

Your name

Sylvia Maulding

Email

sylviaspfd@gmail.com

Bird identification

Common Grackle, one female

Date(s)

May 24, 2003

Time of Day

don't have the time of day in my notes.

Location

Harney County, Malheur area. Duncan's feeder at the Field Station. bird was reported by others and seen by many birders.

Details

small grackle, much smaller than Great-tailed Grackle, feeding on ground under feeder with other blackbirds.. Female bird of the bronze type. pale eye. New state bird got me.

Similar Species

Not a Great-tailed Grackle which is much larger with longer keel tail

Common Grackle

May 25, 2003

Malheur NWR Field Station, Harney Co.

At refuge headquarters I learned that a female Common Grackle was reported visiting the feeders at Duncan's home. I drove by with family and observed it briefly in a big flock of blackbirds. I remember it was larger than Red-winged Blackbirds when it flew over, with ample tail, but I took no notes. Reported in Oregon Birds 29(3)171: "1 female. Malheur Field Station, HARN, 24-25 May (Duncan Everud, many observers)."

From: Greg Gillson <greggillson@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: 4 records
Date: February 11, 2019 at 6:37:30 PM PST
To: Treesa Hertzal <autumn207@comcast.net>

Treesa,

With the knowledge that even unaccepted records may be useful, here are official submissions to the OBRC.

Plumbeous Vireo

May 28, 1994

Fields Oasis, Harney Co.

This was the Eastern Wood-Pewee weekend; all the birders in Oregon were there (Nehls, Gilligan, Contreras as I remember). Camped at Page Springs with family. As for this bird at Fields, I think I was told by others that it was there. However, I took no notes and have no specific recollection of this bird or exactly where it was.

Identification poorly known at the time and this was considered "just" a subspecies.

Baltimore Oriole

May 29, 2000

Fields, Harney Co.

I believe that Matraiya (spelling?) had been seeing this bird in town all week. He lived there then, I think. He directed me to the tall cottonwoods amid town. If my faulty memory is correct I may have watched it fly across the street into the oasis. My notes from the time: "Female: orange chin, throat, under tail coverts. Pale belly. Back striped with black or olive. Two white wing bars."

Plumbeous Vireo

May 30, 2000

Cottonwood Creek, Harney Co.

I believe I was birding solo this week, so single-person sighting. My notes from the time: "No green. Harsh song."

Common Grackle

May 25, 2003

Malheur NWR Field Station, Harney Co.

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winged Blackbirds when it flew over, with ample tail, but I took no notes. Reported in Oregon Birds 29(3)171: "1 female. Malheur Field Station, HARN, 24-25 May (Duncan Everud, many observers)."

Greg Gillson
greggillson@gmail.com
2250 North Broadway SPC 6
Escondido, California 92026
503-680-2405

From: [Treesa Hertzell](#) **Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 1:22 PM **To:** [Greg Gillson](#) **Subject:** Re: 4 records

I know, and they might not be accepted, but we have to try. They look like solid records to me. 😊 Thank you.

On Feb 11, 2019, at 1:16 PM, Greg Gillson <greggillson@gmail.com> wrote:

I'll try to write up something, but 3 of those were non-reviewed subspecies at the time, so no detailed notes were taken.

Greg

On Mon, Feb 11, 2019, 11:49 AM Treesa Hertzell <Autumn207@comcast.net> wrote:

Greg,

I am looking through eBird for rare birds that were not also submitted to OBRC, and I found the four below, which you included in your checklists. Would you submit them now? I am trying to fill in holes in the OBRC archives, and

would appreciate it. You can use the online form at <https://oregonbirding.org> or just email me back. Thank you. —

Treesa

PLUMBEOUS VIREO

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S15640155>

PLUMBEOUS VIREO

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S12503900>

Note says this was not submitted to OBRC

BALTIMORE ORIOLE

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S12503715>

COMMON GRACKLE

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S12524658>

Your name

Hendrik Herlyn

Email

hhactitis@yahoo.com

Bird identification

Common Grackle (bronzed form), female

Date(s)

May 24, 2003

Time of Day

7:30 pm

Location

Malheur Field Station, at Duncan Evered's feeder

Lighting and Weather Conditions

no info

Details

Went looking for the previously reported Common Grackle at Duncan and Leila's feeder. Numerous other birders were present, as well. We watched the feeder for a while, which was visited by many Brown-headed Cowbirds, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, and a few Red-winged and Brewer's Blackbirds. After a while, the Common Grackle appeared and was seen for several minutes at rather close range, feeding among the other blackbirds.

Typical blackbird shape with long, keeled tail and rather long and heavy, slightly down-curved bill. Clearly larger than any of the other blackbirds around, but not nearly as big as a Great-tailed Grackle. Dark blackish-brown body with just a hint of iridescence, dark wings and tail. Head and neck bluish-black, pale yellow eye. Don't remember any vocalizations.

Similar Species

Clearly larger than otherwise similar Brewer's Blackbird, with obviously keel-shaped tail and much heavier bill. The two-toned appearance (bluish head, brownish body) also distinguished it from BRBL.

A female Great-tailed Grackle would be mostly brown with a contrasting pale supercilium, much larger, and with a longer tail. GTGR male much larger, with a huge tail and bill, and lacking the bronzy-brown body.

Anything else you want to add?

No photos taken.



CHECKLIST S14788060



Sat 24 May 2003 7:30 PM

Malheur NWR--Field Station Harney County, Oregon, United States

Hendrik Herlyn

Incidental Complete 4

5 Species observed

X [Yellow-headed Blackbird](#)

X [Red-winged Blackbird](#)

X [Brown-headed Cowbird](#)

X [Brewer's Blackbird](#)

1 [Common Grackle](#)

relocated the previously reported bird in a mixed blackbird flock at Duncan's feeder; clearly larger than Brewer's Blackbird, with a long, keeled tail, blackish-brown body and purplish-blue head, pale eye



Checklist S12524658



Location

Malheur NWR--Field Station, Harney County, Oregon, US ([Map](#)) ([Hotspot](#))

Date and Effort

Sun May 25, 2003

Protocol: Incidental

Party Size: N/A

Observers: [Greg Gillson](#)

Comments: N/A

Species

2 species total

[Hide Media](#)

1 Common Grackle

Seen and photographed by others. Not sure why no OBRC record. Oregon Birds 29(3):171 "1 female, Malheur Field Station, HARN, 24-25 May (Duncan Everud, many observers)."