**OREGON BIRDS** is a quarterly publication of Oregon Field Ornithologists. *Oregon Birds* is printed at the University of Oregon Press. Membership in Oregon Field Ornithologists is on an annual basis and includes a subscription to *Oregon Birds*. ISSN 0890-2313

**Editor**  
Owen Schmidt

**Assistant Editor**  
Sharon K. Blair

**Associate Editor**  
Jim Johnson

**OREGON FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS**

- **President**: Larry Thornburgh, North Bend (1989)
- **Secretary**: Donna Lushhoff, Portland (1989)
- **Treasurer**: Kit Larsen, Eugene (1989)
- **Past President**: David A. Anderson, Portland (1988-90)
- **Directors**: Alice Parker, Roseburg (1987-89)
- **Bill Stotz**, Ashland (1987-89)
- **Tom Mickel**, Eugene (1988-90)

**OREGON BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE**

- **Secretary**: Clarice Watson, Eugene (1987)
- **Members**: Tom Crabtree, Bend (1986-88)
- **Jeff Gilligan**, Portland (1987-89)
- **Steve Heins**, Eugene (1986-88)
- **David Irons**, Portland (1987-89)
- **Jim Johnson**, Portland (1987-89)
- **Larry McQueen**, Eugene (1988-90)
- **Harry Nehls**, Portland (1988-90)
- **Owen Schmidt**, Portland (1988-90)
- **Steve Summers**, Klamath Falls (1986-88)

- **Alternates**: David A. Anderson, Portland
- **Tim Bickler**, Lake Oswego
- **Jim Carlson**, Eugene
- **Matt Hunter**, Eugene
- **Bob O'Brien**, Clackamas

---

**Oregon Shorebird Festival**  
September 9-11, 1988

Oregon Institute of Marine Biology  
University of Oregon  
Charleston, Oregon

**Sponsored by**

Cape Arago Audubon Society

**In cooperation with**

Oregon Field Ornithologists

A limited number of spaces are available in the student dormitory at Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB) at the modest rate of $25 per night, which includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

DETACH AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Fill in for each participant

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Phone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use additional sheets if needed**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EACH</th>
<th>PERSONS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelagic Trip on Sunday II September</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dormitory housing at OIMB</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988 OFO Dues</td>
<td>Individual $12.00</td>
<td>Family $15.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL ENCLOSED $  

Make checks payable to OFO; return registration form to:  
Cape Arago Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 381, North Bend, OR 97459
Oregon Shorebird Festival  
September 9-11, 1988  

Oregon Institute of Marine Biology  
University of Oregon  
Charleston, Oregon  

Friday, 9 September  
Registration • Dinner at OIMB • Evening session at the OIMB Boathouse Auditorium  

Saturday, 10 September  
Breakfast at OIMB • Field trips to Bandon Marsh, Pony Slough, North Spit • Tour of South Slough Sanctuary • Dinner at OIMB • Evening session • Keynote speaker  

Sunday, 11 September  
Breakfast at OIMB • Pelagic Trip • Field trips to Bandon Marsh, Pony Slough, North Spit  

Coos County, located on Oregon’s south coast, provides an opportunity to see a large variety of shorebirds, pelagic birds, plus a good selection of other aquatic as well as terrestrial species. In all, sightings of over 330 species have occurred in Coos County over the years. Emphasis will be on shorebirds this weekend along with pelagic species offshore.  

Cape Arago Audubon Society will coordinate guided tours of the best birding sites in the area — Bandon Marsh, Pony Slough, South Slough, and North Spit. You should have an opportunity to see many of the species common to our area at this time of year — Wandering Tattler, Marbled Godwit, Red Knot, etc. — and hopefully some of the less common species — Semipalmated Sandpiper, Lesser Golden Plover, Snowy Plover, etc. Our goal is to offer a weekend experience of value not only to the experienced birder, but also to those with little or no experience. If you are curious about the diversity of bird species on the southern Oregon coast — join us!

OFO LOGO CONTEST  

Because of last-minute complications, the OFO logo contest was not held at the annual meeting in John Day in June. Instead, the OFO Board decided to conduct the contest by mail-in ballot through Oregon Birds. Nine entries have been received. Vote for as many entries as you like. Use the highest number for the logo you most prefer, and descending numbers down to 1 for the last logo on which you vote. To vote, legibly write a number in the box next to each entry. The logo with the highest cumulative vote wins! The winner will be announced in the next issue of Oregon Birds. Tear out and mail your ballot to the OFO Secretary before 15 October 1988.
7 Laws for Rare Birds

1. When you hear about a rare bird that you would like to see, you won’t be able to go right away.

2. When you can go, you will experience some kind of travel delay.

3. When you finally get to the site of the bird, some local birder will tell you that the bird has not been seen for 2 weeks.

4. In truth, you will miss the bird by 2 hours. You will stumble upon birders who watched it for 45 minutes earlier in the day, just before it flew away.

5. The weather will be terrible, you will look for the bird for 2 days in the wind and rain before giving up and returning home.

6. When you finally get back home, birders will find the bird again.

7. If you do see the bird, someone who saw and photographed a similar but common bird in the same spot will write letters to the state bird records committee saying that the rare bird was never there.

© 1988 Oregon Field Ornithologists, P.O. Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440
The NARBA Monthly Newsletter caters to birders of all levels. Even beginning and intermediate birders will be interested in the information on birding locations, tips, and trips.

Subscribe now to the only monthly newsletter on rare birds in North America! Get your issues for the rest of 1988 at a reduced price!

NARBA Monthly Newsletter ......................................................... $6.00
September-December 1988 issues

BIRDING IS A WILD LIFE ............................................................... $16.50
Printed on a navy 50/50 Hanes sweat shirt, specify sizes S M L XL

PTERODROMAS ARE FAR OUT ....................................................... $8.50
Printed in silver on a royal blue 100% cotton Hanes T-shirt, specify sizes S M L

POST-BREEDING WANDERER ....................................................... $8.50
Printed on a 100% cotton Hanes T-shirt, brightly printed on light blue or silver, specify size S M L XL.

Add $2 shipping for first shirt, $1 for each additional shirt ................. $

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Name

__________________________

Phone

__________________________

Address

__________________________

City State Zip

__________________________

Send your orders to:

Bob-O-Link, Inc.
P.O. Box 1161
Jamestown, NC 27282

Rules for a network are simple: rare birds only (no east/west or west/east Oregon birds); birders who get calls have to make calls (this means long distance tolls); and once on the network, keep it going by keeping your address and phone number(s) current.

Birders who would like to represent their local birding areas should write to:

The Editor, Oregon Birds
3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue
Portland, OR 97212

Please feel free to send ideas and suggestions, too!
Where do you find a _______ in Oregon?

Red-necked Grebe
Clark's Grebe
American White Pelican
Least Bittern
Cattle Egret
Ross' Goose
Eurasian Wigeon
Harlequin Duck
Oldsquaw
Barrow's Goldeneye
Black-shouldered Kite
Bald Eagle
Red-shouldered Hawk
Ferruginous Hawk
Gray Partridge
Chukar
Spruce Grouse
White-tailed Ptarmigan
Sage Grouse
Wild Turkey
Northern Bobwhite
Mountain Quail
Yellow Rail
Snowy Plover
Black-necked Stilt
American Avocet
Solitary Sandpiper
Upland Sandpiper
Long-billed Curlew
Rock Sandpiper
Tufted Puffin
Horned Puffin
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Flammulated Owl
Spotted Owl
Barred Owl
Great Gray Owl
Boreal Owl
Black Swift
White-throated Swift

Black-chinned Hummingbird
Calliope Hummingbird
Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Allen's Hummingbird
Acorn Woodpecker
Williamson's Sapsucker
White-headed Woodpecker
Three-toed Woodpecker
Black-backed Woodpecker
Black Phoebe
Pinyon Jay
Northwestern Crow
Plain Titmouse
American Dipper
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Gray Catbird
Bohemian Waxwing
Red-eyed Vireo
Nashville Warbler
Virginia's Warbler
Hermit Warbler
American Redstart
Northern Waterthrush
Yellow-breasted Chat
Green-tailed Towhee
Brown Towhee
American Tree Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Black-throated Sparrow
Sage Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
Bobolink
Tricolored Blackbird
Rosy Finch
Pine Grosbeak
Lesser Goldfinch

Oregon Birds is looking for sites to find these species in Oregon. For many sites, a 1-paragraph description will do. A rough map of the site may help. Send your favorite site for publication in Oregon Birds. Use the back of this form, or a separate sheet of paper. You'll get full credit, and the appreciation of Oregon's birders!

Editor, 3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212
MEMBERSHIP IN OFO BRINGS YOU

• Oregon Birds — OFO's quarterly journal with news briefs of interest to Oregon birders • short notes and articles on status and identification of Oregon's birds • bird-finding guides to Oregon's better birding spots and rarer species • reviews of printed material of interest to Oregon's birders.

• Proceedings of the Oregon Bird Records Committee — OFO members stay current on the rare birds of Oregon.

• Annual meetings — As a member, you are invited to participate in OFO's birding meetings, held at some of Oregon's top birding spots.

• Publications — OFO publishes useful field cards and field checking sheets accurate according to the Official Checklist of Oregon birds prepared by the Oregon Bird Records Committee.

FOR USE IN 1988 ONLY

OREGON FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP & MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

1. Name __________________________
2. Address __________________________
3. City State Zip _______________________
4. Telephone _________________________
5. □ $12.00 Individual 6. □ Renewal
□ $15.00 Family □ New member
□ $20.00 Sustaining

7. Make check payable to Oregon Field Ornithologists or OFO, and mail to the Treasurer, P.O. Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440
### OFO BOOKCASE and MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Prices good September 1988 — November 1988**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oregon Field Ornithologists</th>
<th>EACH ORDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1988 Membership</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Publication No. 1, Bibliography of Oregon Ornithology: An Updating for the Years 1971-1977, With a Revised Crossreferenced List of the Birds of Oregon.</strong> Mark Egger, 76 pp., November 1980.</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Publication No. 3, Index to Oregon Bird Reports in Audubon Field Notes and American Birds 1947-1981.</strong> Clarice Watson, 79 pp., February 1982.</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Publication No. 4, A Bibliography of Bird Identification Articles in Five Journals, with Crossreferences to a List of Over 580 Species.</strong> Clarice Watson, 44 pp., January 1987.</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oregon Field Ornithologists sticker</strong></td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OFO’s Field Checking Card (fits into field guide)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oregon Birds back issues as available (specify; price is for each number):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volume 14, Numbers 1, 2 &amp; 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 13, Numbers 1 (limited stock), 2, 3 &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 12, Numbers 2 (limited stock) &amp; 4 (Nos. 1 &amp; 3 out of print)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 11, Numbers 1, (2-3), &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 10, Numbers 1, 2, &amp; (3-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volumes 6-9, Numbers 1, 2, 3, &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 5, Numbers 1 &amp; 5 only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Geographic Society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field Guide to the Birds of North America (Revised Edition)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural Sound Cassettes by Eleanor A. Pugh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birds of Foothill Woodland Edges, 90 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Almanac of Western Habitats, Vol. I: Northwestern, 90 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn to Identify Birds by Ear, 90 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backyard Bird Song, 60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explorations of the Sound of 3 Hawaiian Islands, 60 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audubon Society of Corvallis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Checklist of the Birds of Oregon, Elzy Eltzroth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL $**

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

Treasurer, P.O. Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440

### OB Reader Survey

Your opinion counts! Rank the articles in this issue of Oregon Birds, from the ones you liked the best to the ones you liked the least. Highest numbers for those you liked best. Vote for as many or as few as you wish. All forms received by 15 October will be tallied. Results will be published in a future issue of OB. Additional comments are very welcome. State what you like best about OB, and what you like least. What you'd like to see more of, and less of. Use additional paper if needed.

Your name and address is optional.

Fold here

---

25¢

stamp

OB Editor
3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue
Portland, OR 97212
News and Notes

- If you have back issues of *Oregon Birds* you can part with, please send them to OFO. OFO is asked, from time to time, to supply back issues that are now sold out. If you can help replenish OFO's stock, write or call Alice Parker, 313 W. Hickory Street, Roseburg, OR 97470, (503)672-1549.

- There will always be lumping and splitting, and rumors of lumping and splitting. At the American Birding Association's Minnesota convention in June, Burt Monroe Jr. talked about some of the taxonomy problems currently under consideration by the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist Committee, of which he is a member. Nothing final here, only rumors. Possible lumps: Iceland and Thayer's Gulls; Hoary Redpoll and Common Redpoll. Possible splits: Northern Oriole back into Baltimore and Bullock's Orioles; Gilded Flicker from Northern Flicker; Rosy Finch into 3 rosy finches; split California Gnatcatcher from Black-tailed Gnatcatcher; split the coastal and interior forms of the Western Flycatcher (no new names yet); the plumbeous form of the Solitary Vireo into Plumbeous Vireo; Holboell's Redpoll from Hoary Redpoll. Some species may actually stay the same: McKay's Bunting may stay split from Snow Bunting; the juncos may stay the way they are for a while—Dark-eyed and Yellow-eyed Juncos. The AOU may change Bank Swallow to Sand Martin, and the BOU may change Swallow to Barn Swallow. No timetable; just rumors. On the Western Flycatcher split, the AOU is soliciting suggestions for common names for the new species. Coastal Flycatcher and Interior Flycatcher, as well as Redwoods Flycatcher and Ponderosa Flycatcher, have been suggested. Write before 1 December 1988 to Burt L. Monroe Jr., P.O. Box 23447, Anchorage, KY 40223.

- More rumors. Western Field Ornithologists and Oregon Field Ornithologists are tentatively planning a joint meeting in the Portland metropolitan area in late summer 1989. Watch this space for details as and if they develop.

- Fall pelagic trips:
  - Out of San Diego, CA, 10, 11 September 1988, Western Field Ornithologists. "The boat, the *New Seaforth*, is a large fishing boat with a galley where short orders including breakfast, snacks, and beverages are sold." Ginger Johnson, 4637 Del Mar Avenue, San Diego, CA 92107, (619)223-7985.
  - Monterey Bay, CA, 6 October 1988, as part of Western Field Ornithologists' 13th Annual Meeting. WFO, c/o Debra Love Shearwater, P.O. Box 1445, Soquel, CA 95073.
• Studies in Oregon Ornithology No. 5—Oiled Birds: How to Search for and Capture Oiled Birds at Oregon Intertidal Areas—by Range D. Bayer, has been published. It is a step-by-step guide to organizing searches for oiled birds and/or for training volunteers to handle oiled birds. One of its more significant points is that a bird's legs should be fully supported when it is picked up. To order a copy, send $3.50 (postpaid) to Gahnken Press, P.O. Box 1467, Newport, OR 97365.

• What is the most common bird at feeders across North America? House Sparrow, House Finch? The most common bird is the Dark-eyed Junco, according to the results of Project FeederWatch. Launched last fall, Project FeederWatch is designed to answer questions about the birds that visit feeders and about winter bird populations in general. What bird species visit feeders across North America? What weather conditions cause birds to come to feeders? Why do the kinds of birds at feeders change from year to year? Do changes in numbers of feeder birds accurately reflect changes in winter bird populations? If you would like to become a FeederWatcher, send your name, address, and $9 annual registration fee (make check payable to Project FeederWatch), to Project FeederWatch, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.

• Over 1000 species of birds—11 percent of the world’s total number of bird species—are considered to be at the risk of extinction, according to the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP). According to the April-June 1988 issue of World BirdWatch, the ICBP’s publication, the 1979 ICBP Red Data Book listed only 290 such species. Nine years later the number is up to 1029. “The escalating increase in numbers of birds in danger is a reflection of two main parameters: first, man is continuing to have a disastrous impact on the environment and its wildlife, and second, we have considerably more data than were available at the end of the 1970s.” For more information, write to the ICBP, 32 Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0PJ, England.

• The Nature Conservancy has acquired a patch of remnant Oregon prairie, according to the July/August 1988 issue of The Nature Conservancy Magazine: “Lindsay Grassland (Morrow County). The dry palouse bluebunch wheatgrass prairies of Oregon have been relegated to the roster of natural communities ranked critically imperiled worldwide. One of only three known vestiges of this once-flourishing grassland lies at the junction of two narrow canyons in the Columbia Basin and provides a haven for agricultural refugees: the burrowing owl (a species threatened in the state) and the long-billed curlew (a candidate for federal listing). Credit for the protection of Lindsay Grassland belongs to the CIGNA Corporation for its bargain sale of 356 acres and a donated conservation easement on another 30. The Oregon Field Office will manage the preserve and monitor the easement.” For more information, write to The Nature Conservancy, 1234 N.W. 25th Avenue, Portland, OR 97210.

• Red-legged Partridges have been released in Oregon for the second year in a row. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife announced in the May-June issue of Oregon Wildlife that birds were released in February and March 1988 at 5 sites, in the Willamette Valley, a site in Jackson County, one on the east slopes of Mt. Hood, and a new site east of Pendleton. ODF&W reports that predation was heavy on last year’s released birds, and that production was less than hoped for. “Several of our most popular game bird species, including the chukar, Hungarian partridge, wild turkey and ring-necked pheasants, are introduced species,” says ODF&W, and game bird managers are hopeful this new introduction will take hold in Oregon. “The redleg is similar in appearance to the chukar partridge, although it is slightly smaller. This new import has distinctive speckled striping on the upper breast, and small differences in the barring pattern of the flank feathers. Unlike the chukar, which thrives in barren, rocky, steep and dry habitat, the redleg’s habitat in other parts of the world is characterized by rolling grasslands with interspersed brushy areas, or brushy fringes of agriculture.”

• The Malheur Field Station is no longer under the ownership of Pacific University. This item appeared in a 24 June 1988 letter from Lucile Housley, Director of MFS: “The Great Basin Society has received recognition from the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Eastern Oregon State College’s Regional Services Institute is providing funding to develop a marketing plan and implement a new accounting system. The firm of Oster, Hotchkiss and Nichols, CPA in Burns, has been placed on contract to establish an accounting, record-keeping and financial reporting system by 1 July. Fred Meyer Charitable Trust provided the High Desert Museum $16,000 which was used to complete a feasibility study of MFS. S.M. Anderson Co., Inc. of Portland, as part of the feasibility study, completed a review and survey of station facilities and compiled renovation and construction recommendations and cost estimates. These recommendations and cost estimates will be used by the Great Basin Society board to formulate both short- and long-term renovation and capital fund development programs for upgrading the Field Station. The High Desert Museum in Bend will not assume the administration of MFS because they did not receive their proposed grant; however, they will remain supportive as Group Members of the Field Station.” To support the MFS, become a member. Malheur Field Station, HC 72 Box 260, Princeton, OR 97721.

• The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has a new document “Outlining new and continuing Service activities related to migratory non game birds.” “Service actions related to migratory game birds have been published regularly in the Federal
The goal of the Service's nongame bird effort is to conserve all nongame bird species and their habitats, prevent any species from having to be listed as Endangered or Threatened, and ensure continued opportunities for people to enjoy these birds." 


Are you thinking about making better field sound recordings by buying a new digital audio tape recording machine? Digital audio recordings have been trumpeted as having no background noise and allowing infinite duplication without degradation. Consider this item from Cornell University’s Laboratory of Ornithology, Library of Natural Sounds (LNS):

Analog vs. Digital Recorders — Some Points of Consideration

In February LNS had the opportunity to use a Sony TCD-D10 R-Dat (digital) cassette recorder. The D10 is a consumer grade stereo recorder with a price of around $3000. It is a 16-bit machine with a sampling rate of 48K. The machine’s dimensions are comparable to portable cassette machines used in the field such as the Sony TCD5M or Marantz PMD221. The weight of the machine is approximately four pounds, the machine’s shell being plastic. The D10 is powered by a rechargeable Ni-Cad battery pack with a 2-hour life. It is not possible to use dry cell batteries with this unit. Microphone inputs of this unit are unbalanced.

Comparison between recordings made on a Nagra IV-S and the R-Dat did not reveal a significant advantage for the digital machine. When a signal was recorded at a low level the digital machine’s signal could be amplified cleanly without the hiss associated with an analog recording. However this is just one aspect of the quality of an audio recording. Analog recordings made in good situations with good technique have negligible tape hiss. The fidelity of analog recordings has a great deal to do with the speed at which the recordings are made. A factor limiting the fidelity of digital recording is the sampling rate employed by a manufacturer. A 15 ips [inch per second] analog recording could potentially be a ‘truer’ recording than a digital, not being limited by sampling rates (all other aspects being equal). We were not able to test the machine with instrumentation, so all comments regarding sonic performance have to be considered subjective.

With respect to the archiving of sounds, there is currently no archival standard for digital audio. Commercially there are several sampling rates in use — 32K bytes, 44.1K bytes, and 48K bytes. For those interested in the longevity of their recordings this poses a problem. Copies could be made at what would eventually become an inferior or non-standard sampling rate. Archiving digital recordings as analog is not satisfactory. If dependability and an established standard are clear requirements for one’s work a Nagra is still the machine of choice.

This, of course, is far from the final word on R-Dat recorders. The machines look very promising, but there is still development work which needs to be done. As time permits we will continue to look at the digital equipment and pass our observations on to you. If any of you have the opportunity to look at R-Dat or other new equipment, recorders or otherwise, contact us. We’d like to hear from you.

Oregon Birds 14(3): 227, 1988
Birders interested in acquiring a new spotting scope have some recent help. Chuck Bergman wrote “Audubon’s Guide to Spotting Scopes” in the July 1986 issue of *Audubon*. A fairly comprehensive analysis of currently-available spotting scopes appears in the latest issue of *WildBird* 2(4): 44-53, August 1988. Kim Eckert writes in *The Loon* 59: 174-79, Winter 1987, that the Nikon 7709ED “is the highest quality scope next to the Questar.” Eckert supplements his comments in *The Loon* 60: 55, Spring 1988, saying “A lot of birders, especially on the East Coast, are enthusiastic about” the Kowa TSN-2. “The only disadvantage I could see, the one brief time I had to examine this scope, was its relatively large size and weight.” Pete Dunne reviews the redoubtable Kowa TSN-4, a fluorite-lens scope, in the latest issue of *Birding* 19(4): 22-24, August 1987. The Kowa TSN series is getting a lot of attention among birders. The TSN-2, at about half the price of the TSN-4, does not have fluorite lenses, and is used with satisfaction by at least 1 Oregon birder. Of the TSN-4, Dunne writes “Not in the reach of experience and imagination had it occurred to me that anything less than a Questar could appear so sharp, so bright, so clear under crummy conditions.” Kowa scopes are available from many retail outlets including ABA Sales, P.O. Box 6599, Colorado Springs, CO 80934, 1-800-634-7736.

Help Houston Audubon save Smith Oaks. The Houston Audubon Society is acquiring a large portion of Smith Oaks, well-known to many Oregon birders as a migrant stopover and the only oak woodlands in High Island, Texas. There is a current threat that this outpost of high ground may be developed into housing. Purchase by the Houston Audubon Society will ensure that this birding hotspot will remain a wildlife sanctuary. $60,000 is needed. Houston Audubon already owns Audubon Woods (formerly Boy Scout Woods) in High Island. Send your tax-deductible contribution to this worthwhile conservation project: Houston Audubon Society, 440 Wilchester, Houston, TX 77079.

Running tally of the birds of the Oregon rare bird phone network:

- Orchard Oriole, a female at Toketee Ranger Station, Douglas Co., on 8 May 1988, by David Fix;
- Bar-tailed Godwits, 4, at Bandon N.W.R., Curry Co., 14 May 1988, by David Fix and Martha Sawyer;
- Yellow-billed Loon, in basic plumage, at Timothy Lake, Clackamas County, 15 May 1988, by Tim Shelmerdine;

Oregon Birds 14(3): 228, 1988

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- 10-11 September 1988, Western Field Ornithologists San Diego Pelagic Trips. “We will explore the ocean waters between San Diego and San Clemente Island, looking for pelagic birds. Expected species are Pink-footed, Sooty, and Black-vented Shearwaters, Leach’s, Black, and Least Storm-Petrels, Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers, Sabine’s Gull, Arctic Tern, Craveri’s Murrelet, and Cassin’s

Oregon Birds 14(3): 229, 1988
Auklet. Rarities which might be encountered include Flesh-footed Shearwater, Buller’s Shearwater, Long-tailed Jaeger, and Red-billed Tropicbird.” Ginger Johnson, 4637 Del Mar Avenue, San Diego, CA 92107, (619)223-7985.


- 7-9 October 1988, Western Field Ornithologists 13th annual meeting at Casa Munras, Monterey, California. The program will include a workshop on breeding bird atlases. The Monterey area is famed for the variety of both ocean and land birds it attracts in early October; there will be pelagic and terrestrial trips. Debra Love Shearwater, P.O. Box 1445, Soquel, CA 95073, (408)688-1990.

- 8-10 October 1988, Western Bird Banding Association annual meeting in Arcata, California. C.J. Ralph, Redwood Sciences Laboratory, 1700 Bayview Drive, Arcata, CA 95521, (707)822-3691.

- 12-16 October 1988, the Colonial Waterbird Society and the Pacific Seabird Group will meet jointly in Washington, D.C. Persons wishing to present a paper dealing with the biology, management, or conservation of colonially nesting waterbirds or seabirds are invited to submit an abstract by 25 August 1988 to the program chairman, Herbert W. Kale, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751.

- 26-29 October 1988, Raptor Research Foundation annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Patrick T. Redig, Department of Veterinary Biology, College of Veterinary Medicine, 1988 Fitch Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108.

- 22-26 June 1989, Cooper Ornithological Society, 59th Annual Meeting at the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho. A variety of events will be included in addition to the scientific meeting, such as rafting on local scenic rivers and tours of a nearby national wildlife refuge. J. Michael Scott, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Fish and Wildlife, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843. A symposium entitled “Long-term Ecological Studies of Birds” will be held during the meeting. Papers describing the results of long-term studies of population dynamics, behavior, foraging ecology, or other ecological aspects of birds are invited. Write to E.O. Garton, Fish and Wildlife Department, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843, (208)885-7426.

- 2-9 December 1990, XX International Ornithological Congress in Christchurch, New Zealand. “This important scientific occasion will provide the focus for a wide range of international events celebrating aspects of “The World of Birds — a Southern Perspective.”” Dr. Ben D. Bell, Secretary-General, XX International Ornithological Congress, Department of Zoology, Victoria University, Private Bag, Wellington, New Zealand.
Aberrant Rufous-sided Towhees

Jeff Harding, 245 Tangent Street, Lebanon, OR 97355

We have seen occasional aberrant Rufous-sided Towhees that are quite distinct. They have a very prominent rufous cap, much like the cap on a Green-tailed Towhee, few or no spots on their wings (faint when present), and much reduced tail spots. Otherwise, they appear to be typical western-type Rufous-sided Towhees.

A bird resembling this was noticed by Bill Thackaberry 5-6 years ago at his feeder near Lebanon, Linn Co., Oregon. The bird was seen over a period of a year or more by a number of birders. At the same time, a neighbor several miles away mentioned seeing a similar bird at his feeder. In early 1988 Thackaberry had another bird like this at his feeder, but it disappeared after a month or so.

In spring 1988 another of these aberrant towhees appeared at my feeder about a quarter mile from Thackaberry’s. This bird was brownish, with a few indistinct spots on its wings, while the one seen at Thackaberry’s had no spots on its wings. The cap was a bright rufous color, the same as on the sides.

Anyone who might have information on this aberration, or who has seen similar birds, is welcome to write.

First Verified Record of Blackburnian Warbler for Oregon

Jim Johnson, 3244 N.E. Brazee Street, Portland, OR 97212

On 15 November 1987 at approximately 8 a.m. Sheran Jones and I found a Blackburnian Warbler (Dendroica fusca) near the Nehalem meadows “farm ponds.” These ponds, well known to Portland area birders as a shorebird observation area, are at the southeast end of the meadows a short distance south of the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 101 and State Hwy. 53 in northern coastal Tillamook County. This occurrence is the second (first verified) record for Oregon and the second record of a wintering bird for the west coast of North America.

The bird was heard before it was seen. The call was quite reminiscent of the call of Yellow Warbler (D. petechia), having the same loud, snappy quality. It was repeated quite frequently throughout the initial observation.

I spotted the bird hopping around in a 30-foot spruce on the east side of the road, and when it flew down to the lower level of the tree, it poked its head out from behind some small branches and I realized instantly that it was a Blackburnian Warbler.

The bird was basically the same size and shape as Townsend’s Warbler (D. townsendi), of which there were 3 or 4 in the vicinity. The Blackburnian Warbler appeared to associate with the Townsend’s Warblers part of the time, and at one point flew off with a flock of juncos into the forest to the east.

The upperparts from the forehead to the tail were black except for a narrow, pale orange-yellow patch on the forehead, which widened when a recording of the species’ song was played, and a thin, white line on each side of the back. These lines extended from the side of the hindneck posteriorly until they were concealed by the wings. The tail had a great amount of white in it. The outer rectrices appeared to be almost all white when the bird fanned its tail while flying away. There were 2 bold white wing bars on the black wings. The tertials were neatly edged with grayish-white.

The face and throat were orange-yellow with the throat being more intensely colored. The line of demarcation between the face and the black hindneck and crown was very sharp. There was a roughly triangular shaped blackish-brown face patch which covered the area from the gape of the bill back through the eye to the posterior end of the face and down to the side of the throat. The lower quarter of the eye ring was orange-yellow.

The upper breast was orange-yellow, similar to the color of the face. The lower breast and belly were pale yellow, and the undertail coverts were white with a yellowish tinge. The sides where heavily streaked with black. At some angles, the streaks on the sides appeared to be an extension of the lower part of the dark face patch.
The thin, short bill, the eyes, and the legs were black. The black upperparts, the orange-yellow face and throat, and the 2 separate white wingbars are indicative of a winter-plumaged adult male Blackburnian Warbler (Pyle et al. 1987). We photographed and observed the bird for a total of about 1-1/2 hours that day. Much of the time the bird was 20-30 feet from us. Although the bird used other nearby trees and blackberry brambles, it seemed especially fond of the spruce that it was originally spotted in. Unfortunately that day was rather dark and cloudy, at least while we observed the bird, so photo opportunities were very limited. I was glad to have a few identifiable — although unframable — photographs.

A couple of interesting behavioral characteristics were noted by me and others. First, the bird had a seemingly peculiar habit of simultaneously cocking its tail up and partially drooping its wings. It held this stance most of the time that it was observed. Also, in the following December and January (when the temperatures were colder), the bird sometimes fed on the bare, muddy ground in the company of a local wintering sparrow flock (Pipilo, Zonotrichia, Passerella, Melospiza, and Junco spp.). The boldly patterned warbler, tail cocked, seemed so out of place down there with the relatively drab-plumaged sparrows.

The Blackburnian Warbler was observed and photographed by many birders throughout the winter and was last reported on 12 March 1988. Descriptions and many photographs have been deposited with the Oregon Bird Records Committee. The record was accepted by the OBRC.

Blackburnian Warblers breed in coniferous and mixed coniferous/deciduous forest from central Alberta, central Saskatchewan, and central Minnesota, east to Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and Massachusetts and south through the Appalachians in pine-oak woodlands. The species winters in a variety of forest, woodland, scrub, and thicket habitats from Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, and northern Venezuela south through Ecuador to central Peru and Bolivia (American Ornithologists’ Union 1983; National Geographic Society 1987). The first state record was of an immature seen at Malheur N.W.R. headquarters, Harney County 15-18 September 1986 (Anderson 1987; Rogers 1987), the record for which is currently under review by the OBRC. Other West Coast records include 3 British Columbia records (2 spring, 1 fall) and 3 Washington sight records (1 spring, 2 fall). In recent years the Blackburnian Warbler has averaged about 14 records a year in California, of which the vast majority are from the fall (American Birds regional reports; Roberson 1980). There is only 1 other record of a wintering Blackburnian Warbler on the west coast: a bird at Pacific Grove, Monterey County, California 29 December 1986 through 22 March 1987 (Morlan et al. 1987a, b).

LITERATURE CITED

Possible Occurrences of Allen’s Hummingbird North of its Recognized Range

Mike Patterson, 384 Altadena Avenue, Astoria, OR 97103

Beginning 3 years ago I began a project to capture and band migrating Selasphorus hummingbirds along the Oregon coast with the intent of finding some information on the northernmost boundary of the range of Allen’s Hummingbird (Selasphorus sasin). Scheduling difficulties in 1986 and 1987 left me with very small samples, but I did manage to capture birds at Cape Arago Botanical Gardens, Coos County, and in the Florence area, Lane County. All birds captured were Rufous Hummingbirds (S. rufus) and all displaying males observed but not captured were also Rufous.

During spring 1988 I began banding hummingbirds in Astoria, Clatsop County. Hummingbirds began to arrive in the last week of February in small numbers. By the first week of March as many as 6 males could be seen at or near my feeder at one time. Weather conditions were such that I could not set up mist nets. All males observed appeared to be Rufous Hummingbirds. The weather cleared toward the...
end of the first week of March and I was able to band every day. Nets were set up in the afternoon between 3 and 6 p.m., and over a 2-week period, 29 birds were captured—17 males and 12 females. There were no recaptures during this period. Feeders were aggressively defended, but no display flights were observed. This coupled with the drop in number of birds seen by the fourth week of March implied to me that all birds were migrants. By the first week of April, a second wave of hummingbirds appeared. Again, the weather prevented me from banding regularly, but I did manage another 4 days of banding before the wave tapered off. Of the 12 hummingbirds caught in this latter period, 6 were male and 6 were female.

Very late in the day on 10 March 1988, I caught a smallish green-backed adult male *Selasphorus* hummingbird. The green extended between the shoulders, up through the center of the nape onto the head and down the center of the back, somewhat asymmetrically to the right. The rump, part of the left lower back and the sides of the nape were rufous. The tail was shorter than average for Rufous (24.9 mm) and all tail feathers were narrower than Rufous (first rectrix 7.5 mm, fifth rectrix 2.2 mm). The second rectrix showed only slight emargination. On 9 April I caught a small adult female *Selasphorus* which also had a short tail and very narrow tail feathers. Based on keys to the identification of *Selasphorus* hummingbirds (Stiles 1971, 1972), I have tentatively identified these birds as Allen’s Hummingbirds.

I had not really expected to catch Allen’s Hummingbird this far north of the recognized range, but measurements of both birds fell within the range of measurements given for Allen’s Hummingbird, though they were slightly larger than average (see table). I intend to send these data to Dr. Stiles or some other source for confirmation.

There is no quantitative data on the distribution of Allen’s Hummingbird in Oregon and field identification, even of males, can be difficult. Every year there are several reports of Allen’s Hummingbird along the Oregon coast. Allen’s breed in Curry County and probably occur regularly in Coos County at least as far north as Bandon, though to my knowledge there are only sight records in Coos County. Elzy and Elzie Eltzroth reported a well-described male Allen’s in Corvallis in 1979, and an injured bird brought to them in 1983 was later identified as an Allen’s (Paterson 1986). There are also two accepted Washington state records based on specimens—1 from Ft. Steilacoom and another from Seattle (Jewett et al. 1953). I have also received verbal reports of Allen’s Hummingbird in Lane County around Florence, at Newport in Lincoln County, and 1 from Ft. Stevens State Park in Clatsop County. Identification of these birds was based on back color only.

A male *Selasphorus* hummingbird with green on the back is not necessarily an Allen’s Hummingbird. Rufous Hummingbirds have green on their scapulars that can appear to be on the back if viewed from a poor angle and a large number of male Rufous Hummingbirds have varying amounts of green spotting on the back. About 10 percent of the birds I caught this year had conspicuous amounts of green on their backs. Most of these birds appeared late in the migration season. Judgements about the tail length and tail feather shape and size are virtually impossible to make in the field, but if an observer is extremely lucky, it might be possible to see the emargination (or lack thereof) on the second rectrix. It is only possible to identify males with any certainty in the field.

Observations of the display flight of males would also be definitive and I think there has always been some confusion about the shape of the Rufous display. Most books describe the Rufous display as being oval shaped and the Allen’s display is "J" shaped. In actual fact, both Rufous and Allen’s have displays that include a "J" shaped dive from a height of 50 feet or more. They pull up at the last moment, making a ripping sound with their tail and wings. At this point the Rufous Hummingbird continues to rise slowly up to its starting point. The part of the display one remembers is the initial "J", the final ascent completes the display (and the oval shape that is always described in books), but is unspectacular. Rufous Hummingbirds may continue the complete sequence several times. Allen’s display is described as beginning with a series of "U" shaped pendulum swings similar to Calliope Hummingbird. The bird will then rise high into the air ending its display with a final J-stroke high dive (Pough 1957). The dive begins the Rufous display and ends the Allen’s display.

I have also noted a variation in the Rufous display, where the bird will make a 180° turn at the end of the dive before rising. This amounts to the bird retracing its original path to the starting point. It is very probable that this variation is the principal cause of much of the confusion over hummingbird display flights. I have never found reference to this variation in any of the literature I have read. Neither variation includes the series of short pendulum arcs characteristic of the beginning of the Allen’s Hummingbird display. This would serve as the key to differentiating the 2 species by display.
At this point, it is my feeling that Allen's Hummingbird is, at best, an accidental occurring in migration along our coast north of Curry County. It is also very possible that the birds I captured were exceptionally small Rufous Hummingbirds, which would call the key I am using into question. Further capture programs are necessary to fully answer the distribution question. Careful observation of displaying birds and males at feeders will also help to add information on the distribution of Allen's Hummingbird along the Oregon coast. Photographs of suspect male birds or video recordings of Allen's-like displays would be useful as well.

I thank Alan Contreras for his help in locating records for occurrences of Allen's Hummingbirds outside its range. If anyone has further information regarding Allen's Hummingbirds, I would be interested to hear of it.

LITERATURE CITED


Notes on Spring Flyway for White-fronted Geese

David Fix, HC 60, Box 101, Idleyld Park, OR 97447

Since coming to live in the Cascades of eastern Douglas County in 1984, I have learned that this area is overflown each spring and fall by flocks of White-fronted Geese. During the spring of 1988 I was fortunate indeed to pursue my forestry work in clearcuts beneath what apparently is the main flyway for White-fronts crossing the Diamond Lake Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest. I detected a handful of flocks passing northward from 23 April to 2 May. However, the mornings of 26 and 27 April saw an impressive aggregate passage. The nature of my work allowed me spare moments to scan the sky and count and estimate the number of geese flying through the district. In 10-1/2 hours of deliberate observation time, I counted 105 flocks totalling about 19,700 geese passing NNW across Diamond Lake Ranger District. Co-workers in the know reported 4 additional flocks, bringing the total to more than 20,000 birds.

The passage tallied on these 2 mornings eclipsed the grand total of all other spring and fall White-front migrations I had seen here, beginning in fall 1984. This
does not necessarily indicate a higher-than-normal number of geese. Rather, it is the result of my being able to work at sites beneath what appears to be their principal flyway through eastern Douglas County.

Flock size ranged widely from 5 to 1200 birds, with an average of 188. The flocks crossed the central portion of the ranger district, passing about 2 miles W of Toketee Ranger Station en route. Toketee is 60 road miles E of Roseburg and about 20 miles W of the crest of the Cascade Range.

During the mornings of 26 and 27 April I was in clearcuts at 4000-4800 ft. elevation, about 6 miles SSE of Toketee and looking westward across the valley of Fish Creek, a major tributary of the North Umpqua River. White-fronts appeared from the SSE, having probably flown just W of Mount Bailey (8363 ft.), flew past down the valley, and disappeared over the area of Soda Springs near milepost 38 on Oregon Highway 138. Soda Springs is 2 air miles W of Toketee, from where I have frequently seen such flocks pass in spring and fall. From there, the birds probably continued NNW across the Calapooya Mountains into the Cottage Grove area and beyond (Fig. 1).

Most of the flocks passed directly over the center of the valley at a height I estimated at 6000-7000 ft. above sea level. Several flocks came over at a greater altitude. They were barely audible, despite containing scores or hundreds of birds, and I guessed they were at perhaps 8000-9000 ft. All but 1 of the flocks flew at a heading of about 335-340 Az as directed by Silva® hand compass; that flock headed directly N. This is in accordance with headings of nearly all other spring flocks I have watched cross the district in spring seasons past.

During the morning on which I spent the most observation time, 27 April, passage by blocks of time was 3725 geese between 0830 and 1000; 3484 between 1000 and 1100; 1450 between 1100 and 1200; and 580 between 1200 and 1312, when the last flock passed. On both the 26th and 27th, passage slowed toward midday.

This set of sightings causes me to think about just where all these geese are heading to and from. It has been my experience that one may expect to see flocks of migrating White-fronts flying just off the Oregon coast from about Lincoln County northward. I have seldom seen them on the southern Oregon coast, and I understand that they are not often seen in large numbers there. White-fronts occur regularly in some numbers on the refuges of the Willamette Valley and on Sauvie Island, but truly great concentrations are not seen. I suspect that most of these flocks overfly interior western Oregon entirely, intersect the coast in the vicinity of Alsea Bay or Yaquina Bay, and then head north along the outer coast. Perhaps they pause
to stage during April on the refuges and croplands of the Klamath Basin, in readiness for the flight across the Umpqua and southern Willamette River drainages. (Fig. 2). This is only speculation, but it makes sense to me.

White-fronted Geese occur regularly on Sauvie Island, and have been known for years to pass over Portland in migration. I do not speculate on how that fits in with the scenario presented above.

A few odd White-fronts, most commonly what seem to be family groups, appear on the lakes of Diamond Lake R.D. in very small numbers in both spring and fall. All those geese I have looked at closely have appeared to be the “Pacific” White-fronted Goose. I have not seen any birds that I considered to be “Tule” White-fronts.

No other species of geese were noted during the spring 1988 passage across eastern Douglas County. I have noted only a few flocks of Canada Geese and 2 flocks of Snow Geese in the 4 years I have watched birds here.

A related situation seems to occur in the case of Sandhill Cranes which migrate across Douglas County. I have recorded but 4 flocks of cranes here, 3 of which were small; all were during fall. Conversely, Kevin Sands, who works with wildlife on neighboring Tiller R.D. to the SW in southern Douglas County, observes many flocks of Sandhill Cranes crossing his area in both spring and fall. It is clear that most of the cranes which overfly western Oregon use a similarly constricted flyway, a route taking them over Tiller, Glide (20 miles NE of Roseburg), across Eugene-Springfield, and N through the Willamette Valley.

Anyone whose experience with White-fronted Geese complements or contradicts mine is urged to pass along their sightings and thoughts.

---

Bird-Finding Technique: Scanning the Sky

David Fix, HC 60, Box 101, Idleyld Park, OR 97447

All birders want to maximize their chances for seeing or hearing birds—to get the most out of time afield. This is done chiefly by hitting the better spots at times most advantageous for encountering species searched for. Surely, for most purposes, there is no more efficient way to increase the chances of seeing good birds.

However, even the best sites may keep secrets from a birder whose basic bird-finding skills haven’t been honed and polished. For this reason, it is important for any serious birder to pay attention to his personal technique, diagnose weaknesses, build on strengths, and broaden and refine fundamentals. Who among us doesn’t want to improve?

I am continually surprised that, given its importance, the basic techniques of bird-finding get scarcely any mention in conversations or discussions among even the hard-core birders. Certainly, the basics are basic, and are so simple that they are more effectively intuited than taught. But the fact that birding is done about the same way by nearly everyone doesn’t cause the subject to lose the effect and appeal of personal variety.

Although every birder knows how to spish at a thicket to bring songbirds into view, each person has through experience developed a personal variation on the theme, and applies it consistently. This touch of individualism permeates birding. Differing means and motives create the mosaic of personal nuances that sets birders apart from one another. It can be seen to affect every elementary technique—spishing, scanning with a scope, scanning the sky, listening to bird sounds, deciding where to focus one’s attention when driving through open country, how a large flock is panned, how one does (or doesn’t) owl, and so on.

The purpose of taking a closer look at individual techniques in birding is to gain a better understanding of how to approach birding situations, and to apply those concepts to get the most out of everyday birding.

* * * * *

Scanning the sky is an important basic bird-finding technique. It can also be an esoteric sideline. It is something most birders do to varying extent at one time or another. Knowing how to search the sky quickly and efficiently can increase the number and variety of birds encountered. I have found that it adds to my birding a special enjoyment and sense of thoroughness. After all, the open air is simply another medium in which birds forage, display, and travel.

The purpose of scanning the sky is to pick up on flying birds which may not be detected through normal observation. Integrating sky-searches into one’s birding is easy, and can become as natural and obvious a bird-finding strategy as spishing or scanning randomly with a scope. The usefulness of the technique has been proven on such occasions as Christmas Bird Counts, Breeding Bird Surveys, and Big Days,
where thoroughness is a prime objective. Ideally, it takes the form of an intimate panning of the open air, an inspection done to intercept distant raptors, waterfowl, and other aerialists.

Birding the sky is physically as simple as raising binoculars and looking around. To maximize efficiency and reduce eyestrain, however, there are a few tricks worthy of mention. The key is to scan against a hospitable background. This becomes important if repeated searches are to be made during periods of migration, when the potential rewards are greatest. It is usually a waste of time to try to pick out distant specks against a clear blue sky. I seldom bother. Clouds are a necessity. Puffy, closely-packed fair weather cumuli are ideal. This is because they are brilliant, yet not painfully glarely like a constant overcast. They generally possess a contrasty outer surface which offers a good distant-focus reference, and they occur during weather conditions most conducive to migratory flight by raptors, day-travelling passerines, and flocks of waterfowl.

High cirri are okay as a background, but are often so tenuous that distant or high-flying birds move across them without being especially conspicuous. Low overcast is not difficult to scan against, but it possesses poor surface contrast and poor distant-focus reference.

By “distant-focus reference,” I mean a background with some sharpness of features that an observer can use to pre-focus upon. Fine-tuning ones’ focus is important when scanning for distant birds. A very small speck passing overhead or far to one side may not be detected unless the binoculars are focused within a relatively narrow range of resolution. By focusing upon a bank of clouds which lies at about the distance at which you anticipate detecting distant birds, the chances are greater that any speck you pick up in scanning will be at sharpest image, and therefore more apt to be spotted and identified.

Blurry sky conditions dictate that one pre-focus upon a terrestrial object or skyline judged to be at the chosen scanning distance. This is ordinarily anywhere from one-half mile to 2 miles. Focusing beyond that distance may result in birds being detected that are simply too far away to be identified as anything other than raptor, sp. or goose, sp. There may be some satisfaction in deducing that an amoebic mote of a bird miles off in the next township is indeed a soaring hawk, but little meaningful information is to be gained from such knowledge.

Scanning the sky is done most efficiently by slow panning. Stand or sit in a comfortable position, and begin examining the sky at one side of the horizon. Pay greatest attention to the areas of highest contrast and spotting potential, the bright portions of the cloudscape. As each field of view is checked — it requires only a few moments — move the glasses across to a new area. Again, inspect only the portions of the scanning path offering easy contrast, and disregard blue sky unless birds are unusually frequent. Reaching the other side of the sky, move upward toward the zenith and sweep back. While scanning, it is good to keep the eyes actively roving within the field of view. This results in more area being searched than would be possible were the eyes to track only the center of the field.

Although searching the entire visible sky might mean seeing more birds, it is hardly enjoyable to do so. Ordinarily, only a portion of the sky need be searched. Figure out what you want to look for, and how to find it. If you are a mile northeast of a large pastureland and the air is warm and full, expect a few raptors to be hunting across the area. Scope fairly low to the southwest. If the rest of the landscape offers little potential for soaring hawks, forego further scanning. Should you be at the base of a steep ridge in the mountains or back of the coast, scan just above the ridge for its entire length, especially in spring or fall.

Getting to know what birds are Up and Out There can be made quicker during migration. During mid-day at the height of passage, it is nearly impossible to scan from one spot anywhere in Western Oregon for a few minutes and fail to intercept the familiar form of a Red-tailed Hawk or Sharp-shinned Hawk, or a flock of swallows winging a thousand feet overhead. I couldn’t list the scores of buteos, accipiters, Band-tailed Pigeons, swallows, and waterfowl I would have missed had I not taken a minute or two to check out the sky. Using this technique, I have added birds to various yard lists that would ordinarily seem to have little chance to be seen: Rough-legged Hawk, Northern Harrier, Sandhill Crane, various ducks and geese, cormorant, swallows, Raven, and myriad gulls (if I can tell what it is, I don’t care if it’s over someone else’s yard!).

Positive identification of distant birds is often impossible. Anyone who incorporates scanning into their set of bird-finding techniques will learn that the identity of a very distant bird that is initially unknown usually doesn’t become apparent with increased time spent squinting at it. If a speck of a raptor isn’t identifiable within 1 minute, and it’s not moving closer, make note that you have spotted a raptor. But at the same time, forget you ever saw it. Should an interesting bird be moving toward you, by all means stay on it. Give it time to show identifying characteristics.

I have found it to be a coincidental rule that passerines generally cannot be visually identified in flight beyond the range at which their calls are audible. Exceptions are such distinctive birds as Barn and (when high-flying) Violet-green Swallows, the swifts, Yellow-rumped Warblers (when one is really tuned in to them), Starlings, waxwings, and a few of the finch-types.

Ravens are a marvelous exception to this rule. Against a good background and in excellent light, Ravens may be told from other raptors as far away as their shape and flight pattern can be discerned: exceptionally, up to 4 miles. A few bold observers will no doubt claim even farther. Turkey Vultures, eagles, Sandhill Cranes, and Tundra Swans, because of their size and distinctive flight habits, are also able to be told at a range of up to several miles. Vultures offer good practice for getting familiar with the way the eye and the mind work at the Edge Of Identifiability.

Yet, the Bitter Edge has to be recognized and respected. Distant specks in the sky often remain exactly that: specks. The old acid test of whether you would name that bird if others were watching it holds. If it is a struggle, just let it go.
An Apparent Clay-colored Sparrow X Chipping Sparrow Hybrid in Oregon

David Fix, HC 60, Box 101, Idleyld Park, OR 97447

From late fall 1979 to mid-March 1980, an unusual *Spizella* sparrow wintered with a large flock of sparrows in Alton Baker Park in Eugene. This bird was studied by several observers during its stay, and was photographed. It was in first-winter plumage when discovered. It was not positively identified until it assumed breeding plumage during early spring. At that time, birders who had watched and kept track of the bird throughout the season concluded that it was probably a Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) X Chipping Sparrow (*S. pusilla*) hybrid. Although 8 years have elapsed since this bird occurred, I believe it is worthwhile to discuss the record. To my knowledge, this is the only apparent *Spizella* sparrow hybrid to have been reported from Oregon.

Tom Lund was the first birder to notice the sparrow, during November 1979. He found an immature *Spizella* that he could not identify in the public garden plots in Alton Baker Park. I accompanied Lund to the garden plots soon afterward and together we relocated the bird. I agreed with his opinion that it was an immature bird, and found, too, that I could not identify it to species. During the next 3 months we watched the bird on many dates, alone and together, sometimes for more than 1 hour at a time.

When first discovered and until early February, the sparrow was in an obscure plumage. It was obviously a *Spizella* by its small size, plump shape, slender notched tail, little bill, thin wingbars, outlined auriculars, streaked crown, and thin *sip* call. Details suggested both Clay-colored Sparrow and Chipping Sparrow:

- Breast: Pale and "colorless", neither gray nor buffy. Crown: Dark brown, streaked, with thin paler median. Face: Together with the crown, it was paler than Chipping Sparrow. Auriculars not solidly dusky, but outlined above and below by thin dark lines. Postocular line dark brown; lores paler than postocular but darker than surrounding feathers. Pale buffy supercilium. Nape, side of neck: Slightly contrasted with the crown and face pattern. Bill: Pale horn or dull flesh; not evenly colored. Appeared dusky at tip. Rump: This was never clearly seen while the bird was in the present plumage, despite much effort. Back, wings: Similar to Chipping Sparrow.

An immature Chipping Sparrow was in the same flock of sparrows that the mystery bird was in. The Chipping Sparrow differed from the strange *Spizella* in having a much grayer breast, slightly darker brown cap, darker bill, darker lores, and generally duskier face pattern. We felt that the mystery bird was not a Chipping Sparrow. None of the plumages described for Chipping Sparrow quite fit the present bird. Nor did we feel we were dealing with a Clay-colored Sparrow. We saw a typical immature Clay-colored in Oregon during January 1980. Upon sighting that bird, we felt certain that the Alton Baker sparrow was not that species. Realizing the limitations of the field guides, and of our own experience, we paid a lengthy visit to Herb Wisner's ornithological library. We pored over every reference that might have indicated a positive identification. Even Oberholser's *Birds of Texas* failed to provide us with an obvious answer. At this point, we knew we would probably have to wait for the sparrow to molt and assume alternate plumage. We hoped that the cats and Sharp-shinned Hawks might scare the bird, and that the Parks Department would put off plowing the garden plots until April.

At one of our innumerable bird-talk-and-napkin-scribbling sessions at a local restaurant during December, Lund remarked that he felt the bird was neither a Clay-colored nor a Chipping Sparrow, but was probably a hybrid between the 2 species. I shared his opinion. It is to his credit as one of Oregon's truly great birders that Lund advanced this difficult, tentative identification even when the bird was in a most obscure plumage, one for which we could find neither a description nor an illustration.

On 19 February I relocated the sparrow after having not seen it for several weeks. I noted that molt into alternate plumage was well underway. I saw the sparrow for the last time on 24 March. It was a much different bird than the one we had spent hours wondering about during the winter! It now possessed characteristics which led both of us to believe that it was, indeed, a Clay-colored X Chipping hybrid:


I have 2 photos, taken 16 March 1980, which show the key field marks of this apparent hybrid. Neither is of quality sufficient for reproduction here.

The above details rule out the possibility of other species, such as Brewer's Sparrow, which may, at least conceivably, interbreed with Clay-colored Sparrow or Chipping Sparrow. I have noticed occasional references in *American Birds* to hybridization between Clay-colored and Chipping Sparrows in the eastern portion of the Clay-colored's range. This individual, of course, might have been produced at practically any point within the general area of overlap in the 2 species' ranges. It is possible, too, that the hybrid progeny may have been produced by the mating of a Chipping Sparrow with a Clay-colored Sparrow that "pioneered" a site beyond the normal perimeter of that species' expanding range.
Birds in unusual plumages present special problems for birders. The story of the hybrid *Spizella* in Eugene demonstrates that:

1. Even slight variation from the expected range of plumage should not be dismissed as "ordinary";
2. Dull winter or immature plumages of some species and hybrids may not permit positive identification; and
3. The role of standard field guides should be perceived as one of basic familiarization, not of service as birding scripture.

**Notes on Swift Identification**

David Fix, HC 60, Box 101, Idleyld Park, OR 97447

The separation of Black Swift (*Cypseloides niger*) and Vaux’s Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*), while not a major identification problem, is a situation worthy of a second look.

These two species may be confused — specifically, Vaux’s Swift may be misidentified as Black Swift — given difficult viewing conditions, a brief look, or inexperience and over-eagerness on the part of the observer.

Birders whose fieldwork is confined mostly to Oregon tend to be inexperienced with Black Swift. This bird summers at only one location in the state as far as is currently known, and continues to be a rare sight during spring and fall migration. The average active, every-weekend birder in Oregon will encounter migrant Black Swifts less frequently than once per year.

Due to its rarity, few of our birders have had a chance to acquire a feeling for how this species really looks and behaves off the pages of the bird books. My concern with this general lack of familiarity, along with dissatisfaction with the typically skimpy treatments of swifts in the field guides, spurred me to put together these comparison notes on our two dark-bodied swifts. This piece reviews the particular elements of each species, especially body shape and flight style, which in sum produce their distinctive jizz.

Based upon my experience I think the following points, in decreasing order of significance in the field, ought to be considered in separating Black and Vaux’s Swifts under average viewing conditions:

- Proportions of body, wings, and tail
- Flight style
- Size
- Voice
- Color

**Proportions**

Most Oregon birders are familiar with Vaux’s Swift. Vaux’s is a chubby, sausage-shaped little bird, tiny for a swift, with a decidedly double-tapered look. It lacks the very slim, attenuated appearance of “conventional” swifts.

Vaux’s has rather short wings for a swift, though they still appear proportionately narrower than those of the swallows. The tail of Vaux’s Swift is little more than a fringe of spiky feathers, suggesting that a real tail might somehow have been torn from the body (ouch!). The head projects conspicuously beyond the leading edge of the wings.

Black Swift, conversely, possesses a classic “mid-size” build, with body proportions common to the conventional swifts of the world. It has a slender, swelle body and long scimitar-like wings which are comparatively narrow for their length.

Black Swift has an honest-to-goodness tail which, while not terribly prominent, is obvious in the field. The tail is slightly-to-moderately notched while the bird is in straightaway flight. However, when the swift executes a sudden turn, the tail is fanned or spooned, erasing the notched look and becoming very rounded. This effect lasts but a moment, yet is noticeable if looked for. Vaux’s Swift never fans its tail noticeably, except when fluttering the last few feet into a chimney.

The wings of Black Swift, unlike those of Vaux’s, do not appear to arise at about the midpoint of the body. Instead, they seem set much nearer to the neck, owing to the bird’s tail length and the sharp forward bend in the “wrist” of the wing. The wings appear to arise so close to the neck that, together with the wrist-crook, the head seems hunched between the wings. This causes the head of Black Swift to project only slightly beyond the wings. Thus, Black Swift shows much more length of body behind the line of the wings than Vaux’s.

**Flight style**

Vaux’s Swift has a rapid, dashing, constantly hurried flight, with “twinkling” wingstrokes and frequent short glides. Birds feeding in a thermal or a breeze will commonly sustain glides up to about five seconds’ duration. Vaux’s Swifts change direction of flight from moment to moment, veering sharply, and terminating glides with a frantic burst of crowed wingbeats that carries them off at a new angle. Their longer, slicing glides are characterized by a tremulous or quivering shifting of stiffly-held wings, as they attempt to maintain a chosen heading.

Compared to Vaux’s, Black Swifts seem to me to have a more plastic, more varied flight. This is suggested by the seemingly contradictory statements in the ornithological and birdological literature. It has been claimed that Black Swift has a more leisurely flight than other North American swifts, yet also is among the fastest-flying birds on the continent. Both statements are true, but independently so.

It’s not that Black Swifts fly tremendously fast in a leisurely sort of way; rather, they use several different flight styles. In my experience with these birds, I have come to anticipate a slightly different mode of flying each time I encounter them. This degree of variation is certainly a possible source of mistaken identity, so I will briefly describe the flight styles I have noted in Oregon:
On several occasions I have watched 1 to 3 Black Swifts feed by flying high in the sky in a truly leisurely fashion. They flapped almost continually, the wingstrokes being deep, fluid, relaxed-looking, and extending far above and below the horizontal plane. They glided for a short moment or 2 between periods of flapping, the length of time spent flapping being much longer than that spent gliding. These birds “changed gear” frequently, swerving suddenly up, down, or to the side to pursue food, after which they immediately resumed typical flight. The overall effect and lasting impression was reminiscent of Common Nighthawk feeding at a relaxed pace.

Eleven birds feeding in open sky above the canyon of Salt Creek, Lane County, in early July dashed rapidly with strong, quick, nearly flickering wingstrokes interspersed with short veering glides. The speed of flight, strong wingbeats, and limited gliding effected a similarity to Vaux’s Swift and White-throated Swift.

Fifteen birds feeding about 200-300 feet above Plat I Reservoir, Douglas County, in mid-September flew in wide, wandering cruises, the individual birds being some distance apart yet in a definite loose flock. These swifts spent a remarkable amount of time gliding. A burst of a dozen or so shallow wingbeats propelled each bird into a surprisingly slow, flat, easily-maintained glide that lasted as long as 15 seconds. The speed of flight was certainly no greater than that of the Vaux’s Swifts and Violet-green Swallows which shared the airspace. Given their size, unhurried flight, extended slow glides, and toneless dark color against the glarey sky, it is conceivable that this group could have been misidentified as Purple Martins by an inexperienced birder asleep at the lens.

Two Black Swifts passing the tip of Cape Lookout, Tillamook County, in late August flew southward at a speed I can only describe as astonishing. They appeared together, flashing within 5 feet of me, and flew steeply downward past the cliffs on the south side of the cape. Within moments, they had reached the surface of the ocean, racing south down a trough between low swells. Their wings were held slightly and stiffly downcurved the entire time, and never beat. Skies were clear and there was a gentle northerly breeze. Birds have so impressed me with sheer speed on only 2 other occasions: a flock of Clark’s Nutcrackers tumbling down from a mountaintop in a strong tailwind in Montana, and a Gyr Falcon pursuing a duck in still air at Clatsop Spit. The experience at Cape Lookout left me with a better idea of why so few Black Swifts are detected during migration along the outer coast.

Size
Black Swifts are larger than Vaux’s Swifts, but this is often not evident. Rarely will one enjoy close juxtaposition of Black Swifts with Vaux’s Swifts or swallows. In most cases, what gives away their superior size are their proportionately longer wings and tail, generally slower wing-strokes, and more fluid dashes after insects.

Voice
The voice of Black Swift seems to be rarely heard during migration, at least in our area. Birds at Salt Creek, mentioned above, gave soft, thin, clear, multisyllabled calls once in awhile. The calls had a short “i” tone. The fact that they are seldom heard in migration is in itself a secondary field mark.

Vaux’s Swifts are nearly always vocal, even on passage, and have a very distinctive, easily-learned call. Their shrill, excited “IDDIIT-it-ziz-ziz” chitter-notes are given frequently and are nearly impossible to mistake for another species. This call carries a respectable distance for a small bird. Therefore, any constantly calling dark-bodied swift, or flock of swifts, in migration in Oregon is probably Vaux’s.

Color
This is a point of distinction that is diagnostic. Unfortunately, it is often difficult to discern subtleties of dark colors under Oregon field conditions, compounded by long distance or other bad viewing circumstances. For this reason, I look at coloration as a useful secondary field point.

Black Swifts are unreliably black except for a tick of whitish on the forehead (practically impossible to see most of the time). Vaux’s Swifts are not black—they are deep sooty-grayish with a paler breast and throat and very slightly paler rump. However, Vaux’s can look quite blackish if viewed against a harsh overcast, or if backlit, or if seen at a distance. This is why it is important to pay attention to the variables which affect perception, as well as making every reasonable effort to know the common birds thoroughly.

Something which may complicate the coloration issue is that Vaux’s Swifts exhibit a very slight but detectable seasonal variation in color tone. When they arrive in spring they are in fresh feather, with a subtle deep sienna-brown tinge to the entire body plumage. This clean plumage has a sleek, softly glistening appearance in strong direct sunlight. The breast and throat do not contrast quite as much with the remainder of the plumage at this season. I have noticed that these April birds can look convincingly blackish, even close at hand, if in poor light.

Vaux’s molt
Another interesting feature of Vaux’s Swifts can be mentioned. After about 15 July, roughly two-thirds (pers. obs.) of Vaux’s Swifts in our area will be seen to have an incomplete set of flight feathers. These are adults, which begin the molt of remiges at this time. Their rattly, sparse appearance can be easily noted, even without binoculars. Juvenile swifts take wing about the same time, and are recognized as such by their neat, perfectly-outlined trailing wing-edge. The same thing is evident within the legions of swallows in summer and fall.

I thank Steve Heinl and David Irons for reviewing and discussing the draft.
Newspapers as Sources of Bird Field Notes

Range D. Bayer, P.O. Box 1467, Newport, Oregon 97365

It is often difficult to find bird field notes more than 20 years old because peoples' field notes have either been lost or destroyed. One place to look for old field notes is in newspapers. Newspapers often include stories about local events that they have considered noteworthy. These can include die-offs of birds along ocean beaches or dates of migrations. In one of the Newport newspapers I found a short article about a female polar bear and her cub washing up on a Newport beach and drawing large crowds one summer.

Newspapers also sometimes included columns that dealt with nature and birds. Grace McCormac French wrote a column “Signs of the Season” that appeared irregularly in the McMinnville News-Reporter for many years (Bayer 1986). In these columns, there can often be detailed information about the comings and goings of local birds. Finding these columns can also be important for another reason — you can try to track down the field notes of the columnist. Finding the notes involves detective work, sometimes akin to genealogical techniques, but starts as simply as looking in the phone book to see if the columnist or any relatives are still in the area.

The first step in trying to look through old newspapers of your area is to visit your current newspaper office to see if they keep old newspapers. The second place to look is in your local library, but they often only keep papers for the most recent 5 or 10 years. The next place to try is the Oregon Historical Society Library in Portland or the even larger newspaper collection at the University of Oregon Library in Eugene. Microfilm of the newspapers in the University of Oregon collection can sometimes be checked out through interlibrary loan (ask at your local library). Unfortunately, a special machine that may not be available at your local library is required to read or print microfilm.

Do not be content with what newspapers you find at your local newspaper or library because they generally do not have them all. Today, each town or city is lucky to have 1 newspaper, but in the past there were many more newspapers, and towns that do not now have papers may once have had several. For example, Astoria has had 23 papers, and Waldport has had 7 newspapers (Anonymous 1973)! To discover all newspapers that have been published in your area, look in Anonymous (1973), or check the holdings of the Oregon Historical Society or University of Oregon libraries. While these sources may not have copies of all papers, they will have copies of what is available today.

Skimming through newspapers looking for bird notes or nature columns can be tedious, especially when you don’t find anything for a long time. But be patient and try to enjoy the little bits of local and Oregon history you find as you peruse the papers. For example, while going through old papers, I discovered that there were many civilians in observation towers all around western Oregon during World War II and the Korean War looking for enemy aircraft! Some of these people, like Grace French, watched birds while spending many hours without ever spotting a single enemy plane.

In conclusion, reading through old newspapers is a learning experience that may give you some bird field notes that you may not have been able to find any other way. It can also give you perspective on the lives of those who have gone before us.

LITERATURE CITED


Grace French’s Arrivals and Departures of Birds in Yamhill County, Oregon

Range D. Bayer, P. O. Box 1467, Newport, OR 97365

Many of our birds are obviously migratory. Much less obvious is how predictable the times of their arrivals and departures are. At San Juan Capistrano, the arrival date of Cliff Swallows is almost like clockwork, but how predictable are the arrivals for many of our birds in Oregon?

Once one delves into the world of migration dates, one quickly learns that dates can vary from site to site. For example, in Lincoln County, Tree and Violet-green Swallows typically arrive at marshes along the coast several weeks before they do at dry inland sites in the Coast Range. The downside of this variation is that migration dates for one area cannot be blindly extrapolated to other areas. The upside is that each of us has the opportunity to discover the migration dates for our own area without knowing if other areas will have similar dates. Further, it is fun to compare migration dates for one's own area with other areas to see what differences exist.

Unfortunately, arrival and especially departure dates for Oregon birds are not widely available for many areas. Gabrielson and Jewett's (1940) work is still the most comprehensive work giving migration dates, but it is really only a thumbnail sketch of migration dates for the state. For the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Littlefield and McLaury (1973) and Littlefield and Cornely (1984) give the average
migration dates but more importantly also give the range in migration dates. Other papers (e.g., Winter 1976, Bayer 1977, 1986a; McGie 1979, 1980; Ramsey and Hacker 1984) suffer from not being available to the average Oregon birder and also from only listing the average or typical migration dates. The problem with "average" migration dates is that they may markedly differ from the actual observed dates.

Below are listed the migration dates found by Grace French in the Carlton and Dayton portions of Yamhill County during 1913-1950. These dates are excerpted from the migration dates given yearly in Bayer (1986b). An abstract of this 40-page monograph is in Bayer (1986c).

A problem with French's migration dates, as with most studies of migration dates, is variability in observation effort. It is easy to miss the date that birds first arrive, and it is even more difficult to record the last date that they are present. Further, more time may be spent one year than another in trying to determine migration dates. Thus, observed "migration" dates are really the dates that birds are first or last reported, not necessarily the dates that the birds actually first arrived and last departed.

In spite of these shortcomings, French's migration dates are still of interest because she has data for so many years, and they are for an area where migration dates have not been previously published.

LITERATURE CITED


Turkey Vulture
First Reported
Years Mean Range Years Mean Range
Sandhill Crane 13 4/17 4/8-5/3 1 10/9 10/9
Red-necked Phalarope 8 5/3 4/14-5/2 0 0
Band-tailed Pigeon 28 4/27 4/8-5/3 8 9/17 8/12-10/18
Mouming Dove 24 5/1 2/27-6/2 7 9/8 8/14-10/13
Common Night Hawk 26 6/5 5/28-6/18 3 8/24 5/18-8/31
Vaux's Swift 15 5/11 4/22-6/17 13 9/12 8/18-9/30
Rufous Hummingbird 13 3/26 3/10-4/15 11 8/24 8/14-10/4
Western Wood-Pewee 31 5/14 4/30-5/28 7 8/18 8/5-9/18
Willow Flycatcher 21 5/3 4/14-5/21 4 9/9 8/21-9/18
Tree Swallow 31 3/5 2/23-3/30 1 9/23 9/23
Violet-green Swallow 34 3/7 2/15-3/25 22 10/1 9/12-10/12
No. Rough-winged S. 21 4/27 4/2-5/18 0 0
Cliff Swallow 31 4/10 3/22-5/12 8 9/21 9/11-9/28
Barn Swallow 13 5/23 4/21-5/7 4 9/9 8/31-9/19
North American Robinb 29 2/1 1/4-3/8 0 0
Cedar Waxwing 30 5/19 5/5-5/31 13 9/24 8/29-10/27
Solitary Vireo 31 4/18 4/6-5/2 10 9/14 8/30-10/27
Warbling Vireo 27 5/5 4/24-6/3 1 8/10 8/10
Yellow Warbler 32 5/2 4/21-5/10 3 8/30 8/22-9/7
Yellow-rumped Warbler 31 3/10 2/16-4/13 0 0
Audubon’s 31 4/2 2/21-5/7 0 0
Myrtle 29 4/2 2/21-5/11 0 0
Black-throated Gray W. 38 4/20 4/2-5/12 7 9/18 8/25-10/3
Townsend’s Warbler 8 5/3 4/25-5/2 0 0
Hemit Warbler 5 5/14 5/4-5/24 0 0
MacGillivray’s Warb. 27 5/11 4/12-5/21 3 8/23 8/14-9/6
Common Yellowthroat 31 4/22 4/10-5/10 5 9/5 9/5-9/13
Wilson’s Warbler 23 5/6 4/9-5/23 1 9/14 9/1/4
Yellow-breathed Chat 26 5/16 4/25-6/2 4 8/21 8/4-9/3
Western Tanager 29 5/10 5/1-5/20 17 9/3 8/8-9/23
Black-headed Grosbeak 29 5/15 4/6-6/4 5 8/17 8/8-9/23
Veep Sparrow 32 4/10 3/23-4/27 12 9/16 8/30-10/19
Savannah Sparrow 21 4/17 3/22-5/12 0 0
Lincoln’s Sparrow 16 4/25 4/12-5/5 1 8/27 8/27
Golden-crowned S. 19 9/25 9/11-11/10 0 0
Lesser Goldfinchb 27 4/18 3/13-4/23 0 0
American Goldfinchb 32 4/17 3/28-5/2 0 0
Pine Siskin 29 4/11 3/1-5/1 0 0

aThis is when robins first arrived in flocks; scattered ones were present earlier.
bSome Golden-crowned Sparrows remained throughout the winters, but they were mainly spring and fall migrants.

cLesser Goldfinches were sometimes present in winter.

dThese are the first arrival dates of male American Goldfinches.

Oregon Birds 14(3): 259, 1988
Late nineteenth-century ornithology in North America was hardly free of acrimony. The extensive trade in eggs, with high prices demanded for rare or hard to obtain sets, inevitably led to fraud and the subsequent public exposure of dishonest dealers by the cheated parties. Even the nationally prominent ornithologists Elliott Coues and Thomas Brewer engaged in a bitter, highly public debate over the benefits of introducing the House Sparrow to this country. Perhaps of more interest to us, the observations of an Oregon man prompted, on a smaller scale, a brief, but heated, public dispute.

Writing from Forest Grove, W.C. Purdin offered to readers of the March 1895 issue of *Sports Afield* some unique observations. "The yellow-hammer variety of woodpecker," by which Purdin meant, presumably, the Red-shafted Northern Flicker, "goes to roost very early — before sundown generally — and does so by thrusting his head through a knot-hole in a wall or tree, or a crevice, fork of a limb, or such like, and hangs suspended by the head with its body hanging in the air. Very often they may be seen at roost high up on a wall, with body outside the building and their heads inside. They cannot be found in this position in the morning, as they are very early risers." "It is very amusing," Purdin wrote, "to watch their natural habits." H.R. Taylor, editor of the *Nidologist*, found Purdin’s observations more amusing. In the April 1895 issue of his monthly ornithological magazine (which proclaimed “We expose frauds” on its masthead), Taylor mocked Purdin. “Mr. Purdin embarks on his subject without preface or apology, and makes the most startling statements with a rare ingenuity, calculated to carry conviction — to investigators equally ingenious.” Taylor quoted Purdin’s most damning passages, then lampooned him. “How fortunate that [the flickers] are very early risers! What a woeful weeping there would be among the birds if they should see the poor Flickers hanging by their necks as a result of a ‘natural habit!’ And what if it is a suicidal mania, and should spread among all the birds?” “If Mr. Purdin had realized,” Taylor concluded, “what consternation his ingenuous remarks would cause among bird students, he would surely have kept the truth from us — as long as possible.”

But Purdin was not at all amused by Taylor’s mockery. He replied with indignation and Taylor, with fresh insult, published Purdin’s letter exactly as that unfortunate gentleman had written it.
And here the debate ended. Purdin had had his say and Taylor had turned his riposte back upon him, settling for the readers of the Nidiologist any doubts they might have had about Purdin's veracity. Purdin's suicidal flickers hanging by their necks were too ludicrous to believe. As a dispute this was minor, but it illustrated the form of many early ornithological debates: style over substance, ridicule over reason, and a tendency to debate the trivial.

I thank Ann Paugh of Sports Afield's Readers' Services for locating and copying Purdin's article for me.

SITE GUIDE: Sherman County

Dennis Rogers, c/o Jim Rogers, 95187 Elk River Road, Port Orford, OR 97465

Sherman county is arguably the worst county for birding in Oregon, with little variety of habitat and few public areas. Those successfully combining masochism with a serious interest in county listing will enjoy the experience of birding this little-known part of the state.

Most of the county consists of vast fields of wheat broken only by power lines and canyons too steep to cultivate where a little remnant sage brush or willow hangs on. These areas are home to Western Meadowlark, Horned Lark, and Swainson's Hawk but not much else. As the potential here is quickly exhausted one must look to the other habitats, i.e., anything that can be found with trees.

Unfortunately most of the trees to be found are around private ranch houses and more or less inaccessible for that reason. Most of the potential migrant/vagrant traps in the county suffer from this with the known exceptions detailed below.

Water habitats are also difficult to come by in the county despite the fact that the Colombia, Deschutes, and John Day rivers form the boundaries on three sides. The Colombia in particular can be good for wintering ducks, grebes, gulls, etc., with Barrow's Goldeneye apparently regular around the mouth of the Deschutes. A large flock of Greater Scaup winters on the reservoir above The Dalles dam and may be found in the Sherman county portion at times. Common Merganser seems to be the only duck regular on the other rivers, so for other ducks and shorebirds hope rests on the various ponds mentioned below. As Sherman county has to lead the state in sewage ponds per capita, some possibilities exist but they are generally of low quality.

The only other widespread habitat to be found is the sage scrub remaining around the canyons of the John Day and Deschutes. In addition to the omnipresent Western Meadowlark, Rock and Cañon Wrens and Brewer's Blackbird can be found here. The large Chukar population is probably the main reason so much of the county is posted.

For obvious reasons birders visiting Sherman county will want to concentrate on the few accessible areas of trees and water, most of which are not difficult to find. There just aren't that many choices.

1. Deschutes River Park. The main attraction here is a trail following the east bank of the Deschutes through a narrow string of riparian habitat that continues for some distance upstream. Just walk through the "overflow camping area" to find the starting point of the trail, when it is not closed to protect the nesting Canada Geese. The whole area is good for migrants and riparian breeding species. Check the patch of willows in the extreme northeastern corner of the park, as Downy Woodpecker has been seen here. By crossing the railroad tracks and going under the freeway bridge a good view of the Columbia can be had. The pond between the freeway and the railroad tracks is good at times for ducks and River Otter. Sparrows can be anywhere, with a breeding-plumaged Harris' Sparrow found in May 1986. A colony of Bank Swallows is somewhere nearby. The other side of the river (in Wasco County) can also be good, containing an American Tree Sparrow in February 1986.

2. Fulton Canyon. Check the willows along this canyon for migrants in season, particularly the patches at the top. Harris' Sparrow has been seen here also.

3. Wasco Sewage Ponds. The ponds can be found on the northernmost of the several roads leading in and out of Wasco—the one marked "Biggs." Among the horde of tame ducks and geese there may be something. Northern Shoveler, Greater Yellowlegs and Least Sandpiper have all been seen here.

Oregon Birds 14(3): 262, 1988
4. Rufus. The back road from Wasco to Rufus by way of Scott canyon passes some interesting patches of cottonwoods. From Rufus, the park below the John Day dam is accessible and provides some limited riparian habitat and a place to look over the Columbia. A set of sewage ponds is on the far west side of Rufus, along the frontage road. Mallard and Killdeer are regular here. More ponds and areas of cottonwood and willow flank the road paralleling I-84 back to Biggs.

5. DeMoss County Park. This is the nicest piece of habitat I've found in the county, with tall cottonwoods, willows, a nice stream, and matching “Billy the Kid” and “Calamity Jane” restrooms. Don’t drink the water. This place would appear to have substantial potential as a vagrant trap if covered during the appropriate time of year. Plenty of migrants can be had in May, with warblers, vireos, flycatchers and tanagers in evidence. Say’s Phoebes nest near the building on the west side of the park.

6. Moro Sewage Ponds. These ponds are on the east side of Highway 97 just north of town. This is another good spot for Mallard. Check the trees and brush.

7. Grass Valley. The small city park in the middle of town is a possibility for migrants. Hermit Thrush, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Pine Siskin, and numerous warblers were here in May 1986. By checking the rest of town one might find Lewis’ Woodpecker or who knows what else.

8. Hwy. 97 Ponds. This string of ponds on the east side of the road appears to be the best spot in the county for puddle ducks and shorebirds, with sightings of Cinnamon and Blue-winged Teals, Northern Pintail, Wilson’s Phalarope, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Western and Least Sandpipers. The northernmost pond, about a half-mile south of Grass Valley, seems to be the best, but the others scattered along for a couple of miles also merit checking. Don’t bother to go further south towards Kent.

Thorough coverage of these areas should give one the flavor of Sherman County birdsing. Anyone who still wants to come back after getting a glimpse of the potential will find that Oregon Birds’ threshold of 100 species can probably be achieved with 3 or 4 well-timed trips. As there is really no other reason for birding Sherman county, I wish you the best of luck at getting to 100.

SITE GUIDES: Gilliam and Sherman Counties

Steve Gordon, 1140 West 24th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405

While I have not yet reached the 100 species mark in either Gilliam or Sherman Counties, I have probed both looking for promising habitat. Except for winter trips speeding through on I-84 to points east, all my trips to both counties have been in July and August.

In 1984, I was mounting a “lumping Gilliam and Sherman Counties” campaign for listing purposes. Then Craig Corder became the first OFO member to report 100 species for Gilliam County. I was mounting a campaign to nominate him for birder of the year — or decade — when I learned that Dennis Rogers had recorded 100 species in all 36 Oregon Counties, including Gilliam and Sherman. I understand that Dennis made numerous weekend trips to those counties during spring 1986 to accomplish this birding miracle — the first person in the world to accomplish this feat.

Before I began serious county listing, a 24 August 1980 trip through Gilliam County caused me to stop at a lonesome willow patch at Dyer Wayside on Highway 19 between Condon and Fossil. I heard a Black-capped Chickadee, and while imitating a Western Screech-Owl in an attempt to raise more birds, a Western Screech-Owl responded. A 22 December 1979 winter stop at the bus station in Biggs resulted in a Peregrine Falcon sighting. It was chasing a flock of Rock Doves. Those records, which predated serious county listing, are good reasons for keeping accurate field notes. By the end of 1984, my county lists for Gilliam and Sherman Counties stood at 26 and 14 species, respectively.

For those who are unfamiliar with these two north-central Oregon counties bordering the Columbia River, I will quickly describe the major habitat types in addition to the water provided by the Columbia: dry eastern Oregon sage slopes, many dry gulches, extensive wheat and grain farms on the richer soils of volcanic ash on the upper plateaus, short-grass range lands on the rockier soils, limited riparian strips, rimrock cliffs, and a few small towns dominated by House Sparrow habitat.

Ranch dwellings are sometimes surrounded by trees, but I’ve always felt like an outsider, an invader of privacy and a way of life foreign to my somewhat citified existence. This feeling is heightened by the florescent orange hunting safety zone signs surrounding many ranch houses for a quarter mile radius.

I wondered about the isolated ranch houses. What possesses people to live out there alone in the “middle of nowhere”? These counties are the heartland of Oregon’s wheat industry. The Oregon Blue Book indicates that Gilliam and
Sherman Counties respectively are 1223 and 831 square miles in area, have about 13.8 and 11.4 inches of annual precipitation, and had 1980 populations of 2056 and 2172. The average farm size in Gilliam County is about 4200 acres (about 6.5 square miles).

Sherman County is among the highest in Oregon in terms of average per capita income. Here, teenagers and grandparents work together with mothers and fathers to harvest crops. Huge machines prowl the hillside leaving trails of dust as they harvest grain. As strong winds blow up the Columbia Gorge, rounded hills of grain wave gently and the velvet smoothness takes on motion. Rustling heads of grain disrupt the quiet. Meadowlarks and Horned Larks find suitable habitat, and hawks and coyotes search for rodents in freshly mowed fields. In stores, ice cream bars are still found at the bottom of old freezers; the rubber hinges on the lids are cracked and split from years of use. Soda pop can still be found soaking in an ice water bath. The local store is likely to also have a gas pump, post office, liquor store, and a well-stocked hardware section. Gilliam and Sherman Counties are truly a part of rural America.

GILLIAM COUNTY

Arlington. With a 1985 population of 450, Arlington (formerly known as Alkali), shows promise, but is dominated by House Sparrows. During land bird migrations, it could be productive.

Condon. With a population of 750, the county seat is Gilliam County’s largest city and the urban center for the 2-county area. There is a campground in the city, but is probably used mostly at fair and rodeo events. House Sparrows also dominate Condon’s birdlife, but the city and its trees could be good during land bird migrations.

Rock Creek and Sixmile Canyon. Traveling west from Condon on Highway 206 — the Wasco to Heppner Highway — you will travel through Sixmile Canyon. Afternoon birding along this highway in late July resulted in the following species: Rock Wren, Western Meadowlark, Northern Oriole, Northern Flicker, Lazuli Bunting, American Goldfinch, Red-tailed Hawk, Turkey Vulture, California Quail, Chukar, Mourning Dove, Common Nighthawk, Western Kingbird, Barn Swallow, American Robin, Western Tanager, and House Finch. At the Canyon’s bottom, the highway crosses Rock Creek. One-half mile upstream (southeast) from the bridge, a Gray Catbird called on 22 July 1986. There is good riparian habitat in the bottom of this Canyon.

Lonerock. Located 17 miles off Highway 206 in southeastern Gilliam County, the City of Lonerock, population 25, offers good birding. The road leading to Lonerock is paved on the upper plateau. Horned Larks, Vesper and Lark Sparrows, Western Meadowlarks, and American Kestrels are common roadside birds. As the pavement ends, you enter the “Gilliam County National Forest” at a point where a few stunted junipers appear. The gravel road leading down into the Lonerock Creek Canyon passes through promising habitat. On 22 July 1986, the underbrush revealed a Green-tailed Towhee and the road presented a dead Western Rattlesnake. Just 1 mile south of Lonerock, the juniper forest blends into mixed juniper and Ponderosa pine habitat. A late afternoon stop here resulted in many Gilliam County birds, including: Lark and Chipping Sparrows, Mountain Chickadee, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Hairy Woodpecker, and Warbling Vireo. Lonerock is a worthwhile side trip and should be good for morning birding. Some notes about Lonerock and Tule are warranted. The view of Lonerock from the ridge to the northwest is spectacular. Lonerock is a compact town nestled in the green valley floor. Birders must be welcome in the thriving ghost town. I saw signs which read: “No Trespassing”, “No Camping”, “No Soliciting”, and “No Hunting”, but none which read “No Birding”.

Phillipi Canyon. Located off an I-84 exit in northwestern Gilliam County, Phillipi Canyon yielded excellent morning birding at a point 1.1 miles south from I-84 where a piped spring feeds into a livestock watering trough. Rimrock and sage yielded to some lush, green, hillside habitat. Among birds recorded at this location were: Prairie Falcon, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Killdeer, California Quail, Mourning Dove, Rufous Hummingbird, Northern Flicker, Eastern and

Oregon Birds 14(3): 266, 1988
Western Kingbirds, Say’s Phoebe, Rock Wren, American Robin, Loggerhead Shrike, Western Meadowlark, Northern Oriole, Lazuli Bunting, House Finch, American Goldfinch, and Lark Sparrow. A little way past this spring, the road forks. The road leading west into the Phillipi Ranch bears a warning, “If you’ve gotten to this sign, you’ve come too far!” Fortunately, the spring is adjacent to a friendlier, public, gravel road.

**J.S. Burres State Park.** This location on the east bank of the John Day River was very disappointing. It resulted in the following: Common Nighthawk, A Gopher Snake, two green outhouses, a gravel parking lot, and not a single tree.

**SHERMAN COUNTY**

In summer travels in this county, I have discovered some good birding spots. Don’t let the place names Wasco and Moro fool you. They are located in Sherman County, not in Wasco or Morrow Counties.

**Deschutes River State Park and State Wildlife Management Area.** While there is camping, running water, and flush toilets at the park, there are no showers. However, I recommend this location highly. From the campground, a trail leads south along the east bank of the Deschutes River. On 2 July 1985, I recorded 35 species on an early morning walk including: Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Common Merganser, Spotted Sandpiper, Belted Kingfisher, Black-capped Chickadee, Bewick’s, Canyon, and Rock Wrens, Wilson’s Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, and Lazuli Bunting. Also, Beaver and Yellow-bellied Marmot were observed on my morning walk. Other birds recorded in this park at other times include Bush Tit and Hermit Thrush. This site is popular with fishermen. If you hike more than a half mile along the trail, you are likely to overhear comments like, “What’re you doing up this far without your pole?”, or “Catch anything?”. Never mind, these folks are generally nice and use fishing as an excuse to travel, to be outdoors, and to enjoy nature. Many of them can carry on a decent conversation about birds, but tend to throw in terms like “rainbow” whenever they can.

**Wasco.** Completely surrounded by wheat fields, this city of 430 is hidden in a depression known as Spanish Hollow. If any town in Oregon is overrun with House Sparrows, this is it. The Pied Piper needs to pay a visit. There are many trees here and a creek runs through the town. There are pine trees at the city park and a 23 July 1986 picnic there resulted in 1 each of Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Pine Siskin. The sewage ponds are located on the western edge of town, but don’t look very promising.

**DeMoss Springs County Park.** Located in Barnum Canyon along Highway 97 between Wasco and Moro, this park is worth a stop; it is 2 miles north of Moro. Among birds seen here were Western Wood-Pewee, Warbling Vireo, and Western Flycatcher (17 August 1985). This could be a good spot during peak migrations.

**Moro.** The main attraction in this town of 330 people are the sewage ponds located east of Highway 97 on the north edge of town. On 23 July 1986, I obtained permission to bird the ponds and found 2 Least Sandpipers and a pair of Swainson’s Hawks flew overhead. These ponds could hold a birding surprise during migration. There are large cottonwoods in the park next to the County Museum in town which could also be good in migration.

**Rufus.** There is a private R.V. campground in Rufus, population 350. On the western edge of town (0.6 miles west of the road to Wasco) are the sewage ponds. On 23 July 1986, Mallard, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, and Bank and Cliff Swallows were present. The first 2.5 miles of Scott Canyon along the road leading south toward the town of Wasco have good riparian habitat. Among birds observed here on an early morning walk were: California Quail, Mourning Dove, Common Nighthawk, Rufous Hummingbird, Northern Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern and Western Kingbirds, Say’s Phoebe, Black-capped Chickadee, Bewick’s and Rock Wrens, Cedar Waxwing, Orange-crowned Warbler, Northern Oriole, and Lazuli Bunting. The first 2.5 miles of Gerking Canyon Road from its intersection with Scott Canyon Road also contain some good habitat.

**I-84 Frontage Road.** On the south side of the frontage road which parallels I-84 from Biggs to Rufus, is a slough which is on private land. Despite many “no trespassing” signs, birders can get many good views of the slough and its riparian borders from the frontage road.

As of this writing in September 1986 my Gilliam County list stands at 55 species and my Sherman County list at 73 species. As I continue my quest for 100 species in these two counties, I will return to these places, return in different seasons (I have concluded that this is an absolute necessity in Gilliam and Sherman Counties), and return to seek new birding “hot spots”, so to speak . . . even “hukwarm spots” are welcome. If readers know of any other good birding locations in these two counties, I would like to hear from you personally or in an Oregon Birds site guide.

**SITE GUIDE: Boardman Area, Morrow County**

**Steve Gordon, 1140 West 24th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405**

In a 1977 Oregon Birds (Vol. 3, No. 4) article, Steve Brownfield wrote a short baseline site guide for birding Morrow County including a paragraph describing the Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge near Irrigon. There are several other locations I have discovered near Boardman which are described here and are shown on the attached map.
Traveling eastward on Interstate-84, you should stop at a rest area located about 1 mile east of Tower Road exit #161. West of this rest area are two sewage ponds surrounded by a chain link fence. While these ponds are difficult to see, waterfowl and shorebirds probably use them in proper seasons, and American Avocets probably nest there. Near the rest areas, and continuing into Boardman on both sides of the freeway, are segments of the Umatilla Refuge. Access to bird viewing is difficult along I-84, but larger birds can be seen in this 1-mile stretch.

At Boardman, a city campground is located on the south bank of the Columbia River. This campground is fully equipped with warm showers, water, sewer hook-ups, tables, and electricity, but car and tent campers are not always charged the full fee if they do not use the sewer and electrical hook-ups. West, beyond the marina, playground, swimming area and ballfield, is a grove of Russian Olives which can harbor land birds. The muddy shores along the Columbia should be checked for shorebirds. The campground has Northern Orioles and other species in season, and both times I have camped here (August 1985 and July 1986) Bank Swallows have been present.

Beyond Boardman, east on I-84 about 1 mile, is the Port of Morrow exit. Take this exit and turn north; after crossing under the freeway, turn left. This road leads to a series of gravel ponds on Port property. These ponds are being filled in for industrial development, but grebes, herons, and waterfowl can be found here. Returning to the intersection where you turned left, you should continue straight to a Ready-mix sand and gravel company. At the office, turn right onto a gravel road. Near the end of this road, a left fork leads to a BPA substation and the Boardman sewage ponds. Among species observed were Mallard, Northern Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Redhead, Lesser Scaup, Killdeer, American Avocet, Spotted, Least, Western, and Pectoral Sandpipers, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Wilson’s Phalarope. Barry Beyeler (phone 481-9252), who manages the sewage ponds, watches birds and keeps notes on nesting American Avocets. He indicated that Green-backed Heron and Black-crowned Night-Heron use the ponds. During migration, as many as 20 species of waterfowl have been recorded on the ponds, and Bald Eagles occasionally visit in winter.

To visit the Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge’s McCormack Slough section, return to I-84 and travel east for about 2 miles to the Highway 730 exit. Head northeasterly on 730 toward Irrigon about 4 miles to the Paterson Ferry Road and follow it north to McCormack Slough. Here marsh, willows, and cottonwoods near the slough are bordered by drier habitats which include cactus. Irrigation allows some of the nearby area to be farmed. Among birds found here were: American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Redhead, Ruddy Duck, Northern Bobwhite (a pair with 7 chicks on 17 August 1985), California Quail, American Coot, Killdeer, gulls, Mourning Dove, Northern Flicker, swallows, Black-billed Magpie, Willow Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pewee, Marsh Wren, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Savannah Sparrow. In total 189 species are listed on the Umatilla Refuge checklist including 126 summer season species.

Oregon Birds 14(3): 270, 1988

With the Russian Olives, the Columbia River and its shore, agricultural lands, town habitat, sewage ponds, gravel ponds, riparian strips, and several public access points, the Boardman area is worth a visit when birding along I-84 or working on a Morrow County checklist.
SITE GUIDE: Hungry Hollow Valley, Klamath County, Oregon

Mike Denny, 25 Tremont #B, College Place, WA 99324

Hungry Hollow Valley is located 25 miles east of Klamath Falls on Hwy. 140. To reach this area and its hard-to-find-in-Oregon birds, take Hwy. 140 east and turn south at the Weyerhauser tree farm sign between mile posts 24 and 25. This is a right turn when going east, away from Klamath. Then take a sharp left after going only 75 feet, in front of the Oregon Department of Forestry fire substation. This is the first road to the left after leaving Hwy. 140. Two-tenths mile past the Department of Forestry fire substation is another junction. Do not go straight; turn right and follow the road 1.8 miles to the Klamath/Lake County Youth Ranch. This ranch covers the entire Hungry Hollow Valley. The director of this ranch asks that anyone planning to visit the area please give him a phone call at 503-545-6742 and ask for Jim Yoder or Will Thompson. Please call during weekday business hours, 9 am to 5 pm.

This is a working ranch and it does maintain a population of reforming youth, all boys ages 14-18. Please ask about precautions when you call.

The largest numbers of species and individuals are present from March to mid-July. Due to habitat diversity, the number of species is quite large.

This ranch lies in the direct spring migration flight path of all the geese and swans coming north from the Lower Klamath/Tule Lake refuges in California. Thousands pass over (low) in early March, just at sunrise.

Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Brown Towhees, Plain Titmice, and owls are found from mid-May through July along the south ridge in the ponderosa/juniper/mahogany belt.

Owls (Long-eared, Great Horned, Common Barn-, Northern Pygmy-) are very vocal from March through May. The best place is about 1/8 mile back down the entrance road from ranch headquarters and to the south through the woods about 500 feet.

Hummingbirds present are Broad-tailed, Rufous, Calliope, and Black-chinned. These are in view if feeders are up. The Thompson home usually has three or four feeders. This is the second home on the right.

In winter the valley is in the hunting/roosting flight path of 10 to 15 Bald Eagles, evening and morning.

There are 2 ponds on the ranch — one at the headquarters and the other about 2/3 way up the valley. It is this pond that is the larger of the two and well worth time spent birding. The following species have been found here: Cattle Egret, Bald Eagle, White-headed Woodpecker, Virginia Rail, all 3 accipiters, Pygmy Nuthatch, Gray Flycatcher, Pinyon Jay, Scrub Jay, Clark’s Nutcracker, Lewis’ Woodpecker, 9 species of ducks and 3 species of geese, American Bittern, and 19 species of passerines.

The hard-to-find species of this region can all be found from mid-May to early September along the southwest ridge that runs the length of the Valley: Brown Towhee, Plain Titmouse, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and 5 species of owls.

There are bird checklists at the ranch office and a seed feeder or 2. The dirt road can be very tricky if wet. During the warm months of summer, watch for western rattlesnakes.

Where do you find a Great Gray Owl in Oregon?

Great Gray Owls are most often reported from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and the extensive meadows near Fort Klamath. However, these areas are far removed from the major population centers of Oregon. One site where this species has been recently seen is located near Sunriver south of Bend, which is easily accessible from the major transportation corridors through the Cascade Mts. To reach this site, turn onto the Sunriver access road off U.S. Highway 97. Bypass the Sunriver complex turnoff and continue on 3.9 miles to Steller Road after crossing Harper Bridge over the Deschutes River. Turn left on Steller Road and proceed to Elsoror Road (improved gravel surface). Turn right onto Elsoror and scan the metal fence posts, stumps, and trees surrounding the horse pasture. If the owls cannot be found along Elsoror, try the next gravel road to the south (Fontana). The site should be visited near dusk or early dawn when the owls are actively foraging in the meadow and often quite vocal when feeding their young in the summer.

Alan McGie, 2816 N.W. 13th Street, Corvallis, OR 97330

Great Gray Owls are very elusive in that they are seldom where you think they should be. Look for them sitting low in the trees, on fence posts, and flying low over open meadows. Best time of the day to spot a Great Gray Owl is at dawn and late afternoon to dusk.

Leave I-5 at exit 14 (second Ashland exit) and go east 0.7 miles to Dead Indian Road (across from the golf course). Turn left onto Dead Indian Road and continue 17 miles to Howard Prairie Lake, Hyatt Lake area.

The owls have been seen in the open meadows all through this area. Start checking the first meadows at the 16-mile marker. Turn right at the Howard Prairie Lake Resort sign. Shortly after the turn you will see a turnout, just before the bridge. Check the trees along the edge of the meadow. Continue to check fence posts and the meadows past the cattle guard. Drive on past Grizzly Campground (currently

Oregon Birds 14(3): 273, 1988
closed) to Howard Prairie Recreation Area. Check the area at the turnoff to the Marina. Then continue to check the meadows for the next 6 miles to the East Side Hyatt Lake Road. Turn left, check the fence starting at the Hyatt Lake Campground sign, and continue on straight to the Green Spring Highway (Oregon Hwy. 66). Return to West Hyatt Lake Road. Turn left and return to Dead Indian Road.

Great Gray Owls have also been seen along the Keno access road. To reach this road return to Dead Indian Road. Turn right, go 1 mile to Lily Glen County Park, then 0.3 miles to Keno Access Road. Turn right, check all meadows to the County Line Road (9.2 miles). The Hoxie Creek Road (2.5 miles) has been the best and there are side roads that lead to hidden meadows.

B. June Babcock, 17297 Antioch Road, White City, OR 97503.
Marjorie Moore, 357 Taylor Street, Ashland, OR 97520.
There was a smattering of Common Loon reports this season. While most were single birds, the most noted were 20 at Wallowa Lake through 25 Jan. (FC). Pacific Loons lingered at Wickiup Reservoir until mid-December. Two were there on the 5th while only 1 remained on the 14th (CM). Red-throated Loons were found along the Columbia River in Hood River and Wasco Counties in January. Twelve on 17 Jan. included a flock of 6 at Hood River (DAA, DL), which could be a first county record.

The most Horned Grebes reported this season were 40 at Hood River 17 Jan. (DAA, DL). The Red-necked Grebe found at Ana Reservoir, Summer Lake W.M.A. on 30 Nov. was again found 5 December (SS). Western Grebes were reported in generally low numbers this season. A single American White Pelican near MNWR-hq until 21 Dec. was probably injured (CDL). Higher than normal numbers of Great Blue Herons were found in the John Day and MNWR areas in December.

Thirty-six Tundra Swans were still at MNWR on 19 Dec. The first spring migrants showed up there on 11 February (CDL). The peak count of Trumpeter Swans at MNWR this season was 43 on 19 Dec. (CDL). Two Greater White-fronted Geese were at Odell, HOOD, 13 Mar. (DAA) where they have been noted regularly for several years. Over 1000 White-fronted Geese at Summer Lake 15 Feb. (CM) were the most reported. A “Cackling” Canada Goose was found among 100 Canadas at Tumalo Reservoir, DESC, 4 Dec. (CM). Two Wood Ducks found near Frenchglen 19 Dec. were the only ones reported at MNWR this season (CDL). Green-winged Teal were found at Hatfield Lake and Haystack Reservoir 28 Feb. (TC). Forty Northern Pintail were noted at Hatfield Lake 24 Feb. (CM). Returning Cinnamon Teal were earlier than normal this spring. The first regional report was 15 Feb. at Summer Lake which is 5 days earlier than the earliest date for that location. The 294 Gadwall on the Summer Lake CBC 17 Dec. seems to be a large number.

Again, as expected, a male Eurasian Wigeon wintered near Odell, HOOD, with a flock of American Wigeon. Two male Eurasians were noted there on 13 Mar.
Cove and 5 at Hood River 17 Jan. (DAA, DL) were good numbers for these spots. Three Hoodedies wintered in Wallowa Co. this year (FC) and 3 were noted on the Lakeview Mill ponds 28 Jan.-22 Feb. (MA). Two Ruddy Ducks at Hood River 14 Feb. were a surprise since they are infrequently seen in the Columbia River Gorge (DAA, DL).

Turkey Vultures set new early arrival dates for both MNWR and Bend. Two were at MNWR 12 Feb. (CDL) and 1 was noted at Bend 23 Feb. (KC). Two reports of Osprey lingering in the region were noted: 1 along Fall River, DESC, in December (CK), and one on the Wallowa Co. CBC 20 Dec. (FC). The number of Bald Eagles reported seemed to be average. Numbers of Northern Harriers wintering at MNWR were up, with about 67 present (CDL). A Northern Goshawk was in the Dog Creek area near John Day in December and January (TW). Goshawks apparently invaded the Malheur basin since there were more than normal sightings. Wintering Ferruginous Hawks were noted south of Crane, HARN, 10 Jan. (BH, fide CDL) and 2 were noted in Wallowa Co. 28 Dec.-14 Jan. (FC). Apparently this is not the first winter record from Wallowa Co.

This also seemed to be a good year for Rough-legged Hawks. Fifty-four were on the Adel CBC (BP); 57 were at MNWR in late December (CDL); and 11 were in the Silver Lake/Summer Lake area 22 Jan. (CM). The 8 noted in Wasco Co. south of The Dalles 17 Jan. included a dark phased bird near Tygh Valley (DAA, DL). Six Rough-leggeds were also noted south of Pilot Rock, UMAT, on 24 Jan. (MD). Eleven Golden Eagles were noted in the South Fork John Day River and John Day areas 27 Jan. (TW). Merlin reports include 3 on the Hood River CBC 3 Jan.; and 1 at Pine Grove, WASC, 17 Jan. (DAA, DL). Four Peregrine Falcons were reported this season. Not 1 but 2 Gyrfalcons were seen at Wickiup Reservoir 5 Dec. (CM) for the 3rd Deschutes Co. record.


spring migrants arrived earlier than normal at MNWR on 16 Feb. (CCa). Two Greater Yellowlegs were found at Summer Lake W.M.A. 12 Feb. (MA). Up to 5 Mew Gulls wintered at Hood River where they are regular. Two Ring-billed Gulls were on Harney Lake 21 Dec. (CDL) and another was at the Bend mill pond 9 Jan. (CM). Two California Gulls were also found on Harney Lake 21 Dec. (CDL). The first winter record of a Herring Gull from MNWR was on 21 Dec. One was also found at Hood River 7 Jan.

Over 200 Mourning Doves were seen feeding around a grain elevator at Barrett, UMAT, on 24 Jan. (M&MLD). A Burrowing Owl was seen 5 miles east of Boardman 19 Dec. (PS); they are rarely reported in winter. A Barred Owl was noted at Crown Ranch, GRAN, 19 Dec. (TW). A Northern Saw-whet Owl was found using one of ODF&W nest boxes in Union Co. in February (The Rav-On). An exceptionally early Anna’s Hummingbird was found in Bend’s West Hills 21 Feb. (Jerry Kerr, fide TC).

A Red-naped Sapsucker was found on the Hood River CBC, in Mosier, WASC, on 3 Jan. A Red-breasted Sapsucker of the ruber race and a Williamson’s Sapsucker were found on the Summer Lake CBC 17 Dec. (MA). Four Downy Woodpeckers were found on MNWR 19 Dec. which is more than normal. White-headed Woodpeckers are not normally found away from ponderosa (yellow) pine. Therefore I noted in Burns on 16 Feb. was a surprise. This is about the 3rd lowland record for Harney Co. (CDL). Northern Flickers were also more common than usual in the MNWR region this season with at least 80 being noted (CDL).

The first spring sighting of Say’s Phoebe was on 12 Feb. with 1 at Culver (TC) and 2 at MNWR (CDL). The average arrival date at MNWR is 23 Feb. They were found region-wide by the weekend of 21 Feb. Two Horned Larks at the mouth of Hood River 3 Jan. were a surprise since they are rarely seen in Hood River Co. away from the alpine area on Mt.

Photo/David A. Anderson.


Oregon Birds 14(3): 278, 1988
Hood. The season’s first Tree Swallow was noted 21 Feb. at the Squaw Creek irrigation pond, DESC (LR). Forty Pinyon Jays were noted at Silver Lake 22 Jan. (CM).

Common Ravens were abundant this season at MNWR with at least 107 wintering on the refuge (CDL). Mountain Chickadees were also present in good numbers in December with at least 34 noted. Two Rock Wrens were found in Wallowa Co., much later than normal. The first on a Troy bird count 10 Dec. and the other near Enterprise 20 Dec. (FC). Seven Canyon Wrens were found in the Blitzen Valley in mid-December (CDL). One Bewick’s Wren was at the southern end of MNWR 19 Dec. (GI), and another was located at Mosier 14 Feb. (DL, VT). The 29 on the Adel CBC is probably normal, since there is a resident population in that area. Marsh Wrens wintered in greater-than-normal numbers on MNWR this year with 23 being found in December. Four American Dippers were found on the Blitzen River near Frenchglen 19 Dec. (CDL).

The 34 Golden-crowned Kinglets found on the MNWR CBC 19 Dec. were the highest number ever found on that count (CDL). Mountain Bluebirds returned to Wallowa Co. 26-27 Feb. (FC). Large numbers of American Robins wintered in Wallowa Co. this season (FC). Varied Thrushes are rarely found in the MNWR area in winter so 2 were found near Frenchglen 19 Dec. (CDL) were a surprise. A Sage Thrasher was found at Fort Rock 27 Feb., nearly the spring arrival date for that area (TC). Single Water Pipits were noted near Frenchglen 19 Dec. (CDL) and at a mill pond in Bend 9 Jan. (CM).

As is typical, Bohemian Waxwings were found region-wide this season but were spotty, with some locations reporting a few and others reporting large numbers. Early information led me to believe that the species might have stayed north this season since few were found on the Wallowa CBC (PS) or in the Hood River area. Meanwhile, 1700 were reported in the Moscow, ID area (PS). Latest reports indicated that the species was more common in the southern portion of the region with 400-500 at Klamath Falls in Dec.-Jan. (SS) and 240 at Silver Lake on 22 Jan. (CM). At Lakeview they were fairly common through mid-January until a cold snap hit. They then became abundant during the second week of February (M&AA). Most all other regional reports were of 30 birds or less.

This was a good winter for Northern Shrikes. An Orange-crowned Warbler along the Link River, Klamath Falls 3 Jan. was only the 4th winter record in 10 years for Klamath Falls (SS). Single Yellow-rumped Warblers were reported at the Adel and Hart Mt. CBCs with the latter bird being chased by a Northern Shrike (BP). Two near Frenchglen 19 Dec. provided an unusual winter record for MNWR (CDL). They were, however, fairly common at Lakeview until a cold snap in mid-January drove them out (M&AA). They were present in Bend all winter for the first time in many years (TC). An immature Common Yellowthroat in the John Day area 8 Dec. was a surprise (TW).

A Rufous-sided Towhee was reported from Bullard Canyon, Lakeview 26 Jan. (MA). American Tree Sparrows were more common than normal this winter with several flocks of 10-30 being noted in northeast Oregon (FC). Forty-four were found in the Blitzen Valley in December (CDL). A Vesper Sparrow at a Klamath Falls feeder 14 Jan. provided Klamath Co. with its first winter record (SS). Single Sage Sparrows were noted on 27 Feb. at Summer Lake W.M.A. (MA) and at Fort Rock (FC). Up to 20 Savannah Sparrows were found at Miller Island, Klamath Falls, in January (SS), where they are not normally found in winter. The Swamp Sparrow found at Miller Island on 29 Nov. was present through 3 Jan. (SS). A White-throated Sparrow on the Bend CBC was the only one reported this season. White-crowned Sparrows wintered in greater-than-normal numbers in the region. Four hundred were on Miller Island in January (SS). An immature at a feeder in Lakeview 24 Jan. through 13 Feb. was the only one this winter in Lakeview (M&AA). At least 10 Harris’ Sparrows were found in the region this winter. A Lapland Longspur was found at Paisley, LAKE, 9 Jan. (SS). Twelve were found north of Valley Falls, LAKE, with a flock of about 2000 Horned Larks 18 Jan. The next day only 3 longspurs could be found. Only 2 reports of Snow Buntings were noted this season: a single bird on the highway through Malheur Lake 6 Jan. (CDL), and about 15 on the Zumwalt Road north of Joseph (FC) on 15 Jan.

Red-winged Blackbirds returned to Sunriver 11 Feb. (DD). A Yellow-headed Blackbird at Paisley 15 Feb. (CM) was about 3 weeks earlier than the previous early date. Rosy Finches were found in normal numbers in Wallowa Co. in February with up to 250 visiting feeders in Joseph (FC). Three Pine Grosbeaks were found 6 miles E of Joseph 20 Dec. (PS). No White-winged Crossbills were reported this year. Red Crossbills were not common anywhere in the region this season. A Common Redpoll found in December was the only one reported this year (The Rav-On, 1/88). Up to 30 American Goldfinches were found at MNWR-hq in December (CDL).

Corrigenda: The Burrowing Owl noted in OB 14(1): 84 is south of Burns (not Bend).

OBSERVERS:
David A. Anderson
Merle & Ann Archie
Frank Conley
Tom & Kathi Crabtree
Dave Danley
Mike & Mary-Lynn Denny
Bob Eychison
Mark Henjum
Bill Hosford
Gary Ivey
Carol Kellog
C.D. Littlefield
Donna Lusthoff
Craig Miller
Pat Muller
Bill Pyle
Lou Rems
Paul Sullivan
Steve Summers
Verda Teale
Linda Weiland
Tom Winters

OTHER SOURCES:
Audubon Warbler
Duck Soup
Eagle Eye
The Chat
RavOn

Oregon Birds 14(3): 281, 1988
# Migration Timetable for Species in Eastern Oregon

[Editor's Note: This table is adapted from *The Eagle Eye*, April 1988, published in Bend, Oregon, Tom Crabtree, Editor.]

## February
- 14 Snow Goose
- 15 Brewer's Blackbird
- 19 Killdeer
- 20 Sandhill Crane
- 24 White-fronted Goose
- 27 Say's Phoebe, Western Meadowlark

## March
- 1 Ring-billed Gull
- 5 Rufous-sided Towhee
- 6 Western Bluebird, Cinnamon Teal
- 10 Tree Swallow
- 12 California Gull
- 15 Water Pipit
- 18 Ross' Goose
- 19 Pied-billed Grebe, Turkey Vulture
- 21 Savannah Sparrow
- 22 Western Grebe
- 23 White-crowned Sparrow, Greater Yellowlegs
- 24 Double-crested Cormorant
- 27 Sage Sparrow
- 28 Long-billed Curlew
- 29 American Avocet, Sage Thrasher
- 30 Great Egret, Swainson's Hawk, Violet-green Swallow
- 31 Black-crowned Night-Heron, Burrowing Owl, Yellow-headed Blackbird

## April
- 1 Mourning Dove, Vesper Sparrow
- 3 American White Pelican
- 4 Eared Grebe, Long-billed Dowitcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- 8 Barn Swallow
- 9 Yellow-rumped "Audubon's" Warbler
- 10 Blue-winged Teal

## May
- 1 Rufous Hummingbird, Dusky Flycatcher, Western Flycatcher, Western Tanager, Brown-headed Cowbird, Lark Sparrow
- 3 Spotted Sandpiper, Black Tern, Common Poorwill, Solitary Vireo, Wilson's Warbler
- 4 Marbled Godwit, Common Yellowthroat
- 5 Dunlin, MacGillivray's Warbler, Brewer's Sparrow
- 6 Hermit Thrush, Northern Oriole, Lazuli Bunting, Golden-crowned Sparrow
- 7 White-faced Ibis
- 8 Caspian Terns
- 9 Bank Swallow
- 10 Bonaparte's Gull, Willow Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pewee, Townsend's Warbler
- 11 Warbling Vireo
- 12 Yellow-breasted Chat
- 13 Ash-throated Flycatcher, Red-necked Phalarope, Varied Thrush
- 14 Black-throated Gray Warbler, Green-tailed Towhee
- 17 Black-headed Grosbeak
- 18 Eastern Kingbird, Olive-sided Flycatcher
- 23 Swainson's Thrush
- 26 Common Nighthawk

*Oregon Birds* 14(3): 282, 1988
FIELDNOTES: Western Oregon, August-November 1987
Steve Heinl, 356 West 8th, Eugene, OR 97401

ABBREVIATIONS USED
BSNWR  Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge  
FGSP  Forest Grove Sewage Ponds  
FNWR  Finley National Wildlife Refuge  
MSP  Monmouth Sewage Ponds  
s.p.  sewage ponds  
SJCR  South Jetty of the Columbia River

LOONS - HERONS

Up to 30 Common Loons at Timothy L. (Clackamas) 31 Oct. was a high total away from the coast (DA, DL). A Red-throated Loon at Timothy L. 31 Oct. was surprisingly the only inland report (DA, DL). Rarer inland Pacific Loons were at Timothy L. 20 Oct.+(DA, DL), and Henry Hagg L. (Washington) 27 Nov. (SH, JJ). Fifty-five at Port Orford 13 Aug. probably summered (PL).

A Red-necked Grebe at Port Orford 13 Aug. had either summered or was a very early migrant (PL). Otherwise 1 at Newport 22 Sep. was the first fall arrival (JE, HN). Singles were inland at BSNWR 29 Sep. (WY), and Lemolo L. (Douglas) 17 Nov. (DFi). Nine+ Eared Grebes at Diamond L. 7-21 Nov. was a large group for any location west of the Cascades (DFi). A large concentration of 300 Western Grebes off Seaside 26 Aug. contained several Clark’s Grebes (TC). Single Clark’s were also seen at Timothy L. 31 Oct. (DA, DL), Agate L. 5 Nov. (fide MM), and Boiler Bay 19 Nov. (BO).

Pelagic trips this fall reported few or no Black-footed Albatross close to shore. (For a more thorough discussion of this season’s offshore birding see Paul Sullivan’s article Pelagic Fall Migration in Oregon Waters, OB 14(2): 134-143). High totals for tubenoses on pelagics were 500 Northern Fulmars off Garibaldi 10 Oct. (BO), 100 Pink-footed Shearwaters off Garibaldi 6 Sep. (TC), and 20-25 Buller’s off Garibaldi and Reedsport 10 and 11 Oct. respectively (BO, JC). A single Flesh-footed Shearwater off Garibaldi 10 Oct. was the only report, and a Short-tailed Shearwater on the same trip was the first report of the fall (BO). The only storm-petrel reports were of a Fork-tailed at Newport and a Leach’s at Boiler Bay, both 14 Nov. (JJ, SJ).

A flock of 11 American White Pelicans was at Sauvie I. 12 Sep.-9 Oct. (Larry Shipiro), while a single bird at Fern Ridge Res. 20 Sep. only lingered for a couple clean days (TM). Very large numbers of Brown Pelicans moved north this fall with many birds still present at the end of the period. High counts were 300 at the Pistol R. mouth 13 Aug. (PL), 200 at Alsea Bay 8 Oct. (WB, FB), and 100 still at the SJCR 4 Nov. (DL). An ad. male MAGNIFICENT FREGATEBIRD was at Newport 18-20 Aug. for about the 5th report this year (Mike and Mary Denny). Single Snowy Egrets were at Gardener near Reedsport 14 Aug. (PL), and at South Beach S.P. near Newport 21 Aug. (LO). It was a terrible fall for Cattle Egrets with only 2 reports. One was at Newport 21 Nov. (fide DF), and 1-5 were at Drift Creek meadows 11 Nov.+ (RK, JK, JJ). Black-crowned Night-Herons made a good showing with singles in Eugene 11 Aug. (SH), Bandon 13 Aug. (PL), Siletz Bay 23 Aug. (BO), and Ashland 14 Oct.+ (fide MM). Three were at Fern Ridge Res. 26 Aug.-2 Sep. (SH), and 2 had returned to the recently discovered Tillamook roost site by 24 Nov. (DL, VT).

WATERFOWL

The first Tundra Swan arrivals were noted in late October with 5 at Clear L. 20 Oct. (DL, DA), and 10 at Sauvie I. 31 Oct. (GG). Many large flocks of Snow Geese were noted migrating east upstream courses from the Lincoln Co. coast toward the Willamette Valley this fall, with a flock of 85 on 7 Nov. the largest noted (RL). A flock of 50 lingered near Sheridan early Nov.+ (HN et al.).

Fifty Wood Ducks at the Nehalem s.p. 10 Sep. was a rather large group for the time of year (LW). Up to 150 Gadwall at Eckman L. (Lincoln) 16 Nov. was also a surprising concentration (RL). The first male Eurasian Wigeon of the fall was found at Newport 27 Sep. (BB, RG). There were 3 Blue-winged Teal reports in November,

Oregon Birds 14(3): 284, 1988
and 4 of Cinnamon. Both species have lingered into December in the last couple of years.

The 1100+ Lesser Scaup at Diamond L. during most of November were accompanied by 50 Redhead (DFi). Two Harlequin Ducks were still at Breitenbush L. 1 Nov. (PM, LW). It was an excellent fall for finding inland sea ducks. Single Oldsquaws were at Big L. (Linn) 24 Oct. (CM), Sheridan s.p. 3 Nov. (IG, m.ob.), and near the Portland Airport 17 Nov. (MH). Single Surf Scoters were at Timothy L. 20 Oct. (DL, DA) and Sheridan s.p. 8 Nov. (JJ, OS), and 5 were at Henry Hagg L. 14 Nov. (DL). There were only 2 reports of the more uncommon White-winged Scoter with 2 at Diamond L. 24 Oct. (DFi), and 1 at Independence 1 Nov. (RG). A Barrow’s Goldeneye near Svensen I. east of Astoria 28 Nov. was the only report away from the Cascades (JJ, JG). Up to 25 Hooded and 60 Common Mergansers were at Timothy L. from late Oct. to early Nov. (m.ob.), and 40 Hoodeds were at Diamond L. 21 Nov. (DFi). Such large flocks of mergansers are often found on inland lakes and reservoirs during fall and early winter. Single Red-breasted Mergansers were inland at Lost Crk L. 6 Nov. (RE), and Diamond L. 17 Nov. (DFi).

**RAPTORS - CRANE**

Turkey Vulture migration was carefully documented again this year by Rogue Valley birders. Coinciding with last year, numbers peaked 26-27 Sep. with a total of 257 seen on the 27th (MM et al.). A total of 469 passed over Bland Mt. (Douglas) 26-27 Sep. (KS). Single Ospreys at the Warrentons s.p. 7 Nov. (MP), and Florence 21 Nov. (SH, PS) were very late. Black-shouldered Kites began appearing in August with 1 at the north spit of the Umpqua R. 1 Aug. the earliest by 2 weeks (RM). A juvenile bird picked up at Nehalem 12 Sep. still had sheathed primaries (fide HN). Single Red-shouldered Hawks were at Fern Ridge Res. 9 Aug. (TM), Thornton Crk. 22 Aug. (DF), and Denman Wildlife Area (Jackson) 27 Nov. (KS). Rough-legged Hawks arrived right on time with singles at the SICR 6 Oct. (HN), and Sauvie I. 10 Oct. (VT). A Golden Eagle near Powers 13 Oct. was an excellent find for Coos Co. (JT, BF).

Single Merlins at Roxy Ann Butte 23 Aug. (EA), and Ashland 30 Aug. (MM), were fairly early. NW Portland’s wintering Peregrine Falcons had returned by 27 Oct. (fide HN). A Prairie Falcon visited Agate L. 10-12 Aug. (OSw), while 1 at Corvallis 5 Oct. was the first Willamette Valley report (RK).

The 11,000 American Coots that spent November at Diamond L. must have stripped the bottom clean of vegetation (DFi). Nine flocks of 23 to 200+ Sandhill Coots were at Diamond L. 27 Nov. (DFi).
Cranes were recorded flying SE over eastern Douglas and Jackson Cos. 15-18 Nov. (KS).

SHOREBIRDS

Lesser Golden-Plovers were widely noted through 25 Oct. with 30 at Tillamook 26 Sep. the largest group noted (PM, LW). There were no inland sightings this fall. An American Avocet was at Sauvie I. 16 Sep. (HN). Lesser Yellowlegs peaked at the end of August with 70 at Nehalem 25 Aug. (JG). There were only 3 Solitary Sandpiper sightings - all from the interior. There were 2 rare inland sightings of Willet in Jackson Co. this fall. Singles were at a reservoir near Greensprings Summit 4 Oct. (MH), and Emigrant L. 6 Oct. (BS). Nine Willets at Newport 30 Aug. was about twice the normal number there (RK, JK).

There were 8 reports of Long-billed Curlew this fall — a bit more than usual. An adult female BAR-TAILED GODWIT at Bandon 27 Aug.-2 Sep. was the first sighting in 4-5 years (DH, SH, DI, DK). There are still fewer than 10 state records. A Marbled Godwit at Sheridan 4 Sep. was a rare find (DL, LW). A flock of 10 lingered at Pigeon Point, Coos Bay through 30 Nov. (JT). A Ruddy Turnstone at the FGSP 14-15 Sep. was also rare inland (JE et al.).

Typical small numbers of Red Knot were reported with a late August peak of 12 at Tillamook 25 Aug. (HN), and 10 at Bandon 30 Aug. (JJ, SJ). A Sanderling was inland at Fern Ridge Res. 8 Sep. (SH). Small number of Semipalmated Sandpipers passed through during Aug. with 6 at Tillamook 11 Aug. the largest group noted (HN, JG, JJ). Ten were found in the Willamette Valley, and 1 at the SJCR 18 Sep. was the last reported (DL, LW). As usual Western and Least Sandpiper numbers peaked in late August with 2000 and 800 respectively at
Normal small numbers of jaegers were seen offshore and onshore and no skuas were reported. Again, I refer you to Paul Sullivan’s article for some eye-opening jaeger/skua numbers.

Five Franklin’s Gulls were found with 1 at the MSP 26 Oct. the latest (RG). Up to 800 Heermann’s Gulls at the SJCR 6 Sep. was a large concentration (JG). Small numbers lingered well into November and beyond. Four Mew Gulls at Tillamook 8 Aug. were the first arrivals of the period (JG). A Glaucous Gull in north Portland 3 Nov. was also the first sighting, and 1 of very few reports this fall (DI). A Sabine’s Gull was at Newport 12 Sep. (RK, JK). Another inland near Multnomah Falls 15 Sep. was quite unusual (BSh).

Over 1000 Caspian Terns were in the vicinity of the SJCR 11 Aug. (HN), with 1 there 4 Nov. being extraordinarily late (MP). ELEGANT TERNS staged their second Oregon incursion, only on a much smaller scale than in 1983. Five at Florence 23 Aug. were the first reported (TM, AM), and 120 at the Chetco R. mouth (Curry) 16 Sep. was the largest flock reported (DI, PP). Three at the SJCR were the last sighting (PP). Small flocks of Common Terns were found along the coast late Aug.–early Sep. with 200 at Florence 23 Aug. about 5 times as many as reported elsewhere (TM, AM). A few Arctic Terns were also reported during the same time period. A Forster’s Tern seen on a boat trip off Depoe Bay 25 Aug. was a bit of a surprise (RL, JA), while singles at Newport 22 Sep. (JE, HN), and Tillamook 30 Sep. (PP) were more expected.

A Pigeon Guillemot was at Boiler Bay 19 Nov. (BO). Interesting sightings of Marbled Murrelet were of 4 flying around over the forest 12 miles east of Yachats 9 Aug. (AC, RH), and a fledged bird picked up in the town of Siletz 21 Sep. (fide DF). A XANTUS’ MURRELET frequented Boiler Bay 7–13 Nov. for only the second onshore sighting in Oregon (PM, LW, m.ob.). By the beginning of November the usual 100+ Ancient Murrelets had gathered at Boiler Bay, while small numbers were reported elsewhere (m.ob.). There were 5 onshore reports of 1-5 Cassin’s Auklets scattered along the coast. Lucky birders found the much-prized Horned Puffin out at Hunter I. (Curry) 20 Aug. (RL, JA).

**OWLS - WOODPECKERS**

A Spotted Owl was found near Powers (Coos) 13 Oct. where suitable habitat must be sparse (JT, BF). Four Great Gray Owls were in the Howard Prairie L. area 6 Nov. (June Babcock). A Long-eared Owl found in west Eugene 5 Oct. was in an
Elegant Terns, Yaquina Bay, Lincoln County, 4 September 1987. Photos/Linda Weiland.

Xantus' Murrelet, Boiler Bay, Lincoln County, 8 November 1987. Photo/Owen Schmidt.

Xantus' Murrelet, Boiler Bay, Lincoln County, 8 November 1987. Photo/Jim Johnson.
area where they have wintered in the past (TM). A Short-eared Owl was at Newport 2 Oct. (RK, JK), and a pelagic bird was seen 5 miles off Garibaldi 10 Oct. (BO).

The last Common Nighthawk sighting was from the Rogue Valley 2 Sep. (RS). Black Swifts were well reported this fall with 6 sightings 8 Aug.-19 Sep. Eight at the FGSP 14 Sep. (JE), and 15+ at Thornton Crk. (Lincoln) 19 Sep. (DF), were the largest groups noted. The usual large roosting flocks of Vaux’s Swift during September included 4000 at the Newberg post office 15-18 Sep. (HN). One in Newberg 8 Oct. was the last reported (GG). A male COSTA’S HUMMINGBIRD which appeared at a Medford feeder 4 July stayed well into August (Penny Stewart et al.). Most Rufous Hummingbirds had departed by the end of September with 1 in the Rogue Valley 5 Oct. the last sighting (MM).

Lewis’ Woodpeckers can be encountered along the crest of the Cascades during fall migration as illustrated by 12 in clearcuts near Ollalie L. 2 Aug. (SJ), and 12 at Crater L. in late Sep. (AMc). Very rare coastal slope birds were at Chitwood (Lincoln) 22 Aug. (DF), and Powers 4 Oct. (JT). Excellent sapsucker finds were a Red-naped at Ashland 6 Nov. (RS), and a Williamson’s 5 miles NW of Mt. Hood 16 Oct. (JE). A White-headed Woodpecker was at Buck Rock south of Ashland 8 Oct. (Bruce Morrow). There are now several reports for Jackson Co. Single Three-toed Woodpeckers were at their usual haunts of Scott L. (Lane) 9 Aug. (Don Schrouder), and Serene L. (Clackamas) 19 Sep. (fide HN).

FLYCATCHERS - SHRIKES

Last flycatcher sightings were: Olive-sided at Fern Ridge Res. 17 Sep. (SH); Western Wood-Pewee at Henry Hagg L. 20 Sep. (VT); Willow Flycatcher in the Rogue Valley 24 Sep. (JK); and Ash-throated in the Rogue Valley 21 Aug. (MM). An Ash-throated at Corvallis 27 Sep. was the only out-of-range report for the fall (Don MacDonald). Single Say’s Phoebes were near E.E. Wilson north of Corvallis 26 Sep. (fide MM), and at Fern Ridge Res. 11 Oct. (PS). Four were reported from the Rogue Valley beginning 1 Sep., where a few regularly winter (MM).

An EASTERN KINGBIRD was found feeding with Cedar Waxwings at Seaside 10 Sep. (DI). Much more exciting was the SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER that spent a minute or 2 in a North Bend neighborhood 10 Aug., for another great addition to an already outstanding yard list (BG). This species has proven to be rather elusive in Oregon compared to California, although there have been 1-2 reports a year for the last 3 years.

Six Horned Larks were at Horsfall L. (Coos) 6 Oct. (BF), and singles were at Yaquina Head 8-9 Oct. (KL), and Beverly Beach (Lincoln) 7 Nov. (RB). One at Lost Crk. 6 Nov. was a nice find for Jackson Co. (RE). Tree Swallows became very scarce after late August, with 1 in the Rogue Valley 25 Sep. the last report (RS). The last Northern Rough-winged Swallow reported was also in the Rogue Valley 27 Sep. (MM). It was a bonus year for westside Bank Swallow sightings. Singles were at Banks and Nehalem 9 Aug. (DL, VT), Fern Ridge Res. 14 Aug. and 10 Sep. (SH), Sauvie I. 28 Aug. (FL), the FGSP 15-20 Sep. (JE, VT, DL), and finally 3 were at
THROATED BLUE WARBLER 3 Oct. (Tim Shelmerdine). An early BLACK-TILIAMOOK (JJ). A Tennessee Warbler was at the SJCR 11 Sep. (BSh), followed by a BLACKPOLL WARBLER there 30 Sep. (RSm, PP), and a BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER 3 Oct. (Tim Shelmerdine). An early BLACK-

*FINCHES, ETC.*

Single Western Tanagers in the Rogue Valley 27 Sep. (RS), and Portland 7 Oct. (DM) were the last reports. An immature male ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK added to the list of vagrant passerines found at the SJCR this fall on 20 Sep. (JJ). The latest Black-headed Grosbeak was found in the Rogue Valley 21 Sep. (BS), as was the last Green-tailed Towhee on 7 Oct. (BS).

Single Clay-colored Sparrows were near Tillamook 12 Sep. (JG, BS), Nehalem 15-21 Nov. (JJ), and North Bend 16-17 Nov. (BG). A Grasshopper Sparrow at the Diamond L. s.p. 25 Aug. added to the few records for Douglas Co. (DFi). First returning Fox Sparrows were noted 8 Sep. at Thornton Crk. (DF), and a Lincoln's Sparrow at Yaquina Head 26 Aug. was followed by many reports the 1st week of September (KL). A Swamp Sparrow at Diamond L. 24 Oct. was the first of 9 sightings this fall (DFi). This excellent showing was just a hint at winter numbers to follow.

White-throated Sparrows were widely reported by mid-October with the first report at Applegate 24 Sep. (JKe). The first Golden-crowned Sparrow sighting was in the Lane Co. Coast Range 10 Sep. (TM), with a flock of 50+ at Takilma 19 Sep. (Romain Cooper). Lapland Longspurs began showing up in early September with 1 at Tillamook 6 Sep. the first sighting (JG). Up to 50 were at the SJCR late September-28 Oct. (m.ob.). One inland at Lost Crk. L. 6 Nov. was an excellent find (RE). A CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR at the Diamond L. s.p. 2 Oct. was about the 4th or 5th state record (DFi).

*VIREOS - WARBLERS*

Birders in the Rogue Valley managed to claim most of the late passerine dates this year: The last Solitary Vireo 23 Sep. (JKe), and an extremely late Warbling Vireo 22 Oct. (BS). Last warbler sightings were as follows: Nashville in the Rogue Valley 20 Oct. (BS); Yellow at Bandon 18 Oct. (JG); Black-throated Gray at Corvallis 9 Oct. (RJ); MacGillivray’s in the Rogue Valley 27 Sep. (MM); Common Yellowthroat in the Rogue Valley 30 Oct. (BS); Wilson’s in the Rogue Valley 3 Oct. (MM); and Yellow-breasted Chat also in the Rogue Valley 27 Aug. (AM). The first Townsend’s Warbler noted was at Corvallis 25 Aug. (ME), and a “movement” was at the SJCR 11 Sep. (BS).

It was the best fall ever for rare warblers if 6 species constitutes such a thing. At least 25 Palm Warblers were reported beginning 12 Sep. with a single bird at Tillamook (33). A Tennessee Warbler was at the SJCR 11 Sep. (BS), followed by a BLACKPOLL WARBLER there 30 Sep. (RSm, PP), and a BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER 3 Oct. (Tim Shelmerdine). An early BLACK-

*CITED OBSERVERS:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Initials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EA - Ed Abbott</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DA - Dave Anderson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA - Jon Anderson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RB - Range Bayer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FB - Florence Bell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB - Wes Bell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BB - Barb Bellin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JC - Jim Carlson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AC - Alan Contreras</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TC - Tom Crabree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RE - Ray Ekstrom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME - Merlin Elizroth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JE - Joe Evanich</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BF - Ben Fawver</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF - Darrel Faxon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFi - David Fix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RG - Roy Gerig</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JG - Jeff Gilligan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GG - Greg Gillson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BG - Barb Griffin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SH - Steve Heinal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DH - Dave Holway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH - Mike Houck</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DI - Dave Irans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SJ - Steve Jaggars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Oregon Birds 14(3): 988
OFO’s Ninth Annual Meeting, 17-19 June
1988, at John Day

Tom Winters, P.O. Box 111, Canyon City, OR 97820

OFO’s Ninth Annual meeting was a great success. Activities started Friday evening with a potpourri slide show. Five or six birders brought 10-15 slides, which were enjoyed by all.

Following this custom, the evening program was presented by Dave Paullin of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Using slides as a visual aid, he talked about the outcomes of past management strategies and the need for a new management plan for the Refuge and Blitzen Valley. He ended by urging anyone with ideas about how to manage the refuge to write or otherwise contact the Refuge headquarters.

Saturday morning started bright and early with a breakfast at the Elk’s Lodge at 5:00 am. If you think that was early, the ladies who got up to cook for us were there at 3:30 am! Field trips were organized in the parking lot by 6:00 am and were on their way shortly thereafter. Four field trips were offered for 3 different locations. All were led by local Grant County Bird Club members. Cecil Gagnon led 1 group to Logan Valley on a clockwise loop around the Strawberry Mts. while Tom Hunt led another group on the same route in the opposite direction. Tom Winters led 1 group on a tour through Bear Valley. Paul Sullivan led the fourth group down the John Day River to Kimberly, then up through Monument and Long Creek to Dale.

Each group had their successes and disappointments. The Logan Valley trips could not scare up any Upland Sandpipers but had good views of Bobolinks. Bear Valley provided cooperative Upland Sandpipers and woodpeckers but missed several usually common species. Paul’s trip saw a Virginia Rail and White-throated Swallows, but the hummingbirds were not active in Dale.

Those that had some energy left after an active morning of birding and were not too affected by the 90° heat were treated to a great presentation at the Elk’s Lodge that afternoon. Jim Anderson of Bend started off with a presentation on raptors of eastern Oregon. Jim has observed these birds and their activities for most of his life. In addition to the wealth of information, the opportunity to share his experiences through his talk and slides was pure enjoyment.

Steve Heinl and Harry Nehls next presented a workshop on flycatcher identification. Their experience enabled them to put emphasis on certain characteristics of this inherently difficult group that will make identification easier.

The last presentation of the afternoon was by falconer Jim Hansen from Boise, Idaho. Accompanied by one of his Prairie Falcons, he described the procedures and problems of breeding falcons in captivity. Jim is one of the few private breeders in the western United States and his talk was fascinating.

After a brief break and an opportunity to refresh oneself in the lounge, the Elks served a scrumptious filet mignon dinner, complete with all the trimmings. There was enough food on each plate to sate the hungriest birder. Each steak was grilled outdoors to perfection. Following dinner was the usual countdown of the birds seen so far that weekend. Alan Contreras then took the floor and officiated over the business part of the weekend, handling announcements and the election of new officers.

When all the chores were expertly dispatched, everyone returned upstairs for the evening program. Mark Henjum, the northeastern Oregon nongame wildlife biologist for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, presented a program about the Oregon nongame programs that involve birds and bird habitat. Great Gray Owls and other owls, Upland Sandpipers, and Peregrine Falcons were discussed along with activities such as breeding bird surveys. Mark’s presentation was excellent and a good reassurance that our nongame monies are being well spent.

Sunday morning started off just as early with another excellent breakfast served by the Elks. Cecil Gagnon and Tom Winters led the same routes as the previous day. Tom Hunt took a third group down to Dayville and then up the South Fork John Day River to Murderers Creek Ranch. Barbara Winters led the fourth group through Fox and Long Creek to Dale. The Upland Sandpipers of Logan Valley did not show up...
again and the White-headed Woodpeckers seen the previous day in Bear Valley also stayed hidden. Other species missed on Saturday were seen, though, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Everything went smoothly for the whole weekend due to the efforts of a lot of people. Foremost on that list are the members of the John Day Elk’s Lodge #1824. Their hospitality and food service were beyond compare. The members of the Grant County Bird Club also deserve credit for a lot of background and behind-the-scenes help. And, of course, those persons who graciously helped by making presentations were invaluable.

Following is the list of 144 species seen during the weekend. For the trivia buffs, 19 species were common to all of the field trips including Red-naped Sapsucker and MacGillivray’s Warbler. Thirty-two species were seen exclusively on Saturday and 10 species were seen exclusively on Sunday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Bittern</th>
<th>Killdeer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Blue Heron</td>
<td>Willet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Duck</td>
<td>Spotted Sandpiper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green-winged Teal</td>
<td>Upland Sandpiper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mallard</td>
<td>Long-billed Curlew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Pintail</td>
<td>Common Snipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinnamon Teal</td>
<td>Wilson’s Phalarope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Shoveler</td>
<td>Ring-billed Gull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Merganser</td>
<td>Black Tern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey Vulture</td>
<td>Rock Dove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharp-shinned Hawk</td>
<td>Mourning Dove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Goshawk</td>
<td>Flammulated Owl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swainson’s Hawk</td>
<td>Great Horned Owl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-tailed Hawk</td>
<td>Common Nighthawk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferruginous Hawk</td>
<td>Vaux’s Swift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-throated Swift</td>
<td>Calliope Hummingbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad-tailed Hummingbird</td>
<td>Rufous Hummingbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belted Kingfisher</td>
<td>American Kestrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis’ Woodpecker</td>
<td>Red-naped Sapsucker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamson’s Sapsucker</td>
<td>Downy Woodpecker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downy Woodpecker</td>
<td>Hair Woodpecker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-headed Woodpecker</td>
<td>White-backed Woodpecker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-backed Woodpecker</td>
<td>Northern Flicker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olive-sided Flycatcher</td>
<td>Western Wood-Pewee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Wood-Pewee</td>
<td>Willow Flycatcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hammond’s Flycatcher</td>
<td>Hammond’s Flycatcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky Flycatcher</td>
<td>Western Flycatcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Flycatcher</td>
<td>Say’s Phoebe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say’s Phoebe</td>
<td>Western Kingbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Kingbird</td>
<td>Eastern Kingbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horned Lark</td>
<td>Tree Swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Swallow</td>
<td>Violet-green Swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violet-green Swallow</td>
<td>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</td>
<td>Bank Swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Swallow</td>
<td>Cliff Swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cliff Swallow</td>
<td>Barn Swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn Swallow</td>
<td>Gray Jay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Jay</td>
<td>Steller’s Jay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steller’s Jay</td>
<td>Clark’s Nutcracker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark’s Nutcracker</td>
<td>Black-billed Magpie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-billed Magpie</td>
<td>American Crow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Crow</td>
<td>Common Raven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Raven</td>
<td>Black-capped Chickadee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-capped Chickadee</td>
<td>Mountain Chickadee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Chickadee</td>
<td>Red-breasted Nuthatch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-breasted Nuthatch</td>
<td>White-breasted Nuthatch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-breasted Nuthatch</td>
<td>Pygmy Nuthatch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pygmy Nuthatch</td>
<td>Brown Creeper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Creeper</td>
<td>Rock Wren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock Wren</td>
<td>Canyon Wren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canyon Wren</td>
<td>House Wren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Wren</td>
<td>American Dipper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Dipper</td>
<td>Golden-crowned Kinglet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden-crowned Kinglet</td>
<td>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</td>
<td>Western Bluebird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Bluebird</td>
<td>Mountain Bluebird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Bluebird</td>
<td>Townsend’s Solitaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townsend’s Solitaire</td>
<td>Veery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veery</td>
<td>Swainson’s Thrush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swainson’s Thrush</td>
<td>Hermit Thrush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hermit Thrush</td>
<td>American Robin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Robin</td>
<td>Varied Thrush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varied Thrush</td>
<td>Sage Thrasher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sage Thrasher</td>
<td>Cedar Waxwing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Waxwing</td>
<td>European Starling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Starling</td>
<td>Solitary Vireo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solitary Vireo</td>
<td>Warbling Vireo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warbling Vireo</td>
<td>Red-eyed Vireo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-eyed Vireo</td>
<td>Orange-crowned Warbler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange-crowned Warbler</td>
<td>Yellow Warbler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Warbler</td>
<td>Yellow-rumped Warbler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-rumped Warbler</td>
<td>Black-throated Gray Warbler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-throated Gray Warbler</td>
<td>Townsend’s Warbler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townsend’s Warbler</td>
<td>Common Yellowthroat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Yellowthroat</td>
<td>Wilson’s Warbler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson’s Warbler</td>
<td>Yellow-breasted Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-breasted Chat</td>
<td>Western Tanager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Tanager</td>
<td>Black-headed Grosbeak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-headed Grosbeak</td>
<td>Lazuli Bunting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lazuli Bunting</td>
<td>Green-tailed Towhee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green-tailed Towhee</td>
<td>Rufous-sided Towhee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-sided Towhee</td>
<td>Chipping Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chipping Sparrow</td>
<td>Brewer’s Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewer’s Sparrow</td>
<td>Vesper Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vesper Sparrow</td>
<td>Lark Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lark Sparrow</td>
<td>Savannah Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savannah Sparrow</td>
<td>Fox Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox Sparrow</td>
<td>Song Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song Sparrow</td>
<td>Lincoln’s Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln’s Sparrow</td>
<td>Dark-eyed Junco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark-eyed Junco</td>
<td>Bobolink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobolink</td>
<td>Red-winged Blackbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-winged Blackbird</td>
<td>Western Meadowlark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Meadowlark</td>
<td>Yellow-headed Blackbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-headed Blackbird</td>
<td>Brewer’s Blackbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewer’s Blackbird</td>
<td>Brown-headed Cowbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown-headed Cowbird</td>
<td>Northern Oriole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Oriole</td>
<td>Purple Finch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purple Finch</td>
<td>Cassin’s Finch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassin’s Finch</td>
<td>House Finch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Finch</td>
<td>Red Crossbill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Crossbill</td>
<td>Pine Siskin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Siskin</td>
<td>Lesser Goldfinch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Goldfinch</td>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
<td>Evening Grosbeak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Grosbeak</td>
<td>House Sparrow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Oregon Birds 14(3): 300, 1988
Information Wanted on Oregon’s Birds

Note to OB readers: OB publishes information requests that may be of interest to Oregon’s birders. The ending notation in brackets shows the first issue of OB in which the request appeared.

Deschutes National Forest birds. The Deschutes NF has been developing a computerized data base of observation records for wildlife seen within the Forest. I would greatly appreciate the help of birders in supplementing our records. If you have banded within the Deschutes NF—or plan to—I would like to know: (1) species and number of individuals recorded; (2) date observed; (3) geographic location as precisely as possible; and (4) indication of breeding (e.g., nest, offspring, etc.). Information is especially needed for the more uncommon species (e.g., Northern Goshawk, etc.), species on the margin of known ranges, or species of localized occurrence. I have observation forms if you prefer, and a copy of your records would also be satisfactory. This information will be used by our biologists to identify important habitat. [OB 13(2)] Ed Styskel, Forest Wildlife Biologist, Deschutes National Forest, 1645 Highway 20 East, Bend, OR 97701, 388-8567 or 389-0245.

Oregon birds in the neotropics. Anyone with information on the natural history of Oregon birds in the neotropics, please contact me regarding information for a forthcoming issue of Oregon Birds. Also, anyone interested in a birding trip to southern Mexico and Guatemala in February 1989, please contact me as soon as possible. [OB 13(1)] Tom Love, 8060 S.W. Churchill Court, Tigard, OR 97224.

Common Loons. Information is requested on sightings of Common Loons in Oregon. The Northwest Ecological Institute is studying pre-breeding behavior and possible nesting in Oregon. Sightings of Common Loons on freshwater lakes in Oregon from May through August 1988 and previous years are needed. Any observations of pairs, fights, or gatherings from spring or summer anywhere in Oregon (including offshore), would be appreciated. [OB 13(1); OB 14(3)] Char Corkran, Vice President/Treasurer, Northwest Ecological Research Institute, 13640 N.W. Laidlaw Road, Portland, OR 97229, 643-1349.

Trumpeter Swans. The Trumpeter Swan Society is looking for sightings of Trumpeter Swans anywhere in Oregon outside the usual nesting area in Harney Co. Information needed is good location data, date, time of day, and behavior — and your name, address, and phone number. Please note neck collar information, date of sighting, location of sighting, and the presence of other swans. [OB 13(1)] David Paullin, P.O. Box 113, Burns, OR 97720.

Coastal swans. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is attempting to determine Tundra and Trumpeter Swan use areas on the Oregon coast. Information needed is good location data, date, time of day, behavior, and age if possible. Look for neck and leg bands. [OB 13(1)] Roy Lowe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Science Center, Newport, OR 97365, 867-3011 ext. 270.

Coastal Canada Geese. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is attempting to determine Canada Goose use areas along the Oregon coast. Observations of any subspecies of Canada Goose including the introduced Great Basin Canada Goose are needed, but especially of Aleutian and Dusky Canada Geese. Record date, location, time of day, and subspecies. Look for neck collars and leg bands. [OB 13(1)] Roy Lowe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Science Center, Newport, OR 97365, 867-3011 ext. 270.

Raptor survey. A seasonal raptor inventory and survey is being conducted throughout the United States. Anyone with interest in raptors and experience with raptor identification may participate. Results from surveys will be submitted periodically to federal and state wildlife agencies and wildlife-oriented societies. To be a cooperator, submit a brief description of your raptor identification experience and interests. “Only sincere cooperators should apply.” [OB 13(3)] Douglas E. Trapp, President, Midwest Raptor Rehabilitation Society, P.O. Box 1812, Sioux City, IA 51102-1812.

Bald Eagles in Tillamook County. If you see Bald Eagles in Tillamook County away from their nest, please note the age of the eagle, the date, and the location of the sighting. [OB 14(1)] Nancy McGarigal, 45605 Highway 22, Hebo, OR 97122, (H) 994-3759 or (O) 392-3161.

Bald Eagles in Lincoln County. If you see Bald Eagles in Lincoln County, please note the age of the eagle, the date, the bird’s activity, and the location of the sighting. [OB 14(1)] Gloria Sullivan, 3121 N.E. 30th Drive, Lincoln, OR 97367, (H) 994-3759.

Marbled Murrelet inland sightings. Information is requested on inland sightings of Marbled Murrelets in Oregon. The Pacific Seabird Group is compiling all available information on Marbled Murrelets throughout the Pacific Northwest. Recent and dated observations of murrelets along rivers or creeks, and in forested areas is needed. Details should include date, time of day, specific location, number of birds, age, and behavior. [OB 13(4)] S. Kim Nelson, Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Oregon State University, 104 Nash Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331, (503)754-4531. Mark A. Stern, Oregon Natural Heritage Data Base, 1234 N.W. 25th Avenue, Portland, OR 97210, (503)228-9550.
Snowy Owl sightings. I am researching the population status and health of Snowy Owls in North America, and request help in obtaining field observations. I need the following for each sighting: date, location, number seen, age and sex, what the birds were feeding on, and any other available information. Please include your name, address, and telephone number. Age and sex determining characteristics will be sent on request. [OB 14(2)] Ursula C. Petersen, 436 Birge Hall, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706, (608)262-3159.

Three-toed Woodpecker nest locations. I am conducting a research project, funded by the Oregon Nongame Checkoff Program and the U.S. Forest Service, on Three-toed Woodpeckers in Oregon. Please notify me of (1) any nests located during 1982-1987, and (2) any sightings during the winter months (October-March) of any year. Information should be as specific as possible. [OB 13(2)] Rebecca Goggans, Wildlife Biologist, c/o ODF&W, 61374 Parrell Road, Bend, OR 97702, (503)388-6363.

Lewis' Woodpecker. I am conducting a research project for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on Lewis' Woodpeckers in Oregon. My study area is the Pine Oak Zone just east of Mt. Hood where Lewis' Woodpeckers breed and winter. I am interested in finding out where the nesting birds go in July-October and where the non-resident population goes in winter. Any fall and winter sightings with specific locations, dates, and number of birds would be useful. Seasonal and behavioral field notes would also be of interest: locations of breeding and wintering populations, isolated orchards that attract flocks in the late summer, etc. [OB 14(1)] Christie Galen, 17585 S.W. Chippewa Trail, Tualatin, OR 97062, (503)692-8212.

Eastern/Western Wood-Pewees. I am looking for recordings of single-note whistle calls—not calls—of both Eastern and Western Wood-Pewees. The sounds are needed for possible use by the California Bird Records Committee. [OB 14(1)] Dr. Steven Bailey, Department of Birds and Mammals, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118, (415)750-7177.

Yellow-billed Cuckoos. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists are interested in Yellow-billed Cuckoo sightings. See OB 12(2): 70 for an interest announcement. If you located a Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Oregon, please be aware that this species is also a "review species" and the Oregon Bird Records Committee asks for reports. [OB 12(2)] Bill Haight, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, 506 S.W. Mill Street, P.O. Box 59, Portland, OR 97207.

Vaux's Swift migratory staging. We would like information on roost sites used by Vaux's Swifts in pre-migration in Oregon. Send location (town, street, address, description), name, address and phone number of resident, and your name, address and phone number. [OB 13(4)] Portland Audubon Society, 5151 N.W. Cornell Road, Portland, OR 97210.

Purple Martin colonies. The Purple Martin Colony Registry Program of the newly-formed Purple Martin Conservation Association is attempting to locate and register a majority of the martin colonies in North America. You can further assist us by attempting to find martin colonies on your travels. If you have or know of a colony, or are interested in starting one, please let us know. [OB 13(2)] Purple Martin Conservation Association, P.O. Box 178, Edinboro, PA 16412.

Western Bluebirds. Individuals with single nest boxes or active with a bluebird trail are asked to send the following information: (1) total number of nest boxes, (2) number of nests used by bluebirds, (3) total number of bluebird eggs, (4) number of bluebirds fledged, (5) general area where the boxes are located, and (6) approximate elevation above sea level. Results will be published. [OB 13(1)] Earl Gillis, 14125 N.E. Cullen Road, Newberg, OR 97132.

Cedar Waxwings, both adult and juvenile, have appeared in several states since at least 1969 with orange rather than the normal yellow tail tips. The color of the tips of the rectrices of the most intensely colored individuals is approximately the burnt orange (Color 116) of Smithe's Naturalists' Color Guide (Part III, 1981). If you see such a bird, please let us know as we are interested in the geographic distribution of these waxwings. [Editor's note: Pat Murphy in Bird Watcher's Digest (January/February 1988, page 14) writes that "the orange color on waxwing tails is so common it isn't even mentioned in the bird banding manual. It is thought to be diet-based."] [OB 14(1)] Kenneth C. Parkes or D. Scott Wood, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

Red Crossbills. For a study on Red Crossbills in North America, I am soliciting (1) information on areas with good conifer cone crops, (2) information on occurrence of the birds, and (3) tape recordings, especially of flight calls. [OB 13(1)] Jeff Groth, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

History of Oregon ornithology. I desire information on the history of Oregon ornithology prior to the publication in 1940 of Gabrielson and Jewett's Birds of Oregon. I seek especially details, either biographical or anecdotal, and photographs of Oregon's ornithologists and birdwatchers. I shall copy all photographic material and return it promptly. I would greatly appreciate any contribution. [OB 13(1)] George A. Jobanek, 2730 Alder, Eugene, OR 97405.
Color-marked Birds in Oregon

Note to OB readers: OB keeps a running tab of color-marked birds that may be seen by Oregon's birders. The ending notation in brackets shows the first issue of OB in which the notice appeared. Any banded or color-marked bird, including those with the standard aluminum U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service band, may be reported directly to the Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, MD 20708.

American White Pelicans. The Canadian Wildlife Service has color-marked Pelicans with blue wing tags on the left wing. The birds were captured at Stum Lake in central British Columbia, the only pelican nesting colony in that province. [OB 14(1)] Doug Wilson, Vancouver, British Columbia, (604)584-8822.

Brown Pelicans. Brown Pelicans have been color-marked by researchers at the University of California, Davis. The tags vary from plain aluminum bands to bands plus plastic leg markers of various colors. Each configuration has a meaning, so good accurate descriptions are needed. You may see a green, yellow, or orange plastic tag hanging off a green leg band. Note the date and location, the color configuration, numbers (if possible), and include any other comments about the situation or condition of the bird. [OB 13(1)] Pelican Research Project, Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, or Roy Lowe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Science Center, Newport, OR 97365, 867-3011 ext. 270.

Tundra Swans. Tundra Swans breeding in northwestern Alaska have been marked with blue plastic neck collars bearing white alphanumeric codes prefixed with the letter U. The numbers, in the sequence 000-300, are read vertically from the bottom up. Some birds were fitted with backpack harness telemetry transmitters. All have FWS bands. Most birds are expected to pass through Pacific or Intermountain flyways. [OB 13(4)] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bird Banding Office, Laurel, MD 20708 and Selawik National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 270, Kotzebue, AK 99752, (907)442-3799.

Trumpeter Swans. The Trumpeter Swan Society is looking for sightings of Trumpeter Swans anywhere in Oregon outside the usual nesting area in Harney Co. Information needed is good location data, date, time of day, and behavior — and your name, address, and phone number. The Canadian Wildlife Service has neck-collared Trumpeter Swans during the summer of 1986 in southern Mackenzie District, Northwest Territories. Look for red collars with white alpha-numeric markings. Please note neck collar information, date of sighting, location of sighting, and the presence of other swans. [OB 13(1)] David Paullin, P.O. Box 113, Burns, OR 97720.

Lesser Snow Geese. The small breeding population of Lesser Snow Geese in the Prudhoe Bay area of Alaska has been studied for the past 7 years. Several thousand birds have been tarsus-banded and neck-collared with blue and white alphanumeric bands. [OB 13(1)] Snowgoose Project, Attn.: DM. Troy, LGL Alaska Research Associates, 505 W. Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 501, Anchorage, AK 99503.

Lesser Snow Geese. Look for Lesser Snow Geese wearing a green collar with a 2-letter, 2-digit code (example: “FA21”). In addition, collared geese will be painted either green or red on tops and bottoms of wings. Note the wing color (green or red) and usual location and habitat information. [OB 13(1)] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office, Migratory Bird Coordinator, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103, (505)766-8052, or Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 1246, Socorro, NM 87801, (505)835-1828.

Pacific Black Brant. During the summer of 1986, Brant on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska, were color banded yellow with a single black digit (number or letter) repeated 3 times around the band. Each bird is carrying 2 color bands on the same leg producing a 2-digit code. Any sighting will be appreciated. Include a description of the code. [OB 13(1)] James S. Sedinger, Institute of Arctic Biology, 211 Irving Building, UAF, Fairbanks, AK 99775-1780.

Pacific Black Brant. If you see a Pacific Black Brant with a color leg band, please note the color of the band, which leg the band was on, and the lettering on the band. Note the color of the band, the color of the lettering on the band, letter code (2 or 3 letters or numerals), and whether read from body to foot or vice versa. Also note date and locality, and look to see whether a whip antenna is hanging down from the Brant’s tail, because some have been fitted with radio transmitters. [OB 14(1)] Roy Lowe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Science Center, Newport, OR 97365, 867-3011 ext. 270.

Dusky Canada Geese. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is collecting information on Dusky Canada Geese in an attempt to understand wintering requirements of this troubled subspecies. Any Canada Goose in Oregon with a red collar is a Dusky. A Canada Goose with a yellow collar is either a Dusky marked several years ago or a Cackler. Note the following: characteristics of fields they are found in, numbers of Duskys and numbers of other subspecies of Canadas, collar numbers, etc. There are several avenues of reporting your findings. Any marked bird can be reported directly to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Portland Audubon Society will take your information and translate it to special Fish and Wildlife forms. [OB 13(1)] Maurita Smyth, Portland Audubon Society, 515 N.W. Cornell Road, Portland, OR 97210, (W)238-0667.


Oregon Birds 14(3): 307, 1988
Australasian waders. The Australasian Wader Studies Group has been applying colored plastic leg flags to migratory shorebirds in Victoria, Australia. Pieces of PVC adhesive tape are stuck on the outside of metal bands so that the overlap of tape forms a flag that sticks out from the leg. Rufous-necked Stint (300 birds, red flags), Curlew Sandpiper (271 birds, yellow flags), Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (297 birds, green flags), Lesser Golden-Plover (22 birds, white flags), have been marked. [OB 14(3)] K.W. Lowe, Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, G.P.O. Box 8, Canberra, A.C.T. 2601, Australia.

Lesser Golden-Plovers. As part of a study on their wintering biology, Lesser Golden-Plovers have been banded on Oahu, Hawaii, and near Nome, Alaska. Each bird wears a Fish & Wildlife Service band on one leg and one or more color bands on the other. Color band combinations are 2 of the same color, 2 of different colors, 3 of 2 colors, and 3 of 3 colors. Please note which leg is color banded and the exact sequence of colors. “It is important that we know which leg carries the particular color(s) and, where used together, whether the color band is above or below the metal band.” [OB 13(2); OB 14(3)] Oscar W. Johnson, Department of Biology, Moorhead State University, Moorhead, MN 56560.

Sanderlings. The Sanderling Project has mist-netted and color-banded Sanderlings along the West Coast. The only colors used were green, orange, red, yellow, and white. No blue. Some juvenile Sanderlings have been transplanted to other parts of the coast in an attempt to determine how a young bird selects a given site along the coast as its winter home. Each transplanted bird carries a color combination of bands, and a green flag on its right leg. Please try to record the complete color combination. [OB 13(1)] The Sanderling Project, P.O. Box 247, Bodega Bay, CA 94923

Semipalmated and White-rumped Sandpipers. While unlikely to appear in Oregon, Semipalmated and White-rumped Sandpipers were color-marked in Brazil in 1986-87. Look for a numbered blue flag with an orange or yellow band over it. [OB 13(3)] Susana Lara Resende, Corson Building E227, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853

Ring-billed and California Gulls. For a long-term study on post-breeding dispersal, wintering locations, and nest site fidelity, Ring-billed and California Gulls were banded in 1987 at Lake Lahontan, Nevada. Each bird has an FWS aluminum band on the right leg, and either a green or red plastic band with black numbers on the left or right leg. Each plastic band bears a prominent black number. In future years, yellow, blue, white, and orange color bands may be used—probably a different color each year. Please record the date, time, and location of sighting, which leg the plastic band is on, color of plastic band, and number on plastic band if possible. [OB 13(4)] Alan Gubanich, Department of Biology, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557, (702) 784-6652. Hugh Judd, 2325 Jessie, Sparks, NV 89431, (702) 356-7485.

Western Gulls. To learn more about gull movements, I have painted Western Gulls in the Yaquina Bay area. Please note the color and location of the paint (e.g., red on back of right wing), and place, time, and date of sighting. [OB 13(3)] Don McKenzie, Marine Science Center, Newport, OR 97365, 867-3089.

Western Bluebirds. In 1983 and 1984 Western Bluebird nestlings on the Corvallis Bluebird Trail were marked with 2 color bands on the leg opposite the usual Fish and Wildlife band. A few hand-raised birds also have a white band above the FWS band. Please note the position of the bands, which leg they are on, sex of the bird, place and date of sighting, and behavior of the bird when seen. [OB 13(1)] Elsie Eltzroth, 3595 N.W. Roosevelt Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

Black-capped and Chestnut-backed Chickadees. The Northwest Ecological Research Institute is conducting a long-term study in the Portland west hills, Cedar Mill, and Catlin Gabel School areas. Black-capped and Chestnut-backed Chickadees have been marked with from 1 to 3 colored plastic bands on their legs. Please contact us if you see marked chickadees at your feeder, or if you regularly see House Finches with an aluminum U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service band. [OB 13(1)] Philip Gaddis, 13640 N.W. Laidlaw Road, Portland, OR 97229, 645-4751, or Char Corkran, 130 N.W. 114th Street, Portland, OR 97229, 643-1349.
Oregon Birds is looking for material in these categories:

**News Briefs** on things of temporal importance, such as meetings, birding trips, announcements, news items, etc.

**Articles** are longer contributions dealing with identification, distribution, ecology, management, conservation, taxonomy, behavior, biology, and historical aspects of ornithology and birding in Oregon. Articles cite references (if any) at the end of the text. Names and addresses of authors appear at the beginning of the text.

**Short Notes** are shorter communications dealing with the same subjects as articles. Short Notes typically cite no references, or at most a few in parentheses in the text. Names and addresses of authors appear at the end of the text.

**Bird Finding Guides** "where to find a ______ in Oregon" (for some of the rarer birds) and "where to find birds in the ______ area" (for some of the better spots).

**Reviews** for published material on Oregon birds or of interest to Oregon birders.

**Photographs** of birds, especially photos taken recently in Oregon. Color slide duplicates are preferred. Please label all photos with photographer's name and address, bird identification, date and place the photo was taken. Photos will be returned; contact the Editor for more information.

Deadline for the next issue of *Oregon Birds* — OB 14(4) — is 28 October 1988. The next issue should get to you by the first week of December 1988. Material can be submitted any time, and the sooner the better. Please send materials directly to the Editor, 3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212 (503)282-9403.

**Oregon Birds Board of Editors:** David A. Anderson, Range D. Boyer, Charlie Bruce, Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, David Fix, Jeff Gilligan, Steven G. Herman, Mike Houck, George A. Jobanek, Jim Johnson, C.D. Littlefield, Roy Lowe, David B. Marshall, Harry B. Nehls, David G. Paullin, Mark Stern, Paul Sullivan, Clarice Watson