

<b>Your name:</b>	Roger Robb
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:brrobb@comcast.net">brrobb@comcast.net</a>
<b>Bird identification:</b>	Le Conte's Sparrow One adult
<b>Date(s):</b>	May 20, 2017
<b>Time of Day:</b>	7:30AM
<b>Location:</b>	Fern Ridge Wildlife Area, Lane County, OR  The bird was found adjacent to the observation platform west of the Royal Avenue parking lot. The area around the tower is wet marsh with scrubby willows and tall grasses.
<b>Lighting and Weather Conditions:</b>	The morning was overcast, calm & 52 degrees.
<b>Details:</b>	I was on the observation platform and watched the sparrow leave the marshy edge and feed in the open for about 10 seconds before returning to the marsh. From above I could see the broad, black crown stripe and a thin white stripe in the center of the black stripe. The face was orange with a gray cheek patch and a strong, orange supercilium. The flanks were ocher/buff with heavy, dark streaks. The back was streaked black and brown. I did not notice a collar, nor did I see the underparts of the bird. The general impression of this bird was a small sparrow with a short tail. The bird was silent. I spent an hour waiting for the bird to re-appear with no success. Others looked for the bird as did I later this morning with no luck. I did not manage to take a photo.
<b>Similar Species:</b>	Nelson's Sparrow is very similar, but I did not see a gray collar and the median stripe on the head was white, not gray.  Grasshopper Sparrow has a black crown stripe and white median stripe, but lacks the orange supercilium and streaking on the flanks.
<b>Anything else you want to add?:</b>	I have seen Le Conte's Sparrow several times, both on its breeding ground in North Dakota and wintering on the Gulf coast of Texas.  The bird was observed looking down from the tower at a distance of apx 30 feet using Swarovski EL 10 x 42 binoculars.
<b>Submitted On:</b>	2017-05-21 00:00:23
<b>IP Address:</b>	67.171.204.185