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COVER PHOTO
Dusky Flycatcher, a pair at their nest, 12 June 1994, Little Deschutes Campground, Klamath Co. Photo/ Skip Russell.

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Deadline for the next issue of Oregon Birds — OB 21(2), Summer 1995 — is 20 April 1995. The next issue should get to you by the first week of June 1995. Material can be submitted any time, and the sooner the better. Please send materials directly to the Editor, 3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212, 503-282-9403.

Oregon Birds Board of Editors:

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The Western Wood-Pewee (Contopus sordidulus) of western North America, and the Eastern Wood-Pewee (C. virens) of eastern North America, constitute a superspecies and are considered conspecific by some authors (American Ornithologists’ Union 1983). Separation in the field has always been one of the most challenging tasks a birder could face—at least before the Western Flycatcher (Empidonax difficilis) was split into Pacific-slope (E. difficilis) and Cordilleran (E. occidentalis). Even in the hand, some Wood-Pewees (especially juveniles and first-fall birds) are impossible to identify reliably (Pyle et al. 1987). However, their ranges barely overlap, so for most birders, their separation is not an everyday problem—until one is found out of range.

In this article I will describe the circumstances surrounding the discovery of Oregon’s first Eastern Wood-Pewee, its identification, and briefly summarize previous records from the West Coast.

Circumstances
On 28 May 1994, at about 7:30 a.m., I arrived at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge headquarters, Harney County, with Gerard Lillie and Steve Jaggers. As soon as we began walking through the trees by the west parking lot, I heard a singing pewee. I was almost afraid to think it, but the song sounded like that of the Eastern Wood-Pewee. I had no prior experience with that species, but I was familiar with its song and how it differs from that of the Western Wood-Pewee. I pointed out what I was hearing to Gerard and Steve, offered my thoughts, and we listened to the persistent singing for about a half minute.

Several other birders were in the area, but no one mentioned the peculiar song. Craig Miller wandered by and when I brought his attention to the bird his eyes lit up. With greater confidence, we walked over to the location of the bird, pointed it out to the others and we all watched it and listened to its incessant singing. Soon after, I put the word on the Oregon Rare Bird Phone Network. Other birders that were present at the time were Craig Corder, Rick Krabbe, Harry Nehls, Greg Gillson, and Alan Contreras. Later in the day, and in following days, Jeff Gilligan, Sheran Jones, David Herr, David Bailey, Steve Summers, Tom Crabtree, Skip Russell, and Tom Mickel saw and heard the bird.

The bird remained through the weekend to 30 May, and was almost constantly either singing or calling. The bird often perched about 20 to 30 feet up on a dead branch of a poplar allowing excellent and prolonged views. It was photographed by several people and was tape-recorded by David Herr and David Bailey. This record was published by Gilligan et al. (1994), but is still under consideration by the Oregon Bird Records Committee.

Description
The bird was obviously a flycatcher of the genus Contopus, being a little larger and heavier than an Empidonax, with generally pale underparts, dark upperparts, slender bill, noticeable pale edgings on the wing coverts and tertials, relatively long primary extension, and lacking a noticeable eye ring.

The crown, face and back were olive-brownish with a slight greenish tinge. There was a very indistinct narrow eye ring, hardly paler than the rest of the face. The wings were darker blackish-brown with pale grayish-white edgings on the tertials and median and greater wing coverts forming wing bars. The primary extension was longer than is typical for Empidonax. The underparts were generally pale with a grayish-white throat, central breast, belly and crissum with a slight yellowish wash on the lower belly and crissum. The sides of the breast were lightly washed with gray. The tail was dark.

The bill was narrow and about half or a little less than the width of the head. The upper mandible was dark and the lower mandible was pale yellowish-orange or flesh with a tiny dark tip visible through a scope.

The first vocalizations heard were “PEE-a-WEE ….. PEE-yer”, whistled without any throaty or burry quality. Of the first phrase, the second note was lower-pitched than the first and the third was higher-pitched than the first and up-slurred. Of the second phrase, the second note was lower-pitched than the first. These vocalizations were repeated every few seconds for what seemed like hours during the morning. Later in the day, the bird mostly gave “PEE-WEE” or “PEE-yer” calls with the same clear, whistled quality.

Identification
Kaufman (1990) provides an excellent discussion on the field separation of Western and Eastern Wood-Pewees. In the spring and early summer, Westerns tend to be darker olive-brown or olive-gray on the back without a greenish tinge, have darker, more extensive washes on the sides of the breast giving them a distinctly vested
appearance, have a duller, brownish-white throat, and usually at least the distal half of the lower mandible is dark. Plumage differences become less distinct after mid-summer when wearing and fading take their effect. The Malheur bird had a paler back with a slight greenish tinge, paler, less extensive washes on the sides of the breast, a pale grayish-white throat, and a nearly completely pale lower mandible. In either species, the lower mandible may be almost all dark or almost all pale (Kaufman 1990), but the dark tip is usually greater than 3.5 mm in Western and less than 3.5 mm in Eastern (Pyle et al. 1987). I estimate that the dark tip on the lower mandible of the Malheur bird was about 1 mm or less, while the lower mandibles of Western Wood-Pewees in the vicinity, identified by voice, were nearly all dark. The visual characteristics do overlap, so the known differences are only averages. However, the bird in question was clearly at the Eastern end of the spectrum.

The best distinction between the pewees is in their spring songs. The song of the Western Wood-Pewee begins with a "dree-di-beep" rising in pitch and ends with a drawn-out, burry "peeeeyeer" lowering in pitch. Western song components typically lack the sudden changes of pitch and clear whistled quality of the Eastern song (Kaufman 1990). In all of the vocalizing that the Malheur bird performed, not a single utterance was typically Western.

**Previous West Coast records**

The only previously accepted records of the Eastern Wood-Pewee from the West Coast states were in California. These were accepted by the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC): one captured, measured and photographed on Southeast Farallon Island, San Francisco County, 15 June 1975 (Luther 1980); and a singing bird at San Joaquin City, San Joaquin County, 18 August-17 September 1983 (Morlan 1985). Roberson (1980) published a photograph of the former bird. A more recent report from California is currently under consideration by the CBRC—one singing on Big Pine Mountain, Santa Barbara County, 24 June-9 July 1994. It is believed that this report will be accepted (Michael Patten, pers. comm.). Another record is of interest to West Coast birders: one collected near Tucson, Arizona, 7 Oct 1953 (Monson & Phillips 1981).

**Acknowledgments**

I thank Michael Patten, Secretary of the California Bird Records Committee, for providing information on reports of Eastern Wood-Pewee in California.

**LITERATURE CITED**


In mid-March 1994, Roy Gerig mentioned to me that he had come across a very feisty Blue Grouse a couple of weeks ago, and again the previous day. He described how this bird came right up to him and pecked on his hands and feet, even to the point of drawing blood from one hand!

After pondering this, I thought it would be nice to see him myself. I had heard of such behavior by this family of birds, and even as a kid I remember a ruffed grouse trying to attack our car once. The next day after church I took my family along with another one, 4 adults and 4 kids, to Sugarloaf Mountain.

The skies were a typical gray which we are familiar with here in Oregon, and as we traveled higher in elevation it got foggy and rainy. But if you go there it is definitely worth it on a clear day. The view is almost equal to Mary's Peak.

We drove slowly not quite knowing what to expect, around one corner then another. Then we caught the glimpse of a dark figure strutting through the mist. Here he came! Pumping his head, walking at top speed, heading straight at us in a defiant challenge. (After all, who were we to invade his domain?) Right up to the car he came as if he were ready to give us a citation for trespassing.

I wasn't sure if I wanted to get out or not, but we 2 family heads went out to "greet" him. That's when we found out how ornery he really was. He went from one of us to the other, pecking at our feet or pulling at our pant legs. Occasionally he would jump up and give us a double flap on our shins. All the time while doing this he was emitting a low clucking sound which told us he meant business.

In actuality it was really funny; outright hilarious! This continued for about 5 minutes until we deemed it safe for the rest to get out of the car, with a few restrictions of course. Sure enough, he went right after the kids. He wasn't partial to anyone. The kids had a grand time and little by little lost their fear of him. They came to enjoy being chased by this "macho" bird.

I finally yielded to the temptation and caught him. My excuse was that I needed to show the children his inflatable air sacks. Of course I really wanted to see them as well. Plus it isn't every day that you have a Blue Grouse running around between your feet like a chicken.

His strength was amazing! When he struggled to get free it was all I could do to hold him. We pressed back his neck feathers to see the yellow skin. If I were to describe it I would say it looked like scrambled eggs. I explained that during this time of year — mating time — he inflates these sacks and makes a booming noise. Instantly he received the name "Boomer." I put him down.

We naturally expected him to carry on pestering us, but he meandered away. When the kids followed him he took to flight and escaped to a nearby tree from where he could still keep an eye on us. Even up there we could still hear him scolding us in his low pitched clucking.

We headed on up to the top of the mountain to see if anything could be seen through the clouds. When we stopped and opened the door a hissing sound greeted our ears. We were getting a flat tire. Since the spare was flat as well we headed back down the mountain. Once again we were greeted by Boomer. We stopped momentarily to get final looks at him and then sped home. It was really a great day, one that will remain in the memory of a few kids for a long time, as well as a few adults. There was just one letdown: I neglected to bring my camera!

The following day was sunny. Our experience with Boomer had dominated many conversations afterwards, and since it was only 10 miles from home, well, we found ourselves en route to Sugarloaf Mountain after breakfast. Once again we drove slow as we entered his domain. There was no sign of him as we neared the end of it. We stopped and within 10 seconds we caught sight of him descending to the road just a few feet away.

He was in his usual feisty mood. Photographing him was more of a hassle than I'd anticipated because he was never still for long or he would be too close for the camera to focus. Much of my time was spent shooing him away to get him in focus. I even-
ually took a roll and a half of film. He was often distracted by my wife or daughter which gave me a nice break. Once I laid down on my back for a rest and before I could realize it he was on my chest ready to land a few pecks on my face. Thankfully I had my camera as a barrier and he landed a few well aimed pecks on the lens, and I don’t think he was after his own reflection either! My wife suggested that this would make a nice picture, so there went my camera. “Hurry up and take that picture, will ya...My hands can’t take much more of this torture!” was all I said at this point.

After a while he “somehow” got stuck under my legs, and was caught again. My daughter was quick to give him a petting and tell him how handsome he was. With the fresh wounds on my hands I did not have quite the same attitude. He must not have liked this humbling experience, for once again, when liberated, he walked away quite disgusted, and flew to a nearby tree, letting us know in unmistakable language what he thought of those who get the best of him.

We visited him again the following weekend and went through most of experiences already described. It was still great fun. But by the next weekend he was nowhere to be found. Maybe his hormone levels had dropped, or, that he met some less kind “enemy.” We calculated that this grouse could be counted on to be seen (and felt) for 3 weeks. We hope that he did not try to protect his territory in the same way against bobcats and the like. Needless to say, we will be looking for him next year.
Where To Find a Blue Grouse in Western Oregon

John Lundsten, 2352 Bunker Hill Road S, Salem, OR 97306

During 1993 I made monthly visits to Mary's Peak in Benton County to develop a bird list for the Siuslaw National Forest. I was surprised how often I heard and saw Blue Grouse (Dendragapus obscurus). The first one was heard hooting in March, and by April I heard birds hooting at 8 different locations near the top of the mountain. There was still some hooting during my May visit, and I flushed birds from the ground in May and June. In August I flushed an adult and 3 nearly grown young birds. In September and October birds were seen on the gravel road toward the top, and also in the large stand of Noble Fir on the north slope of the top.

The hooting areas were in stands of large Douglas Fir on steep slopes below the open areas. As you are driving up the mountain and nearing the top (about milepost 8) the trees are dense on the steep slope on the downhill side of the road. Stop periodically to listen for hooting as you make your way to the parking area on top. Just below the parking area is the east slope where birds also can be heard. You can make a loop hike which will take you through some hooting areas. Take the East Ridge trail which starts in back of the rest room facility at the parking lot. After about one-half mile a spur trail branches off to the left and follows the east slope over to Mary's Peak trail coming up on the north side of the mountain. Turn left on this trail and it comes out on the top close to where you started.

Hearing the Blue Grouse is easy; but spotting the hooter is not. The bird is usually perched close to the trunk about half or three-quarters of the way up the tree. The sound is very ventriloquistic, making it difficult to judge either distance or direction. On one occasion after spotting the bird, I made an attempt to mimic the “hoot.” The bird fanned his tail, puffed up his chest and started strutting on the branch. After another exchange of hoots, the bird flew down towards me lighting in a small tree about 15 feet over my head. At that point I got a good look at his eyes, and it was clear he did not want me around, so I agreed to leave.

The best area for seeing a grouse on the ground is at the edges of the open areas around the top. The Meadow Loop trail, which starts about halfway up the gravel road above the parking lot, covers some of this type of habitat. Mountain Quail are also frequently heard in spring in the same areas, but are more difficult to see.

New Kinglet Field Mark

Ian Paulsen, 9501 Moran Rd. NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Most birders do not consider the kinglets a field identification problem due to their distinctive head patterns. Some identification problems arise when Ruby-crowned Kinglets (Regulus calendula) are mistaken for Hutton's Vireos (Vireo huttoni). Separating these 2 species relies on differences in size and body and bill shape as well as slight plumage differences. Recently I came across a field mark that has been overlooked by all standard North American field guides, although described by Allan Brooks in Forbush (1929).

During January 1991 I examined 3 fresh cat-killed Golden-crowned Kinglets (Regulus satrapa) and found they had yellow tarsi and toes. The yellow extended about halfway up the tarsus. Later I determined that this yellow coloration is visible in the field. Ruby-crowned Kinglets also show the yellow, but it is normally duller and limited to the toes and the very lower end of the tarsus. Photographs of the kinglets illustrating the leg color can be found in Terres (1980: 1033), although the legs of Golden-crowns are duller than what I observed in the field.

These leg color patterns can be used to separate the kinglet species if seen clearly. The yellowish foot color of the Ruby-crowned Kinglet can be used to separate it from the Hutton’s Vireo, which has blue-gray legs. Whether there are seasonal, sexual, or age differences in leg color is yet to be determined, but juveniles appear to have paler, perhaps uniformly pale, legs.

Literature Cited


Egg Ground Coloration of Sandhill Cranes in Oregon and California

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Current address: HCR 4 Box 212, Muleshoe, TX 79347

Greater Sandhill Crane (Grus canadensis tabida) egg background coloration was described by Walkinshaw (1973) as wood brown, dark olive buff, deep olive buff to light olive buff, lightly to heavily marked with shades of lavender, clove brown, bone brown, pale violet plumbeous, army brown, tawny brown, black, and occasional shades of gray. A more generalized description was provided by Tacha et al. (1992), describing the eggs as subelliptical or long oval in shape, generally pale brownish buff to light olive, irregularly marked with darker brown, reddish brown, or pale gray. Furthermore, it is known that individual Sandhill Cranes lay eggs which have the same shape and coloration pattern throughout their reproductive life (Nicholson 1927, Walkinshaw 1973, Littlefield 1981).

Even though G. c. tabida egg ground color polymorphism has been documented, I am unaware of any published coloration percentages for a specific Sandhill Crane population. The objective of this note is to present egg ground coloration data for members of the Central Valley Population of Greater Sandhill Cranes. Population members breed in northeastern California, and central and eastern Oregon (Littlefield and Thompson 1979; Littlefield et al. 1994).

Study Area and Methods

From 1966 through 1989, I investigated the population’s productivity at locations within Oregon and California, with major emphasis on cranes in southeastern Oregon at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Harney County. Additional studies were conducted in south-central Oregon at Sycan Marsh, Lake County, in 1981 and several locations in northeastern California in 1988. I recorded egg ground coloration for 890 egg sets from Malheur NWR, 48 from northeastern California, and 13 from Sycan Marsh.

Terminology is based on egg coloration descriptions presented in Harrison (1978).

Results

All 951 Greater Sandhill Crane clutches were of buff or olive ground color types. However, considerable within-type variation occurred (Table 1). Occasionally (5 clutches) a single 2-egg clutch would contain 1 egg of a particular hue, while the other was of a considerably different hue. These 5 samples were excluded.

**Buff type.** A total of 769 clutches (80.8%) was in this group (Table 1). Buff hues varied from pale buff to deep brown, with the majority pale buff (N = 588). Rarest was reddish buff, represented by only 1 clutch. Sixty-six clutches were olive buff, and considering these appeared more buffish than olive they were included within the buff category. Fourteen nests contained clutches that were extremely dark (deep brown), of which all were located on Malheur NWR. Of clutches examined in northeastern California, buffs made up 87.5% of the sample, while at Sycan Marsh 84.6% were within the type. At Malheur NWR, 80.5% had buff hues.

**Olive type.** Only 182 (19.1%) clutches were of the olive type. Egg ground coloration varied from light cream (with a few scattered light blotches) to deep olive (Table 1). Buffish olive was the most commonly encountered with 71 clutches, while 3 hues were represented by only 3: creamy olive, bluish cream, pale blue. Olive was second with 59, while the remaining olive hues were represented by 12 or less. At Malheur NWR, 19.5% had olive hues, while clutches at Sycan Marsh had 15.4% and northeastern California 12.5%.

Discussion

Of the 5 disjunct Greater Sandhill Crane flocks, the Central Valley Population is the westernmost. Eastward, the Lower Colorado River Valley Population breeds primarily in northeastern Nevada, while the Rocky Mountain Population occupies breeding territories from northwestern Colorado to southwestern Montana. East of the 100° meridian, the Prairie Population nests in northwestern Minnesota and southeastern Manitoba, with the Eastern Population breeding in the Great Lakes states and provinces (Drewien and Lewis 1987). To my knowledge, egg ground coloration percentages have not been reported for the other 4 populations, therefore, color-frequencies could not be compared.

Egg-color relationships between Greater Sandhill Crane adults and their progeny have also not been investigated. However, limited field evidence from specific isolated nesting locations suggest there could be a genetic relationship. For example, 8 Greater Sandhill Crane nests were located in a 10 ha wetland in Ash Creek Valley, Lassen County, California, in 1988. Four (50%) contained clutches with olive eggs. Considering only 3 (7.5%) additional clutches examined in California in 1988 had olive eggs, it would be reasonable to assume that at least some Ash Creek Valley birds were closely related. Similar clumping of crane pairs with olive-type eggs has also been noted at Malheur NWR, Oregon (pers. obs.). However, until there has been a comprehensive study on captive-breeding cranes, similar to that conducted by Collias (1994) on captive Village Weavers (Ploceus cucullatus), the genetics of egg color relationships between Greater Sandhill Crane adults and their offspring will at best remain speculative.

Acknowledgments

Funds for conducting Greater Sandhill Crane studies in the Pacific Northwest were provided primarily by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Additional funding was from The Na-
ture Conservancy, California Dept. of Fish and Game, and Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.

LITERATURE CITED


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Goose migration routes in spring are not thoroughly known in western Oregon. Maps in Bellrose (1976), Kebbe (1976), and Fix (1988) roughly agree that geese fly northwest from the direction of Klamath Basin. They differ in that Fix (1988) suggested that Greater White-fronted Geese (Anser albifrons) continue flying northwest over coastal counties, while Bellrose (1976) and Kebbe (1976) note that geese turn at the southern Willamette Valley, fly north to the Columbia River, and then fly west to the coast.

In fall in western Oregon, Bellrose (1976) and Kebbe (1976) indicate that geese reverse their spring route over the Willamette Valley, and Kebbe (1976) also lists a migration route along the Oregon Coast. But neither Bellrose nor Kebbe suggested that geese cross the Oregon Coast Range during migration.

In this paper, we discuss the results of opportunistic observations of goose flights across Lincoln County. Although we did not attempt a systematic, coordinated study of these flights, these observations indicate that goose flights across the Coast Range are common. We first discuss some problems in interpreting our observations, and then we document spring migration mostly by White-fronts and fall migration by White-fronts and Canada Geese (Branta canadensis) across the Coast Range of Lincoln County (Fig. 1).

For convenience, we list our records and those made by some other observers chronologically within sections for northern, central, and southern portions of Lincoln County because geese appeared to use different routes when crossing the Coast Range. Times given are in Pacific Standard Time (PST) by the 24-hour clock.

**Interpretation of Goose Migration Direction**

There are 2 types of errors in our records. First, the flight direction was roughly estimated by single observers without compasses. It would have been much more accurate to have at least 2 teams of observers on ridges or mountains use radios and theodolites to simultaneously plot the flight paths of flocks over several miles.

Second, geese often fly circuitously and dramatically change direction, so that what sometimes appears to be a flight across the Coast Range may not be. This is particularly a problem for fall flights, when Lowe sometimes saw geese fly eastward up the Alsea River Valley but then return and fly south.

**Identification of Migrating Geese**

Geese in many of our flocks were not identified to species because they were flying at high altitudes (also see Fix 1988:244), were too distant, or lighting conditions were too poor for visual identification. Additionally, Bayer was not familiar with distinguishing among Canada, White-fronted, and Snow Geese (Chen caerulescens) by call, which is often the only way they could be identified. However, Lowe has worked extensively with geese and is familiar with identifying them by their calls.

**Spring Westerly or Northwesterly Goose Migration**

**Northern Lincoln County**

On 29 April 1990, Mark Elliott, who was about 2 miles inland at the east side of Siletz Bay, visually identified a flock of 5 Snow Geese and 40 Canada Geese at 1520. They were flying to the northwest from the Siletz River Valley. When they reached the mouth of Siletz Bay, they flew northward along the coastline.

On 2 May 1992, Lowe, who was about 2 miles inland at Siletz Bay, saw a flock of 25-30 White-fronts flying to the northwest from the Siletz River Valley towards Siletz Bay at 1700.

On 11 May 1992, Faxon, Barb Bellin, and Roy Gerig, who were at Siletz Bay, saw a large flock of White-fronts fly in from the southeast, drop in elevation as they approached, and fly northward after reaching the coastline.

**Central Lincoln County**

About 11 miles from the coastline at Thornton Creek, Faxon noticed flocks of unidentified geese occasionally during the 16 April–3 May period in 15 of 19 years from 1973 through 1991 (Faxon and Bayer 1991, 1993). Most of these flocks were flying north or northwest towards the Siletz River Valley. In late April of many years, Faxon saw numerous flocks of several hundred geese passing during a given day, but they were nearly always flying at high altitudes, so that their calls were sometimes only barely audible.

On 6 May 1975, Bayer, who was about 1 mile inland along the south side of Yaquina Bay, heard and then saw 4 flocks of unidentified geese fly over from 1355-1404. Each flock had about 200-400 birds and flew toward the west and Yaquina Bay. When they arrived at the Bay, they changed direction and flew north. He also saw a flock of about 150 and of 500 geese following the same flight path at 1115 on 30 April and at 1300 on 8 May, respectively. A total of about 2000 geese were in these flocks.

On 26 April 1987, Bob Llewellyn, who was about 12 miles from the coast near Logsdon, saw 250 unidentified geese fly towards the northwest, down the Siletz River Valley (Llewellyn and Bayer 1994:174).

**Southern Lincoln County**

On 29 April 1990, Lowe, who was about 2 miles from the coast on the south side of Alsea Bay, noted 1 flock of about 300 and another flock of about 250 White-fronts flying westward. They changed direction as they approached Waldport and then flew to the northwest at 0925 and 1100.
respectively. Because of the lighting conditions and the flocks' elevation, Lowe was unable to identify these geese using binoculars but was able to do so by call. At 1005 and 1245 on the same day, he also heard flocks of White-fronts fly over.

On 1 May 1990, Dorothy Olson, who was about 9 miles from the coastline near Tidewater, saw a flock of about 200 unidentified geese fly from east to west at 1000.

On 2 May 1992, Lowe, who was about 2 miles from the coast on the south side of Alsea Bay, saw a flock of about 550 White-fronts flying very high from east to west at 1040. He first detected them by hearing their faint calls; even with binoculars, they were barely visible, so these flocks could easily be missed.

Spring Migration Summary
In late April and early May, geese were often seen flying from inland towards the west or northwest until they reached the coastline, where they often changed direction and flew north. When identified, these geese were usually White-fronts. These flocks are probably much more common than our records indicate but are missed because they are flying so high that they were not recorded by observers who were not systematically searching for them.

Fall Easterly or Southeasterly Goose Migration
Northern Lincoln County
We have no observations.
Central Lincoln County
About 11 miles from the coastline at Thornton Creek, Faxon sometimes saw geese flying over during August-December in 17 of 19 years during 1973-1991 (Faxon and Bayer 1991, 1993). These flocks were usually flying from the general direction of the Siletz River Valley towards the southeast. He specifically noted White-fronts flying over on 1 October 1990 (when thousands were seen), 16 October 1991, 25 and 26 September and 1 October 1992; and 24 September and 19 October 1993. On 12 October 1992, Glen Faxon also saw many flocks of White-fronts fly over.

On 19 October 1981, Bayer, who was about 2 miles inland along the north side of Yaquina Bay, observed a flock of geese flying east at 1345. Several minutes later, Floyd Schroeder independently saw a goose flock (presumably the same one) flying eastward over Toledo, about 6 miles from the coastline.

About 11 miles from the coastline at Thornton Creek, Faxon noted several flocks of Canadas on 7 and 8 November 1987 and of unknown geese on 2, 7, and 8 November 1989 that flew east towards the Willamette Valley. He also recorded 2 flocks flying south: one flock of unidentified geese on 13 November 1989 and a flock of Canada Geese on 25 October 1990 (Faxon and Bayer 1991:36).

In November 1989, Lowe was northwest of Harlan in the general area of point X in Figure 1 (Township 11S, Range 9W, section 36), about 16 miles from the coastline. On 7 November, he noted 10 flocks flying east-southeast toward Marys Peak (Benton County) during about 8 hours; 7 of the flocks were Cackling (B. c. minima) or Taverner’s (B. c. taverneri) Canada Geese, 2 flocks were of larger, deeper-voiced Canada Geese, and the size of Canadas in the other flock was not recorded. For flocks on 7 November, the number of geese in one flock was undetermined, there were only 4 in another, and each of the other 8 flocks had about 40-70 geese; 7 of these flocks passed during 0625-0700, and the other flocks passed at 1000, 1623, and 1713. On 11 November from 0620-1050, Lowe heard one flock of small Canada Geese at 0801 and saw 110 and 18 medium-or large-sized Canadas at 0811 and 0900, respectively; all were flying eastward. During 1320-1720 observations on 11 November, 0630-1400 observations on 17 November, and 0620-1050 observations on 20 November, Lowe saw or heard no geese.

On 16 October 1991, Mark...
Hedrick, who was along the north side of Yaquina Estuary and about 6 miles inland, saw 5 flocks with a total of at least 200 small Canada Geese fly eastward. After they passed, he waited to be sure that they did not return.

On 11 October 1992 at 12:00, Bayer, who was about 1 mile inland along the south side of Yaquina Bay, saw a flock of 50-100 unidentified geese fly from the ocean towards the southeast and not return.

On 24 and 25 September 1993, Bob Llewellyn, who was about 12 miles from the coast near Logsden, reported 12 large flocks of White-fronts flying over in an unspecified direction.

Southern Lincoln County

On 27 October 1986, Lowe, who was about 8 miles inland near Tide-water, saw a flock of 26 medium-to-large-sized Canada Geese at 1530 fly east up the Valley.

On 7 November 1987, Lowe, who was about 2 miles inland at the south side of Alsea Bay, saw a flock of 25 Snow Geese circle lower Alsea Bay, fly east, return within a few minutes, and then fly towards the south or southwest. On 9 November 1987 and 6 November 1989, a flock of Canada Geese did the same thing.

On 16 October 1991, Lowe, who was about 2 miles inland at the south side of Alsea Bay, saw a flock of 45 Cackling or Taverner’s Canada Geese fly eastward and not return.

On 19 September 1992, Lowe, who was about 2 miles inland at the south side of Alsea Bay, saw 11 white-fronts at 1115 and 85 White-fronts at 1315 fly east up the Alsea River Valley and not return. At the same location, Lowe also saw a flock of 50 White-fronts fly south at 1330 on 25 September, and, on 26 September, he heard two flocks of White-fronts flying south at 1605.

Fall Migration Summary

Geese were often seen flying to the east or southeast across the Coast Range in fall. When identified, they were usually White-fronts or various sizes of Canada Geese. These flocks appeared to sometimes be exploring, as they occasionally flew east before returning and flying south, so an observer needed to be patient and watch for several minutes after the passage of a flock to determine if it returned.

Conclusions

Some geese cross the Lincoln County Coast Range during daylight in spring and fall. But it is unclear how important these routes are because our observations were opportunistic, not systematic. Further, our observations were only during daylight, so we do not know how many, if any, geese migrated across the Coast Range in darkness.

Geese also cross the Oregon Coast Range outside of Lincoln County. In Spring, Lowe saw 3 flocks of White-fronts flying from the southeast toward Tillamook Bay (Tillamook County) on 23 April 1994. In Autumn, Lowe has received reports of Canada Geese flying southeast up the Little Nestucca River Valley (Tillamook County). Rick Frenzel saw a flock of small Canada Geese flying east up the Coquille River Valley (Coos County) on 16 October 1991, and a farmer at Agness (Curry County) recovered a radio-tagged White-fronted Goose in his cornfield in the fall of 1987 and reported that flocks of Canada Geese occasionally landed in his field before flying east.

Geese may migrate across the Coast Range to conserve energy. Geese could save distance if they followed a Great Circle route between the Klamath Basin area and the southwestern mainland of Alaska by flying directly over the Coast Range rather than over the Willamette Valley (e.g., Bellrose 1976:106, 116).

As a consequence of our observations, it is important to recognize that flocks of geese migrating along the Oregon coastline in spring may have already crossed the Coast Range and flocks flying along the coastline in fall may yet cross the Coast Range. Thus, without observing the flight routes of many flocks over at least 50 miles, determining the relative importance of coastal, trans-Coast Range, or Willamette Valley routes of goose migration is conjecture. Another problem with determining the relative importance of routes is that geese that cross the Coast Range may not all fly along the coastline where they can be observed. For example, Terry Thompson observed a flock of about 150 Canada Geese flying north 10 miles offshore of Three Arch Rocks (Tillamook County) on 26 April 1988. A reader could infer that geese migrated across the Coast Range approximately along river valleys, but this is probably misleading because most of our observers were along valleys. Observation sites farther from valleys or precise plotting of flock routes may reveal that many geese may not fly over valleys. Further, some of our observations were of geese that crossed over 2 valleys (i.e., Thornton Creek in spring) or that were clearly not flying along a river valley (i.e., near Harlan in fall).

Finally, it was our impression that Marys Peak may be an important navigational landmark for geese migrating across central Lincoln County. In spring, geese appeared to be coming from the direction of Marys Peak towards Siletz or Yaquina Bays; in fall, this direction was reversed.

Acknowledgments

We thank the observers for sharing their records and David Fix for his article in Oregon Birds that sparked our interest in completing this report and for his comments that improved this paper. We are also grateful to Janet Webster and Susan Gilmont of the Hatfield Marine Science Center Library of Oregon State University for obtaining reference materials.

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Oregon Birds 21(1): 12
One Brit’s Birdathon

Geoff Simmonds, submitted by Donna J. Lusthoff, 13720 S.W. Harness Lane, Beaverton, OR 97008

In England, bird-watching is a gentle affair. I remember spring strolls down a country lane to the village church. The Rooks nested with great commotion, high in the graveyard elm trees. Across the meadows, Great-crested Grebes courted extravagantly on the lake at the manor house. Over the wall a Lapwing sat low over her nest in the middle of a ploughed field. We would mark the spot and find her eggs as she dive-bombed us from above with screaming cries and urgent wingbeats. I had imagined the Birdathon to be similar. What could be more pleasant than to spend a day bird-watching in the beautiful countryside around Bend, while people sponsored us for every species we saw?

I got my first hint of the truth when Tim Janzen called me up to discuss the arrangements.

“We’ll meet at Fred Meyer at 3:00 am,” he said.

I laughed. “You’re kidding?”

He was not kidding. On Saturday morning as I reached out to turn off my alarm it was 1:30 am. In spite of a numbing tiredness behind my eyes, I was excited, and before 2:30 I set off down Highway 217 towards Tualatin. I admit I was disappointed at the numbness behind my eyes, I had not woken by the crunch of gravel and receding footsteps, falling into a hole again.

I was soon joined at the meeting place by Donna Lusthoff and then Tim. I sensed that Tim was not in the mood for small talk as we waited for Greg to arrive.

“Let’s go for a Screech-Owl while we’re waiting,” he said. (I was to learn a lot of the bird-watcher’s jargon throughout the day. “Go for” means to “actively seek out a bird that you know lives in a certain place, quickly identify it, and then leap back into the car.”)

It was totally dark in the wood behind the warehouse, somewhere in Tualatin. I followed after Tim’s rapidly receding footsteps, falling into a hole beside the path. Suddenly an owl hooted. Our first bird? Not so. It was Tim trying to cause jealousy in the owl world by playing a tape recording. On our way out of the wood I fell in the hole again.

We had more luck at a marshy area nearby. Under the harsh glare of arc lights, another tape recording brought an immediate response from a startled Virginia Rail, who thought it far too early to be proclaiming our territorial rights. It was quickly answered by a pheasant.

“Yes!” said Tim, punching the air. We were off!

We picked up Greg and headed down to Salem to collect the fifth member of the “Dippers.” To complete the international flavor of our team, Jeremy was a young Australian, not well-versed in bird watching. The Birdathon would be a good way of seeing the Oregon countryside. Or so he thought. I suspected he would have as much time to see the countryside as I would have to study all the “lifers” (jargon for new lifetime species) I expected to see.

By 4:45 there was a hint of light over the horizon and we were poised for the dawn chorus. Many a resident of Lebanon and Sweet Home was woken by the crunch of gravel and the slamming of car doors. Sinister figures lurked at the end of driveways, heads cocked to hear beyond the chorus of Robins, to the distant sound of flycatchers and warblers. By Sweet Home it was light and the birds were coming fast.

A stop at Foster Reservoir brought the first real excitement.

“Caspian Tern!” shouted Donna. “I heard it.”

Sure enough, across the water was a single large white bird, the first of many “lifers” for me. The pace was hotting up and we were pumped. But success made us careless. We were parked on a narrow bridge with a double yellow line, studying a large bird of prey when a police car pulled up. Strangely, he did not consider a possible Great Horned Owl nearby sufficient cause for contravening the traffic regulations. As luck would have it, we had moved the car when he returned a few moments later. And the owl? The scope revealed a Turkey Vulture. But the delay with the policeman brought us a Bald Eagle flying overhead for the list.

Shortly afterwards I knew we had found a good bird. Tim began shouting excitedly. I thought he said “Where’s my hat.” In fact, a Yellow-breasted Chat was perched in an area of scrubby clear cut. My second “lifer” in 30 minutes. And another was soon to follow. Frequent stops along the river brought no Dippers, but finally our persistence was rewarded by a pair of Harlequin Ducks.

By 7:00 the sun was out and the birds were coming thick and fast. Too fast for me to find them in the book or even to get them in my binoculars.

“MacGillivray’s Warbler,” said Tim. “Anyone confirm?”

“Agreed,” said Donna, and another one went on the list.

At Lost Lake we paused long enough to focus on Barrow’s Goldeneye.

“Got to be going,” said Tim for the hundredth time, and like a well-oiled machine we piled back into the van, slammed the door and were off in a shower of gravel.

By 8:30 we were up in the snow at Hoodoo Ski Bowl, listening to Mountain Bluebirds and Hermit Thrushes in the still, rarefied air. Nearby, too, was a bird that caused the most excitement to date, a lovely Black-throated Sparrow. For once I was able to study it in my binoculars while Tim and Greg photographed it. There followed a mystifying discussion about which county we were in and whether it was a 4 or a 5. This is advanced birder talk. When “lifers” are hard to come by, new spice is added to bird watching by keeping county lists. More important for me was the fact that we were already up to 65 species.

The next group of unsuspecting people to experience the “Dipper” whirlwind were the vacationers at Black Butte. Standing shamelessly in the middle of the road to watch Red-naped Sapsuckers at their nest hole and House Wrens trilling beneath, we
were oblivious to their stares. Several patches of water and warbler-laden bushes brought our tally to 85 species by 10:00.

There was a growing feeling in the team that we could be in for a famous day, and Tim became even more focused. We targeted individual species now and the next few sites were taken at the run. Inevitably we lagged behind Tim. I looked up to see him rushing back towards us in something close to a panic. I expected to see a bear right behind him.

“Got to be moving on!” was all he said as he passed us.

But we were relentlessly flushing out the birds. Indian Ford and Cold Spring yielded Solitary Vireo and White-headed Woodpeckers. Then it was onto the hot, dry country around Sisters and Bend. Four of us were beginning to wilt in the heat. We were not quite so quick to leap from the van at each stop, and frequently the door needed a second slam to get it shut. Tim was merciless though, driving us to greater effort. Slowly the results came. By noon we had 90 species. By 1:00 p.m. it was 100. Thereafter I became nervous. What would my sponsors say if I had barely touched the dust when I had said that 100 was the absolute maximum? Would I end up paying for the hard-won difference?

We visited several riparian habitats where the birds slept as the people played, and then it was on to Smith’s Rock. This was going to be Jeremy’s chance to see the beauty of Oregon, to stand and gaze at the majesty of the rocks.

“Wake up, Jeremy,” I said. “This is going to be worth seeing.”

He staggered from the van, rubbing his eyes. By the time he reached the view, Tim was returning. This time we were let down badly. The Canyon Wrens were not to be disturbed by the tape recording we played. But still our first swifts and an immature Golden Eagle on its huge nest made the brief stop worthwhile.

New species were harder to come by now, but Donna promised us a Pinyon Jay. Following her directions we stopped in a housing subdivision between Redmond and Bend. My feet had barely touched the dust when one flew overhead, and certainly my binoculars never reached my eyes before I heard the command.

“Got to be going.”

Warily I climbed into the van. It took 3 attempts to close the door.

“If we get to 120 can we go home?” I mumbled.

The sewage works at Bend was a real opportunity to add some waterfowl to our list. We were in luck. The gate was open. In half an hour we had seen nearly all the possible ducks and suddenly our list totaled 125. It made no difference to Tim’s ambition.

“How about 130?” I said. “Surely that’s enough?”

I have no idea where our next stop was. The miles went by in a daze of tired eyes and numb limbs. But it seemed like wonderland when we stopped beside a small marsh. Yellow-headed Blackbirds clung to the tops of reeds, golden in the evening light. A solitary Snow Goose stood beside the road like some Arctic princess confined in the form of a bird. Long-billed Dowitchers and Wilson’s Phalaropes, resplendent in breeding plumage, basked unafraid in the gentle rays of the sinking sun.

At 6:00 we passed through Bend again, picking up a Mute Swan, (a rather dubious 130th species), before racing towards Mount Bachelor. I left Tim and Greg to chase over a clear cut in search of Lewis’ Woodpecker, while I took the time to study the delightful courting behavior of the Pygmy Nuttack. Up into the snow zone once more, we added Gray Jay and Clark’s Nutcracker.

It was now a race against the setting sun. There was the prospect of terns and loons on Wickiup Lake, grous in the woods. Charging down gravelled forest roads we barely stopped at many a boat ramp. The last few species ceased to be important to me. I had scored approximately 27 “lifers,” several of which had been no more than passing acquaintances. It was the magnificence of the scenery that captivated me now. Wide expanses of water with snow-capped mountains beyond, seemed to get more wonderful with each stop that we made. Finally at Davis Lake it was too dark to separate a swan from a gull, or a loon from a grebe and we called it a day at 137 species. I watched the darkness settle on the lake with a sense of awe. Home was still 4 hours away, but I did not care. I wanted to stay there, down by the water’s edge, like one of the birds that we had chased for the last 17 hours. I wanted to see the sun come up in the morning.

I slept most of the way back to Portland. As I said goodbye to the team, Tim and Greg were talking of “going for some owls.” Alone once more I had time to reflect on the day. It was indeed a famous day, and one that I will not forget. Not only did I see many wonderful sights, I learnt something about life. I would have been content with 120 birds. Discomfort would have lessened my ambition. But not Tim Janzen. Not until it was too dark did he relax and become a human being again. There is no achievement without pain, and I want to thank Tim for driving us to reach a tally of bird species that will be hard to beat. Maybe next year?
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service built a longer and higher dike at the site of Mohoff Pond, Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge. The resulting pond, shoreline, open grasslands, and treeline with snags produced some great birds in Fall 1994. These Marion County rarities include White-tailed Kite, Peregrine Falcon, Gyrfalcon, American Golden-Plover, Baird’s and Pectoral Sandpipers, and Bonaparte’s and Franklin’s Gulls. In addition, Spring 1994, brought us Black-necked Stilt, Avocet, and Willet.

This combination of habitats is a magnet for any bird following the Willamette River or Interstate-5, north or south through the Willamette Valley, or passing east or west between the coast and Great Basin. The greatly-enlarged pond, now actually a year-round lake, is the centerpiece of the combined habitats.

Unlike past years, when the pond was often dry before or during Spring migration, 1995 will be a different story. The new dike will provide a year-round lake, vast shoreline, expanded wetlands and acres of grasslands. In addition to the new dike, the Fish and Wildlife Service also constructed a new gravel parking lot for about 6 cars. The lake area can be observed year-round from the parking lot.

I was told that Ducks Unlimited provided the funds to pay for the new Mohoff Pond dike. Maybe it’s time that OFO and Oregon’s Audubon Societies established funds that will be available for this kind of habitat improvement on public refuges and parks. What's needed is a fund to provide grants to worthy public habitat projects where Government funds are unavailable. A possible source for start-up funds could come from asking OFO, Audubon Societies, and other interested organizations to donate $1 for every member in their groups. Anyone with ideas or interest in a fund for habitat projects should write to me at the above address, or fax me at 503-585-6161.

Salem Audubon birders are looking for a great year at Ankeny in 1995. We invite Oregon Birds readers to join us.
Should Oregon birders help fund the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife?

David B. Marshall, Consulting Wildlife Biologist, 4265 S.W. Chesapeake Avenue, Portland, OR 97201

The purpose of this note is to provide some background on the funding problem facing the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

Like every other state wildlife agency, ODFW is funded primarily with license fees and excise taxes derived from hunters and fishers. A recent article by Chris Madson in South Dakota Conservation Digest pointed out that this traditional way of funding state wildlife agencies began at the turn of the century. Some conservationists at the time had reservations concerning this approach because of the possibility that wildlife species other than huntable ones would get short shrift. However, it was the only reasonable alternative in terms of obtaining stable funding.

In the 1940s it became increasingly evident that license moneys alone were inadequate for funding state fish and wildlife agency programs. In addition, some state legislatures were siphoning license moneys for other purposes. This resulted in federal legislation that levied a 20 percent federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition and later fishing tackle. Moneys from this tax are allocated to the states based on license sales. States must put up matching funds (25 percent state and 75 percent federal) and cannot siphon off hunting and fishing license moneys for purposes other than fish and wildlife without losing the federal funds. Today federal aid moneys from this source contribute more to state wildlife programs than license and tag sales alone.

In the meantime, I continue to see hunters putting large sums of money "where their mouth is." Two examples: they pay enormous fees to take a few bighorn rams, which is their equivalent to a rare prized life bird. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has recently purchased a large acreage of timberland near Maupin to add to ODFW's White River Wildlife Area. What I do not understand is why the so-called non-consumptive users of wildlife have not been more willing to do the same. It is not because they do not have the money. Although not at hand, I have seen enough statistics to tell me that as a group non-consumptive users are better educated and in higher income brackets than hunters. There are also more of them. Like hunters, birders, other wildlife watchers, wildlife photographers and backyard feeder watchers spend substantial sums of personal moneys in pursuit of their hobbies.

I also learned early in my career that Oregon was among the first states to professionalize the staff and director of their fish and wildlife (then called game) agency. We were among the first to come up with the income tax check-off for non-game (a source of funding that has largely dried up through competition with other causes). It would be a challenge to see if we could come up with new sources of funding such as user fees for state and federal lands. We should press for an excise tax on bird seed, feeders, binoculars, scopes, etc. The latter would bring in substantial funds.

In essence, we continue to be unhappy with what goes on at the state level, but lack the commitment to bring about a change.
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Alan Contreras. 1992, 41 pp

**A Birder's Guide to the Klamath Basin**  
Steve Summers. 1993, 85 pp

**Birds of Oregon: Status and Distribution**  
Jeff Gilligan, et al. 1994, 330 pp, softcover

**Natural Sound Cassettes** by Eleanor Pugh  
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These are the 438 hexagons that need to be covered during OFO's Breeding Bird Atlas Project. From each of these hexagons, the Project is interested in ANY reports of birds during summer, and January-May observations where there is evidence of breeding. During the next 5 years, you are encouraged to record your observations according to these hexagons. If you call the Atlas Project hotline (1-800-440-5454) or write to the Project (at P.O. Box 2189, Corvallis OR 97339), you will receive a free packet containing a project handbook, a local checklist that needs verification, and detailed color maps showing both the exact boundaries of the hexagons, and roads and habitats. The Project will send you this for the hexagon where you live and for hexagons you volunteer to visit. Hexagons are numbered volunteer to visit. Hexagons are numbered sequentially from north to south. The hexagon framework is being used for consistency with Oregon's Natural Heritage and the Project's Breeding Bird Survey. Higher priority hexagons are usually those that lack Breeding Bird Survey routes, have few resident birders, and/or have particularly unusual habitats. They are the 438 hexagons that need to be covered during OFO's Breeding Bird Atlas Project.
Ann Ward: 35 Years of Birding in Baker County

Alan Contreras, 2254 Crestview Drive S., Salem, OR 97302

Most Oregon birders who read the field notes diligently have seen her name appended to interesting records for so many years that she has become a part of Oregon's ornithological landscape. Ann Ward has been synonymous with the birds of Baker County since she moved there in the 1950s with her husband, who practiced medicine in the area. Now retired and her movement limited somewhat by an artificial hip joint, she nonetheless continues to take note of the birds of her adopted region and contribute field notes to Oregon Birds.

She started birding "when the local priest got me interested," and soon thereafter started the Baker Christmas Bird Count on 30 December 1956, the first one held in eastern Oregon except for single counts at Bend (1954), Warm Springs (1955), and in the Klamath Basin. Her Baker count (now compiled by Laura Hayse) is the longest-running uninterrupted Oregon CBC east of the Cascades, now with 35 consecutive years of data. Her personal notebooks provide a look at the commitment of an individual to learning the birds of an area probably as well as can be done.

Ward's contributions to Oregon ornithology are many, with such highlights as helping define the northeastern limits of the Bushtit in Oregon (its regular range fizzes out in northern Baker County, with only a few records in Union and Wallowa Counties according to Evanich's Birds of Northeast Oregon.)

She describes the early years of Baker County bird study as requiring a few innovations, such as her special list of "the birds that could be here." This was used mainly to screen oddities reported by neophyte observers from the CBC records, notable for their lack of obvious errors over three and a half decades. The list originated in part as a compiler's defense mechanism after another observer's report of 24 CBC Chipping Sparrows was deleted by the editor.

A dedicated traditionalist regarding field notes, she has kept all of her original notebooks for 35 years, and has little regard for the changes in American Birds that have brought more articles and color pictures "at the expense of what was seen, where, when, and by whom." When I talked with her in fall 1994, she commented that AB's return to all field note format was a step in the right direction: publishing data not available elsewhere.

Oregon birders can be certain that she will continue her tradition of keen observation as long as she can see, hear, and take note of the birds of Baker County.

Lame Game

David R. Copeland, 703 Maine Avenue N.E., Keizer, OR 97303

Here is a little game you can play with your fellow birder passengers while driving the ornithological wasteland on I-84 in Gilliam County. The 2 word answers must rhyme.

Example: What is not a rapid corvid?
Answer: Slow crow.

Now try these! What is:
1. An uninhibited waterfowl?
2. An unadorned Alaudidae?
3. An Oriental troglobyte?
4. An unwell Rallus?
5. A spastic fowl?
6. An unwell Cygnus?
7. A cowardly corvid?
8. A jerky Turdus?
9. A pierced waterfowl?
10. An unpretentious Grus?
11. A healthy Parus?
12. An unyielding Sternum?
13. A nothing Larus?
14. An obese warbler?
15. An excited Turdus?
16. A stone alcid?
17. An icterid from the far north?
18. A slim Spizella?
19. A genuine Anas?
20. A willow woodpecker?

Answers on page 18.
Seed preference test gets results: birders find out what birds like to eat

Does the word “experiment” make you think of white coats and bad smells? The nearly 5000 folks who conducted the Seed Preference Test think of the comforts of home and the thrill of discovery.

Last winter these bird lovers turned backyards across North America into science labs. They spread a banquet of birdseed, then watched from their kitchen windows to see which food birds liked best: blackoil sunflower seeds, white millet, or red milo.

Turning bird watchers into “citizen-scientists” is the mission of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, an Ithaca, New York, based bird research center. The Lab of Ornithology coordinates the Seed Preference Test with support from the National Science Foundation.

In last winter’s test, participants recorded nearly half a million bird visits to the squares of cardboard that served as bird feeders for the experiment. They gathered data on the feeding habits of more than 30 different bird species.

At this point you might be asking, “Don’t bird scientists already know what wild birds eat?” Not really. Some scientists have studied the food preferences of wild birds, but in just a few locations. The Seed Preference Test is the first attempt to gather information on such a vast geographic scale, and for so many species of birds.

What did the Seed Preference Testers find? Birds that usually feed in trees — including American Goldfinches, White-breasted Nuthatches, and House Finches — seem to prefer sunflower seeds. Birds that normally feed at ground level — Dark-eyed Juncos, Mourning Doves, and many sparrows — prefer millet. And birds that live only in western North America — in particular, Steller’s Jay, Curve-billed Thrasher, and Gamble’s Quail — eat more milo than eastern species do.

The western preference for milo is intriguing. Do birds that are found across the continent show East-West differences in their eating habits? Seed Preference Test data suggest that such species as Black-capped Chickadee and Mourning Dove do indeed. Western chickadees and doves ate less sunflower and more millet or milo than their eastern counterparts.

House Finches are another example of this East-West split. Originally, these colorful finches lived only on the West Coast. But in 1940 pet dealers in New York released some birds. Now House Finches are common in the East, where they seem to have adopted their feedermates’ taste for sunflower seed. Eastern finches visited sunflower seeds 85 percent of the time, compared to only 71 percent for western finches.

There’s still more to discover, so the Seed Preference Test will continue this winter. If you feed birds in your backyard, you’re invited to take part.

Seed Preference Test, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, P.O. Box 11, Ithaca, NY 14851-0011.

Answers to Lame Game
From page 17
1. Loose Goose
2. Stark Lark
3. Zen Wren
4. Frail Rail
5. Jerky Turkey
6. Wan Swan
7. Craven Raven
8. Bobbin’ Robin
9. Stuck Duck
10. Plain Crane
11. Fit Tit
12. Stern Tern
13. Null Gull
14. Fat Chat
15. Flush Thrush
16. Rock Auk
17. Boreal Oriole
18. Narrow Sparrow
19. Real Teal
20. Wicker Flicker
Mapping migration patterns

It won't be long now before our wintering birds start heading north and the migrants from the south begin coming through our area. The weather is improving and we pat those binoculars on our way out the door to work saying to ourselves, "The weekend's coming." It will take a wedding in the family or some other BIG event to keep us from being out there every weekend as those migrants pass through. And even then, we'll probably try to get out to sneak a quick peek before we get dressed for the wedding.

On 13 May 1995, that birding fun can also become a piece of valuable information about the location of migrating birds. And it can be done while you bird exactly where you want to bird. Your normal day of birding can become part of the North American Migration Count.

Once migration season data is gathered, we will have a 1-day snapshot of where specific birds are in their migration pattern. The idea of beginning to gather the data necessary to map the location of each species at a point during its migration is exciting. And it's as simple as keeping a count of the birds you see in the area where you choose to bird on May 13th, and submitting those counts to your county coordinator.

We now have county coordinators for 33 of Oregon's 36 counties. Make a county coordinator's day. Call the coordinator of the county in which you wish to bird and let them know that you are willing to submit the results of your day of birding to the NAMC. They'll provide you with the simple instructions and coordinate count areas so that only one person or party is counting in any one location.

Mark your calendar for May 13th. While you're at it, mark September 16th, too, because there will also be an opportunity to contribute fall migration counts. And call that county coordinator while you're thinking about it.

We still need coordinators for Gilliam, Grant, and Harney Counties. If you're willing to be the county coordinator for one of these counties, give me a call at 503-683-4292 any day before 9 pm.

Have a great day of birding and at the same time help map the migration picture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Laura Hayse</td>
<td>(503)523-9254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benton</td>
<td>Anthony Floyd</td>
<td>(503)754-2660</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clackamas</td>
<td>Darlene Selpot</td>
<td>(503)655-0636</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clatsop</td>
<td>Mike Patterson*</td>
<td>(503)325-1365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>Henry Horvat*</td>
<td>(h) (503)543-3690</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coos</td>
<td>Ken Dazey</td>
<td>(503)756-7280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crook</td>
<td>Tom Crabtree</td>
<td>(503)389-2462</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curry</td>
<td>Jim Rogers</td>
<td>(503)332-2555</td>
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<td>Deschutes</td>
<td>Tom Crabtree</td>
<td>(503)389-2462</td>
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<tr>
<td>Douglas</td>
<td>Ron Maertz**</td>
<td>(503)496-3847</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gilliam</td>
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<td>Grant</td>
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<td>Harney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hood River</td>
<td>Tim Shelmerdine</td>
<td>(503)678-2332</td>
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<td>Jackson</td>
<td>Joseph Shelton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>Tom Crabtree</td>
<td>(503)389-2462</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josephine</td>
<td>Dennis Vroman*</td>
<td>(h) (503)473-4619</td>
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<td>Klamath</td>
<td>Kevin Spencer*</td>
<td>(916) 667-4644</td>
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<td>Craig Miller</td>
<td>(503)389-9115</td>
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<td>Lane</td>
<td>Uri Papish*</td>
<td>(503)343-9181</td>
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<td>Lincoln</td>
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<td>Linn</td>
<td>Paul Adamus*</td>
<td>(503)745-5625</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malheur</td>
<td>Bonnie Jakubos</td>
<td>(w) (503)473-3144</td>
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<td>Marion</td>
<td>Steve Dowlan</td>
<td>(503)370-9083</td>
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<td>Morrow</td>
<td>Kevin Blakely</td>
<td>(h) (503)276-5249</td>
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<td>Multnomah</td>
<td>Jim Johnson</td>
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<td>David Bailey</td>
<td>(503)287-5369</td>
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<td>Umatilla</td>
<td>Kevin Blakely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>James Ward*</td>
<td>(503)963-6977</td>
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<td>Wallowa</td>
<td>Frank Conley</td>
<td>(503)432-9695</td>
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<td>Wasco</td>
<td>Jeff Gilligan</td>
<td>(503)231-0971</td>
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<td>Washington</td>
<td>Mary Anne Sahlstrom</td>
<td>(503)840-9215</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheeler</td>
<td>David Anderson*</td>
<td>(503)775-5963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yamhill</td>
<td>Tom Love</td>
<td>(503)434-2504</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Participated in 1994
** Participated in both 1993 and 1994
President's Message

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

Ornithology has traditionally relied on the efforts of amateurs. An army of active birdwatchers have made significant and lasting contributions to our understanding of distribution, life histories, nesting, and many other aspects of the lives and habits of birds. Increasingly, however, the quantification of research, the escalating rigors of scientific bird study, have made amateur contributions more to make.

Fortunately, though, there are still a number of projects birdwatchers can help with. Any of us have recently counted birds on one or more Christmas Bird Counts, the classic example of amateur efforts contributing to a long-term project. In the last issue of Oregon Birds, Pat French asked OFO members to help with the North American Migration Count this spring, 13 May, and fall, 16 September. Please contact Pat if you are able to help this year.

Another project with which birdwatchers can help is the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Please read Paul Adamus' note in this issue to learn more about the project. I am excited by the potential this project has to greatly increase our knowledge of breeding ranges of Oregon's birds. Participation can be at any level of involvement that you wish. It promises to satisfy the common desire of birdwatchers I know to both have fun pursuing a hobby that we enjoy, but at the same time to feel that our efforts in the field serve a larger purpose. Furthermore, like the Christmas Counts, it involves a large number of like-minded people in a collaborative endeavor, serving on social side as well as a scientific one.

The increasing complexity of research has left many of us feeling that we are no longer able to make significant contributions to ornithology. Participation in the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project is one way in which we can.

News and Notes OB 21(1)

Please check your mailing label. The volume and issue number of your last issue of Oregon Birds is printed in the upper right hand corner. OB is sent on a 1-year basis, not on a volume-year basis. In other words, your membership runs for 4 quarters — 4 issues of OB — from the quarter in which you joined or renewed. If the number 21(1) appears — this is your last issue. So it's time to send in your membership dues! If the number 21(2) or higher appears, feel free to send in your dues early. You'll be guaranteed an extension of 4 issues at today's rates, you won't have to worry about your subscription for more than a year, and you'll make the accounting at OFO a little easier. The entire OB team thanks you! Send in your renewal now, and help us out at OB!

All requests for publications from OFO's Bookcase should be sent directly to Clarice Watson in Eugene. Clarice has generously agreed to take on the task of cataloguing and mailing OFO's bookcase items. This takes a load off the Treasurer and gets OFO's members better service. Requests for publications that are sent to OFO's P.O. Box might encounter long delays. Clarice Watson, OFO Publications, 3787 Wilshire Lane, Eugene, OR 97405.

Rare bird reports can be sent directly to Harry Nehls, Secretary of the Oregon Bird Records Committee. The "rare bird report form" appearing in the center pages of each issue of Oregon Birds lists the OFO post office box in Eugene as the address to which rare bird reports should be sent. That is the permanent OFO address. But birders who send reports directly to Harry will shave a little time off the OBRC review. Harry Nehls, Secretary, Oregon Bird Records Committee, 2736 S.E. 20th Avenue, Portland, OR 97202, 503-233-3976.

At their meeting on 22 January 1995, in Corvallis, the OFO Board took the following actions:

- The next OFO annual meeting is set for 16-18 June 1995, in La Grande, at Eastern Oregon State College. Mark your calendars now. Featured speaker is Mark Henjum, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, who will address topics of importance to birds in northeast Oregon. Field trips will focus on Great Gray Owls and other northeast specialties. OFO members will receive a mailing and the next issue of OB will contain more information.
- Requests for financial aid are made to OFO each year, so the Board felt a policy should be adopted on the amounts to be given each year. The Treasurer reported that the treasury grows at the annual rate of about $1500. Thus the Board voted that annual donations will be limited to the net proceeds of the preceding year.
- OFO will fund $1000 this year and then $500 annually for the next 5 years for the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project, with right of first refusal on publication.
- Pat French spoke for support of the fourth annual North American Migration Count. It was voted to contribute $400 for copying, postage, and phone expenses.
- It was voted to establish 2 grants to support student research in ornithology, one for high school and one for college level, up to $200 each.
- It was voted to support HawkWatch International, Inc., at the Greenridge and Bonnie Butte sites with a contribution of $300.
- The Board encouraged Alan Contreras to extend his copyright of the Oregon Birds index.
- The Board appointed Tom Crabtree, Skip Russell, and Colin Dillingham as Members of the Oregon Bird Records Committee for 3-year terms. The Board also appointed Gerard Lillie, Kamal Islam, Rich Boyer, Kevin Spencer, and Ron Maertz to the OBRC as Alternates, for a 1-year term.
Oregon's Bald Eagles continue their recovery in Oregon. There appears to be a trend towards increasing numbers of Bald Eagles in Oregon during the first half of January, according to the results of the 1994 midwinter Bald Eagle survey. The total of 676 Bald Eagles was the third highest midwinter count for Oregon, 5.3 percent over the 1993 count; 68 percent were adults. Oregon Eagle Foundation, P.O. Box 1616, Klamath Falls, OR 97601.

The Arctic Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus tundrius) was removed from its status as a "threatened" species under the Endangered Species Act in October because its population has recovered. The American Peregrine Falcon (F. p. peregrinus) continues as an "endangered" species, and the Arctic subspecies will continue to be protected under the "similarity of appearance" clause of the ESA in the coterminous United States.

Over 300 Western Snowy Plovers have been banded at various sites along the Oregon coast since 1990. Most banded birds have a combination of 2, 3, or 4 of the following colored bands: white, blue, red, yellow, lime, green. In addition, some young of the year birds were banded with 1 color band containing 3 stripes (for example, white/blue/white). Oregon banders are coordinating their work with other West Coast banders, and reports of any banded Snowy Plover will be shared. Please report sightings to Mark Stern, Oregon Natural Heritage Program, 1205 N.W. 25th, Portland, OR 97210, 503-229-5078 fax 503-228-3153.

Transplanted Trumpeter Swans have been neck-banded and some have also been marked with pink or yellow dye. Each neckband bears a unique alpha-numeric code. Most neckbands are bright green with a white code, and contain 1 large upright letter or number and 2 sideways letters or numbers. This code must be read from top to bottom (base of neck to head). Some older red collars from Canada must be read from top to bottom (from head to base of neck). Please sketch the neckband if necessary. Since 1990, 965 Trumpeter Swans have been transplanted to alternate wintering sites in Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah. Hundreds more have been dispersed by hazing. As a result, last winter Trumpeters were again reported in all western states for the first time this century. Report sightings to Ruth Shea, 3346 E. 200th N., Rigby, ID 83442, 208-754-8756.

Taverners and Lesser Canada Geese have been marked with white neck collars containing 3 black alpha-numeric characters. Geese were marked during migration in Fairbanks, AK and may winter in western Oregon or eastern Washington. Please report sightings to Mike Eichholz, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Institute of Arctic Biology, P.O. Box 757000, 907-474-6602; e-mail ftmwe@aurora.alaska.edu.

Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project — described in last fall's Oregon Birds (OB 20(3): 96, Fall 1994) — has now begun. In October, OFO's Board passed a motion officially supporting the Project, and intends that this volunteer-initiated project will become one of OFO's major endeavors during the next 5 years. "Seed money" for the effort has come from OFO, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, local Audubon chapters, and private donors. So far, more than 50 birders have volunteered to participate in the Project. The Oregon Natural Heritage Program will be entering volunteers' observations into their computer databases, after data-checking by members of OFO's Atlas Project Steering Committee. The Committee has prepared a slide show describing the Project and is seeking opportunities to present it to outdoor groups. Now is a good time to volunteer to cover a particular area for the Atlas Project. Review the map printed in the center of this issue, pick out the hexagons that include places you were planning to visit in 1995, and select some others (especially those indicated to be of highest priority) that you'd like to explore. Then contact the Atlas Project at their toll-free number. Your birding commitment to the Project can be as little as an hour or as much time as you wish to give. Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project, P.O. Box 2189, Corvallis, OR 97339, 1-800-440-5454.
Compiled September 1994 by Colin Dillingham for the Siskiyou National Forest, "A Checklist to the Birds of Curry County, Oregon," represents a cooperative effort between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Siskiyou National Forest, Kalmiopsis Audubon Society, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District. Acknowledged for their contributions and reviews are Jim Rogers, Dennis Rogers, Alan Barron, Don Munson, Fred Bowen, Alice Pfand and Howard Richburg of Kalmiopsis Audubon Society, and Steve Summers. Buzz Stewart was the illustrator. Birders are asked to forward any sightings that may contribute to future editions of the Curry County Checklist to Colin Dillingham. For a free copy, write to USDA Forest Service, Gold Beach Ranger District, 1225 South Ellensburg, Beach, OR 97444.

These items are from the Winter 1995 newsletter of the Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society:

- Oregon's Trumpeter Swan Program reached a milestone in summer 1994 when 2 pairs of Trumpeters pioneered new nest sites in central Oregon. One pair nested at The Nature Conservancy's Sycan Marsh Preserve, while another pair nested at Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Each pair hatched 1 cygnet; however, the Sycan pair and cygnet were lost to predation by coyotes. Only some feathers, parts, and collars of the adults were recovered. The Klamath Marsh cygnet and at least 1 parent showed up at Summer Lake Wildlife Area to spend the winter. Another pair near Crane Prairie Reservoir with 4 cygnets was rumored, but unconfirmed. Another goal of the program is to teach Rocky Mountain population Trumpeters to winter in Oregon at Summer Lake. In fall 1994, 61 Trumpeter Swans were captured, marked with pink dye, fitted with green collars, and transported from Harriman State Park in eastern Idaho to Summer Lake. If you see or hear of these birds, please report sightings to Marty St. Louis at Summer Lake. If you see or hear of these birds, please report sightings to Marty St. Louis at Summer Lake, and then onward to Summer Lake. If you see or hear of these birds, please report sightings to Marty St. Louis at Summer Lake, and then onward to Summer Lake, and then onward to Summer Lake.

- Another field season has been completed in a study of Vaux's swifts, a neotropical migratory bird species. Twenty swifts were equipped with transmitters shortly after nesting and were followed to communal roost trees. Up to 400 swifts have been roosting in 1 of the trees. Some swifts traveled more than 10 km to a roost, and others used up to 6 different roost trees in a 3-4 week period. An additional 295 swifts were banded at nests and roosts this year to gather information on survival, nest site fidelity, breeding age, and movements. Evelyn L. Bull.

A Checklist to the Birds of Curry County, Oregon

in northeastern Oregon. A total of 220 swifts has been banded since 1991, and 11 of these were recaptured this year. Two of these swifts are at least 4 years old and have nested in the same tree each year. Two were banded as juveniles in 1993 and returned to the same area to nest this year. Twenty swifts were equipped with transmitters shortly after nesting and were followed to communal roost trees. Up to 400 swifts have been roosting in 1 of the trees. Some swifts traveled more than 10 km to a roost, and others used up to 6 different roost trees in a 3-4 week period. An additional 295 swifts were banded at nests and roosts this year to gather information on survival, nest site fidelity, breeding age, and movements. Evelyn L. Bull.

Oregon Chapter, The Wildlife Society, PO. Box 2214, Corvallis, OR 97339-2214.

The Canadian Wildlife Service is studying first year survival in Ross' Geese. We are particularly interested in how gosling body size, body condition, and parasite load contribute to migration mortality. If you observe neck-collared Ross' Geese, please record collar color, marker codes, and flock locations. Please note that codes contain only alpha and numeric characters. Numbers are stylized and may be confused with one another.

A Checklist to the Birds of Curry County, Oregon

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A Checklist to the Birds of Curry County, Oregon

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Oregon Birds 21(1): 22

Oregon Birds is printed on 65-pound Simpson Ecopaque Text Recycled paper, and the cover is 65-pound Simpson Ecopaque Cover Recycled. The interior pages are 70-pound Concept Sandstone Recycled. Text font is Adobe Garamond Book and other member of the Adobe Garamond family are used throughout. Ink is soy-based. We're Green!

What will be Oregon's 5 next "first" state record birds? There may still be time to enter the competition! In the last issue of OB — OB 20(4):118, Winter 1994 — Bill Tice invited Oregon birders to predict the 5 species that will be here next. "Only those who send in their list before the next first state record bird is discovered are eligible!" Bill Tice, 750 Wood Street, Falls City, OR 97344.

Rare birds — running tally of the birds of the Oregon rare bird phone network:

- 10 November 1994, Whooper Swan, Summer Lake Wildlife Management Area, Lake Co., by Marty St. Louis;
- 10 November 1994, Costa's Hummingbird, at a feeder in Agate Beach, Lincoln Co., by Bob Schultz;
- 27 November 1994, Ross' Gull, adult at McNary Dam, Umatilla Co., by Phil Bartley;
- 29 December 1994, Yellow-billed Loon, Wallowa Lake, and Gyrfalcon, 2 birds northeast of Joseph, both in Wallowa Co., by Mike Denny;
- 7 January 1995, Yellow-billed Loon, Netarts Bay, Tillamook Co., by Craig Roberts; and

Quoted from U.S. BirdWatch, the newsletter of the U.S. Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation:

All of us, no doubt, have been touched—emotionally, professionally, or otherwise—by the controversy about the fate of the northern spotted owl. This controversy is substantial evidence of the strain caused when our bird conservation and protection efforts seem to clash dramatically with the lives, dreams, and life styles of our fellow citizens. In stark fashion, the press often portrays these debates according to a very simplistic formula:
for example, jobs vs. owls. Them or us. No room in between. But the news from Oregon suggests another reality.

One year after President Clinton's timber summit, there is a bright economic picture in the State of Oregon. "We'll be up to the neck in owls, and every millworker will be out of a job" was the way it was described back then. But now, the tune is that of a state's economy showing many parts reaching what economists label "full employment"—a jobless level of 5 percent that won't cause inflation and where unemployment is more by choice than chance. Oregonians have jobs. The state still is the prime focus of our timber industry, but there's been a shift from old-growth trees to private tree farms. A massive job switch has occurred: whereas Oregon lost 15,000 forest industry jobs in the last five years, the state has gained 20,000 new positions in high-tech industries, which, next year, will surpass timber as the primary source of Oregonian jobs.

Mill workers have switched jobs, and their new positions haven't been in fast food restaurants. The Times reports an increase in the numbers of auto mechanics, accountants, cabinet makers, and health care workers in the communities most clearly affected by the owl controversy. Sure, there remain pockets of poverty, but in the main, those left high and dry have realized that they can transport skills and initiative. Perhaps most importantly, as noted by Mayor Bill Morristette of Springfield, "What we've got here is quality of life. And as long as we don't screw that up, we'll always be able to attract people and business."

So let us resolve, in 1995 and beyond, to make a more concerted effort to insure that the right message gets through when the next challenge to the Endangered Species Act arises, and to expose the false dichotomy of jobs vs. animals as the shibboleth that it so very plainly is.

Oregon nongame wildlife check-off needs your support!

Tax time is here. That means you'll have an opportunity to support one of the most important programs affecting wildlife and wildlife habitat in Oregon — the Wildlife Diversity Program (formerly Nongame Program) of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. This is the program that addresses the needs of the 88 percent of the state's species that are not hunted, trapped, or angled. Game species are supported through the sale of hunting and angling licenses. Your donation to the Nongame Fund through the state income tax check-off helps support efforts to protect puffins and plovers, eagles and egrets, turtles and toads, wetlands and woodlands — as well as bat caves and beaches.

This year, a voluntary tax checkoff donation to the Nongame Fund is more critical than ever because other revenue sources for the program are drying up. Biologist positions, as well as important wildlife surveys and habitat improvement projects, will be eliminated in 1995 if sufficient funding does not materialize. Nothing less than Oregon's natural heritage is at stake.

A quarterly nongame and watchable wildlife newsletter, Wild Flyer, will be sent to anyone who donates $5 or more to the Nongame Fund through the tax checkoff. However, you must notify the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife that you have made a donation, and request Wild Flyer (the Revenue Department will not automatically notify ODFW that you have donated). People who do not or cannot make a tax checkoff donation can still subscribe to Wild Flyer. Simply send $5 or more to: Wild Flyer, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 59, Portland, OR 97207. Be sure to indicate you wish to be placed on the Wild Flyer mailing list, and don't forget to include your name and mailing address! For further information, please contact Claire Puchy at 229-5454, x456.

Early in spring 1994, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge took on the challenge of removing 20 miles of unnecessary interior fence. With the help of many Audubon organizations, community groups, scout troops, birding groups, and various individuals — we were able to reach our goal of removing these 20 miles by October 1994. Malheur Refuge wishes to sincerely thank everyone who participated in this important wildlife project. We could not have done it without you! Thanks again and we look forward to another successful year in 1995! Doug Staller, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, HC 72 Box 245, Princeton, OR 97721, 503-493-2612.

Volunteer positions available: I. Field research volunteers (2) needed from 1 April-1 October 1995 to work on sage grouse research project at Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, located in southwestern Oregon. Project will focus on study of radio collared female sage grouse to determine habitat use and selection. II. Volunteer field assistants needed from 1 April-1 September 1995 (4 positions) and 1 June-1 September 1995 (2 positions) at Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge and Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge, located in southeastern Oregon and northwestern Nevada. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in wildlife management. Work includes assessment of habitat condition; surveys of wildlife including bighorn sheep, sage grouse, and waterfowl; collection of big game pellet groups for study of diet composition and quality; removal of barbed wire fence; and other projects. For both I and II above, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide a $15/day stipend, housing, transportation, and equipment on the Refuge. Food and personal gear will be your responsibility. Job requires work in adverse and primitive field conditions (temperature extremes, night work, biting insects, no modern conveniences). Candidates with background in wildlife science or range science desired. Internships possible. Must be willing to work in remote areas, possess enthusiasm for field work, and work well as a team member. Application Deadline: 20 February 1995. To apply, please submit a cover letter with resume to: Bill Pyle, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sheldon-Hart Mountain Wildlife Refuge Complex, P.O. Box 111, Lakeview, OR 97630.

A n Oregon Species Information System (OSIS) training session will be held in March 1995 on the campus of Oregon State University. There will be room for up to 20 people. If you are interested, contact Tom O'Neil, Oregon Dept. Fish & Wildlife, 7118 N.E. Vandenberg Avenue, Corvallis OR 97330, (W) 577-4186 fax 577-4252.

Point Reyes Bird Observatory will be offering its annual monitoring of neotropical landbirds training course from 17-28 April 1995 at the Palomarin Field Station in coastal California. Participants will be trained in current standardized monitoring techniques including constant effort
Oregon Birds and Audubon Field Notes have synchronized reporting areas, periods, and deadlines. Field reports for eastern and western Oregon are due to the OB Regional Editor and AFN Regional Editor at the same time.

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Oregon Field Ornithologists members bird all over the state, and often find birds that are of interest to local birders. OFO supports publication of local field notes and encourages OFO members to contact local newsletter publishers or field notes editors whenever birding in or near the Oregon locations listed below.

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<td>Tom Crabtree</td>
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<td>Mark Nebesker</td>
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<td>Allison Mickel</td>
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<td>Bill &amp; Chris Dowdy</td>
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<td>Ric Thowless</td>
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<td>Harry Nehls</td>
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This is the first time this list is being published. If you would like to add a local newsletter or revise any of the information below, please contact the Editor, Oregon Birds, 3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212.
FIELDNOTES: Eastern Oregon, Summer 1994

Tom Crabtree, 1667 NW Iowa, Bend, OR 97701 [tcrabtre@ednet1.osl.or.gov]

While June was average in terms of temperature and precipitation east of the Cascades, July was just plain hot and dry. No measurable precipitation fell during July over most of the region. Drought conditions once again returned to the area, for the eighth year out of the last 9. Precipitation for the period was less than a third the normal amount. Malheur Lake dropped 14 inches in elevation during the 2-month period, to reveal some of the effects of the drought. Rarities were few during the period, with the highlight being Oregon’s first nesting record of GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE. Unfortunately only a few reports were received for this column. This report would be more complete, interesting, and valuable if I had heard from more of you about your summer ventures into eastern Oregon. Please help out me and Paul Sullivan by sending us your sightings.

Those of you who have signed up for Oregon Birders On Line (OBOL) may send your fieldnotes to me via the Internet address above. Those with computers who haven’t yet signed up yet are really missing out. Do yourself a favor and sign up soon and join the over 100 members of OBOL.

Abbreviations used:
BBS = breeding bird survey
HQ = headquarters
m.ob. = many observers
NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
WMA = Wildlife Management Area

Western Grebe
100 were at Thompson Res., Lake, 4 June (PTS, JM)

Clark’s Grebe
Only 1 was at Thompson Res. 4 June (PTS, JM); a small number was in the Harney Basin during the season (HN).

American White Pelican
100 were at Thompson Res. 4 June (PTS, JM); 2 were at Wamic on 11 June (DL); 17 were at Willow Creek Cove, Gilliam, 2 July (DL, DC); Pelicans nested on Malheur Lake for the first time since 1990 and produced 255 young (RV).

One was observed on 1 June at Malheur NWR HQ by H. Bartles and A. Frigge. A second one was observed on 2 June at Dry Lake near the Round Barn (PSH).

White-faced Ibis
8 - 10,000 birds were in the Klamath Basin this summer, an exceptional number for that locale (fide KS). This bird was rare in that location in the early 80’s.

Tundra Swan
A first summer bird was seen along the Deschutes 1 mile below Maupin 9 July (Bob Stiles). Perhaps the same bird was near Wamic on 17 July (DL).

Trumpeter Swan
Five breeding pairs on the Malheur refuge produced 19 cygnets, which was 2 less than last year (RV).

Unseasonal ducks
A male Redhead was at Hatfield Lake on 12 June (TC). A female Common Goldeneye was at the mouth of the Deschutes River on 13 June (DB). A female Bufflehead and 9 chicks were found at Hatfield Lake on 12 June for a first ever breeding record for that locale (TC). A female Hooded Merganser with 5 young was at Little Lava Lake, Deschutes on 29 June (SG).

Red-shouldered Hawk
One was observed on 31 July at the P-Ranch on Malheur NWR (JS).

Peregrine Falcon
An out of season bird was observed on 29 July on Sod House Lake, Malheur NWR (JS).

Mountain Quail
Several were at Pine Creek Wheeler during June (PTS, JM).

Yellow Rail
A dozen were reported from their normal location near Fort Klamath on 19 June (HN).

Snowy Plover
Numbers on Malheur Refuge decreased this year, with a total of 166 birds counted in the Harney Basin. Most of those (109) were observed on Harney Lake (RV).

Long-billed Curlew
1 near the mouth of the Deschutes River 9 June was a bit out of range (PTS).

Short-billed Dowitcher
The only one reported was a calling bird at Hatfield Lake in Bend on 31 July (TC).

Red-necked Phalarope
The only ones reported this season were 2 at the Rufus sewage ponds on 9 July (PTS) and 3 at Hatfield Lake on 31 July (TC)

Gulls & Terns
6 Franklin’s Gulls were at Billy Creek Res, Malheur on 4 July (PTS, JM); 9 Caspian Terns were at Willow Creek Gilliam on 12 June (DL). Forster’s Terns were reported from 2 locations. Two were at the mouth of the Deschutes River on 13 June (DA). One was near Wamic with a Black Tern on 5 June, where both are rare (DL).

Wild Turkey
A hen with 4 young was near Rock Creek Pass, Wasco on 11 June (DL).

Owls
2 Barn Owls were using the larger holes in a Bank Swallow colony along Hwy. 197 near Wamic on 11 June (DL). Another was heard flying over Bend on several occasions during June & July (TC). Flammulated Owl was reported from Lost Valley Gilliam, 11 June, which is a possible first county record (PTS, JM) and from its usual location in Starr Campground, Grant (PO). Gilliam County also produced 5 Burrowing Owls from Willow Creek on 3 July (DL, DC) and 2 Long-eared Owls from Buttermilk Canyon on 2 July (DL, DC). Numbers of Short-eared Owls were reported to be high in the region this summer (HN).

Rufous Hummingbird
This species returned to Bend from the mountains about 2 weeks ahead of schedule this year, with the first male being seen on 18 June (TC)

Black-chinned Hummingbird
One was observed on 26 July at Page Springs Campground (BM). A female spent much of the summer in Bend's West Hills (fide TC).

Common Nighthawk
75 were at Eagle's Crest, near Redmond, on 29 July (TC)

Woodpeckers
5 Lewis' were at a burn near Bend on 30 July (SR). White-headed Woodpeckers nested along Badger Creek.
on the east slope of Mt. Hood (Wasco) (Char Corkran, DL). A nest of a Three-toed Woodpecker was being used when discovered on 17 June at Lava Camp Lake (Descbutes, 17 June (PTS, JM)); but it was found abandoned a couple of days later. A pair was found foraging about 1/2 mile away on 2 July (TC).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**

Many young were found in the Cascade Mountains on 30-31 July (SR). *Alder* Flycatcher

Two or 3 birds were reported from Malheur NWR during the spring and summer. As Steve Summers noted in the last issue of *Oregon Birds*, some birds giving the "breeo" or "bre-ear" song were later heard giving a Willow Flycatcher call. Tape recordings made of these birds, and others at Malheur in previous years were sent to Empidonax experts from around the country. All concluded that the birds were, in fact, Willow Flycatchers giving a little known alarm vocalization. Eugene Hunn in Washington had a similar bird in 1991 that was only determined to be a Willow Flycatcher after examining a sonogram of both species. In commenting on the similarity of calls he noted "Also, the more I read about Willow & Alder vocalizations the more obvious it became that Willows have a wide repertoire of songs, calls, etc., some quite confusingly like Alders."

It is important to note that none of these purported "Alder" Flycatchers ever gave the diagnostic "peep" or "kep" call note, and all were in typical Willow flycatcher habitat. It is likely that the OBRC will remove this species from the state list and future records will have to demonstrate diagnostic call notes and songs in order to be accepted.

**Pacific-slope Flycatcher**

Birds nesting along Tumalo Creek west of Bend, previously surmised to be Cordilleran Flycatchers, but not previously studied, were determined to be Pacific-slope Flycatchers, further muddying the already unclear picture of the breeding ranges of these 2 species in the state (PTS, TC). Observers are advised to use great caution in identifying "Western" Flycatchers and not base their decisions on previous assumptions about their breeding ranges.

**Western Wood-Pewee**

75 were found in a breeding bird survey in the Ochocos on 28 June, for the highest total ever for the species on that survey. An encouraging sign given all the concern for such neotropical migrants (TC, CM)

**Eastern Kingbird**

"Several" were seen along 15 Mile Rd. east of The Dalles, including 3 young (Jim Torland).

**Bank Swallow**

16 were at Wamic on 2 July (DL, DO); many were migrating over Bend on 4 July (TC).

**Scrub Jay**

This species nested successfully in Bend this year for the first time (SS, CM).

**Varied Thrush**

One was reported on 18 June at Malheur Refuge HQ by T. & C. Regier for a very out-of-season record.

**Veery**

The only ones mentioned were the birds at the Ochoco Ranger Station, whose numbers appeared to be low this year (m.ob.).

**Gray Catbird**

Two were along Hwy. 26, along Beaver Creek at the Warm Springs Reservation boundary 26 June (DL). These birds have been present in this location for the past few summers.

**Northern Mockingbird**

There were numerous records of this species during the summer. A male on territory was still in Fields on 25 June, where 2 birds had been seen off and on since late May (m.ob.); 1 was at Parkdale, Hood River, on 5 June (MD); another was at the Cummings Hill Summit on Hwy. 19 in northern Wheeler Co. 13 June (DA); a pair was along Crowley Road, Malheur, 2 June (DB). A pair returned to last years successful nesting site in Medford but left early without trying to nest (MM).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

One was on Stukel Mountain, Klamath, on 24 June (KS). *Descbutes* first was found in Bend on 18 July by Steve & Priscilla Summers in my backyard immediately prior to their leaving for their new home in Cedar City, Utah. Thanks, Steve & Priscilla for yet another fond memory. We all miss you.

**"Plumbeous" Solitary Vireo**

The territorial male first reported in late May in Fields was still present through at least 11 June (HN, m.ob.).

**Red-eyed Vireo**

One was observed on 2-3 June at Malheur Refuge Headquarters by M. Nebeker.

**Tennessee Warbler**

1 was reported from Lost Lake, Santiam Pass on 24 July without any details (fide HN). There is 1 prior accepted July record, that from Indian Ford Campground in July, 1976.

**Townsend’s Warbler**

A bird of this species was out of range (elevation) in Bend 11-16 June (TC).

**American Redstart**

An immature was in Fields on 11 June (HN, m.ob.).

**Northern Waterthrush**

1 was singing at Harriman Lodge, Upper Klamath Lake on 25-26 June slightly away from the normal part of its range in Klamath Co. (PTS, JM).

**Wilson’s Warbler**

A singing, territorial male was seen at Jordan Creek Crossing, Wasco on 11 June (DL). This bird is rarely encountered in that county except during migration.

**Yellow-breasted Chat**

Nest was at Lower Bridge, Descbutes this summer (m.ob.). This is the only reliable breeding location in the county now. It was also noted at Spanish Hollow near Biggs 9 July (PTS).

**Western Tanager**

Very high numbers were present in the Ochocos this season with ’78 being counted on the Summit Prairie BBS, compared to only 18 in 1990

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*Gray Catbird, 10 June 1994, Rhinehart Bridge, Union Co. Photo/Skip Russell.*
Again an encouraging sign for this neotropical migrant.

Black-throated Sparrow
The explosion of this species in the spring either dissipated, or was not reported by birders during the summer. The only ones reported were an individual at Painted Hills National Monument 24 June (Margarite LaFaive); 1 at Warm Springs Reservoir, Malheur 3 July (PTS, JM); and 10 on Stukel Mountain Klamath on 24 June (KS).

Lark Bunting
An adult male in breeding plumage was seen at Umatilla NWR, 31 July (Amy Schauer), details to OBRC.

Tricolored Blackbird
The only birds reported were a male at Clarno Pond Wheeler, on 11 June (PTS, JM) and 2 males at Wamic on 26 June (DL).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE
2 males and 1 female were at Malheur NWR during the summer, a pair successfully nested, for the first nesting record for the state (HN, RV, m.ob.). One was also observed during the month of June at the Double-O unit of Malheur by John & Lori O’Conner.

Bobolink
Numbers on Malheur refuge increased with a total of 321 males counted, compared to 301 in 1993 and 110 in 1992 (RV).

Black Rosy Finch
4 were in Kiger Gorge below the summit of Steens Mt. on 11 June (fide RV).

Red Crossbill
Observers commented on the abundance of this species (these species???) in the Cascades and Ochocos this summer (HN, SR, TC, CM).

Pine Grosbeak
One was reported from Upper Bridge Creek Rd., Wheeler Co. on July 2, without details. This bird is unknown from this area in summer.


Blue Grouse, 23 July 1994, Larch Mountain, Multnomah Co. Photo/Skip Russell.
**FIELDNOTES: Western Oregon, Summer 1994**

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

**Abbreviations used:**
- BLM: Bureau of Land Management
- Co.: County
- FRR: Fern Ridge Reservoir
- m.ob.: many observers
- N.W.R.: National Wildlife Refuge
- SJCR: South Jetty of the Columbia River
- s.p.: sewage ponds
- ‡: written or verbal details submitted

**Red-necked Grebe**
Rarely seen during the summer, 1 lingered at Yaquina Head to 5 June (KM), and 1 was in breeding plumage at the mouth of the Siuslaw R. 3 July (T&AM).

**Western Grebe**
Nesting was observed at FRR for the third year (adults w/ young—number not given) 13 July (UP). Breeding is not known anywhere else in western Oregon.

**Clark’s Grebe**
On the coast, 1 washed ashore near Yachts, Lincoln Co. 2 July (JB), and a live 1 was seen south of Yachts 24 July (KM). Four adults were at FRR 13 July (UP). This is the third year that this species has been present at FRR during the breeding season.

**Pelagic off Newport, 31 July (66)**
- Black-footed Albatross 49
- Northern Fulmar 3
- Pink-footed Shearwater 55
- Buller’s Shearwater 1 at 3 miles
- Sooty Shearwater 75
- Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel 2
- Leach’s Storm-Petrel 69 beyond 30 miles
- Long-tailed Jaeger 2
- South Polar Skua 2 at 30 and 36 miles
- Cassin’s Auklet 10
- Rhinoceros Auklet 5

**Beached Tubenoses**
Along 4.5 miles of Thiel Cr. beach 3 Black-footed Albatrosses and 1 Leach’s Storm-Petrel were found in June (fide RB). These species are rarely found washed ashore.

**American White Pelican**
One was at Emigrant L., Jackson Co. 18 June (RS).

**Great Egret**
First of the fall: 17 July at Alsea Bay; 20 July at Astoria; and 21 July at North Plains, Washington Co.

**Snowy Egret**
Up to 7 were along the lower Winchuck R., Curry Co., throughout the period (DM).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron**
As is typical a few were found during the breeding season: 3 immatures were seen circling over a pond near Tou Velle Park, Jackson Co. 11 July (fide HS); and 1 immature was at Yaquina Head, Lincoln Co., 26 July (fide RB). However, a rather large summer flock of 21 roosted at the mouth of the Chetco R. (CD).

**White-faced Ibis**
One at Howard Prairie L., Jackson Co., 13 or 14 July (fide HS) was a very unusual mid-summer record.

**Northern Pintail**
Two were at Tillamook 2 July (OS, JG).

**American Wigeon**
Two were at the Nehalem s.p. 1 July (HN).

**Harlequin Duck**
A male was at Detroit 19 June (fide HS) in an area of the Cascades where this species is known to breed. A female with 4 chicks were on upper Nestucca R., Tillamook Co. 1 July (HN). This is only the second nesting record for the Coast Range, the first one being on the Wilson River, Tillamook Co. in 1940 (Bayer, R.D., 1994, Harlequin Duck Records Mostly From Lincoln County, Oregon. Journal of Oregon Ornithology, No. 3).

**Oldsquaw**
Two were at the SJCR to 6 July (MP) and an immature male was seen numerous times at the Siuslaw R. estuary in July (m.ob.). There are few records of summering birds in Oregon.

**Bufflehead**
Two birds were at Meares L., Tillamook Co., 2 July+ (fide HS). This species is unusual away from known nesting sites in the Cascades during the breeding season.

**Osprey**
An article in the Mail Tribune of southern Oregon describes an Osprey that has learned to take advantage of fly-fishermen on the upper Rogue R. near Shady Cove, Jackson Co. The bird waits on a nearby perch and swoops down to grab the hooked trout just feet from the boat, splashing the angler with river water. The fear among the local fishermen is that the young of this bird learned her techniques and will pass it on to his young. The same article stated that 36 pairs of Osprey are known to nest around Lost Creek Lake and another dozen pairs nest along the Rogue R. from Lost Creek Dam to Eagle Point (fide BLM).

Thirty-two active nests were surveyed along the lower 42 miles of the Rogue R., up slightly from last year’s 31 nests (CD).

**White-tailed Kite**
First of the post-breeding movement: at Tou Velle Park, Jackson Co. 11 July (MM); at the SJCR 22 July (MP); and at Siuslaw estuary 27 July (B&ZS).

**Sandhill Crane**
Two were seen flying east from Scappoose, Columbia Co. 17 June (fide HS). Possibly the same two were on Sauvie Island 31 July (fJf). This was the fourth year that one or two cranes appeared to summer on the island. A flock of 34 at Alsea Bay 3 June was Lincoln County’s sixth record (fide RB).

**Semipalmated Plover**
A nest(?) was found at the North Spit of Coos Bay on 18 May by a group studying Snowy Plovers (CH, BC, MS). The eggs hatched on 8 June, and 1 chick fledged. Not only that, but a nest was discovered in the same area in 1993. That year, the nest was discovered on 6 June, the eggs hatched 30 June, and 2 chicks fledged. These records represent the fourth and fifth breeding records for Oregon and the first and second nesting records for western Oregon.

**Black-necked Stilt**
Two adults and 2 juveniles were near Tou Velle Park, Jackson Co., 8-11 July (BS, MM). They may or may not have nested in the area. There are no breeding records for western Oregon.

**American Avocet**
One was at Ankeny N.W.R. 5 June (DP). An odd time of year for one to show up west of the Cascades.
Table 1. First shorebird fall migration dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Observer(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semipalmated Plover</td>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Forest Grove s.p.</td>
<td>DL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Yellowlegs</td>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>Nehalem s.p. and Necanicum R.</td>
<td>DB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Yellowlegs</td>
<td>2 July</td>
<td>Tillamook</td>
<td>JG, OS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wondering Tattler</td>
<td>3 July</td>
<td>mouth of the Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>T&amp;AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruddy Turnstone</td>
<td>3 July</td>
<td>mouth of the Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>T&amp;AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Turnstone</td>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Brookings</td>
<td>T&amp;AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfbird</td>
<td>3 July</td>
<td>mouth of the Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>T&amp;AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Sandpiper</td>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>Tillamook</td>
<td>DL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>Lincoln Co.</td>
<td>OS, JG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 July</td>
<td>Eugene</td>
<td>RT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Least Sandpiper</td>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Forest Grove s.p.</td>
<td>DL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>2 July</td>
<td>Tillamook</td>
<td>DL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>1 July</td>
<td>Forest Grove s.p.</td>
<td>DL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-necked Phalarope</td>
<td>21 June</td>
<td>off Yaquina Head (USFWS survey)</td>
<td>T&amp;AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 July</td>
<td>mouth of the Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>T&amp;AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BAR-TAILED GODWIT
One adult was on the beach just south of Seal Rocks, Lincoln Co. 31 July (DF; CP). This represents the fifteenth Oregon record and the fourth Lincoln Co. record.

Dunlin
An extremely early adult in breeding plumage was at Tillamook 26 June (HN).

Wilson’s Phalarope
A few adults were at Baskett Slough N.W.R. exhibiting territorial behavior in May and early June, and a nest containing several downy young was found 12 June (PB, SD). The next day neither the nest nor the young could be found but 2 agitated males were in the area, and a second nest was thought to be present but was not found. Nesting has been suspected at various locations in western Oregon in the past, but it has not before been verified.

Fall migrants were at the Forest Grove s.p., Washington Co., 25 June and 1 July (DL), and at the Molalla s.p., Clackamas Co., 28 July (TJ).

Long-tailed Jaeger
One at Idaho Flats, Yaquina Bay, 11 July was an unusual onshore record (RG). This was the sixth Lincoln Co. record and their first for July (fide RB).

Franklin’s Gull
One in transitional plumage was at Idaho Flats, Yaquina Bay 6 June and was the third spring record for Lincoln Co. (fide RB).

Heermann’s Gull
First noted at the SJCR 1 July (HN).

California Gull
The first of the post-breeding movement in Lincoln Co. were at Yaquina Bay 17 July (KM).

Western X Glaucous-winged Gull hybrid
A pair nested for the second consecutive year on the Willamette R. near Oregon City (TJ). This is the only site in the Willamette Valley where any gulls have nested.

Elegant Tern
Three to 4 were at Idaho Flats, Yaquina Bay 24 July (KM).

Common Tern
One was at Harbor, Curry Co., 13 July (DM), and one was at Florence, Lane Co., 19 July (B&ZS).

Black Tern
Breeding was confirmed at FRR for third consecutive year 13 July (UP).

Marbled Murrelet
The furthest inland nest in Oregon was found 31 miles from the ocean in Douglas Co. 29 July (RH).

Ancient Murrelet
One in breeding plumage was at Yaquina Head 4 July (KM); one “not in breeding plumage” was beneath the Yaquina Bay bridge 12 July (fide RB); and another was at Yaquina Head 17 July (KM).

Mourning Dove
Rarely noted on the coast north of Lincoln Co., one was at Bay City and another was east of Tillamook 30 July (TJ, DB).

Boreal Owl
One was seen near Waldo L., Lane Co. 31 July (SR). This has become one of the traditional areas for finding this species.

Red-naped Sapsucker
One was at Lemiti Meadow in southeastern Clackamas Co. 7 June (TJ, et al.). There are few records for the county.

Western Kingbird
One was in Portland 16 July (fide HN) where the species is rarely seen after early June.

Eastern Kingbird
For the second year in a row this species was found nesting at the mouth of the Sandy R., Multnomah Co, the only site in western Oregon where this species has bred. This

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Indigo Bunting, 12 June 1994, Eugene, Lane Co. Photo/Skip Russell.

Indigo Bunting, 24 June 1994, Eugene, Lane Co. Photo/Larry McQueen.
time two pairs nested (BA).

**Northern Mockingbird**  
One was in Brookings 9 July, (CD); an adult and juvenile were seen near Central Point, Jackson Co., 24 July (MM) very close to where an adult raised 3 young last summer; and one was at the South Jetty deflation plain of the Siuslaw R. estuary 30 July (B&ZS).

**Red-eyed Vireo**  
Ten to 12 pairs were present at the mouth of the Sandy R., Multnomah Co. this summer (BA). This was a previously unknown area for the species. One was at Talent, Jackson Co. 28 June (FR). There are few records for the Rogue Valley. Up to 2 birds were along the Santiam R, Linn Co., near Stayton, Marion Co. (JE, RG), and up to 5 singing birds were along the Middle Fork of the Willamette R. southeast of Eugene this summer where they have been known to occur in the past (m.ob.). A female with a brood patch mist-netted at Kanipe Ranch northeast of Oakland, Douglas Co., 16 July (RH), was the first evidence of breeding in Douglas Co.

**NORTHERN PARULA**  
A singing male was at the north end of the Waldport bridge 19-22 June (DF, m.ob, fide RB). This was the sixth record for western Oregon and the first for Lincoln Co.

**Black-and-white Warbler**  
One was reported without details from Bloomberg Park, Eugene, 9 July (DH).

**Northern Waterthrush**  
Up to 2 singing birds were at the usual location in the bog up creek from Salt Cr. Falls, Lane Co. (m.ob.).

**Yellow-breasted Chat**  
Four pairs were present at the mouth of the Sandy R. Multnomah Co., this summer (BA). Previously, this species was unknown as a breeder in the county. Very unusual on the immediate coast north of Curry Co, one was at Florence 3 June (RW).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**  
One male visited a feeder at the town of Cape Meares 28 May-12 July for about the third Tillamook Co. record (m.ob.).

**INDIGO BUNTING**  
A male was found at Bloomberg Park, Eugene 5 June (PF), and was later seen to be nesting with a female Lazuli Bunting. The Indigo was present to at least 16 July (m.ob.).

**Black-throated Sparrow**  
Last spring's invasion continued a bit into summer with one at Lower Table Rock, Jackson Co. 16 June (HN), and one at Bloomberg Park, Eugene, 19 June (m.ob.).

**Observers**  