston Lk. (Crook) on 6 Aug (S. Dougill) and at Tumalo Res. (Deschutes) on 15 Jul (H. Horvath) and 3 individuals were identified at the Redmond Sewer Ponds (Deschutes) on 9 Jul (S. Dougill). Late Pectoral Sandpipers were seen at Houston Lk. (Crook) 25 Oct (S. Dougill, C. Gates, J. Meredith) and the latest bird at Wickiup Res. (Deschutes) on 31 Oct (S. Dougill).

Several interesting and unusual Larids were located in this region. A Mew Gull was found on 18 Dec (Deschutes) for a first county record (T. Crabtree, S. Kornfeld, M. Ob.). A Thayer's Gull was found at Wickiup Res. (Deschutes) on 18 Sep (L. Rems, J. Meredith, S. Dougill, M. Ob.). Sanderlings were found on Houston Lk. (Crook) on 6 Aug (S. Dougill) and along N. Shore Rd. (Crook) on 16 Aug (C. Gates, K. Owen, S. Staats). Single Semipalmed Sandpipers were found at Hatfield Lk. (Deschutes) between 7 July and 21 Aug (L. Rems, P. Low, J. Meredith), and Redmond Sewer Ponds (Deschutes) between 17 Jul and 30 Jul (S. Dougill). Two Semipalmed Sandpipers were found together at Houston Lk. (Crook) on 6 Aug (S. Dougill) and at Tumalo Res. (Deschutes) on 15 Jul (H. Horvath) and 3 individuals were identified at the Redmond Sewer Ponds (Deschutes) on 9 Jul (S. Dougill). Late Pectoral Sandpipers were seen at Houston Lk. (Crook) 25 Oct (S. Dougill, C. Gates, J. Meredith) and the latest bird at Wickiup Res. (Deschutes) on 31 Oct (S. Dougill).

Central Oregon's first WHITE-WINGED DOVE appeared in Redmond on 19 Jul (W. Bowers, P. Bowers). The bird was seen repeatedly between 19 Jul and 31 Jul (T. Crabtree, S. Schlick, M. Ob.).

Two Great Gray Owls were located in the GW Burn (Deschutes) and were seen by multiple observers between 6 Jun and 13 Jun.

Bend (Deschutes) continues to be the most reliable location in the state for Costa’s Hummingbird. Single birds were located at Shevlin Park on 17 Apr (L. Rems), Sawyer Park on 21 Apr (D. Tracy), and west Bend on 5 Sep (D. Hale). Another bird was found in Redmond (Deschutes) on 25 Aug (K. Owen).

Central Oregon's third and fourth records for Acorn Woodpecker also occurred this year. Individual birds were found at the Skyline Forest (Deschutes) on 2 Oct (R. Frederick) and in east Bend between 14 Oct and 2 Nov (T. Crabtree, D. Sutherlin, C. Gates, H. Horvath).

Four different flycatcher species lit up the bird hotlines this year. LEAST FLYCATCHERS were identified at Black Butte Swamp (Deschutes) on 26 Aug (S. Shunk) and at Tetherow Crossing (Deschutes) on 3 Sep (S. Dougill). An EASTERN PHOEBE made a brief appearance at Lizard Cr. Rd. (Deschutes) on 31 May (B. Wong) and a rare Deschutes County Eastern Kingbird was found along Hwy 20 east of Bend (Deschutes) on 9 Jul (M. Gonzalez).
Two very rare winter Loggerhead Shrikes were found on the Redmond CBC (Deschutes) on 3 Jan (K. Owen fide) and a late “Loggerhead” was identified on 14 Nov in Powell Butte (Crook) (D. Sutherlin).

Blue jays sightings are unusual in just about any part of Oregon but an October sighting in Deschutes County is especially strange. One bird was sighted flying over downtown Bend (Deschutes) on 1 Oct (T. Crabtree).

A Bewick’s Wren took up residence at Lower Bridge (Deschutes) and was regularly seen between 6 Mar and 4 Jul (H. Horvath, M. Ob.).

Blue-gray Gnatcatchers are always unexpected but two sightings were especially strange. A single bird was found at Calliope Crossing (Deschutes) on 31 May (Molly Monroe). Multiple birds were seen at N. Shore Rd. (Crook) between 18 Aug and 4 Sep (C. Gates, H. Horvath, M. Oppenheimer). The above birds are rare but not unprecedented. However, a single bird seen on Green Ridge, high in the Cascade Mountains (Jefferson) on 10 Oct (K. Boddie) and another seen near Sisters (Deschutes) on 28 Oct (J. Gerke) are unusual, not only because they were very late dates for this species, but also because they were in forested habitats that don’t often produce Blue-gray Gnatcatchers in Central Oregon.

Nesting Veerys can sometimes be located in Central Oregon but it is always a difficult venture. Two birds were located this year. A singing male was seen at Wildcat C.G. (Crook) on 6 Jun (C. Gates, S. Staats) and another was located at Black Butte Swamp (Deschutes) on 17 Jul (S. Dougill).

Gray Catbirds occur nearly annually but still create a buzz among local birders. Individuals were found at Sawyer Park (Deschutes) between 9 & 13 Jun (D. Tracy, T. Crabtree, M. Ob.), Lower Bridge (Deschutes) between 3 & 13 Jul (P. Sullivan, C. Karlen, M. Ob.), and Drake Park (Deschutes) on 18 Jul (M. Gonzalez). A winter Sage Thrasher was located in Powell Butte (Crook) on 12 Dec (C. Gates).

Several abnormal warbler sightings occurred in 2010. Yellow-rumped Warbler is not unheard of in winter but 112 on the Madras CBC (Jefferson) was certainly beyond the norm (K. Owen fide). A Townsend’s Warbler was seen east of Bend (Deschutes) on 23 Oct for a very late record (C. Miller). An Ovenbird showed up at Tumalo Cr. (Deschutes) on 3 Oct but was seen by only one observer (D. Tracy). Northern Waterthrush breed in southern Deschutes County but a singing male at Black Butte Swamp (Deschutes) was a first for that location (S. Dougill on 1 Jun). Two different Hooded Warblers were located this year. One bird was discovered at Blue Lk. (Jefferson) on 20 May (P. Low, S. Kornfeld) and another was found at Cold Sp. C.G. (Deschutes) on 1 Jun (J. Hein).

A wide variety of unusual sparrows appeared in the area. A Clay-colored Sparrow made a brief appearance in east Bend (Deschutes) on 29 Oct (H. Horvath, M. Oppenheimer). Black-throated Sparrows were found at Salt Cr. (Crook) on 17 Jun (M. Gonzalez) and at Buck Pt. Rd. (Wheeler) on 5 Jul (J. Geier). A Swamp Sparrow was first seen on 26 Dec and stayed through the end of the year at Tetherow Crossing (Deschutes) (S. Dougill, M. Ob.). White-throated Sparrows appeared in Deschutes R. Woods (Deschutes) on 5 Oct (J. Moodie), SE of Sisters (Deschutes) on 14 Oct (J. Gerke), and on two different occasions (and two different birds) west of Redmond (Deschutes) near the end of the year (S. Dougill). Two different Harris’s Sparrows also appeared in Bend (Deschutes). Both were first located on the Deschutes R. in two different locations on 19 Dec. The bird that was on the First St. Trail was seen through the end of the year (T. Crabtree, J. Meredith, H. Horvath, M. Ob.).

A couple of unusual Emberizine buntings made a showing in Central Oregon this year. A single Lapland Longspur was found at Hatfield Lk. (Deschutes) on 30 Oct (P. Low). A rare Snow Bunting was located at Plainview (Deschutes) on 6 Dec for a very unusual Deschutes record (L. Rems).

Two separate Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were found in Deschutes County in 2010. One was seen and photographed in Sisters between 27 & 30 May (J. Anderson, M. Smith) and the other was found in the Saddleback neighborhood of Bend (Deschutes) on 8 Jun (S. Smith).

Unusual icterid news was headlined by the continuation of the recently discovered breeding colony of Bobolinks found along Puett Rd. (Crook). These birds were seen throughout the summer (C. Gates, M. Ob.). Other birds of note included Tricolored Blackbirds seen throughout the year (M. Ob.) and a Yellow-headed Blackbird found on the Madras CBC on 17 Dec (K. Owen fide).

A few odd finch sightings occurred this year. Gray-crowned Rosy-finches are difficult to find in the area. Up to 20 birds were seen on Grizzly Mt. (Crook) between 28 & 30 Oct (C. Gates, M. Ob.). They seem to be annual at this location around that time of year. Another bird was seen on the slopes of Broken Top Mt. (Deschutes) on 5 Sep (H. Horvath). Purple Finches continue to expand their range in Central Oregon. Multiple sightings occurred in Jefferson, Deschutes, and Crook counties.
Two female *White-winged Scoter* were seen at Putnam’s Point in Klamath Falls, 21 Nov. (D. Menke). Common Goldeneye, 3, at Schoolhouse Lake, Summer Lake WMA, 19-27 June, LAKE, (C&M Miller, D.Irons, S.Finnegan), was an unusually late date. A female *Red-breasted Merganser* was photographed on the Link River, KLAMATH, 5 Dec. (D. Menke); 2 were at Summer Lake WMA, LAKE, May 2 (M. St. Louis). This species has had increased records in KLAMATH during fall and winter in recent years.

An adult male *Hooded Merganser* X *Common Goldeneye* was seen 5 Dec., on the Link River in the same location as an immature seen last winter (D. Menke, photo at right). Six Ruffed Grouse, at a Rocky Point feeder, 6, 30 Sept. (J. van Hulzen) likely indicated a foraging family unit, while one at Crescent Lake, 17-18 July, KLAMATH, (D.Menke), and another, Bald Butte, 22 Aug., Fremont NF, LAKE, (J. Van Moorhem), were in areas of primarily Lodgepole Pine.

Red-necked Grebe observations at Rocky Point have been few over recent years; one on 9 May, might indicate continued use (J. van Hulzen); however one very late, 23 Dec., was present at Putnam’s Point, Upper Klamath Lake for several days (J. Carpenter). November 7, was a late date for 2, American White Pelican, at Putnam’s Point in Klamath Falls, (J. & S. Carpenter); at least one survived through to the end of the year.

Reports of Red-shouldered Hawk around Upper Klamath Lake continue to increase: 1, Crystalwood Lodge, 20 Sept., (C. Kisling), and one at Wood River Wetlands, 15 Oct. (W. Stone), and again on 12 Dec. (F. Lospalluto). In LAKE one was seen at Fremont Point, Winter Rim, 24 July, (T. Johnson, SAS). The earliest Merlin reported was 1, N. end of Abert Lake, 3 Sept., (T. Seager), while 1, near Putnam’s Point, KE, was on 14 Nov., (D. Hewitt). Fall reports of Peregrine Falcon included: 1, Spring Lake, Klamath Co., 4 Sept., (K. Spencer), 1, near Fort Klamath, 6 Sept., (M.K. Lewis), and 1, Stateline Rd., 12 Sept., (C. Kisling), while Spring reports included 1, TNC, Williamson River Delta, 22 May, (K. Spencer), and 1, near Rocky Point, May 30, (J. van Hulzen).

After their initial discovery a few summers ago, *Yellow Rails* have been found in successive years in a wet area south of Summer Lake, LAKE; four were heard there the night of June 4, (M. St. Louis); 5 there on 24 July, (T. Johnson, SAS). Twelve Sandhill Crane were seen moving south at Valley Falls, LAKE, 2 Sept., (T. Seager). Both Black-necked
Stilt, 2, and American Avocet, 5, were first of the year at Summer Lake WMA, 24 Mar., (M. St. Louis). A Wandering Tattler, June 6, Summer Lake WMA, was a very rare LAKE find (M. St. Louis). Seventeen Lesser Yellowlegs is a recent high count for the Klamath Basin on one day, 19 Sept. (NAMC). A family of Long-billed Curlew, 2 ad, 4 chicks, Straits Drain Units, 27 June, (P. Trail), confirmed breeding in that area for this year. On April 29th, six Red Knot were seen at Summer Lake WMA, LAKE, (M. St. Louis). Two Semipalmated Sandpiper were seen out on Goose Lake, west of Goose Lake SP, New Pine Creek, LAKE, 16 July, (S. Rottenborn).

Franklin’s Gull, 5, Goose Lake, seen from Goose Lake SP, New Pine Ck., LAKE, 4-16 July, (S. Rottenborn), a date that may indicate nearby breeding. Annually in late October and into November, canals empty at the end of the Klamath Basin growing season, and small fish and invertebrates are easy prey for Bonaparte’s Gull: 2056 were counted November 11 (Putnam’s Point) as they flew to a night roost on south end Upper Klamath Lake, (K. Spencer).

The last few years have seen increased reports of Band-tailed Pigeon in KLAMATH. One was seen Oct. 11 near Malone Springs, Westside Rd., (F. Lospalluto), and one, 7 Oct., at Crooked Creek State Hatchery, (D. Hewitt). A one-time visit of a Barred Owl, Sept. 2, Rocky Point yard, was enjoyed by J. van Hulzen. A Great Gray Owl was spotted along Hwy 62, the night of Dec. 7, near the Kimball-Jackson turnoff, where historically seen (T. Kemper); another was at the Lonesome Duck Ranch near Chiloquin, 26 Oct. (M. Moser). While conducting an area survey on 17 Oct., near Running Y Ranch, Klamath Falls, a Long-eared Owl was seen in small juniper in a choke cherry thicket on dry slope (K. Spencer). During the Hart Mtn. CBC, LAKE, 22 Dec., a Long-eared Owl near Hart Lk. (J. Geier, D. Benson), a Northern Saw-whet Owl, the Hot Springs, and a Short-eared Owl near Rock Ck., (both J. & W. Geier), padded the count. Common Nighthawk, 20+, Bliss Rd., KLAMATH, 30 May, was the first of the season (J. Van Moorhem), and 125, were foraging above Valley Falls, LAKE, 2 Sept., (T. Seager).

Black Swift, 1, Fremont Point, Winter Rim, LAKE, 24 July, was reported by T. Johnson, and Salem Audubon. A Black-chinned Hummingbird was at a Chiloquin feeder, 22 May (W. Stone). A photograph helped document a rare KLAMATH visit by a male Broad-tailed Hummingbird to a Rocky Point feeder, 25 July, (J. van Hulzen). American Three-toed Woodpecker, 1, was found in the Royce Mtn. burn, Crescent, KLAMATH (J. Notis).

Least Flycatcher, 1, Davis Lake, 11 July, KLAMATH, (D. Irons, S. Finnegan), was found where they had been occasionally reported prior to a fire several years ago. Black Phoebe, 1, was seen on Wing Watchers Trail, Klamath Falls, 3-9 Sept., (W. Stone, N. Strycker); another, Oct. 11, was near Malone Springs, Westside Rd., (F. Lospalluto) both KLAMATH. Very rare in LAKE was one at Goose Lake SP on 6 Sep. 2010 by Steve Rottenborn.

A Northern Shrike was seen at Wood River Wetlands, KLAMATH, Dec. 12, (F. Lospalluto), while another was seen at Hart Mtn. NWR HQ, LAKE, 22 Dec. (C. & M. Miller), and 2 others, Christmas Valley, 28 Dec., (K. Bodee, M. Golden).

The second Oregon state record if accepted, a YELLOW-THROATED VIREO was photographed at Goose Lake SP, LAKE, on 5 Sept., (S. Rottenborn).
While at Goose Lake SP, New Pine Ck., LAKE, a Red-eyed Vireo was seen on 22 June-16 July, (B. Campos, S. Rottenborn); present the previous summer at that location. A Blue Jay was using a feeder in Pine Grove outside of Klamath Falls from 23 Oct.-Nov. 21 and is the third in KLAMATH the last 20 years (J. Van Moorhem). One Purple Martin was seen in the Link River area of Klamath Falls on 15 May, KLAMATH, (fide D. Hewitt); where they’ve been seen the last few springs.

One Gray Catbird, at Little Deschutes River near Crescent, 10 June, (R. Robb), was at a location they have been occasionally detected during breeding season, but they are rare away from that location. One at a Klamath Falls yard, 11 June, (K. & R. Larson, photo below), was possibly a wayfaring vagrant, and yet another one was at Sprague River Wayside Rest-stop, 4 mi e. of Bly, on 1 Sept., (J. van Hulzen). One seen at Goose Lake SP, south of Lakeview, June (S. Finnegan), was a very rare LAKE occurrence. A Northern Mockingbird was seen near Fort Rock, LAKE, 25 July, (T. Johnson, SAS), while another was at Summer Lake WMA, 1 Aug., (P. Sullivan).

A Chestnut-sided Warbler, was seen in a Klamath Falls yard, 11 June, KLAMATH, (B. Matzen). One hatch-year CANADA WARBLER was captured and photographed at the Rocky Point banding station, on the west side of Upper Klamath Lake, 10 Sept., (Bob Frey, KBO) and is the first Klamath County record. Two Northern Waterthrush, were detected at Little Deschutes River near Crescent, KLAMATH, 10 June, (R. Robb), is a location where they have been previous summers, while two singing at Goose Lake SP, New Pine Ck., LAKE, on 16 July, (S. Rottenborn) was in an area not known to have nesting, but with potential habitat. A courtship display by a pair of California Towhee, was seen at California Ave., near the Link River, KLAMATH, on 17 May, (K. Spencer, KBAS).

American Tree Sparrows, were still present, Summer Lake WMA, Bullgate Campground, 14 Mar., (M. St. Louis). A single, likely migrating Lark Sparrow, was seen along permanent pasture in TNC’s portion of the Williamson River Delta, on 22 May, (K. Spencer). A White-throated Sparrow, 1, mixed with other sparrows at a Rocky Point feeder, persisted from 2 Oct. – 30 Oct. +, (D. Hewitt, J. van Hulzen, KBAS m.ob.). Lapland Longspur, 24, on 22 Dec., near Hart Lake, was a good number for LAKE, (J. Geier, D. Benson).

A first spring male Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen at a Klamath Falls feeder, KLAMATH, 20 May (R. Larson, ph), and a male was seen 15 Aug., near Fort Rock, (M. Reese). An Indigo X Lazuli Bunting was seen near the Oregon border at Goose Lake SP, New Pine Ck., LAKE, 16 July, (S. Rottenborn). A second LAKE record Common Grackle was seen May 22, at Summer Lake WMA HQ, (M. St. Louis). A single male Great-tailed Grackle was seen flying west from Wood River Wetlands and across Agency Lake, 17 May, (K. Spencer, KBAS); where detected in previous summers, while one at Crescent Lake Spring Campground, 27 July, (T. Gholson), was in a new location. A male and female were at Summer Lake WMA HQ, 4 June (M. St. Louis); (a male, possibly the same, was seen there on April 25th), another male joined the pair on June 6th, and one at Paisley sewage ponds, 1 Aug., (P. Sullivan) were rare LAKE records. Among many Bullock’s Orioles at feeders of a Lakeview yard, one Hooded Oriole was well described on 27 May, (D. Wenzel); a first LAKE County record.

Reports of Gray-crowned Rosy Finch included 110, near Watchman, 6 Sept., (N. Strycker), and about 60, 21 Oct., at the Mount Scott trailhead, (G. Holm); both were in Crater Lake NP where traditionally found. A rare find for the area, a single Pine Grosbeak turned up at Cabin Lake RS, LAKE, 2 June, (C. Blackard).
Unprecedented numbers of Snow Geese spent the winter of 2009-10 in northwestern Umatilla County. An estimated 2200 Snow Geese were at Cold Springs NWR on January 18, 2010 (A. Skirvin, G. Skirvin, J. Whitten, and C. Betts). A Eurasian Wigeon was at the Port of Umatilla (just upstream from McNary Dam) on February 6 (N. Hinds). Another Eurasian Wigeon was near Mission in late April (J. & S. Simons), and several observers reported at least two males at McNary Wildlife Nature Area from November 6 to December 31. Two female plumaged Surf Scoters were at the Warehouse Beach Recreation Area on the Columbia River on October 31 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten).

On January 3, a female Long-tailed Duck was at the Port of Umatilla (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten). Common Goldeneyes breed annually at Langdon Lake near Tollgate, and seven adults, including one male, were observed there on June 13 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten). Two female Hooded Mergansers with ducklings were seen on a pond near Rieth on June 13 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten) for the first breeding record for Umatilla County.

A white Common Loon was photographed on the Columbia River near the Sand Station Recreation Area on April 25 (K. Andrews). This is probably the same white Common Loon reported on Lake Roosevelt (the reservoir behind Grand Coulee Dam) in Washington on April 18 and 21. Several observers reported seeing the white loon numerous times on the Columbia River between McNary Dam and the mouth of Juniper Canyon Creek through August 27.

Clark's Grebes nested at Cold Springs NWR for the first breeding record for Umatilla County, and a pair of adults was seen feeding well-grown juveniles in September and October (N. Hinds, A. Skirvin, & J. Whitten).

A few Red-necked Grebes annually pass through Umatilla County during spring and fall migrations. One Red-necked Grebe was at McKay Creek NWR on May 21 (A. Skirvin) and two were seen on the Columbia River at McNary Beach Recreation Area on November 13 (R. & C. Louderback).

One American Bittern was observed at McNary Wildlife Nature Area on January 3 (A. Skirvin & June Whitten). Another was photographed in the same area on October 16 (N. Hinds). A lone White-faced Ibis was seen at McKay Creek NWR on May 23 (A. Skirvin), the first report of this species in Umatilla County since May 2007.

Three SNOWY EGRETS were found at Mission Ponds (3 miles east of Pendleton) on May 19 (J. Simons) for the second record of this species in Umatilla County. An adult Greater Sandhill Crane lingered at Ukiah until November 14 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten), well past normal fall migration.

Single Sanderlings were found at Cold Springs NWR on September 9 (A. Skirvin & June Whitten) and September 25 (N. & S. Hinds). A juvenile female RUFF was seen at Cold Springs NWR from October 9 – 11 (m. ob.) for the first
Umatilla County record. A first winter **BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** was at McNary Dam on December 4 (A. Skirvin, J. Whitten, & N. Hinds) and December 31 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten). An adult **Sabine’s Gull** was photographed at Cold Springs NWR on September 11 (N. Hinds).

The second record of **WHITE-WINGED DOVE** for Umatilla County was found at Cold Springs NWR on July 31 (N. Hinds). Eurasian Collared-Dove is expanding its range and numbers in Umatilla County. However, the flock of ~200 Eurasian Collared-Doves in a corn field near Hermiston on November 13 (A. Skirvin, J. Whitten, & B. Mayfield) was an unusually large concentration of this species (see section head photo).

One **Snowy Owl**, a species which is not seen annually in Umatilla County, was observed near Cayuse on February 6 (J. Johnson). An out-of-place Northern Pygmy-Owl was reported in early June (D. & L. Faxon), perching on a power line about 10 miles north of Pendleton. Although Great Gray Owls are widely distributed in the Blue Mountains of Umatilla County south and west of the Meacham Creek watershed, they are infrequently seen. Two Great Grays were reported this year: one on September 6 on Bridge Creek Flats (B. Whitten) and the other on September 7 about 15 miles south of Pilot Rock (J. & S. Jaeger).

The female **Anna’s Hummingbird**, first seen by J. and M. Engum at their feeder in southeast Pendleton in early December 2009, was last seen on February 24, 2010 (J. Engum). This was the first record of an Anna’s Hummingbird over-wintering in Umatilla County. On November 16, a female **Anna’s Hummingbird** visited a feeder in Pendleton (J. and D. Whitten). A drumming male **Western Scrub-Jay** was heard and seen at Woodward Campground near Tollgate on June 25 (D. Herr).

Western Scrub-Jay has been continuously reported in Hermiston neighborhoods since April 2009 and certainly breeding has occurred, but no one has reported finding a nest or young birds. Although still rare, **Western Scrub-Jay** is expanding its range in northwest Umatilla County, and during 2010, up to nine individuals were found on virtually every trip to McNary Dam, McNary Golf Course, or west Hermiston (m. ob.). Hermiston is an unexpected location for a Clark’s Nutcracker, but one was photographed there on December 31 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten).

The only Bohemian Waxwings reported during 2010 were two birds on November 11 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten) in the residential subdivision near Hat Rock State Park. A singing male **COMMON YELLOWTHROAT** was seen on July 16 (J. Barnett) at the Wanaket Wildlife Area, which is located about two miles east of McNary Dam.

On November 6, a **Swamp Sparrow** was observed at McNary Wildlife Nature Area (M. Denny, ML Denny, J. Gatchet, & N. Hinds). Two **Harris’s Sparrows** spent the winter at the McNary Wildlife Nature Area and were reported by several observers between January 1 and March 22. A **White-throated Sparrow** was seen at McNary Wildlife Nature Area on October 23 (A. Skirvin & June Whitten). Two **LAPLAND LONGSPURS** were photographed along Mud Springs Canyon Road on March 18 (D. Herr) for the third record of this species in Umatilla County.

A flock of 9 **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches** was photographed along Highway 244 about three miles east of Ukiah on January 24 (A. Skirvin & J. Whitten). Another flock of 11 **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches** was observed near Battle Mountain State Park on November 21(A. Skirvin & J. Whitten).

On November 8 and 9, a lone **COMMON REDPOLL** visited a feeder in Pendleton (J. & D. Whitten). Although still a rare species in Umatilla County, a few **Lesser Goldfinches** are reported annually in winter and late spring. Two were at a feeder in Pendleton on January 2 and again on March 3 (D. Herr) and one was at Thorn Hollow on June 12 (A. Skirvin).
Northeast

Cathy Nowak

100 Snow Geese and 200 Greater White-fronted Geese flew over Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area (LMWA) April 17 (K. Tran). These geese stop at LMWA spring and fall but require good/lucky timing to see them while they are there. A single adult Trumpeter Swan spent much of Aug at LMWA (T. Bray, C. Nowak). An adult Bewick’s Swan (a Siberian form of Tundra Swan) along with 3 juveniles most likely also Bewick’s were first found on LMWA Dec 17 and continued through Dec 30 (R.&R. Osterman, T. Bray, m.ob.).

A White-winged Scoter found at the La Grande Wastewater Treatment Ponds (LGWWT) was the 4th county record for the species (T. Bray). A female Long-tailed Duck, the 4th Union County (UC) record, was seen repeatedly at LGWWT in Nov. (T. Bray, C. Nowak).

A male Spruce Grouse was found near McCully Creek in Wallowa County 9/17 (R. Armstrong).

Trent Bray found and briefly video-recorded a PACIFIC LOON, the first ever in UC, at the LGWWT Oct 1. Two juvenile Red-necked Grebes were seen and photographed at LMWA 8/25 (C. Nowak, T. Bray). This species is a rare but nearly annual visitor to NE Oregon.

An American Bittern was seen near Hot Lake and on LMWA through Nov. and Dec., very late and probably wintering (C. Nowak, T. Bray, m.ob.). An unusually late and large group of 19 Great Egrets were at LMWA Sept 18 (C. Nowak).

A Ferruginous Hawk was seen in a field near LMWA first on 12/27 and continuing into 2011 (C. Nowak, m.ob.). This species is more difficult to find in UC than in some surrounding areas.

Up to 3 Semipalmated Plovers, an uncommon but annual species, were observed on a flooded field on Peach Rd, UC, in early Aug. (m.ob.). Long-billed Curlews, uncommon county nesters, were seen at scattered locations on LMWA March 21 – April 8 (C. Nowak) and 2 near Cove April 17 (K. Tranh). August migration made for interesting shorebirds at LMWA with a Marbled Godwit and Solitary,
Semipalmated, and Baird’s Sandpipers found among the common species (D. Trochlell, T. Bray). 9 Long-billed Dowitchers were on LMWA Oct. 28 and 2 stayed until complete freeze-up on Nov. 23, a very late record for this species (C. Nowak, T. Bray).

A Sabine’s Gull, rare but nearly annual, was at the LGWWT on 10/4 (T. Bray). Two Franklin’s Gulls, rare UC visitors, attended the LMWA Birdathon in May offering many people the opportunity to see them.

A Northern Saw-whet Owl made an appearance on the UC CBC on 1/3 for the first time in the 34 years of the count. Two Anna’s hummingbirds visited a feeder in La Grande through Dec. (T. Bray, R. Allen). Anna’s have been seen in La Grande every autumn since 2004; it seems if they come through and find a feeder, they will stay.

A Williamson’s Sapsucker was located on Glass Hill during the UC NAMC (T. Bray, C. Nowak). K. Tran found a White-headed Woodpecker near Deadman Pass in April. He also reported seeing Black-backed and American 3-toed Woodpeckers near Spring Creek and Am. 3-toed at Moss Springs.

UC’s CBC on 1/3 recorded the count’s first ever Say’s Phoebe. This species is uncommon but regular during spring and summer but is a rare find in winter. Also during the CBC, was a Loggerhead Shrike, the first Jan. record for UC, just the second on the county’s CBC and the first since 1979. A late/wintering Loggerhead Shrike was also seen on Golf Course Rd in Enterprise 11/7 (K. Tran, mob)

A Blue Jay and 2 Western Scrub-jays turned up in a Union yard Oct. 17. The Blue Jay was seen more or less regularly through Dec 26 (C. Nowak, mob.). One Scrub-jay was seen through Dec 12, the other was found dead 2 weeks after it was first seen. Another Western Scrub-jay was reported but not verified in La Grande in October. Blue Jay is nearly annual in the county but the scrub-jays were just the 3rd, 4th and possibly 5th UC records.

An American Pipit was found (freshly) dead in rural UC Nov 24, very late for this species (R. Osterman).

At least 3 Lapland Longspurs were in a flock of about 400 horned larks near Cove Nov 22 (T. Bray) and the next day, Nov 23, the same field also held 2 Snow Buntings (C. Nowak). On a trip to Wallowa Co. in late Nov., several observers found a single Lapland Longspur and several small flocks of Snow Bunting (K. Tran).

A Dark-eyed Junco of the gray-headed variety turned up at a feeder in La Grande 12/30 (D. Felley). This was the first record in UC and the 6th in Oregon.

Pine Grosbeak and White-winged Crossbill were seen in the McCully Cr. area of Wallowa Co.11/6 (K. Tran, mob). A trip to Wallowa Co. in late Nov. (K. Tran, D. Byrne, mob) turned up a flock of 30 Pine Grosbeak, a flock of 150 Gray-crowned Rosy-finch and a small flock of White-winged Crossbill. On 1/3, during the UC CBC, a single Lesser Goldfinch was seen. This species is becoming more regular in the area, appearing on 3 of the last 7 CBCs.
After a warmer and drier winter, Grant County had a wet and cool spring with temperatures averaging 6°F cooler in May and over one inch of precipitation above average in June. Bear Valley, home of Upland Sandpipers, experienced one of the snowiest Mays in memory. Summer was cooler and drier than normal, while fall was cooler and wetter. The usual Indian summer was sporadic and disappointing. Winter made pretenses of getting started in October, but showed up in full force in late December with heavy snowfall following Christmas and below zero temperatures on New Year’s Eve.

Winter 2010 - Two SNOW GEESE were seen just west of John Day on 1 Feb (O’L), 3 TUNDRA SWAN were seen just west of Mt Vernon on 12 Mar (TW), a Gadwall was near John Day on 7 Feb (O’L), a COMMON GOLDENECYE was found on the Prairie City sewage ponds on 17 Mar (CG), a BARROW’S GOLDENECYE was seen half-way between John Day and Dayville in early March (AF), and a HOODED MERGANSER was near John Day on 31 Jan (O’L). RING-NECKED PHEASANTS were found near Prairie City and John Day in January and February.

A rare RED-SHOULDERED HAWK was observed in Canyon City on 24 Jan (CG). RING-BILLED GULLS are uncommon in Grant County anytime of the year, but one was seen in Prairie City in January (TH). YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKERS have appeared the last couple of years. One was seen in Mt Vernon in January and a hybrid was in John Day in late January and early February. A SAY’S PHOEBE was seen at Monument in January (TH). WESTERN SCRUB-JAYS have become established as permanent residents in Mt Vernon and John Day. GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROWS were seen near John Day on 20 Feb (O’L).

Spring 2010 - Another SNOW GOOSE showed up for the first day of spring near John Day (O’L), as did a TUNDRA SWAN near Prairie City (CG). GADWALLS were found in John Day and Bear Valley in May (O’L, TH), and a LESSER SCAUP and a HOODED MERGANSER at Seneca on 24 Apr (O’L). No BLUE-WINGED TEAL were reported this year. GRAY PARTRIDGES seem to be increasing, with birds seen from April through November at Long Creek, Monument, Dog Creek (just east of John Day), and Prairie City. RING-NECKED PHEASANTS also seem to be increasing with spring and summer sightings in Monument, Dayville, John Day, and Prairie City. A GREAT EGRET was seen near Mt Vernon 21 Apr (LLD, O’L) and 22 Apr (TH). A LESSER YELLOWLEGS was found in Bear Valley 24 Apr (TH, O’L). A RING-BILLED GULL visited Prairie City in April (TH).

A BARRED OWL was found along Bear Creek east of Seneca on 3 May. This is only the second record of this species in Grant County, the other being from a Christmas Bird Count in 1987. GREAT GRAY OWLS were reported from Bear Valley from March through November. Most of these sightings were on private property on the north side of the valley, but one sighting was along Hwy 395 north of I see-Paulina Lane on 20 Mar (TS), another at the intersection of Hwy 395 north of I see-Paulina Lane in late May/early June (AS), and one at the beaver dam along Scotty Creek on the west side of Bear Valley, also in late May/early June (AS). A COMMON POORWILL was seen in the John Day area on 29 May (O’L). WHITE-THROATED SWIFTS returned to Goose Rock, JDBF by 12 Apr (AF, TH) and remained at least into September. ANNA’S HUMMINGBIRD appeared briefly in Mt Vernon in June (AF). Another YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER was found in Canyon City on 25 Mar (CG). All OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER sightings were in early to middle June, with sightings near John Day on 3 June (O’L), in Bear Valley on 15 June (BM, TW), and also in Ritter (AF).

There were no reports of WILLOW FLYCATCHERS this year. The only HAMMOND’S FLYCATCHERS reported were also in June: Ingle Creek south of Mt Vernon on 15 June (BM, TW) and in Logan Valley (MB). CORDILLERAN FLYCATCHERS have been
regular in Mt Vernon with the first report on 26 Apr (AF) and further sightings in May (AF). The only SWAINSON’S THRUSH reported was from upper Laycock Creek, south of Mt Vernon, on 15 June (BM,TW). NASHVILLE WARBLERS invaded the area in late April, with reports from Mt Vernon on 24 Apr (AF), Canyon City on 25 Apr (LLD), Dog Creek on 26 Apr (CG), and John Day on 27 Apr (O’L). The next sighting was in July. A BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER was heard singing in the upper Laycock Creek drainage 15 June (BM,TW).

A TENNESSEE WARBLER, a new species for Grant County, was sighted along Dog Creek on 14 May (CG). GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROWS were seen near John Day on 10 Apr (O’L) and in Mt Vernon on 7 May (AF). A rare ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK visited John Day on 1 June (EM). There has only been one other unconfirmed sighting. TRI-COLORED BLACKBIRDS stray through Grant County occasionally and one was sighted east of Canyon City in May (MW). Another rare grosbeak sighting was a PINE GROSBEAK that visited a yard sale in Prairie City on 5 June (AF).

Summer 2010 - The sparse populations of waterfowl tend to be hidden during the summer. A GADWALL was seen in Bear Valley in July (TH). MOUNTAIN QUAIL were found in several locations with sightings off the SFJD (AF) and near Dayville (TH) in early July, along Pine Creek (east of John Day) on 15 Aug and 18 Aug (CG), and in Fox Valley in September (TH). DUSKY GROUSE were only reported twice: near the SFJD in late June/early July and along the NFMR on 20 Sept (BM,TW). A MERLIN was seen at Dog Creek on 9 Sept (CG). These falcons are usually noted only in the winter. All the VIRGINIA RAIL sightings were in August at Dog Creek on 1 Aug and 18 Aug (CG), John Day on 7 Aug (O’L), and near Prairie City (TH). The only SORA report was from Bear Valley in early September (TH). RING-BILLED GULLS made a couple more visits, one to Prairie City in July (TH) and another to Dayville in August (TH). A FORSTER’S TERN was seen in Bear Valley in early July (CG) and the only BLACK TERN report was from Bear Valley in September (TH).

A WESTERN SCREECH-OWL was found at CHSP on 4 July (MAS). A NORTHERN PYGMY-OWL was heard along the NFMR on 21 Sept (BM,TW) and GREAT GRAY OWLS were observed all summer in Bear Valley except late July/early August. ANNA’S HUMMINGBIRDS were seen near John Day on 9 Aug and 2 Sept (O’L), and in Mt Vernon in early September (AF). An immature male COSTA’S HUMMINGBIRD stopped by John Day on 11 Sept (O’L).

A CORDILLERAN FLYCATCHER was observed feeding a juvenile BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD in Mt Vernon in August (AF). Outside of the April influx, the only other NASHVILLE WARBLER sighting was at Dog Creek on 26 July (CG). COMMON YELLOWTHROATS were found near Prairie City in July and August (TH). A GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW was seen at CHSP on 8 Sept (O’L).

Fall 2010 - Some SNOW GEESE stopped by John Day during their migration south on and stayed for a month between 17 Oct and 19 Nov (TH,O’L). 23 TUNDRA SWAN stopped at the pond west of Mt Vernon on 3 Nov (AF). COMMON GOLDEFINES were seen in John Day on 17 Dec and in Mt Vernon during the John Day CBC on 18 Dec. Ten HOODED MARGANSERS were found near Seneca on 14 Nov (O’L). Five MOUNTAIN QUAIL were seen up Frank Creek north of the JDFB HQ during the Antone CBC on 21 Dec (TH). 70 AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS were found near the pond west of Mt Vernon in November (AF). A DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT was found during the John Day CBC in Mt Vernon on 18 Dec. A GREAT EGRET stayed in the Mt Vernon area from 25 Oct through 16 Nov (AF). MERLINS were seen during the John Day CBC in the John Day and Mt Vernon areas on 18 Dec. A CALIFORNIA GULL was found at the Mt Vernon sewage ponds during the John Day CBC – a rare species in Grant County anytime of the year and only the second time on the John Day CBC. BARN OWLS are not uncommon in the John Day valley, but are elusive. The only one reported was found on the John Day CBC in John Day on 18 Dec. A WESTERN SCREECH OWL was heard in Mt Vernon in December (AF). A WILLIAMSON’S SAPSUCKER visited John Day in December (O’L) and a hybrid RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER stopped by John Day on 28 Oct (O’L). A BLUE JAY visited Dog Creek in October (CG). WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS were seen near John Day on 13 Nov and 20 Nov (O’L). GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROWS were noted in John Day on 3 Oct (O’L) and in Mt Vernon on 28 Nov (AF). A SNOW BUNTING was seen in Fox Valley on 30 Oct (AF). It has been over 20 years since the last report. RED CROSSBILLS and EVENING GROSBEAKS virtually disappeared from October on, with only a few scattered reports.

Cited Observers - Mike Bohannon (MB), Ann Frost (AF), Cecil Gagnon (CG), Tom Hunt (TH), Louise LeDuc (LLD), Barbara Meyer (BM), Elaine Mezzo (EM), Clarence & Marilyn O’Leary (O’L), Acynthia Sanford (AS), Mary Anne Sohlstrom (MAS), Teresa Southworth (TS), Malachi Wilson (MW), Tom Winters (TW).

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The winter of 2009-2010 was the warmest on record for some parts of the Pacific Northwest. Perhaps this was the case for southeastern Oregon as well. Spring however was atypically cold with snowfall until the end of May. It was an above average spring for neotropical vagrants, with their peak occurrence well into June. Numerous species considered by Oregon birders as "southern" were widely observed in the region, perhaps some indicative of range expansion. A statewide invasion of Blue Jays was first detected in this area in October.

Red-shouldered Hawks were noted by many observers from May through October, nearly all in the middle portion of the Donner-und-Blitzen Valley where they have been detected with growing frequency for about half a decade.

The first documented N. Mockingbird in Oregon was on Steens Mountain in 1935. Since then their increase in the area has been glacial. Detections this year include Coyote Buttes on May 22, Page Springs June 14. A Bewick’s Wren along the Blitzen north of P Ranch October 16 was the only report. As with the Red-shouldered Hawk, this species was first recorded in the Harney Basin by Bendire in the 1870s. The Red-shouldered record was long considered to be a mistake until the species’ appearance in the past decade. Bewick’s Wren was detected again in 1982. It has spread steadily throughout through the lower elevations of eastern Oregon, while the Malheur Refuge population appears to remain a disjunct population. Most visiting birders consider it common back home, so the species goes under-reported and its possible increase is poorly documented.

The Blue-gray Gnatcatcher is highly unusual to birders based west of the Cascades, and it is one of the first species for visiting birder to consider noteworthy. One was at Fields 5/5, another at Krumbo Reservoir 5/30. Another two miles north of Frenchglen 6/16 rounds out spring reports. One on Palomino Butte in the O0 Unit 9/12 was the only Fall report. The fact that a pair was observed just south of the Dalles 5/26 shows that SE Oregon is now well behind the front of the wave.

Western Scrub-Jays have been in Burns a few years now in very limited numbers. Larry Hammond noted one at his house in Hines 5/20. Five appeared at the Musser residence near Wright’s Point 15 miles south of Burns on 9/25, the first detection there in over 8 years of observation. At least two were still present on 11/8. A W. Scrub-Jay appeared 10/30 at the Bowers’s residence five road miles west of Hines, the 4th record there in 19 years. It was still present 12/18. The Scrub Jays collected by Gabrielson and Jewett on Steens Mtn. in the 1930s were Woodhouse’s.
numbers at the time seem to have been comparable to the Mockingbird population there. None have been recorded there in recent years, while the birds in the Burns area are Western and in all likelihood arriving from central Oregon.

Great-tailed Grackles, now well established in the Humboldt River Valley of Nevada, were almost absent from se Oregon this year. One on 6/13 a mile east of Burns is the only report. Perhaps this is the result of the very cold spring. Common Grackles now nest in eastern Idaho. At least two made it to Harney County in 2010, at Fields 5/24 and in the Frenchglen-Steens Mtn. Resort area 5/29 into early June. Statewide the Great-tailed is the more frequent species detected, and there are numerous cases of them being reported as "Common". Some details when reporting a "Common Grackle" are probably appropriate throughout Oregon.

A female Hooded Oriole was at Fields 5/29, again on 6/3, a male there 6/4 and one of each sex 6/6. These coincided with another presumed over-migrant of southern origin. Single Lesser Nighthawks were reported from Krumbo Reservoir 6/5 and Fields 6/7, the latter a female in a flock of migrating Common Nighthawks. A White-winged Dove was in Denio, Nevada on the state line 6/6, while the Band-tailed Pigeon in Fields 5/23 may be better explained as an over-migrant from the southern Rockies population rather than a vagrant from the West Coast.

A bird that almost has to be a titmouse appeared at the Cottrell residence south of Burns Jct. 12/4. Green Herons are strictly accidental (so far) in eastern Oregon, so two records this year are very intriguing. One was along the Blitzen River near P-Ranch for the five days leading up to 10/4. Karen Cottrell reported one along Crooked Creek south of Burns Jct. for multiple days prior to 12/4. This is possibly the first winter record for eastern Oregon and the only one for Malheur County. Crooked Creek is a tributary of the Columbia Basin.

Two Common Loons at Krumbo Reservoir 5/9 were the only reported this year. A Red-necked Grebe there 5/29 was also the only report. Eared Grebes did not seem harmed by this summer's high water. 100+ pair at West Knox Pond and 600+ at Boca Lake nested successfully. Bufflehead were reported in numbers well into summer. The latest report 16 at Krumbo Reservoir 6/30. Some 'early' Snow Geese in Burns 9/17 may be the same non-migrants observed during the summer at the sewage treatment plant.

A Broad-winged Hawk was observed by many at Fields 5/5, while one there 9/16 was well photographed. A Rough-legged Hawk along Hwy 205 (Diamond Ln jet) 9/13 seems early, but the species has been observed sparingly on Steens Mtn over the years a full month ahead of its arrival west of the Cascades. Another seen near the refuge 10/7 was more timely. A Merlin 10 miles south of Roaring Springs Ranch 7/17 may have been an early, non-breeding migrant. But this habitat is similar to that of the "Prairie" Merlin at its southern extent of breeding in Wyoming. A detailed description would be interesting.

Most colonies of Franklin's Gulls failed to breed successfully...
this year, such as the 600 pair colony at Diamond Swamp. The same high water and bad weather doomed California Gull nesting as well. But as of 7/8 the 5500 Franklin’s Gulls nesting at Ibis Pond seemed to be doing fine. Three hatch-year California Gulls at Malheur Refuge 7/11 may have come from elsewhere. A pair of Upland Sandpipers seen very briefly at Silvies 5/24 give hope that the species is still a breeding bird in this state, but it was the only report.

The first southbound migrant shorebirds were noted in the OO Unit 7/5: 4 Greater Yellowlegs, 1 Lesser, 2 Western Sandpipers, and a Long-billed Dowitcher. By 7/18 they were abundant on the refuge, dominated by Long-billed Dowitchers and Western Sandpipers, but 100 Red-necked Phalaropes were also noted. An adult Pectoral Sandpiper south of Burns was rather lonely, in contrast to the 15 at the Narrows 9/11, up to 30 the next day and 100 by 9/13. High water levels that hurt some breeding species earlier in the year probably resulted in the Narrows being such a bonanza for birders in mid-September. A Stilt Sandpiper was seen 9/11 and an American Golden Plover 9/16. An adult Herring Gull was there 9/11 and a single Mew was with 100 Ring-bills 10/4.

A Flammulated Owl at HQs 5/27 might have gone undetected were it not for unwelcome attention from Magpies. It had taken refuge in a ground squirrel hole, perhaps hoping to benefit from the heat bank of Mother Earth in the midst of false Spring. A female Broad-tailed Hummingbird was at Roaring Springs Ranch 6/1, a male at HQs 6/6. Four or more Red-naped Sapsuckers in Frenchglen 10/3 were part of a strong movement through the region last Fall. One was at Bowers’ west of Hines 10/6, the first record in 19 years, as was a Williamson’s Sapsucker 10/11.

The only Least Flycatcher was at Fields 6/10.

The Gray Catbird was no earlier in its arrival than other passerines, the first at HQs 5/31. At least one was at Fields 6/1, 3, 5, 7, and 8, two on 6/10. One appeared at Bowers’ 10/6 and remained through the 11th, also a new species to the property after 19 years’ observation. Prior to uncontrolled livestock grazing in the late 1800s and early 1900s eastern Oregon had extensive riparian habitat and Gray Catbirds may have been a regular breeding species.

2010 was outstanding for vagrant warblers. A Chestnut-sided Warbler at Denio Canyon 5/30 was followed by a male at Fields 6/3 and 5, one at HQs 6/6. Female Tennessees were noted at HQs 5/31 and Fields 6/5. A female Blackpoll Warbler was at Benson Pond Bridge 5/30 and 3.5 miles south of there 6/15. A male Hooded Warbler was at Fields 6/4-5. A Northern Parula was there 6/5, joined by a second later in the day, seen side-by-side. Another was singing 6/4-5 at Page Springs. A male Am. Redstart was at Fields 6/2, 3, 5

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and 7. A female was at HQs 6/4 and two 6/6. Black-and-white Warblers were at Fields 5/27, 30; 6/4, 7; Frenchglen
6/4 and HQs (two or more females) 6/6. An Ovenbird at HQs 6/6 was the only one of the year, as was a Northern
Waterthrush at Fields 6/7.

A Red-eyed Vireo at Fields 6/10 was a safe ID. Three other more exotic species of vireo were duly reported
and retracted/contested during the preceding fortnight. Two outstanding warbler species were seen in the fall only: A
Blue-winged and Blackburnian at Fields 9/15, an immature Blackburnian at HQs 9/16-17. Late dates include two
Orange-crowns, three Yellows, and a Wilson's at HQs 10/2 when it was 90 degrees F. A Warbling Vireo there that
day remained 10/3 along with one Yellow Warbler and two Yellowthroats. A Nashville Warbler at HQs 10/5 was three
weeks later than any previous fall date. A Palm Warbler was there 10/6. A Warbling Vireo lingered at Fields 10/25, while a Swainson's
Thrush was noted there 10/6 and 14. Hammond's Flycatchers were at HQs 10/3 and 5 along with 45 Barn Swallows. Another
Hammond's was at Benson Pond 10/5.

Part of the 5/22 fallout included a Baltimore Oriole at Larry Hammond's in Hines. While Bullock’s Orioles were already present at
Cottrells’ south of Burns Jct. and Bowers’ west of Hines two weeks earlier, much greater numbers
landed with Black-headed Grosbeaks during the snowy weekend. Rich Hoyer saw the Baltimore
on 5/23 and thought it might be a hybrid. The only other spring report was 6/4 on the Central
Patrol Road. A female was noted at HQs 9/17.

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were in Fields 6/1, 2, 3, 4 and 13. The latter two detections
specified “female”. One was at Frenchglen 6/4 and Roaring Springs Ranch 6/5. An Indigo
Bunting was at Denio Canyon 5/30. A female at
HQs 9/16 remained the next day. A female BLUE GROSBEAK was at P-Ranch on 14 October was an exceptional
record (Robert Whitney).

The first report of Black Rosy-finch came 7/17 from the Kiger Gorge overlook. While the Steens Mtn road was
open that day, the full loop was not. On 8/11 three were near the same spot, while 100 were at the east rim 9/13. A
White-throated Sparrow was noted in Fields sometime during the week ending 5/5, and one on the CPR 5/22. The latter perhaps part of the fallout that brought another White-throat to Bowers’ on 5/23, the third in 19 years. A tan-
stripe individual was at HQs 10/3-4. Varied Thrush, Mtn Chickadee, and “Winter” Wren were there 10/16.

The splitting of the Winter Wren may occasion some of the anguish each fall that vireos bring every spring to the
vagrant traps of se Oregon. Likewise, if the AOU approves splitting
the “Mountain” Chickadee, the most likely place in Oregon to find “Gambell’s” “Chickadee will be here. The accepted wisdom is the
birds in Malheur and Harney Counties outside the Blue Mountains
are P. inyoensis, and thus would be “Bailey’s Chickadee” after the
split. But it deserves closer scrutiny. A Slate-colored Junco was at
Fields 10/25. That same day 75 Ravens frequented the Fields dump, where 10 is normal.

A Blue Jay at Juntura heralded an invasion year, with one in
Bend by 10/1. One was in Fields 10/26 and at Musser’s near
Wright’s Point 11/8, remaining on 11/15. The latter was the second
record in 8 years, the previous from 2004. A Steller’s Jay at Bowers’
10/15 was the third in 19 years. Deep snow by late December
prevented complete coverage of Harney County raptor surveys.
The December Jordan Valley survey, run 12/22, counted 54 Red-
tails, 30 Rough-legs, 4 Ferruginous Hawks, 21 Northern Harriers,
19 Golden Eagles, 19 Kestrels, 4 Prairie Falcons, 1 Merlin, 1
Goshawk, and 3 Cooper’s.
Predation by Brewer’s Blackbirds on a Gray Flycatcher

Photo Essay by Barbara Fox

During the unusual snowstorms and cold in southeastern Oregon in late May, 2010, photographer Barbara Fox observed three Brewer’s Blackbirds pursue a grounded Gray Flycatcher. One of the blackbirds caught the flycatcher and flew off with it. Photos taken 22 May 2010 at the parking area at French Round Barn historic site, Harney County Oregon.
The Varied Thrush, *Ixoreus naevius*, is a bird restricted to the coniferous forests of western North America. During the late fall and winter, it can be found at lower elevations and is commonly seen in the Willamette Valley and other Oregon locations. During these months, many individuals may extend their habitat selection beyond coniferous forests into oak woodlands, mixed forests and even nearby suburban neighborhoods.

Many people who feed birds, but are not well-acquainted with bird identification, may see one or more individuals foraging in their yards during these non-breeding times. For many of these people, the Varied Thrush bears a strong resemblance to the very familiar, American Robin, *Turdus migratorius*. A dark breast band, an orange supercilium, orange wingbars, and other easily seen features can readily distinguish it from the Robin, but it remains a “new bird” for many. Each year I get calls from people about a strange robin in their yard and colloquial names, such as “Oregon Robin,” “Alaska Robin,” or “Canadian Robin” are sometimes used. Until directed to look up Varied Thrush, people with little birding experience often don’t find it in their field guides. Imagine the confusion when a Varied Thrush shows up that is white instead of orange. No such picture can be found in the field guides.

In early December, 2010, I was contacted by Saundra Miles and her husband Joe Blakely about a strange bird that was in their backyard, just three miles south of downtown Eugene, Oregon. They are not avid birders, but do enjoy feeding birds in their yard. Saundra was able to obtain a distant photo of a bird that appeared to be a Varied Thrush but was white where this species is normally orange. The next morning, I visited their home and was able to obtain the photo above.

As the photo clearly shows, in appearance, this bird looks like a Varied Thrush in all respects except that it is white in all places that a normal Varied Thrush is rusty-orange. According to *Birds of North America Online* (George, 2000), such variants have only been reported in the scientific literature twice—one in Berkeley, California in 1921, and in Cornwall, Britain in 1982. The British bird was the first of only two records for this species outside of North America. The bird from Berkeley was brought to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley, alive, but with a broken wing. It was later included in the museum collections (specimen no. 41851), and was determined to be a female upon examination (Law, 1931). The bird from Britain was not taken and its sex is unknown.

The bird seen in Eugene is also of unknown sex. It is paler than a typical male, but the aberration causing the unusual pigmentation may influence the overall coloration of the bird, making sex determination by plumage perhaps more difficult to assess than usual.

Since this bird was first seen, other white Varied Thrushes have also been reported. A second bird was seen and photographed in north Eugene by Don Schrouder on February 13, 2011. A comparison of Don’s photos with the bird I photographed clearly show differences, indicating a second bird from the Eugene area. After Don’s posting on Oregon Birders Online, other reports of such birds were brought to my attention.

As many as eight reports were noted by Jim Anderson and Tom Crabtree (personal communication) from Central Oregon. One such bird was photographed in October, 2010 and another in November. Some of these sightings may be of the same bird, but it is entirely possible that there was more than one white Varied Thrush in this region. In fact, since some of these sightings are from different locales, Tom Crabtree suggests that at least four birds, if not more, should be considered to account for these Central Oregon sightings. As late as March 8, 2011, Jamie Simmons reported on OBOL of a white Varied Thrush seen and photographed in North Albany. Such birds have also been seen in previous years. Sherry Hagen of Vancouver, Washington sent me a link <http://www.pacifier.com/~birder/birds.html> to photos of a white Varied Thrush taken in her back yard in 1998.
We will likely never know where all of these white Varied Thrushes originated. Nor are we likely to know which subspecies they belong to. Gabrielson and Jewett list two subspecies of Varied Thrush, I. n. naevius and I. n. meruloides as occurring in Oregon (Gabrielson & Jewett, 1940). Joseph Grinnell (1901) described these two subspecies, (his names were Hesperocichla naevia naevia and H. n. meruloides) and based his naming on small plumage differences he found in a few females. Comparing a series of 146 specimens, Robert Ridgway (1907) disagreed with this, stating that Grinnell’s noted differences were individual variation that can occur in any population. Birds of North America Online lists the races cited by Grinnell and two additional subspecies (I. n. carlottae and I. n. godfreyi) described later. The differences between all of the subspecies appear to be based on subtle differences of female plumage.

During the winter, Varied Thrush can be found as far south as southern California. Grinnell (1901) states that all of the birds found that far south are of the meruloides subspecies. This is also the most likely subspecies to be found out of range (winter records in eastern North America). Grinnell additionally states that this is the subspecies that breeds the farthest to the north. In Oregon, both I. n. naevius and I. n. meruloides are known to breed and be found during winter. The other two subspecies are possible winter visitors but unconfirmed, (Marshall et al., 2003).

It is the color (or lack of) that makes these abnormal birds of special interest. If some could ever be found breeding, it might help us gain some insights into seasonal movements of Varied Thrushes in Oregon. However, given the scarcity of this aberration and the difficulty in locating Varied Thrush nests, it is unlikely that this will be a strong data source.

Based on examination of the Berkeley specimen, Law (1931) suggested that the orange coloration was due to lipochrome (carotenoid) pigments in the keratin of the feather and that the ratios between this pigment and the underlying melanin accounted for the differences in color intensity that we see between male and female Varied Thrushes.

We can’t be certain of the exact cause of this color aberration, but I would like to suggest that it does not come from a lack of carotenoid pigments. Carotenoids are all derived from plants and cannot be directly produced by animals, but they are abundant and are likely present in the diet of most bird species. They play a role in the coloration of skin or other bare parts of a bird and are utilized by the immune system. Carotenoids are also responsible for the color found in many feathers, but the colors they impart are usually bright yellow, red and bright orange, not rusty-red. Many species have rusty-red to rusty-orange feathers (Cinnamon Teal, Spotted Towhee, American Robin, etc.) including Varied Thrush. However, this coloration is not caused by carotenoids, but by the presence of phaeomelanin.

Melanin occurs in two forms: eumelanin and phaeomelanin. Eumelanin consists of regularly-shaped, rod-like granules approximately 1 micron in size (Welty and Baptista, 1988). These granules are responsible for black, brown, and dark gray feather colors. Phaeomelanin granules are irregular in shape and reflect back wavelengths that create rusty-reds and oranges and some pale yellows, but it does not cause the bright reds and yellows, such as seen in warblers, orioles, finches and other groups of birds. Like eumelanin, phaeomelanin is produced by other animals, as well as birds, and it is the pigment responsible for red hair in humans, for example.

In the Varied Thrush, as in American Robins, Spotted Towhees, and other birds with similarly colored plumages, phaeomelanin produces the rusty-orange color of the breast, under-tail coverts, and elsewhere. The dark plumages are caused by eumelanin. Eumelanin gives strength to the feather and increases resistance to feather wear and damage from parasites. Black flight feathers are common on many birds, especially those that are highly migratory. Snow Geese, American White Pelicans, Western Tanagers, and many, many more all have black or very dark primaries and secondaries. Phaeomelanin often occurs in combination with eumelanin in feathers and the relative amounts of each melanin type leads to differences in the color we perceive. Note the subtle differences in color across the body of a Wrentit, for example, due to the relative proportions of eumelanin and phaeomelanin.

In the white Varied Thrush variants, the rusty-orange color is absent, as can be clearly seen in the photo. These birds are able to produce eumelanin because all of the dark areas are normally pigmented, only the orange is absent, but it would seem that the ability to produce phaeomelanin is mostly lacking. In addition to the obvious lack of
orange, some of the dark areas may differ from normal.

To understand how this may occur, we need to look briefly at how melanin is produced. Many kinds of animals naturally produce melanin in specialized skin cells called melanocytes. These cells are able to take the amino acid tyrosine, and convert it through a series of biochemical reactions, into melanin. An albino is an individual that is unable to utilize tyrosine in this way and therefore, does not make melanin, either eumelanin or phaeomelanin. In non-albinos, after the process of converting tyrosine is underway, a chemical known as DOPA-quinone is produced. DOPA-quinone is a precursor to melanin and is directly converted to eumelanin. In the presence of cysteine, another amino acid, some of the DOPA-quinone is converted to phaeomelanin.

It is most likely this conversion to phaeomelanin that cannot be completed in this bird, perhaps because of a defective enzyme necessary for this conversion. It is unlikely that there is any lack of cysteine, however. Cysteine is a non-essential amino acid and it is readily available in the diet. (Essential amino acids must be obtained in the diet and non-essential amino acids are produced in the body.) Cysteine is necessary for adequate production of beta-keratin, the primary component of feathers. Since this bird has fully developed feathers, there must be no lack of cysteine, just the ability to utilize it in combination with DOPA-quinone to produce phaeomelanin.

These white Varied Thrushes are striking in appearance. Except for the lack of orange color, they look and behave just as any other Varied Thrush. Although still very rare, they appear to occur with greater frequency than the previous literature would suggest. But why are there so many being seen now?

We may never know, but I suspect it may partly a result of more Varied Thrushes occurring in Oregon this year and more observers. Many people have reported that the numbers of Varied Thrush seen this fall and winter is far higher than usual. I have received many inquiries from people who feed birds in their yards about Varied Thrushes, which they have never seen before. The vast majority of Varied Thrushes remain in the forests where they can be difficult to see. It is entirely possible that some of these white variants occur each year, but remain undetected in the forest. With the very high number of Varied Thrushes in the region this year, there is a greater probability that some will occur where people are more likely to observe them.

Additionally, the number of people who enjoy watching birds is significantly higher than in past decades. The many observations of these birds around human environments that we now have for just this year suggest that many more of these birds likely exist in more remote forests. It would certainly be worth noting such birds in future years to know where and with what frequency they can be found.

Citations:


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2010 Photo Contest

Judge for the 2010 contest was noted bird photographer Bill Schmoker of Colorado.

http://schmoker.org
http://brdpics.blogspot.com

3rd Prize (tie)

Pied-billed Grebe
Knute Andersson (Langlois)

Pileated Woodpeckers
Lois Miller (Port Orford)

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http://www.fws.gov/oregoncoast/shorebirdfestival.htm

Shorebirders, photo by Floyd Schrock
Remembrances of a Best Friend

John Crowell

I grew up in New Jersey, in May 1959, I moved my young family to Oregon. Sometime in the spring of 1964, I received a letter from Howard Drinkwater, an older member of the Urner Ornithological Club, a men's birding club in New Jersey. Howard's letter informed that a guy my age and a relatively new member to the Club named Bill Thackaberry was moving his young family to Oregon as I had done, and that Howard had encouraged Bill to contact me when he and his family were settled in Oregon; I had never met Bill. He and I subsequently determined that Bill had attended his first Urner Club meeting the very month I had moved to Oregon.

Consequently, on August 2, 1964, according to my still ongoing birding journal, I first met Bill in Tillamook to start a long day of birding. Alan Baldridge was with me. The only independent recollection I have now of the day is that I got too far over in driving out the then narrow dirt road from Cape Meares light house to give room to a car coming the other way: the berm gave way and we were stuck. Bill and Alan walked back to the Coast Guard house, which stood then where the parking lot is now, and telephoned for a tow truck; the truck arrived in due course and enabled us to resume birding. My journal states that we found 96 species that day, including a Fork-tailed Petrel flying back and forth over part of Tillamook Bay, Tufted Puffins—a few of which nested in those days on the north side of Cape Meares—and three other species of alcids. In now reviewing that day's list, I count 29 species not found in New Jersey, so Bill certainly added some lifers that day.

Bill soon made contact with other Oregon birders through the Corvallis Audubon Society. Sometime in late 1964, Bill agreed to become the compiler for the Tillamook Christmas Bird Count, the count had been started the year before by Joe Strauch who at the time was a grad student at Oregon State. Bill continued as compiler until 1986 when he passed the job to Owen Schmidt. In Bill's years as compiler, the count gradually attracted more and more young birders, many of them a generation younger than we, who were fast developing their now considerable birding skills.

I met Bill in Oregon in the 60s, when he organized the Tillamook Christmas count that I participated in for several years. Birding in Oregon was then, one might say, in its infancy, with too few birders for such a big, diverse state. Bill brought from New Jersey, a birding style familiar to me. It happened that Bill and I had a common friend from New Jersey, Don Kunkle. Don was a Bucknell University student when I was a young birder in Central Pennsylvania, when he founded the Bucknell Ornithological Club. As an 11 yr-old member of this club, I lived each week looking forward to joining the next birding adventure with this group.

To me, Bill Thackaberry was always a reminder of my heady birding days in Pennsylvania, as his keen observations always had that extra certitude given by a matchless New Jersey accent. I join the rest of you who have had the pleasure of Bill's company, in missing him.

Larry McQueen (Eugene)

I did not know Bill well, but we did exchange friendly banter over who had seen the most bird species on our respective farms, and the obvious zest he had for life was a bright spot in the gatherings on the Tillamook CBC. With his passing there has been a sunset in Oregon birding.

Darrel Faxon (Toledo)
The Tillamook Count became and remains a consistently leading Christmas count in Oregon. Bill was present for every count from 1964 until 2010 when he could no longer participate because of deteriorating health. Bill was present for every count from 1964 until 2010 when he could no longer participate because of deteriorating health.

After our first outing and over the years, Bill and I birded much of the western Oregon together, from Medford and Bandon to the Columbia River. For many years we made annual forays to Leadbetter Point in southwest Washington. We also made numerous trips to Malheur Refuge and the Steens, covering a patch of the Cascades and the high desert country en route, with occasional side trips to the Klamath Basin, Juniper Mountain, and area north of Burns, and in more recent years to Fields. For a long time we also made annual winter trips to central Oregon and once or twice went all the way to extreme northeastern Oregon in the dead of winter.

In 1979 or 1980 at the invitation of Peter Jennings, Bill joined Peter in a birding trip to Costa Rica. Peter was our age and he and Bill had come to know each other in a sabbatical year Peter spent at Oregon State University. Bill and Peter made another birding trip together in northwestern Colombia in 1981, a trip on which I was invited but I had to miss because it took place just after I had moved to Washington, D. C, to join the new administration of President Reagan. I did make the 1982 and 1983 trips with Bill to Colombia, hosted and arranged by Peter who was then living in Dapa, a short distance from Cali.

The first South American trips hooked both Bill and I on tropical birding. Between 1984 and 2002, we made seven trips together to South America and three to sub-Saharan Africa, stopping en route a couple of times in England and Wales. Scattered among those trips were others. Bill and Peter went to India on one trip and to southeast Asia and Australia on another. I made one additional trip to South Africa, and went also to Australia, to Argentina, to Costa Rica, and twice to Peru without Bill.

After I came back to Oregon from Washington, D.C., I took a year off. Bill and I made an almost four-week trip during April and May of 1985 in my new camper to the Texas coast and southeastern Arizona. Bill Elliot, a former Oregonian, joined us for most of the trip which pretty well rounded out our lists of regularly occurring birds in North America. In 1987, Bill and I went back to the Texas coast to participate by invitation as members of a sponsored team in the

My first encounters with Bill Thackaberry were at a distance, beginning in 1973 when Alan Contreras decided it would be a good idea for him, his brother John, Sayre Greenfield, and me to have my dad drive us to do the Tillamook CBC. That was the year of my first Snowy Owl. I remember getting a note from Bill and his wife Sarah complimenting me on the neatness of my data sheets. It may have been that year or one of many that came later. Even at that young age, I was never made to feel unwanted or unappreciated on the Tillamook Count.

Bill’s son, Dan, and I lived next door to one another for four years at OSU. Dan specializes in butterflies and we had many adventures together. Just this summer, Bill’s son-in-law, Chris, came looking for Black Petal-tails here in Clatsop County on Onion Peak.

The last Tillamook Count I did (early 90’s) was with Bill in his traditional chunk of southeast corner. It was a bright sunny day that included a huge Wilson’s Snipe flock, Black-crowned Night-herons in an unexpected location (which we were supposed to keep under our hats so Gilligan wouldn’t find them), a strict policy of no Swamp Sparrows by call only (we had to see them to count them) and a possible House Wren that neither of us really wanted to have to report.

He will be missed.

Mike Patterson (Astoria)

For those who never had the opportunity to meet him, Bill Thackaberry was one of those one-of-a-kind people who leave an impression on everyone they meet. I can’t think about Bill without smiling. His generation of birders, those who knew Peregrine Falcons as “Duck Hawks” and American Wigeon as “Baldpates,” is, sadly, shrinking in ranks.

I’d heard stories about Bill before first meeting him on the eve of the 1978 Tillamook Bay CBC. As soon as we walked in the door, Bill immediately started giving Jeff a hard time about some recent rarities that he’d found. Crowell, Olson, and “Thack,” as we occasionally referred to Bill, represented the “Old Guard” to us. It was their place to grill the “Young Guard.” This was the first of many encounters with Bill that resulted in a smile on my face.

I always figured that Bill would be one of those old-time birders who just faded away from birding as he got up in years. When I returned to Oregon at the end of the 1990’s, it was a joy to learn that once he “retired” from the day-to-day running of the farm etc. he started traveling the world to go birding. I remember seeing his son-in-law Jeff Harding’s OBOL post just a few days ago in which Jeff mentioned running a Linn Co. raptor route with Bill. Once again it brought a smile to think of Bill out there doing something he very much enjoyed on what would turn out to be one of his last days.

His was damn fine company that I enjoyed far too few times. Like many others, I will miss him.

Dave Irons (Portland)
first Great Texas Birding Classic. Our team of five was put together by the reason of repeated importunities to Dick Thorsell from the guy responsible for fielding a team on behalf of two major private electric utilities in Texas who were being strong-armed by the Texas Fish and Game Commission to sponsor a team. Dick pulled together four other ex-Urner Clubbers living in different parts of the country, all of whom were in our mid to late sixties. We five had a grand time and performed respectably in the competition held over the course of a week. Since then I have gone back to the Texas coast every April. I dragged Bill into going along again in 2006.

I don’t mean to convey the impression that Bill and I did all our birding together. We didn’t. By the time he died, Bill knew many more of Oregon’s present birding community than I do. Bill birded with many others, principally Don MacDonald who made many Oregon trips with Bill; sometimes I was along. Don died in 2006. Bill exclaimed many times after that how much he missed Don. Bill also birded a lot with his son-in-law, Jeff Harding, who, largely under Bill’s tutelage, has become a competent and knowledgeable birder in his own right.

Bill was really a quite remarkable individual. He never went to college, but was naturally curious, widely read, and was authoritatively knowledgeable about a lot of things, often with insightful perspectives that had not occurred to me. He had a great deal of common sense and was often an amused observer of the human condition; he appreciated jokes, funny stories and happenings (even if he had heard them before), but was not much for relating them unless they happened to him. He was great company, and never wore on one—at least not on me—even after many consecutive days together.

Yet I hesitate to say Bill was my single best friend because fifteen or twenty years ago I realized I had a dozen best friends. All twelve of them were men about my age and were guys I had known for many years. Nine of them were my “best friends” by the time I was 24 years old from elementary, middle, high school, college and Navy days. All twelve except one were college graduates and all, with one exception because he was Canadian, had served in the U.S. armed forces for two to four years. Bill had turned down a chance to go to Officer Candidate School because acceptance would considerably have extended his time of service; subsequently as sergeant when I started birding in the early 1960s there were very few birders in the state. That small group included Harry Nehls, Roy Fisk, John Crowell, Jim Olson, Otis Swisher, Alan Baldridge and Bill Thackaberry. In those years one could go for years without seeing another birder in the field, even in well known birding areas like Sauvie’s Island. Before then there were “Auduboners” — people who might go for a field trip to see Great Blue Herons, Red-tailed Hawks, etc. and have a picnic.

There were also a few ornithologists and museum collectors and oologists (Ira Gabrielson, Stanley Jewett, Alex Walker, etc.) whose time had or was coming to an end. Bill was one of the first in the transition to recreational birding that was additional to the appreciation of the ordinary, and beyond the era of the collector and pioneering scientist. He was one of the first to start a Christmas count based on how many species might be found, and to organize the count to maximize its list potential. He looked for micro-habitats that might support unusual species in large areas of other habitats.

He was the first I recall to go on a deep water pelagic by getting a ride on an OSU research boat to the continental shelf - because the quite new practice of chartering a fishing boat for an eight hour pelagic trip had its limitations as to how far off shore one could get. He was one of the birders who would have taken a long hike to the end of Leadbetter Point to be timed to the tides in order to maximize the chance of seeing rare shorebirds. Bill was one of the first to do what now many of the subscribers to OBOL now do routinely. One of the earliest of us has passed.

Jeff Gilligan (Portland)
of a machine gun platoon in Korea he was badly wounded; he carried pieces of shrapnel too small to remove for the rest of his life. Five of my twelve best friends were birders and three of the five—including Bill—I first met after moving to Oregon.

Incidentally, I would characterize three of my five birding best friends as, like me, hard core birders. Bill was one of those three. A hard core birder is one for whom birding is a passion, who is always aware of the birds around him, enjoys seeing, listening to, and watching over and over again even the commonest species but most of all who make trips away from home to find and see species he has never seen before, or a bird which is rare or out of place for the locality in which it is found.

Four of my best friends, including three of the birders, are now gone. As I have said, I hesitate to say that Bill Thackaberry was the single best friend of my life. Let it suffice to say that for rest of my life I will miss Bill terribly.

I am another birder re-living good memories of Bill Thackaberry today, reaching back to Tillamook CBC's in the 1960's. (Not sure if I was one of the counters on the original 1964 count, but soon thereafter, anyway.) I consider him as one of my main birding mentors.

I was introduced to him by one of my best friends as a teenager, Larry Wheeler, from Lebanon. Larry and I and others (maybe Roy Gerig and Dan Heyerly) revered Bill as one with seemingly endless depths of knowledge and skill, and Bill always made us feel that he really liked us, and readily answered our questions and made suggestions.

It wasn't until Larry came home from Vietnam in a coffin that I really saw the tenderness of Bill's heart, which he usually hid behind a somewhat crusty facade. For many years after that, whenever Bill and I had a chance to talk (usually at a Tillamook CBC) Bill always mentioned Larry with sincere expressions of sorrow, always mentioning how much he missed him. (Larry was already an excellent teenage birder in the early '60s, and I'm sure he would have become one of Oregon's leading birders and a friend to all in our fraternity.)

Other good memories of Bill come from the several BBS trips he invited me on when he ran his route east of Sweet Home. On one of those early occasions, I happened to mention that I had never seen a Lincoln's Sparrow. Bill looked at me with that little teasing grin, and twinkle in his eye, and said, "There's lots of them out there." And then proceeded to tell me about the habitat I had been ignoring.

Oregon birding will not be the same without Thackaberry.

Floyd Schrock (McMinville)
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