

Oregon Bird Records Committee: 2024 Report

By Tim Janzen,
Chairman of the Oregon Bird Records Committee

The Oregon Bird Records Committee finalized review of a total of 65 records in 2024, all of which were first-time submissions. Of these, 55 records were accepted and 10 were not accepted. Most submissions (58, or 89.2%) were supported either by photos (55) or sound records (3), and 53 of these 58 records (91.4%) were accepted. Of the seven sight-only records reviewed, two (28.6%) were accepted. The 10 records not accepted included five accompanied by photos and five sight-only submissions.



Tim Janzen

The county breakdown of accepted records shows that the most records were from Curry County with 10 accepted records, followed by Clatsop County with eight, Harney County with seven, Coos County with six, and Tillamook and Lincoln counties with five each. Union and Multnomah counties had three each, while Lane and Jackson counties had two each. Benton, Josephine, Klamath, and Lake counties each had one.

Highlights for the year included an unprecedented eight Orchard Oriole records, all but one of which were found in the fall of 2023 or the winter of 2023-2024. An impressive four Nazca Booby records were noted; this continues a trend for increased sightings of Nazca Booby (and other booby species) along the West Coast in recent years, likely due to altered marine conditions related to climate change. Other highlights included Oregon's second Dusky-capped Flycatcher, second Bell's Vireo, third White-eyed Vireo, third and fourth Winter Wrens, and fourth Lucy's Warbler. Tim Rodenkirk personally found 11 review species that were accepted by the OBRC in 2024.

The Committee added two species to the Oregon state list in 2024: Blue Rock-Thrush and Siberian Pipit. The Blue Rock-Thrush record is one of only three accepted records of this species in North America. An account of the discovery of the Blue Rock-Thrush can be found in *Oregon Birds* 50(1): 8-11. Siberian Pipit was split from American Pipit by the American Ornithological Society in 2024. The Committee has now accepted two records of Siberian Pipit, one from 2019 and one from 2022.

One species was removed from the state list in 2024: Hoary Redpoll was lumped with Common Redpoll and Lesser Redpoll into a single species, Redpoll, by the American Ornithological Society in 2024.

Through the end of 2024, Oregon's state total stood at 548 species, behind only California (689), Texas (672), Arizona (570), and New Mexico (555).

The Committee members who served in 2024, with the year their terms expire, were:

Nolan Clements (2024)
Philip Kline (2024)
Russ Namitz (2024)
Bob Archer (2025)
Daniel Farrar (2025)
Rachael Fries (2025)
Hendrik Herlyn (2026)
Tim Janzen (2026)
Ryan Terrill (2026)

The alternates, who serve one-year terms, were Elijah Hayes, Nick Mrvelj, and John Rakestraw.

The chairman in 2024 was Tim Janzen.



Blue Rock-Thrush (left) and Siberian Pipit (right) were the two species added to the Oregon state list in 2024. The Rock-Thrush was found at Hug Point on the Clatsop County coast, while the Pipit was elevated in 2024 from subspecies status to species status in a taxonomic decision by the American Ornithological Society. *Photos by Michael Sanchez (L) and Colby Neuman (R).*

RECORDS ACCEPTED

Common Ground Dove CGDO-2024-08

South Jetty of the Coquille River, Bandon, Coos County, Oct 21-28, 2024. Details and photos by Karen Saxton, Tim Rodenkirk, Susan Kirkbride, and Nolan Clements. Details by Miles Scheuering.

Common Gallinule COGA-2023-17

Miller Island, Klamath County, Oct 8, 2023-Mar 24, 2024. Details by Julie Van Moorhem. Details and photos by Steve Kornfeld and Judy Meredith.



This Red-necked Stint on Bayocean Spit was enjoyed by many birders. *Photo taken Oct 1, 2023, by Colby Neuman.*

Hudsonian Godwit HUGO-2023-38

Little Beach, Gearhart, Clatsop County, Aug 18, 2023. Details and photos by Diana Byrne.

Hudsonian Godwit HUGO-2023-40

Trestle Bay, Fort Stevens State Park, Clatsop County, Sep 10, 2023. Details and photos by John Richie.

Red-necked Stint RNST-2023-25

At 45.52050, -123.95421, Bayocean Spit, Tillamook County, Oct 1-17, 2023. Details and photos by Aaron Beerman and photos by Colby Neuman and Kevin Scaldeferri.

White-rumped Sandpiper WRSA-2024-10

Alvord Desert, Harney County, June 2-4, 2024. Details and photos by Peter Olsoy, Donna Nordstrom, Brodie Cass Talbott, and Tye Jeske. Details, photos, video, and audio file by Trent Bray. Details by Ezra Cohen.

White-rumped Sandpiper WRSA-2024-11

South Jetty of the Columbia River, Clatsop County, Jun 4-10, 2024. Details and photos by Bill Shelmerdine.

Laughing Gull LAGU-2024-14

Cannon Beach, Clatsop County, May 5, 2024, and also at Fort Stevens State Park, Clatsop County, May 11, 2024. Details by John Rakestraw. Photos by Diana Byrne and Tina Toth.



This White-rumped Sandpiper showed up in Clatsop County simultaneously with one at the other corner of the state, in the Alvord Desert. *Photo by Tina Toth.*

Laughing Gull LAGU-2024-15

North Spit of Coos Bay, Coos County, May 21, 2024. Details and photos by Tim Rodenkirk.

Laughing Gull LAGU-2024-16

Sunset Beach Recreation Area, Clatsop County, May 26, 2024. Details and photos by Patrick Felker.

Laughing Gull LAGU-2024-17

Kilchis Point Reserve and Garibaldi, Tillamook County, Aug 20–Oct 28, 2024. Details and photos by Cliff Cordy.

Slaty-backed Gull SBAG-2024-16

Broughton Beach, Multnomah County, Mar 11, 2024. Details and photos by Nick Mrvelj.

Least Tern LETE-2023-16

Josephine Campground, Josephine County, Jun 9, 2023. Details and photos by Joy Jensen.

Short-tailed Albatross STAL-2023-23

At 44.699, -124.712 around Daisy Bank 25 miles west of Newport, Lincoln County, Jul 11, 2023. Details and photos by Will Kennerley.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel WISP-2023-08

At 44.63448, -124.72936, about 35 miles west of Newport, Lincoln County, Sep 9, 2023. Details by Shawneen Finnegan and Peter Olsoy. Photo by Katie Sorenson.



Pelagic rarities can be tough to photograph. This Wilson's Storm-Petrel, the sixth accepted Oregon record, is only the second one to be photographed. *Photo by Katie Sorenson.*

Nazca Booby NABO-2023-06

At 45.76667, -125.16667, about 50 miles west of Manzanita, Tillamook County, September 26, 2023. Details by Simon Delany. Photo by Katlyn Taylor.

Nazca Booby NABO-2023-07

At 45.20, -124.805, about 40 miles west of Pacific City, Tillamook County, Oct 3, 2023. Details and photos by Keenan Yakola.

Nazca Booby NABO-2024-08

Harris Beach near Brookings, Curry County, Jan 23, 2024. Details by Gary Lester and photos by Hayli Egbert and Jason Badger.

Nazca Booby NABO-2024-09

Seven Devils State Recreation Site, Coos County, Feb 6, 2024. Details and photos by Julie Knight.



This Nazca Booby in Tillamook County waters was one of four reports of this species accepted last year. All nine Oregon records have occurred since 2015. *Photo by Katlyn Taylor.*

Dusky-capped Flycatcher DCFL-2023-02

Hatfield Marine Science Center Estuary Trail, Newport, Lincoln County, Nov 23-28, 2023. Details by Roger Robb, Sylvia Maulding, and Trent Bray. Details and photos by Jack Williamson. Photos by Nolan Clements.

Eastern Phoebe EAPH-2023-38

Frenchglen, Harney County, May 25, 2023. Details and photos by Paul Sullivan.

White-eyed Vireo WEVI-2024-03

Yachats, Lincoln County, Aug 2–Sep 23, 2024. Details by Craig Miller, Trent Bray, and Tim Janzen. Details and photos by Ed McVicker. Details, photos, and audio files by Hendrik Herlyn and Jamie Simmons. Photos by Tom Myers. Audio file by Marilyn Miller.

Bell's Vireo BEVI-2024-06

Millicoma Marsh, Coos County, Sep 4-6, 2024. Details, photos, and audio files by Tim Rodenkirk. Details and photos by David Hargreaves and Nolan Clements. Photos by Noah Strycker.

Winter Wren WIWR-2023-03

Columbia Children's Arboretum, Portland, Multnomah County, Oct 24, 2023. Details and audio file by Nick Mrvelj.



This White-eyed Vireo, just the third record for Oregon, remained in Yachats throughout most of August and September 2024. *Photo taken Aug 7, 2024, by Ed McVicker.*



This Bell's Vireo at Millicoma Marsh, Coos Bay, was only the second accepted record for the state of Oregon. *Photo by Noah Strycker.*

Winter Wren WIWR-2024-04

Fields, Harney County, Oct 13, 2024. Details, photos, and audio file by Carl Lundblad.

Wood Thrush WOTH-2023-06

At 45.5320, -117.9157, along Philberg Road, Union County, May 29, 2023. Details by David Donsker. Details and audio files by Mike Resch and Trent Bray.

Blue Rock-Thrush BRTS-2024-01

Hug Point State Recreation Site, Clatsop County, Apr 21, 2024. Details and photos by Michael Sanchez.

White Wagtail WHWA-2023-11

La Grande Wastewater Treatment Facility near La Grande, Union County, Oct 3-4, 2023. Details and photos by Russ Morgan and Trent Bray.

Siberian Pipit SIPI-2019-02

Rooster Rock State Park, Multnomah County, Oct 22, 2019. Details and photos by Colby Neuman.

Orchard Oriole OROR-2023-21

Pistol River lowlands, Curry County, Sep 22, 2023. Details and photos by Tim Rodenkirk.



Since Winter Wren was split from Pacific Wren, four records have been accepted in Oregon; this bird found at the Fields Oasis in Harney County was the fourth. *Photo by Carl Lundblad.*



This Orchard Oriole at the Malheur NWR headquarters was one of an astonishing eight records accepted by the Committee this past year. *Photo by Richard Rusnak.*

Orchard Oriole OROR-2023-22

South Jetty Road, Florence, Lane County, Oct 20, 2023. Details and photos by John Sullivan and Neil Bjorklund.

Orchard Oriole OROR-2023-23

Bayocean Spit, Tillamook County, Oct 3, 2023. Details and photos by Aaron Beerman.

Orchard Oriole OROR-2023-24

Brookings, Curry County, Dec 13, 2023. Details and photos by Tim Rodenkirk.

Orchard Oriole OROR-2023-25

Bandon, Coos County, Dec 23, 2023–Jan 2, 2024. Details and photos by Tim Rodenkirk and Gary Shaffer.

Orchard Oriole OROR-2024-26

Brookings, Curry County, Jan 19, 2024. Details and photos by Tim Rodenkirk.

Orchard Oriole OROR-2024-27

Malheur NWR Headquarters, Harney County, May 11, 2024. Details and photos by Tim Johnson, Peter Olsoy, Sally Works, and Richard Rusnak.



This Blue-winged Warbler at Chetco Point, Brookings, was Oregon's fifth record, and the first in 19 years. *Photo by Ryan Terrill.*



This Lucy's Warbler at Ft. Stevens, Clatsop County, was Oregon's fourth record. *Photo by Diana Byrne.*



This Black-throated Green Warbler popped up in Burns, Harney County. *Photo by John Works.*

Orchard Oriole OROR-2023-28

Frenchglen, Harney County, Sep 2, 2023. Details and photos by Elliott Bury.

Common Grackle COGR-2023-49

At 45.26758, -117.92200, along Hawkins Road and along Godley Road near La Grande, Union County, Dec 4, 2023–Jan 7, 2024. Details and photos by Russ Morgan and Trent Bray. Photos by Nolan Clements.

Blue-winged Warbler BWWA-2024-08

Chetco Point, Brookings, Curry County, Sep 6-7, 2024. Details by Tim Rodenkirk. Details and photos by Ryan Terrill.

Prothonotary Warbler PROW-2023-13

At 42.0060954, -124.2116424, Winchuck River mouth, Curry County, Oct 28, 2023. Details by Tim Rodenkirk.

Prothonotary Warbler PROW-2024-14

Summer Lake Rest Area, Lake County, May 30, 2024. Details and photos by Angie Anderson.

Prothonotary Warbler PROW-2024-15

North Spit of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oct 3, 2024. Details by Tim Rodenkirk. Details and photos by David Hargreaves.

Lucy's Warbler LUWA-2022-04

At 46.19881, -123.96294, near Fort Stevens Historic Area, Clatsop County Dec 18-19, 2022. Details and photos by Diana Byrne.

Virginia's Warbler VIWA-2023-22

At 42.0500134, -124.2923497, Brookings, Curry County, Nov 27, 2023. Details by Tim Rodenkirk.

Virginia's Warbler VIWA-2024-24

Neptune Beach State Park South, Lane County, Oct 23, 2024. Details by Sally Hill and Miles Scheuering. Photos by Tye Jeske.

Bay-breasted Warbler BBWA-2023-16

Malheur NWR Headquarters, Harney County, Sep 17-25, 2023. Details and photos by Pat Lucas, Jeff Nordstrom, Brendan Bucy, Peter Olsoy, and Aaron Beerman.

Blackburnian Warbler BLBW-2023-22

Bear Creek Greenway about one-half mile north of Central Point, Jackson County, Nov 11, 2023. Details and photos by Frank Lospalluto.



This museum specimen from Southern Oregon University of a Canada Warbler killed after striking a window in 1990 was brought to the Committee's attention and added to the official list of state records. *Photo by Ryan Terrill.*

Prairie Warbler PRAW-2021-20

Doyle Rock, Gold Beach, Curry County, Sep 7, 2021. Details and photos by Mick Bressler. Details by W. Michaelis.

Prairie Warbler PRAW-2024-21

Gold Beach, Curry County, Oct 1, 2024. Photos by Colby Neuman.

Black-throated Green Warbler BTNW-2024-18

Burns Fishing Pond just east of Burns, Harney County, Oct 19-20, 2024. Details and photos by John Works and Peter Olsoy.

Canada Warbler CAWA-1990-15

Gold Key Estates on the Rogue River, Jackson County, Sep 17, 1990. Museum specimen at Southern Oregon University. *Photo by Ryan Terrill.*

Summer Tanager SUTA-2023-38

Brookings, Curry County, Dec 8, 2023. Details and photos by Tim Rodenkirk.

Blue Grosbeak BLGR-2023-16

Wireless Road, Astoria, Clatsop County, Sep 6-7, 2023. Details and photos by Diana Byrne and Nolan Clements.



This female Painted Bunting near Waldport was the tenth accepted state record. *Photo by Jennifer Hayduk.*

Painted Bunting PABU-2024-11

Two miles east of Waldport, Lincoln County, Jan 21, 2024. Details and photos by Jennifer Hayduk.

Dickcissel DICK-2023-27

Marys Peak, Benton County, Nov 17, 2023. Audio file by W. Douglas Robinson.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

Chimney Swift CHSW-2023-07

Kiger Gorge, Steens Mountains, Harney County, Sep 6, 2023. The Committee felt that the photos and the video provided were not adequate to eliminate Vaux's Swift. The bird was not heard vocalizing.

"Vega" Herring Gull HERG-2023-09

Coffin Butte Landfill, Benton County, Nov 21, 2023. The Committee deemed that the photos of this bird and the written description were inadequate to establish the bird's identification. The bird was seen at some distance, which made high-quality photos difficult to obtain. Lighting conditions may have also been a factor.

Nuttall's Woodpecker NUWO-2024-04

Arlington, Gilliam County, Sep 22, 2024. The Committee judged that the photos were those of a Downy Woodpecker.

Plumbeous Vireo PLVI-2024-24

3.1 miles up Pike Creek, Harney County, May 26, 2024. The Committee concluded that the photos and audio files provided did not eliminate Cassin's Vireo.

Phainopepla PHAI-2022-15

Denman Wildlife Area, Jackson County, Aug 2, 2024. The Committee felt that the description was not detailed enough to eliminate other similar species.

Blue Rock-Thrush BRTS-2024-02

Seaside, Clatsop County, Jan 2024. The Committee felt that the description was incomplete and that it did not rule out other species.

Blue Rock-Thrush BRTS-2024-03

Roseburg, Douglas County, Mar 6, 2024. The Committee judged that the photo was that of a Western Bluebird.

Prothonotary Warbler PROW-2023-12

Hospital Hole trail, Tillamook, Tillamook County, Jun 18, 2023. The Committee thought that the description was not quite adequate to positively identify this bird as a Prothonotary Warbler. The Committee also felt that it would be quite improbable for a Prothonotary Warbler to perch atop a 30-foot-tall tree.

Kentucky Warbler KEWA-2024-07

Devils Elbow State Park, Lane County, Jul 8, 2024. The Committee concluded that the description was not adequate to eliminate similar species.

Details regarding these records, as well as all other records and activities of the Oregon Bird Records Committee, can be found at the OBRC's webpage: www.oregonbirding.org/oregon-bird-records-committee/.