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NEWS BRIEFS

- The 1987 OFO Annual Meeting will be held 8-10 May 1987 in Seaside, Oregon. Friday evening will feature a slide pot pourri. There will be mini lectures by Gilligan, Fix, Bayer, and others. The business meeting will include election of officers. Saturday’s keynote address will be by Pete Myers of The Sanderling Project (Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences). Come to the annual meeting and enjoy north coast Oregon birding, including pelagic trips out of Hammond. OFO members will receive a brochure in the mail soon. Or write to Donna Lusthoff, 13720 S.W. Harness Lane, Beaverton, OR 97005.

- Oregon Field Ornithologists announces Special Publication No. 4 — A Bibliography of Bird Identification Articles in Five Journals, with Crossreferences to a List of Over 580 Species, by Clarice Watson. First appearing as an article in Oregon Birds 12(4), Winter 1986, it has been revised and updated. The Special Publication is an outstanding place to begin research on bird identification problems. Start with a problem species and quickly access pertinent bird ID tips printed in the bird journals most likely to be on your bookshelves. Order your copy on the convenient order form printed in the center of this issue.

- Portland has a city bird — Great Blue Heron. On 10 December 1986, the Portland City Council approved a proclamation reading in part: “Whereas Portland is one of a select few cities that can boast two active Great Blue Heron rookeries... and whereas Portland’s own West Delta Park is the site of one of the rookeries and whereas the Portland Audubon Society has commended the Great Blue Heron as a bird present in Portland worthy of celebration and the
Wild Turkeys are doing so well in Oregon that the first statewide general turkey hunting season begins 18 April 1987. Bag limit is 1 male.

• Use of lead shot will be curtailed in Oregon if rules proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service go into effect. "The problem of lead poisoning in waterfowl resulting from the deposition of lead shot while hunting has been known for at least the last 100 years. Over the past 2-3 decades, because of an unacceptably high annual lead poisoning-related mortality in waterfowl, wildlife managers and others have recognized and espoused a need to find an acceptable nontoxic substitute for lead shot to alleviate the lead poisoning problem. ** It has become apparent that lead poisoning from waterfowl hunting is manifesting itself in the endangered and threatened bald eagle populations of the United States." Federal Register 52(10): 1636, 15 January 1987. FWS proposes to phase out lead shot for waterfowl and coot hunting over a 6-year period. Starting in 1987, there are 8 proposed nontoxic shot zones in Oregon: (1) all of Harney, Polk, and Yamhill Counties; (2) Columbia County south and west of US 30; (3) Multnomah County south of I-84; (4) all of Klamath County except for an area around Davis Lake; (5) the area of the Columbia River from Bonneville Dam to the Astoria Bridge and from the Oregon/Washington border south to I-84 and US 30 (includes Sauvie Island); (6) part of Malheur County; (7) parts of Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla Counties; and (8) Ankeny and Finley NWRs. For more information, write to Rollin D. Sparrowe, Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 536, Matomac Building, Washington, D.C. 20240.

• The 1987-88 Federal Duck Stamp winner is Wisconsin artist Arthur G. Anderson, with his painting of 3 Redheads flying low over a backwater marsh.

• A new organization called The New Corps of Discovery announces trips to Oregon high desert destinations to photograph the landscape and document the wildlife. Data gathered will be used to make a case for wilderness preservation. Trips have been announced for March, April, and May. For information, contact Joe Wallicki, P.O. Box 4, Marylhurst, OR 97036, 636-3346, or Lawson LeGate, 20318 Silver Sage, Bend, OR 97702, 389-3207.

• Whooping Crane numbers are up to 105 birds at Aransas N.W.R. in Texas this winter. This is the first year numbers exceed 100 since early this century. This population was down to 16 birds in 1941. In all, there are about 170 live Whoopers — at Aransas, Bosque del Apache N.W.R., and in captivity at Patuxent, Maryland; 130 are in the wild. In 1986, 26 eggs hatched and 20 chicks survived from nesting birds in Canada. The M.V. Whooping Crane, a motor vessel out of Rockport, TX, which took many birders into the marshes where Whooping Cranes winter, was sold at auction in fall 1986. There are still vessels for birders who wish to get close to Whoopers. Write to the Rockport Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1055, Rockport, TX 78382.

• The new Birder's World has appeared — "the magazine for bird enthusiasts." It has the production value of and looks a lot like National Wildlife and International Wildlife (published by the National Wildlife Federation), but is
strictly focused on birds. It has many of the same advertisers as Birling, (published by the American Birding Association), suggesting their intended audience. The premier issue has articles on Sandhill Crane conservation, Killdeer and Black-capped Chickadee behavior, Dippers, and a photo essay on Pied-billed Grebes. Regular departments will include articles on attracting birds, a bird photo gallery, and reviews of bird books. Subscription is $25 per year. Write to Birder's World, 720 E. 8th Street, Holland, MI 49423.

* Look for a new book including Oregon's shorebirds. Shorebirds of the Pacific Northwest by Dennis Paulson and Jim Erickmann may be published as early as sometime in 1987. It will feature geographical distribution and seasonal status of all shorebird species. Dennis Paulson, Burke Museum DB-10, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195.

* The new photographic guide on the seabirds of the world will be published later this year. In the United Kingdom, the book will be titled Seabirds of the World: A Photographic Guide and will be published in late May 1987. In the United States, the book will be titled A Field Guide to Seabirds of the World and will be published in August 1987. The book is a pocket-sized companion to Seabirds: An Identification Guide by Peter Harrison, published in 1983. "It represents easily the largest and most complete collection of seabird photographs ever published and it is superbly complemented by a crisp and succinct 60,000 word text intended specifically to aid identification in the field." Photographs were solicited from birders around the world. Oregon birders whose photos will appear are Tom Crabtree and Owen Schmidt. Other familiar contributors include Joe Jehl, Steve Madge, Ron Naveen, Robert Pitman, and Don Roberson. For more information, write Peter Harrison, Trevescan Farm House, Trevescan, Sennen, Penzance, Cornwall TR19 7AQ, United Kingdom.

* A new international newsletter concerning current research on the genus Parus (chickadees, titmice, tits) has appeared. Contact M.S. Ficken, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee Field Station, 3095 Blue Goose Road, Saukville, WI 53080.

* The Wildlife Information Center, Inc. has appeared. Its purpose is to secure and disseminate information on wildlife conservation, education, recreation, and scientific research. Contact Donald S. Heintzelman, Executive Director, 629 Green Street, Allentown, PA 18102.

* The Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution (SAPE) has appeared. Persons with an active interest in fossil birds or in evolutionary problems that draw upon or contribute to the avian fossil record are invited to join. Write to the secretary, Dr. Cecile Mourer-Chauvire, Department des Sciences de la Terre, Universite Claude Bernard, 27-43 Boul. du 11 Novembre, 69622 Villeurbanne Cedex, France.

* More news on the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. Located in Jamestown, New York, it will be the permanent repository for RTP's artwork, correspondence, slides, movies, and other materials. A $5-million headquarters building will host art exhibits and will have a 400-seat auditorium and an extensive natural history library. There eventually will be a staff of 45 scientists, writers, and program coordinators working on a world-wide scale. For more information, write to Harold D. Mahan, President, Roger Tory Peterson Institute, 525 Falconer Street, Jamestown, NY 14701.

* The International Year of the Raptor will run from March 1987 through April 1988, as proclaimed by the World Working Group on Birds of Prey.

* Environmental audio recordings are sought by FM radio station KPFA in Sacramento, CA. The station broadcasts The World Ear Project the last Monday of each month from 10-11 pm. The program consists of tapes submitted by the far-flung audience and friends of KPFA. Tapes should be over 5 minutes long, but less than 55, and may be in nearly any format. Composed pieces should be based on natural ambient sounds. Send your tapes to Richard Friedman, World Ear Project, KPFA Radio Music Department, 2207 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704.

* "The past twenty years have seen the technological revolution in sound recording equipment accelerate. The hobby of nature sound recording seems to be where photography was in the 1930's and 40's—ready to take off as a feasible hobby for thousands of interested people." So says Paul Matzner, Chair of the Nature Sounds Society, newsletter number 5, page 6. For more information on the Nature Sounds Society, write to them at The Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94607.

* Oregon birder Eleanor Pugh offers for sale several long recordings of songs and calls of western birds. For a list of available cassettes and recording equipment, write to Eleanor at Lichen Coop Corp., P.O. Box 25, Wolf Creek, OR 97497.

* Subject to sufficient subscription, a new international journal devoted to animal sounds is to be launched this year by the British Library of Wildlife Sounds and the International Bioacoustics Council. Topics will include communication, bioacoustic research, sound recording techniques, recent bioacoustical publications, new equipment, IBAC symposia, and news. Commitments are needed. If interested, write to Ron Kettle, National Sound Archive, 29 Exhibition Road, London SW7 2AS, England.

* The Sanderling Project continues. The fall census conducted in October 1986 found 12,469 Sanderlings in Oregon. This was a density of 69 birds per kilometer of beach censused, which compares to 39 and 59 birds per kilometer in Washington and California, respectively. A juvenile Sanderling banded in November 1985 at Bodega Bay was spotted at Oregon Dunes. Birds originally banded at Clatsop Spit were seen again at Grayland Beach in Washington, at Clatsop Spit, at Oregon Dunes, and at Ano Nuevo Reserve in California. Oregon birders participating in the census included Neil Maine, Roy Lowe, Jim Rogers, Carrie Osborne, Range Bayer, and Alan Barron. For more information on The Sanderling Project, write to P.O. Box 247, Bodega Bay, CA 94923.
- If you come across a freshly-dead bird in good shape (feathers in place, etc.) and hate to see the specimen go to waste, save it. Vicki Osis at the Marine Science Center in Newport will use it for a class in mounting birds. Put the specimen in a good plastic bag, squeeze the air out, and put it in your freezer. Call Vicki during business hours at (503)867-4666.

- The National Audubon Society is looking for recommended additions to the "List of Wetlands of International Importance." The U.S. Senate has ratified an international treaty — the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Called RAMSAR after the city in Iran where it was drawn up, the treaty urges member nations to promote protection of wetlands both nationally and internationally. Four U.S. National Wildlife Refuges have been named, but none are in Oregon. Write to Fran Spivak-Weber, National Audubon Society Capitol Hill Office, 801 Pennsylvania Avenue S.E., Suite 301, Washington, D.C. 20003.

- BLM has proposed to create a 25,000 acre wetland management area in the potholes region below Hart Mountain. Cattle would be fenced out and BLM would build a road into the area for hunters and fishermen. To become involved in this proposal, write to Alan Munhall, BLM Lakeview District, P.O. Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630.

- A class on wildlife and nature photography is offered by Portland Audubon Society 13 April to 11 May 1987. At the intermediate level, the class will stress equipment and techniques most useful for wildlife, plants, and natural landscapes. Advance registration is required. Contact James Davis, Portland Audubon Society, 5151 N.W. Cornell Road, Portland, OR 97210, 292-6855.

- The Wilson Ornithological Society will celebrate its centennial in 1988, and asks everyone to look for materials related to the history of the WOS. A display of items such as old photos, letters, artwork, advertisements, banquet favors, lapel pins, etc., will be shown at next year's meeting. Contact Jerome A. Jackson, Chairman, WOS Centennial Committee, Box Z, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

- Running tally of the birds of the rare bird phone network:
  - McCown's Longspur — on 26 November 1986 in Klamath County by Steve Summers;
  - Emperor Goose — on 23 November 1986 at Ankeny N.W.R. by Jon Anderson;
  - Swamp Sparrow — on 2 December 1986 at RV park near the Chetco River mouth, Brookings, Curry County, by Steve Summers; also 2 on the Tillamook Bay CBC (1 near the Tillamook hospital, 1 near the mouth of the Trask River) on 20 December by Bill Thackaberry and Jeff Gilligan;
  - White-winged Dove — on 20 December 1986 on the Tillamook Bay Christmas Bird Count along Tillamook Bay between Tillamook and Bay City, Tillamook Co., by Jeff Gilligan;
  - Lucy's Warbler — on 27 December 1986 along the North Fork Siuslaw River, Lane County, on the Florence Christmas Bird Count, by Al Frigge and Norm Barrett (this bird was seen off-and-on at least through 24 January 1987);
  - Clay-colored Sparrow — on 27 December 1986 along Retenaar Road, Sauvie Island, Columbia County, on the Sauvie Island CBC, by Jim Johnson and Rob Fergus;
  - Brown Thrasher — on 21 January 1987 at the Sunriver Nature Center, Deschutes County, by Dave Danley;
  - Tufted Duck — on 12 January, not seen again until 27 January, at Monmouth sewage ponds, Polk County, a first-year male, by Roy Gerig; and
  - Yellow-billed Magpie — on 1 February 1987, 3 miles west of Redmond, Deschutes Co., by Jack Corbett.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- The North American Bluebird Society presents 3 annual grants totalling $5000 for ornithological research directed toward cavity-nesting species of North America with emphasis on the genus Sialia. For guidelines and application materials, write to Theodore W. Gutzke, Research Committee Chairman, P.O. Box 121, Kenmare, ND 58746.

- The Wilson Ornithological Society announced its ornithological research awards for 1987. The Louis Agassiz Fuertes Award (all ornithologists), Margaret Morse Nice Award (independent researchers), and Paul A. Stewart Award (any ornithologist) are available. Willingness to present the results of the research at one of the society's annual meetings is a condition of all awards. Applications must be returned no later than 15 March 1987. Write to C. Dwight Cooley, Chairman, Research Awards Committee, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Drawer 1190, Daphne, AL 36526.

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Approximately 20 volunteer positions are open in spring/summer/fall 1987 at the Southwestern Research Station of the American Museum of Natural History in Portal, Arizona. The volunteer program offers students in the biological sciences outstanding opportunities to become involved with scientists doing field research. Food and lodging at the Station are provided to volunteers in exchange for 4 hours per day of routine work chores, leaving other time free for research activities. Contact the Resident Director, Southeastern Research Station, Portal, AZ 85632, (602)558-2396.

- Five assistants are needed for studies on the behavioral ecology of Birds of Paradise in Papua New Guinea from August to December 1987. Field work involves behavioral observations and radio telemetry, is strenuous, and is carried out in very remote areas. All expenses paid, including round trip air fare, but there is no salary. Send résumé, statement of purpose, and 2 letters of reference to S.G. Prueitt-Jones, Department of Biology, C-016, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92033.
• Black-capped Vireo population, nesting, and behavioral ecology studies in the Edwards Plateau of Texas and western Oklahoma need up to 4 field assistants. Applicants should have experience with passerine birds, field identification skills, and general field savvy, they say, and must be available from mid-April through mid-July, and must have their own vehicles. Duties include surveying, territory mapping, netting and banding, nest finding, and behavioral observations. Salary $650-900 per month, plus expenses and field lodging. Send résumé and references to J.A. Grzybowski, Health Sciences Building, Central State University, Edmond, OK 73034.

• A Bald Eagle response to human activities analyst is needed to compile, tabulate, and statistically analyze data. Applicants should have a degree in biology or statistics, experience with file management programs, and familiarity with Basic, Pascal, or other computer languages. Write by 1 April to Mark V. Stalmaster, Skagit Bald Eagle Study, 209 23rd Avenue, Milton, WA 98354.

• Snail Kite studies in the llanos of Venezuela need a field assistant from late June through September 1987. Duties include watching adult behavior at nest sites, visiting nests, and banding young in the context of experimental manipulation of broods. Do not apply if you fear heat, heights, water, primitive living conditions, or solitude, they say. All travel and living conditions paid, and there is a small stipend. Send résumé and 2 references to Steven R. Beissinger, Department of Zoological Research, National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20008.

• The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has about 150 openings for volunteers in Alaska from mid-May to September. Arrangements are possible for longer periods. Almost any occupational specialty is needed, with locations scattered throughout the state. Contact Bill Knauer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503.

• Volunteers are needed to monitor seabirds at several sites in Alaska. Field work begins mid-May and extends through August. Duties include observing nest sites periodically to determine reproductive success, counting birds on plots to determine population trends, banding birds to determine adult survival, and observing birds at sea to determine pelagic distribution. Locations include the Aleutians, Pribilofs, Barrens, and other islands. Housing, food, and transportation will be provided. For a position in the Aleutians, write to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Box 5251, FPO Seattle 98791. For other positions, write to the Refuge Manager, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, 202 Pioneer Avenue, Homer, AK 99603.

• Ecological studies in the true fir forest of the Sierra Nevada from mid-May until early August 1987 need field research assistants. Potential study species are Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Williamson's and Red-breasted Sapsuckers. Duties include finding and monitoring nests, observing foraging behavior, describing territories, banding birds, and measuring vegetation variables. Applicants should have an avid interest in birds and field work, and tree or rock climbing ability is a plus. A small stipend, a field vehicle, and the beauty of a summer in the Sierras is provided. Send résumé and 3 references to Sallie Hejl, Forestry Sciences Laboratory, 2081 East Sierra Avenue, Fresno, CA 93710.

• As part of the International Shorebird Surveys Program, the Canadian Wildlife Service will survey major shorebird staging and nesting areas in the prairie provinces and Northwest Territories. Similar surveys in eastern Canada identified significant staging areas in the Bay of Fundy that are now proposed for protection through the Ramsar Convention. The CWS will have to rely heavily on outside assistance. Contact H. Loney Dickson, Canadian Wildlife Service, Western and Northern Region, 2nd Floor, 4999 98 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3.

• Volunteers are needed to help locate Peregrine Falcons in the red-rock canyon country of southeastern Utah. Two expeditions will be mounted next summer. Volunteers will cover their own expenses through a tax-deductible donation. For information write Janet Rodd, Four Corners School of Outdoor Education, East Route, Monticello, UT 84535.

• Volunteers are needed to conduct waterfowl, shorebird, and raptor surveys on the Arctic coastal plain in Alaska for a 3-month period in late May to August 1987. Food, primitive camping, and $3 per day will be provided. Volunteers must be mature, responsible, and good team players, they say. Send resume and 3 references by 15 March 1987 to William Knauer, Volunteer Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 E. Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503.

• Volunteers are needed as site attendants to assist with Peregrine Falcon release efforts in 1987. Each site will be staffed by 2 people for a period of 8-10 weeks. Information and application blanks may be obtained by writing to The Peregrine Fund, William Heinrich, 5666 West Flying Hawk Lane, Boise, ID 83709, or Marty Gilroy, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.

• The Third World Conference on Birds of Prey, sponsored by the Working Group on Birds of Prey, will be held in Israel 22-27 March 1987. The conference will consist of 7 paper sessions on conservation, migration, population biology, education, and legislation. The conference coincides with raptor migration in Israel, and there will be a film festival, raptor photography competition, and bird trips. For information, write to Dr. Robin D. Chancellor, 15 Bolton Gardens, London SW5 0AL, U.K.

• The John Scharf Migratory Waterfowl Festival in Burns, OR, will be held 11-12 April 1987. Contact Malheur NWR staff for more details, Malheur N.W.R., P.O. Box 245, Princeton, OR 97721. The Malheur Field Station will hold a work weekend at the same time. Earn you stay at the Field Station by volunteer work! Contact Lucile Housley, Executive Director, Malheur Field Station, P.O. Box 260-E, Princeton, OR 97721, 493-2629.
• The 1987 Oregon Desert Conference will be held at the Malheur Field Station 24-26 April 1987. Desert wilderness will be the theme. For more information, write to Don Tryon, P.O. Box 848, Bend, OR 97709.

• Oregon Field Ornithologists will hold its annual meeting in Seaside 8-10 May 1987. There will be a business meeting, birding trips, and a keynote address by Pete Myers of The Sanderling Project.

• The Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society will hold its 1987 annual meeting 20-22 May at Ashland Hills Resort. There will be time for approximately 2 dozen papers on Thursday and Friday of the meeting. The 1988 annual meeting will be held in Pendleton 24-26 February. For more information write to Charlie Bruce, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Route 5 Box 325, Corvallis, OR 97330-9446.

• The Wilson Ornithological Society will hold its 1987 meeting in Utica, NY 28-31 May and its 1988 meeting at Rosemont College (near Philadelphia, PA) 9-12 June. The 1987 meeting will be held jointly with the Eastern Bird Banding Association and will include art exhibits and field trips. Write to the chair of the local committee, Judith W. McIntyre, Department of Biology, Utica College, Utica, NY 13502. WOS's Centennial Meeting will be held at Rosemont College in suburban Philadelphia, PA 9-12 June 1988.

• The 1987 meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society will be held 22-26 June and will be hosted by Utah State University at Snowbird, Utah. For more information contact the program chairman Martin G. Raphael, U.S. Forest Service, 222 South 22nd Street, Laramie, WY 82070. The 1988 meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monterey, California (Asilomar) in mid-March. Announcements will be mailed to members, and more information will follow.

• A North American Atlas Conference will be held in conjunction with the AOU meeting in San Francisco in August 1987. For more information on breeding bird atlasing, write to Sally Sutcliffe, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.

• The 105th Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held 10-13 August 1987 in San Francisco, CA.

• Western Field Ornithologists' 1987 annual meeting will be held at Western Washington University at Bellingham on 20-23 August 1987. More details will appear in Western Birds. Possible topics include bird records committees and breeding bird atlases. Contact T.R. Wahl, 3041 Eldridge, Bellingham, WA 98225, (206)733-8255.

• The Western Bird Banding Association will hold its 1987 meeting in Tucson, Arizona, 9-11 October.

• The 88th Christmas Bird Count will be held Thursday 17 December 1987 through Sunday 4 January 1988, inclusive. The 89th CBC will be held Friday 16 December 1988 through Tuesday 3 January 1989, inclusive. The 90th CBC will be held Saturday 16 December 1989 through Tuesday 3 January 1990, inclusive.

• Cooper Ornithological Society will hold its 58th Annual Meeting at Asilomar, CA 18-21 March 1988.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alan Contreras, Bureau of Governmental Research and Service, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403

When I waged my tough battle for the job of OFO president last winter, I had certain goals. These were: to provide our editor with the resources and support necessary to publish a quality quarterly for our members, to increase membership to a level approaching the number of active birders in Oregon, and to get a new site guide project on the road. These things have been done thanks to the diligence and enthusiasm of the OFO Board and many other contributors.

The membership needs to address some problems and take advantage of some opportunities in the year ahead. For your consideration, here are some topics I'd like to call to your attention.

Field notes reporting. It's not very good, and it has been getting worse in the past couple of years. American Birds regional editors have called me, asking "Why don't Oregon observers send in their reports?" This is embarrassing, and we are doing a disservice to bird enthusiasts and researchers everywhere if we don't share our knowledge.

OFO has recently published a new 3-part carbonless form with the Oregon checklist on it. This form is very handy for field notes reporting. It makes two carbonless copies of your sightings for a given date or location. You keep the original and the copies can be sent to field notes editors for Oregon Birds, American Birds, or your local newsletter. You or your organization can order these through OFO. An order blank is enclosed in this issue. Prices for more than a handful of lists are set at the break-even point. We consider basic lists a service of OFO to our members and the birding community, not a fund-raiser.
OFO has also published a new card checklist. This is patterned after other familiar pocket-sized/field-guide-sized forms birders are accustomed to. These can also be mail-ordered using the form in the center of this issue.

In the end, field notes reporting is up to you. We encourage you to send your reports to your local newsletter as a first priority, and to the American Birds regional editors if possible. Reports sent directly to OB are helpful, but we get a lot of material from local newsletters, so make them your first priority.

If your area does not have a local newsletter that comes out at least quarterly, please send notes to your OB regional editor as well as to AB. A final note: if your local group does not send its newsletter to the AB and OB regional editors, please consider doing so. This lets people know what birds are found in your area and lets people around the state know who your observers are.

**Fundraising Birdathon.** OFO may soon be sponsoring birdathons to raise money for special publications and possibly small research grants. When you see the notice of these events, consider sponsoring a team or an observer to help your organization better serve the needs of its members.

**Oregon Bird Records Committee.** The OBRC has done a good job for many years, and has helped collect a great deal of information about Oregon's rare birds. But it should make itself more visible. Its processes should be better understood, and its conclusions made more useful to Oregon's birders. The past success and the future of the OBRC is based on the willingness of birders to send it reports. This willingness in turn is based on favorable perceptions by birders. As to these perceptions, there is room for improvement.

**The future.** Right now OFO has an enthusiastic editor and a good core group of active bird people who are willing to keep your organization going. We won't last forever, and there is no one grouchier than a birder who has burned out on organizational bureaucracy.

Consider what you could do for your organization. We need local reps who can help recruit members and distribute publications. We need a constant flow of articles, particularly short and medium-length pieces. We need help organizing and executing annual meetings and other special events. We need people to do things we haven't thought of yet. What would you like to do for OFO? Write to me or any member of the Board to volunteer!

Best wishes for the seasons ahead and Good Birding!

---

**BIRDING QUIZ: OREGON BIRDING RECORDS**

Owen Schmidt, 3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212

This quiz is based on the new book *The Pettingell Book of Birding Records*, by Noel Pettingell and David M. Mark (published by the American Birding Association in 1986):

1. Who has seen the most species in Oregon in 1 year, in what year was it, and how many species?
2. Who has seen the most species in Oregon, and how many?
3. Of the 10 states with the highest “big day” records, where does Oregon rank?
4. How many species are the Oregon big day records for the months of April, May, June, July, and August?
5. What Oregon Christmas Bird Count has the all-time highest species total?
6. What Christmas Bird Count at a higher latitude than Oregon has a higher species total than any CBC in Oregon?
7. How many of the American Birding Association’s “10 most-wanted” birds can be seen in Oregon?
8. Western Meadowlark is Oregon’s state bird. What species is the state bird for the most states?
9. What Oregon bird is the 4th-heaviest flying bird in the world?
10. What Oregon bird species has an individual known to live the longest in the wild?

Answers on page 17.
PREDATOR CONTROL AT MALHEUR N.W.R.

This is the Executive Summary of "Progress Report — 1986: Predator Control to Enhance the Production of Greater Sandhill Cranes on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge," by David G. Paullin, Malheur N.W.R. Refuge Biologist:

"The nesting population of greater sandhill cranes on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Oregon has declined from 236 pairs in 1971 to 181 pairs in 1986. Nesting studies conducted from 1966 to 1986 have repeatedly demonstrated that the primary limiting factor for cranes nesting on Malheur Refuge is the predation of eggs by ravens, raccoons and coyotes, and the predation of prefledged chicks by coyotes.

"On 21 January 1986, Malheur Refuge staff assisted by U.S. Department of Agriculture (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) employees began controlling predators on approximately 27,000 acres (14%) of Malheur Refuge. Control efforts ceased on 18 August, the end of the crane fledging period.

"One hundred sixty-six coyotes were removed by the following methods: aerial gunning (51%), trapping and snares (27%), calling and shooting (19%), and denning (3%). An estimated 44 ravens were removed, using 44 dozen chicken eggs injected with DRC-1339. Eleven racoons were removed, 10 by hunting with dogs and one was caught in a snare.

"Overall crane production was 50 chicks, the highest count since 1970. Recruitment of crane chicks in the predator control area was 14.9%, the highest ever recorded on the refuge. In the non-predator control area, the recruitment rate was 54% below the 16-year average of 6.4%. The 1986 nesting data compared to prior years' studies, strongly suggests that approximately 17-18 additional crane chicks reached flight stage that would not have survived without predator control. Additional nesting studies of Canada geese and ducks also showed major increases in nesting success in the predator control areas.

"The objectives of the 1986 effort was to have a nesting success of 75%, fledging success 25% and recruitment 15% in the predator control area. The actual outcome was 70%, 29.9%, and 14.9% respectively. Based on these results, the 1986 predator control effort was judged a success. It is recommended that control efforts for 1987 be expanded to include all the key crane nesting areas on the refuge (85,000 acres) as outlined in the 25 November Environmental Assessment entitled: "Alternatives to Enhance the Production of Greater Sandhill Cranes on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Oregon."

For a copy of the report, write to George M. Constantino, Refuge Manager, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 245, Princeton, OR 97721.

OREGON BIRDS 13(1): 17
INFORMATION WANTED ON OREGON'S BIRDS

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 next winter (December 1988 — January 1989), please contact me as soon as possible.

Tom Love, 8060 S.W. Churchill Court, Tigard, OR 97224

Passerine nesting success. An apparently drastic reproductive failure of many species of passerine birds was documented in 1986 over most of northern California and at least coastal Oregon and Washington. We are trying to accumulate information across the continent on the reproductive success of passerine birds in 1986 as compared to previous years. Negative information (no difference) is especially important. Please send information on species, exact geographical location, manner in which productivity was measured, 1986 results, and results from previous years.

David F. DeSante, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970

Oregon nesting birds. I am researching a book on nesting birds of Oregon. I would appreciate any nesting records from throughout the state that are not already a part of the Lane County Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Minimum information needed is species, date seen nesting, and location. Any additional information, such as dates of egg laying, hatching, fledging, etc., as well as nest description and location, habitat, altitude, nest success, and anything else of value would be greatly appreciated.

Norman M. Barrett, 2554 F Street, Springfield, OR 97477

Hood River County birds. I am compiling a Hood River County checklist. I need records of the more uncommon species as well as all nesting records. Anyone who has barded in Hood River County is urged to send me their lists. Any and all information will be helpful.

David A. Anderson, 6203 S.E. 92nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97266

Albinistic birds. I would like to submit information on albinistic birds to an interested party. Please send date, place, species, and brief descriptions of sightings. As best I can ascertain, the last comprehensive list of albinism in North American birds was compiled by A.O. Gross in 1965.

Elsie Eiltroth, 3595 N.W. Roosevelt Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

Bird license plates. If you or someone you know has a personalized automobile license plate with the common or scientific name of a bird, or some bird-related term, please drop a card with your name and address, and the name on the plate.

James R. Hill, III, P.O. Box 178, Edinboro, PA 16412

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 the state. Dates and locations of gatherings of Common Loons or observations of pairs or fights, from February through May, anywhere in Oregon (including offshore), would be greatly appreciated. Also new and old records of Common Loons seen on freshwater lakes in Oregon from late May through August would be of great interest.

Char Corkran, Vice President/Treasurer, Northwest Ecological Research Institute, 13640 N.W. Laidlaw Road, Portland, OR 97229, 643-1349 or 645-4751.

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.

David Paullin, P.O. Box 113, Burns, OR 97720
Coastal swans. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is also 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.

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.

Roy Lowe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Science Center, Newport, OR 97365, 867-3011 ext. 270.

Inland Ruddy and Black Turnstones. Please send all inland records of both Ruddy Turnstone and Black Turnstone. Include good location data (including county), dates, observer's name, etc.

David A. Anderson, 6203 S.E. 92nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97266

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 nest boxes 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.

Earl Gillis, 14125 N.E. Cullen Road, Newberg, OR 97132.

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.

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.

George A. Jobanek, 2730 Alder, Eugene, OR 97405

BIRDING COURSES AT MALHEUR FIELD STATION

Birding in Southeastern Oregon, 14-20 June 1987. Designed for the birder with developed bird identification skills who desires further intense study of 1 week duration. A workshop exclusively for the serious birder. A majority of the days are spent in the field visiting all of the birding hotspots of southeastern Oregon. Plans are to visit the Alvord Desert, the Strawberry Mts., Summer or Abert Lake, the area south of Fields, and especially Malheur N.W.R. We will seek rarities like eastern warblers, Upland Sandpiper, and Black-throated Sparrow. We will see well over 125 species of birds. Steve Herman, instructor; 1 credit. Room, board, course $255.

Field Ornithology, 5-25 July 1987. Techniques used in the field study of birds. The primary focus is the development of observational skills for describing the distribution and abundance of birds in various habitats of southeast Oregon and northwest Nevada. Food and feeding habits and behavior of wild birds will be investigated. Mist-netting and banding, aging and sexing of birds in the hand will contribute to the emphasis on detailed identification techniques. Students maintain a field journal and learn terms and concepts relevant to species encountered. We spend much of our time away from the Field Station, camping and examining avian populations in different habitats. Carroll D. Littlefield, instructor; 4 credits. Room, board, course $445.

Lucile Housley, Executive Director, Malheur Field Station, P.O. Box 260-E, Princeton, OR 97721, (503)493-2629.
BIRDING QUIZ: WHO WERE THEY?

Norman Barrett, 2554 F Street, Springfield, OR 97477

With the addition of Clark's Grebe to the AOU Check-List, there are 100 species of birds in the AOU area whose common names are people's names. The trend has been to eliminate people's names from the checklist. Names like Hoskins, Holboell, Richardson, Bicknell, and Swinhoe are mostly forgotten. Names like Coues and Traill are unknown to the latest generation of birders.

This quiz tests your knowledge of the people behind those names still on the list. No fair peeking!

1. Which 2 people have the most bird species named for them?
2. How many species are named for women?
3. What is the most common profession of the people with birds named for them? (Hint: most were not professional ornithologists).
4. Which species is named for a presidential candidate?
5. Name a bird that is named for an unsuccessful blackmailer.
6. What bird is named for an American Consul who embarrassed the U.S. Government in a hostage situation over 100 years ago?
7. The Le Conte's Sparrow was named after John Le Conte, a southern doctor. How many other species on the AOU Check-List bear his name?
8. Two birds on the checklist are named for European royalty. Which are they?
9. What group of birds contains the most people's names?
10. How many birds on the Oregon checklist bear people's names?

Answers on page 28.

OREGON BIRDS 13(1):22

COLOR-MARKED BIRDS IN OREGON

Brown Pelicans. Brown Pelicans have been color-marked in California. If you see a green, yellow, or orange plastic tag hanging off a green leg band, note the date and location.

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 numbers prefixed with the letter U. Some birds were fitted with backpack harness telemetry transmitters. All have FWS bands. Most birds are expected to pass through Pacific or Intermountain flyways.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bird Banding Office, Laurel, MD 20708 and Selawik National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 270, Kotzebue, AK 99752.

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.

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 alpha-numeric bands.


OREGON BIRDS 13(1):23
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.

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.

James S. Sedinger, Institute of Arctic Biology, 211 Irving Building, UAF, Fairbanks, AK 99775-1780.

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 is a Cackler. Note the following: characteristics of fields they are found in, numbers of Dusky 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.

Maurita Smyth, Portland Audubon Society, 5151 N.W. Cornell Road, Portland, OR 97210, (W)238-0667.

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.

The Sanderling Project, P.O. Box 247, Bodega Bay, CA 94923

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.

Elsie Eltzroth, 3595 N.W. Roosevelt Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

Black-capped and Chestnut-backed Chickadees. The Northwest Ecological 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 Dark-eyed Juncos or House Finches with an aluminum U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service band.

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.
BEHAVIOR AT SAGE GROUSE LEKS

The following rules are proposed to keep disturbance to Sage Grouse to a minimum. They are adapted from rules used at the blinds on Attwater's Greater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge in Texas, and from statements Dr. Crawford made during his talk at the Seventh Annual OFO Convention.

1. Arrive at the lek at least one hour before sunrise. The birds start to display at about this time, but it is still dark so any noise or movement will have little effect on the birds.

2. Do not drive off the nearest road and do not pitch your tent near the lek. You may be parked or camped in one of the birds' territories, thus disrupting all the birds at the lek. You may also interfere with birds entering or leaving the lek.

3. Once at the lek stay in your car or tent until the birds have left the lek. Avoid loud noises or quick movements if you are close to the lek. The birds don't associate danger with cars or tents, but they do with the sight of humans.

4. Don't leave the lek area until after the birds have left the lek. By starting your car and leaving the lek you are causing unnecessary disturbance to the birds.

5. Don't bird or walk in the area around the lek. This will prevent disturbance to the birds feeding or resting in the area.

The Sage Grouse has been declining in Oregon for many years. Birders looking for another bird for their list or interested in observing Sage Grouse at the lek should not add to the decline of the species by disturbing the birds at the lek. Any disturbance at the lek can cause a decline in reproduction and if continued could lead to abandonment of the lek.

Every time I have been to a Sage Grouse lek in the past 4 years the birds have left the lek prematurely because of uninformed birders. If you observe someone causing unnecessary disturbance to the birds, it is important that you talk to them so disturbance can be prevented in the future.

Tom Mickel, 4633 Sciotdale, Eugene, OR 97404.
ANSWERS TO QUIZ  From page 22.

1. Alexander Wilson (phalarope, plover, storm-petrel, and warbler), and John Cassin (auklet, finch, kingbird, and sparrow)—each have 4 species named for them.
3. At least 17 of the people were military men. Doctors count for the second largest total (8 or more), but there is considerable overlap as many of these people were army doctors. The military was often on the front lines of exploration, discovering new animals as well as new lands. In the 1850's to the 1860's the U.S. Army was used to explore possible routes for the transcontinental railroad. Each party was accompanied by a doctor whose specific duties included collecting bird specimens for Spencer Fullerton Baird (Baird's Sandpiper) at the Smithsonian Institute. As several new species were found, they were named for the doctors that found them, the troop commanders, or other military men that were along, as well as friends and family.
4. Scott's Oriole. General Winfield Scott ran for president in 1852 on the Whig ticket, losing to Franklin Pierce.
6. Xantus Murrelet is named after John Xantus, U.S. Consul to Manzanillo, Mexico. In 1863 he gave diplomatic recognition to Tobaz, a rebel chief, for release of an American hostage without approval of the U.S. Government. He was promptly recalled. Xantus was a con-man in the classic sense of the word. Tracing his history is difficult because of the aliases he used. He claimed to be of Hungarian nobility (false), a captain in the U.S. Navy (possible), and a doctor. He was appointed Assistant Medical Surgeon despite no medical degree and got the consular position with a smooth tongue and no experience.
7. None. Le Conte's Thrasher is also named after John Le Conte, but they are cousins, not the same person.
8. The Zenaida Dove is named for Princess Zenaida Charlotte Julie Bonaparte, daughter of the Spanish king. Anna's Hummingbird is named for Duchess Anna de Belle Massena, wife of Prince Victor of Rivoli.
9. There are 13 warblers named for people.

LISTING THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILDLIFE IN OREGON

Bill Haight, Chief, Nongame Wildlife Management, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 506 S.W. Mill Street, P.O. Box 59, Portland, OR 97207

I am realizing more and more that a good way to get into a heavy and often heated discussion with most any group is to discuss adding wildlife species to the list of threatened and endangered wildlife.

Conservationists argue that more animals should receive protection afforded by state and federal laws. Many timber industry and agricultural interests on the other hand strongly object to the idea, and would just as soon see some species taken off those lists. Both sides of the issue do agree on one point, however. Getting additional state T&E rules and regulations adopted will not be easy.

Since the Endangered Species Act was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1973, 1 mammal and 4 fish that regularly occur in Oregon have been placed on the federal threatened and endangered species list. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission also has statutory authority to list species as threatened or endangered.

In 1975 the Commission approved a Department proposal to list 4 species as endangered and another 8 as threatened. It is interesting that the Commission action was just that. No administrative rule specifically protecting T&E species was adopted then, nor has one been adopted since. The 12 species on the Oregon T&E list are, however, included under an administrative rule designating protected wildlife.

How far, how fast can we move?

When the Draft Nongame Wildlife Management Plan was released for public review in 1985, many reviewers made comments about the state's lack of rules for threatened and endangered species. Several of those comments, from both conservationist groups and the timber industry, pointed out the need for the Department to formalize procedures and criteria for listing species. These people wanted specific direction of how to place animals on the list, or how to remove animals from the list.

In response, the Department drafted a proposed administrative rule last fall. The rule is intended to define "Threatened" and "Endan-
gered” and other terms, and to combine those species currently on both the state and federal T&E lists and to create a new list for Oregon.

Much of the body of the proposed rule discusses procedures for listing species as threatened or endangered, or for delisting them, or for reclassifying them from threatened to endangered or vice versa.

Anyone petitioning the Department to list or delist a species would be required to submit a written statement to justify the action. The statement would include a number of factors spelled out in the rule. The Department in turn would have 120 days to study the petition and respond to the petitioner. Additional information may be required, or if the Department finds that the statement contains adequate information to justify the action, the petition will be submitted to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for approval or rejection.

The rule concludes with a direction for the Department to maintain a list of “sensitive” species. This term refers to animals that are subject to declines in populations which, if unchecked, could qualify their being placed on the threatened or endangered list. The sensitive species list is to be updated every 2 years.

The draft rule has been mailed to a number of individuals for comment. Those who reviewed it represent state and federal agencies, conservationist groups, and industry. Their comments ranged from positive supportive statements to some which argued against the need for such a rule. Most offered constructive criticism which will improve the proposed rule.

Sometime in the next few months the rule will be submitted to the Commission for their consideration. A public hearing will be held to receive testimony, or individuals may mail written comments to the Commission.

Even if the rule for listing T&E species is approved, it will constitute only part of the regulation package needed to provide adequate protection for threatened and endangered species and their habitats. Be assured that any additional changes in wildlife laws will be largely dependent on public awareness of these needs.

Creating public awareness is hopefully the concern of everyone who believes they have a stake in the future of Oregon's wildlife.

WINTER NESTING OF ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD IN MEDFORD, OREGON

Mike Paczolt, 1017 W. 12th Street Apt. B, Medford, OR 97501

I found a female Anna's Hummingbird (Calypte anna) incubating eggs on 4 February 1986. The site of the nest was at a residential area near downtown Medford (Jackson Co.). Apparently 2 nestlings were successfully fledged.

There are very few records of nesting Anna's Hummingbirds in Oregon. The first verified record was at Oaks Bottoms in Portland (Multnomah Co.) in 1980. See American Birds 35(5): 855, 1981. Two other probable nestings were reported at American Birds 33(5): 801, 1979, and 36(6): 1010, 1982. Anna's Hummingbirds reside permanently in the Medford area and are apparently increasing in number.

T&E bird species in Oregon

Short-tailed Albatross
Brown Pelican
Aleutian Canada Goose
Bald Eagle
American Peregrine Falcon
Arctic Peregrine Falcon
Western Snowy Plover
California Least Tern
Northern Spotted Owl

Anna's Hummingbird nestlings. Photo/Mike Paczolt.
4 February. Observed a female Anna's flying into a scrub pine. Closer inspection showed her sitting on a nest. Nest is 10 ft. from the ground and 8 ft. out from the trunk. Nest is secured to a branch and the top of a pine cone, made of spider webs and camouflaged with lichens. Nest and cone blend so well as to make the nest invisible. Of the 87 apartment residents, 5 have hummingbird feeders. Three use the red commercial mix and 2 use sugar water. No shrubs, vines, trees, or flowers are in blossom, but I have seen a swarm of tiny insects in the same area in January. The nest is at the 1325 foot elevation, longitude 42° 20' and latitude 122° 52'. Daytime highs in the 50s this week. Female observed incubating each day following.

12 February. Highs near 60° F. this week, lows in 40s. Male Anna's seen 50 yards from nest.

16 February. Otis Swisher and I visited the nest at 3:30 pm. We observe the female on the nest for several minutes, then see her leave. Using a ladder, I held a small mirror above the nest which enabled me to observe 2 nestlings. The nestlings were naked except for a few barely visible hairlike feathers. Their eyelids were dark and still closed. I judged them to be no more than 2 days old. Harrison (1979: 104) lists the incubation period for Anna's Hummingbird to be 16 days. That puts the last egg laid on 29 January. Skutch (1973: 74) states that hummingbirds usually lay the second egg 2 days after the first. That puts the first egg laid on 27 January. I placed a 1/2-quart feeder about 50 feet from the nest to provide some protection should the apartment residents neglect their feeders.

13 March. Nest is now empty. Adult seen flying into pine tree where nest is located. Both young probably are still sheltered in this tree and are being fed there by the female.

Both nestlings fledged before the first day of spring! In summary, I can only marvel at the stamina of these tiny birds that faced heavy rain, repeated overnight chill, and a limited food supply to nest successfully during the winter.

I thank Clarice Watson for helpful comments in preparing this manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED


IMMATURE BALD EAGLE CAPTURES GULL

On 29 March 1980, I was driving along the east side of Yaquina Bay (Lincoln Co.) near Sally’s Bend. Out of the corner of my eye I saw a large, dark bird of prey fly out of a stand of alders bordering the bay on my right. As soon as I could find a place to pull off the road, I parked and scanned the bay for the bird. After a minute’s search, I found the bird sitting on the water about 200 yards out in the bay. At this time I determined that the bird was a young Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), probably in first-year plumage.

Because the tide was well in, I estimated that the eagle was floating in about 4 to 5 feet of water. It obviously was picking at something, but I could not tell what it was. After a minute or so, the bird had sunk so low in the water that fully half of its body was submerged. With a number of flaps and seemingly great effort, it managed to take flight, leaving its prey crippled in the water.

I could see by then that the eagle had been picking on a small gull, probably a Mew Gull (*Larus canus*). The gull obviously was badly injured but was still capable of reasonably quick movement. The eagle flew in a small circle and flew at the gull about 15 times. Each time the gull managed to maneuver out of the way, either by skittering quickly to the side or by diving. On about the sixteenth pass the eagle apparently had a better angle, as it piled right into the water on top of the gull.

It then began picking at the gull as before, except that this time it clearly was picking at the gull’s head. Once again the eagle sank very low in the water and was able to take flight only with apparent great difficulty, this time leaving the gull dead in the water. The eagle made a tight circle, flew low, neatly picked the gull out of the water with its talons, and flew off to a tree to feed.

Although Bald Eagles at Yaquina Bay are known to feed heavily on ducks during the winter, I have not heard of any other case of them taking gulls. Likewise, the practice of actually landing in the water to capture prey is unknown to me, although it could be a common occurrence. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who has observed similar behavior in this species.

Darrel Faxon, 1192 Thornton Creek Road, Toledo, OR 97391

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER FEEDING ON A MOUSE

Norman M. Barrett, 2554 F Street, Springfield, OR 97477

At 5:00 pm on 14 May 1983 I observed an Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) feeding on a mouse in southwestern Oregon. The bird was observed in excellent light for approximately 10 minutes at a range of 35 feet. An attempt to obtain photographs finally disturbed it and it flew off with its prey.

The bird was first observed as it flew into an oak tree outside a rear window of a house in Eagle Point, Jackson Co., Oregon, about 20 miles northeast of Medford. It was carrying a large object in its bill which it commenced to strike vigorously against its perch. A close look showed the prey to be a small mouse. The mouse was light-bellied, brown dorsally, with a long tail, and probably of the genus *Peromyscus*. The mouse appeared to be half grown and its ears were not fully developed, indicating it was very young.

Beal (1912) reported on the contents of 91 Ash-throated Flycatcher stomachs and said that the entire contents were invertebrates. He did find traces of tree frogs and lizards in the stomachs of other flycatcher species, but they never amounted to more than 1.5 percent of the total diet sampled.

Johnson (1982) observed an Ash-throated Flycatcher capturing and eating a sagebrush lizard while Gamboa (1977) reported a Brown-crested (Wied’s) Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) capturing and killing a Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*). Both authors described the birds beating their prey on a branch to kill it. I was unable to find any reports in the literature of flycatchers feeding on mammals.

LITERATURE CITED


RED-NAPE SAPSUCKER IN WESTERN OREGON

A female Red-naped Sapsucker (Sphyrapicus nuchalis) appeared in Corvallis on 10 April 1986 and stayed until the 14th. It regularly visited a good-sized birch tree at Don Alan Hall's home. This makes at least the eighth time in the past 12 years that a single *nuchalis* has been reported during the month of April west of the Cascade crest.

The records I have available show these references (there are no doubt others) of this species in western Oregon:

(1) 1 adult flying northward about 15 ft. over the grassy dunes just west of Parking Lot D at the south jetty of the Columbia River, Clatsop Co., 24 April 1974 (Harry Nehls, personal communication);
(2) 3 on the 1975 Oakridge Christmas Bird Count (American Birds 30(2): 574, 1976);
(3) an injured bird found in Corvallis and placed in rehabilitation 12 April 1982, later released there (pers. records);
(4) 1 at Skinner's Butte, Eugene 16 April 1982 (American Birds 36(5): 887, 1982);
(5) 1 at Hillsboro 17 April 1982 (American Birds 36(5): 887, 1982);
(6) 1 at Yaquina Bay 25 April 1982 (American Birds 36(5): 887, 1982);
(7) an individual first reported as a Yellow-bellied in Salem, Marion Co., on 24 April 1983 (Oregon Birds 9(2): 53, 1983);
(8) 1 in the Cascades of eastern Linn Co. 12 September 1983 (pers. records);
(9) 1 at Table Rock, Rogue Valley, on 28 April 1984 (American Birds 38(5): 950, 1984);
(10) 3 in nuptial display flights over the trees at Gold Lake, Lane Co., early June 1984 (Harry Nehls, pers. comm.);
(11) 1 near Mt. Ashland, Jackson Co., on 4 May 1985 during the OFO Convention (pers. records);
(12) 1 at Gold Lake, Lane Co., 23 June 1985 (Oregon Birds 12(2): 136, 1986); and

As most birders who try to keep up with taxonomic changes already know, in July 1985 the 35th Supplement to the AOU Check-list of North American Birds declared the Red-naped Sapsucker a separate species. Prior to that, all 4 races of this type of sapsucker (*nuchalis, varius, daggetti, and ruber*) had been lumped. In 1983 the Red-breasted Sapsucker (*S. ruber*) was separated from the rest. For discussion of the complicated taxonomic history and distribution of these sapsuckers in Oregon, see Nehls, H., Distribution of the Yellow-bellied Type Sapsuckers in Oregon, Oregon Birds 11(4): 155-58, 1985, and Crabtree, T., AOU Adds Three New Oregon Species, Oregon Birds 11(2&3): 95, 96, 1985.

Because these forms were considered as only 1 species by the 5th Edition of the AOU Check-list (1957), there are few reports of Red-naped Sapsuckers anywhere in Oregon for most of the past 30 years. This omission is especially important west of the Cascade Mts., where Red-naped Sapsucker appears to be very uncommon.

I thank Harry Nehls for comments in preparation of this note.

Merlin (Elzy) Eltzroth, 3595 N.W. Roosevelt Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330
FLAMMULATED OWLS IN THE WESTERN OREGON CASCADES

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

A Flammulated Owl (Otus flammeolus) chick captured by a logger and brought to a Grants Pass, Oregon, raptor rehabilitation center in August 1982 furnished the first evidence of breeding by this species west of the Cascade Range crest in Oregon (Mattocks & Hunn 1983). Prior to this report, Flammulated Owls had been known to nest only in the Blue Mountains of northeast Oregon and along the east base of the Cascades. This note relates a series of sightings of Flammulated Owls west of the Cascade crest at a possible nest site in eastern Douglas Co., Oregon.

At 2300 on 20 May 1985, J. Kathleen Williams and I heard a male Flammulated Owl calling from a mixed conifer stand on Diamond Lake Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest. The location is at 3500 feet elevation, 23 miles west of the Cascade crest in T.26S, R.3E, c.S.9 Willamette Meridian and Baseline, on a ridge of upper Medicine Creek. We heard the owl give an uninterrupted series of territorial calls for 15 minutes. It was not seen by either of us. It was still calling when we left at 2315.

This observation was followed by several visits by me and other birders in subsequent weeks. At 2150 on 22 June, Steve Heinl, Matthew Hunter and I heard a male and a female Flammulated Owl at the same site. We noted several large moths and an abundance of crickets, potential Flammulated Owl food.

On 25 June, Martha Sawyer located a Flammulated Owl in a woodpecker hole about 45 feet up a 110-foot tall Ponderosa Pine (Pinus ponderosa) snag. The owl looked down from the hole as the snag was scratched with a stick. At 2110-2140 on 1 July, Barbara Fontaine and I heard 2 Flammulated Owls calling occasionally in the vicinity of this snag. At 0930 on 2 July, Pam Udd and Jessica Gonzales saw 1 of the owls peer from the cavity as I scratched the snag with a stick. I attempted to elicit further response by imitating the Flammulated Owl territorial call for several minutes. A Northern Pygmy-Owl (Glaucidium gnoma) responded after I had called for 2 minutes, and it flew around us in a wide circle uttering typical calls of that species.

The Medicine Creek site is a mature single-storied stand of montane conifers. It is similar to many other conifer stands on southern aspects in the North Umpqua River drainage, but differs from most by its very sparse brush cover and comparatively small amount of down material. While visiting the site I estimated general canopy height to be 120-160 ft., and diameters to be 18-58 in. at breast height, with an average of perhaps 30 in. Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii) comprises about 75 percent of the stand. Ponderosa Pine and Incense-cedar (Calocedrus decurrens) make up the remaining one-quarter, except for a few large old Sugar Pines (Pinus lambertiana).
The territory I have described was threatened by plans for removal of the snag the Flammulated Owls used. The main road for the proposed Medic timber sale was surveyed and flagged at the time of the owls' discovery. Initially, the snag was to be felled because of its proximity to the new road. Interest and involvement on the part of my co-workers at Diamond Lake Ranger District succeeded in preserving the snag as the road was built. The new road bisects much of the apparent owl territory. However, aside from the removal of trees and emplacement of the gravel roadway, little disturbance took place. It is hoped that the new road will not deter the owls from using this site in future seasons.

Habitat suitable for Flammulated Owls appears to exist at scattered locations in the North Umpqua River drainage. It is possible that a small and fragmented population of Flammulated Owls may occur regularly in this area. Further investigation is needed to survey possible territories, and to encourage management objectives and means for preserving these interesting birds in southwest Oregon.

I thank Jessica Gonzales, David Irons, and Pam Udd for suggestions to a first draft of this note, and Matthew Hunter for insights into the owls' habits and calls.

REFERENCES


Grinnell, J. and A.H. Miller. 1944. The distribution of the birds of California. Pac. Coast Avif. 27.


Trumpeter Swans have been reported in 16 of Oregon’s 36 counties. Outside of the Malheur NWR area these records generally occur from October through January with an occasional observation as late as March.

The most consistent area outside Malheur NWR to observe Trumpeter Swans is Sauvie Island and surrounding areas. Other areas where Trumpeters can be seen less frequently are Forest Grove and vicinity, and Tillamook Bay, particularly Meares Lake. Almost all other sites are limited to single observations.

Based on the data available — and assuming that all the recorded observations are valid — it appears that Oregon does support a small number of wintering Trumpeters annually. Most of this use occurs in the north Willamette Valley, along the Columbia River at Sauvie Island, and on a few lakes and wetlands along the north Oregon coast. The number of sightings in Oregon have been increasing in recent years. It is not known whether this is a reflection of increasing swan numbers or increasing knowledge and awareness on the part of the observers.

The breeding area of these wintering birds is unknown. However, one bird found wintering in the Redmond area had been collared and banded near Fairbanks, Alaska.

I wish to thank H. Nehls for summarizing field notes from back issues of the Portland Audubon Warbler and A. Banks for summarizing American Birds, and numerous individuals who provided individual sight records. Without their assistance this paper could not have been written.

LITERATURE CITED


Table 1. Recent Trumpeter Swan Sightings in Oregon Outside of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

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OREGON BIRDS 13(1): 44
USE YOUR EARS!

Eleanor A. Pugh, P.O. Box 25, 3050 Coyote Creek Road, Wolf Creek, OR 97497

Oregon Birders have come a long way in recent years in becoming more expert in identifying and cataloguing species and their locations in the state. OFO and the Oregon Bird Records Committee, through Oregon Birds, has been a great help in this. These have also been very helpful in encouraging young people to take up birding and to appreciate what Oregon has to offer close to home.

However, there is one facet of birding that I believe we are not using to fullest advantage — listening to birds! Americans, in general, are far behind British birders, for example, in becoming acquainted with bird vocalizations, recording, and making good use of avian communications. These are very useful — and enjoyable — skills that are not hard to develop.

There are very real benefits to using your ears in birding. Foremost, perhaps, is in developing greater accuracy in identification. It is well-known that one can best decide on whether a flycatcher is a Hammond’s or Dusky by song on their breeding grounds, and which dowitcher or yellowlegs by calls.

But there is much more to using birding-by-ear techniques. I find that callnotes at every time of year are extremely helpful in checking through all the species present in the immediate area. Your ears can tell you:

- approximate composition of the flock and numbers of each species present;
- first arrivals in spring, or their lack in late summer telling of departure;
- the territoriality of species in a habitat, by rival song “battles”; and
- the mood of the bird you’re watching, such as excitement, alarm, presence of an unseen predator, directions to chicks, presence of a nest or nestlings.

Some acquaintance with bird calls and song is nearly a necessity in conducting the valuable bird population studies, including Christmas Bird Counts, with any degree of accuracy. And perhaps, most important to some birders, sorting out the “odd-ball” or rarity is done very easily and quickly.

And far from least is the pure fun, pleasure, and often quiet excitement of listening to birds and all that this tells you of “what’s going on out there”!

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One can spend a lot of time searching out a poorly-lit small bird in the woodland edge to see whether it is a kinglet or Hutton’s Vireo. I feel quite sure that Hutton’s is often overlooked on CBCs as a result. Yet, by their distinct callnotes, one can make a sure-fire identification of any one of these species and go on to look for other species. Distinguishing crows or ravens, small owls, distant Evening Grosbeaks, birds in the marshes, wintering warblers, ducks taking flight, and especially the soft-voiced bluebirds, waxwings, Brown Creeper — is easy to do by ear. Finding the Tree Sparrow among dozens of Song Sparrows in the frozen marsh tusles and weeds is relatively easy by its call. So is confirming visual recognition of many trickier sightings.

By starting in late winter/early spring, one can “tune up” one’s ears to fewer competing sounds, and learn these well before the clamor of spring migration is on. But each of us has to learn which way one’s mind works best in order to recall which is which. I have yet to find someone who has successfully learned a good variety of bird sounds by listening to records or tapes by themselves. These are excellent for reference and further awareness of the many variations species can use. But for really learning bird songs and calls, one must go out and listen to them carefully.

I have found that this desired skill comes most rapidly and “sticks” in my mind best if I listen hard enough to write something down on a page in a pocket notebook. A diagram of the sound pattern, showing pitch change, timing between notes, and general form of the song (slurs, etc.), plus a 2-word description of tone quality, and any phonetic sense that comes to mind, really works.

It doesn’t matter if your description doesn’t match anyone else’s, a field guide sonogram, or even one you’ve diagrammed before. What you actually hear now is what counts. Take your time. Learn one bird at a time, and add to this month by month, year by year. Compare, and practice with recordings. And realize that there are species-specific territorial songs, individual variations, and dialects.

Yet, through all this, on most occasions, you can recognize the species you have worked with. If at all in doubt, of course, check on the bird visually. Pay particular attention to calls, for these are used all year and are often quite distinctive, even diagnostic. These are the usual avian responses to “pishing,” “squeaking,” and owl calls.

True, many of us don’t hear as well as we wish, or used to be able to. Don’t let that stop you from trying. There is still a lot of hearing that helps, even if impaired. Further, this should be an incentive for all of us to protect our hearing in this noisy world. Certainly, we should avoid long periods of high-decibel noise from too-loud rock-'n-roll, power tools, and machinery, even listening to loud recordings with headphones for any length of time. Short startling sounds, if not kept up, don’t cause permanent damage, usually. Wear good ear plugs, or
other ear protection, if you must endure such damaging sounds.

With this electronic age come many benefits to listening to natural sounds, and collecting them. Best of all, really good and improving equipment tends to become less expensive as marketing expands. This provides us with both wonderful opportunities, and, also, some harmful experiences to birds trying to make a living in diminishing or impoverished habitat. With common sense and care, we can make good use of portable cassette player-recorders, and many cassettes available to us. If you would like to try recording inexpensively, there are a few tips that may bring you more success:

- Use an external microphone that ranges to at least 9000 Hertz. Most bird songs are in the higher frequencies, but built-in microphones are primarily for the human voice. Radio Shack has very small tie-clip electret-condenser microphones that are quite sensitive, for a start.
- Get as close to the bird as you can to maximize the sound signal and minimize the inevitable and ever-present inherent noises. Take some recordings from a reasonably close approach, then work in closer, pause to record again, and repeat as you can. A playback may help bring the bird in quite close to record again, and to see the species. Be sure to announce, on tape at the end, which species!
- Use at least a fairly good tape with a “flat” frequency curve as shown on the back of the cassette package. Make sure the tape is of the correct bias for your recorder. Unless told otherwise, “normal” bias is for ferrous oxide tape.
- If you have a choice, go recording at the quietest times and places.

Now, then, you’ve got recordings and you wish to use them to help you. Where is the harm? Yes, playback is an excellent way to bring secretive birds in close for better looks at them. For some species, this may be the only practical way. Okay, but here’s where we must use some common sense and care.

Is your playback part of a long series of pishings, squeakings, or other playbacks — or likely to be — in cases of much sought-after rare birds? If we gather our group around to all see the bird at once with only brief attempts to bring it into view, the result is not likely to be detrimental to the bird’s return to normal undisturbed activity. For this reason, too, recordings of the local bird’s voice is preferable as it is not as alarming as some same-species voice recorded far away. This might be interpreted as a serious rival for territory and too much of this is overwhelming, causing the bird to flee — permanently — or waste scarce survival energy in winter, if called up too often. This applies to playing Spotted Owl calls (or Great Horned Owl’s) to locate Spotted Owl breeding pairs. A little, not often, does not seriously disturb. Telemetered Spotted Owls, for instance, have been shown to leave the area immediately when a Great Horned Owl’s hoots were played, and were miles away when next located.

With respect to the others in the area birding with you at the time, ask them if anyone would mind your trying a playback. This gives all a chance to know that your recording may bring the desired bird into view — without overdoing it — and see if any objections are present. Also, that recording and playback may not, inadvertently, promote errors on someone else’s list!

Incidentally, in case of further interest, I have added some new bird song tapes to those available. With newer recordings, new mixing equipment, and increasing know-how, these recordings offer greater variety and better listening pleasure:

- **Birds of Foothill Woodland Edges**, a collection of announced songs and calls of 75 species of western birds of woodlands;
- **An Almanac of Western Habitats, Volume I: Northwestern**, a series of 6-7 minute (average) “sound walks” through a variety of wildlife habitats all through the year; no voice; brief description of habitat, events occurring, and species, in order of appearance on enclosure; and
- **Learn to Identify Birds by Ear**, a self-guided workshop to help you learn and recall bird language with back-to-back confusing similarities and family groups for direct comparisons (recently remastered).

These are good chrome 90-minute tapes, in stereo. Cost is $9.00 each, postpaid, and can be ordered directly from me at the above address.

OREGON BIRDS 13(1): 49
BIRDER ANONYMOUS

Paul Sullivan*, 2166 Allan Drive, Clarkston, WA 99403

My habit began as an occasional social observation of a passing oriole or a chickadee at a feeder. Nothing serious.

Under the stress of writing a doctoral thesis, I took to escaping to the woods for a little nip of a Song Sparrow now and then. After graduation I joined a group expedition across Africa. The pressure of travel schedules and bickering personalities drove me to the bushes for a few draughts of bee-eater or old bustard. Each escape made the next one easier to justify, to myself and to my companions.

Back in the States I joined the Audubon Society and became a full-fledged birdwatcher. Within 6 months my habit led me to resign my indoor research fellowship (and anyway, the boss was a workaholic) and take up a summer student job in a tent in the Oregon woods.

Meanwhile, at a friend's ordination I found myself sneaking out for an early morning Chipping Sparrow before the ceremony. During the outdoor luncheon I kept looking for ways to sneak another nip in the bushes. I was thirsty; I wanted a new bird.

I should have recognized the signs of addiction then, at that early stage. My relatives were already anxious about my failure to get settled at something and about the time I spent traveling. I denied that I had a problem.

By the following spring I had traveled through 6 western states and British Columbia, worked as a logger and slept in my car for 3 months. My life list had doubled. I was down to my last eight dollars.

Out of necessity, I took work as a carpenter. I put in an honest day's work and even worked some overtime. However, I had chosen to locate near one of the most beautiful wilderness areas in the west. I spent my weekends afield, drinking my fill of wildflowers and wildlife, especially birds: raptors, owls, or just an old crow.

I came to work Monday mornings with warblers on my breath. I took to carrying binoculars everywhere. I put in an honest day's work and even worked some overtime. However, I had chosen to locate near one of the most beautiful wilderness areas in the west. I spent my weekends afield, drinking my fill of wildflowers and wildlife, especially birds: raptors, owls, or just an old crow.

I returned to the west and the university research project. I covered my obsession by becoming the field trip coordinator for the local Audubon chapter and indulged in trips for 12 consecutive spring weekends. That was followed by another summer in a tent in the mountains. I was accepting a salary well below my potential. Eventually the university's funds dried up completely.

Continuing to deny my problem, I returned to school and took classes in natural history and environmental interpretation. If I were going to make a career of this, I needed credentials. In the spring term I landed an internship at a nature center. This time it was Florida. There I legitimized my habit by telling myself it was background research for the birdwatching classes I taught. My weekends were spent in absolute intoxication on swampy backroads, far from Disney World and the mainstream tourist.

This was followed by 2 years working for the Forest Service as a seasonal wildlife technician in western Oregon. Chasing rarities on the coast became easier, even acceptable.

In 10 years I've visited dumps and slept on back lanes in nearly 40 states. I've been broke twice. My life list has climbed over 500 species. I participated in 8 Christmas Bird Counts per year.

But I have control of it now. I can quit any time I want to!
George Miksch Sutton was one of the giants of American ornithology. Few men or women have known birds as intimately as he, or from as wide a range of places. He explored the Labrador Peninsula with W.E. Clyde Todd and observed Ivory-billed Woodpeckers in Louisiana with Arthur A. Allen. He was the first to find the eggs of the Harris' Sparrow, on the shore of Hudson Bay in 1931. Professional scientists and a general public alike have acclaimed his books and articles, which ranged from precise ornithological treatises to accounts of arctic adventure, from impressions of tropical birds to a classic state bird book. His depth of study is perhaps unsurpassed.

Sutton's paintings and drawings show he was a man who knew birds, not as field guide caricatures or as species on a life list, but as individuals. Look into the eye of a Sutton bird and the bird looks back at you. You feel its heartbeat and its breath, sense its claws tightening around the branch. Given this range of talent and experience, it is satisfying to think how important to Sutton's career and artistic expression was a boyhood in Oregon.

******

George Miksch Sutton was born on 16 May 1898 in Bethany, Nebraska. When he was about 9 years old, he moved with his family — father, mother, and 2 younger sisters — to Ashland, Oregon.

The remembrance of Ashland Creek, he wrote over 70 years later, became "a continuing part of me — a part that would refresh me when I needed refreshing and calm me when I needed calming. No other stream in my whole life would do this for me."

Already birds fascinated him and the move to Oregon introduced him to unfamiliar kinds. His copy of Frank Chapman's Bird-Life was of little help in identifying them, since it dealt with eastern species, but this did not affect young Sutton's curiosity and attention. Returning from a climb of Ashland Butte with his father, he picked up dead birds stricken by an ice storm from the ground of a cemetery. He pasted their feathers on cards and added names he thought appropriate.

Once he captured 2 male Western Tanagers, so locked in combat that they fell to the ground before his feet and he had but to throw his cap over them. Their beauty entranced Sutton and stirred uneasy feelings. "All that beauty, that exquisite beauty, I wanted to keep, to have for reference, to show to people by way of making clear how wonderful birds could be." He knew nothing of preparing bird skins, though, so reluctantly let them go.

He discovered other things in Ashland that would forever affect his life. To reach town from his home, Sutton would cross Ashland Creek over a little bridge. There he would stop and gaze into the stream below. The sparkling water, rushing over brilliantly-colored smooth stones, captivated him as surely as any bird. Watching the play of rapids and rocks, listening to the soft staccato of stream on stones, he felt soothed and comforted. The remembrance of Ashland Creek, he wrote over 70 years later, became "a continuing part of me — a part that would refresh me when I needed refreshing and calm me when I needed calming. No other stream in my whole life would do this for me."

A year after moving to Ashland, the Suttons moved again, to Eugene. Sutton's father was a preacher and college instructor, and the elder Sutton now took a position at the Eugene Bible University. They lived next to the campus, not far from the University of Oregon. Here again in Eugene, new birds enchanted the young Sutton. In the spring of 1908, playing with his sister in their yard, he saw a Violet-green Swallow snatch a feather from the air. The children immediately ran to the house and raided pillows for more feathers and gathered plucked feathers from the woodshed floor. Swallows began to mill around them at once, and for a week followed the children whenever they went outside. "Seated at meals in the dining room, we perceived that the swallows were watching us as they flew back and forth just outside the window. Occasionally one tapped at the glass as if to remind us of our duty."

The 10-year old Sutton wrote of this experience to William L. Finley, and Finley answered his letter. Finley, then president of the Oregon Audubon Society of Portland, wrote a monthly column for the Audubon Department of School and Home magazine. The column on swallows which subsequently appeared described in detail the attractiveness of feathers to Violet-green Swallows, but did not quote from Sutton's letter.

When not watching swallows or other birds, young Sutton would visit the University of Oregon library. Chapman's Bird-Life was a frustrating reference in a western state so Sutton sought a more appropriate guide. He discovered Florence Merriam Bailey's Handbook of Birds of the Western United States. With this book, by carefully reading the descriptions beginning each species account, he could identify any bird he might encounter. (Modern birders will recognize the descriptions as the material introducing each species account in Birds of Oregon by Ira Gabrielson and Stanley Jewett). Furthermore, the introduction included
a list by Alfred W. Anthony of the birds of Portland, providing a good check on a young ornithologist's more surprising identifications. Also in the introduction was a veritable how-to of ornithology: a section by Mrs. Bailey's husband, Vernon, Chief Field Naturalist of the U.S. Biological Survey, on collecting and preparing birds, nests, and eggs. Mrs. Bailey added instruction on note-taking.

More significant to young Sutton were the full-page black-and-white plates by Louis Agassiz Fuertes, an artist whose very name fascinated Sutton. Fuertes' birds had that spark of animation that would later become a Sutton mark as well. His Varied Thrush sang from the page and young Sutton, sitting alone in a quiet library, must have heard it ringing in his head. Although he had made sketches of birds before moving to Oregon, in Eugene Sutton began drawing birds "in earnest," directly influenced by Fuertes' plates in Bailey's Handbook. He drew in pencil and saved the best and pasted them together in 2 rolls of paper.

The names he added showed more time spent in the field than in the classroom — the Screaming [Steller's] Jay, the Least Pheode [?], the Red Wing, the Gairdener [Downy] Woodpecker, the Dwarf Chewink [Rufous-sided Towhee], the Vaired [sic] Thrush. At 10 years old not as anatomically precise as he would later become, the Red-winged Blackbird was a structural monstrosity with extra leg bones. Sutton's drawings were crude but they were a significant step on a distinguished artistic career. Years later, he would display them proudly.

Living close to the University also enabled Sutton to visit the University's bird collection, housed in Deady Hall. Professor A.R. Sweetser, a botanist, took the boy under his wing and gave him the run of the biology lab. He allowed Sutton to arrange the collection. The number of skins in 1908 must have been small, for the 1909-1910 University catalog said in describing the zoological museum that "the specimens in the museum which are typical of Oregon fauna are few, and nothing would be appreciated more by the [zoology] department than the gift of skeletons or skulls of Oregon animals or the skins of Oregon birds." Whether few or not, Sutton delighted in keeping the specimens in proper sequence. "I greatly enjoyed the biology laboratory," he wrote in his autobiography. "I came to feel that I was welcome there, even needed, for I kept the bird skins in order."

Ten-year olds, however, hear seductive whispers from all manner of otherwise innocent things, and Sutton, not yet bound to the mast of maturity, fell victim to the wiles of Deady's polished wooden stair railing. Unable to resist sliding from the third floor to the first with friends, he was banished from the building by a campus policeman.

This was a major setback to the aspiring young ornithologist, but only temporarily so. "Being denied access to the bird skins at the university forced me to build up a collection of my own." His first attempt at mounting birds was a Steller's Jay that had been shot along the Willamette River. He showed ingenuity, if not aesthetics, in using a ladies hat pin — pushed into the eye socket and through the skull, the shiny black ball served as an eye on one side while the pin, stuck into a board, supported the specimen on the other. The jay was "presentable enough," but Sutton had neglected to remove the brain, and maggots soon tore the head to pieces.

His oological interests also began to show an advance, perhaps through influence of Vernon Bailey's instructions in the Handbook.

Although he had made sketches of birds before moving to Oregon, in Eugene Sutton began drawing birds "in earnest," directly influenced by Fuertes' plates in Bailey's Handbook.

Sutton collected a Brewer's Blackbird nest with 4 eggs, and asserting he was through with "amateurish stealing of a bird egg now and then," carefully prepared the set in professional manner. He began to acquire quite a museum in his room — part of a Steller's Jay specimen (what the maggots didn't want), skins of goldfinches, orioles, crows, nests with eggs, little cards with feathers pasted on. But his father was a restless man, and soon the family was packing again. After just one year in Ashland, and a year in Eugene, Sutton boxed up his museum and moved with his family to Illinois.

*****

George Miksch Sutton left Oregon but he took more with him than his collection of skins and nests. He had acquired as well new skills and new aspirations. His interest in birds had deepened in Oregon. He learned to prepare study skins and something of mounting specimens. His oological hobby took a more professional direction. And he began drawing birds "in earnest." In Fuertes' plates, he saw what was possible and, almost without distraction, set about to achieve it.

Sutton died in December, 1982, at the age of 84, but his birds still live. Open any book with his portraits and a bird will look you in the eye and fly from the page, for Sutton gave it life with his brush. And when it sings, you can hear the echo of a Varied Thrush, singing to a 10-year old boy in an Oregon library.

Sutton wrote of his years in Oregon in Bird Student: An Autobiography (Austin, 1980), and Birds in the Wilderness: Adventures of an Ornithologist (New York, 1936). Where the 2 conflict, I have followed Bird Student. All quotations except one from the University catalog are from Bird Student. Sutton described the feather-hawking swallows also in Oklahoma Birds: Their Ecology and Distribution, with Comments on the Avifauna of the Southern Great Plains (Norman, 1967). William L. Finley's article was "The Coming of the Swallows," School and Home 3: 19-20, March 1909.
TOWARDS A REVISED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF OREGON ORNITHOLOGY PRIOR TO 1935

George A. Jobanek, 2730 Alder, Eugene, OR 97405


The updated bibliographies, however, are built upon a foundation that is not nearly so strong as has always been supposed. Scott *et al.* felt that the ornithological literature for Oregon prior to 1935 had been adequately reviewed by Gabrielson and Jewett. This is not true. While Gabrielson and Jewett did a remarkable job in finding and including obscure publications and journal articles, there are omissions and occasional inappropriate inclusions.

The *Birds of Oregon* bibliography contains 858 references. Twenty-eight of those pertain to the years 1935 through 1939, and are thus outside of my research limits. Of the remaining 830, I have seen approximately 635. I have added to those another 600 or so references not cited by Gabrielson and Jewett. These additions range from the highly trivial to the highly significant.

In this short article, I give examples of items missing from the bibliography of Gabrielson and Jewett's *Birds of Oregon*, with a brief description of each. I highlight these omissions not as a means of censure, but as a way of informing other birdwatchers and researchers of my project of revising the bibliography of Oregon ornithology prior to 1935. I hope that readers aware of references not cited by Gabrielson and Jewett will direct my attention toward them.

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An important reference overlooked by Gabrielson and Jewett was H.E. Anthony's paper, "Mammals of Northern Malheur County, Oregon", *American Museum of Natural History* 32: 1-27, 1913. Anthony, long-time curator of mammals at the American Museum of Natural History, was the son of the Oregon ornithologist Alfred Webster Anthony. His study of Malheur County mammals was principally centered at Ironside, where his father owned a ranch. In addition to detailing mammal distribution, Anthony listed breeding birds of the Ironside area and indicated relationships to vegetation types. He included the Clay-colored Sparrow as a breeding bird in the sagebrush association, but did not list the Brewer's Sparrow. In 1923, after Joseph Grinnell of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology noticed the mistake, Anthony agreed that references to the Clay-colored Sparrow should refer instead to the Brewer's Sparrow.

Another article by H.E. Anthony was likewise not cited by Gabrielson and Jewett, "An Unsuspicious Family of Great Horned Owls", *Bird-Lore* 16: 115-116, 1914. The owls were photographed near Ironside in September 1912.

A brief item in the "Editorial Notes and News" section of the *Condor* 12: 176-177, 1910, is also not in *Birds of Oregon*. This note mentioned that reports of Passenger Pigeons from California, Washington, and Oregon proved to be of Band-tailed Pigeons.

Paul Fountain's book *The Eleven Eaglets of the West* (London: John Murray, 1906), is omitted as well. This is a tourist's account and discusses natural history as part of a general description of the West's natural resources. The title refers to the 11 western states. Fountain included observations of Oregon's birdlife, though he readily admitted his accounts were "not written for the scientific naturalist." His travelogue style is observational and anecdotal, without great depth. "Oregon . . . is one of the best supplied, in both fauna and flora, of the Western States; and we saw a greater number of small birds here than in any other of them, amongst which may be enumerated the American yellow-bird, Chrysomisris tristis [American Goldfinch]; the crested jay, Cyanocitta macrolorpa [Steller's Jay]; the crimson-headed tanager, Pyranga ludovicianus [Western Tanager]; and a great many others which I have been unable to certainly identify, among them a titmouse which greatly interested me on account of its familiar and pretty tricks."

A more significant omission is Johnson Andrew Neff's small volume *A Study of the Economic Status of the Common Woodpeckers in Relation to Oregon Horticulture* (Marionville, Missouri: Free Press Print, 1928). This is largely a study of the habits and food preferences of woodpeckers occurring in Oregon and how those affect the farmer or orchardist. Neff prepared the paper in 1926 as a thesis for a Master of Science degree from Oregon State University (then Oregon State
The research was of practical value to him; his family operated the Neff Orchards in Marionville, Missouri. Neff later worked in California for the U.S. Biological Survey, studying blackbird and cowbird distributions. Gabrielson and Jewett listed his 1933 article "The Tri-colored Red-wing in Oregon", Condor 35: 234-235, 1933, but did not include a later article, "Tri-colored Red-wing Nesting in Eastern Shasta County, California", Condor 36: 42-43, 1934, which mentioned the Tricolored Blackbird breeding in Oregon.

C.F. Pfluger's series of articles under the title "The Imported and Acclimated German Song Birds in Oregon" appeared in several numbers of the Oregon Naturalist 3: 32-33, 59, 69-70, 103-105, 109-111, 141-142, 153-155, 1896; 4: 29-31, 1897. None of these were included by Gabrielson and Jewett. Pfluger was secretary of the Portland Song Bird Club, which imported birds from Germany to Portland in the 1890s and early 1900s. Species introduced included European Robins, European Nightingales, Eurasian Skylarks, and Common Chaffinches.

One of the most significant articles not included in Gabrielson and Jewett's bibliography is Arthur L. Pope's important paper, "A List of the Birds of Oregon", Oregon Naturalist 2: 141-143, 157-160, 1895; 3: 1-3, 1896. Pope was born in New York in 1876 and moved to Oregon with his family in 1890. In 1894, he organized the Northwest (or Northwestern) Ornithological Association, comprised primarily of young men in their teens or early twenties interested in birds and the scientific collecting of skins and eggs. As the first president of the NOA, Pope compiled the association's bird list, published in 3 numbers of the Oregon Naturalist, the club's organ. He listed 237 separate species, with additional subspecies. Pope's sources were apparently NOA members and published natural histories and bird lists, such as Newberry's account of the zoology of the Williamson-Abbot Oregon railroad survey of 1855, Anthony's list of the birds of Washington County, and articles which appeared in the Oologist, by A.C. Prill and others. This is the earliest list which attempted coverage of the entire state. Though descriptions of range (when given at all) are sketchy, the list is a good one, favorably comparable to A.R. Woodcock's 1902 list. As with Woodcock, there are dubious records. Pope did not cite under what authority he included the Sooty Tern or Brown Noddy on an Oregon bird list. Other mistaken listings include Light-mantled Albatross, Greater Prairie Chicken, Common Greenshank, and Baird's Sparrow.

Some species, though perhaps listed on erroneous identifications, are intriguingly possible. Pope included the White-tailed Ptarmigan; historically it probably did occur in the state. His inclusion of the Grasshopper Sparrow, without citing authority, presaged the later verified occurrence of the species in Oregon. Most intriguing is his listing the Greater Roadrunner as "occasionally seen during summer in some parts of western Oregon." Pope's authority was perhaps Charles Bendire. In his Life Histories, Bendire quoted A.W. Anthony that a Greater Roadrunner and 3 young were seen near Eugene in Lane County along the railroad line in August 1887. The observer was said to be well-acquainted with the species. Bendire's and Pope's records of Greater Roadrunner in western Oregon most likely refer to sightings of female Ring-necked Pheasants. The pheasant was still largely a new bird to valley residents in the 1880s and 1890s, having been introduced 10 or so years earlier. As the Greater Roadrunner has occurred in the northernmost counties of California, however, its former occurrence in Oregon is possible.

Arthur L. Pope died of tuberculosis on 28 February 1897 at the age of 20. "He was a man faithful in all things and has left behind him an enduring reputation." How sad that his reputation has proved not nearly as enduring as once supposed. He deserves to be remembered and his contributions to Oregon ornithology, as well as those of all others whose works are not in Gabrielson and Jewett's Birds of Oregon bibliography, deserve to be recognized.

I wish to thank Range Bayer for his many helpful comments and suggestions.
To many immigrants in the nineteenth century, Oregon was the land of opportunity. German immigrants in particular, settling in Portland, became an influential part of the city's society. By 1870, despite comprising as a whole less than 2 percent of the total city population, the German-born accounted for thirty percent of Portland's businessmen. In that same year, Joseph Teal, from Westphalia, was Portland's wealthiest resident. But while assimilating into the city's business community, the immigrants also sought to preserve their own community by promoting their German culture. Cultural organizations such as the Turner society sponsored lectures and provided opportunities for socialization among fellow immigrants. German-language churches, schools and newspapers likewise promoted German culture (Merriam 1971).

Despite these business successes and cultural associations, the German immigrants could not forget their homeland. They missed the countryside of Germany. This homesickness was manifested in a tremendous longing for familiar birds. They wished to again hear the Nightingale sing from the woods or see the Blackbird on the village green. Oregon, they felt, did not have the natural resources, and in particular the birds, of their birthplace. “Our German fatherland, with its wealth of forests and streams, is the home of the best song birds in the world,” was a typical sentiment. “It is the singing of these minstrels that gives such a charm to gardens, fields and forests and puts a soul into bounteous nature” (Gaines 1895).

By contrast, “America,” the German citizens of Portland confided to the ornithologist Alfred Webster Anthony in 1890, “is a country where the flowers have no scent and the birds no song” (Anthony 1890). Blinded and deafened by a bittersweet nostalgia, the Portland Germans were unable to see or hear the variety of abundant native birds around them. Longing to hear again the Nightingale, they somehow missed the lovely song of the Swainson’s Thrush. They wished for the Eurasian Blackbird but overlooked the similar American Robin.

The Germans of Portland attacked this problem the same way they had gained their earlier successes of assimilation and cultural preservation — with money and organizational skill. On 2 June 1888, after a fund-raising campaign, they formed the Society for the Introduction of German Singing Birds into Oregon, or the Portland Song Bird Club, as it was also known (Anonymous 1889).

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The idea of a society in Portland for the importation of Old World birds originated with Frank Dekum. A native of Bavaria, Dekum was a prominent Portland businessman, a partner in the fruit and confectionery firm of Dekum and Bickel and a founder and president of the Portland Savings Bank. He was also “a great lover of the
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feathered songsters.” At Dekum’s urging, C.F. Pfluger, a fellow German-American, began seeking subscribers to finance a fund to import German songbirds. By June 1888, Pfluger was successful in raising over $1000 through contributions from 150 individuals. Although the subscribers were mostly German, citizens of other ancestries contributed as well. Dekum himself gave the most money, $250 initially and several hundred dollars thereafter. He became the society’s first president. C.F. Pfluger was secretary and Frederick Bickel, Dekum’s business partner, took office as treasurer (Anonymous 1889, Anthony 1890, Gaston 1911, Greene 1897, Scott 1890).

The Portland Song Bird Club became one of a small number of acclimatization societies then active in the United States. In size and ambition, it compared to the 2 most prominent organizations, the Cincinnati Acclimatization Society and the American Acclimatization Society of New York. In the early 1870s, the Cincinnati society sought to establish German songbirds into Ohio, and released over 4000 individuals of 20 species of birds (Anonymous 1881, Phillips 1928).

Their efforts were popularly supported and applauded. “There is something exceedingly beautiful,” said a writer in the sportsmen’s magazine Forest and Stream, “in the idea of citizens of foreign birth being desirous of surrounding themselves with the most pleasant associations of their native country, and as the conception is a German one, it redounds to their credit... It would be pleasant for us to record that similar associations were being organized in other states” (Anonymous 1874).

The other large acclimatization society of the nineteenth century, the American Acclimatization Society, was organized in the late 1870s in order to introduce into New York state all of the species of birds mentioned by Shakespeare. In 1890 and 1891, the society succeeded in establishing the European Starling as a breeding bird in New York City (Laycock 1966, Phillips 1928). The Starling spread steadily across the continent, increasing its range and numbers every year (Wing 1943). By December 1943, it reached Oregon, a lone bird at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge headquarters, soon to be joined by untold thousands (Jewett 1946). Wherever it invaded, the Starling had a detrimental effect on the native birds.

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The acclimatization societies did not foresee, of course, such disastrous results. Indeed, the officers of the Portland Song Bird Club probably dreamed of achieving just such a spectacular success with their introductions. In 1888, the club, through Pfluger, contracted with a resident of Germany’s Harz Mountains, to capture and ship to Portland 1000 German birds. Upon their arrival in late May, 1889, the birds were for a time exhibited at the new exposition building. An admission fee recouped $400 of the club’s initial investment, estimated at between $1400 and $1700 (Anonymous 1889, Anthony 1890, Greene 1897, Scott 1890).

After the exhibition, club members released the birds. This first liberation, Pfluger told the ornithologist A.W. Anthony, consisted of 9 pairs of Blackcaps (an old world warbler), 16 pairs of Eurasian Blackbirds, 8 pairs of Song Thrushes, 40 pairs of European Goldfinches, 40 pairs of European Greenfinches, 35 pairs of Common Chaffinches, 36 pairs of Eurasian Linnets, 21 pairs of Parrot Crossbills, 20 pairs of European Starlings, 18 pairs of Eurasian Skylarks, and 5 pairs of European Quail. Of 19 Eurasian Bullfinches released, 16 were males; most of the females had died in transit. Only 1 pair of European Nightingales survived the transatlantic journey to escape into the Oregon underbrush. Pfluger listed 40 pairs of Eurasian Siskins as included in this shipment, as were 10 pairs of Wood Larks. The club liberated only a small number of European Robins, most of those received having died after arrival in Portland. Although a contemporary article reported that the Ring Ouzel was included in this initial shipment, it does not seem to have been released. The Song Bird Club liberated most of the birds in the countryside outlying Portland and at the city park. They released the quail and 6 pairs of Skylarks near Salem, some Skylarks at Molalla, and Skylarks and Starlings at McMinnville (Anonymous 1889, Anthony 1890, Greene 1897, Pfluger 1896-97, Phillips 1928; scientific names of all species mentioned in this paper are given at the end).

Inspired by the efforts of the Portland Song Bird Club, perhaps even working in conjunction with it, other Portland groups sought to establish favorite species. The Oregon Alpine Club introduced Northern Mockingbirds, Bobolinks, and Northern Cardinals, birds native to other regions of the United States (Anonymous 1889). Frank Dekum told A.W. Anthony that “a prominent Chinese merchant had ordered a number of song birds from his native country, as a personal contribution to the list of Oregon’s songsters.” His first shipment was not successful, since there was no one on board ship to care for the birds. The merchant hoped to have a second group reach Portland in time for release in the spring of 1891 (Anthony 1890).

Agriculturists and sportsmen also planned importations. The Oregon board of horticulture instructed fruit commissioner H.E. Dosch to arrange for the importation of Great Tits from Germany. The board hoped that the birds would destroy insect pests, in particular the codling moth, the bane of apple growers. “It is a small, very active bird, and to the fact that it is found in great numbers in Germany is attributed the fact that there are few wormy apples in that country” (Anonymous 1897). The Great Tit was never introduced, however. The Bureau of Biological Survey discouraged importations because the tit, despite being touted as the savior of the orchardist, had damaged fruit in England (Phillips 1928).

The state game warden, L.P.W. Quimby, proposed in 1903 to again introduce the Bobolink. “The bobolink ... will make a most welcome addition to our category of song birds, and it shall be my purpose, if I continue in office, to introduce this bird in this state. There
are few songsters capable of pouring forth more acceptable melody than is the bobolink." Quimby also suggested introducing American Woodcocks (Quimby 1903). I do not know whether he succeeded in importing either species. Frederick Stuhr supposedly exported 5 woodcocks to California 4 years later, but the origin, and even the correct identity, of these birds is not clear (Baker 1906).

In 1892, the Portland Song Bird Club imported another shipment of birds from Germany. This second group was housed for a time in an aviary built by Frank Dekum near his residence. All were species that had been in the shipment of 1889. Only a few, such as Siskins and Chaffinches, were not again represented. The club liberated as well 3 pairs of Mockingbirds at McMinnville. A contemporary writer estimated the total cost of the 1889 and 1892 importations at $2100 (Anonymous 1895b, Greene 1897, Pfluger 1896-97).

Reports after the club's introductions were immediately optimistic. All of the species supposedly survived through their first summer in Oregon and "did not wander far from Portland during the winter" (Anonymous 1892). Many of the imported songbirds returned the following summer to those places where the club had released them. While a few species, such as the Nightingales, Blackcaps, and Siskins, were unsuccessful, most of the others fared well. The Song Thrush, Pfluger (1896-97) noted, had increased "remarkably well." Northern Mockingbirds nested the season after their release at McMinnville (Anonymous 1895b), and Northern Cardinals were still in Portland in 1902 (Anthony 1902). The European Goldfinch had "become very plentiful throughout the State, and can be seen quite often on the east side of the [Willamette] river; not seen elsewhere." Anthony (1902) noted that Wood Larks were "in evidence to a pleasing extent."

Phillips (1928) wrote that after the Song Bird Club introduced the Eurasian Blackbird, "the newspapers . . . were at first full of optimistic reports of the increase and spread of these European thrushes, and it was thought that they had also populated the State of Washington." In Alameda County, California, F.O. Johnson shot a Eurasian Blackbird on 6 December 1891, most likely a bird that had either dispersed from Portland after its release or migrated (Johnson 1892, Storer 1923).

The European Starling, too, seemed to quickly gain a foothold. Anthony (1890), a year after their initial introduction, reported Starlings seen near McMinnville. Bendire wrote in 1895 that the Starling had disappeared from Portland, but Pfluger (1896-97) observed that like the Song Thrush it had increased "remarkably well." Greene (1897) noticed it nesting about the high school building in Portland. Lord (1913) also found the Starling nesting in the city. "In this spring of 1901, the Starlings may be seen around the top of the tower on the Perkins Hotel . . ., nesting in the gilded ornaments on either end, and also about the Blagen Block, First and Couch streets, nesting in perpendicular holes just over each of the two ornamental heads on the west face of the structure." Anthony (1902) listed it for Portland, but considered it rare.

The Eurasian Skylark apparently enjoyed the greatest success. "They have increased wonderfully since their introduction, and can be heard and seen at the proper seasons of the year upon most all the meadows[,] marshy and bottom lands in Oregon" (Pfluger 1896-97). Anthony (1890) noted it at Salem. Greene (1897) reported that "hundreds of them are seen in the fields and meadows in and about East Portland, and their sweet songs are a source of delight to all of us. About Rooster Rock . . ., great numbers are to be seen. In fact the whole Willamette Valley from Portland to Roseburg is full of them." Again, Bendire (1895) reported that Skylarks had disappeared from Portland. Though the colony near Portland was reported to him to be in "a flourishing condition," he found none in May 1894. However, Lord (1913) still recorded it in east Portland in 1901. Anthony (1902) found it there yet as well. He described it as "common in open fields on the east side of the [Willamette] river; not seen elsewhere."

The Oregon Legislature sought to protect these wonderful new residents of Oregon in the General Laws of 1895. "Every person who shall within the State of Oregon after the passage of this act for any purpose injure, take, kill or destroy or have in his possession, except for breeding purposes, sell or offer for sale any nightingale, skylark, black thrush, gray singing thrush, linnet, goldfinch, greenfinch, chaffinch, bullfinch, red-breasted European robin, black starling, grossbeak, Oregon robin or meadow lark or mocking bird, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."
misdemeanor." The nests and eggs of these birds were also protected. Penalties for violations were a fine of not less than $25 nor more than $200, imprisonment in a county jail for not less than 3 months, or both fine and imprisonment (Palmer 1902).

The supposed great success of the European birds engendered enthusiasm and hope for an elevation of the Northwest spirit. Surely, it was thought, the presence of such an inspiring singer as the Skylark, floating heavenward on a song of ethereal sweetness, could bring forth the next great American poet. "It seems that one of the standing grievances of the poets in regard to America, namely that it has no skylarks, is in a fair way to be remedied. Old World songsters, such as thrushes, skylarks, nightingales, finches, and Starlings have been domesticated in Oregon, and are now also to be found in the neighboring states. Oregon has long been [known] for its red-cheeked girls, and with the fields and woods vocal with skylarks and nightingales, we may look for the American Shelly and Keats of the future to the region whose poetic possibilities Bryant was the first to hint at in his lines about the woods 'Where rolls the Oregon and hears no sound / Save his own dashings' [sic] (quoted from The Interior in Hill 1896).

No one was trampled in the rush to claim the crown of Shelley. Despite the perceived inspirational qualities of the European songbirds, few people felt moved to put their emotions on paper. Andrew Franzen (1902) wrote "The Skylark in Oregon," after listening to one.

Where rises this rapturous singing,
The wonderful tune that I hear,
That mellows the air with its ringing,
And thrills with its sweetness my ear?

Such harmony, strange and surprising,
Comes not from yon bushes' thick maze,
No sound from the earth is uprising,
And so to the heavens I gaze.

A bird to the sky is ascending,
A twinkling of dark in the blue;
And now with a cloud it is blending,
And hiding its form from my view.

But still is the music down-pouring,
With harmony, thrilling and loud,
While the singer is heavenward soaring,
Enrapt in the dark of a cloud.

Ella Higginson (1912) more aesthetically portrayed the Skylark's song in "Dawn on the Willamette", which she wrote in the 1890s: "Up from the grass / A pilgrim skylark soars, and throbbing higher, / Shakes all the air with passion and desire."

If the Skylarks, with all their passion, could not rouse the northwesterners' souls to Keatsian rapture, at least the Portland Song Bird Club had transformed Oregon from a country where the birds had no song to a land where the heavens resounded with music. Or so people perceived it. "The woods of the Pacific Coast have not been noted for singing-birds, the songsters of the Atlantic States and Europe being strangers to the Northwest," the historian F.F. Victor (1891) informed her readers, but since the introduction of the foreign songbirds, there were a "greater variety of notes which one may hear any morning in summer from his open window in the vicinity of trees." Anthony (1890) remarked that he was often told of the "great increase in bird music" since the introduction of the European songbirds, "and many newspaper articles refer to the beneficial effects." He quoted from the San Francisco Call, dated 1 January 1891: "It is now no uncommon sight in the vicinity of Portland and different parts of Oregon to see skylarks caroling from up in the air, thrushes singing among the trees, and
finches and linnets near the houses, also singing as sweetly as in their native haunts. Near Portland the songs of nightingales have been heard after dark during all summer."

Was this perception real? Were the Oregon woods and fields transformed into Paradise by the Portland Song Bird Club’s introductions? A.W. Anthony (1890) found that most people did not know what they saw or heard. Many people showed Anthony a bird they considered to be one of the “German finches”; some named it a goldfinch, some a bullfinch, others a crossbill. The noisy, striking finches seemed everywhere in the city, feeding in the maples, an indication to most of how rapidly the foreign birds had multiplied. But Anthony knew the “German finches” for what they where, not bullfinches, nor crossbills, nor goldfinches, but Evening Grosbeaks.

Other people told Anthony of the Nightingales which serenaded them each evening from the trees around their homes. It was unlikely, Anthony felt, that the single pair of European Nightingales liberated in 1889 accounted for so many reports of them, scattered all over the city. Most likely, the Swainson’s Thrush was the evening singer that so enthralled its listeners.

Clearly, the foreign birds did not deserve all the credit for the beauty of the morning and evening choruses. The claim that there were birds now singing where there were none heard before was egregiously false. Anthony (1890) suggested that anyone who doubted the ability of the native birds should visit in May any woods near Portland, “where a chorus of bird music will be heard that will convince the most skeptical that Oregon’s native songsters are, at least, worthy of more than passing consideration.”

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Other scientists joined Anthony in raising objections and criticisms as they became aware of the activities of the Portland Song Bird Club. C. Hart Merriam and T. S. Palmer, both of the Bureau of Biological Survey, recognized the danger “of discovering another new pest as the English [House] Sparrow” (Anonymous 1895c). Palmer (1899) urged that introductions be restricted by law and carefully controlled. He considered many of the species liberated by the Portland club as “of doubtful value and likely to prove injurious.” A few years later, when the club was making its last introductions, Joseph Grinnell, editor of the Condor and the preeminent ornithologist of the west coast, called their actions “idiotic.” “The next thing we know we will have Chaffinches and Goldfinches to deal with along with the ‘English Sparrow problem.’ The Audubon societies should bend their efforts against the introduction of foreign birds, if they wish to keep our native avifauna intact.” (Grinnell 1908).

Grinnell was not supported by the Oregon Audubon Society of Portland. Rather than opposing the introductions, the society announced plans only a few years after Grinnell’s appeal to again attempt to introduce Northern Cardinals into Oregon. “We are convinced they will thrive well here,” Emma J. Welty (1912) wrote in Bird-Lore. The society was unable to obtain birds, however. William L. Finley, president of the Oregon Audubon Society, seemed reluctant to enact the plan and perhaps dissuaded the organization from pursuing its attempt further (Oregon Audubon Society 1912; Northern Cardinals seen by Stanley Jewett in Douglas County in 1930 were escaped cage birds [Jewett 1930, 1948]).

The House Sparrow problem Grinnell alluded to was the perfect paradigm of the implicit hazard in introducing foreign birds into a native avifauna. Brought from Europe to the eastern United States in the 1850s as a means of ridding cities of insect pests and as a nostalgic reminder of the European homeland, the House Sparrow soon began a remarkable spread across the continent. Reviled as a noisy and filthy bird — “animated manure machines” one ornithologist called them — the House Sparrow forced its importers to rue their deed (Brodhead 1971). In Oregon, the little sparrow’s rise to abundance was contemporaneous with the Song Bird Club’s attempts at introductions and should have been an obvious warning of the danger of their actions.

It is not clear when or how the House Sparrow first arrived in Oregon. Barrows (1889) listed it as absent from Oregon in the autumn of 1886 and Finley (1907) found none in Portland in 1887. Two years later, in the spring of 1889, Finley discovered a nesting pair. “Since that time,” he wrote in 1907, “I have watched the population of the city grow till there is hardly a street that isn’t overcrowded from the river to the hills.” Although he first noticed the sparrows the same year as the Song Bird Club’s first importation, the club was not responsible, Laycock’s (1966) assertion to the contrary notwithstanding; there is no mention of them in any of the contemporary lists of imported species.

The House Sparrow probably reached Portland by riding freight trains, perhaps from one of the colonies established in the early 1870s at San Francisco and Salt Lake City (Robbins 1973). As Hoffman (1927) remarked, “like other tramps, [it] used empty freight cars on its journey westward.” By 1897, there were an estimated 500 in Portland. Bard
(1897) knew of none yet reported elsewhere in Oregon, though Evanich (1986) notes that they occurred in farmlands about Ontario, Malheur County, in 1890.

In 1897, Finley, then president of the Northwest (or Northwestern) Ornithological Association, a club predominantly of Portland-area bird students, and C.F. Pfluger, secretary of the Portland Song Bird Club, comprised a special committee of the N.O.A. to move against the House Sparrow. Finley and Pfluger hoped to “arouse public opinion against the pest... If the owners of the dwellings and business blocks, in and around which they breed, could be enlisted in this work, their total destruction would be a matter of a few years” (Bard 1897). By 1902, however, Anthony found the House Sparrow abundant in Portland, and Woodcock (1902) reported it as a “very common resident in the principal cities and towns of the Willamette Valley from Corvallis to Portland.”

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Pfluger, the principal agent of the Song Bird Club, was thus aware of the danger of the club’s introductions. Nevertheless, the club did not cease its attempts to establish European songbirds in Oregon. The club purchased 67 pairs of Mockingbirds and released 40 pairs in mid-January 1895 (Anonymous 1895b). In 1906, the club arranged for another major shipment of birds from Germany. This consignment included 21 pairs of Nightingales, but more than half died before arrival. The rest the club housed in an aviary at the city park, but they too died before they could be liberated in the spring of 1907 as planned. Skylarks were also imported in the fall of 1906; of 50 pairs, 46 pairs were released “in splendid order” in Portland. In April 1907, the club released 6 more pairs of Skylarks ([Grinnell] 1908; Hoyt, Pfluger and Fallows 1907; Phillips 1928).

The last major shipment I have record of the club received in November 1907. They imported 90 pairs of Skylarks, 25 pairs of Song Thrushes, 20 pairs each of European Goldfinch and Common Chaffinch, and 10 pairs of Blackcaps. The club again arranged to house the birds, captured in Germany and England, in the city park’s aviary through the winter and release them in the spring (a Common Chaffinch shot at Berkeley, California 14 May 1908 was perhaps of this shipment [Palmer 1908]. An earlier Chaffinch in California was perhaps of a previous Portland introduction [Grinnell 1906]). Sixty-five pairs of Skylarks were sent on to song bird clubs, set up under Pfluger’s guidance, in Clatsop, Yamhill, Marion, Washington, and Multnomah Counties, where they were to be released. The Portland club began making arrangements for another importation of Mockingbirds, expected in the spring of 1908 ([Grinnell] 1908; Hoyt, Pfluger and Fallows 1907).

I do not know how long the Portland Song Bird Club persisted in trying to establish foreign songbirds in Oregon. Pfluger imported 100 European Nightingales in 1911, according to his obituary (Anonymous 1912). Evanich (1986) says the club faded by the 1920s. No matter how long they tried, it was a futile effort. Some species were said to be initially successful and increased “remarkably well,” though in the light of the lack of observational acuity among Portland citizens as reported by Anthony (1890), those statements must be accepted cautiously at best.

Certainly Starlings and Skylarks, and perhaps European Goldfinches, seemed to adapt to Oregon. By 1929, however, Stanley Jewett and Ira Gabrielson could write that all the foreign birds had disappeared. Siskins, Goldfinches, European Quail, Bullfinches, Chaffinches, Nightingales, European Robins, Song Thrushes, Eurasian Blackbirds, Linnets, Crossbills, Mockingbirds, Cardinals, Bobolinks, Starlings, Skylarks—all had been introduced and vanished, subsumed into the Oregon countryside.

Why had they disappeared? In most cases, the number released was undoubtedly too small to allow establishment. Others perhaps dispersed after release and in others the habitat or environment was not correct for them to breed and increase. The European Starling disappeared for an unknown reason. Gabrielson and Jewett (1940) noted it was gone by 1901 or 1902. It ultimately reached Oregon from an introduction a continent’s width away as a result of its aggressiveness and fecundity, which the birds released in Oregon apparently lacked. Eurasian Skylarks had also vanished from the fields of the Willamette Valley. Their “abundance” might have been an illusion, Horned Larks or Water Pipits or sparrows misidentified. Hundreds had been released for naught.

The club’s efforts now seem amusing, born of a curious chauvinism, of a discomforting nostalgia quieted only by the singing Nightingale. Most likely the members stopped their importations when they realized the futility of their efforts, or ran out of money, or exhausted their energies. Certainly the death of C.F. Pfluger in 1912 would have affected the group’s activities.

I personally like to think that a club member followed Anthony’s advice and visited a wooded ravine in May. The song of a Swainson’s Thrush, or a Black-headed Grosbeak, or a Winter Wren, echoing melodically from a tangled thicket, would surely have caused the listener to realize that the club’s efforts had not been necessary at all: Oregon was not a place where the birds had no song.
I wish to thank James Davis for granting me access to the files of the Portland Audubon Society, and Janet Hinshaw, Worth Mathewson, and Herb Wisner for providing material for my use.

Scientific names of species mentioned:

- European Quail *Coturnix coturnix*
- American Woodcock *Scolopax minor*
- Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis*
- Wood Lark *Lullula arborea*
- Horned Lark *Eremophila alpestris*
- Winter Wren *Troglydtes troglodytes*
- Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*
- European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*
- European Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*
- Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*
- Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*
- Eurasian Blackbird *T. merula*
- Song Thrush *T. philomelos*
- American Robin *T. migratorius*
- Northern Mockingbird *Mimus polyglottos*
- Black-headed Grosbeak *Pheucticus melanocephalus*
- Bobolink *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*
- Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*
- Parrot Crossbill *Loxia pytyopsittacus*
- European Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*
- Eurasian Siskin *C. spinus*
- European Goldfinch *C. carduelis*
- Eurasian Linnet *C. cannabina*
- Eurasian Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*
- Evening Grosbeak *Coccothraustes vespertinus*
- House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

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Anonymous. 1874. The introduction of singing birds into the country. *Forest and Stream* 2: 264.


. 1895a. [European Goldfinch nesting in Portland.] *Oregon Naturalist* 2: 76.


OREGON BIRDS 13(1): 73


Quimby, L.P.W. 1903. Third and fourth annual reports of the Game and Forestry Warden to the Governor of Oregon for the years 1901 and 1902. J.R. Whitney, State Printer, Salem, Oregon.


This year again over 70 names appear in the listing results. There are also some new firsts. Oregon has its first reported 300 county (Lincoln) and 2 people (Barbara Combs and Dennis Rogers) are the first to report 100 species in every county. Another 400 state lister was added and a new record high Oregon year list was achieved.

With some of these firsts and higher lists I have been queried by a few if maybe lists should in some way be verified. If there is some doubt as to the accuracy of some lists it has been suggested that I not publish them. I have thought about this as I too have had and have doubts about what some people may be counting. I have come to the conclusion though that this listing effort shouldn't be taken too seriously. After all it's only a game that we birders play and the numbers published herein only have any real meaning to their holders. By trying to ferret out any inaccuracies that I might perceive in someone's list would be putting too much emphasis on the numbers when it's the distribution of Oregon's birds that is really the point here. This listing game has gotten Oregon birders out into parts of Oregon that otherwise would still be unworked. The numbers part is just a fun sideline and incentive to birding Oregon by counties. Inaccurate records of species are dealt with elsewhere. So I will continue to publish lists as they are sent and others can take them for what they're worth.

Oregon State List (275)

426 Jeff Gilligan
401 Owen Schmidt
397 Tom Crabtree
395 Richard Smith
384* David Irons
378 Larry Thoeckburg
373 Alan Contreras
371* Joe Evanich
368 Jim Carlson
366 Steve Heinl
365 Linda Weiland

Oregon Year List (250)

366 Terry Morgan
365 Steve Summers
364 Jim Johnson
363 Sheran Jones
362 Jan & Rick Krabbe
361 Patrick Muller
357 Martha Sawyer
357* Barb Bellin
356* Tad Finnelli
352 Tom Love
351 Alan McGie
351 Clarice Watson
350* Matt Hunter
348 Craig Corder
342 Bob Lucas
341 Marion Corder
339 Elzy & Elsie Eltzroth
337 Ken Knitlle
336* Merle Archie
332 Craig Miller
329* David Anderson
329 Mike Patterson
329 Mike Robbins
328 Paul Sherrell
327 Anne Archie
327 Jim Rogers
326 Alice Parker
325 Ron Maertz
322 Walter Yungen
321 Jack Corbett
320 Nancy Bock
319 Robert Bunder
319 Eva Schultz
318 Fred Parker
318 Floyd Shroock
316 Steve Korndell
315 Ben Fawver
312 Marshall Beretta
310 Kamal Islam
305 Elmer Miller
304 Robert Woodley
301 Tim Shetlerdine
300 John Mundall
299 Jon Anderson
295 Carrie Osborne
286 Dick Lamster
277 Frank Conley

1986 County Lists (100)

Baker
225* Ann Ward
132 Mike Robbins
114 Dennis Rogers
109 Steve Gordon
109 Alan Contreras
108 Merle Archie
108 Jeff Gilligan
107 Anne Archie
106 Barbara Combs

Benton
212 Jan & Rick Krabbe
202 Elzy & Elsie Eltzroth
165 Alan McGie
153 Barb Bellin
150 Phillip Pickering
147 Barbara Combs
145 Clarice Watson
143 Roy Gerig
139 Jeff Gilligan
137 Mike Patterson
135 Jon Anderson
135 Steve Gordon
133 Mike Robbins
132 Dennis Rogers
127 Bob Lucas
121 Alan Contreras
120 Steve Heinl
113 Jim Carlson
103 Walter Yungen

Clackamas
134* David Fix
115 Jeff Gilligan

OREGON BIRDS 13(1): 77
123 Jan & Rick Krabbe
119 Jon Anderson
114 Dennis Rogers
105 Steve Gordon
104 Steve Heinl

Sherman
120 Roy Gerig
107 Dennis Rogers
100 Barbara Combs

Tillamook
285 Jeff Gilligan
255* David Irons
252 Phillip Pickering
244 Tom Crabtree
242* David Fix
227 Jim Johnson
222 Jan & Rick Krabbe
215 Verda Teale
204 Roy Gerig
200 Dennis Rogers
199 Barbara Combs

Wallowa
240 Frank Conley
200 Paul Sullivan
171 Phillip Pickering
146 Mike Robbins
128 Steve Heinl
120 Jeff Gilligan
116 Steve Gordon
115 Bob Lucas
112 Marion Corder
103 Barbara Combs
101 Craig Corder
100 Barb Bellin
100 Dennis Rogers

Wasco
187 Craig Corder
181 Marion Corder
151 Roy Gerig
142 Dennis Rogers
136 Steve Heinl
104 Jim Johnson
102 Walter Yungen
100 Barbara Combs

Washington
219 Verda Teale
196 Donna Lusthoff
187 Jeff Gilligan
173 Jim Johnson
170 Phillip Pickering
143 Dennis Rogers

Yamhill
219 Tom Love
134 Barb Bellin
131 Walter Yungen
117 Craig Corder
113 David Anderson
108 Barbara Combs
102 Steve Gordon

Wheeler
117 Dennis Rogers
112 Steve Heinl
103 Barbara Combs
101 Steve Gordon

1986 County Year List (150)

242 Lane (Steve Heinl)
241* Lincoln (Phillip Pickering)
235 Lane (Phillip Pickering)
226 Tillamook (Phillip Pickering)
220* Clatsop (Phillip Pickering)
219 Harney (Merle Archie)
216 Lane (Steve Gordon)
215 Coos (Larry Thornburgh)
211 Harney (Anne Archie)
202 Douglas (Ken Kistl)
200 Coos (Ben Fawyer)
194 Douglas (Ron Maertz)
191 Harney (Steve Heinl)
190 Wallowa (Frank Conley)
188 Coos (Phillip Pickering)
187* Wasco (Craig Corder)
182 Deschutes (Craig Miller)
181* Marion (Barb Bellin)
180 Wasco (Marion Corder)
175 Tillamook (Roy Gerig)
174 Polk (Roy Gerig)
173 Union (Phillip Pickering)
170 Jackson (Marjorie Moore)
166 Lake (Phillip Pickering)
166 Wallowa (Phillip Pickering)
163* Columbia (Phillip Pickering)
163 Marion (Jon Anderson)
160 Curry (Phillip Pickering)
159 Marion (Phillip Pickering)
158 Hood River (David Anderson)
156 Douglas (Al) Parker
156 Harney (Mike Denney)
156 Washington (Donna Lusthoff)
155 Klamath (Mike Denney)
155 Washington (Verda Teale)

* New county record year list
This overview of Oregon Christmas Counts is not intended to replace the comprehensive results published by *American Birds*, but to give Oregon birders a quick look at the state as a whole in a timely manner.

Thirty-four of Oregon’s 36 CBCs sent results for inclusion, as did the Tule Lake CBC a few miles into California. Tule Lake results are discussed with Klamath Falls. I have not prepared an exhaustive analysis of each count, but have taken comments from compilers and prior count information to develop a rather anecdotal look at this year’s CBCs. Each count is numbered, and the numbers correspond to the map, so that readers can see where the counts are that found certain species or numbers. Additional maps show patterns of occurrence of certain species.

Some generalizations are possible from the counts received. Kites were in good numbers along the entire coast but were in low numbers inland, except for the Rogue Valley. Cooper’s Hawks were either present in unusual numbers or misidentified with astonishing frequency, especially along the coast. They may have gone there to eat the Crossbills, which were on the coast in large numbers and virtually absent everywhere else. Siskins were in their usual mode, hundreds in one area, none just down the road. They were also especially common on the coast. The most salient feature of the count season was that weather was very mild very late, with large numbers of holdover species including waterfowl, shorebirds and warblers. Some counts in west-central Oregon reported California Quail nearly absent, but others around the state found them in good numbers. Read this overview for a picture of the count season, for details wait for *American Birds* to appear in the fall.

**Coastal counts**

1. **Columbia Estuary.** A low observer turnout found 106 species on this count that includes both the Oregon and Washington sides of the mouth of the Columbia. This is the lowest species total in recent years. Four Black-shouldered Kites ties last year’s count record, and 2 Bittern were found. Other highlights include a Redhead, 2 Mountain Chickadees, 2 Orange-crowned Warblers and 371 Pine Siskins.

2. **Tillamook Bay.** A White-winged Dove, Barn Swallow and 2 Swamp Sparrows highlighted the count, which found an above-average 133 species with a lower than usual observer turnout. Other highlights included 8 Kites, a roost of Black-crowned Night Herons never before found on the count, 2 Spotted Owls, 11 Semipalmated Plovers and 615 Red-winged Blackbirds. The count missed Bald Eagle for the first time, and also did not find American Goldfinch or Pine Siskin.

3. **Yaquina Bay.** A large observer turnout helped find an all-time record 131 species. The previous record had been 127 in 1983. This count also found Semipalmated Plover, a count week Palm Warbler, 7 Northern Fulmar, 2 Sooty and 1 Short-tailed Shearwater, 102 Horned Grebe, an amazing record 63 Black Oystercatchers, a rare Pomarine Jaeger and 165 Black-legged Kittiwakes.

4. **Florence.** Another large turnout found 147 species for a new count record, the second-highest count ever taken in Oregon and one species higher than last year’s count. Highlights included an incred-
ible first state record Lucy's Warbler that has since been photographed and seen by dozens of observers, a Swamp Sparrow, 2 Blue-winged Teal, 2 Sora and all-time national records of 48 Western Screech-Owl and 943 Fox Sparrows. Notable misses included Canvasback, Great Horned Owl, Greater Scaup and 4 other species never before missed.

5. Coos Bay. This count always does well and holds Oregon's all-time record of 151 species seen in 1976. This year's teams found 130 species, including Blue-winged Teal and record highs of 772 Bufflehead, 10 Kites, 3 Peregrine Falcons and several other species. Other notables included a Sora and a Glaucous Gull.

6. Port Orford. Extremely foul weather on count day held the species total down to 117, including a Black Phoebe, Orange-crowned Warbler, 2 Red Phalaropes, 3 Peregrine Falcons and a Yellowthroat. Winds at Cape Blanco reached 96 mph the night before the count and blew 30-60 mph on count day. Thunder, lightning, rain squalls and a sideways hailstorm added a little zest to this birding experience, as did an immature Saw-whet Owl heard and seen at close range on count night and a Brown Pelican seen the day before the count.

Northwest interior counts

7. Sauvie Island. One-hundred-twelve species were found, including a record 2028 Snow Geese, an Emperor Goose (presumably the same one bagged by a hunter later on count day), a Red-breasted Merganser, 489 Mourning Doves, a swallow, 2 Orange-crowned Warblers and both Clay-colored Sparrow and Harris' Sparrow.

8. Portland. No results received.

9. Forest Grove. No results received.

10. Upper Nestucca. This coast range count knew the exact location of its Spotted Owls: radio beacons stayed resolutely out of the count circle! Forty-one species were found, including an unexpected 9 Western Gulls, 2 Mountain Chickadees, and 10 Gray Jays.

11. Dallas. A count record 101 species were found, including 5 Kites, Orange-crowned Warbler, Greater Scaup, both Prairie and Peregrine Falcons, and 4 White-throated Sparrows. Say's Phoebe, Emperor Goose and Brant were all present during count week.

12. Salem. These teams found 98 species including some unusual highs. Noteworthy were 43 Double-crested Cormorants, 8 Eurasian Wigeon, 15 Sharp-shinned and 12 Cooper's Hawks, 20 Western Gulls and 2 Harris' Sparrows.

13. Silverton. One of Oregon's new counts this year. The circle is northeast of Salem and includes rolling hills, several small bodies of water, lots of forest and Silver Falls State Park. Counters found 70 species, including a Rough-legged Hawk, 9 Ruffed Grouse, 29 Western Bluebirds, and 2299 Brewer's Blackbirds.

14. Corvallis. Excellent weather contributed to a near-record 110 species, including 2 birds new to this long-established count.
Bonaparte's Gull and Virginia Rail. Black-shouldered Kite was missed for the first time in some years, as was Pine Siskin. The rarest bird found was a very late Rufous Hummingbird coming to a feeder. It stayed after the count for the convenience of confirmation by the compiler. Interestingly, a different Rufous had been coming to a feeder until shortly before count week. Eighteen Rough-legged Hawks were found in a year that saw few in some other usual western Oregon locations, and 212 Horned Larks were noted.

15. Alma-Upper Siuslaw. Bad weather hampered this coast range count, but 2 Spotted Owls were located. They were not seen or heard, but were located by radio beacons that they carry. This raises the intriguing question of how to list the party-hours used to find them: 10 minutes by headphone? Compiler E.G. White-Swift flew back to Oregon from his current job in Texas to attend the count, which was characterized by unusually low species (34) and individual counts.

16. Eugene. Good weather also contributed to observer enthusiasm on this count, which found an above-average 124 species. Good finds were Cinnamon Teal, Eurasian Wigeon, a first count record of Osprey, Black Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Yellowthroat, a record 112 Gadwall, Mountain Chickadees, and a Band-tailed Pigeon. An all-time low of 10 California Quail was found, and 5 Kites was a low number.

Southwest interior counts

17. Umpqua Valley. One-hundred-six species were found, including 66 Pied-billed Grebes, 12 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 44 Acorn Woodpeckers, 2 Chipping Sparrows and a Yellowthroat. Thirteen California Quail was extremely low, and wren numbers were quite low.

18. Grants Pass. One-hundred-fourteen species were found, including a presumably storm-blown Brandt's Cormorant, 28 Black-crowned Night Herons, a Prairie Falcon, a Sora, 9 Pileated Woodpeckers, 3 Black and one Say's Phoebe, Greater Scaup, and Least Sandpiper.

19. Medford. The species count of 115 at Medford was good, but some of the species and numbers found were of special interest. A Wild Turkey was a good find, as were a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and a rare winter House Wren. Twenty-two Long-billed Dowitchers were high, as were 5 Pygmy-Owls. An incredible 22 Black-shouldered Kites and 981 Western Bluebirds were found, along with 4 Say's Phoebe, 23 Bohemian and 791 Cedar Waxwings. Quite a day!

North central counts

20. Hood River. Another new count, helping to fill the gap in counts along the Columbia. These observers found 86 species, including 3 Snow and 1 White-fronted Goose, a Eurasian Wigeon, 200 Mourning Doves in one flock, 17 Dippers, 2 Townsend's Solitaire, 30 Bohemian Waxwing, 2 Harris' and 2 White-throated Sparrows.

21. Antelope. Fifty-one species were found on a cold, foggy day, including the highest Steller's Jay count (10) since 1977, a record high for Brown Creeper (11), and 16 Northern Shrikes, the highest since 1977.

22. Utopia. This Jefferson County count found a low 63 species, with highlights including 154 Common Goldeneye, 12 Great Horned Owls, 3 Rock Wrens, 3 Yellow-rumped Warblers, and 2 Brown-headed Cowbirds, a first count record.

23. Bend. A high 73 species were found. Among the unexpected species found were Surf Scoter, Common Snipe, Williamson's Sapucker and Chestnut-backed Chickadee. Large numbers of waterfowl and 225 Pinyon Jays were other count highlights. A count week Scrub Jay was certainly unexpected.

24. Pendleton. This "unofficial" count is in its fourth year and found 73 species. Highlights included 2 Greater Yellowlegs, 16 Herring Gulls, Marsh Wren, 207 Bohemian Waxwings, a high 9 Yellow-rumped Warblers and single Tree and Harris' Sparrows.

25. Ruggs-Hardman. This count extends south from Heppner in Morrow County, and is conducted largely by students from Heppner High School. It is the most isolated, and therefore one of the most important, counts in Oregon. It is the only "official" count in the northern tier of counties between Hood River (new this year) and Union County, and has for many years provided the only regular published information on the winter bird populations of this area. This year's count found 59 species on a brisk day — the high was 30° F. Common Merganser and Marsh Wren were new for the count, and new highs were found for Creeper (15), Dipper (3), and Song Sparrow (193). New lows were found for Gray Partridge (5) and California Quail (2).

26. John Day. Following the tradition of Steve Brownfield at Heppner, compiler Tom Winters used a swarm of scouts to help cover the circle, finding 58 species, including 2 Harris' Sparrows. Rough-legged Hawks were in low numbers, but 3 Pygmy-Owls were found, as well as 2 White-headed Woodpeckers and 2 Rock Wrens.

Southeastern counts

27. Klamath Falls. One-hundred-nine species were found in a year that saw unseasonably warm weather late in the year. Two White Pelicans, 2 Lesser Yellowlegs, and 2 Long-billed Dowitchers were still around to be tallied, and a Cattle Egret was also found. The nearby Tule Lake, California count found a record 95 species and 359,216 individuals, but due to the unusual weather, Bald Eagles remained
scattered throughout the basin and did not concentrate at the refuge as is their custom. Twenty-four Eurasian Wigeon is close to the all-time national record of 28 set last year by Victoria, B.C. A Barred Owl found on the count has been roosting next to Refuge Headquarters since late fall.

28. Lakeview. This "unofficial" count found 32 species on a foggy day with 6 inches of snow on the ground, including 355 California Quail, 11 Scrub Jays, and a Vesper Sparrow, rarely encountered in winter.

29. Hart Mountain. A handful of observers conducted this year's count, finding a low 30 species, including 7 Tree Sparrows and 12 Rough-legged Hawks.

30. Adel. The new "official" count at Adel found 50 species, including 3 Scrub Jays and 2 Harris' Sparrows. Compiler Bill Pyle speculates that Harris' Sparrows, once considered quite a rarity, are perhaps as regular in eastern Oregon as White-throated Sparrow is on the west side.

31. Sod House (Northern Malheur NWR and adjacent areas). Forty-nine species were tallied, including several holdovers from the warm, late fall. Highlights included 759 Common Mergansers, 21 Least Sandpipers, 1 Sage Thrasher, 1 Rock Wren, 18 Tree Sparrows, a Harris' Sparrow, and a Yellow-headed Blackbird.

32. P Ranch (Southern Malheur NWR and nearby areas). Like the northern count, P Ranch had some holdovers, but the rarest bird was the Blue Jay found at P Ranch station and seen by several observers during the day. The 58 species included 23 Trumpeter Swans, a teal, either Blue-winged or Cinnamon, 41 Rough-legs, a Virginia Rail, 2 Mourning Doves and 16 Tree Sparrows.

33. Wallowa County. Sixty-eight species were found on a day when the high temperature fell 4 degrees below freezing. Common Merganser was missed, but a near-record 52 Rough-legs were found, as were record highs of California Quail and Dipper (15). Nineteen Tree Sparrows were noted.

34. Union County. Sixty-seven species were reported, including an extremely rare Swainson's Hawk. This species is usually absent from North America in winter. Six Tree Sparrows, 150 Rosy Finches and a Pine Grosbeak filled out the notable species (for those who don't live in northeastern Oregon) on this count.

35. Baker Valley. Twenty-seven species were found on this count, the northern Baker County CBC. Unlike nearby counts, only 1 Rough-legged Hawk was found.

36. Baker County/Salisbury. This southern Baker County CBC found 46 species, including 4 Snow Buntings, 430 Rosy Finch (all Gray-crowned), 21 Rough-legs, 730 Horned Larks, 2 Snipe, 12 Tree Sparrows, a Three-toed Woodpecker and 2 Black-throated Gray Warblers, extremely rare in winter. Common Redpoll and Sage Grouse were found during count week.
A person is always nervous about taking over a job competently performed by someone else. I am no exception. I realize I probably won't win a Pulitzer for my literary endeavors at summarizing the ornithological goings on of Eastern Oregon, but I will do the best job I can with the information at hand. If my reports seem to be weighted with too many reports from Hood River it's only because you didn't send me your reports from other points in this huge and fascinating region. I look forward to hearing from each of you.

I am keeping extensive notes of the species reported and the sources of the reports. I have for the time being decided not to cite who saw what and where. Credit will be given to my sources and if anyone needs to know the source for any particular item, just drop me a line.

A rare summer sighting of a Common Loon in non-breeding plumage was reported from three miles east of Burns 2 June. Four Clark's Grebes were on Thompson Reservoir, Fremont N.F. 28 June. At Malheur N.W.R. no young of either the Clark's or Western Grebe were raised this year due to strong winds destroying the nests of both species. A pair of Horned Grebes were in the Blitzen Valley on 10 June while none nested at Downy Lake, Wallowa Co. this year. Nine hundred eighty-five pairs of Double-crested Cormorants produced 1861 young at Malheur N.W.R. this year, while 682 pairs of Great Blue Herons produced 1817 young. Two Great Egrets were at Sunriver near Bend on 22 July. Numbers of Great Egrets produced at Malheur was up 30% while the number of Snowy Egrets present was down 50%. Six pairs of Cattle Egrets produced 14 young at Malheur. The only Green-backed Herons reported were from Hood River: 3 on 22 June, 1 on 19 July; and at Suttle Lake on 5 July. White-faced Ibises had their best year at Malheur with 2095 pairs producing 4925 young! A Snow Goose was 8 miles south of Burns 9 July.

Ferruginous Hawks were in normal numbers this summer in Wallowa Co. Three pairs nested in the Malheur/Harney Lakes basin this year. An Osprey was 12 miles south of Malheur N.W.R. headquarters 4 July where they are rare. Ospreys were quite conspicuous in the Columbia River Gorge this season. Prairie Falcons were considered scarce at Malheur this year. Only 2 Peregrine Falcons were reported: 1 each in Lake Co. and Harney Co. A Bobwhite was recorded southwest of Hood River several times this summer. The possibility that this bird was an escapee is not ruled out. A female with 3 young was N.E. of Umpaine 20 July.

Due to the high water levels at Malheur, Snowy Plovers are now quite rare there. Therefore, 1 at The Narrows on 5 June is noteworthy. Greater Yellowlegs again nested in the Downy Lake area of Wallowa Co. for the fourth consecutive year. This is the only known nesting area in Oregon for them. The first fall migrant Lesser Yellowlegs were at Malheur N.W.R. 11 July. A pair of Upland Sandpipers were a mile west of their traditional nesting site near Seneca 17 June. Four or 5 pairs of Long-billed Curlews nested in Wallowa Co. this year, and an impressive flock of 96 was east of Burns on 27 July. The first returning Western Sandpipers of the fall season were reported from Hatfield Lake on 5 July. Thereafter they were widely reported. Three at Hood River 19 July could have been a county first. The first Baird's Sandpipers for the fall were at Hatfield Lake 21 July. Up to 40 Red-necked Phalaropes were at the Joseph sewage lagoon in mid-July.

A winter-plumaged Franklin's Gull was at the La Grande sewage ponds 21 July. Three Glaucous-winged Gulls were at Hood River 19 July where they are regularly noted. At Malheur N.W.R. 560 young Caspian Terns were produced this year. Elsewhere they were reported from Tumalo Res. (1 on 23 July), the east end of Ochoco Lake (a "few" in mid-June), and at Hood River (up to 5 from 22 June through period's end). Ten pairs of Forster's Terns were in the Catlow Valley 11 June; 1 was at Hatfield Lake 6 July.

The breeding Flammulated Owls of Starr Campground, Grant Co., were again reported, as were 2 at Idlewild C.C., Harney Co. on 16 June. Great Gray Owls raised at least 2 young in the Spring River area, Deschutes Co., this year. Short-eared Owls were "abundant" this year at Malheur N.W.R. where 21 were seen in a 7 mile stretch of road near Harney Lake. Increased small rodent population is believed to be the cause for this increased use. Both Short-eared and N. Pygmy-Owls were in low numbers in Wallowa Co. this year. A female saw-whet Owl was heard at Horsechief Meadows, Hood River Co. on 5 July. A Common Poorwill was at the Calamity Lookout, Malheur N.F. on 11 & 24 June. Female Black-chinned Hummingbirds were reported from Gumjuwac Saddle, Hood River Co. on 6 July and at Dale on 12 July. Seven (!) female Broad-tails were also at Dale on 12 July while only 1 could be found there on 26 July. The Bend Costa's Hummingbird departed around 1 July (T. Crabtree). One Calliope was on Fir Mt. Rd. east of Odell, Hood River Co., 19 July. A female Calliope on a nest was found at Cottonwood Creek near Fields 1 June.

In the past 6 years Williamson's Sapsuckers have been the second most common woodpecker after N. Flickers around Calamity Lookout, Malheur N.F. This year only 2 pairs bred in that vicinity, while several pairs of Red-naped Sapsuckers nested there. Two Williamson's Sapsuckers were also reported from The Dalles Watershed area, Hood.
River Co. and at Crescent Lake (2 pairs on 22 June). Six pairs of Threetoed Woodpeckers were found around Cultus Lake this summer and a female was at the Lick Creek C.G., Wallowa N.F. on 22 June, and 2 were reported 21 July from the Bonny Lakes area. Black-backed Woodpeckers were widely reported: 1 pair on the east side of The Dalles Watershed, Hood River Co. in June; 2 nesting pairs at Crescent Lake 22 June; from the Enterprise area at Alder Slope 22 July; and on Davis Creek 20 July. Several pairs were breeding in the Cascades in southern Deschutes Co. (T. Crabtree).

An unexpected Ash-throated Flycatcher was on the west end of the Dufur Road in Hood River Co. on 22 June. As riparian habitat improves at Malheur, the number of Eastern Kingbirds increases. They were abundant again there this year. An amazing concentration of 1500 Bank Swallows was found along the Blitzen River 21 miles south of Malheur headquarters in early July for about a week. This may be the largest number in one place ever reported in Oregon (D. Fix).

A Mountain Chickadee was at the summit of Lookout Mt., in southeastern Hood River Co. on 6 July. They could be regular at this location. A Rock Wren and a female Mountain Bluebird were also there the same day. A Gray Catbird was at Fields on 10 June. A singing N. Mockingbird was present at the Malheur Field Station through 19 June. A mate did not find its way to join it. Next year? A rare Brown Thrasher was recorded at Malheur on 6 June. Two singing Sage Thrashers at the Calamity Lookout (6695 foot elev.) provided an unusual record for that location.

The only Red-eyed Vireos reported were along the Imnaha River 21 June south of Imnaha. As is to be expected several fine vagrant warblers found their way to Malheur this season: A male Black-throated Green Warbler on 15 June was the 2nd refuge record; a male Black-throated Blue Warbler was there 23 through 25 June; and a Chestnut-sided Warbler was present 15 through 18 June. A Northern Parula was found at the west side campground at Davis Lake in the Cascades 18 June. Single American Redstarts were reported from the eastern side of the Cascades at Indian Ford C.G. on 3 June; Metolius River on 14 June; and at Parkdale, Hood River Co. in mid-June. N. Waterthrushes again bred along the Little Deschutes River in extreme northern Klamath Co., providing a thorn in the side to those who wish they would cross the county line into Deschutes Co.

Two Grasshopper Sparrows were found between mile posts 81 and 82 on Highway 74 near the Nye Junction on 20 July. An unusual Green-tailed Towhee was found 22 June on Surveyors Ridge, Hood River Co. Two-hundred fifteen male Bobolinks were on N. Waterthrushes again bred along the Little Deschutes River in extreme northern Klamath Co., providing a thorn in the side to those who wish they would cross the county line into Deschutes Co.

Two Grasshopper Sparrows were found between mile posts 81 and 82 on Highway 74 near the Nye Junction on 20 July. An unusual Green-tailed Towhee was found 22 June on Surveyors Ridge, Hood River Co. Two-hundred fifteen male Bobolinks were on Malheur N.W.R.; 1 pair was on the Izee Road on 12 July. One to three Great-tailed Grackles were at Buena Vista Station for several weeks in early June. White-winged Crossbills were reported 4 July from the Gold and Waldo Lakes area in the Cascades, the only ones reported this season. Evening Grosbeaks were again very common around the east side of Mt. Hood where an outbreak of budworm is fairly severe.
My thanks go to the following people and publications for supplying me with their observations: David Anderson, Merle Archie, Frank Conley, Tom Crabtree, Nadine Eccles, C.D. Littlefield, Donna Lusthoff, Janice Merz, Tom & Allison Mickel, Craig Miller, Phil Pickering, and The Warbler (Portland Audubon Society).

Up to 1000 Pacific Loons were seen on a stroll out to the tip of the SJCR 8 June (PP). The majority were in first-summer plumage. Two-hundred were seen there closer to shore on 29 June (JJ, DB). Also at the SJCR on 8 June were 10 Pink-footed Shearwaters, 8 Leach’s Storm-Petrels, 3 Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels, and the usual 1000+ Sooty Shearwaters (PP). A Magnificent Frigatebird was reported from Yachats 12 July (Candice Guth).

A Great Egret at FRR 9 July was almost a month early (TM). Typical arrival occurred in late July, with 1 at Clear Lake (Linn) 27 July being very unusual for the w. Cascades (Kent & Sharon Rodecap). Single Black-crowned Night-Herons were noted at the Pistol R. 14 June (JJ, JG, EP, SH) and in n. Portland 2 July (MH).

WATERFOWL - RAPTORS

A female Green-winged Teal with 4 chicks at Gold L. 5 July provided the first nesting record for Lane Co. and 1 of few ever for w. OR (SH, PP). A male Redhead at the Cannon Beach s.p. 29 June+ was a rare summer find (JJ, DB, HN). A male Ring-necked Duck was at the Nehalem s.p. 20 July (JG).

On highway 138 along the North Umpqua R., Ospreys have been frequently noted to nest on the flat-boughed crowns of Sugar Pines killed by White Pine Blister Rust (Cronartium rubicola). "Thus this deadly introduced fungus disease is ironically a boon to Ospreys" (DFi).

An imm. Black-shouldered Kite near Portland 19 July+ was quite early (JJ, DB, JG). An ad. Red-shouldered Hawk was at FRR 27 July (SH). At least 4 Peregrines were found on the n. coast in late July (m.ob.).
Four Black-bellied Plovers at B.O.S. 22 June+ were the first fall arrivals (JG, et. al.). There were two rare June sightings of Lesser Golden-Plover with 1 at Newport 1 June (DF) and a dominica at Tillamook 18 June (HN). An ad. fulva was at Bandon 12 July+ (m.ob.), and 2 dominicas were at B.O.S. 28 July (PP). A beautiful alternate plumaged Mongolian Plover was found at Bandon 11 July for only the third state record (LT). The bird was seen by many at least through the end of July.

The first Lesser Yellowlegs of the fall migration was at the Nehalem s.p. 8 July (JE, HN). For the sixth year in a row at least 2 Solitary Sandpipers spent the summer at Gold Lake Bog (m.ob.). As usual the birds became highly agitated when humans were present, crying constantly and alighting in the tops of the small spruces in the bog. The first fall migrants were 2 at the Diamond Lake s.p. 22 July (DFi).

Three Long-billed Curlews at Newport 8 June - 4 July was a high total, although this is the most likely location for them (VT et. al.). Another June rarity was a Marbled Godwit at Tillamook 22 June (JG et. al.). An ad. Semipalmated Sandpiper at B.O.S. 29 June+ provided the earliest fall report ever for OR (JJ, DB). Several adults were reported around their normal mid-July arrival time and juveniles began arriving at the end of the month with 1 at the SJCR 23 July (HN). Adult Pectoral Sandpipers arrived 20 July with singles at Tillamook and the Nehalem s.p. (fide HN). The first juv. was noted at Newport 27 July (PP). As usual Wilson's Phalaropes were found at Diamond L. One was there 4 July (MR) and 10 were at the Diamond Lake s.p. 20 July (DFi).
On his trip out to the end of the SJCR 8 June, PP also saw 1 Parasitic Jaeger, 10 Sabine's Gulls, and 4 Tufted Puffins. Two other Parasitic Jaegers were found in June with singles at B.O.S. 27 June (fide ME) and the SJCR 28 June (JJ, DB). A Franklin's Gull was at Newport 16-27 July (HN, PP) and another was at the Nehalem s.p. 22 July (JG et. al.). Ten Bonaparte's Gulls at Ford's Pond (Douglas) 27 June was a very surprising inland occurrence for summer (MS).

OWLS- WOODPECKERS

On 21 June a male and 2 imm. Spotted Owls were found along Dead Indian Rd. (Jackson), a consistent area for them (fide MM). A male Black-chinned Hummingbird at Cascade Head 22 June provided a first for Tillamook Co. (JJ, DB). More unusual was a male Costa's Hummingbird found near Roxy Ann Butte, Medford 2 June (HN). Two Allen's Hummingbirds at Bandon 14 June were at the n. edge of their range (IG, EP, SH, JJ). Up to 10 Black Swifts were at their Salt Crk. Falls location in Lane Co. all summer (m.ob.). Very interesting was a report of a White-thr. Swift in ne. Jackson Co. the last weekend of May (fide DFi). Perhaps a search of the area is in order during the upcoming summer.

An Acorn Woodpecker in an oak grove along the Elk R. (Curry) 14 July was in an area of known occurrence (DI, PP, SH). They are found regularly in small numbers along the coast to the south as well (fide JRh). A pair of Lewis' Woodpeckers were near Breitenbush (Marion) 11 July (IC, RG). One at Gold L. 27 July was a migrant (TM). A Williamson's Sapsucker nest was found at Diamond L. 29 June (KK), and a single bird was found near Tipsoo (Douglas) 4 July (MR). A dagetti Red-breasted Sapsucker in the Lane Co. coast Range 24 July was quite unusual (TM). This race is usually found much farther to the south. A male Lazuli Bunting was found on Cascade Head 23 June (JJ, JG, DB). A male was found there last year as well. A female Pine Grosbeak at Hoodoo 18 July was a lucky find (Jim Watkins). Two imm. Vesper Sparrows were at the Diamond Lake s.p. 25 July (DFi, DI). More surprising however is the fact that they were with a flock of 10+ Brewer's Sparrows (DFi, DI). A Brewer's Sparrow was also found singing near Bush Mt. Rd. (Jackson) 28 June (MM). This species should be looked for in dry clearcuts in the w. Cascades, especially south of Lane Co.

FLYCATCHERS - WARBLERS

An Ash-throated Flycatcher surprised observers at Bandon 14 June (IG, SH, JJ, EP). Douglas Co.'s second Least Flycatcher was discovered east of Roseburg 7-25 June (MS, MHu). A singing Purple Martin was noted at the summit of Saddle Mt. (Clatsop) 5 July (DFi).

On 29 June a pair of Red-eyed Vireos were found east of Sandy (Multnomah) (Angie & Kevin Cromack). An imm. male American Redstart was found singing away at Harbor 14 June (JJ, SH, EP, JG). There are more Redstart records for Curry Co. than any other in w. OR.

CORRECTIONS FROM THE LAST ISSUE FALL/WINTER FIELD NOTES

Only 1 nesting pair of Peregrines was found in Douglas Co., not 2. The Black Turnstone at ANWR 13 May was one of less than 5 inland records for the state.

The migrant Rock Wren was at a small quarry near FRR 21 April, not Emigrant L. 4 Feb. Instead a Canyon Wren was at Emigrant L. 4 Feb. providing a first winter record for, the Rogue Valley, and 1 at Toketee Ranger Station April+ was the second record for Douglas Co.

OBSERVERS

DB - Dave Bailey
JC - Jack Corbett
ME - Merlin Eltzroth
JE - Joe Evanich
DF - Darrel Faxon
DFi - David Fix
RG - Roy Gerig
JG - Jeff Gilligan
SG - Steve Gordon
SH - Steve Heinl
MH - Mike Houck
MHu - Matt Hunter
JJ - Jim Johnson
KK - Ken Knittle
KL - Kit Larson
TM - Tom Mickel
MM - Marjorie Moore
HN - Harry Nehls
PP - Phil Pickering
EP - Eric Pozzo
MR - Mike Robbins
JR - Jim Rogers
MS - Martha Sawyer
VT - Verda Teale
LT - Larry Thornburgh

Not unexpectedly, a Northern Waterthrush was found at Gold Lake Bog 28 June (TM, SG). This species should be looked for elsewhere in the Cascades.
SITE GUIDE: WHERE TO FIND A BARRIED OWL IN OREGON — Glide, Douglas County

Ken Knittle, 109 S.E. 10th Street, College Place, WA 99324

On Highway 138 go east 12.2 miles from the Glide Post Office to Boundary Road. This is also marked as Forest Road 4710. Stay on this road 6.9 miles to the Barred Owl pulloff.

Watch for logging equipment. The road is gravelled all the way, but log trucks tear up the road so only a 4-wheel drive vehicle can get through sometimes, especially in winter.

Listen across the canyon. The Barred Owl (Strix varia) can move frequently during the course of one night. After listening to it close by on one occasion, I tried to show it to others 1/2-hour later and it had moved across the N. Umpqua River where it was next to impossible to hear.

February and March seem to be best. The owl is most vocal in these months, but I've heard it in all seasons.

Northern Pygmy-Owls (Glaucidium gnoma) and Spotted Owls (Strix occidentalis) are common in the area also. The Spotted Owl is most often heard 1.3 miles from the highway on Boundary Road. Stop, play a tape, and listen up the hill. Pygmy Owls can be anywhere along the way. I've had them more than once just starting up the Mace Mt. Trail.

Also watch for Mountain Quail, Dipper, Varied Thrush, Blue and Ruffed Grouse, and Townsend's Solitaire.
SITE GUIDE: Hood River County

David A. Anderson, 6203 S.E. 92nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97266

Several years ago after reading in Oregon Birds that no one had reported seeing 100 species of birds in Hood River County, I decided to be the first. Reaching the 100 mark I found to be relatively easy. Even seeing 150 species in a year's time can be done with some effort.

However, the goal of seeing 200 species is going to be rather difficult. Several types of habitats are either absent or severely limited within the county. Another factor affecting the numbers and species of birds is the climate. Winter can be especially severe. Sub-freezing temperatures with gale force winds in the Columbia River Gorge are not uncommon.

The biggest problem facing anyone working on a county list is where to go. When I began this project I was basically on my own. No one I knew, it seemed, knew where to go or what birds could be expected in Hood River County. The biggest help I found was the Mt. Hood National Forest visitor's map, which shows the entire county and the majority of the smaller roads within the county. It is available at outdoor stores and Forest Service Ranger District offices.

There are 2 main road corridors in the county. The I-84 corridor paralleling the Columbia River along the northern portion of the county and the Highway 35 corridor bisecting the county in a north-south direction. There are, surprisingly, a few small county roads off of I-84 in the Cascade Locks area. These roads are easily overlooked. In addition to these roads numerous trails lead to the backcountry. Some are for well-seasoned hikers (e.g., the Mt. Defiance trail system) but are well worth the effort. From Highway 35 a multitude of smaller roads lead throughout Hood River Valley and up into the mountains. The highest point in the county accessible by road is Cloud Cap at 5800+ ft. on the north side of Mt. Hood.

At Cascade Locks check the north side of the island at the old locks for Canada Geese, a variety of ducks, and Bald Eagle. This is also a good spot for swallows in spring and summer. House Sparrows and Scrub Jay can usually be found around the town with the latter especially along Forest Lane on the east side of town. There are a few maintained feeders on the streets off of Forest Lane.

The most reliable spot to find Dippers is where Forest Lane crosses Herman Creek. Up to 6 (!) have been seen here at one time. They can also be expected along any of the larger swiftly flowing streams in the county.

Government Cove is a good spot for ducks especially in the fall months. In winter check the cove from the road just east of the Columbia Gorge work center. A scope is needed. Check for ducks mixed in with the flock of coot which can number around 1000. Common Loons are occasionally seen here in winter. Wood Ducks appear to be regular fall migrants. An additional vantage point is gained by walking jeep trails on the east side of the lumber mill on Forest Lane. This walk is not recommended in winter since the ducks on the cove will be spooked before you get a chance to see them. The walk is recommended for spring and summer when a variety of warblers and vireos can be seen. Yellowthroat can be seen in the marshy area at the west edge of the cove. Habitat is oak woodland. Bird houses have just been recently placed on the pilings in the cove and in the future may house Purple Martins.

Herman Creek Road should be checked, especially during spring and summer. It tends to be rather quiet in the winter. Ruffed Grouse, Willow Flycatcher, Rufous Hummingbird, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Solitary Vireo and Lazuli Bunting are some of the birds recorded in the area around the orchard just beyond the end of the pavement. Most of the land around the orchard is private and posted. The road continues east to Wyeth and back to the freeway. Both Townsend's Solitaire and Say's Phoebe have been found at Wyeth in
spring migration. Townsend's Solitaires move through the lowlands in the county in the spring before moving into the higher country for nesting.

Viento State Park, when it doesn't live up to its name (Viento is Spanish for "wind"), is definitely worth stopping at. The gates are closed during the winter but can be walked around. Chipping Sparrows and Northern Orioles have been found here.

If someone were on a limited time schedule and wanted to know a spot worth stopping at while passing through Hood River, I would have to give them 3.

The first is west of the sewage works (there aren't any good sewage ponds in the county) in what could be either an unfinished boat basin or industrial land not yet filled in. At any rate, this basin is the best spot for ducks in the county. A drivable road full of potholes is on top of the levee which encircles most of the basin. One of the highlights for this area is the flock of Redhead found wintering here from mid-October until late March. Numbers as high as 243 have been found here in late December. Large numbers of American Wigeon and Coot are also found here and Gadwall, Wood Duck, Bufflehead, Greater and Lesser Scaup, and Hooded Merganser are regular. The 3 common species of grebe, Western, Pied-billed, and Horned are regular while Red-necked, Eared, and Clark's have been recorded in fall migration. Other migrating birds seen using the Columbia River corridor include Tundra Swan, Pintail, and Forster's and Caspian Terns. Great Blue Herons and occasionally Bald Eagles use the islands to the west for roosting. Canada Geese are regularly seen feeding in the undeveloped land between the Luhr Jensen and Western Power Products plants. Other birds irregularly noted in the undeveloped land include: Western Meadowlark, Horned Lark, Northern Shrike, Water Pipit, and Townsend's Solitaire.

The second spot I'd recommend is the mouth of Hood River for roosting gulls. Check from the parking lot on the east side where wind surfers hang out. A scope is needed to identify the gulls on the west side of the river's mouth. Uncommon shorebirds seen here in the fall migration include Short-billed Dowitcher, Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, and Western Sandpiper.

The third spot is at Pacific Power and Light's power station off Highway 35 just south of town. Drive down to the powerhouse and park on the west side of the powerhouse. From here walk along the railroad tracks upstream for about 1/2 to 3/4 mile. Harlequin Ducks have been found here in the spring. There is an active Osprey nest in an old Ponderosa Pine along this walk. The ponds on the east side of the tracks south of the nest should be checked since a variety of birds can been seen around its perimeter. Bushtits, Song Sparrows, Black-headed Grosbeaks are regularly found here. Wood Duck are also frequently seen. In the fall 1985 migration the cottonwoods were crawling with warblers. Most were Yellow-rumped with a few Black-throated Grays and Townsend's. This could be a good vagrant spot.

South of the powerhouse on Highway 35 take the first left, following the signs towards Panorama Point. The road you will be following is the East Side Road. Birding is usually mediocre around Panorama Point, but the view of Hood River Valley and Mt. Hood is very good. About a half mile south of Panorama Point is the Old Dalles Road leading eastward. This is the only road which crosses through the remnant oak woodland/grassland habitat found on the east side of Hood River Valley. The spring wildflowers in late March are very showy. The endemic purple-flowered Lomatium columbianum is common here. Birds include: Nashville Warbler (at the top of the ridge), Ruffed Grouse, Downy Woodpecker, Western Bluebird, and Red-breasted Nuthatch. After reaching the top of the main ridge drive south about a mile to a large grassy area. This appears to be a reliable spot for Western Meadowlark. Also seen here are Chipping Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting, and Purple Finch.

Fir Mountain Road is another good road to explore. During field trips in May 1985 and 1986 Calliope Hummingbirds outnumbered Rufous
Hummingbirds by a wide margin! Lewis' Woodpeckers have been noted along the lower portions of this road.

East of Odell is another pond which is a must to check. The pond, visible from Sunday Road, is locally called Scott's Pond after the late owner who used to feed the ducks and geese. Moderately large flocks of both American Wigeon and Canada Geese wintered here. However, in December 1985 no waterfowl were found on the frozen pond. Rarities noted here include Eurasian Wigeon (regular), Greater White-fronted Goose, and Snow Goose.

Just before the town of Odell is a good pond on the north side of the road. This is a reliable spot for finding Common Snipe in the fall. The wigeon and goose flocks found at Scott's Pond are sometimes located around this small pond and in the pasture surrounding it. There are a few feeders maintained in Odell which are visible from the roads. A few minutes can be spent driving around inspecting them.

Ponds and wetlands are almost an endangered habitat in Hood River County. A change in ownership of Scott's Pond could result in this fine pond being converted into orchards. The Hood River Port Commission could further develop its property along the Columbia River and even the island immediately to the west, thus wiping out the winter resting area of the Redheads. It is hoped that any development would include some sort of mitigation project as well.

One of the main reasons I started birding in Hood River County is the hiking around Mt. Hood. The alpine zone on Mt. Hood in Hood River County (unlike Clackamas County) is unreachable to non-hikers/skiers. Rumor has it that the Rosy Finch exists there but to date, despite many trips, I have not yet been able to confirmed it! I have seen Prairie Falcon (regular?), Short-eared Owl, Horned Lark (breeds here), and Water Pipits (regular) above timberline on Cooper Spur. Cloud Cap at the end of the Cooper Spur Road is the easiest place to find Clark's Nutcracker in the county. Gray Jays, Red Crossbills, and Evening Grosbeaks are also found regularly along the road.

Other back country areas worth checking include: Wahtum Lake (the jeep trail on the north side makes easy walking and has twice produced Black-backed Woodpeckers); Horsethief Meadows (near Robinhood Campground off Highway 35, look for Lincoln Sparrows, and at night in summer Saw-whet Owls); Elk Meadows (both Black-backed and Three-toed Woodpeckers were reported here in 1982, apparently not since); and Road 44 (for a variety of species found in coniferous forests—easily accessible). Road 44 has recently produced Black-backed Woodpeckers, Williamson's Sapsucker, Green-tailed Towhee, and Ash-throated Flycatcher.

Lookout Mountain, on the northwest side of Badger Creek Wilderness is also an interesting area for hikers. In addition to all 3 species of Accipiters the following have been recorded: Kestrel, Rock Dove (at 6000 ft. elev.), Northern Harrier (fall migrant), and Black-chinned Hummingbirds in mid-late summer. Anyone visiting Lookout Mtn. should be advised that all roads leading in are extremely rough.

To anyone who adventures into Hood River County, I wish them good luck and good birding. I would appreciate hearing what birds were found and where.
The following is a list of the birds of Hood River County. This list is based mostly on my sightings and a few sightings supplied to me by those few birders who have ventured into the county or who live there. Some records are taken from recent issues of Oregon Birds, however an exhaustive search of American Birds has not yet been undertaken.

I encourage anyone who has a record not listed or who has seen a species in a month not yet checked off — to let me know about it. Thank you and good birding!

Harris' Sparrow, 22 January 1984, on Miller Road n.e. of Parkdale. Photo/David Anderson.
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<tr>
<td>Black-capped Chickadee</td>
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<td>Mountain Chickadee</td>
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<td>Chestnut-backed Chickadee</td>
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<td>Bushtit</td>
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<td>Brown Creeper</td>
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<td>Rock Wren</td>
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<td>Canyon Wren</td>
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<td>Bewick's Wren</td>
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<td>Marsh Wren</td>
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<td>American Dipper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golden-crowned Kinglet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</td>
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<td>Western Bluebird</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mountain Bluebird</td>
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<td>Townsend's Solitaire</td>
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<td>Swainson's Thrush</td>
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<td>Hermit Thrush</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Robin</td>
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<td>Water Pipit</td>
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<td>Bohemian Waxwing</td>
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<td>Cedar Waxwing</td>
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<td>Northern Shrike</td>
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<td>Loggerhead Shrike</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Starling</td>
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OREGON BIRDS 13(1): 116
The following species require further data (dates, details, etc.) before being placed in the main list: Mountain Quail, Western Gull, Spotted Owl, and Black Swift.

My thanks to the following persons who supplied me with records from Hood River County: Allison Banks, Tim Bickler, Craig Corder, Nadine Eccles, David Fix, Donna Lusthoff, David Marshall, Janice Merz, Pat Muller, Harry Nehls, Phil Pickering, Steve Snodgrass, Verda Teale, Linda Weiland, and Bing Wong.
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.

**Short Notes** are shorter communications dealing with the biology of Oregon's birds. Short Notes typically cite no references, or at most a few in parentheses in the text. Author's name and address appear at the end of the text.

**Articles** are longer contributions dealing with the biology of Oregon's birds. Articles cite references (if any) at the end of the text. Author's name and address appear at the beginning 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. Please submit color slide duplicates or black and white glossies in 3 x 5 size. Label all photos with photographer's name and address, bird identification, date and place the photo was taken. Photos cannot be returned unless prior arrangements are made with the Editor.

Deadline for the next issue of *Oregon Birds*—Volume 13 Number 2—is 1 May 1987. The next issue should get to you by the first week of June 1987. Material can be submitted at 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