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Blue Grosbeak, 13 July 1997, near Brogan, Malheur
Co. Photo/Skip Russell.

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Oregon Birds

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Oregon Birds is looking for material in these categories: news briefs on things of temporal importance, such as meetings, birding trips, announcements, news items, etc.; articles are longer contributions dealing with identification, distribution, ecology, management, conservation, taxonomy, behavior, biology, and historical aspects of ornithology and birding in Oregon (articles cite references — if any — at the end of the text); short notes are shorter communications dealing with the same subjects as articles (short notes typically cite no references, or at most a few in parentheses in the text, names and addresses of authors appear at the end of the text); bird finding guides "where to find a ___ in Oregon" (for some of the rarer birds) and "where to find birds in the ___ area" (for some of the better spots); reviews for published material on Oregon birds or of interest to Oregon birders; photographs of birds, especially photos taken recently in Oregon (color slide originals are preferred; please label all photos with photographer's name and address, bird identification, date and place the photo was taken; all photos will be returned; contact the Editor for more information).

Deadline for the next issue of Oregon Birds — OB 24(2), Summer 1998 — is 20 April 1998. The next issue should get to you by the first week of June 1998. Material can be submitted any time, and the sooner the better. Please send materials directly to the Editor.

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Imagine Christmas Bird Counts where the count circles are square and hexagonal rather than round, and where you search for birds at your leisure, any time in the pleasant spring and summer months rather than in blustery Christmastide. Now imagine you don’t have to count individual birds — just note their presence and if possible some evidence of breeding. That, essentially, is what the Breeding Bird Atlas Project is about.

With 3 summers behind us and only 2 left to go, much remains to be accomplished by OFO's Atlas Project. The good news is that 563 birders so far have contributed observations to the project. Several more are helping with data entry and day-to-day aspects of running Oregon's largest wildlife inventory. We are progressing steadily toward meeting the project goals (see maps).

The unfortunate and inexplicable news is that dozens of active birders, including many OFO members, have yet to send in a single observation. With time running out on this project, 1998 is a good time to do your part.

Hexagons Most in Need of Coverage in 1998

For a detailed full-size copy of this map, contact the authors.
joining those who already have distinguished themselves by finding species not reported from hexagons in previous years ("New Finds"). In this category, the following 1997 efforts are especially laudable:

- Frank Conley — 542 New Finds from 31 hexagons
- Mike & MerryLynn Denny — 498 from 42 hexagons
- Margaret LaFaive — 206 from 9 hexagons
- Donna Lusthoff — 192 from 32 hexagons

Outstanding, improved coverage of individual hexagons was contributed by the following (NOTE: In this article we list participants only once even though some have achieved distinction in several categories):

- Frank Isaacs — 94 New Finds from #26097 (Drew Reservoir, LAKE)
- David Herr — 81 from #25140 (Emigrant Hill, UMATILLA)
- Jamie Simmons & Hendrik Herlyn — 79 from #25146 (Malheur N.F., HARNEY)

It’s equally important to continually "upgrade" the evidence of breeding of all species. By upgrading, we mean improving the reported evidence of nesting, such as finding a bird carrying nesting material in 1997 after noting only its mere presence in 1995 and 1996. Upgrading takes patience and alertness to bird behavior. About one-third of the records in the database were upgraded in 1997, and 18% of all the records are of species previously unreported from particular hexagons or squares. People who upgraded the most records overall include:

- Craig Miller — 171 records in 22 hexagons
- Eric Horvath — 123 in 16 hexagons
- Duncan Evered & Lyla Messick — 119 in 5 hexagons
- Henry Horvat — 116 in 9 hexagons

As noted, a remaining priority is to attain better coverage of the squares. Participants in 1997 who contributed the most new records (New Finds plus upgrades) from squares overall were:

- Katy Wilson — 236 records from 11 squares
- Don & Karen Munson — 184 from 29 squares
- Paul Adamus — 107 from 24 squares

The most new records from any single square came from:

- Jean Van Hulzen — 54 records from #27081
- Patty Bowers — 49 records from #25509
- Marilynne Keyser — 46 records from #26750

A few participants have gone far beyond the call of duty and continued atlasing in some of their hexagons or squares even after meeting the "target" numbers of species and confirmations for these areas. This intensity of coverage is sometimes needed to find unusual and secretive species. Notable are efforts by Greg Gillson, Anthony Floyd, and Keith Graves.

The Birds We Saw

Unofficially, 1997 was proclaimed the “Year of the Owl” as a way of highlighting the particular need for better data on this group. Atlas project participants responded enthusiastically, increasing the number of owl reports in the atlas database from 1283 to 1885 (47% increase). All 13 Oregon species were reported, with most being N. Pygmy-Owl and Great Horned Owl. There continue to be a paucity of reports of Long-eared, Barn, and W. Screech Owls, relative to their expected distribution.

Of all the bird species reported to the project so far, 7 species have been found in all of the hexagons where they were predicted to occur, 163 have been found in most of those predicted hexagons, and 97 have been found in less than half of their predicted hexagons. There have been over 2000 incidents of species occurring in hexagons where habitat conditions (at least as interpreted from 1988 aerial photographs) would seem not to predict their presence. Some of the more unusual finds from 1997 — unusual in some cases because they were in parts of the state where normally they’re absent or rare — were Merlin, Boreal Owl, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Mockingbird (nest),

Hexagons Whose Squares Are Most in Need of Coverage in 1998

Expected Species Found

- <20%
- 20 - 60%
- >60%

For a detailed full-size copy of this map, contact the authors.

White-winged Crossbill, Great-tailed Grackle, Pine Grosbeak, and the star attraction: Blue Grosbeak.

The 1997 field season was the first in which “travel grants” were offered to a limited number of qualified birders, selected through an application process. These gas reimbursements were very popular and were notably effective in improving the coverage of some nearly roadless squares in southeastern Oregon. The 21 participants awarded travel grants upgraded an average of 35 species per hexagon, compared with 7 for participants without grants. The grants will be available again through an application process in 1998 (see box).

The Future

Funding continues to be adequate to cover our operating expenses, thanks mainly to support this year from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Wildlife Diversity Program), US Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and your organization — Oregon Field Ornithologists. Another outstanding source of support continues to be volunteers from Oregon’s Natural Heritage Program, who each year contribute much time to enter thousands of atlas data records into our computer database. Others who generously contributed time to project administration tasks in 1997 include Sharon Clarke, Carol Colton, Marcia Cutler, Manuela Huso, Jim Johnson, Dennis Mong, and Jon Plissner.

Recently, the project steering committee has begun planning for the publication of the project results. Preliminary plans call for publication as both a book and a CD-ROM, shortly after conclusion of the project at the end of the 1999 field season. We welcome ideas from anyone during this planning process, and are trying to promote collaboration with related publication efforts.

Completion Status of Atlas Project Survey Units:

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<th>Criterion:</th>
<th>100% complete</th>
<th>80-89% complete</th>
<th>60-79% complete</th>
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<td>49</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>112</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Square: Confirmed Breeding</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>255</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Travel grants and lodging for Atlasers

Once again, the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project is offering reimbursements to 10-20 birders willing to visit selected remote areas of central and eastern Oregon. We call these “travel grants” and you must apply first by writing or phoning us by 1 April. You’ll be given a list of several dozen areas to choose from. In some cases we’ll also cover the cost of renting a new 4-WD vehicle. You must be at least 24 (unless you don’t need a rental 4-WD), able to recognize most bird songs, available for at least 4 consecutive days in June/July, and agree to submit your bird list and receipts by August. It’s a terrific way to explore “Oregon’s Outback!” If you’re interested but would rather not drive or go alone, leave a message on the atlas project phone (1-800-440-5454) and we’ll try to find you a birding buddy who also enjoys rugged country.

As an added incentive the Malheur Field Station has kindly offered to give a discount rate on lodging and kitchen facilities for birders who spend 2 or more days atlasing during June/July in selected nearby areas (excluding the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge) that need better coverage. For more information contact the atlas project hotline.
A Day in Jackson Creek Canyon, Malheur Co., Oregon

Mike Denny, 323 Scenic View Drive, College Place, WA 99324

The McDermitt hexagon looked easy enough to cover, but just in case, we refilled all our water and gas tanks before we pushed north up Hwy. 95 out of McDermitt, Nevada. Merry Lynn and I had been awarded a "Travel Grant" by the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project to discover just what species of birds were breeders in this portion of the Great Basin in Oregon.

We exited onto Jackson Creek Rd., and headed east up onto the south flank of Battle Mountain. After topping out at well over 5000' we proceeded southeast towards the Nouque Ranch Road. At about 5600 feet a single half-grown Sage Grouse burst from the edge of the road and on bowed wings, soared down into a narrow draw pulling three other grouse up and away with it. I stopped and we walked downslope a bit, up went an adult and 2 more chicks, all sailing down into the same sage-covered wash. Neat!

Slowly, we began our advance up a very dim track that was the Nouque Ranch Road. After a mile or so, this track was no longer a road, but resembled a gravel pit. It became easier to drive along in the sage as we climbed up along this rutted road towards the east rim of a good-sized canyon. After 20 minutes or so, all forward progress came to a halt.

With about 1.5 hours of light left, we pitched the tent and walked down to the edge of this beautiful canyon. A multitude of songs reached our ears as we sat up on the rim. The entire face of the rolling hill, into which this canyon cut, was covered with very short stiff sage. The only plants that stood taller than eight or ten inches were two blooming death camas stalks. As we prepared to return to camp the distinctive calls of a Yellow-breasted Chat reached us as did the songs of many Vesper Sparrows. It was with great expectation that we awaited the next morning. The western face of this canyon still maintained two large snow patches. It seemed more like the first week of May rather than the second week of June when I looked at the plant growth. As darkness crept up the canyon, three or four Common Poorwills began to call, one quite near our tent.

16 June 1997 was welcomed by a very vocal group of singing Vesper Sparrows that filled our ears with their song. Up and out of the tent we headed just as the sun flooded the Owyhee desert out to the east. After scrambling over fingers of flat basalt, we reached the edge of this spectacular canyon. Jackson Creek flowed down through clumps of golden current, service berry, willow and aspen. Multi-floral rose, current and sage covered the slopes. Birds were everywhere. A screaming Red-tailed Hawk and its near-fledged young welcomed us into this canyon. Green-tailed Towhees sang all up and down this steam as did Lazuli Buntings. It was then that a very familiar song worked its way into my head. Could it be? I must be wrong! The adult White-crowned Sparrow sang again. It was then that more and more songs of this species reached us. Sitting on a flat rock we watched a pair of these sharp-looking birds carry food to, and exit from, a dense stand of multi-floral rose and golden current. I counted at least eight pairs on territory. All the birds I saw were the black-needled race, Zonotrichia leucophrys oriantha. We were very surprised that this sparrow was nesting in this canyon.

Finding a short branch of this canyon going off to the southwest, I investigated. Northern Flickers were nesting in a lava tube about 40 feet above the ground. Many Rock Wrens, Violet-green Swallows, and Green-tailed Towhees lived up this box canyon. Nearing the end of this short canyon I suddenly came upon a male Mountain Bluebird perched atop a low rim. As I watched, a female appeared with a beak full of bugs. It flew about in an attempt to draw me away. Backing off, I kept an eye on her as she moved up and down the face of the basalt rim, finally ducking into a stick-felled hole in the rock. Their nest was in a lava tube about 10 feet above the ground. What else could be here? With an odd, squeaky call, a chumpin ran along the very edge of the rim. This was a chumpin unlike any I have ever seen. It was a very light, creamy tan with two slightly darker stripes along the flanks. These ran back to a black saddle that covered half the hind leg and then covered the rump and crossed down onto the other hind leg. The tail was creamy and striped. I saw 2 of these animals.

I rejoined Merry Lynn and we worked our way down the creek. This is when we came upon an adult Hammond's Flycatcher carrying nesting materials. We saw only one pair of Hammond's, while Dusky Flycatchers were calling all about and were seen everywhere. Jackson Creek Canyon is an exciting place to bird. Its access is not too bad once the Nouque Ranch Road is repaired. Following is a list of species we found on 15-16 June 1997 while down in Jackson Creek Canyon.

Well, that is all we found. I urge birders to visit this area. Be prepared for storms, wind and a hot sun. Bring lots of water and good boots. Enjoy Jackson Creek Canyon and southern Malheur County, Oregon.
Bone Creek is southwest of Burns Junction. Turn west off Hwy 95 onto BLM Rd. 6314-1-00. Proceed until the junction of BLM Rd. 6314-1-BO. Go only 1.5 miles south on this road, then turn west or right onto the spotty track and go until you come to the mouth of Bone Canyon. Jackson Creek Canyon: take BLM Rd. 6357-0-00 to 6374-0-00 (Nouque Ranch Road). The canyon is 3.2 miles south of this junction. Woolhawk Canyon: take BLM Rd. 6361-0-00 to 6360-0-AO. Stay on this road as it turns south. You will see Woolhawk Canyon in front of you. Do not stay on 6376-0-00. Be sure to turn south onto 6360-0-AO. We camped 1.5 miles south of 6376-0-00, just above the east rim of this canyon.

Bone Creek Canyon, Malheur Co., Oregon

Mike Denny, 323 Scenic View Drive, College Place, WA 99324

Suddenly, perched before us on a sage was an adult Sage Sparrow being hounded by 2 of its offspring for more feedings. What a relief to see something other than Horned Larks. Counting the 6 to 7 species we had found at Burns Junction, this was an exciting event. Taking a look at the huge cumbersome BLM map, I noticed a faint dotted line that crossed the track we were on, southwest of our location. Criss-crossing this dim line was an even fainter blue line with the bold name of Bone Creek. We both wondered if the word “Creek” really meant the presence of water or was this merely another dry gulch? We crested a low ridge and there before us as far as the eye could see from one horizon to the next, was sage.

About half way down this ridge, I noticed a large lizard across the left wheel track. Swerving to the right, we shot past. Hitting the break, I jumped out and ran back up the track. There along the edge of the road was a 10-11 inch long, very spotted, long-nosed leopard lizard. This orange-spotted female had caught and killed a sagebrush vole and was in the process of shaking this microtine like a rag doll. Retreating, I returned to the Jeep to grab the camera. Upon approaching the lizard, I noticed it had released the rodent and was sitting watching me. Twenty minutes passed as the dead mouse lay in the hot sun. Lines of red ants had formed and seemed immune to the very hot road as they ripped and tore at tissue exposed in a gash across the rodent’s nape. The leopard lizard suddenly re-approached the dead vole and again began to violently shake it by the head. Ants flew in all directions. After 2 minutes of this, the reptile gave one last shake and
dropped the vole in a limp pile and moved off into the sage, abandoning its kill to the ants.

We too, moved off into the sage considering ourselves fortunate to have been witness to this drama.

After bouncing through a few more miles of sage and ruts, we came upon a very faint track that obviously had been last traveled by wagons. Turning onto this ancient path we proceeded west towards a high butte. This was to be our first introduction to Bone Creek or at least to "Bonedry Creek." A very dry, boulder-filled trench proved to be the crossing point. So it was that we crossed this stream course with very little hope of finding anything other than Horned Larks and Sage Sparrows. As we neared the high butte, Bone Creek's wash again crawled in front of us and forced another fun-filled crossing over rocks and boulders.

A few hundred feet past this dry gulch and we came to a long-dropped salt block that had been sculpted into unique form by untold hundreds of tongues. With our desire to go on fast evaporating, we found a flat area at the mouth of this shallow canyon. Upon nearing the high butte, we turned around and headed back "home." Upon nearing a side draw, Mourning Doves, Chukar, and Rock Wrens spoke up. Venturing on we came to a 15-foot shadbush with Brewer's Blackbirds and more Robins. With only a half hour of light left, we turned around and headed back "home." Upon nearing a side gulch, a single adult Northern Mockingbird flew into view and gave a couple "chak" calls. WOW! So it was with renewed vigor and fading light that we returned to camp.

That night, Common Poorwills (3 pairs), bats, kangaroo rats and a herd of cattle all came into camp. 20 June 1997 hit early as the Black-throated Sparrows opened up and filled the air with their outstanding song. They were soon joined by Sage and Lark Sparrows and a lone adult Violet-green Swallow.

Jamming a bagel into our mouths, we strapped on our packs. With cameras at the ready, we started up the cattle-hammered trail into Bone Creek Canyon. We found more Spotted Towhees, Robins, and Chukars. Upon nearing the Mockingbird site, we slowed and watched as an adult Mocker lit atop a sage and began to eye us. It was soon joined by a second adult with a beak full of bugs. We watched as this adult ducked into a spindly sage and emerged without the bugs. We asked each other if the adult had eaten its catch or was it feeding young? Keeping an eye on the tall sage, we watched as these Mockingbirds each made several trips into the sage with beaks bulging. Slowly, we approached this big sage, at about 10 feet away, I spotted a flat, rough stick nest with a fine grassy bowl filled with feathers and yellow mouths. There pressed into this bowl were three chicks. We had it! A Northern Mockingbird nest in Malheur County! Merry Lynn was able to photograph the nest and the adults. We backed off and watched as the adults brought more bugs and orange-red current berries to this nest.

Really excited now, we headed on up the canyon hoping to find more nests and unexpected species. Rounding a lazy bend in the trail we came upon a patch of willow, roses, and wormwood covering the banks along with a liberal sprinkling of horse and deer bones. Erupting from the ground in front of us were towering columns of basalt forming a gorge. Here Bone Creek completely changed from an intermittent surface creek to a rushing stream plunging over waterfalls and creating deep blue pools. The walls of the gorge were 45 to 75 feet high. There were numerous seeps at the base of this formation, thick grass and ferns, tall golden currents and rose bushes. There were Great Horned Owls, Kestrels, Rock Wrens, and Chukar. As we worked our way through this totally unexpected feature of Bone Creek Canyon, Robins, and Violet-green Swallows flew about.
This incredibly bright green slice in this sage-covered desert was a shock. Just as abruptly as it rose up out of the desert, this vigorous life-filled gorge dropped back into the ground as did Bone Creek. We were left standing in a dry wash surrounded by sage. Watching as we went, we climbed up a dry waterfall and there in front of us about 500 feet away, foraged 23 wild horses. This was certainly an area of unexpected sights and experiences.

Bone Creek Canyon is southwest of Burns Junction way out in the sage and should never be attempted without four-wheel drive and plenty of water. Bird migration in this area could be very interesting. We found that doing the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas in this area during late June was fun. So get out and atlas no matter how bleak the area appears. You will never know what you could find.

Bone Creek Canyon is a prime example of an area that held surprises for us.

Woolhawk Canyon, Malheur Co., Oregon: Oregon’s Hidden Treasure

Mike Denny, 323 Scenic View Drive, College Place, WA 99324

Merry Lynn and I pulled off the last paved road (Hwy. 95) we would see for days just north of Basque Station and headed east out into the sage. We were nudging the heels of a fierce Malheur County-sized thunderstorm. Mud and rain-filled pot holes covered this dirt track.

We had been awarded a “Travel Grant” by the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas Project to go where no birder has gone before and returned.

Coming to a small half-filled stock pond, we stopped to take a look when a single drake Wood Duck slipped off the pond and waddled up into the sage to hide. A Wood Duck and not a tree in sight.

On we went through the sage and up onto a ridge. Here we stopped and looked east out into the Owyhee Desert. The words “vast,” “light years,” and “distant” came to mind. It was now easy to see how it was that the BLM had come to own millions of acres in this county alone.

Our next 2 hexagons were way out in the vast sage-covered lands of southern Malheur County, Oregon. This evening’s destination was marked on the BLM map as Woolhawk Canyon. At the moment this really didn’t impress us. The name was a bit odd, but then so were a lot of names in this desert. Whoever heard of Nouque or Wormwood, or Winter Fat? Unique names for an incredibly unique region.

The sage dominates. Sage is a lot like people. Each individual plant is wildly different in size and shape, but at a distance sage all looks the same. It is this sameness that creates monotony and dulls your wits to the point where all flying birds start to look like Horned Larks. Why Horned Larks? Horned Larks dominate.

Normally thunderstorms only leave puddles, but not in this county — somehow the rain water primes the local aquifer and 60 to 80-foot long spring-fed lakes form in what used to be the road. After going over endless cow pies and numerous boulder fields we arrived on the east rim of Woolhawk Canyon, just at sundown on 17 June 1997. With camp set, I walked over to the edge of this split in the crust to see if there were any birds. From way down in the thickening night came the songs of birds. These melodies drifted up from hundreds of feet below! A real deep canyon sliced its way off into the darkening gloom. Common Poorwills...
called as we drifted off to sleep.

The 18th of June was announced by a single yapping coyote and 3 singing Black-throated Sparrows. With all the necessities completed, which in Malheur County means you are mostly dressed and have your boots on, we grabbed our water and packs and set out to confirm as many breeders as we could. What would we find in this hidden Oregon treasure known as Woolhawk Canyon?

The first species we picked up were Chukar, Rock Wren, Red-tailed Hawk and Common Raven. So far so good! Hiking out to the tip of a huge promontory, I stood looking down, way down, to a clear watered stream as it flowed north towards the mouth of this great canyon. I was amazed by what I saw here. Sitting down, I listened to the abundant life that teemed all about me. Something was moving around on the cliff face just down from my perch. Not wishing to get any better looks at this cliff than I already had, I gave a soft whistle. Suddenly out and away from the cliff sailed an adult Golden Eagle. The power and silence of this huge bird was magnificent as it flew north down the canyon and out of sight. Still hoping for a last glimpse of this regal raptor, I was suddenly aware of dozens of other birds ripping and slicing through the air all about me. Above and below me were White-throated Swifts cutting and cruising the sky, making any of man's flying inventions look like mud-bogged cows. With grace and incredible speed, these birds whipped along the sheer rock faces and cliffs of this canyon. Chittering and chasing, these swifts vanished from around me as quickly as they had appeared. The air was empty save for a lumbering raven as it passed to the south.

Merry Lynn and I proceeded south along this gorge's east rim, looking for an access point down to the clear stream. A Prairie Falcon came into a rim east of us, screaming and calling to its near-fledged young. Merry Lynn finds an old deer antler laying in a clump of bunch grass not far from a very defensive pair of Lark Sparrows.

Finding a way down into the canyon took a bit of a hike. After a mile or so, there seemed to be a break in the canyon walls. It was here that we first saw them, 51 bighorn sheep, mostly ewes and lambs. We noticed one ewe with a neck collar, no doubt a radio tag. Chukar called from below as did a single Yellow-breasted Chat. There were a couple clumps of current, choke cherry and spirea growing in successive bends of the creek.

Slowly, we worked our way down a steep slope into this incredible canyon. Mourning Doves, Say's Phoebes, and many hundreds of Cliff Swallows caught our attention as we reached the stream. This is when we noticed the huge number of fish in this stream. Most were no longer than 6 inches and appeared to be a species of dace. Would we ever find out just what kind of dace these were? Taking a rest in the shade of the east wall, we heard Lazuli Bunting and found the nest. We also located 6 different colonies of White-throated Swift for a total of over 200 birds. A small brown passeine flew across the creek into the cool moist shade of a dense thicket of rose and spirea. It was agitated and moved through the brush chipping at us. We pished in return and out popped an adult Lincoln's Sparrow! WOW! We looked for its nest, but no luck. It was then that we hear a distasteful warbler singing. Staying still, we watched the west face of this canyon as an adult male Black-throated Gray Warbler flew in and perched just across from us. Singing, it flew from perch to perch keeping an eye on us. We located 2 additional Black-throated Grays to the south of our first bird. So it would seem that it is not the junipers that this species prefers, but rather the canyons.

House Wrens, Brewer's Blackbirds, Violet-green Swallows, and House Finches all were found in this spectacular place. With the air over head filled with swifts and swallows and the sun, we decided it was time to cool off and take a dip in one of the large deep inviting pools. In we went, the water was invigorating and just right when, OUCH! We were under attack. The hundreds of small fish had gone into a feeding frenzy. Dozens fought to get at the soft skin between our toes and fingers. Protective action was useless as numerous nips and bites covered us. So it was that we fled the man-eating dace of Rattlesnake Creek. Drying ourselves, we took care not to get near the water. It was after this that we found a female Mallard swimming down stream with 9 ducklings in tow. We didn't hold out for the ducklings' survival much before the next bend in the creek.

Woolhawk Canyon runs north and south and the walls only get higher the further south you go. It is a truly spectacular place, so well-hidden and isolated that few birders will ever get there. Those that do will not believe what spreads out before them, what wildlife and birds live here. At left is a list of species we found on 17 and 18 June 1997.

In closing, if you are planning on reaching this site, take a lot of water, a 4x4, good boots and a hat. Stay out of the streams and enjoy this amazing place! Woolhawk Canyon is truly a hidden treasure. Use the Vale District BLM map.
Just over 100 years ago, on 28 December 1894, 12 young men met in Portland, Oregon. Few of them were older than 20 years old. They all had enjoyed a boyhood hobby of collecting birds' eggs and nests, but now they were aspiring to something beyond this. What they aimed for was the creation of an ornithological association, a club for young collectors in the Northwest where they could share ideas and techniques, experiences, and stories of the study of birds.

The association was the idea of Alfred Pope. Pope had been born on 26 December 1876 near Trumansburg, New York. As a boy, he became interested in the natural world, in particular birds, and spent as much time as he could roaming the countryside near the family farm. When he was 13, his family moved from New York to Oregon, settling in Yamhill County.

In Oregon, the teen-age Pope continued his interest in birds. He read some of the ornithological magazines directed to an audience of collectors, oologists, and taxidermists. When he was 14 he contributed 2 articles to this ornithological press. "Interesting notes from Oregon," which appeared in an 1891 issue of the Oologist, reported on nesting of the Ring-necked Pheasant and Steller's Jay in Yamhill County. In the Taxidermist this same year, in the note "The Mongolian Pheasant," he again discussed the nesting of the pheasant in Yamhill County, adding that hunting pressure had reduced the pheasant population.

In 1893, at the age of 16, he published 2 more articles in the Oologist. In "The Sooty Grouse," he listed Blue Grouse egg sets he had collected in 1892 at McMinnville, Yamhill County. He also discussed habits of the grouse and included egg measurements. In "Notes from Yamhill County," Pope's experience as a naturalist was clear—he described collecting eggs of Ring-necked Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Black-capped Chickadee, Swainson's Thrush, Spotted Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, and Lesser Goldfinch. The next year he wrote a short note on an unusual nesting of the Blue Grouse for the journal Nidiologist.

In 1894, an event occurred that proved fortuitous for Pope and other young naturalists in Oregon. In September 1894, the Naturalist Publishing Company of Oregon City, owned by G.B. Cheney, began publishing the Oregon Naturalist (although an earlier publication called the Oregon Naturalist, published and edited by Aurelius Todd of Eugene, ran for 7 numbers from February through October 1891, its material was reprinted from the small journal West American Scientist; there was no material on Oregon birds). Cheney, who also served as editor of the Oregon Naturalist, intended that his little journal reach much more than just interested naturalists in Oregon. "The matter of starting a Natural History paper on the Pacific Coast has been given careful consideration and we predict that it will be of interest to Eastern Naturalists as well as Western." He began an aggressive distribution campaign. "We print several thousand copies of this issue," he wrote in the first number, and mentioned that it was being "sent to Naturalists and Collectors in every state of the Union and to foreign countries."

Cheney also solicited and accepted articles, notes, and advertising from individuals across the country. The second number included an article on the Black Tern by Rudolph Anderson of Forest City, Iowa, and notes written by authors from Florida, New York, and South Dakota. The third consecutive issue (dated November-December 1894, and numbered volume 1, no. 12) included authors from Michigan, New York, South Dakota, and Ohio. By this third issue, advertisers hailed from Washington, D.C., California, South Dakota, Michigan, New York, Florida, Pennsylvania, Texas, Illinois, North Carolina, Iowa, and Mississippi. By this issue also, Cheney had acquired the subscriptions of the Naturalist, published and edited by Herbert Sterzing in Austin, Texas. The Naturalist had absorbed the American Magazine of Natural Science of Des Moines, Iowa, in July 1894, so by this consolidation, Cheney instantly increased the geographical base of his publication. With the consolidation, Cheney changed the journal's name from Oregon Naturalist to the Naturalist. After 2 numbers under this name, however, it returned to Oregon Naturalist.

The contributors and advertisers were no doubt attracted to the national distribution of the little journal, as well as its low cost. Cheney stressed keeping the subscription rate low in order to attract a large number of readers. Although he at first published the subscription rate as 25 cents a year, 4 cents for a single issue, with the promise of a full year of production and the acquisition of the Texas journal, he increased this to 50 cents per year, 60 cents for foreign subscribers. He guaranteed circulation of 3000 copies.

Local naturalists now had a convenient outlet for their own notes and articles. Cheney apparently solicited them as contributors to his new journal. In the first issue, Arthur Pope published a short article on the nesting of the Steller's Jay at McMinnville, Yamhill County, which repeated some of the information in his 1891 Oologist article. This initial number also included an article by D. Franklin Weeks, of Portland, on "Notes from Multnomah County," describing the eggs, including measurements, and nesting habits of the Swainson's Thrush, White-crowned Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco. In an "Exchanges and Wants" section, Weeks asked for information on the Dark-eyed Junco, and promised possible respondents that he would "make everything satisfactory." By the second number, Pope had prepared an advertisement announcing "Oregon eggs for sale!" For 5 cents, naturalists could purchase single eggs of House Wren, Swainson's Thrush, American Robin, Western Bluebird, White-crowned Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, and Red-winged Blackbird. Spotted Towhee eggs were 10 cents each, Violet-green Swallow, Black-capped...
Chickadee and Ring-necked Pheasant eggs cost 15 cents apiece, while American Dipper eggs cost the most, 50 cents each. Pope advertised "a beautifully marked second-class set" of the Blue Grouse, 10 eggs, for best offer in cash; individual Blue Grouse eggs went for 30 cents each, while Ruffed Grouse eggs were only 20 cents.

This new journal for local naturalists offered a means to organize bird students throughout the state and provided a forum for communication. Although the idea of a regional association probably occurred to Arthur Pope before Cheney's Oregon Naturalist appeared (the Cooper Ornithological Club was formed in 1893 and the reports of its secretary, Chester Barlow, ran in the Nidologist, to which Pope apparently subscribed), Pope was quick to take advantage of the opportunity the new journal presented. In the first number of the Oregon Naturalist appeared an announcement of a possible "Northwestern Ornithologists' Association." "The organization of a N.O.A. on the Coast, to include the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, has been discussed by several Ornithologists and Oologists. Those who have considered the subject are decidedly in favor of such an organization and promise a great interest in the same. The parties who are in favor of the objects and aims of an association in the Northwest, should do their utmost in helping it along, and, those who desire light on the subject towards organizing in the near future, are invited to correspond with Arthur L. Pope, McMinnville, Oregon." Pope was then 17 years old.

The November-December 1894 issue of the Oregon Naturalist carried a further announcement that an organizational meeting was to be held 28 and 29 December that year in Portland. "A meeting for this purpose was to be held last September, but a good many being away on vacations, it was postponed until December, which has proved to be a more convenient date. The ornithologists of Oregon have been especially enthusiastic in this matter and there will be a large number present at the meeting, which promises a grand success. There is talk of not only including ornithologists of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, but of the entire Pacific Coast. There are also other matters to come up for discussion. A constitution will be adopted and a half day devoted to a literary program." The announcement asked interested individuals to write to Pope or D. Franklin Weeks, of Portland, for more information.

That December, as planned, 12 young men met in Portland at the home of J.P. Finley to organize their new association. Alfred Pope, who had celebrated his eighteenth birthday just 2 days earlier, presided over the meeting. Others in attendance, in alphabetical order, were A.B. Averill, Herman T. Bohman, A.J. Brazee, G.B. Cheney, William L. Finley, Ellis F. Hadley, Hervey M. Hoskins, W.B. Malleis, Guy Stryker, S. Rey Stryker, and D. Franklin Weeks.

This was a productive group of young men. In about 5 years, Pope published 17 articles, mostly of his observations in Yamhill County. A.B. Averill became the editor of the Oregon Naturalist after Cheney in 1895, and published articles and editorial comments. Bohman, 22 at the time of the meeting, was just beginning his work in nature photography. Hadley, of Dayton, Yamhill County, like Pope had published in the Oologist before the Oregon Naturalist came into being, and later published many notes in that journal. Hoskins also lived in Yamhill County, had been active since 1890, and like his peers, published notes in the Oregon Naturalist. At the time of the meeting he was only a week shy of his sixteenth birthday. D. Franklin Weeks shared the distinction with Pope of publishing in the initial number of the Oregon Naturalist. The Stryker brothers, Guy and Rey, lived at Milwaukie, Clackamas County, and collected both birds and eggs, publishing their notes. In the field they were often accompanied by William Finley. Finley, 18 at the time of the meeting, published his first article, of what would later be more than a hundred, in the Oregon Naturalist in 1895.

The December meeting culminated in the establishment of a new society. The young men's reasons for joining together were noble ones. "The study of ornithology being a foremost science of the day, calculated to cultivate the better qualities of man and to strengthen the powers of systematic investigation and close observation, the undersigned agree to form an association" to be known as the Northwestern Ornithological Association. Arthur Pope, the young man largely responsible for bringing these young collectors and oologists together, was elected the organization's first president. William L. Finley was first vice-president; G.B. Cheney, second vice-president; D. Franklin Weeks, secretary; and A.B. Averill, treasurer. At this meeting, the founding members named Alfred W. Anthony, the prominent ornithologist living then at Portland, as an honorary member. They also extended membership to Fred Andrus, a 21-year-old oologist from Elkton, Douglas County, who had published in the Oologist and the Nidologist, and to Robert Haines, a collector from Baker City, Baker County. Frederick I. Washburn, a Professor of Zoology at the Oregon Agricultural College in Corvallis also became a member.

The new members had several ambitions for their new society. "The object of this association," they wrote...
in their constitution," shall be, by the active co-operation of its members, to advance the science of ornithology in all its forms, to disseminate ornithological knowledge in the Northwest, to awaken an interest in ornithology in both old and young, and to impart mutual benefit to its members." Ornithological knowledge would be disseminated through the Oregon Naturalist, made the official organ of the Northwestern Ornithological Association. Meetings would be annual events.

As president, Pope began work on what he saw as the principal project of the new association, the forming of a complete list of the birds of Oregon. What ornithological information on Oregon existed was in disparate sources, from the brief mentions of birds in Lewis and Clark's report of their expedition, John Kirk Townsend's narrative of his 2 years in Oregon with Nathaniel Wyeth, the zoological reports of James G. Cooper and George Suckley, John S. Newberry, and Spencer F Baird, John Cassin, and George Lawrence arising from the railroad surveys of the 1850s. In 1894 there was no list specifically of the birds of the state of Oregon.

Pope also began gathering information from members on various bird species, with the intent of publishing a life history of at least one species a month. "It is expected that every member will send in reports," Pope wrote. "Do not hold hold back because you cannot make a lengthy article, but send any notes you may have. No matter how short." Requests went out for information on the Song Sparrow and the White-crowned Sparrow, the Vesper Sparrow and the Dark-eyed Junco, the Bushtit and the House Wren. Pope edited the information received and published a short note in the Oregon Naturalist giving his and other members' observations of nesting behavior and egg measurements.

Throughout this first year of the young association's existence, members continued to find the Oregon Naturalist a convenient outlet for their reports and advertisements. A.B. Pipes and Rey Stryker in Clackamas and Multnomah Counties. Two nests they collected held birds that had died while incubating. Probably to Finley's chagrin, his by-line mistakenly gave his middle initial as S.

Naturalists from other states also continued to regard the little journal as a worthy receptacle for their notes. C.C. Purdum, of Massachusetts, published several articles on birds of his state during the year, and by the September issue had become editor of the "Eastern Department" of the little magazine. That same issue saw advertisements from Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Texas, New York, California, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Nebraska, South Dakota, Washington, Iowa, Ohio, and Maryland.

Northwestern Ornithological Association members, seized by an entrepreneurial spirit, advertised their extra eggs and skins or other curios for sale or exchange. W.B. Malleis, of Cedar Mills, Washington County, one of the founding members, advertised himself as a taxidermist and entomologist, and offered "Bird, Fish, Reptiles, Animals and Animal Heads mounted to order. Insects preserved. Scientific Bird Skins made to order. Collections in Natural History made. Collections Sold to Schools and Colleges on Installment." S. Rey Stryker offered "Oregon eggs, first class, full data." Besides selling eggs, Arthur Pope also offered rubber stamps, of "all kinds," in exchange for egg sets with complete data. One of the longer lists of available items was offered by Averill, who besides editing a growing and popular journal was managing an extensive trade in curios, stamps, and shells from his Portland offices. For $5.00 a person could purchase a mounted cock Ring-necked Pheasant (the hen was $3.00, $7.00 for a pair), "Chinese dominoes" for $1.25, a piece of amber "enclosing insect half an inch in length" for 25¢, glass bracelets "worn by both sexes of the Chinese race" for 50¢ or 75¢, depending on whether the bracelet was a man's or woman's, or for $3.00 a walrus-tusk handclub from Alaska. Apparently Averill got many of his Native American curios by robbing graves; for 50¢ he offered a box containing assorted objects taken from a grave on an island in the Columbia River.

Figure 2. William L. Finley, from about the time of his association with the NDA. This photograph, and figures 4 and 5, are from Worth Mathewson, William L. Finley: pioneer wildlife photographer (Oregon State University Press: Corvallis, 1996).

Averill, treasurer of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, took over as publisher from G.B. Cheney with the February 1895 issue, changing the name back to Oregon Naturalist from its brief appearance as the Naturalist. He published notes on the Sharp-tailed Grouse and Ring-necked Pheasant. Of the grouse, Averill remarked that "where fifteen years ago they could be seen in winter in flocks of fifty or more; flocks of a dozen are now uncommon. Then their great enemy was the coyote, who robbed their nest and caught their young. Now it is man with his traps and gun."

In the October issue, 1895, William L. Finley published his first article, entitled "Field notes," an account of collecting wren nests with Wade
Bernard J. Bretherton was a prominent contributor both in articles and advertisements. Although residing in Oregon during the time of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, Bretherton does not seem to have been a member. Born in England, Bretherton earned his living for many years as a collector of zoological specimens, at times working for the British Museum. "Zoological collecting," he advertised in the Oregon Naturalist. "That is my occupation, and if you desire to add to your collection species indigenous to the Pacific Coast, it will pay you to drop me a line." Bretherton also contributed an article, extended over several issues of the Oregon Naturalist, on Oregon mammals.

The November 1895 issue of the Oregon Naturalist carried an important article in regard to Oregon's ornithological history — the first part of Arthur Pope's compilation of the list of the birds of Oregon. Continued in the December and January numbers, Pope's list included 252 species, mostly without annotation. Compiled from reports of members, with contributions also from C.W. Swallow, Bretherton, and George D. Peck, the list included a number of dubious records, such as Greater Prairie-Chicken, Brown Noddy, Greater Roadrunner, Baird's Sparrow, among others. In introducing the list, Pope, writing for all members of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, remarked that "we hope, in criticising this list, that the readers of the Oregon Naturalist will bear in mind that it is the work of amateurs. Our association is young, and so also, for the most part, are the members, beginners in the great study of ornithology." Beginners or not, Pope and his fellow members accomplished a great achievement by producing the first list of Oregon birds. Pope was aware of his list's limitations, admitting that it "probably does not contain all the species to be found in Oregon, yet we hope the publishing of it will give ornithologists a better idea of the avifauna of this region than they have heretofore been able to obtain, and it certainly will be of great benefit to members of the association."

The second annual meeting of the Northwestern Ornithological Association took place in Portland on 27 December 1895. President Pope called the meeting to order and made his report, outlining the work accomplished in the year just past and the work that the association would attempt in the coming year. Pope identified as the main work of the association the state bird list, publication of which had begun in the November issue of the Oregon Naturalist. Pope acknowledged that this list was not complete, probably by about fifty species. Other accomplishments were the species reports which had appeared in several numbers of the Oregon Naturalist. However, notes from members were not received for some of the species selected for study. "It is to be regretted that so few of the members sent in notes for the monthly work adopted by the association. We have enough members to make valuable and interesting articles, if only all would send in a few notes. We cannot expect to accomplish good work unless all will co-operate and each one do what he is able." For the coming year Pope saw the association's tasks as working to secure the passage of a state law permitting members to collect specimens for scientific study, and extending protection to more of the state's "useful" native birds. Another task, one that Pope realized would continue indefinitely, would be the "enlargement of our list of Oregon birds," both in species added to the list and in details of status and abundance of those already on the list.

The afternoon session of the annual meeting was a reading of papers by Ellis Hadley, Hervey Hoskins, and Fred Andrus. A new member, C.W. Swallow, who had moved to Clatsop County from New England in 1890, spoke on the American Bittern and the Nashville Warbler as he had observed the species in the east. New members for the year besides Swallow were Darsie C. Bard of Portland, J.M. Gibson of McMinnville, and George D. Peck of Salem. The meeting ended with the election of new officers for the coming year. These were William L. Finley, president; Ellis E. Hadley, first vice-president; Guy Stryker, second vice-president; Arthur L. Pope, secretary; and Darsie C. Bard, treasurer.

Early in 1896, Arthur Pope, now 19 years old, decided that journalism would be his chosen profession, and he began working at the Yamhill County Reporter in McMinnville. Perhaps this explains Pope's full page advertisement in the February 1896 issue of the Oregon Naturalist that he was selling his "entire private collection of Oregon birds' eggs amounting at catalogue rates to about $150.00. Not a large collection, but a choice one. Every set of which was collected in this state. All the choicest sets collected by myself and my collectors during the past five years are included in this sale. Now is the time for collectors to add something of real scientific value to their collections." "Write quick," he advised, "the spry ones will get the finest sets." Although an 1895 issue of the Oologist still carried Pope's announcement that he was "booking orders for Oregon bird eggs and nests to be collected the coming season," Pope must have sensed that his time for collecting was short. Besides devoting time to his new career, he discovered he was battling tuberculosis as well.

The "Portland Annex" of the association began holding monthly meetings, often at the home of Finley, the new president. The association also welcomed as a new member Christian F. Pfluger. Pfluger brought to the association a true love of birds, par-
particularly the birds of his native Germany. In 1888, Pfluger became secretary of the Society for the Introduction of German Singing Birds into Oregon, or the Portland Song Bird Club, as it was also known. This society attempted to acclimate European songbirds into Oregon, importing several species over several years. Pfluger reported on the group's efforts and the fortunes of the introduced birds in several numbers of the Oregon Naturalist throughout 1896.

Bernard J. Bretherton, meanwhile, began an extended article on the birdlife of Kodiak Island, Alaska.

William L. Finley, 19 when elected president of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, proved a capable successor to the energetic and productive Arthur Pope. Frustrated by his efforts to identify some birds, particularly to the subspecies level, by descriptions from texts, Finley proposed that the association establish a study skin collection. The collection, to be the property of the association, would be accrued through donations by members.

Finley was also concerned with how others perceived these young men in Oregon. He urged the members after their summer vacations to write up their observations "in systematically arranged notes and papers" and present them at the monthly meetings at his house. "This plan is expedient for as soon as we can demonstrate to the ornithological world that we are a wide awake, hard-working association of students of bird life, instead of mere mercenary egg collectors, then can we be assured of due recognition from the older and more scientific societies of the East[]. We are not as obscure and insignificant as we sometimes feel. We are being hopefully watched by many of our chief ornithologists who are waiting to see of what stuff we are made. An extensive, untrodden field is open to us. Let us do what we can to explore it."

The third annual meeting of the Northwestern Ornithological Association occurred on 29 and 30 December 1896 at Salem, Oregon. Darsie Bard, the association's newly elected secretary, wrote that "the meeting was a success in every respect, members being present from all parts of the state. Rounding off the work of the closing year, reading and the discussion of the numerous reports and papers, and starting the work for the coming year on a solid, systematic basis was a task of such proportions that almost continuous session was required for its completion."

The association held its meetings in the auditorium of Willamette University. George D. Peck displayed his large collection of mounted birds. Peck had collected for many years in Iowa and included many eastern species in his display. "The most satisfactory feature of this beautiful exhibit," Darsie Bard wrote, "was the large series of the eastern and western varieties of the same species. Those of us who are struggling with that intricate taxonomical science of dividing and subdividing, with which the A.O.U. has burdened us, can easily appreciate the value of such a collection." Members also brought with them some of their own egg sets and nests. The result was "one of the most complete and interesting collections of Oregon bird's eggs that has ever been gathered into one display."

Besides association members, the general public invited to this portion of the meeting found the displays attractive and interesting.

President William L. Finley called the evening meeting to order by outlining the history of the association and the accomplishments since its establishment. He then reiterated his belief that a great opportunity was before the society. Inspired by this vision, the association's members began work with new vigor and organization. Several committees were established. A field work committee held the responsibility of revising and completing the association's list of Oregon's birds that Pope had published a year ago. It also would direct the study of migration in conjunction with other ornithological groups, and it would "organize collecting expeditions" among its members.

A library and museum committee, chaired by Herman T. Bohlman, would accept donations of specimens and books and work toward establishing the museum that Finley had earlier discussed with members through the Oregon Naturalist. The membership committee, chaired by Arthur Pope, was "especially instructed to employ due discretion and select only active conscientious workers." Pope was also selected to act as editor of the papers published under the association's name. A special committee, comprised of C.F. Pfluger and Finley, was given the task of eradicating the House Sparrow from Oregon. There were thought to be no more than 500 sparrows in Portland and if the committee could secure the cooperation of businesses in the city, then "their total destruction would be but a mat-

Figure 4. William L. Finley (left) and Herman T. Bohlman, with young Northern Flickers.
The membership voted William L. Finley to continue as president for 1897. First vice-president was Ellis Hadley; Herman T. Bohlman was elected second vice-president; Darsie C. Bard, secretary; and D. Franklin Weeks, treasurer. The meeting ended with the last of the members' papers. Darsie Bard ended his report of the meeting by noting that Arthur Pope was unable to attend because of illness. "It is hoped that before long his health may be regained."

In the February 1897 issue of the *Oregon Naturalist*, the members of the library and museum committee published their Circular No. 1. Herein they outlined the plans to acquire an association library and to establish rules and regulations to guide members in borrowing books. They also again proposed the idea of an association collection of skins and eggs. An important step toward these ends was the decision by the Portland City Council to allow "the scientific societies of the state" to use rooms in the city hall. Finley and Bard, as president and secretary of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, attended a meeting of the several societies to arrange for division of the available space. One idea that surfaced at this meeting was that these various societies, which included "the Oregon Academy of Science, the Portland Historical Society, the Mazamas, the Mathematical Club, the Forestry Association, and the Northwestern Ornithological Association, join together into a greater scientific association, an "Oregon Association for the Advancement of Science."

Arthur Pope, instrumental in establishing the association, was not to see these results of his early labors. Suffering from tuberculosis, he was forced to leave his job with the *Reporter* and return to his parents' home east of Salem; he was not to leave it again. "Beautiful were the lessons of patient endurance and calm submission taught by the heroic soul in the three months brief struggle when he wished to live but was ready to die." At 1:30 pm, on 28 February 1897, just 20 years old, Arthur Lamson Pope died. "He was a man faithful in all things and has left behind him an enduring reputation."

I am not certain whether Pope's death played a part, but the association seems diminished afterwards. The *Oregon Naturalist* continued under the editorship of John Martin, who had taken over from Averill with the November 1896 issue, but there seems to have been less association material. The last issue of the *Oregon Naturalist* was that of January 1898, volume 4, number 9; it no longer identified itself on the masthead as the official journal of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, as it had just the issue before. Martin tried again to publish a natural history journal, the *Petrel*, in January 1901, but it ceased after the first number.

Whether there was a formal end to the Northwestern Ornithological Association or not, members went on to other things. William Finley and Herman Bohlman continued as a team; Finley published a number of articles on birds in the early years of the 1900s, principally in the *Condor* and *Pacific Monthly*, for which Bohlman provided photographs. Both also played a part in the establishment of the John Burroughs Society in Portland and the Oregon Audubon Society which succeeded it. Hervey Hoskins graduated from Pacific College in 1899, Harvard in 1903, and worked in McMinnville in the banking business for 25 years, then as a county judge for 12 years. Pfluger continued his efforts to introduce foreign birds into Oregon until his death in

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*Figure 5. Herman T. Bohlman, William L. Finley, and Ellis F. Hadley (from left) wading to a Red-tailed Hawk's nest, around 1900. All 3 young men were members of the NOA.*

1912. George D. Peck continued collecting and publishing his results in the *Oologist*. If his report can be believed, he was perhaps the last man to see the California Condor in Oregon. He died in his 90s. Many of the other members of the Northwestern Ornithological Association have passed on without revealing much about their lives. For some we only know them for a very brief time, when a 17 year old boy had the idea of a state ornithological association and brought his friends together to enjoy their common interests. Like Arthur Pope’s life, the Northwestern Ornithological Association’s existence was too brief. Sadly, neither Pope nor the association have enjoyed the enduring reputation they deserve.

A note on the sources and other comments

An interesting aside is the identities of a few prominent people who did not join the Northwestern Ornithological Association. As mentioned earlier, Bernard Bretherton contributed to the *Oregon Naturalist* but does not seem to have been a member. Albert G. Prill arrived in Oregon from New York in 1890, and began publishing short notes in small journals on the birds of Linn County. His interests mirrored those of the Northwestern Ornithological Association’s membership, but I find no record of his joining the association or even of whether he was aware of it. In 1891, he responded by letter in the *Taxidermist* to an article by Arthur Pope on the Ring-necked Pheasant which had appeared in that journal. F.T. Corless published a few (5?) numbers of the *Weekly Oologist & Philatelist* from Lebanon, Oregon in 1891 and 1892, and advertised eggs for sale in the *Oologist* until 1909, but he did not join the association or contribute to the *Oregon Naturalist*. J. Hooper Bowles and his brother, Charles W. Bowles, lived at Tacoma, Washington, and were active during the 1890s as egg collectors, but they also did not join the association. J. Hooper later became a prominent oologist nationally; Charles later lived and studied birds in southwestern Oregon. In a 7 February 1912 letter to Joseph Grinnell, written from Kerby, Josephine County, Charles Bowles remarked that he “never joined any organization that did not have some definite way of disposing of frauds, and therefore did not join the organization in the North West when we moved here and have an idea they may have been ‘miffed.’” Bowles wrote this letter during a time when he was losing an already tenuous hold on his sanity; he shortly later mailed Grinnell a nativistic and racist diatribe against the “grafting cancer” that he felt was infecting the nation, complaining specifically against the Japnese in the western United States, and detailing his own efforts to expose corruption in Tacoma, Washington. His negative comments about the Northwestern Ornithological Association, however slight, should be read in this light.

One question that remains is why Ia Gabrielson and Stanley Jewett, in *Birds of Oregon* (Oregon State College: Corvallis, 1940), made no mention of the Northwestern Ornithological Association in their outline of Oregon’s ornithological history. In the *Birds of Oregon* bibliography, they mention only one article from the *Oregon Naturalist*, Guy Stryker’s report of a Great Gray Owl at Milwaukee, Oregon. In another paper, “Birds of the Portland area, Oregon,” *Pacific Coast Avifauna* 19:1-54, 1929 (Jewett is first author), they refer several times to articles appearing in the *Oregon Naturalist*. Why, when *Birds of Oregon* was published 11 years later, were these articles deemed no longer worthy of mention?

Arthur Pope’s grave is in the Stipp Cemetery in the town of Macleay, Oregon. I visited it in June 1997. In paying homage to this remarkable young man, I thought of his central role in organizing his friends and associates into a state-wide ornithological association. Now, sadly, few are aware of how active these young men were over 100 years ago. While Finley and Bohlman, and some of the others, are still remembered and acknowledged, however dimly, Pope has largely been forgotten. Even his grave marker is difficult to find, his name nearly effaced by weathering. Stop at the cemetery if you are ever in Macleay and take some time to locate his grave. Take a moment to reflect on the foresightedness of Pope’s dream and on the tragedy of his early death, and please remember him as one of the founders of ornithology in Oregon.

Spring Migration Dates for Birds at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Oregon, and Surrounding Area

Gary L. Ivey, Caroline P. Herziger, and Eric J. Scheuering, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, HC 72, Box 245, Princeton, OR 97721

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in southeast Oregon is well known for its high bird diversity. Over 320 bird species have been documented on the Refuge. In spring, many migratory birds nest on the refuge while others stop over on their way to northern nesting areas, making it one of the most popular birding sites in the West. The Silvies Floodplain near Burns also provides good birding.

We are often asked, "When is the best time to visit during spring migration?" The response depends on whether you would like to see large concentrations of birds or a lot of different species. The following summary of spring migration chronology should help you plan your visit to the area.

In early March, following the long, cold winter, only a few spring migrants have arrived in the area. These include Greater Sandhill Cranes, Tundra Swans, Northern Pintails, and White-fronted, Snow, Ross' and Canada Geese. Sage Grouse begin displaying on their leks. Lesser Sandhill Cranes begin arriving in early March along with other species of ducks. Waterfowl numbers increase in the area through March and, depending on the weather, usually reach their peak late in the month.

During this early spring period the majority of the birds can be found feeding in flooded meadows near Burns. Usually the best birding areas include the meadows along Hotchkiss and Greenhouse Lanes and Potter Swamp Road near Burns. The Double-O unit of Malheur Refuge is another good birding spot. Depending on water conditions, good birding may also be found along Highway 20 between Burns and Buchanan. These areas continue to provide good birding through April, however, locating birds on a given day may take some scouting in order to find the concentration areas. Migration in the Blitzen Valley of Malheur Refuge is much less spectacular because the area is outside the major migration corridors, but the valley is the best place to view Trumpeter Swans and Greater Sandhill Cranes.

As time progresses, more and more species migrate into the basin. American White Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants, Western Grebes, Long-billed Curlews, and American Avocets are some of the birds which arrive in late March. More marsh birds, shorebirds, and passerines species show up as spring progresses into April, while numbers of migrant waterfowl decrease.

In early April, the Harney County Chamber of Commerce sponsors "The John Scharff Migratory Bird Festival." The festival begins on Friday evening with presentations on migration and field trips to view migration and nesting waterfowl. The festival continues through Saturday and Sunday, including tours to sage grouse leks. Although the festival occurs after the late-March peak for waterfowl migration, birds are usually still present in large numbers and many additional species can be seen.

Major songbird migration begins in April and peaks in mid-May. Refuge headquarters, Benson Pond and P-Ranch are the best places to look for passerines. Many warblers, vireos, tanagers and buntings concentrate in these areas. Most of the refuge rare bird sightings have been from these locations. By early June songbird migration wanes, leaving the refuge to the many local breeding species.

Based on Malheur NWR records of bird observations we have documented the earliest and latest arrival dates for regular spring migrants. This list does not include species which frequently winter here. We have also calculated mean arrival dates for these species through 1996 (Table 1). This data updates a similar report by Littlefield and McLaury (Western Birds 4:83-88, 1973).

Acknowledgments
We would like to thank Carroll Littlefield, Phyllis Bailey and Garrett Jones for their editorial comments.

Table 1. Earliest, latest, and mean spring arrival dates for bird species recorded at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Oregon, and surrounding area.

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<td>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</td>
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25-26 April
Curry County
We will escape the cold of winter and look for the first spring migrants, as well as coastal species. Leader for this trip will be Don Munson. Base: Gold Beach.

9 May
Spring N.A. Migration Count*

23-25 May
Baker County
We will bird the south flanks of the Wallowas as spring migrants hit them, as well as the canyons of the Powder and Snake Rivers. Base: Baker City.

30-31 May
Malheur NWR
We will look for spring migrants at this well-known hotspot in eastern Oregon. Leader for this trip will be Steve Shunk. Base: Malheur Field Station.

June
OFO annual meeting*
The date and location of this event will be announced in coming issues of Oregon Birds.

18-19 July
Lincoln County
On Saturday we will join a 4-hr Family Day pelagic trip run by The Bird Guide out of Depoe Bay from 8AM-noon. Here is the perfect trip for beginners and the whole family! A short trip to see shearwaters, phalaropes, jaegers, murrelets, and even Gray Whales. The rest of the weekend we will spend around Lincoln county. Base: Newport. A separate registration ($35 per person) will be required for the pelagic trip. Limited space; advanced registration required.

15-16 August
Lake County
August is shorebird time and the alkaline lakes of Lake county offer spectacular concentrations of shorebirds, gulls, and waterfowl. This trip will be led by local expert Craig Miller. Base: Summer Lake.

29-30 August
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We will look for southbound shorebirds and summer nesters in the Columbia and Tualatin valleys. Base: Beaverton.

11-13 September
Enjoy the Shorebird Festival*
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19 September
Fall N.A. Migration Count*

26-27 September
Malheur NWR
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10-11 October
NE Umatilla County
We will search for that “most wanted” owl, the Boreal Owl, and enjoy the fall colors of the Blue Mountains. Base: Walla Walla, WA.

14-15 November
Columbia River
We will check out the fall migrants on the Columbia River from the John Day dam to Hood River. Base: The Dalles.

12-13 December
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3. DATE(S). Month, day, and year. If there are multiple observations, each date.

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Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Red-naped Sapsucker
Red-breasted Sapsucker
Williamson’s Sapsucker
Nuttall’s Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
White-headed Woodpecker
Three-toed Woodpecker
Bl.-backed Woodpecker
N. Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Western Wood-Pewee
Willow Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Hammond’s Flycatcher
Dusky Flycatcher
Gray Flycatcher
Pacific-slope Flycatcher
Cordilleran Flycatcher
Bl. Phoebe
Eastern Phoebe
Say’s Phoebe
Vermilion Flycatcher
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Tropical Kingbird
Western Kingbird
Eastern Kingbird
Sdissor-tailed Flycatcher
N. Shrike
Loggerhead Shrike
Bell’s Vireo
Cassin’s Vireo
Hutton’s Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Gray Jay
Steller’s Jay
Blue Jay
Western Scrub-Jay
Pinyon Jay
Clark’s Nutcracker
Bl.-billed Magpie
American Crow
Northwestern Crow
Common Raven
Horned Lark
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow
Violet-green Swallow
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Barn Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Bl.-rumped Chukar
Mountain Chickadee
Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Oak Titmouse
Juniper Titmouse
Bush Tit
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Pygmy Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
Bewick’s Wren
House Wren
Winter Wren
Marsh Wren
American Dipper
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
N. Wheatea
Western Bluebird
Mountain Bluebird
Townsend’s Solitaire
Veery
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Swainson’s Thrush
Hermit Thrush
Wood Thrush
American Robin
Varied Thrush
Wrentit
Gray Catbird
N. Mockingbird
Sage Thrasher
Brown Thrasher
California Thrasher
European Starling
Bl.-backed Wagtail
American Pipit
Bohemian Waxwing
Cedar Waxwing
Phainopepla
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Virginia’s Warbler
Lucy’s Warbler
N. Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chin-capped Warbler
Magna Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Bl.-throated Blue Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Bl.-throated Gray Warbler
Townsend’s Warbler
Hermit Warbler
Bl.-throated Green Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Pine Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Palm Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Bl.-and-white Warbler
American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Ovenbird
N. Waterthrush
Kentucky Warbler
Mourning Warbler
MacGillivray’s Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Warbler
Wilson’s Warbler
Canada Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
Summer Tanager
Scarlet Tanager
Western Tanager
Green-tailed Towhee
Spotted Towhee
California Towhee
American Tree Sparrow
Chipping Sparrow
Gay-colored Sparrow
Brewer’s Sparrow
Bl.-chinned Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Bl.-throated Sparrow
Sage Sparrow
Lark Bunting
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Le Conte’s Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln’s Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Harris’ Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
McCown’s Longspur
Lapland Longspur
Cheestnut-sided Longspur
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Ground-sparrow
Towhee
Hooded Warbler
Dickcissel
Bobolink
Red-winged Blackbird
Tricolored Blackbird
Western Meadowlark
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Rusty Blackbird
 Brewer’s Blackbird
Common Grackle
Great-tailed Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
Oriole
Hooded Oriole
Baltimore Oriole
Bullock’s Oriole
Scott’s Oriole
Brambling
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch
Bl. Rosy-Finch
Pine Grosbeak
Purple Finch
Cassin’s Finch
House Finch
Red Crossbill
White-Winged Crossbill
Common Redpoll
Hoary Redpoll
Pine Siskin
Lesser Goldfinch
Lawrence’s Goldfinch
American Goldfinch
Evening Grosbeak
House Sparrow
American Dipper
California Condor
Sharp-tailed Grouse.

This list is based on the records of the Oregon Bird Records Committee (OBRC) and uses the taxonomic sequence and nomenclature of the American Ornithologists’ Union (AOU), as published in AOU, 1983, Check-list of North American Birds, 6th edition (Allen Press, Inc., Lawrence, KS), as supplemented. The OBRC asks for reports of any bird species recorded in Oregon not on this list, and all species represented on this list with one asterisk (*) or two (**). Prepared by Harry Nehls, Secretary, Oregon Bird Records Committee January 1997.

** A review species. At least one bird verified by photograph, specimen, or video or sound recording—99 species.

* A review species. Sight records only, no verification—13 species.

† Introduced species—8 species.

‡ Total species: 466.

BL. Black

NO. Northern
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Northern Parula, male, OBRC 648-97-27B, 12 June 1997, Malheur NWR headquarters, Harney Co. Photo/Mike Denny.
The internet has greatly increased communication among ornithologists and birders around the world. For those with access to an electronic mail account, it is possible to subscribe to email groups, or "listservs" that focus on specific interests, like Oregon Birders On-Line, BirdChat, rec.birds, or ID-Frontiers. When someone sends a message to the listserv, the computer sends out a copy of that message to all the "subscribers" of the group, usually within minutes.

Oregon Birders On-Line is dedicated to reports of rare birds seen recently, ID discussions, and trip reports for areas in Oregon. You can also find announcements for Portland Audubon Society field trips and pelagic trips on OBOL. ID-Frontiers features the frontiers of field identification, and BirdChat is where almost any bird-related topic is welcome. Check out Tor Ivar Bjoness' Bird Mail page (at http://home.sol.no/~tibjonn/birdmail.htm) for a comprehensive list and instructions on subscribing.

If you are planning a birding expedition you may want to use the world wide web to plan your trip. First check the Road (gopher://gopher.odot.state.or.us/00/police) and Weather (http://zebu.uoregon.edu/weather.html) Reports. If you are planning a trip to the coast you will also want to check the Tide Tables (http://www.teleport.com/~skipr/pacific/).

Find out what birds you might see by checking the Rare Birds by County (http://www.teleport.com/~skipr/birds/county.htm) listing on Skip Russell's page, and the "First and Last" dates for each species for each year through 1992 for all of Lincoln County and for South Beach Peninsula at (Mostly) Lincoln County Field Notes by Range Bayer (http://www.cyber-dyne.com/~lb/lincot.htm). Also available on-line, the Journal of Oregon Ornithology (http://www.orednet.org/~rbayer/j/joomenu.htm) features "First and Last" dates for individual sites in Lincoln County. Look for some excellent travel guides to Mt. Hood, Mt. St. Helens, Sauvie Island, Depoe Bay, Lincoln City, and many other regional destinations on Greg Gillson's Bird Guide Page (http://www.teleport.com/~guide/). Greg has also developed a website for the Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas project. Mike Patterson's web site includes reports on OFO Birding Weekends, Important Bird Areas in Oregon, and an excellent article on writing convincing details in your field notes (http://www.pacifier.com/~mpatters/).

Take a virtual tour of the Malheur Field Station and Refuge at http://www.eosc.osshe.edu/~dkerley/malheur.htm. Check out the Great Outdoor Recreation Pages (GORP) http://www.gorp.com/ for extensive information on parks, locations, travel gear and even advice on your trip.

If you are planning on shopping for cameras, lenses, scopes, or new binoculars you will want to check out Don Baccus' page. Dan Victor has compiled a list of Bird Books for Cascadia (http://weber.u.washington.edu/~dvictor/books/index.html). You can even take a college level course in Ornithology via the web at several colleges, including Cornell University.

The sites listed below are links to the vast array of information and knowledge available to anyone with an internet connection.

**Comprehensive Birding Pages**
- Fugleskue Birdwatch by Tor Ivar Bjoness - Birdmail/Fieldguides/Bird Art/Ornithology, http://home.sol.no/~tibjonn/
- Peterson Online, http://www.petersononlinel.com/

**Regional Home Pages**
- Mike Patterson, Important Bird Areas in Oregon/Oregon Field Ornithologists/Checklist for Ft. Stevens State Park/1997 CBC Results for the Columbia Estuary/Writing Details for Sketching and Field Notes, http://www.pacifier.com/~mpatters/
- Portland Audubon Society — An excellent site, including classes taught by Harry Nehls, http://www.teleport.com/~audubon/
- Don Baccus Photo Gallery/Field Guides/Camera Equipment Info, http://donb.photo.net/
- The Harlequin Duck Page, Steve Dowlan, http://members.aol.com/OWLHOOTER/HQPAGE1.html

**Ornithology Links**
- Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology — Includes Library of Natural Sounds, http://www.ornith.cornell.edu/
- The Ornithological Web Library, Links to 1010 sites (!), http://www.bright.net/~vfazio/the-owl.htm
- The Malheur Field Station — Get all the information you need for a trip to Malheur, http://www.eosc.osshe.

Additional Internet Sites:
- The entire set of CBC results from Bird Lore, American Birds, and Field Notes is now online. Be warned, to get info you must know computerese and have some free time. Chief compiler is John Shipman, john@nmt.edu. It is located at: ftp://ftp.nmt.edu/pub/people/john/cbc/
- The Cumulative Index to Oregon Birds is now on the web in pdf (Portable Document Format — Adobe Acrobat) and PostScript format: http://www.cyber-dyne.com/~lb/obol.html. Lucy Biggs, lb@cyber-dyne.com
- Here’s a useful internet address for travelling birders: http://www.el.com/To/Oregon/ “I have used it in planning the OFO Birding Weekends. It gives you a link to Communities — a list of Oregon towns, and under each you can go to lodging, dining, attractions, activities, etc. Another useful address for WEATHER is: http://www.weather.com/weather/us-states/Oregon.html, which gives you a list of Oregon towns again. Under each you can get the current weather and a five day forecast on a single page to take with you.” Paul T. Sullivan, paul.t.sullivan@bangate1.tek.com
- The Christmas Bird Count Database Project has released version 5.05 of the database, containing 56 years of data for North America and Hawaii — the first 12 counts (1900-1911) and the 52nd-95th counts (1951-1994). All files are available via FTP at: ftp://ftp.nmt.edu/pub/people/john/cbc/. “Please let me know if you have any questions about this project or these files.” John Shipman, john@nmt.edu, http://www.nmt.edu/~shipman
- http://www.coos.or.us/~aigrette — Homepage of wildlife images by Steven Holt, aigrette@mail.coos.or.us
- Bird Brain will run on pre-PowerMacs, but it’s much faster on a Power Mac. Diane Porter, Ideaform Inc., Fairfield, Iowa, dporter@birdwatching.com; http://www.birdwatching.com
- “A discussion on identification of female goldeneyes has sprung up recently, following a bird photographed on the Carmel CBC by Bill Hill. I’ve just posted photos of the pair found by Steve Jaggers in Jan-Feb 1992 on the Mt. Hood CC pond. I showed these at birders night in 1992. If birders are interested, the photos are on my site at http://www.rdrop.com/users/green/billhill.” Robert O’Brien, baro@ODIN.CC.PDX.EDU
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 24(1) appears — this is your last issue. So it’s time to send in your membership dues! If the number 24(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!

The Oregon Fund for Ornithology sets aside money for worthwhile projects related to the purposes of OFO, to be dedicated at the OFO Board’s discretion. Examples include special publications, improvements in *Oregon Birds*, support for ornithological research projects, etc. The Fund was established by the OFO Board in 1988, and was begun with a generous donation from Medford birder Otis Swisher, a past OFO President. All donations are tax-deductible. A handy check box on the OFO membership form makes it easy to earmark contributions to the Fund. Birders wishing to contribute to the Fund should send contributions to OFO Treasurer, P.O. Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440.

OFO’s “Birder Cards” are available through the OFO Bookstore at $2.50 for 50 cards. That is to cover shipping. They are handsome (see copy at right). They are popular! Don’t be the last birder on your block to get yours! Paul T. Sullivan, OFO Board of Directors, 4470 S.W. Murray Boulevard #26, Beaverton, OR 97005.

Oregon Field Ornithologists Bookcase has added the latest work by Alan Contreras to its inventory. *Northwest Birds in Winter*, illustrated by Ramiel Papish, summarizes the winter status and distribution of some 380 species in southern British Columbia, Washington, Idaho, and Oregon. Order your copy today by writing to: OFO Publications, c/o Clarice Watson, 3787 Wilshire Lane, Eugene, OR 97405. Make your check for $17.95 (which includes postage) payable to Oregon Field Ornithologists or OFO. See the center pages of this issue, the OFO Bookcase, for complete details.

Oregon Field Ornithologists will hold its annual meeting in Ontario, Oregon, 26, 27 & 28 June 1998. This will be a joint meeting with the Southwestern Idaho Birders Association and the Golden Eagle Audubon Society of Boise, Idaho. Mark your calendars now to join us for a weekend of field trips, fellowship and informative speakers and workshops. Evening meetings and the Saturday banquet will be held at the new Four Rivers Cultural Center. Attendees at the meeting are encouraged to visit the museum at the Cultural Center, which celebrates the confluence of cultures in the western Treasure Valley, where the Snake, Malheur, Owyhee and Payette Rivers converge. Since the 1800s, the rivers have supported a varied collection of people — the Northern Paiute, Basques, Hispanics, Europeans, and Japanese-Americans — making this a diverse yet vital region. Complete details and a registration form will be included in the summer issue of *Oregon Birds*. An information packet with registration materials and board nominations will be mailed to all OFO members in May. See you in Ontario!

The Oregon Field Ornithologists Board of Directors is seeking nominations to fill positions for the next year. Nominees are needed for the offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer, plus 2 board positions. Officers serve for 1 year, board members are elected for a 2-year term. If you or someone you know would be willing and capable of serving on the Board of Directors, please contact the current OFO Secretary Cindy Lawes, 13380 S.W. Butner Road, Beaverton, OR 97005, 503-626-7532.

1998 Natural Sound Recording Workshop, 6-12 June 1998, at Cornell University’s Arnot Teaching and Research Forest just south of Ithaca, NY. Learn state-of-the-art techniques for recording the sounds of wildlife with experts from the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology’s Library of Natural Sounds. Topics to be covered include the selection and application of audio recorders and microphones; recording theory; metering; recording techniques; and documentation for sound recordings. Unique to this course is an introduction to microcomputer-based sound analysis. There are daily field recording sessions and lectures/discussions. Instructors are Greg Budney, curator of the Library of Natural sounds; Bob Grothouse, LNS Sound Engineer; Randolph S. Little, Laboratory Associate and AT&T Electrical Engineer with extensive recording experience; and David S. Herr, another experienced recordist. Accommodations are rustic but comfortable. Workshop fee is $625 (includes tuition, class materials, ground transportation, food and lodging). Enrollment is secured with

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**WE ARE VISITING YOUR LOCAL NATURAL AREAS TO OBSERVE BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE.**

Quality wildlife habitat in your community is good for business. Please speak out to protect natural habitats needed by birds and other wildlife.

**Thank you!**

Oregon Field Ornithologists
P.O. Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440
Oregon Birders On Line (OBOL) has become essential birding equipment, in a sense, as many of Oregon's most active birders are "on line" exchanging news and notes via Internet email. To sign on to OBOL, you need email access to the Internet — usually through a personal computer and an Internet provider. How do I subscribe to OBOL? Send the command below to ListServ@mail.orst.edu:

SUBSCRIBE obol firstname lastname
How do I unsubscribe to OBOL? Send the command below to ListServ@mail.orst.edu:

SIGNOFF obol
How do I send a message to all birders who subscribe to OBOL? Send your message to obol@mail.orst.edu
How do I contact the listowner for questions? Send your questions to obol-request@mail.orst.edu
How do I set Obol to digest mode? Send the message

set obol digest
to ListServ@mail.orst.edu. How do I retrieve a quick command summary? Send the message

HELP
to ListServ@mail.orst.edu. How do I retrieve info on the Obol list? Send the message

INFO obol
to ListServ@mail.orst.edu. How do I find out who is on OBOL? Send the message

REVIEW obol
to ListServ@mail.orst.edu. How do I conceal my email address from public users and subscribers? Send the message

SET obol conceal
to ListServ@mail.orst.edu.
Please note: firstname lastname is your actual first name and last name. For more information, go to Oregon State's ListServe Web page, which is: http://www.net.orst.edu/ls/lsuserret.html. The OBOL list owner is Dan Owens, owensdj@ibm.net. On several occasions OBOL subscribers have asked to have an email message re-sent because they inadvertently or prematurely "trashed" it from their In Box. There is another way to accomplish this if not very much time has passed. You can go to www.cyber-dyne, then select Oregon Birders On Line, then select OBOL E-Mail Digest. The most recent messages are still on that list.

The American Bird Conservancy (ABC) and the Humane Society of the US (HSUS) launched a nationwide campaign, "Cats Indoors! The Campaign for Safer Birds and Cats," to persuade Americans that cats should not roam free. As part of the campaign launch, ABC released a report that says hundreds of millions of birds and other wildlife are killed by cats, and millions of cats die each year because people let cats roam free. The material provided at a Washington DC press briefing emphasizes the resolutions approved in 1997 by the Cooper Ornithological Society and American Ornithologists Union. For further information, posters, fact sheets and other materials, contact Linda Winter of ABC, 202-778-9619 lwinter@abcbirds.org

The Siskiyou Field Institute (SFI), a science-based educational program will be held 12-19 June 1998, in southwestern Oregon. SFI will include a wide range of field courses, including Birds of the Siskiyou (3 days), Geo-Botany, Herpetofauna of the Siskiyou, Nature Writing, Ethnobotany, Fire Ecology, Nature Illustration — and many more 2-7 day courses and 1-day field trips and workshops. Each course will be taught by a leader in their respective areas of study, and many of the courses can be taken for college credit through Southern Oregon University. For more information, contact Jennifer Beigel or Erik Jules at the Siskiyou Regional Education Project, P.O. Box 220, Cave Junction, OR 97523, 541-592-4459 institute@siskiyou.org or www.siskiyou.org.

Five great information resources are now available on the Internet homepage of the Committee for the National Institute for the Environment <www.cnie.org>:(1) Hundreds of reports from the Library of Congress on environmental topics. (2) Over 120 listings in the Directory of Higher Education Environmental Programs, a collaboration with the Center for Conservation Biology Network at Rice University.(3) Information on all aspects of Population and Environment Linkages. (4) Environmental Laws and Treaties, through a collaboration with Pace University Law School. (5) The Virtual Library of Biodiversity, Ecology and Environment maintained by the Rice University Center for Conservation Biology Network.

The National Teaming With Wildlife Coalition, with over 2200 endorsements, is working actively to ensure introduction of a bill. Several members of Congress have expressed willingness to introduce legislation but more are needed to ensure a successful bill. Letters, phone calls, and personal contacts with elected officials, businesses, sportsmen, recreation groups, and the media are increasing momentum for the introduction of a bill this fall. Immediate action by all concerned professionals will ensure that the initiative continues to advance. The coalition is developing a media campaign and is preparing promotional materials including a color TWW poster that is available for display by organizations that endorse TWW. They may be obtained by writing to Teaming With Wildlife, c/o National Wildlife Federation, 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22184. For additional information, you may explore the TWW opinion page located at The Wildlife Society website: www.wildlife.org/index.html and the Teaming With Wildlife homepage at www.teaming.com

A Neotropical Companion, second edition, 1997 by John Kricher. Revised and much expanded with additional chapters on riverine and montane ecology, human ecology, and conservation/biodiversity issues, as well as increased focus on Amazonia. One chapter on birds as well as numerous bird examples discussed throughout
the text. New edition includes 177 color illustrations and new line drawings. Available at $29.95 from Princeton Univ. Press, 800-777-4726 fax 800-999-1958 or from local booksellers.

The Proceedings of the Seventh North American Crane Workshop, held on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in 1996, are available for $25.00 from International Crane Foundation, P.O. Box 447, Baraboo, WI 53913. The 262-page book provides the most current synopsis of research and management of Sandhill and Whooping cranes, breeding biology, captive management, genetics, reintroduction, harvest, and mortality.


1996 Western Proceedings, from the 76th Annual Conference of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Honolulu. 385 pp. $10; pay in advance or be billed. Make checks payable to Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Larry L. Kruckenberg, WAFWA, c/o Game and Fish Dept., 5400 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82006 (307-777-4569).

Dan Svingen and Kas Dumroese, with the cooperation of over 50 birders in Idaho, have prepared A Birder's Guide to Idaho for the American Birding Association. Every feature of A Birder's Guide to Idaho was chosen for ease-of-use in the field. An informative introduction provides an ecological overview of Idaho, and offers advice on when, where, and how to bird. The book's core tells where Idaho's birders go birding. Over 110 major birding sites are described, including directions, major habitats present, birds to be expected, and details on the closest services available. Specific instructions on finding Idaho Rarities and Specialties is given in a supplemental chapter. The abundance, seasonality, and distribution of Idaho birds is summarized in a handy multi-purpose checklist. This is one of 14 guides in the ABA Birdfinding Guide Series — all published or thoroughly revised since 1990. Several other state guides are in preparation. ISBN 1-878788-14-0, 352 pages; 86 maps; 11 line drawings; wire-o binding, $18.95, ABA Sales, P.O. Box 6599, Colorado Springs, CO 80934, 800-634-7736.

Under the lead of the Russian Academy of Sciences we visited a number of Brent Goose colonies in the Olenyok and Lena Delta (both east of Taimyr) and color-ringed 22 Geese with 2 (white and green) rings each on one leg. The majority of the birds involved are B. b. nigricans but in the Olenyok delta we also found a lot of the nominate race and actually some mixed colonies and interbreeding pairs! Three birds ringed are of the race bernicla. We also got some ringing recoveries from mostly American origin but one Dutch ring from local hunters. A more detailed report is planned for publication soon! Because we think it is quite likely to have some recoveries or sightings also in Western European winter grounds as well as in America and Japan, we would like to ask everybody out there please specially look out for this combination. Christoph Zockler christoph@wcmc.org.uk

The Bird Guide's pelagic trips for 1998 are announced. All trips last year filled the boats, so we increased the number and variety for this year. Nevertheless, it is still necessary to sign up early. Each trip is a balancing act with a minimum and maximum number of passengers (usually 15-23). Early sign-up is recommended. Checks are not deposited until after the trip. Last-minute cancellation is frowned upon (do not cancel within 2 weeks of the trip). Our web page is most up-to-date as changes can happen, and much more information is presented.

All trips departing from Depoe Bay.

Friday-Saturday, April 3-4, 1998, 20 hour deep water trip! Departs 10:00 PM Friday night. Weather date April 10-11, $150.
Saturday, May 9, 1998, 12 hour Heceta Bank trip! May 16 weather date. $100.
Saturday, July 18, 1998, 4 hour. $35.
Saturday, August 1, 1998, 8 hour. $69.
Saturday, August 15, 1998, 8 hour. $69.
Saturday, September 12, 1998, 12 hour Heceta Bank. September 19th weather date. $100.
Saturday, October 3, 1998, 8 hour. $69.
Saturday, October 24, 1998, 8 hour. $69.
Saturday, December 5, 1998, 8 hour. December 15th weather date. $69.


John Scharff Migratory Bird Festival & Art Show, 17th Annual, 3-5 April 1998, in Burns, Oregon "Bird Central" is the Burns High School, where all the art is displayed. There are a dozen birding tours, including Sage Grouse lek visits, Alvord loop, waterfowl ID, forest birds, and even a "high list" with the goal of seeing 100 species. These are all fee tours ($10-25, lunch included with all-day tours). There are also free tours available. Workshops and speakers. View thousands of Sandhill Cranes. Some migrant shorebirds have returned — Willet and Long-billed Curlew. Waterfowl everywhere! Harney County Chamber of Commerce, 18 West D Street, Burns, OR 97720, 541-573-2656.

What will be Oregon's 5 next "first" state record birds? Prize for winning this competition is Stokes Field Guide to Birds, Western Region, which Oregon Birds has received as a review copy from the publisher. And the birder who wins this contest will be showered with affection by other birders, to be sure, and achieve promi-
nence on the pages of OB. Read the article “Oregon’s Next First State Record Bird,” OB 20(4): 115, Winter 1994, for a refresher. No one guessed the Dusky-capped Flycatcher. If the possible Cook’s Petrel found by Bob Loeffel on 4 December 1995 on Thiell Creek Beach, Lincoln Co. is confirmed, it will be the first “next.” This species was guessed, so anyone entering the contest at this late date will suffer this handicap. No one guessed the Shy Albatross, either, so the race is still on. Birders wishing to borrow the Grand Prize field guide for purposes of writing a review should contact the Editor. Birders wishing to enter the contest should contact Bill Tice, 750 Wood Street, Falls City, OR 97344.

North American Migration Counts: spring 9 May 1998 and fall 19 September 1998 (mark these dates in your calendars now). We still need coordinators for the following Oregon counties: Grant, Hood River, Lincoln, and Wasco. In addition, we need a coordinator for a Washington County starting this year. Also, Jackson County is up for grabs. We have not had any data from this county for many past counts — a County with good species diversity too (if I didn’t work Josephine, I’d work this County myself). If you can coordinate or know someone that would be willing to coordinate any of these Counties, let me know. If you would like to know what a coordinator’s duties would be, let me know (not as bad as you might think). With no coordinator, no data is collected from these counties. Consider helping! Thanks, Dennis P. Vroman, state coordinator, 269 Shetland Drive, Grants Pass, OR 97526, 541-479-4619 dpvroman@cdsnet.net

Meetings, events & deadlines made known to Oregon Birds:
- 3-5 April 1998, John Scharff Migratory Bird Festival & Art Show in Burns, Oregon. Harney County Chamber of Commerce, 18 West D Street, Burns, OR 97720, 541-573-2536.
- 6-12 April 1998, 1998 North American Ornithological Conference, St. Louis, MO. Dave Klostermann, U. of Missouri—St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63121-4499, 314-516-5958 fax 314-516-6414 dave_klostermann@ccmail.umsl.edu
- 26, 27 & 28 June 1998, Oregon Field Ornithologists will hold its annual meeting in Ontario, Oregon. A registration form will appear in the next issue of OB.
- 16-22 August 1998, The XXII International Ornithological Congress, Durban, South Africa. Letters of inquiry about the scientific program can be sent to Dr. Jenni, Prof. Berthold, or Prof. Walter Bock (Secretary of the IOC, Box 37 Schermershorn Hall, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Columbia Univ., New York, NY 10027, USA).
- 16 December 1999 through 3 January 2000, 100th Christmas Bird Count, National Audubon Society.
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. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
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<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bend</td>
<td>Eagle Eye</td>
<td>Central Oregon Audubon Society</td>
<td>PO Box 565, Bend OR 97709</td>
<td>Craig Miller</td>
<td>541-389-9115</td>
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<td>Coos Bay</td>
<td>The Tattler</td>
<td>Cape Arago Audubon Society</td>
<td>P.O. Box 381, North Bend OR 97459</td>
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<td>541-267-7208</td>
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<td>Corvallis</td>
<td>The Chat</td>
<td>Audubon Society of Corvallis</td>
<td>PO Box 148, Corvallis OR 97339</td>
<td>Jonathan Pissner</td>
<td>541-929-6207</td>
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<td>Eugene</td>
<td>The Quail</td>
<td>Lane County Audubon Society</td>
<td>PO Box 5086, Eugene OR 97405</td>
<td>Allison Michel</td>
<td>541-485-7112</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>PO Box 1047, Grants Pass OR 97526</td>
<td>Eleanor Pugh</td>
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<td>Hood River</td>
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<td>PO Box 512, Hood River OR 97031</td>
<td>Tom Winters</td>
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<td>John Day</td>
<td>The Upland Sandpiper</td>
<td>Grant County Bird Club</td>
<td>P.O. Box 111, Canyon City OR 97201</td>
<td>Kevin Spencer</td>
<td>916-667-4644</td>
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<td>Klamath</td>
<td>The Grebe</td>
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<td>PO Box 354, Klamath Falls OR 97607</td>
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<td>The Rav-on</td>
<td>Grande Ronde Bird Club</td>
<td>PO Box 29, La Grande OR 97850</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Chris Dowdy</td>
<td>541-963-4768</td>
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<td>Medford</td>
<td>The Chat</td>
<td>Rogue Valley Audubon</td>
<td>6045 Foley Lane, Central Point OR 97520</td>
<td>Ric Thowell</td>
<td>541-535-3280</td>
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<td>Newport</td>
<td>The Sandpiper</td>
<td>Yaquina Bristles and Naturalists</td>
<td>PO Box 1467, Newport OR 97365</td>
<td>Ranga Bayer</td>
<td>541-285-0965</td>
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<td>Portland</td>
<td>Audubon Warbler</td>
<td>Audubon Society of Portland</td>
<td>5151 NW Cornell Road, Portland OR 97210</td>
<td>Harry Nehls</td>
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<td>Salem</td>
<td>The Kestrel</td>
<td>Salem Audubon Society</td>
<td>1313 Mill St SE, Salem OR 97301</td>
<td>John Lundsten</td>
<td>503-585-9442</td>
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Areas of past low coverage and obvious remoteness had above average observations, due in most part to the ongoing Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Many observations included notes on breeding status. Hopefully this same attention to behavior will continue well after the project concludes. The highlight of the period was the discovery of a nesting pair of Blue Grosbeaks in Malheur County, that was seen by many observers throughout the period. This pair fledged at least one individual, and the record represents only the third for the state and the first state record for nesting. A first record of nesting for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was recorded. Eastern Kingbird had many reports that expanded its known nesting range within the state. Two breeding plumaged male Lapland Longspurs for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was light of the period was the discovery of a nesting pair, on territory, Denio Co., Pueblo Mtns., 14 June, HAR (MD, MLD)

**FORMAT, ABBREVIATIONS**
The format used for each sighting in this report is: # individuals, location, date, COUNTY ABBREVIATION (INITIALS OF OBSERVERS); next record.

Abbreviations used in this report:
mob. many observers
SP State Park
Lk. Lake
Mtn. Mountain
Ck. Creek
Res. Reservoir
NWR National Wildlife Refuge
HQ MNWR Headquarters Malheur NWR

XXX- All counties designated by their first three letters of the county name. Exception: HDR = Hood River

**Mallard** - plain type denotes species usually seen.

Pacific Loon - italics indicates unusual sightings, late dates, unusual locations, Latin subspecies.

**Harlequin Duck** - all caps indicates a rare sighting.

**Ross' Gull** - all capitals indicates a rare sighting.

**Eared Grebe** - a first record of nesting for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was recorded. Eastern Kingbird had many reports that expanded its known nesting range within the state. Two breeding plumaged male Lapland Longspurs for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was light of the period was the discovery of a nesting pair, on territory, Denio Co., Pueblo Mtns., 14 June, HAR (MD, MLD)

**Common Loon** - a first record of nesting for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was recorded. Eastern Kingbird had many reports that expanded its known nesting range within the state. Two breeding plumaged male Lapland Longspurs for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was light of the period was the discovery of a nesting pair, on territory, Denio Co., Pueblo Mtns., 14 June, HAR (MD, MLD)

**Pied-billed Grebe** - pair on nest, Bone Ck. Res. 20 June, MAL (MD, MLD)

**Horned Grebe** - 1 pair, Beede Res., 2 June, HAR (ML, EH)

**Red-necked Grebe** - 1 ad., 1 chick, Big Lava Lk., 6 June, DES (MF)

**Eared Grebe** - a first record of nesting for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was recorded. Eastern Kingbird had many reports that expanded its known nesting range within the state. Two breeding plumaged male Lapland Longspurs for the Northern Mockingbird in Malheur Co. was light of the period was the discovery of a nesting pair, on territory, Denio Co., Pueblo Mtns., 14 June, HAR (MD, MLD)
Western Sandpiper 92, w. shore Summer Lake, 24 June, LAK (CM, ES); 20, Hatfield Lk., 4 July, DES (JM, DHA); 2500, Summer Lk., 12 July, LAK (FT)
Least Sandpiper 20, Hatfield Lk., 4 July, DES (JM, DHA)
 Baird's Sandpiper 3, Malheur Res., 29 July, MAL (DB)
 Short-billed Dowitcher 1, Hatfield Lk., 26 July, DES (DHA); 1, near Wil­low Lk., 26 July, MAL (PS, KT)
 Red-necked Phalarope 1, f., Chevally Res. near Burns, 21 June, MAL (MID, MD)

Franklin's Gull 2, Bully Ck. Res., 29 July, MAL (DB)
 Bonaparte's Gull 1 subadult, Hatfield Lk., 4 July, DES (JM, DHA)
 California Gull 15+, juvs., rocky island in Crump Lk., 26 June, LAK (KS, CM)

Caspian Tern 26 ad., Malheur Lk., Malheur NWR, 12 June, HAR (MD, MLD); 9 Dog Lk., 11 June, LAK (FT), nesting status here unclear
COMMON TERN 1, Hart Lk., 12 July, LAK (FR)
 Band-tailed Pigeon 1, Ochoco Res., 4 June, COR (AD, DJ, TM); 1, N. Mathieu Lk., 20 July, DES (DHA, PM)

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO 1, Fields, 11 June, HAR (DA, LW, HN)

Flammulated Owl 2 calling, Deep Ck., N. Warner Mtns., 24 June LAK (CM, KS); 1, Lost Valley Rd., 25 June, GIL (PS); 1, se. of Heppner, 2 July, MOR (PS)
Western Screech-Owl 1 ad., Owyhee River Canyon, 21-22 June, MAL (MD, MLD)

Barnacle Goose 2 ad., 2-5 juv., Lower Lk. Rd., 2nd wk. July, KLA (DM- USFW) where very scarce in Klamath Basin

Great Gray Owl 1 on nest, ne. of Chiloquin, 21 June, KLA (Joo, KS)

Long-eared Owl 1, Hanna Res., 5 June, MAL (ML, EH); 1, Ten­mile Ck., 15 June, MAL (MD, MLD), ad. on nest, Tul Res., 11 June, KLA (FT)

Short-eared Owl 1, Echave Res., 16 June, MAL (MD, MLD); 2 ad., 6 juv., Upper Deuoio Ck., 14 June, HAR (MD, MLD); 1, near Huminium, 18 July, BAK (MD, MLD)

Common Nighthawk 1st arrival dates: Riley, 23 May (PN); Fort Kla­math, 2 June (DV); Fossil, 3 June (BS); La Grande, 3 June (SL); 1 on nest/2 eggs, scalb rock aop Abert Rim, 25 June, LAK (KS, CM)

White-throated Swift 5 pr. nesting, Little Antelope Cr., 17 June, MAL (MD, MLD); 6 colonies with 200+, Wallowa­kang Can­yon, 18 June, MAL (MD, MLD); 50+, Owyhee Can­yon @ Birch Ck. access, 21 June, MAL (MD, MLD)

Black-chinned Hummingbird 1 territorial fem. w. of Gibbon, 7 June, UMA (HN); 2 males, N. Fork Walla Walla River, 4 July, UMA (MD, MLD)

Costa's Hummingbird

Post 78, Hwy 26, 25 June, WAS (PS); 2, w of Adel, 26 June, LAK (CM, KS); 1, e of Drewsey, 3 July, HAR (EH, ML); 1, Drewsey Cutoff Rd., 5 July, HAR (EH, ML); 3, Muleshoe Recreation Area, 6 July, WHE (EH, ML); 1, Steens Min. Loop, 6 Jul HAR (SD); most noted to be in Juniper habitat

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER**

male, Fields, 12-13 June, HAR (M, MD, MLD); feam., Fields, 12-13 June (MD, MLD, PS)

**AMERICAN REDSTART**

1, Fields, 13 June (MD, MLD, M); male, Beaver Ck./Hwy 26, 28 June, WAS (MG, MH); feam., Beaver Ck., 13 July (HN); 1, Rocky Point, Upper Klamath Lk., 6 July, KLA (MU)

**OVENBIRD**

1, banded, Odessa Cg., 23 June, KLA (DV); 1, re-captured 2nd time, Odessa Cg., 2 Jul (DV); 2, one re-captured 3rd time and one banded, Odessa Cg., 20 Jul (DV)

**Northern Waterthrush**

1, Fields, 12 June, HAR (MD, MLD, M, PS); several singing, Gilchrist, 18 June, KLA (HN)

**Wilson’s Warbler**

1 male, Ten-Mile Crk. Ranch, 15 June, MAL (MD, MLD); 1 male, Target Crk. Meadows, 23 July, UMA (MD, MLD)

**Green-tailed Towhee**

2, Lava Lake area, 28 June, LIN (R&KK); 5 pairs, Denio Crk. s of Fields, 14 June (MD, MLD)

**Black-throated Sparrow**

5, singing, McDermitt Crk., 22 June, MAL (ED); 1, Lost Valley Rd., 26 June, GIL (PS); 2 +, s of Malheur Res., 18 July, MAL (CJS)

**Lincoln’s Sparrow**

1, Woolhawk Canyon, 18 June, MAL (MD, MLD), located in oasis of desert canyon; 1, Indian Rock Lookout, 26 June, GRA (BH)

**White-crowned Sparrow**

8 pair, Upper Jackson Crk., 16 June, MAL (MD, MLD)

**Lapland Longspur**

1, Sycan Marsh, 15 June, LAK (CM); 1, Hart Mountain, 12 July, LAK (PV, CAS), both breeding plumaged males and are first e Oregon summer records.

**ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK**

Black-throated Sparrow

male, Fields, 12-13 June, HAR (M, MD, MLD); 1 male, Beaver Ck./Hwy 26, 28 June, WAS (MG, MH); feam., Beaver Ck., 13 July (HN); 1, Rocky Point, Upper Klamath Lk., 6 July, KLA (MU)

**BLUE GROSBEAK**

3, a pair and 1 juv., Willow Crk. nw of Brogan, 9 July through period’s end, MAL (MK FZ, TW, m.ob.); third state record, first state nesting record!

**Indigo Bunting**

1 male, Denio Crk. s of Fields, 14 June, HAR (MD, MLD); pair, Trout Crk. w of McDermitt, 22 June, MAL (ED); 1, e of Milton-Freewater, 4 July, UMA (MD, MLD)

**Bobolink**

1, male, w of Drewsey, 3 July, HAR (EH, ML)

**Tricolored Blackbird**

40 pairs reported at the Stanfield colony, 7 June, UMA (HN); 40, near Malin, 8 June, KLA (KS), colony returned after 1 yr. absence; 1,000+ males, Wood River Ranch, 19 June, KLA (KS), only foraging males counted

**GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE**

1, near McDermitt, 24 June, MAL (PA)

**Black Rosy-Finch**

up to 5, Steens Mtn., 3 July, HAR (DaH et al.), uncommon in summer at this location.

**Purple Finch**

1, Hwy 216, 25 June, WAS (PS); 1, Bear Valley, 13 July, GRA (TH), where considered uncommon.

**Red Crossbill**

10, e of Drewsey, 3 July, HAR (EH, ML)

**White-winged Crossbill**

"many" n of Tollgate, 12 July, UNI (DaH); 7, Woodward Cg. and 1, Target Cg., both n of Tollgate, 23 July UNI (MD, MLD); 2, Spout Springs Ski Resort, 26 July, UNI (MD, MLD)

**Pine Siskin**

14, Kimball SP, 14 June, KLA (FM, KS); 1, Oregon Canyon Mtns., 22 June, MAL (PA), 1st for OC Mtss.; several, Burns County Park, 25 July, MQR (EH, ML); elsewhere, negative reports all season

**Lesser Goldfinch**

2-4, Fields, 5-13 June, HAR (AM, PS); 4 ad, 2 juv. off nest, Owyhee River s of Adrian, 22 June, MAL (MD, MLD), nesting status unclear for Malheur Co., but quite north for e of Cascades; 1, Goose Lk. SP, 28 June, LAK (FI), where locally uncommon.

**OBSEVERS**


Three views of the Blue Grosbeak, OBRC 597-97-03, near Brogan, Malheur Co. Photo/Tom Winters.

Clockwise from above:


Black-necked Stilt, June 1997, Harney Co. Photo/Merry Lynn Denny.

Wood Duck and turtle, June 1997, McNary Wildlife Area, Umatilla Co. Photo/Merry Lynn Denny.

Sage Grouse, 19 July 1997, 6 miles west of Huntington, Baker Co. Photo/Merry Lynn Denny.

A Red-eyed Vireo (right) and Cassin's Vireo shared a nest early this summer in Jasper Park, Eugene, Lane Co. Unfortunately, I was out of town after taking the photos and do not know what developed. Roger Robb, 90970 Ridgewiew Road, Eugene, OR 97408.

"Got it!" Birders line up for views of the Horned Puffin, Curry County's sixth record, 7 July 1997, Harris Beach State Park, Curry Co. Photo/Colin Dillingham.

Inset: Horned Puffin, 7 July 1997, Harris Beach State Park, Curry Co. Photo/Colin Dillingham.
FIELDNOTES: Western Oregon, Summer 1997

Jim Johnson, 10405 N.E. 9th Avenue, Apt. G-10, Vancouver, WA 98685 e-mail: jimjohn@teleport.com

Abbreviations used:
BSNWR Basket Slough National Wildlife Refuge
Co. County
FRR Fern Ridge Reservoir
m.ob. many observers
NSBC North Spit Coos Bay
NWR National Wildlife Refuge
OBOL Oregon Birders On-Line (e-mail list)
SJCR South Jetty of the Columbia River
S.P. State Park

Horned Grebe
One at Ankeny NWR, 10 June (JL).

Western Grebe
"Breeding" Westerns and Clark's were observed at FRR 27 July, but no young were seen (A&TM). Breeding has been confirmed in previous years.

Clark's Grebe
One was with Westerns at Yaquina Head, 1 June (KM); one was with Westerns at the Siuslaw R. mouth, 9 June (TM); and one was at SJCR, 16 July (MP)

Northern Fulmar
One was found dead on NSCB, 29 June (DL&KC); 100 were off Tillamook Bay, 25 July; and 500 were 1 mi. off Alsea Bay, 30 July (RL).

Pink-footed Shearwater
20 were off Tillamook Bay, 25 July (RL).

Sooty Shearwater
Singles were found dead at New River and NSCB, 1 June and 29 June, respectively (DL&KC).

14 June Pelagic to Heceta Bank, Lane Co. (GG, MI, m.ob.)
Black-footed Albatross 126
Northern Fulmar 6
Pink-footed Shearwater 16
Sooty Shearwater 199
Short-tailed Shearwater 1
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel 170
Leach's Storm-Petrel 11

26 July Pelagic off Depoe Bay (GG, MI, m.ob.)
Black-footed Albatross 10
Northern Fulmar 159
Pink-footed Shearwater 41
Sooty Shearwater 109

American White Pelican
The individual that wintered at Kirk Pond, just north of the FRR dam was present throughout the summer (m.ob., tide TM).

Great Egret
The first of the post-breeders were noted at FRR, 27 July (A&TM).

Black-crowned Night-heron
One was in Portland, 12 July (fide HN); one was at BSNWR 22-24 June (BT, RG, AM); one was in Salem, 17 July (TR); one was at Dennan Wildlife Area, Jackson Co., 20 July (PSu); 47 were along 1/2 mile of the Chetco R. estuary, 24 July (DM).

Tundra Swan
One was at Howard Prairie Res., 18-19 July (PSu).

Table 1. First migrant dates of south-bound shorebirds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Observer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Golden-Plover</td>
<td>15 July</td>
<td>S. Jetty Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>SM, B&amp;ZS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semipalmated Plover</td>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>S. Jetty Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>B&amp;Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Yellowlegs</td>
<td>23 June</td>
<td>Salmon R., Lincoln Co.</td>
<td>RL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Yellowlegs</td>
<td>6 July</td>
<td>Warrenton</td>
<td>MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marbled Godwit</td>
<td>9 July</td>
<td>Coos Bay</td>
<td>DL&amp;KC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wandering Tattler</td>
<td>11 July</td>
<td>Seal Rocks, Lincoln Co.</td>
<td>DPi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruddy Turnstone</td>
<td>14 July</td>
<td>Seal Rocks, Lincoln Co.</td>
<td>DPi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Turnstone</td>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>near Seal Rocks, Lincoln Co.</td>
<td>DPi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfbird</td>
<td>18 June</td>
<td>SJCR</td>
<td>MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semipalmated Sandpiper</td>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>near Carby</td>
<td>ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Sandpiper</td>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>New River</td>
<td>DL&amp;KC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Least Sandpiper</td>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>near Seal Rocks, Lincoln Co.</td>
<td>DL&amp;KC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>NSCB</td>
<td>DL&amp;KC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>16 July</td>
<td>New River, Coos Co.</td>
<td>DL&amp;KC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-necked Ptiloare</td>
<td>2 July</td>
<td>off Tillamook/Lincoln Co.</td>
<td>RL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sempalmated Plover
Peak count at Bandon Marsh: 400 on 20 July (DL&KC).

Whimbrel
Peak count at Bandon/New River: 150 on 8 July (DL&KC).

Willet
One was at Tillamook Bay (HN) and two were at New River (DL&KC), 22 July.

Western Sandpiper
The last north-bound migrant was noted at Bandon Beach, 2 June (DL&KC).

RED-NECKED STINT
An adult at SJCR, 19 July (MP) was well-described on OBOL.

Dunlin
One was at New River, Coos Co., 16 July (DL&KC).

Franklin's Gull
One was at Florence, 10 June (DPe); one adult was on Sauvie I., 30 June (MN); one adult was at Tillamook Bay, 12 July (DB).

Heermann's Gull
First noted at New River, Coos Co., 4 June (DL&KC).

Glaucous-winged X Western Gull Hybrid
One pair nested on a concrete piling near Willamette Falls, Oregon City, during the summer for the third non-consecutive year (ES, TJ). Three juveniles with the adults were observed on 25 July. They successfully bred here in 1993 and 1995.

Elegant Tern
Two at Yaquina Bay, 10 June (DPe); five off Seal Rocks, Lincoln Co., 12 June (DFi); 32 near South Jetty of Siuslaw R., Lane Co., 18 July (DL&KC); 50 at the Necanicum R. estuary, Seaside, 20 July (SR, DB); 45 at the Chetco R. mouth, Curry Co., 28 July (DM); about 200 at the Rogue R. mouth, 29 July (DM).

Forster's Tern
Four were at BSNWR 3 July (BT).

LEAST TERN
One was at the South Jetty of Siuslaw R., 8 June (DS, PSb). Good description on OBOL. This was the fourth Oregon record — the first since 1976.

Black Tern
Breeding was again confirmed at FRR when an adult was seen feeding a fledgling 27 July (A&TM).
total since 1978. In June and July, B&SL and S&DB found 99 dead adults along 4.5 miles of beach near Thiel Cr. They also found a low eight HY birds in July.

**Ancient Murrelet**

David Fix found several: 3 off Florence, 12 June; one off Devil’s Elbow S.P., 12 July; one off Nehalem Mtn., Tillamook Co., 13 July; one off Siletz Bay, 14 July; and one off Hunter Cr., Curry Co., 17 July. Kathy Merrifield had 4 at Yaquina Head, 29 June, and 2 there on 13 July.

*Right center-left* Tern, 8 June 1997, s. jetty Siuslaw River, Lane Co., OBRC074-97-05C. Photo/Bill Stotz.

"The bird was found south of Florence in Lane County. It was on the sand flats at low tide southeast of the crab docks on the south jetty of the Siuslaw River. The bird was first observed from a distance of about 200 feet as an object on the sand and until I saw it move I wasn’t even sure it was a bird. Using binoculars I realized that it was a very small tern approximately the size of a Robin. Observation through my scope gave me a small adult tern with very sharply defined features. Moving to within 80-100 feet, the legs were short and yellow, bill all yellow except at the very tip which was dark, the head had a black cap and the forehead just above the bill had a white patch shaped like a thick 'V' extending backward over the eye which was dark. The body of the bird was white below and light gray above. The bird got up and flew around a couple of times showing a short deeply notched tail. The leading edges of the wings (outer primaries) were dark while the rest of the underwings and body were white. It was a single bird not directly associated with the other species present, staying a short distance away from the Caspian Terns and large gulls nearby. It appeared to be resting on the sand. No feeding was observed nor were any calls heard." — Don Schrouder.

*Right* Rose-breasted Grosbeak, male, OBRC 595-97-33B, 1 June 1997, McMinnville, Washington Co. "There is a creek about 100 yards behind us with riparian woods. Adjacent to our home is a small grove of trees with 10-70 year old Douglas fir and 2 oak trees. Our small housing development is surrounded by farms—both crops and pastures. We consistently have a large variety of birds at our feeders and recall having seen also, goldfinches, Red-winged Blackbirds, Brewer’s Blackbirds, White-breasted Nuthatches, Robins, Scrub Jays, Evening Grosbeaks, Black-headed Cowbirds, quail, doves, Acorn Woodpeckers, etc." Photo/Lois Jayne.

Horned Puffin
Two were at Harris Beach S.P., Curry Co., 7 July (A&TM, CD).

Mourning Dove
One was in Astoria, 4 July (MP). This was an early record for the north coast. They are usually found later in fall.

Black Swift
Small numbers were at Salt Cr. Falls, Lane Co., as usual (m.ob.). This is the only presumed nesting site in Oregon.

Ash-throated Flycatcher
One was at the Hwy 101 crossing of the Chetco R., Curry Co., 4 June (BS); two were in Eugene, 5 June (DG); one was at Powell Butte, Portland, 29 June (EJ); two were in appropriate looking breeding habitat on the south side of Mt. Pisgah, near Eugene, 8 July (AP, HB). This species is not known to breed north of the Limpqua Valley in western Oregon.

Eastern Kingbird
Curry County’s third (location not provided) was found 14 June (TW). One was noted at the Sandy R. Delta, Malinomah Co., 12 July (RR). Breeding has been noted here in recent years.

Red-eyed Vireo
"Colonies" were active at Jasper, Lane Co., Sauvie Is, North Portland, Sandy R. Delta, and up the Sandy R. to the town of Sandy. One at Jasper was mated and nested with a Cassin’s Vireo, 20 June+, but the nest failed and the only egg in the nest appeared to be a cowbird’s (m.ob.). One was observed briefly in Harbor, Curry Co., 24 July (DM).

Rock Wren
A family was in a clearcut near Breitenbush Mtn., Marion Co. (about six miles west of Olathe L), 6 July (B&Z).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Breeding was confirmed at Mt. Pisgah, near Eugene, 12 July, when a pair were seen exchanging places on a nest (A&TM). Apparently the nest was unsuccessful since the nest was watched for some time on 27 July with no adults in attendance and four unhatched eggs in the nest.

Gray Catbird
One was singing at Oakridge, Lane Co., 17-20 July (DM, m.ob.). This was the second western Oregon record — the first for Lane Co.

Northern Mockingbird
One was on NSCB, 5 June (DL&KC). This was the second western Oregon record — the first for Lane Co.

Chestnut-sided Warbler
One male was at Chautauqua, 15 miles east of Newport, 7 June (DFa); one was at Newport, 22 June (EH).

Brewer’s Sparrow
Two were at Lower Table Rock, Jackson Co., 18 July (DFa) — one apparently with brood patch. This species is not known to breed west of the Cascades crest.

Vesper Sparrow
One was at Bayocean sand spit, Tillamook Co., 19 July (BT). This species is rather rare on the north coast.

Grasshopper Sparrow
One was seen feeding a fledgling near Lower Table Rock, Jackson Co., 18 July (DFa). Others were found breeding in areas near FRR (fide TM). Reported from west of Roseburg (number and dates unknown, fide RM).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak
One was near Cape Ferrel, Curry Co., 15 July (JB).

Indigo Bunting
One male was at Powell Butte, Portland, 20 June (SN); one was at Forest Grove, Washington Co., 20 July (LF).

Indigo X Lazuli Bunting Hybrid
An apparent hybrid was at Mt. Pisgah near Eugene, 28 June (MC, PV). A male Indigo was paired with a female Lazuli in Eugene a couple years ago.

White-winged Crossbill
A pair was south of Mclalaka L, SW of McKenzie Pass, Lane Co., 28 July (R&KK).

Observers
David Bailey, Harry Bartels, John Bischoff, Sara & Don Brown (S&DB), Colin Dillingham, Darrel Faxon (DFa), Linda Ficere, David Fix (DFi), Roy Gerg, Jeff Gilligan, Greg Gillson, Dan Gleason, Dan Heyerf, Eric Horvath, Matt Hunter, Karen Jones, Ray Korpi, Rick & Kathy Krabbe (R&KK), David Lauten & Kathleen Castlelein (DL&KC), Gerard Liddle, Bob & Shirley Loeffel (B&SL), Roy Lowe, John Lundsten, Sylvia Maulding, Alan McGie, Kathy Merrifield, Ron Maertz, Allison & Tom Mickel (A&TM), Don Munson, Al & Terrie Murray, Mark Nebeker, Harry Nehls, Sally Nielsen, Mike Patterson, Diane Petkey (DPe), Dave Pitkin (DPi), Al Prigge, Tyler Reed, Skip Russell, Don Schrouder, Jamie Simmons, Elmer Specht, Paul Sherrell (PSh), Boz Stewart, Bill & Zanah Stotz (B&ZS), Paul Sullivan (PSu), Bill Tice, Dennis Vroman, Terry Wahl, Katherine Wilson.

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10 March 1998, Winter (Dec-Feb) field notes due to fieldnotes editors
21-22 March 1998, OFO Birding Weekend, Klamath Co.
20 April 1998, deadline for next issue of OBO — OB 24(2)
10 June 1998, Spring (Mar-May) field notes due to fieldnotes editors
26-28 June 1998, OFO’s annual meeting, with Southwestern Idaho Birders Ass’n and Golden Eagle Audubon Society, Ontario