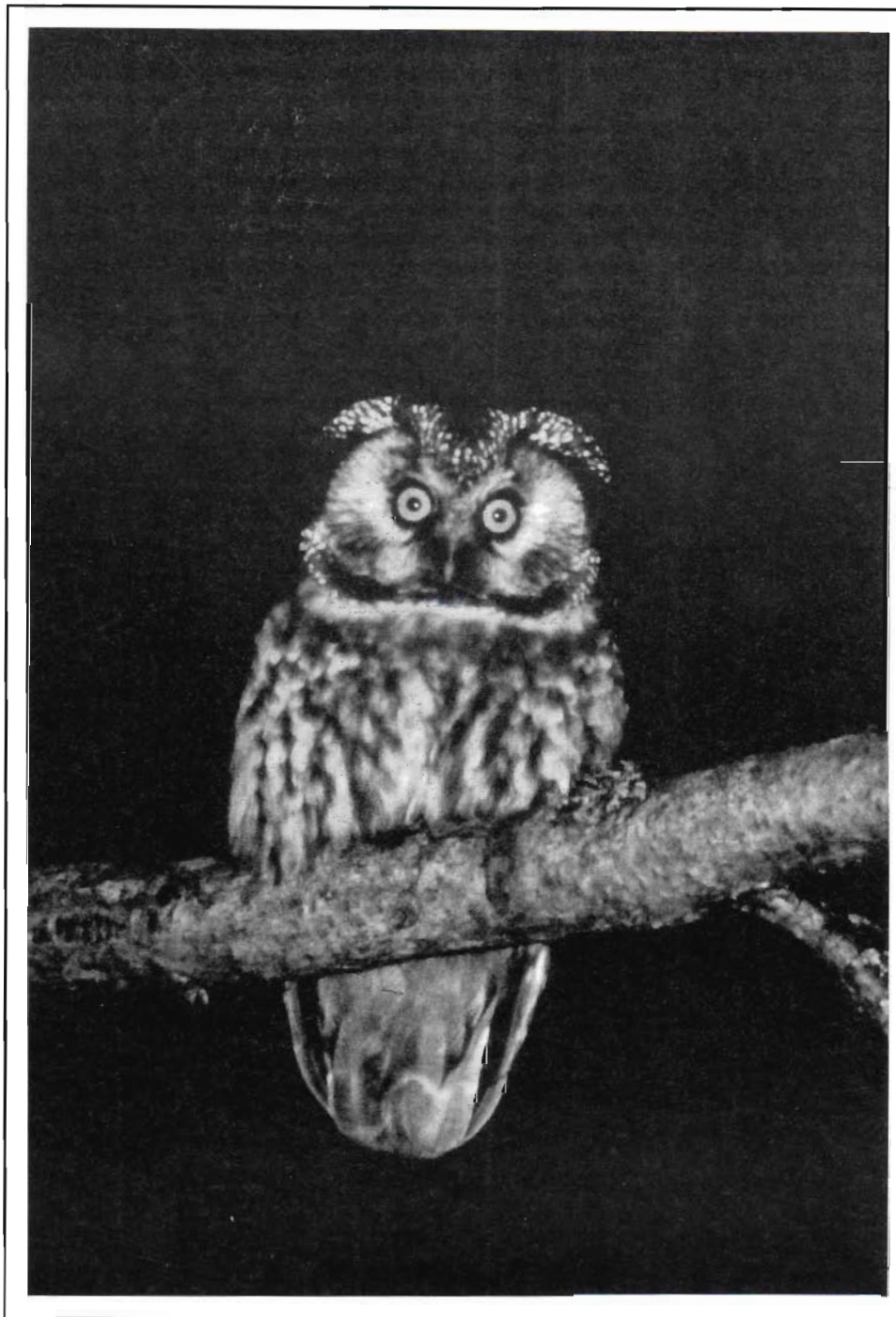


Oregon Birds

The quarterly journal of Oregon field ornithology

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Boreal Owl. Photo/David Herr.

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Breeding Season Observations of Great Gray Owls on the Willamette National Forest, Oregon

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Introduction

The Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) is considered rare or uncommon throughout its range in Oregon. The species is listed as "vulnerable" on the state Sensitive Species List (ODFW 1991). Great Gray Owls are assumed to be declining because of loss of nesting sites. In Oregon, Great Gray Owl pairs nested on stick platforms built by Northern Goshawks (*Accipter gentilis*) or Red-tailed Hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*), natural platforms formed by dwarf mistletoe (*Arceuthobium* spp.) infections, and broken-topped dead trees (Bryan and Forsman 1987, Bull *et al.* 1988). Nesting habitat was described as mature or old-growth forest. Dense stands with leaning trees and downed woody material were important habitat components for juveniles (Bull *et al.* 1988). Foraging occurred mainly in deep-soiled meadows or open forest stands, including partially-logged stands (Bryan and Forsman 1987, Bull and Henjum 1990).

The range of this species in Oregon has included the south-central portions of the Cascade Mountains and the Blue Mountain region of northeastern Oregon. Historical records exist for the Willamette Valley. Since 1978, Great Gray Owls have been reported on the west slope of the Cascade Mountains on the Willamette National Forest (Figure 1). These observations were considered rare or accidental and there was no evidence of a breeding population until 1990 when a nest was located during a logging operation on the McKenzie Ranger District.

Between March and June 1991, we surveyed an area of the Willamette National Forest for Great Gray Owls. Our objectives were to determine presence and abundance of this species and to describe nesting habitat so that informed land management decisions could be made.

Study area

Selection of the study area was based on past Great Gray Owl observations and access during early spring snow conditions. The area, 46 km² on the McKenzie Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest, encompassed 15 historic observations including 1 known and 1 probable nest site. The area was located in northeastern Lane County and southeastern Linn County, between the west boundary of the Mount Washington Wilderness Area and Highway 126, north of Highway 242. It was mature mixed-conifer forest dominated by Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). Timber harvest units were interspersed throughout the area; approximately 45 percent had been harvested. Elevation ranged from 600-1350 m.

Methods

Surveys were conducted between sunset and midnight from 25 March to 19 April 1991, when owls were most responsive (Bryan and Forsman 1987, Bull and Henjum 1990). We walked along roads and perimeters of timber harvest units in suitable habitat, stopping at intervals of 2-5 min. to imitate the 6- to 12-note territorial call of the male Great Gray Owl. We imitated the owl vocally and with tape recordings.

We assumed that imitated broadcasts and detections of owls extended 400 m on each side of the walking routes. With very few exceptions, routes were

walked only once, although there was some overlap between survey routes.

Nest searches were conducted from 25 March-18 June, during the day in areas where owl responses were elicited. The area within a 50 ha (400-m radius) circular plot centered on owl responses was searched for owls, nests, pellets and/or whitewash (Bull and Henjum 1990). Bull and Henjum (1990) reported most nests were located within 30-250 meters of where an owl was heard at night. We "hooted" periodically throughout the day to elicit responses, thereby aiding in nest location. Early evening hours were occasionally spent in nearby foraging areas in an attempt to locate nests by observing prey captures and deliveries to nests.

Nests were visited weekly to determine status and collect pellets. Pellet contents were analyzed to determine the diet of nesting females and juveniles. Skulls and jaws were identified by use of keys (Maser and Storm 1970, Verts and Carraway 1984) while leg bones and incomplete skull pieces were identified by comparison with museum skeletons.

Habitat was measured at nests and within a 0.1-ha (18 m radius) circular plot centered on the nest tree. We measured all variables in Table 1. Percent area in forest, clearcut, and shelterwood within a 50 ha (400 m radius) circular plot of nests and owl response sites was described from aerial photos (scale 1:12,000) measured with a planimeter (Tables 1 and 2). Edge was measured as a linear distance

between timber harvest units and forests. All habitat measurements were based on Bull *et al.* (1988).

Results

Nineteen observer nights were spent surveying for Great Gray Owls on the study area. Eighty-two kilometers were walked and 46 km² were surveyed by calling. Twelve sites with past records of Great Gray Owls were surveyed; 75 percent were occupied by Great Gray Owls. Sixteen Great Gray Owls responded during night surveys: 6 pairs and 4 single males (Table 3). Six Great Gray Owls were located during day searches, 2 in areas which had not been surveyed at night. In addition, 4 other owl species were detected during Great Gray Owl surveys (Table 3).

Two nests were located on 1 May; both females were incubating eggs. Both nests fledged 1 juvenile: Nest 1 on 21 June and Nest 2 between 5 and 12 June. A nest discovered in 1990 during a logging operation fledged 1 juvenile in mid-July 1990 (N. Barrett, wildlife biologist, Blue River Ranger District, pers. comm., 1991).

All 3 nests were located in the broken top of dead Douglas-fir trees. Nest trees were 90, 106, and 128 cm diameter at breast height (dbh) and 10.4, 21.3, and 31.9 m in height (Table 1). All nests occurred in Douglas-fir mixed-conifer forest on west-facing slopes of 5-10 percent gradient. Logging had occurred within 200 m of all nests.

Table 1. Habitat measurements of three Great Gray Owl nest sites on the study area, Willamette National Forest, 1990 and 1991.

| MEASUREMENT | NEST 1 | NEST 2 | NEST 3 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tree height(m) | 32 | 10 | 21 |
| Nest height(m) | 32 | 9 | 21 |
| Diameter(dbh)(cm) | 106 | 128 | 90 |
| Snags | | | |
| Decay Class | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Bark | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Branches | some | some | none |
| Slope(%) | 5% | 5% | 10% |
| Aspect | 230(SW) | 280(W) | 265(W) |
| Elevation(m) | 1035 | 912 | 1056 |
| Within 18 m circular plot (0.1 ha) | | | |
| Forest type | Douglas-fir | Douglas-fir | Douglas-fir |
| Density | dense | open | edge |
| Stand layers | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Canopy closure (%) | 65 | 40 | 25 |
| Logging status | undisturbed | thinned | cut edge |
| Live trees >50cm | 9 | 11 | 3 |
| Dead trees >50cm | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Live trees <50cm | 21 | 5 | 1 |
| Dead trees <50cm | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Leaning trees >10cm | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Leaning trees <10cm | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Mistletoe | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Regeneration | 184 | 350 | 245 |
| Within 400 m circular plot (50 ha) (measured using aerial photos and planimeter) | | | |
| Clearcut <10 yrs(ha)(%) | 76 (26) | 52 (17) | 30 (10) |
| Seed orchard | 31 (10) | 0 | 0 |
| Clearcut >10 yrs(ha) | 76 (26) | 0 | 24 (8) |
| Shelterwood | | | |
| (25-50 trees/ha) | 0 | 0 | 108 (36) |
| Forest(ha) | 115 (38) | 249 (83) | 134 (45) |
| Forest/opening edge(km) | 2.2 | 1.2 | 0.9 |
| Distance to harvest(m) | 30 | 195 | 0 |
| Distance to road(m) | 365 | 130 | 120 |

Canopy cover at the nests varied from 25, 40, and 65 percent, with each nest stand having 3 canopy layers. Stem density varied between nest stands with density of live trees <50 cm ranging from 1-21 trees/0.1 ha and >50 cm 3-11 trees/0.1 ha. Densities of dead trees ranged from 1-4 stems/0.1 ha. A range of 185-350 regeneration stems/0.1 ha were recorded.

The proportions of forested area within 50 ha surrounding the nest trees were 38, 45, and 83 percent. Timber harvest units at Nest 1 site were less than 10 years of age (17 percent of area). Timber harvest units at Nest 2 and Nest 3 sites were less than 10 years old (36 and 47 percent of area, respectively) and 10 years old or greater (26 and 8 percent of area, respectively). The amount of edge between forest and openings ranged from 0.93, 1.23, and 2.22 km. None of the areas contained any natural openings.

Nighttime response sites included 42-78 percent forested habitat within a 400-m radius (Table 2). A range of 5-32 percent of the areas was harvested less than 10 years ago. The amount of linear edge between forest and openings ranged

from 1.46-3.23 km. Natural openings were not present at any of the nighttime response sites, however, the 2 additional daytime responses were located within natural meadow systems in and near the Mount Washington Wilderness Area.

Thirty-three pellets and 13 groupings of pellet fragments were collected from the nest sites located in 1991. One

hundred and six individual prey items were identified consisting of 13 mammalian species (Table 4). The western pocket gopher (*Thomomys mazama*) comprised 61 percent of the prey items and 74 percent of the (estimated) total prey biomass. The Townsend's chipmunk (*Tamias townsendii*) comprised 13 percent of the prey items and 15 percent of biomass.

Discussion

This study has documented the presence of a breeding population of Great Gray Owls on the Willamette National Forest. In addition to the 3 successful nests reported, a juvenile response (begging call) was heard in 1990 by R. Goggans. Further, owl behavior during this study suggested additional nesting attempts occurred. At each of 2 sites where a pair was detected, a female was observed 3 and 7 weeks later foraging alone during the day. During the second observation, both female owls begged frequently and were observed 2-3 hours, thereby indicating that nesting was not occurring. Nesting female owls that have been abandoned by their mates may behave this way (E. Bull, wildlife biologist, USDA Forest Service Forest and Range Sciences Lab, pers. comm., 1991).

Nest productivity in our study was much smaller than in other reported studies, with 1.0 owlets fledging per successful nest. Mean brood size in the western United States ranged from 2.3-3.0 (Franklin 1988, Bull *et al.* 1989b). Mikkola (1983) reported a mean brood size of 2.4 in Finland.

Territorial responses, an indicator of pair presence, reached densities as high as 5/10 km² in this study. This population is probably underestimated because we generally walked each survey route only

Table 2. Timber harvest conditions within a 400-m radius of 7 Great Gray Owl response sites on the study area, Willamette National Forest, 1991.

| RESPONSE TYPE | FORESTED % | CLEARCUT <10YRS % | CLEARCUT 10+YRS % | SHELTER-WOOD % | EDGE km |
|---------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------|
| Pair | 63 | 24 | 10 | 3 | 1.5 |
| Male | 78 | 22 | — | — | 1.9 |
| Male | 77 | — | 5 | 18 | 1.9 |
| Male | 70 | 21 | 9 | — | 2.2 |
| Male | 59 | 32 | 9 | — | 2.6 |
| Pair | | | | | |
| male | 42 | 19 | 38 | — | 3.2 |
| female | 54 | 5 | 41 | — | 1.8 |
| Pair | | | | | |
| male | 53 | 23 | 24 | — | 2.8 |
| female | 76 | 13 | 11 | — | 1.7 |

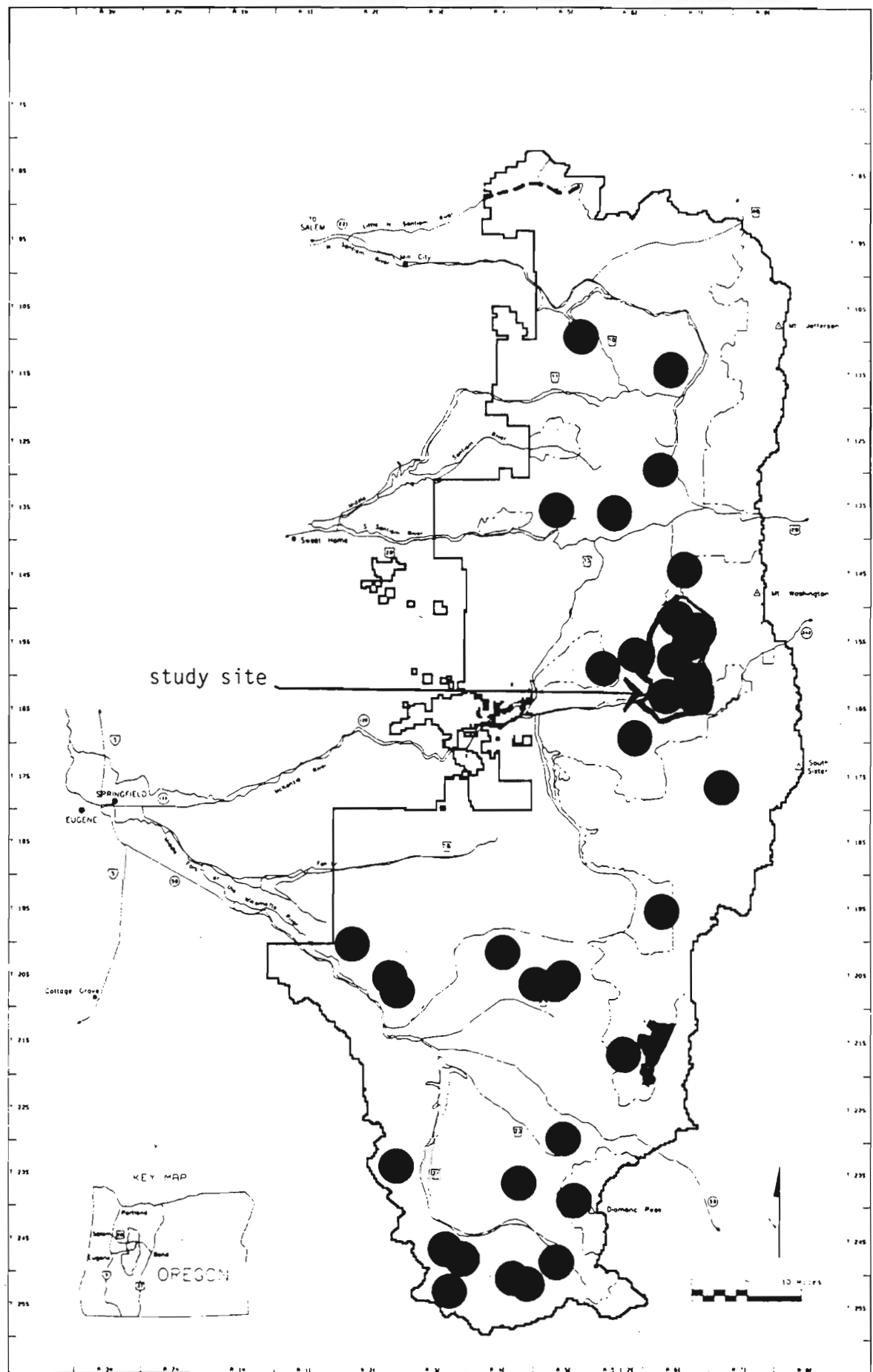


Figure 1. Great Gray Owl distribution on the Willamette National Forest.

Table 3. Date of detection of owls heard during Great Gray Owl nocturnal surveys on the study area, Willamette National Forest, 1991.

| DATE | SPECIES ¹ |
|------|-------------------------|
| 3/25 | Great Gray Owl (pair) |
| 3/25 | Great Gray Owl (1 male) |
| 3/25 | N. Spotted Owl |
| 3/25 | N. Pygmy Owl |
| 3/25 | N. Saw-whet Owl |
| 3/25 | N. Pygmy-Owl |
| 3/26 | Great Gray Owl (pair) |
| 3/26 | Great Gray Owl (pair) |
| 3/26 | Great Gray Owl (1 male) |
| 3/26 | Great Gray Owl (pair) |
| 3/26 | Great Horned Owl |
| 3/26 | N. Pygmy Owl |
| 3/26 | N. Pygmy Owl |
| 3/26 | N. Spotted Owl |
| 3/27 | Great Gray Owl (1 male) |
| 3/27 | N. Saw-whet Owl |
| 4/16 | Great Gray Owl (1 male) |
| 4/17 | Great Gray Owl (pair) |
| 4/17 | Great Gray Owl (pair) |
| 4/17 | Great Horned Owl |
| 4/17 | N. Saw-whet Owl |
| 4/19 | N. Saw-whet Owl |

¹ Scientific Names:

- Northern Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*)
- Northern Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*)
- Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*)
- Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*)

once. Bull and Henjum (1990) recommended surveying each site 3 times to ensure a response from resident owls. Densities in northeastern Oregon were 7 owl pairs/9.4km² and 5 pairs/2.9 km²; these densities were the highest reported throughout the range of the Great Gray Owl (Bull and Henjum 1990).

Prior to this study, the known breeding range of the Great Gray Owl in Oregon was limited to northeastern Oregon and the south-central Cascade Mountain Range. We have considered 2 hypotheses to explain this change in the documented breeding range. Since the 1980s, the USDA Forest Service has increased its biological staff. Concurrently, staff time on nocturnal owl surveys has increased, primarily in response to the changed legal status of the Northern Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*). These increases yielded more opportunity to document presence of Great Gray Owls. Another hypothesis is that current timber harvest practices are creating openings suitable for foraging in areas where natural openings were absent, thereby resulting in a range extension.

Habitat use by Great Gray Owls appears similar throughout its range in Oregon. In northeastern and south-central Oregon, mature and old-growth co-

niferous forests were the most commonly used nesting and roosting habitat (Bryan and Forsman 1988, Bull *et al.* 1988). In this study, Great Gray Owls were nesting in mature or remnant old-growth mixed-conifer forest. Nests were within 200 m of a timber harvest opening. Bryan and Forsman (1987) found each of 11 nest sites <300 m from the nearest meadow opening. Winter (1986, in Bull and Henjum 1990) found nests within 260 m of meadow openings in California.

Sizes of trees used for nests have been reported as 78 cm (Bull *et al.* 1988), 62.8 cm (Franklin 1987), and at least 60 cm dbh (Winter 1980) for broken-topped trees. Sizes of trees used for nests in this study averaged 108 cm dbh. Trees of this size occur only in mature forests at least 150-200 years of age (G. Oldham, reforestation technician, McKenzie Ranger District, pers. comm., 1991).

In Idaho, 60 percent of 15 nests were in shallow depressions on the tops of

broken dead trees and 40 percent were in old stick nests (Franklin 1988). In north-eastern Oregon, 54 percent of 46 nests were in stick platforms, 24 percent were artificial platforms, and 22 percent were natural depressions on dead broken-topped trees (Bull *et al.* 1988). Of the stick nests, 68 percent were old Northern Goshawk nests, 12 percent were old Red-tailed Hawk nests, and 20 percent were natural platforms created by dwarf mistle-toe infections. In this study, the 3 nests were in the top of broken dead trees. During nest searches, we located few stick platforms and observed a Northern Goshawk and a Red-tailed Hawk at only 1 site each, thus we believe the number of stick platforms was limited. In California, stick nests were not used by Great Gray Owls but it was not clear if this was preference by the owls or lack of stick nests (Winter 1980, 1981, 1982, 1985).

Bull *et al.* (1988) reported 72 percent of nests were in unlogged sites, and the

Table 4. Contents of Great Gray Owl pellets from two nest sites on Willamette National Forest, 1991.

| PREY SPECIES | NO. | % | MEAN WT. ¹ | BIOMASS | |
|--|-----|-------|-----------------------|------------------|-------|
| | | | | g | % |
| Western pocket gopher <i>Thomomys mazama</i> | 65 | 61.3 | 87 | 5655 | 73.6 |
| Townsend's chipmunk <i>Tamias townsendii</i> | 14 | 13.2 | 80 | 1120 | 14.6 |
| Creeping vole <i>Microtus oregoni</i> | 8 | 7.5 | 19 | 152 | 2.0 |
| Coast mole <i>Scapanus orarius</i> | 5 | 4.7 | 53 | 265 | 3.4 |
| Shrew-mole <i>Neurotrichus gibbsii</i> | 4 | 3.7 | 9 | 36 | 0.5 |
| Vagrant shrew <i>Sorex vagrans</i> | 2 | 1.9 | 5 | 10 | 0.1 |
| Trowbridge's shrew <i>Sorex trowbridgii</i> | 1 | 0.9 | 5 | 5 | 0.1 |
| Fog shrew <i>Sorex sonomae</i> | 1 | 0.9 | 12 | 12 | 0.2 |
| Douglas' squirrel <i>Tamiasciurus douglasii</i> | 1 | 0.9 | 208 | 208 | 2.7 |
| Northern flying squirrel <i>Glaucmys sabrinus</i> | 1 | 0.9 | 115 | 115 | 1.5 |
| Western red-backed vole <i>Clethrionomys californicus</i> | 1 | 0.9 | 23 | 23 | 0.3 |
| <i>Phenacomys</i> spp. ² | 1 | 0.9 | ~27 ⁴ | ~27 ⁴ | 0.3 |
| <i>Microtus</i> spp. ³ | 1 | 0.9 | ~60 ⁴ | ~60 ⁴ | 0.8 |
| Unknown | 1 | 0.9 | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 106 | 100.0 | — | 7788 | 100.0 |

¹ Figures based on Forsman *et al.* (1984).

² Identifying parts of skull were missing, but specimen seems most like white-footed vole (*Phenacomys albipes*).

³ *Microtus* spp. identified as not being creeping vole (*Microtus oregoni*). Based on location of owl foraging area, specimen likely Townsend's vole (*Microtus townsendii*) or long-tailed vole (*Microtus longicaudus*).

⁴ Figures are estimates based on mean weight ranges for different species within these genera.

Table 5. Number and percent frequency of prey in diets of Great Gray Owls on the study site and other areas.

| Prey Item | West Cascades No. (%) | Fenno-Scandia ¹ No. (%) | NE Oregon ² No. (%) | Idaho and Wyoming ³ No. (%) | California ⁴ No. (%) |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Pocket gopher (<i>Thomomys</i> spp.) | 61 (73) | 0 | 29 (67) | 58 (69) | 59 (80)(1980) 24 (49)(1981) |
| Chipmunk (<i>Tamias</i> spp.) | 14 (15) | 0 | 1 (1) | 0 | — |
| Vole (<i>Microtus</i> spp.) | 8 (2) | 74 | 52 (28) | 34 (24) | 32 (16)(1980) 45 (26)(1981) |
| Mole (<i>Scapanus</i> spp.) | 5 (3) | 0 | <1 (0) | 0 | 3 (3) |
| Shrew-mole (<i>Neurotrichus gibbsii</i>) | 4 (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Shrew (<i>Sorex</i> spp.) | 5 (1) | 5 | 2 (0) | 1 (0) | <1 (0) |
| Vole (<i>Clethrionomys</i> spp.) | 1 (0) | 16 | 14 (2) | <1 (0) | 0 |
| Squirrel (<i>Tamiasciurus</i> spp.) | 1 (3) | 0 | <1 (0) | <1 (2) | <1 (1) |
| Flying squirrel (<i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i>) | 1 (2) | 0 | <1 (1) | 0 | 0 |

¹ Mikkola (1983)

² Bull *et al.* (1989)

³ Franklin (1987)

⁴ Winter (1982)

were the dominant prey in Idaho and Wyoming (Franklin 1988), California (Winter, 1981; S. Morgan, wildlife biologist, Groveland RD, Stanislaus National Forest, pers. comm., 1991) and northeastern Oregon (Bull *et al.* 1989a) (Table 5). Pocket gophers were the most frequent prey in this study (61 percent) but voles were only 8 percent of the sample. Chipmunks were a minor dietary component in other studies but were the second most common prey found in our sample. However, 80 percent of chipmunk occurrences in our sample were from 1 site (Table 6).

Most frequent prey species identified in this study primarily used open habitats (Maser *et al.* 1981). We suspect that Great Gray Owls were foraging in timber harvest units because these were the only openings in the study area. Pocket gophers (*Thomomys* spp.) were found to increase in the diet proportionally to the number of clearcuts near nest sites (Franklin 1988). The creeping vole (*Microtus oregoni*), the most frequent vole prey item in our sample, was more abundant in clearcuts than in virgin forest (Gashwiler 1972, Maser *et al.* 1981). The Townsend's chipmunk (*Tamias townsendii*), the second most common

range of openings (natural and clearcut) in the nesting area was 18-26 percent. In this study, openings (clearcut and shelterwood only) ranged from 17-62 percent. Though viable foraging habitat now, clearcuts and shelterwoods will close up in time, resulting in a loss of foraging habitat. If current timber harvest levels persist, the acreage of openings will continue to increase, providing temporary forage habitat. However, mature forest habitat necessary to Great Gray Owl nesting will decrease, probably leading to a decline in numbers of Great Gray Owls. Groves and Zehntner (1990) hypothesized that intensive clearcutting in previously uniform stands of lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) may have opened up foraging habitat for Great Gray Owls in Idaho resulting in a temporary increase in Great Gray Owl populations during Franklin's (1987) study in 1980-83. Subsequent timber harvest continued to increase available foraging habitat, but decreased nesting habitat, thereby resulting in a decrease in Great Gray Owl populations.

Diet in this study was similar to other reports in relative importance of pocket gophers but differed in frequency of chipmunks (*Tamias* spp.) and voles (*Microtus*, *Phenacomys*, and *Clethrionomys* spp.). Pocket gophers (*Thomomys* spp.) and voles (*Microtus* spp.)

Table 6. Comparison of number and percent of prey items between two nest sites on the study area, Willamette National Forest, 1991.

| PREY SPECIES | TOTAL NO. | NEST 1 NO. (%) | NEST 2 NO. (%) |
|--|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| Western pocket gopher <i>Thomomys mazama</i> | 65 | 27 (41.5) | 38 (58.5) |
| Townsend's chipmunk <i>Tamias townsendii</i> | 14 | 2 (14.3) | 12 (85.7) |
| Creeping vole <i>Microtus oregoni</i> | 8 | 3 (37.5) | 5 (62.5) |
| Coast mole <i>Scapanus orarius</i> | 5 | 2 (40.0) | 3 (60.0) |
| Shrew-mole <i>Neurotrichus gibbsii</i> | 4 | 3 (75.0) | 1 (25.0) |
| Vagrant shrew <i>Sorex vagrans</i> | 2 | 2 (100.0) | 0 |
| Trowbridge's shrew <i>Sorex trowbridgii</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 (100.0) |
| Fog shrew <i>Sorex sonomae</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 (100.0) |
| Douglas' squirrel <i>Tamiasciurus douglasii</i> | 1 | 1 (100.0) | 0 |
| Northern flying squirrel <i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 (100.0) |
| Western red-backed vole <i>Clethrionomys californicus</i> | 1 | 0 | 1 (100.0) |
| <i>Phenacomys</i> spp. | 1 | 1 (100.0) | 0 |
| <i>Microtus</i> spp. | 1 | 1 (100.0) | 0 |

*Note: Nest 1 pellets were 40% of the sample, Nest 2 pellets were 60% of the sample.

prey in our sample, was found in open, forested, and riparian habitats (Maser *et al.* 1981) and was observed frequently utilizing down wood in timber harvest units.

Bull *et al.* (1989a) reported that prey delivered to nests by male owls was larger than prey consumed by males. Because this analysis included only pellets collected at the nest site, our prey sample represented what the male fed the female and juveniles.

Great Gray Owls are established on the west side of the Cascades. Recent forest practices may be responsible for the expansion of its range into areas where few natural openings existed previously. Continued timber harvest at or near current levels may threaten long-term habitat suitability in the study area because nesting habitat will decline. Additional studies are needed to describe nesting and foraging habitat requirements and preferences, determine productivity of this population, and develop potential management strategies.

Management recommendations

Habitat for the Great Gray Owl can be provided within a managed landscape with suitable planning. The species seems to occur in local concentrations thus management efforts can be site selective (Bull and Henjum 1990). Timber harvest units provide foraging habitat if juxtaposed with suitable nesting habitat: that is, forest stands open enough for flight by a large bird with canopy closure adequate for concealment and shade at nests and suitable nesting platforms. The species is desirable in timber producing areas because an individual owl consumes approximately 128 gm/day of food; this is the equivalent of 4 voles or 2 pocket gophers daily (1400 voles/year).

Habitat protection

According to the Willamette National Forest Land and Resource Plan (FW-133), all raptor nest and roost sites shall be protected. To protect nest sites, there should be no timber harvest in a primary zone extending an average of 500 ft. from the nest site. This would result in approximately 18 acres of habitat to be reserved. Selection of boundaries for this reserve habitat should be site-specific, to provide the most mature/old growth forest.

A secondary protection zone up to 1000+ ft. from the nest site should be added in areas of significant disturbance, where timing and duration of operations should be restricted (FW-133). For this

population of Great Gray Owls we recommend seasonal restrictions of 1 March-1 September. Fledging has occurred as late as 15 July in this population; juveniles are flightless at fledging thus are extremely susceptible to predation. Protection of the nest stand is critical for juvenile survival because fledglings remain near the nest site for several weeks to months.

Great Gray Owl nest sites were difficult to locate. Because most nests were within 250 m of response sites (Bull and Henjum 1990, this study), we recommend habitat protection be established at sites where Great Gray Owl pairs have given territorial calls during the breeding season. Primary and secondary protection zones should be the same as at nest sites. This strategy will help maintain a viable population of Great Gray Owls on the Willamette National Forest and is similar to current management strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl.

In timber harvest units, guidelines for wildlife trees on the Willamette National Forest which recommend that live green trees retained for future replacement snag habitat be greater than 45 cm dbh (Willamette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, FW-128) are adequate. Because Great Gray Owls have nested in areas with partial removal of the overstory (Bull and Henjum



Great Gray Owl. Photo/Tom Crabtree.

1990) and because potential nest structures appeared limited in the study area, we recommend retention of all dead trees >60 cm dbh and trees with stick nests or dwarf mistletoe clumps in timber harvest units. These potential nest sites will be more effective if a fairly dense overstory (>60 percent canopy closure over approximately 0.2 ha) is retained immediately adjacent to the site to provide shade and concealment from predators. Retain scattered trees throughout units for foraging perches and ensure protection of these during burning. Bull

and Henjum (1990) recommended retention of trees as low as 3 m in height, or trees with branches low to the ground, spaced at 20 m, and protect down woody material and logs in harvested units to provide habitat for prey species.

To maintain prey populations, restrict burning within the breeding season and protect logs and downed woody material during burns. Prohibit poison control for small mammals in areas occupied by Great Gray Owls during the breeding season. Maintain a diversity of habitats, especially within nesting areas, to maximize diversity of prey items year-round.

Habitat enhancement

We recommend placement of artificial nest structures in areas of recent and past timber harvest where nest availability has declined. Artificial nest platforms have been successfully used by Great Gray Owls (Bull *et al.*, 1987). In addition, artificial perches can be placed in clearcuts and meadows near known owl habitat where natural perches are limited. We also recommend the maintenance of existing natural meadows.

Monitoring

Locating and protecting response and nest stands occupied by Great Gray Owls may be an efficient management tool to maintain a viable population of Great Gray Owls on the Willamette National Forest. We recommend that surveys to locate occupied areas be continued and that all areas with planned timber management activities be surveyed to determine occupancy by owls, using techniques and timing described in this report and Bull and Henjum (1990).

We recommend that changes in population size, particularly in response to timber harvest changes be monitored on the Willamette National Forest. To accomplish this efficiently, routes could be developed similar to spotted owl survey routes, whereby a series of selected occupied sites could be "called" annually from road stations.

Because production appeared to be lower in the study area than in northeastern Oregon, we recommend that population productivity be monitored. An efficient technique to sample productivity is to place artificial nest platforms in areas of known owl use and monitor production at these sites. Artificial platforms are readily used by Great Gray Owls (Bull and Henjum 1990), are easily monitored, and save time otherwise spent in exhaustive searches for natural nests.

Research needs

Determine minimum stand size used for nesting.

Determine ratio of forest to open habitat used for home ranges.

Continue to document nesting, foraging, roosting and fledgling habitat, population, production, and prey use.

Determine relationship between microtine fluctuations and Great Gray Owl production.

Examine impact managed ecosystems have on prey base diversity.

Examine winter habitat use.

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Source: *The Wildlife Society, Oregon Chapter Newsletter, Winter 1991*.

Southeastern Oregon

Trumpeter Swan Project

A second phase of Oregon's plan for enhancing Trumpeter Swans is well underway with the translocation in November 1991 of 25 Trumpeter Swans from Harriman State Park in Idaho to the Summer Lake Wildlife Area. This action is a part of the distribution of wintering Rocky Mountain Population (RMP) Trumpeters from Harriman being conducted by Idaho Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These birds have been exposed to severe winter conditions and die-offs in the recent past.



Habitat along the Henry's Fork at Harriman has suffered from over-exploitation by wintering swans, and the potential for large scale die-offs due to starvation or disease is high. It is hoped the birds moved to Summer Lake will "remember" the route back next winter after they return to breeding areas in spring. Up to 100 birds are scheduled to be moved this season.

Marty St. Louis, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Summer Lake

1991 Oregon Listing Results

Steve Summers, P.O. Box 202, Silver Lake, OR 97638

Like last year, I received a large number of listing results. This should make interesting browsing for those who peruse this report.

As I mentioned in last year's report, I'm trying to make this listing game pay off in some significant way for Oregon's birds. My county mapping project is moving along and hopefully you will see some results before the end of the year. I received a good number of replies to my requests from selected top county birders. This got the mapping project on its feet and well on its way. Now I'd like to publish those results in a preliminary draft report, here in *Oregon Birds*, to open it up to all who want to contribute. Hopefully seeing the maps and some of the obvious inaccuracies will inspire many of you to send me your comments. As I receive more information I will then revise the maps. Then a final document will be published containing all the revised maps. The maps we've made so far look sharp and contain a lot of information at a glance, so stay tuned.

This year there was one new "100 county birder" added to the list. Walter Yungen joins a select group of Oregon's birders (Barbara Combs, Phillip Pickering, Dennis Rogers, and Linda Weiland) who have all seen 100 or more birds in every Oregon county. There was one new 200 county (Crook) and one new 300 county (Coos). Jim Johnson joined another select group of Oregon birders — those who have seen 400 or more species in the state. County year listing went well. County year lists were broken in 7 counties. There are only 2 counties left with year lists of less than 150 (Gilliam and Wheeler).

Totals marked with an asterisk (*) are previously-submitted totals because an updated total was not received this year. The only exception is for county year lists where an asterisk means a new county year list record high. Only totals of 375 or more for the state are carried through without an updated list. County totals are carried through from year to year only if they are still leading in a county.



Oregon State Lists (300)

437 Jeff Gilligan
 424 Tom Crabtree
 414 Richard Smith
 412 Owen Schmidt
 403 Jim Johnson
 *400 Dave Irons
 395 Donna Lusthoff
 395 Larry Thornburgh
 394 Joe Evanich
 394 Linda Weiland
 393 Phillip Pickering
 388 Jim Carlson
 388 Sheran Jones
 *387 Jan Krabbe
 *387 Rick Krabbe
 387 Pat Muller
 386 Steve Summers
 385 Steve Heint
 381 Alan Contreras
 381 Gerard Lillie
 381 Tom Mickel
 379 Judy Carlson
 376 Allison Mickel
 375 Karen Keamey
 373 Alan McGie
 372 Dennis Rogers
 371 Barbara Combs
 371 Jerry Keamey
 371 Paul Sullivan
 368 Tom Love
 366 Barb Bellin
 366 Craig Miller
 363 Clarice Watson
 361 Paul Sherrell
 360 Jack Corbett
 360 Tim Shelmerdine
 359 Mike Patterson
 358 David Anderson
 358 Craig Corder
 358 Walter Yungen
 357 Kamal Islam
 354 Merlin Eltzroth
 353 Elsie Eltzroth
 353 Ken Knittle
 350 Richard Palmer
 350 Tom Staudt
 349 Marion Corder
 348 Gerald Smith
 345 Ron Maertz
 344 Dave Copeland
 343 Hendrik Herlyn
 341 Don Pederson
 339 Marshall Beretta
 336 Eva Schultz
 333 Alice Parker
 333 Roger Robb
 332 Anthony Floyd
 330 Ben Fawver
 329 Richard Hoyer
 324 Greg Gillson
 323 Skip Russell
 320 Kathi Crabtree
 317 Paul Osburn
 316 Mike Denny
 316 Steve Dowlan

313 Ted Regler
 310 Scott Johnson
 309 Karen Theodore
 307 Judy Stevens
 304 Jamie Simmons
 303 Lewis Rems

Oregon Year Lists (250)

317 Steve Summers
 315 Hendrik Herlyn
 313 Dave Copeland
 312 Paul Sullivan
 310 Craig Corder
 308 Skip Russell
 304 Walter Yungen
 300 Judy Stevens
 298 Donna Lusthoff
 297 Paul Sherrell
 294 Tom Mickel
 290 Marion Corder
 289 Tom Crabtree
 289 Gerard Lillie
 288 Don Pederson
 288 Phillip Pickering
 287 Jim Johnson
 284 Ted Regler
 282 Allison Mickel
 280 Scott Johnson
 280 Tim Shelmerdine
 276 Jim Carlson
 274 Jack Corbett
 273 Tom Love
 268 Craig Miller
 267 Collin Dillingham
 261 Alan McGie
 257 Greg Gillson
 257 Ron Maertz
 255 Mike Denny
 254 Mike Patterson

Top Ten Oregon Year Lists

356 Phillip Pickering (1986)
 345 Donna Lusthoff (1987)
 344 Jeff Gilligan (1981)
 339 Linda Weiland (1985)
 334 Richard Smith (1981)
 333 Jim Johnson (1989)
 330 Donna Lusthoff (1985)
 330 Tom Mickel (1985)
 328 Barb Bellin (1983)
 326 Sheran Jones (1985)

1991 Oregon County Lists

Baker

*231 Ann Ward
 218 Craig Corder
 206 Marion Corder
 182 Paul Sullivan
 166 Joe Evanich
 124 Linda Weiland
 116 Walter Yungen
 114 Dennis Rogers
 110 Phillip Pickering
 108 Jamie Simmons
 107 Barbara Combs

Benton

*228 Jan Krabbe
 *228 Rick Krabbe
 216 Merlin Eltzroth
 214 Elsie Eltzroth
 193 Alan McGie
 184 Greg Gillson
 183 Anthony Floyd
 181 Hendrik Herfyn
 173 Roy Gerig
 172 Barb Bellin
 169 Scott Johnson
 152 Phillip Pickering
 149 Barbara Combs
 146 Clarice Watson
 145 Jack Corbett
 144 Mike Patterson
 144 Don Pederson
 142 Ted Regler
 141 Walter Yungen
 140 Jim Carlson
 137 Roger Robb
 135 Craig Corder
 134 Dennis Rogers
 133 Steve Heint
 133 Richard Palmer
 126 Joe Evanich
 123 Dave Copeland
 105 Eva Schultz
 104 Paul Osburn
 104 Linda Weiland

Clackamas

193 Phillip Pickering
 148 Steve Dowlan
 148 Tim Shelmerdine
 142 Donna Lusthoff
 134 Walter Yungen
 121 Tom Love
 115 Dennis Rogers
 112 Joe Evanich
 111 David Anderson
 110 Linda Weiland
 105 Barb Bellin
 104 Barbara Combs
 102 Jack Corbett
 100 Dave Copeland

Clatsop

272 Mike Patterson
 247 Phillip Pickering
 236 Joe Evanich
 222 Jim Johnson
 221 Tom Crabtree
 208 Donna Lusthoff
 206 Karen Kearney
 194 David Anderson
 193 Jerry Kearney
 190 Tim Shelmerdine
 190 Linda Weiland
 187 Greg Gillson
 184 Paul Sullivan
 182 Tom Love
 169 Walter Yungen
 165 Craig Corder
 164 Steve Heint
 164 Dennis Rogers
 160 Barb Bellin
 157 Barbara Combs
 156 Skip Russell
 153 Dave Copeland
 150 Anthony Floyd
 146 Scott Johnson
 143 Richard Palmer

140 Marion Corder
 140 Don Pederson
 137 Jim Carlson
 129 Craig Miller
 121 Hendrik Herfyn
 118 Clarice Watson
 101 Jack Corbett
 100 Judy Stevens

Columbia

214 Phillip Pickering
 185 Jim Johnson
 178 Joe Evanich
 138 Anthony Floyd
 136 Skip Russell
 131 Donna Lusthoff
 131 Linda Weiland
 129 Dennis Rogers
 129 Tim Shelmerdine
 126 Dave Copeland
 122 David Anderson
 121 Tom Love
 119 Greg Gillson
 114 Paul Sullivan
 109 Walter Yungen
 108 Barbara Combs
 106 Craig Corder

Coos

301 Larry Thornburg
 294 Ben Fawver
 284 Alan McGie
 225 Dennis Rogers
 218 Phillip Pickering
 216 Paul Sullivan
 215 Alan Contreras
 212 Steve Heint
 200 Alice Parker
 191 Jim Carlson
 191 Ron Maertz
 191 Walter Yungen
 190 Jim Johnson
 178 Dave Copeland
 178 Joe Evanich
 176 Barbara Combs
 175 Jack Corbett
 175 Hendrik Herfyn
 175 Donna Lusthoff
 174 Steve Summers
 173 Roger Robb
 166 Richard Palmer
 163 Barb Bellin
 163 Clarice Watson
 160 Scott Johnson
 155 Mike Patterson
 154 Tom Crabtree
 149 Merlin Eltzroth
 149 Paul Sherrell
 148 Elsie Eltzroth
 140 Don Pederson
 137 Mike Denny
 133 David Anderson
 132 Linda Weiland
 125 Eva Schultz
 122 Greg Gillson
 116 Ted Regler
 115 Tim Shelmerdine
 112 Craig Miller
 110 Collin Dillingham

Crook

205 Tom Crabtree
 196 Lewis Rems
 190 Craig Miller
 143 David Anderson

139 Linda Weiland
 132 Steve Summers
 131 Karen Theodore
 124 Walter Yungen
 123 Donna Lusthoff
 111 Barbara Combs
 111 Paul Sullivan
 109 Joe Evanich
 107 Dennis Rogers
 105 Jim Johnson
 104 Phillip Pickering
 101 Steve Heint

Curry

*279 Jim Rogers
 261 Dennis Rogers
 237 Collin Dillingham
 227 Steve Summers
 206 Jim Carlson
 205 Steve Heint
 183 Phillip Pickering
 179 Howard Sands
 167 Ray Ekstrom
 162 Scott Johnson
 147 Paul Sullivan
 142 Joe Evanich
 141 Alice Parker
 138 Barbara Combs
 128 Clarice Watson
 124 Jack Corbett
 123 Walter Yungen
 122 Linda Weiland
 120 Alan McGie
 115 Dave Copeland
 107 Tom Crabtree
 101 Mike Denny
 100 Mike Patterson

Deschutes

260 Tom Crabtree
 243 Craig Miller
 220 Lewis Rems
 196 Karen Throdore
 175 Steve Summers
 173 Donna Lusthoff
 171 Jim Carlson
 171 Greg Gillson
 168 Skip Russell
 162 Eva Schultz
 161 Walter Yungen
 160 Steve Heint
 158 Barb Bellin
 149 Dave Copeland
 146 Richard Palmer
 146 Paul Sullivan
 145 Joe Evanich
 138 Phillip Pickering
 137 Marion Corder
 136 Alan McGie
 133 Don Pederson
 133 Clarice Watson
 132 Hendrik Herfyn
 132 Linda Weiland
 129 Anthony Floyd
 127 Dennis Rogers
 127 Paul Sherrell
 125 Barbara Combs
 125 Craig Corder
 124 Roger Robb
 123 Scott Johnson
 122 Tom Love
 118 Jack Corbett
 116 Elsie Eltzroth
 116 Merlin Eltzroth

115 Jim Johnson
 108 Tim Shelmerdine
 105 David Anderson

Douglas

*292 Martha Sawyer
 277 Ron Maertz
 271 Ken Knittle
 262 Alice Parker
 235 Dennis Rogers
 227 Steve Heint
 210 Paul Sullivan
 194 Phillip Pickering
 194 Howard Sands
 174 Steve Summers
 164 Jim Carlson
 158 Barbara Combs
 146 Linda Weiland
 140 Tim Shelmerdine
 139 Jim Johnson
 135 Eva Schultz
 132 Donna Lusthoff
 131 Mike Patterson
 128 Walter Yungen
 116 Ray Ekstrom

Gilliam

156 Linda Weiland
 145 Phillip Pickering
 131 Craig Corder
 126 Roy Gerig
 107 Marion Corder
 107 Walter Yungen
 103 Barbara Combs
 102 Dennis Rogers

Grant

205 Paul Sullivan
 165 Walter Yungen
 152 Joe Evanich
 136 Steve Heint
 133 Mike Denny
 127 Donna Lusthoff
 122 Barbara Combs
 122 Linda Weiland
 118 Dennis Rogers
 116 Barb Bellin
 112 Alan McGie
 112 Phillip Pickering
 111 David Anderson
 111 Jim Carlson
 111 Jim Johnson
 109 Jack Corbett
 108 Craig Corder
 107 Clarice Watson
 105 Dave Copeland
 103 Paul Sherrell

Harney

274 Tom Crabtree
 259 Jim Johnson
 256 Phillip Pickering
 248 Steve Summers
 246 Jim Carlson
 244 Steve Heint
 238 Linda Weiland
 237 Joe Evanich
 236 Craig Miller
 235 Paul Sullivan
 232 Mike Denny
 232 Larry Hammond
 220 Karen Kearney
 219 Jerry Kearney
 218 Donna Lusthoff
 218 Alan McGie

216 Tom Mickel
 212 Alan Contreras
 211 Allison Mickel
 208 Dennis Rogers
 207 Craig Corder
 207 Tom Love
 206 David Anderson
 202 Hendrik Hertyn
 195 Jack Corbett
 188 Walter Yungen
 187 Anthony Floyd
 186 Paul Sherrell
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 184 Judy Stevens
 183 Barb Bellin
 183 Roy Gerig
 179 Clarice Watson
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 173 Merlin Eltzroth
 173 Ron Maertz
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 171 Don Pederson
 170 Marion Corder
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 161 Greg Gillson
 160 Tim Shelmerdine
 154 Scott Johnson
 144 Roger Robb
 138 Ken Knittle
 131 Ted Regler
 126 Steve Dowlan
 107 Ray Ekstrom
 106 Jamie Simmons

Hood River

217 David Anderson
 199 Donna Lusthoff
 161 Phillip Pickering
 148 Linda Weiland
 147 Tim Shelmerdine
 139 Joe Evanich
 128 Paul Sullivan
 126 Jim Johnson
 124 Barbara Combs
 123 Walter Yungen
 117 Dave Copeland
 112 Craig Corder
 111 Tom Love
 107 Dennis Rogers
 100 Ron Maertz

Jackson

265 Marjorie Moore
 256 Howards Sands
 238 Richard Cronberg
 231 Ray Ekstrom
 218 Steve Summers
 171 Paul Sherrell
 157 Jim Johnson
 155 Steve Heint
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 143 Paul Sullivan
 139 Dennis Rogers
 139 Linda Weiland
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 124 Tom Love

118 Elsie Eltzroth
 118 Merlin Eltzroth
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Jefferson

218 Lewis Rems
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 111 Linda Weiland
 107 Steve Heint
 107 Scott Johnson
 105 Phillip Pickering

Josephine

198 Steve Summers
 172 Richard Cronberg
 143 Ray Ekstrom
 124 Dennis Rogers
 119 Walter Yungen
 106 Barbara Combs
 105 Linda Weiland
 103 Phillip Pickering

Klamath

290 Steve Summers
 259 Ray Ekstrom
 256 Jim Carlson
 229 Tom Mickel
 228 Allison Mickel
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 179 Clarice Watson
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 176 Richard Palmer
 175 Dave Copeland
 174 Roger Robb
 169 Walter Yungen
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 164 Alan McGie
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 156 Lewis Rems
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 151 Craig Corder
 146 Jack Corbett
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 140 Tim Shelmerdine
 137 Phillip Pickering
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124 David Anderson
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 110 Joe Evanich
 108 Greg Gillson
 102 Craig Miller

Lake

259 Steve Summers
 253 Craig Miller
 240 Priscilla Summers
 225 Jim Carlson
 218 Karen Theodore
 187 Dennis Rogers
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 151 Tom Crabtree
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 144 Paul Sullivan
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 116 Donna Lusthoff
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 104 Greg Gillson

Lane

308 Tom Mickel
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 253 Dennis Rogers
 249 Roger Robb
 249 Eva Schultz
 249 Steve Summers
 247 Mike Patterson
 205 Paul Sullivan
 202 Walter Yungen
 190 Joe Evanich
 183 Jim Johnson
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 166 Elsie Eltzroth
 166 Merlin Eltzroth
 165 Anthony Floyd
 159 Barb Bellin
 159 Ron Maertz
 155 Hendrik Hertyn
 151 Jack Corbett
 142 Dave Copeland
 141 Greg Gillson
 140 Don Pederson
 136 Paul Osburn
 133 Alice Parker
 133 Linda Weiland
 130 Donna Lusthoff
 121 Ted Regler

119 Scott Johnson
 110 Tim Shelmerdine
 103 Craig Miller

Lincoln

*300 Darrell Faxon
 272 Phillip Pickering
 254 Joe Evanich
 226 Barb Bellin
 221 Anthony Floyd
 221 Roy Gerig
 221 Greg Gillson
 221 Steve Heint
 201 Walter Yungen
 200 Tom Crabtree
 200 Paul Sullivan
 198 Jim Carlson
 198 Jim Johnson
 192 Jack Corbett
 190 Clarice Watson
 185 Scott Johnson
 185 Donna Lusthoff
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 182 Hendrik Hertyn
 179 Dennis Rogers
 177 Eva Schultz
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 170 Don Pederson
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 158 Linda Weiland
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 148 Ted Regler
 148 Steve Summers
 143 Tim Shelmerdine
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 138 Mike Patterson
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 135 David Anderson
 130 Mike Denny
 116 Craig Miller

Linn

192 Phillip Pickering
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 134 Merlin Eltzroth
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 101 Steve Dowlan

Malheur

215 Craig Corder
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 163 Paul Sullivan
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 111 Linda Weiland
 110 Walter Yungen

109 Phillip Pickering
106 Judy Stevens
100 Barbara Combs

Marion

233 Barb Bellin
214 Jack Corbett
202 Don Pederson
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194 Steve Dowlan
194 Walter Yungen
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184 Paul Sullivan
176 Phillip Pickering
165 Richard Palmer
159 Joe Evanich
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108 Dennis Rogers
105 Tom Love
105 Linda Weiland
103 Jamie Simmons

Morrow

234 Craig Corder
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165 Paul Sullivan
138 Donna Lusthoff
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111 Walter Yungen
107 Barbara Combs
106 Joe Evanich

Multnomah

*244 Jeff Gilligan
228 Jim Johnson
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163 Anthony Floyd
161 Dennis Rogers
160 David Anderson
151 Greg Gillson
148 Tim Shelmerdine
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135 Mike Patterson
135 Paul Sullivan
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115 Barb Bellin
114 Barbara Combs
106 Marion Corder
106 Steve Dowlan
102 Richard Palmer

Polk

232 Roy Gerig
215 Barb Bellin
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167 Phillip Pickering

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109 Anthony Floyd
105 Mike Patterson
103 Tom Love
103 Linda Weiland

Sherman

195 Phillip Pickering
166 Linda Weiland
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141 Roy Gerig
116 Walter Yungen
115 Dennis Rogers
109 Donna Lusthoff
100 Barbara Combs

Tillamook

*288 Jeff Gilligan
270 Phillip Pickering
254 Jim Johnson
250 Joe Evanich
249 Tom Crabtree
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220 Jack Corbett
215 Walter Yungen
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212 Mike Patterson
211 Tom Love
210 Steve Heini
206 Greg Gillson
206 Jerry Kearney
204 Dennis Rogers
204 Paul Sullivan
203 Tim Shelmerdine
202 Richard Palmer
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189 Don Pederson
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183 Dave Copeland
182 Craig Miller
179 Craig Corder
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163 Clarice Watson
161 Anthony Floyd
161 Hendrik Hertyn
157 Elsie Eitzroth
157 Merlin Eitzroth
156 Steve Dowlan
147 Jim Carlson
146 Marion Corder
132 Alan McGie
125 Jamie Simmons
123 Mike Denny
116 Ted Regler
115 Scott Johnson
114 Steve Summers
103 Judy Stevens

Umatilla

257 Craig Corder
256 Marion Corder
221 Paul Sullivan
207 Joe Evanich

206 Ken Knittle
188 Judy Stevens
167 Donna Lusthoff
160 Mike Denny
149 Jim Carlson
147 Jamie Simmons
145 Linda Weiland
141 Phillip Pickering
124 Dennis Rogers
121 Walter Yungen
116 Steve Heini
116 Scott Johnson
105 Barbara Combs

Union

254 Joe Evanich
206 Paul Sullivan
200 Craig Corder
176 Phillip Pickering
175 Dennis Rogers
172 Donna Lusthoff
167 Barb Bellin
164 Marion Corder
164 Ken Knittle
154 Steve Heini
141 Walter Yungen
132 Barbara Combs
131 David Anderson
127 Jim Carlson
123 Linda Weiland
120 Dave Copeland
116 Jamie Simmons
114 Hendrik Hertyn
114 Jim Johnson
113 Ted Regler
112 Jack Corbett
109 Elsie Eitzroth
109 Merlin Eitzroth
109 Scott Johnson
108 Paul Sherrell
107 Judy Stevens
106 Richard Palmer
106 Alice Parker

Wallowa

*240 Frank Conley
222 Paul Sullivan
186 Joe Evanich
171 Phillip Pickering
157 Craig Corder
152 Marion Corder
147 Dave Copeland
141 Jack Corbett
133 Steve Heini
128 Jamie Simmons
124 Linda Weiland
123 Mike Denny
120 Anthony Floyd
119 Richard Palmer
119 Walter Yungen
114 Barb Bellin
110 Barbara Combs
108 Ken Knittle
107 Jim Johnson
102 Jim Carlson
101 Donna Lusthoff
100 Dennis Rogers

Wasco

234 Donna Lusthoff
210 Craig Corder
203 Marion Corder
193 David Anderson
174 Don Pederson
169 Phillip Pickering

166 Roy Gerig
162 Linda Weiland
154 Jim Johnson
144 Dennis Rogers
139 Joe Evanich
138 Dave Copeland
137 Steve Heini
134 Tim Shelmerdine
124 Walter Yungen
111 Paul Sullivan
110 Judy Stevens
108 Barbara Combs
104 Jack Corbett
101 Richard Palmer

Washington

234 Joe Evanich
215 Donna Lusthoff
188 Phillip Pickering
182 Tom Love
179 Jim Johnson
178 Greg Gillson
178 Linda Weiland
148 Skip Russell
147 Tom Crabtree
147 Walter Yungen
145 Dennis Rogers
142 Paul Sullivan
137 David Anderson
137 Barb Bellin
126 Tim Shelmerdine
120 Craig Corder
117 Dave Copeland
114 Richard Palmer
114 Don Pederson
109 Barbara Combs
106 Steve Heini
101 Mike Patterson

Wheeler

146 Paul Sullivan
117 Dennis Rogers
115 Steve Heini
112 Linda Weiland
105 Walter Yungen
103 Barbara Combs
100 Phillip Pickering

Yamhill

191 Tom Love
174 Roy Gerig
154 Walter Yungen
142 Phillip Pickering
130 Greg Gillson
123 Barb Bellin
116 Joe Evanich
113 Jim Johnson
112 Barbara Combs
112 Richard Palmer
111 Dennis Rogers
110 Linda Weiland
109 Donna Lusthoff
106 Dave Copeland
103 Don Pederson

1991 County Year Lists

- 250 Lane (Paul Sherrell)
- *241 Lake (Steve Summers)
- *232 Curry (Colin Dillingham)
- 231 Lane (Tom Mickel)
- 229 Tillamook (Phillip Pickering)
- *228 Jackson (Richard Cronberg)
- 222 Clatsop (Mike Patterson)
- 222 Lincoln (Phillip Pickering)
- *201 Wasco (Donna Lusthoff)
- 198 Lake (Craig Miller)
- 196 Harney (Tom Crabtree)
- 195 Douglas (Ron Maertz)
- 194 Jefferson (Lewis Rems)
- *192 Marion (Barb Bellin)
- 189 Umatilla (Craig Corder)
- 188 Deschutes (Lewis Rems)
- 187 Coos (Ben Fawver)
- 186 Umatilla (Judy Stevens)
- 185 Deschutes (Craig Miller)
- *184 Crook (Lewis Rems)
- 184 Harney (Craig Corder)
- 184 Harney (Larry Hammond)
- 184 Harney (Judy Stevens)
- 183 Marion (Dave Copeland)
- 181 Washington (Joe Evanich)
- 178 Jackson (Marjorie Moore)
- 177 Deschutes (Tom Crabtree)
- 169 Harney (Paul Sullivan)
- *168 Josephine (Richard Cronberg)
- 168 Marion (Steve Dowlan)
- 167 Crook (Tom Crabtree)
- 166 Wallowa (Paul Sullivan)
- 164 Marion (Paul Sullivan)
- 163 Harney (Craig Miller)
- 160 Harney (Skip Russell)
- 160 Malheur (Paul Sullivan)
- 157 Marion (Don Pederson)
- 157 Umatilla (Mike Denny)
- 154 Harney (Mike Denny)
- 154 Tillamook (Paul Sullivan)
- 152 Deschutes (Skip Russell)
- 152 Washington (Greg Gillson)
- 150 Crook (Craig Miller)

Previous County Record High Year Lists

- 204 Baker (1988) Craig Corder
- 178 Benton (1982/83) Jan & Rick Krabbe/Matt Hunter
- 191 Clackamas (1988) Phillip Pickering
- 232 Clatsop (1990) Mike Patterson
- 196 Columbia (1988) Phillip Pickering
- 250 Coos (1988) Larry Thomburg
- 111 Crook (1989) Tom Crabtree
- 218 Curry (1985) Jim Rogers
- 201 Deschutes (1988) Tom Crabtree
- 247 Douglas (1983) Martha Sawyer
- 146 Gilliam (1989) Linda Weiland
- 185 Grant (1985) Paul Sullivan
- 237 Harney (1986) Phillip Pickering
- 170 Hood River (1989) David Anderson
- 224 Jackson (1990) Richard Cronberg
- 195 Jefferson (1990) Lewis Rems
- 160 Josephine (1987) Romain Cooper
- 234 Klamath (1983) Steve Summers
- 225 Lake (1988) Merle Archie
- 257 Lane (1985) Steve Heini
- 241 Lincoln (1986) Phillip Pickering
- 189 Linn (1990) Phillip Pickering
- 211 Malheur (1987) Craig Corder
- 181 Marion (1986) Barb Bellin

- 224 Morrow (1990) Craig Corder
- 200 Multnomah (1988) Joe Evanich
- 195 Polk (1990) Roy Gerig
- 181 Sherman (1989) Phillip Pickering
- 234 Tillamook (1985) Phillip Pickering
- 218 Umatilla (1982) Craig Corder
- 207 Union (1983) Joe Evanich
- 209 Wallowa (1985) Frank Conley
- 199 Wasco (1990) Donna Lusthoff
- 188 Washington (1984) John F. Gatchet
- 123 Wheeler (1988) Paul Sullivan
- 150 Yamhill (1985) Roy Gerig

Oregon Atlas and Gazetteer

DeLorme Mapping, 1991. ISBN 0-89933-235-8. 88 pp. 11 x 15 inches. \$14.95.

Paul T. Sullivan, 4470 S.W. Murray Boulevard #26, Beaverton, OR 97005

For the past several years Washington birders have had a not-so-secret weapon in their search for rare birds. When a rarity appeared in the state, directions were given: "DeLorme page 53, C4. Turn left into the small lane by the white house." They were referring to the *Washington Atlas and Gazetteer*, which had detailed maps of the entire state.

The DeLorme Mapping company has been producing state atlases for several years, progressively covering the northeastern states from Maine to Minnesota, the mid-Atlantic states, and the western coastal states. With the publication of the *Oregon Atlas and Gazetteer*, Oregon birders have a new powerful tool.

Here you have the entire state in a consistent format, showing contiguous areas regardless of jurisdiction. Gone is the frustration of flipping from a National Forest map on one scale to a BLM map on another scale and finding that the 3 miles of private land in between is not on either map, or that roads are not shown. Each pair of facing pages give you a 20 x 14-inch map. The more congested western half of the state (west of a line from The Dalles through Silver Lake) is shown at 2.4 miles per inch (1:150,000 scale). The eastern half is done at 4.8 miles per inch (1:300,000). On the edges of all pages you are directed to the page where the map continues in your chosen direction.

The most useful feature of the atlas, however, is the back cover. There a complete state map is overlain by a grid delimiting the edges of all the pages. In each cell of the grid is a clear page number. You can quickly see that Bend is on page 50-51 and turn to a map which covers the Three Sisters, Santiam Pass, and Smith Rocks State Park. From either the back cover or the edge of page 51 you can move east to the Prineville area map on page 80-81.

Forested lands are shown green, lava fields and sand dunes are shades of brown, urban areas orange, water blue, and the rest of the state white. Roads and highways are in red. Many rural roads are named and the current number of major National Forest roads is given. Topographic lines are included in an unobtrusive gray. The interval is 300 feet on the west side maps and 600 feet on the east side maps. I would only wish the elevation numbers were printed more frequently. Nonetheless the lines are a useful tool when exploring backroads. I have used visible ridges to help pinpoint where I was on a maze of roads east of Cougar Mt. in northern Lincoln county.

Using my DeLorme atlas I have traversed backroads across Malheur County, found my way from the Nehalem River to Hwy 6, and explored eastern Lincoln County. I have, of course, found closed gates, washouts, missing signs, and a proliferation of dead-end logging spurs. These are to be expected. However, I have found the main roads to be as depicted in the atlas.

The atlas contains the usual index of cities and towns. In addition, there are lists of campgrounds, boat ramps, hunting areas, and National Wildlife Refuges (including Deer Flat NWR, page 88, D4). An extensive table of Parks/Forests/Wilderness Areas lists acreage and the type of activities available at over 250 locations. A brief paragraph format is used to describe Unique Natural Features as well as Historic Sites/Museums. The paragraph format is also applied to categories of Scenic Drives, Back Country Byways, Bicycle Routes, Oar/Paddle Trips, and Hiking. Each entry lists location, mileage, and a brief description. The hiking entries indicate difficulty as well.

I recommend the *Oregon Atlas and Gazetteer* to Oregon birders. You can look for that Black-shouldered Kite at page 52, A1, and the Swamp Sparrow at page 59, A7.

REVIEWS

Glad for What He Has Made

A Guide to the Trees, Shrubs, Flowers, and Birds of Queen of Angels Monastery and Mount Angel Abbey. Second Edition, edited by Fr. Hugh Feiss. \$5.00 postpaid from the Library, Mount Angel Abbey, St. Benedict OR 97373.

This sounds like a saccharine little tourist sheet, but it is actually an excellent 104-page regional natural history, including an exceptionally detailed annotated bird list for this location in northeastern Marion County. The bird section includes a beginners guide, a seasonal summary of what occurs, and a complete checklist, including dates for some unusual records, e.g., "Ash-throated Flycatcher, 9/15/90; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 9/22/77." An extraordinary list of trees in the area is worth reading, as is the concise geology and other sections. Marred by only a few typos, this ought to be in every Oregon birder's collection. *Alan Contreras*

Birds of Thornton Creek

Volume I of Birds of the Coast Range of Lincoln County. Studies in Oregon Ornithology No. 8, 1991. 91 pages, includes b&w habitat photos. Darrel Faxon and Range D. Bayer. \$14.00+ \$2.50 postage from Gabmken Press, P.O. Box 1467, Newport, OR 97365

This is the latest in Bayer's Studies in Oregon Ornithology series, and once again demonstrates his commitment to what might be called grass-roots ornithology in Oregon. Principal author of this item is Darrel Faxon, whose more than 17 years of field records form the principal basis for the annotated list and discussion. As is usual in the SOO series, the format takes a little getting used to, but the wealth of detail included makes the effort worthwhile.

Although there are some records of rare or unusual birds, this publication is mainly of value for what it tells of regular species, e.g., arrivals and departures and breeding behavior. Although dredging through this data brings new meaning to the term exhaustive coverage, there are

many nuggets to be found, for example the fascinating discussion of interaction and territorial size variation between Solitary and Warbling Vireos.

I recommend this book to anyone interested in the birds of the Coast Range or in bird migration and breeding behavior, and to other birders who want a comprehensive collection of the state's significant regional works. *Alan Contreras*

Women in the Field

America's Pioneering Women Naturalists. Marcia Myers Bonta. Texas A & M University Press, 1991. 299 pages in paperback, 30 illustrations.

There are plenty of women birders today, although they tend to start at a later age than the boy-pack, but the role of women in field biology remains smaller than that of men, and the history of such women has been until recently poorly known. One excellent remedy for this shortcoming was Harriet Kofalk's 1989 biography of Florence Merriam Bailey; another, although not as detailed, is "Women in the Field."

Marcia Myers Bonta's book covers more than ornithology, including women with major roles in entomology, botany, ecology, and general natural history. The ornithologists profiled are Bailey, Althea Sherman, Cordelia Stanwood, Margaret Morse Nice, and Amelia Laskey. These women were engaged in serious ornithology at a time when few women did so, and three — Bailey, Nice, and Laskey — were elected Fellows of the AOU, when prior to Bailey's selection in 1929 no woman had ever achieved this honor.

These three made major contributions to ornithology, Bailey, the "first lady of ornithology," through her many small books, her *Handbook of Birds of the Western United States*, and her monumental *Birds of New Mexico*. Nice is best known for her life history of the Song Sparrow, and Laskey for her extensive work with mockingbird breeding behavior and also for her swift banding, which resulted in discovery of the first known wintering area for the Chimney Swift. Sherman's flicker studies and other work were cited by Bent and others, and Stanwood became known as a superb bird photographer (her work was used by Forbush among others) in addition to

providing much information on life histories.

Although this series of short biographies does not provide much detail, it is nonetheless a well-conceived introduction to a number of important women ornithologists, as well as other scientists, of the past hundred years. *Alan Contreras*

The Romance of Victorian Natural History

Lynn L. Merrill. Oxford University Press, 1989.

At a time when national bird magazines and organizations are going through role redefinition, it is especially interesting to revisit the conceptual beginnings of natural history and "popular ornithology" as we know it. Just what is it that we do? Lynn Merrill has produced a very readable look into the distinction between the "hard science" of the late 19th century and natural history as practiced then and, to some extent, now.

This treatise is academic rather than popular in tone, and turbid with footnotes, but it nonetheless remains easy to understand and enjoy, although I found the author's linkages between natural history and Victorian art hard to digest. Perhaps this is due to my lack of familiarity with art of the time. In general, though, this is a detailed look at how private nature collections, demand for nature books, and the social organizations that went with them, came into being.

Although the book focuses on Britain, it does discuss John Burroughs in some detail, and the themes are applicable to this country as well, particularly because of the great impact here of the British interest in birds. Audubon, after all, was essentially blocked from publishing in the U.S., and achieved his success because of private British subscriptions to *Birds of America*.

This book requires slow and careful reading, but for someone truly interested in how natural history as we live it came to exist, it is worth the journey. *Alan Contreras*

Ocean Birds of the Nearshore Pacific

Ocean Birds of the Nearshore Pacific is a 200-page book which covers the identification and distribution of seabirds and other marine animals off the west coast of America. The book covers all seabird, cetacea (whales & dolphins), pinnipedia (seals & sea lions), sea turtles, and an assortment of other species that can be seen on pelagic trips, such as sea otters, sunfish, and sharks. About 60 percent of the book is devoted to seabirds, with about 25 percent devoted to other pelagic animals, mostly to cetacea. The book contains a large number of black-and-white photographs and some black-and-white illustrations.

The book begins with a 20 page introduction which covers a wide variety of interesting topics, mostly related to finding and taking boat trips to search for pelagic species. It also briefly covers some aspects of the marine environment of California, such as upwellings, which can create feeding concentrations.

The rest of the book is devoted to the identification and distribution of pelagic species. The book's greatest strength is the fact that marine animals other than birds, such as whales and dolphins, which are possible on pelagic trips, are also covered. Since birders are usually interested in these species as well, it is useful to have a guide that covers everything. However the remainder of the review will focus on the section on seabirds, as I do not feel qualified to comment on the other species.

The identification text is good, as one would expect of Stallcup, and much more comprehensive than anything available in a standard field guide. However, with the exception of the material on the *Pterodroma* petrels, this information is also available in specialized texts like *Seabirds: An Identification Guide* by Harrison and *Advanced Birding* by Kaufman. Furthermore, an excellent article on West Coast *pterodromas* was published in *American Birds* a year or so ago. So, if you have all these information sources already, you will not be getting much extra information.

The selection of photographs often provides several of each species, showing different plumages or angles. Unfortunately, none are in color, and some are out of focus (e.g. Cook's & Stejneger's Petrels) which is surprising since the author states he wishes his guide to be a tribute to the birds themselves by use of

photographs. I also found the use of little insert photographs annoying, especially as these cover parts of birds in other photos in some cases. The illustrations are not of very high quality, mainly because insufficient space has been allowed for them. The plate of *pterodroma* illustrations is especially confusing. There are also some inconsistencies such as a photo of a Juan Fernandez Petrel, with no text for the species.

The distributional information is rather disappointing, especially if you are a Northwest birder. To be fair to the author he does state in the preface that the book is not a compendium of records, but a much more detailed analysis of a species abundance would be nice. He then goes on to state he is focusing on the species status off California, as this is the best known area. As a result the extensive and systematic records kept by Terry Wahl over the last 20 years from pelagics off Washington are ignored.

Occurrences of rarities from outside California are included. However, at least one incorrect record is cited. This is a record of Craver's Murrelet in Oregon, which was in reality a young Common Murre. Soliciting information from birders outside California would have avoided these mistakes. It could also have shed further light on interesting topics such as the wintering grounds of Pigeon Guillemots. The author suspects that they go north (of California) and get lost among the large numbers of Pigeon Guillemots there. More research would have revealed that Pigeon Guillemots are almost completely absent from the Pacific Coast of Washington and Oregon in winter. Since numbers in the Puget Sound area increase in winter, it seems reasonable that many birds from farther south are going there. A more wide-ranging analysis could have resolved issues like these more clearly.

I feel the main value of this book is its identification material. Since only species which occur in the eastern Pacific are covered, someone engaged in pelagic birding in this area does not have to leaf through pages of extraneous information devoted to species which reside in other areas. The coverage of other marine life is also useful. If you don't possess Harrison's identification guide, and will be doing most of your pelagic birding on the West Coast, this book is probably worth buying. If you already have good specialist identification books for seabirds, the value of this publication is more questionable, although it certainly merits consideration. *Nick Lethaby.*

A Neotropical Companion

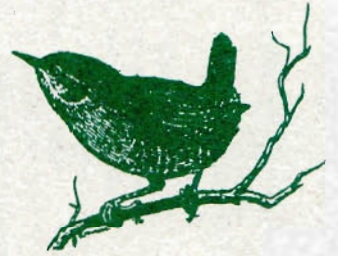
An Introduction to the Animals, Plants, and Ecosystems of the New World Tropics. Kricher, John C. 1989. Princeton, NJ: Princeton U. Press. 436 pp. \$16.95 paper, \$45.00 cloth.

For advanced or novice birders alike here is a book which will stretch your understanding and raise your appreciation of the New World tropics. One would be hard pressed to find a more useful, comprehensive, insightful handbook to neotropical species and ecosystems, especially tropical humid forests.

About a fifth of the book is directly devoted to very insightful descriptions of New World bird families and representative species. Much of the rest of the book is indirectly devoted to birds by using them to illustrate various ecological principles. For example, discussions of oilbirds and frugivory or adaptive radiation in tyrant flycatchers are typical of the exciting vignettes throughout.

Kricher succeeds in making the scattered technical literature on neotropical ecology accessible and readable. Ten chapters describe: (1) the variety of neotropical ecosystems (from humid forest to high grassland and desert), (2) salient characteristics of tropical humid forest ecosystems, (3) rainforest ecology (structure, productivity, nutrient cycling, succession with treefalls), (4) evolution of such abundance and diversity in all taxa (coevolution, speciation, Pleistocene refugia, adaptive radiation), (5) the chemical diversity of plants and medicines derived from them, (6) birds, (7) other vertebrates and invertebrates, (8) tropical savannas, (9) coastal ecosystems, and (10) a thoughtful, hopeful epilogue. Andrea LeJeune's illustrations are crisp, clean, and helpful.

The book is a well-written product of close observation of tropical ecosystems across Hispanic America (but apparently not Brazil). Weaknesses include Kricher's failure to refer to much of the rather large tropical ecology literature in Spanish or Portuguese, and the occasional annoying editorial glitch (e.g., "Topi" instead of "Tupi"). Discussion of the history of human uses of humid forest ecosystems is very useful, but missing the recent debate on the apparently much higher aboriginal population densities along Amazonian rivers is an unfortunate omission. Lists of references are helpful. *Tom Love.*



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- 24 July 1992, deadline for the next issue of OB — OB 18(3)
- 10 August 1992, Summer fieldnotes due to OB and AB Regional Editors
- 25-27 September 1992, Third OFO Fall Weekend at Malheur
- 17 December 1992 - 3 January 1993, 93rd Christmas Bird Count
- 4-6 June 1993, Oregon Field Ornithologists annual meeting at Malheur Field Station



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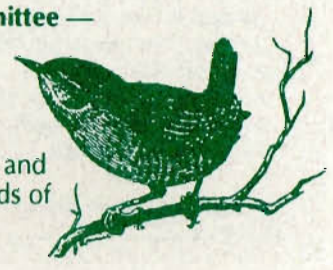
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Oregon Field Ornithologists' Fall Weekend at Malheur

25 - 27 September 1992

A good time was had by all birders at last September's OFO Fall Weekend at Malheur, despite the slowest fall birding at Malheur NWR — and throughout Oregon for that matter — in recent memory. Although last year's fall birding at Malheur found low numbers of migrating birds, and still fewer rarities, some unusual species were noted: American Redstart, a male Magnolia Warbler, an out-of-place Scrub Jay, and (2 weeks after the OFO weekend) the second state record of Le Conte's Sparrow (at Fields). In addition, a female Phainopepla was found in nearby (sort of) Lakeview. In recent years, Fall birding at Malheur has produced such notable species as Solitary Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Red-eyed Vireo, Cape May Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Palm Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-Breasted Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, White-throated Sparrow, Rosy Finch (Steens Mtn.), and Summer Tanager.

So set aside the dates of 25 - 27 September 1992 for the Third OFO Fall Weekend at Malheur. We will once again request permission from Refuge personnel to walk out on the Benson Boat Landing Road. Last year many sandpipers and waders were observed, including Western, Least, and Pectoral Sandpipers, Long-billed Dowitchers, both Yellow-legs, Marbled Godwits, a Golden and several Black-bellied Plovers. A Prairie Falcon and 2 Snow Geese were also observed there.

Malheur Field Station (MFS) member dorm rates are \$10/night plus \$1/person/night if cooking facilities in the dorm are used. Some trailers are still available at \$18/night minimum to \$38/night maximum (for 4+ occupants). A few RV spaces are also available (RVs must be completely contained). MFS non-member rates are slightly higher. Meals may be taken at the MFS dining hall or you may bring your own food. Trailers and some dorms have cooking facilities. Dining hall meal rates are breakfast \$5.50, lunch \$5.00 (a sack lunch you prepare at breakfast time), and dinner \$7.00 Please call MFS at (503)493-2629 to make your lodging and dining reservations, or write to MFS at HC 72 Box 260, Princeton, OR 97721. This year MFS has a policy that the first night's lodging fee and the first day's meal fees (if taking meals in the dining hall) must be paid at least 2 weeks in advance as a deposit to hold reservations.

The OFO registration fee, besides supporting OFO, covers the rare bird slide show to be presented again this year by Harry Nehls after the Saturday night count-down dinner. Harry will show different slides than those seen last year. MFS director Lucile Housley has arranged for a special seating in the dining hall at 6:30 p.m. Saturday night for OFO members. Those not registering may dine in the dining hall at 5:30 p.m. The Saturday night meal will be a chicken dinner. Those who require vegetarian meals will need to make that specification to MFS no later than 12 September. Other than a get-together Friday night to show a few of our own best slides (please bring your favorite Oregon bird slides — not more than 20) and the presentation by Harry Saturday night, the weekend will be unstructured — you'll be free to explore Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding areas at your own pace. Descriptions of/directions to points of interest, bird checklists, and other information are available at Refuge headquarters.

So for great birding, NO MOSQUITOES, and an opportunity to support both OFO and MFS, fill out the attached registration form and join us at MFS in September!

Sheran Jones, 9785 SW Ventura Court, Tigard, OR 97223, (503)246-5594

Friday, 25 September 1992

- 8 p.m., potpourri slide show, don't forget to bring your favorite Oregon slides to show; MFS dining hall.

Saturday, 26 September 1992

- 6:30 p.m., dinner in MFS dining hall (or make your own alternate dining arrangements).
- 7:30 p.m., Harry Nehls, highlights from the Oregon Bird Records Committee (different species than shown last year); MFS dining hall.

Sunday, 27 September 1992

- Birding on your own

Registration deadline 1 September 1992. For later registrations, call Sheran Jones (phone below). Make your lodging arrangements separately.

Fill in for each participant

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|----|---------|-----------|
| 1. | Name | Phone |
| | Address | |
| | City | State Zip |
| 2. | Name | Phone |
| | Address | |
| | City | State Zip |

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| | Family | \$24.00 | | |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED | | | | |

Make your check payable to OFO or Oregon Field Ornithologists

For lodging and meals, contact:

Lucile Housley, Executive Director
 Malheur Field Station
 HC 72 Box 260
 Princeton OR 97721
 (503)493-2629

Mail this form by 1 September 1992, to:

Sheran Jones
 9785 S.W. Ventura Court
 Tigard OR 97223
 (503)246-5594



Oregon Field Ornithologists' Fall Weekend at Malheur

25 - 27 September 1992

A good time was had by all birders at last September's OFO Fall Weekend at Malheur, despite the slowest fall birding at Malheur NWR — and throughout Oregon for that matter — in recent memory. Although last year's fall birding at Malheur found low numbers of migrating birds, and still fewer rarities, some unusual species were noted: American Redstart, a male Magnolia Warbler, an out-of-place Scrub Jay, and (2 weeks after the OFO weekend) the second state record of Le Conte's Sparrow (at Fields). In addition, a female Phainopepla was found in nearby (sort of) Lakeview. In recent years, Fall birding at Malheur has produced such notable species as Solitary Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Red-eyed Vireo, Cape May Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Palm Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-Breasted Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, White-throated Sparrow, Rosy Finch (Steens Mtn.), and Summer Tanager.

So set aside the dates of 25 - 27 September 1992 for the Third OFO Fall Weekend at Malheur. We will once again request permission from Refuge personnel to walk out on the Benson Boat Landing Road. Last year many sandpipers and waders were observed, including Western, Least, and Pectoral Sandpipers, Long-billed Dowitchers, both Yellow-legs, Marbled Godwits, a Golden and several Black-bellied Plovers. A Prairie Falcon and 2 Snow Geese were also observed there.

Malheur Field Station (MFS) member dorm rates are \$10/night plus \$1/person/night if cooking facilities in the dorm are used. Some trailers are still available at \$18/night minimum to \$38/night maximum (for 4+ occupants). A few RV spaces are also available (RVs must be completely contained). MFS non-member rates are slightly higher. Meals may be taken at the MFS dining hall or you may bring your own food. Trailers and some dorms have cooking facilities. Dining hall meal rates are breakfast \$5.50, lunch \$5.00 (a sack lunch you prepare at breakfast time), and dinner \$7.00 Please call MFS at (503)493-2629 to make your lodging and dining reservations, or write to MFS at HC 72 Box 260, Princeton, OR 97721. This year MFS has a policy that the first night's lodging fee and the first day's meal fees (if taking meals in the dining hall) must be paid at least 2 weeks in advance as a deposit to hold reservations.

The OFO registration fee, besides supporting OFO, covers the rare bird slide show to be presented again this year by Harry Nehls after the Saturday night count-down dinner. Harry will show different slides than those seen last year. MFS director Lucile Housley has arranged for a special seating in the dining hall at 6:30 p.m. Saturday night for OFO members. Those not registering may dine in the dining hall at 5:30 p.m. The Saturday night meal will be a chicken dinner. Those who require vegetarian meals will need to make that specification to MFS no later than 12 September. Other than a get-together Friday night to show a few of our own best slides (please bring your favorite Oregon bird slides — not more than 20) and the presentation by Harry Saturday night, the weekend will be unstructured — you'll be free to explore Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding areas at your own pace. Descriptions of/directions to points of interest, bird checklists, and other information are available at Refuge headquarters.

So for great birding, NO MOSQUITOES, and an opportunity to support both OFO and MFS, fill out the attached registration form and join us at MFS in September!

Sheran Jones, 9785 SW Ventura Court, Tigard, OR 97223, (503)246-5594

Friday, 25 September 1992

- 8 p.m., potpourri slide show, don't forget to bring your favorite Oregon slides to show; MFS dining hall.

Saturday, 26 September 1992

- 6:30 p.m., dinner in MFS dining hall (or make your own alternate dining arrangements).
- 7:30 p.m., Harry Nehls, highlights from the Oregon Bird Records Committee (different species than shown last year); MFS dining hall.

Sunday, 27 September 1992

- Birding on your own

Registration deadline 1 September 1992. For later registrations, call Sheran Jones (phone below). Make your lodging arrangements separately.

Fill in for each participant

| | | |
|----|---------|-----------|
| 1. | Name | Phone |
| | Address | |
| | City | State Zip |
| 2. | Name | Phone |
| | Address | |
| | City | State Zip |

Use additional sheets if needed

| | | Each | Number | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------|--------|-------|
| Registration | OFO member | \$6.00 | | |
| | non-OFO member | \$8.00 | | |
| 1-year OFO membership | Individual | \$18.00 | | |
| | Family | \$24.00 | | |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED | | | | |

Make your check payable to OFO or Oregon Field Ornithologists

For lodging and meals, contact:

Lucile Housley, Executive Director
 Malheur Field Station
 HC 72 Box 260
 Princeton OR 97721
 (503)493-2629

Mail this form by 1 September 1992, to:

Sheran Jones
 9785 S.W. Ventura Court
 Tigard OR 97223
 (503)246-5594

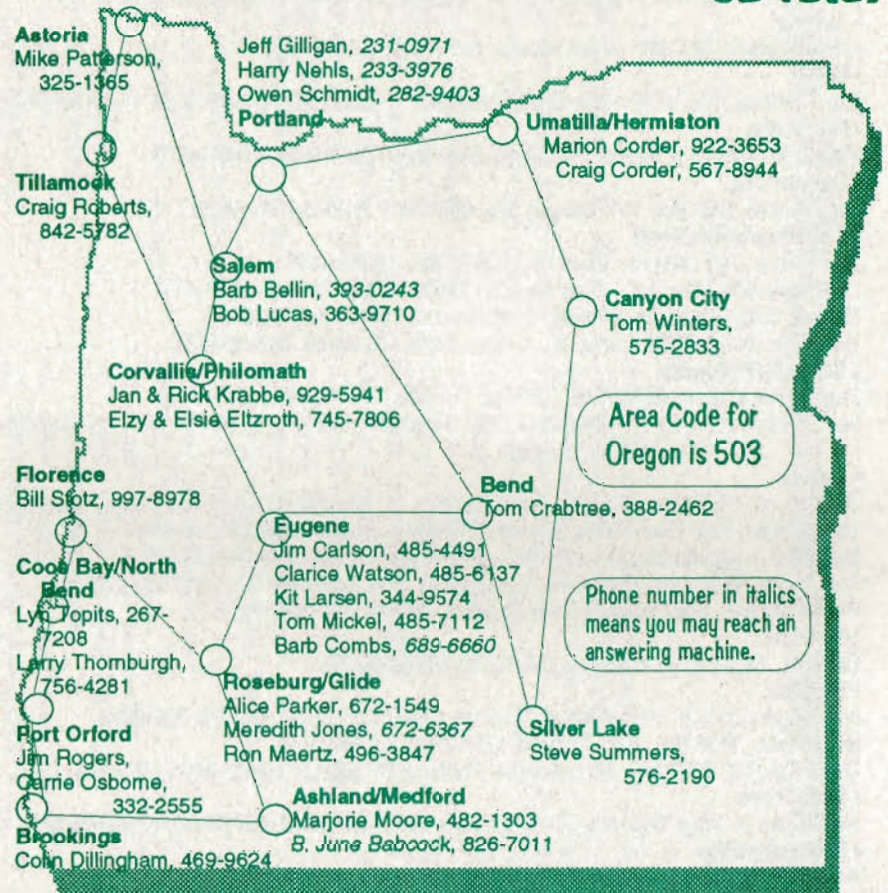


Rare Bird Report Form

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>RARE BIRD REPORT FORM — 1992 Oregon Bird Records Committee — OBRC</p> <p>OBRC P.O. Box 10373 Eugene, OR 97440</p> | <p>DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE</p> |
| <p>1. YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS</p> <p>TELEPHONE</p> | <p>DATE RECEIVED BY OBRC SECRETARY</p> <p>This form is intended as a convenience and a guideline. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all. <i>Attach additional sheets if needed.</i> Please type, or write legibly. You may find it easiest to use separate sheets of paper keyed to the general guidelines in this form.</p> |
| <p>2. BIRD IDENTIFICATION. Write in the name of the species you have identified and information on numbers, sex, plumage, and age.</p> | <p>3. DATE(S). Month, day, and year. If there are multiple observations, each date.</p> |
| <p>4. LOCATION. Be specific; describe habitat.</p> | |
| <p>5. DETAILS. Include only what was actually observed, not what should have been seen or heard. Stress field marks: bill, eye, wings, tail, legs, shape, proportions, "jizz", etc. Include behavior: feeding, resting, flying, interactions with other species, etc. Describe voice — song, calls, or notes — if heard. If you have made field notes and/or field sketches, include them (or copies of them).</p> | |

Rare Bird Phone Network

OB 18(2)



Rules for a network are simple: rare birds only (no east/west or west/east Oregon birds); birders who get calls have to make calls (this means long distance tolls); and once on the network, keep it going by keeping your address and phone number(s) current. Minimum information on a rare bird call should include species, age and sex (if not known, say so), number of birds, who found it (them), and who to call for more information, if anyone.

Birders who would like to represent their local birding areas should write to

The Editor, Oregon Birds
3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue
Portland, OR 97212

Please feel free to send ideas and suggestions, too!



• **Ashland**

Marjorie Moore, 357 Taylor Street, Ashland, OR 97520, (H)482-1303, 776-7294
B. June Babcock, 17297 Antioch Road, White City, OR 97503, (H)826-7011

• **Astoria**

Mike Patterson, 324 38th Street, Astoria, OR 97103, (H)325-1365

• **Bend**

Tom Crabtree, 1667 N.W. Iowa, Bend, OR 97701, (H)388-2462 (W)389-7723, 1-800-762-6616

• **Brookings**

Colin Dillingham, 437 Azalea Park Road, Brookings, OR 97415, (H)469-9624

• **Canyon City**

Tom Winters, P.O. Box 111, Canyon City, OR 97820, (H)575-2833 (W)575-1637

• **Coos Bay/North Bend**

Ben Fawver, 793 Johnson, Coos Bay, OR 97420, (H)267-6485

Lyn Topits, 888 Telegraph, Coos Bay, OR 97420, (H)267-7208 (W)888-4762

Barbara Griffin, 1691 Grant Street, North Bend OR 97459, (H)756-5688

Larry Thornburgh, 2058 Cedar Court, North Bend, OR 97459, (H)756-4281

• **Corvallis/Philomath**

Elzy & Elsie Eltzroth, 6980 N.W. Cardinal, Corvallis, OR 97330, (H)745-7806

Jan & Rick Krabbe, 24461 Columbine Drive, Philomath, OR 97370, (H) 929-5941 (W-Jan)928-2361 x410 (W-Rick)967-5821

• **Eugene**

Jim Carlson, 1560 Chasa St., Eugene, OR 97401, (H) 485-4491 (W) 687-4436 (leave message)

Barb Combs, 1466 Elkay Drive, Eugene, OR 97404, (H)689-6660, (W)378-6190

Kit Larsen, 2162 Kincaid Street, Eugene, OR 97405, (H)344-9574 (W) 686-4394

Tom Mickel, 5259 Overbrook Lane, Eugene, OR 97405, (H)485-7112, (W) 935-2283

Clarice Watson, 3787 Wilshire Lane, Eugene, OR 97405, (H)485-6137

• **Florence**

Bill Stotz, 1305 Laurel, Florence, OR 97439, (H)997-8978

• **Portland**

Jeff Gilligan, 26 N.E. 32nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97232, (H)231-0971(W)326-3057

Harry Nehls, 2736 S.E. 20th, Portland, OR 97202, (H)233-3976

Owen Schmidt, 3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212, (H)282-9403 (W)326-3115

• **Port Orford**

Jim Rogers & Carrie Osborne, 95187 Elk River Rd., Port Orford, OR 97465, (H)332-2555

• **Roseburg/Glide**

Alice Parker, 313 W. Hickory St., Roseburg, OR 97470, (H)672-1549

Meredith Jones, 2224 N.W. Calkins, Roseburg, OR 97470, (H)672-6367

Ron Maertz, 257 Brown Street, Glide, OR 97443, (H)496-3847

• **Salem**

Barb Bellin, 4730 Elizabeth Street N., Salem, OR 97303, (H)393-0243

Bob Lucas, 392 Holder Lane S.E., Salem, OR 97306, (H)363-9710

• **Silver Lake**

Steve Summers, P.O. Box 202, Silver Lake, OR 97638, (H)576-2190

• **Tillamook**

Craig Roberts, 2880 Old Netarts Road W., Tillamook, OR 97141, (H)842-5782

• **Umatilla/Hermiston**

Marion Corder, Rt. 1 Bx. 210, Umatilla, OR 97882, (H)922-3653

Craig Corder, P.O. Box 1174, Hermiston, OR 97838, (H)567-8944 (W)567-6414

Phone number in italics means you may reach an answering machine.

Describe your reasons for your identification: your familiarity with the species, field guides used, similar species that were eliminated, references that were consulted, etc.

Describe the circumstances of the observation: light conditions, position of the sun, distance to the bird, duration of observation, equipment used, time of day, time of tide, etc.

Add the names (and addresses and phone numbers if known) of other observers who may have identified the bird.

6. **PHOTOS, RECORDINGS.** State whether photos were taken or video or sound recordings were made. OBRC will duplicate and return original slides and tapes promptly. Donations of slide duplicates (OBRC prefers a double set) and copies of recordings may be considered a tax-deductible expense!

7. **SIGNATURE, DATE.** Sign this form, and date it for when it was filled out.

Oregon Birds Crossword Puzzle No. 3

Karen Kearney, 6875 S.W. 158th Avenue, Beaverton, OR 97007

Across

- 5 Common crestless jay of the Willamette Valley
- 8 Small tufted nocturnal raptor (2 words)
- 12 The Williamson's and the Red-naped suck this
- 14 Hummingbird capital of Grant County
- 15 The rarer crossbill (2 words)
- 16 Cove is the gateway to Mt. _____
- 17 Rare black and white bunting
- 19 For most warblers, look high; for MacGillivray's look _____
- 20 The Black-bellied Plover has distinctive black ones
- 23 Common emotional reaction to other birders' good fortune
- 24 We see 2 species of this long-billed shorebird
- 26 Dam north of Umatilla
- 28 Our only common thrasher
- 30 Bird's birthing room
- 33 Oregon's most famous falls
- 34 Dead branch utilized as a perch
- 35 The *salicicolus* race breeds in E. Oregon; the *fuscescens* race is a vagrant

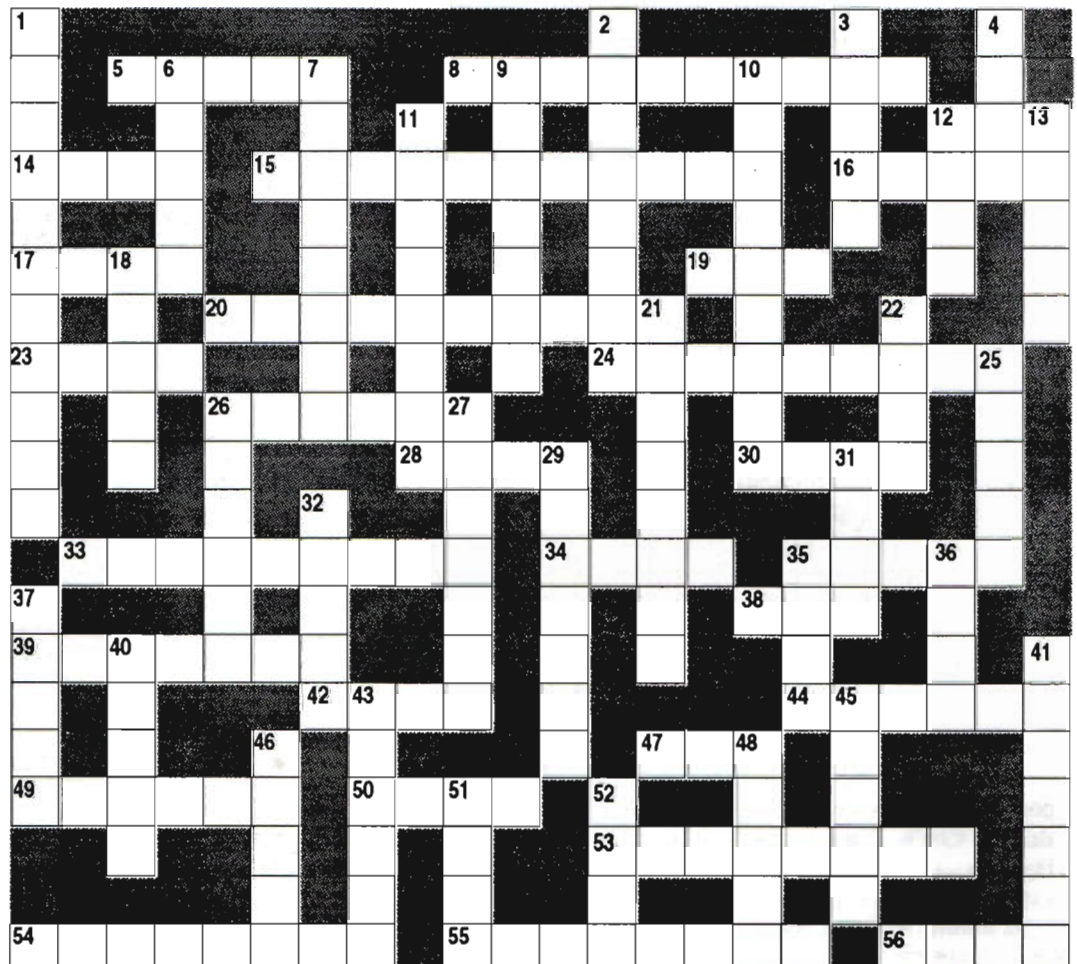
- 38 Crow sound
- 39 Hunts by day or night
- 42 The Tropical Kingbird's is slightly forked
- 44 Southern murrelet; rare post-breeding visitor to Oregon
- 47 Low tide
- 49 Common sea duck
- 50 Spotted Owl food
- 53 Red-headed wigeon
- 54 Stint nearly inseparable from Least Sandpiper
- 55 First verified record of this warbler was June 1990 in Frenchglen by Summers and Carlson)
- 56 In Britain, a jaeger is called a _____

Down

- 1 Our new flycatcher, by virtue of a split
- 2 Used to be Yellow-bellied
- 3 Fort Rock hosts this white-throated variety
- 4 Long-neck waterfowl
- 6 Hotspot south of Fields: Cottonwood _____
- 7 Winter waxwing

- 9 It will never know its true parents
- 10 Godwit with blackish wing lining
- 11 Most non-birders call it a Blue Jay
- 12 Winter bunting
- 13 Brown-capped nuthatch
- 18 Wedge-tailed corvid
- 21 Our spectacled vireo
- 22 Largest warbler
- 25 Rare yellow-eyed blackbird
- 26 Purple swallow
- 27 The Sheridan sewage ponds are in this county
- 29 Black and white kingbird
- 31 A most exotic merganser. Thank you, John Biewener!
- 32 Process of feather renewal
- 35 Small brown swift: _____'s
- 36 A gathering of ducks on the water
- 37 Baird's Sandpiper's scaly look is due to the back feather's pale _____
- 40 County encompassing La Grande
- 41 Mike Patterson's stomping grounds
- 43 Desert east of the Steens

- 45 Collective name for auklets, puffins, murrees, etc.
- 46 Cape west of Charleston
- 48 Leg color of a Rufous-necked Stint
- 51 Stop, _____ and listen
- 52 Author of the 20-volume series, Life Histories of North American Birds



Crossword Puzzle answer on page 54.

News and Notes

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 now 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 — without regard to the quarter in which you first subscribed. If the number 18/2 or earlier appears — this is your last issue. If the number 18/3 appears, the next issue is your last. So its time to send in your membership dues! If the number 18/4 or 19/1 appears, feel free to send in your dues a little early. You'll be guaranteed an extension of 4 issues, you won't have to worry about your subscription for the next year, and you'll make the accounting at OFO a little easier. The entire OB team thanks you!

Highlights from the Oregon Bird Records Committee meeting 11 April 1992 in Portland: (1) Harry Nehls was appointed Secretary for a second 1-year term; (2) Harry reported that Bob O'Brien had resigned as an Alternate; (3) Ruff was removed from the list of Review Species — species for which reports are requested — as the Committee believes enough reports have been received to establish their pattern of occurrence in Oregon; (4) several changes were made in the Rules of Operation to smooth out Committee functions; and (5) a number of reports of rare birds in Oregon were voted on — the results of which will be presented in the annual OBRC report published in *Oregon Birds* later this year. Harry Nehls, Secretary, Oregon Bird Records Committee, 2736 S.E. 20th Avenue, Portland OR, 97202, (503)233-3976.

Highlights from the Oregon Field Ornithologists annual meeting 1-3 May 1992 in Lincoln City: (1) a new slate of officers was elected; see the inside cover of this issue of *Oregon Birds*; (2) Kim Nelson updated us on her Marbled Murrelet research; Roy Lowe spoke about the expanding coastal national wildlife refuges; (3) Chinese ornithologist Weing Hsu, who is currently doing research in Oregon, joined us; and (4) the weather cooperated so the field trips to Siletz Bay, Beaver Creek, Yaquina Bay, Yaquina Head, and the hills produced a wide variety of birds. Despite a low turnout the 1992 annual meeting was very successful. It is not too early to start planning for

next year's annual meeting, scheduled for 4-6 June 1993 at the Malheur Field Station. Keep your eyes glued to *Oregon Birds* for more information. Also, plan to attend OFO's Fall Weekend at Malheur, 25-27 September 1992. Tim Shelmerdine, President, Oregon Field Ornithologists, 6873 S.W. Montauk Circle, Lake Oswego, OR 97035, (503)620-5105.

Oregon Field Ornithologists announces the availability of Special Publication No. 6 — *Birds of Northeast Oregon: An Annotated Checklist for Union and Wallowa Counties*, by Joe Evanich. To order a copy of this indispensable reference to birds in the northeast corner, use the handy order form in the center of this issue of *Oregon Birds*. Dennis Arendt, Treasurer, Oregon Field Ornithologists, P.O. Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440.

Proceedings of the Symposium on Peregrine Falcons in the Pacific Northwest is currently available. "The impetus for our Symposium on Peregrine Falcons in the Pacific Northwest grew from an effort in southwest Oregon to educate US Forest Service District/Forest biologists, and our study cooperators, on Peregrine Falcon toxicology, biology, and management." For a copy of the 119-page Proceedings, send \$12 to Rogue River National Forest, P.O. Box 520, Medford, OR 97501. Copies of the video-taped Symposium are available at \$30. For more information, contact Symposium organizer Joel E. Pagel, Rogue River National Forest, P.O. Box 520, Medford, OR 97501.



Portland metropolitan area bird news. These items appeared in the Portland Audubon Warbler 56(5): 11, May 1992:

- Brian Sharp would like to collect year-around data on birds that occur in Portland-Vancouver metropolitan neighborhoods. "All you need to do to volunteer is walk out your front door, take a series of early morning walks, record birds you see and hear, and give the data to Brian." The information will be used to improve the livability of Portland metropolitan neighborhoods. Brian Sharp, 2234 N.E. 9th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232, (503)287-6501.
- Malcolm Ford, a graduate student at Washington State University, is looking for

volunteers who know their warblers and other songbirds to help conduct a census of diversity and abundance of birds in Portland metropolitan natural areas. "Some birding experience and familiarity with bird songs is necessary. Malcolm will provide training for collecting data." Malcolm Ford, 215 S.E. Spring Street, Pullman WA 99163-2648, (509)332-8139.

- Great Blue Heron Week ran 27 May through 7 June. Field trips, special events, and a Blue Heron Ale fest were planned to celebrate Portland's official city bird. The Great Blue Heron photography and art exhibition opened at Gunnary's Frame Shop (across from Powell's Books). Portland Audubon Society, 5151 N.W. Cornell Road, Portland, OR 97210, (503)292-6855.

The following items come from The Wildlife Society's Oregon Chapter Newsletter, Spring 1992:

- Nongame biologist George Keister reports extensive nest searches on the Fremont, Malheur, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests in 1992 for Northern Goshawks. This activity is planned for 3 more years after this year's pilot study. In addition, a telemetry study of juvenile Northern Goshawks is planned this year on the Wallowa-Whitman NF, to be conducted by the Pacific Northwest Range and Experiment Station. If funding is available, a telemetry study of adults is planned for the Fremont NF in later years. The study will focus on the status of Northern Goshawks in eastern Oregon forests, and the suitability of habitat in the managed forest. The Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit will conduct the nest searches and adult telemetry study. The study is cooperatively funded by ODFW, the Coop Unit, and the U.S. Forest Service.
- Joan Suther of the Burns Ranger District, Malheur National Forest, reports that their nest site management plan for the first Bald Eagle nest on the District is nearly completed. The nest was discovered in spring 1991 and is the first Bald Eagle nest recorded in Harney County in recent years. Wildlife biologists on the Burns and the Snow Mountain Districts of the Ochoco National Forest are expanding their wildlife monitoring programs. Information is being gathered on a wider array of species. New surveys include old-growth surveys for Pileated Woodpeckers, an all-species owl survey, monitoring of artificially created wildlife trees for cavity nesters, and surveys for Preble's shrews, wolverines, and pine martens.
- Marty St. Louis, Manager at Summer Lake Wildlife Area, reports that most of the 100 Trumpeter Swans translocated from Harriman State Park, Idaho, last fall remained near the release site at Summer Lake through the winter. A survey on 5 February found 87 percent of the birds in the Summer Lake Basin. At that time, at least 3 birds had returned to the capture

site in Idaho. In mid-February, a major northward migration of swans was noted. By the first week of March, 22 of these swans had returned to Idaho and Montana and only 17 could be found at Summer Lake. Sightings of individual swans were reported in Oregon at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge on the Lower Columbia River, Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area, Goose Lake, Warner Valley and Malheur Refuge. In addition to the Idaho and Montana reports, these marked swans have been reported from Stillwater and Ash Meadows Refuges in Nevada, Death Valley in California, and near Wenatchee, Washington. Monitoring of translocated swans continues, and observers of color-marked Trumpeter Swans (yellow left wing, green neck collar) should report sightings to Marty at Summer Lake WA, 36981 Hwy. 31, Summer Lake, OR 97640, (503)943-3152.

- Biologist Walt Devaurs reports that the Lakeview Resource Area of the BLM completed major wetland enhancement project work in Warner Valley this year with grant funds of \$215,000 from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989. The Warner Lakes Project was established to enhance wetland habitats for waterfowl and other wildlife and to enhance public recreation opportunities. The area contains about 51,000 acres of public land north of Hart Lake. Hart Lake was essentially dry last summer, which allowed BLM to move a lot of dirt. Since 1 October, about 25 miles of irrigation dikes and levees were reconstructed and an additional 3 miles of dikes were repaired. Fifty flashboard riser headgates were also installed for water management in the future. Yet to be completed this year is drilling of a large irrigation well to enhance wetlands for early migrant waterfowl and late season broods. BLM field crews also completed some dike and headgate repair work on the Shirk Ranch Unit of Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge. This unit was purchased with Duck Stamp funds, and the project work was accomplished to enhance and restore waterfowl habitat there.
- This spring, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge staff will begin to write a draft of a management plan for the 20,000-acre Double-0 Unit in the northwestern portion of the refuge. The plan will prescribe habitat and water management to meet wildlife needs of the area. The use of habitat management tools such as burning, haying, and livestock grazing will be considered in the plan. The refuge staff would like to encourage interested wildlifers to participate in the planning process. If you would like to review the draft plan, contact Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, HC-72 Box 245, Princeton, OR 97721.
- After the April 1991 release of 33 Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse, there are some indications that the reintroduction was a success. Only 2 of the birds that were radio-collared upon release survived through

spring 1992. However, a handful of birds that were not radioed may still be in the area. This is likely considering the mild winter in northeast Oregon. A few of the hens attempted to nest last spring. Although unsuccessful, at least the effort made to acquaint the birds to their new home was well worth it. Efforts are underway to bring in additional birds from Idaho for a second release this spring to supplement last year's birds. This project is made possible through The Nature Conservancy, ODFW, Wallowa-Whitman NF, BLM, and Oregon State University.

The Pacific Seabird Group held its Annual meeting on 15-19 January 1992 at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology in Charleston, Oregon. Janet Hodder chaired the local committee and Palmer Sekora chaired the scientific program. Over 200 members attended, 50 papers were presented, and a 1-day conference on seabird databases was held in conjunction with the meeting. New Council officers are: Palmer Sekora, Chair, Craig Harrison, Vice-Chair for Conservation, Ken Warheit, Treasurer, George Divoky, Chair-Elect and 1993 Scientific Program Chair, and Kathy Keane, Southern California Regional Representative. Martha Springer is the new editor of the Pacific Seabird Group Bulletin. Write to Martha at 2621 Lingonberry Lane, Fairbanks, AK 99709. Douglas Bell received the award for best graduate student paper for "Hybridization in the Western Gull/Glaucous-winged Gull Complex." The 1993 meeting of the Pacific Seabird Group will be held 9-13 February in Seattle, Washington. This item appeared in *Ornithological Newsletter* 87: 3, April 1992. Ornithological Societies of North America, P.O. Box 1897, Lawrence, KS 66044-8897.

Early in 1992, disease struck Eared Grebe concentrations on their wintering grounds here at Salton Sea in southern California. Out of an estimated wintering population of approximately 1.5 million grebes on the Sea, an estimated 140,000 have died. The exact cause of death has not yet been determined, even though numerous laboratory tests have been run by several wildlife health facilities. What tests have been concluded have illustrated that many of

these birds are carrying very high levels of selenium, mercury, and DDE. All of these elements and contaminants are known to cause mortality at sufficient levels, and more importantly, are known to impact successful reproductive efforts. We do not know what happens to these birds once they depart from these wintering grounds. Eared Grebes are colonial nesters by nature although some colonies may be very small, depending upon habitat. It would be extremely beneficial to us to know the success of these birds throughout their breeding range. We are interested in knowing colony size, number of breeding pairs, dates of initiation of egg laying, and production of chicks. Also of value would be estimates of habitat condition, and any other environmental factors which might influence reproductive success at the breeding site. If any dead or sick Eared Grebes are encountered, please contact personnel at the nearest National Wildlife Refuge, or call the Wildlife Biologist at Salton Sea NWR. If any *Oregon Birds* readers are involved in the Colonial Breeding Bird surveys compiled by Cornell University, we would be interested in receiving copies of data sent to Cornell. Ken Voget, Refuge Manager, Salton Sea NWR, P.O. Box 120, Calipatria, CA 92233, (619)348-5278.

Yellow hummingbird. This item appeared in *The Sandpiper*, the newsletter of the Yaquina Birders and Naturalists:

- Jean Kaye reported that she had recently seen a yellow hummingbird at her Newport home. In the Spring 1992 *Project Feeder Watch News*, Erica Dunn writes that there can be much plumage variation (heterochromism) in birds coming to feeders. Such variation can be caused by genetic defects or developmental errors. Types of variation include full or partial albinism (white plumage), leucism (paleness from dilution of pigments), melanism (extra-dark plumage), erythrisms (reddish plumage), and xanthochromism (yellowish plumage). Dunn reports that pale yellow Evening Grosbeaks sometimes show up at feeders, so Jean's yellow hummingbird is certainly a sight, but not a pigment of her imagination!

Yaquina Birders and Naturalists, P.O. Box 1467, Newport, OR 97365.



Pacific Seabird Group

Oregon ornithologist L. Richard Mewaldt is remembered for his scientific contributions to ornithology and for untiring service to the Cooper Ornithological Society, which has established the Mewaldt-King Student Research Award. The award will be presented for the first time at the Centennial Meeting of the COS in Sacramento in 1993. It will support student research in areas critically important to avian conservation biology such as population ecology, population genetics, behavioral ecology, and ecophysiology. The amount of the award will depend on the share of the endowment fund separately accumulated for this award. Contributors should send their check to Donald R. Powers, COS Treasurer, Division of Natural Sciences, George Fox College, Newberg, OR 97132.

I am trying to locate these bird specimens from Jackson County, Oregon. The following were collected by Stanley G. Jewett: *Buteo lagopus* near Medford, 22 February 1930; *Sitta pygmaea* near or at Pinehurst, 22 March 1925; and *Chamaea fasciata* from Medford in 1916-18. The following were collected by Ira N. Gabrielson: *Falco mexicanus* near Eagle Point, 8 November 1926; *Ptoides albolanvatus* from Mosquito Ranger Station, 29 September 1926; *Sphyrapticus thyroideus* from Rustler Peak, 6 November 1926. Complete specimen label data are needed. I am also trying to locate the journals and field notes of Austin Paul Smith, who collected in Oregon around 1917. M. Ralph Browning, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Birds MRC 116, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. 20560, (202)357-2240.

Pacific Golden-Plovers have been banded on Oahu, Hawaii, and near Nome, Alaska. Each bird wears a FWS band plus some combination of color bands or color flags. Please note which leg is color banded and the exact sequence of colors. "It is important that we know which leg carries the particular color(s) and, where used together, whether the color band is above or below the metal band. We are especially interested in trans-Pacific migration routes and the locations of breeding grounds." Oscar W. Johnson, Department of Biology, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406)994-4548; or Pan American Shorebird Program, c/o Manomet Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 1770, Manomet, MA 02345, (508)224-6521.

Authors of articles or publications dealing with owls are asked to send a reprint. In 1975, the National Wildlife Federation published *Working bibliography of owls of the World: with summaries of current taxonomy and distributional status, NWF Scientific/Technical Series No. 1, 319 pp, by Richard J. Clark, D.G. Smith, and L.H. Kelso*. Clark and Smith are currently in the process of revising that publication for a "much-expanded second edition." They would like their second edition to be as complete as possible. Richard J. Clark, The Owl Bibliography, c/o Department of Biology, York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA 17405-7199, (717)846-7788.

Alan Contreras Books announces the availability of *Cumulative Index to Oregon Birds, Volumes 1-17 (1975-1991)*, a 41-page publication combining past indices to this very journal you are holding in your hands — compiled by E.G. White-Swift, Dave Werschkul, Martha Schmitt, and Jim Johnson. Sections of the Index include Big Days, Christmas Bird Counts, Errata, Reviews, Site Guides, etc., as well as the traditional indices by author and title. \$5.00 postpaid. Alan Contreras, Suite 22, 4098 Market Street N.E., Salem, OR 97301, (503)371-3458.

The Library of Natural Sounds at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology contains over 85,000 recordings covering 4950 species of birds. Graduate students and researchers who have need of audio recordings are encouraged to contact them. Copies of recordings are provided at a nominal fee covering studio transfer time. The Library offers state-of-the-art archival capability to birders who wish to archive their research recordings, including automated safety copying and off-site safety copy storage. The Library is frequently contacted by birders who wish to acquire audio equipment, and the Library offers consultation to birders purchasing sound recording equipment for field and studio work. Greg Budney, Curator, Library of Natural Sounds, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, (607)254-2404, fax (607)254-2415.



Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

Legislation to establish the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area is pending in the U.S. Senate, having passed the House of Representatives in November 1991. The bill would establish a national conservation area of about 482,457 acres, permanently protecting the canyon and uplands where more than 600 pairs of raptors nest and hunt. If the Senate adopts the House bill, current activities such as grazing and military training would have to be compatible with the protection of raptors and their habitats. For more information, contact Stan Senner, Chairman, ICBP-US, P.O. Box 101193, Anchorage, AK 99510.

Shorebird T-shirts are available from the Brazilian Shorebird Study Group in black, moss green, pink, violet, and maroon (one size). The price, including shipping, is \$11.00 U.S. Orders should be sent to: Inés do Nascimento, CEMAVE, Parque Nacional de Brasília, Via Epia S.M.U., Brasília - DF - CEP 70.630, Brazil.

A bilingual (Spanish/English) game for children 9-12 years old — "The Shorebird Migration Game" — is now available from the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. It "is an exciting game that incorporates shorebird migration strategies and highlights the many obstacles faced during migration." Checks, payable to MBO Inc. for \$20.00 U.S. per game should be sent to WHSRN, MBO, P.O. Box 1770, Manomet, MA 02345.



WHSRN

The Birds of North America is a new series of monographs published by the American Ornithologists' Union and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. The first 8 monographs are: Barn Owl, Piping Plover, King Rail, Indigo Bunting, Spruce Grouse, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Northern Mockingbird, and Mexican Chickadee. Early subscribers to this series will receive a substantial discount, with prices ranging from \$3 to \$5 per account, depending on how large a

subscription package you are willing to assume. The project is still looking for writers. "Contributors, amateur and professional alike, can expect a modest administrative subsidy, a discount on the series, and recognition as an authority on their species." Alan F. Poole, Managing Director, The Birds of North America, c/o The Academy of Natural Sciences, 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1195, fax (215)299-1182.

Falconry is alive and well in Oregon. From time to time birders are likely to cross paths with falconers and their winged hunting partners. For more information, write Charlie Stock, President, Oregon Falconers Association, 30646 Abraham Drive, Halsey, OR 97348.



The Endangered Species Act is up for reauthorization in September 1992. Birders interested in actively promoting reauthorization of the ESA should know about an "activist toolkit" available from the National Audubon Society. "The toolkit is divided into 2 sections: one side includes brochures, fact sheets, and other helpful background information on the Endangered Species Act; the other has 'toolsheets' for honing activist skills such as letter-writing, personal lobbying, and using the media." \$6. Audubon also has an "informative and colorful brochure" summarizing important information on the Endangered Species Act and Audubon's campaign for its reauthorization. Single copies free. National Audubon Society, Information Services, 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022. *The Endangered Species Act: A Commitment Worth Keeping* is a brochure published by the Wilderness Society. "A thorough and easy-to-read summary of the Act and issues surrounding reauthorization." Endangered Species Coalition, c/o Environmental Defense Fund, 1875 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 1016, Washington, D.C. 20009.

It happens. But it doesn't *just* happen. What does it take to put out an issue of *Oregon Birds*? It all starts with the authors. Without the individual creativity and initiative of the many authors whose words appear here, there would be no issue. The Editors take these words and in most cases put them into "proof sheets," which are circulated back to the authors and, again in most cases, sent to the Board of Editors. Proofs are corrected and queued up for layout in OB. The press is MinuteMan Press on northeast Broadway in Portland. Dennis Arendt, OFO's Treasurer, makes sure the bills are paid. Kit Larsen makes sure the mailing labels are printed. AdMail in Portland does the bulk mailing. In this issue, Steve Summers has once again done an outstanding job of compiling the listing results. Not only is this a tremendous amount of work, but it is also very data-intensive and takes a lot of attention to detail. Sheran Jones has once again put together the Fall Birding Weekend at Malheur. Birders enjoying Malheur in the fall will want to take advantage of this program, for which a tear-sheet appears in the middle of this issue. The field notes editors have once again come through on time with the quarterly field notes. In time, the long-standing eastern and western field notes will be among the most significant contributions to the literature on Oregon's field ornithology.

Rare birds — running tally of the birds of the Oregon rare bird phone network (and a few we learned about too late for the phone network) (reports of these birds might not have been verified, and, in fact, may be in error):

- 23 March 1992, Tufted Duck, a male on Meares Lake, Tillamook Co., by Dan van den Broek;
- 27 April 1992, Phainopepla, a bird behind the Fields Store, Harney Co.;
- 29 April 1992, Hooded Oriole, a male coming to a hummingbird feeder in Gold Beach, Curry Co., by Carl Sevey;
- 2 May 1992, Common Grackle, a male "bronzed" subspecies, at the Brothers rest stop, Deschutes Co., by David Bailey;

- 3 May 1992, Common Moorhen, at Dredger Pond, Malheur N.W.R., Harney Co., reported through Mike Denny;
- 8 May 1992, Blackpoll Warbler, a male in breeding plumage near Benson Pond, Malheur N.W.R., Harney Co., by Barry McKenzie; and
- 9 May 1992, Garganey, a male in breeding plumage, at the Bay City sewage treatment ponds, Tillamook Co., by Maryann Sahlstrom.

Meetings, events & deadlines

- 22-26 June 1992, Cooper Ornithological Society, 62nd Annual Meeting, at the University of Washington, Seattle. Wildlife art exhibit, social events, and pelagic, mountain, and island field trips. David A. Manuwal, Wildlife Science Group, College of Forest Resources, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98447.
- 24-27 June 1992, American Ornithologists' Union, 110th Stated Meeting, at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Erwin E. Klaas, Iowa Coop. Wildlife Res. Unit, Science Hall 2, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.
- 22-25 September 1992, Neotropical Migratory Bird Symposium and Workshop, at Estes Park, Colorado. Paper presentations, roundtable sessions, and panels to review management needs, conservation priorities, and state-of-the-art knowledge of neotropical migratory birds. Tom Martin, Arkansas Coop. Fish & Wildlife Unit, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.
- 25 - 27 September 1992, Third OFO Fall Weekend at Malheur. Malheur Field Station (MFS) member dorm rates are \$10/night plus \$1/person/night if cooking facilities in the dorm are used. Some trailers are still available at \$18/night minimum to \$38/night maximum (for 4+ occupants). A few RV spaces are also available (RVs must be completely contained). MFS non-member rates are slightly higher. Meals may be taken at the MFS dining hall or you may bring your own food. Trailers and some dorms have cooking facilities. Dining hall meal rates are breakfast \$5.50, lunch \$5.00 (a sack lunch you prepare at breakfast time), and dinner \$7.00 Please call MFS at (503)493-2629 to make your lodging and dining reservations, or write to MFS at HC 72 Box 260, Princeton, OR 97721. Sheran Jones, 9785 SW Ventura Court, Tigard, OR 97223, (503)246-5594.

| Group | Meets | At |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| Portland | First Tuesday (except Jun, Jul, Aug) | Portland Audubon House, 5151 N.W. Cornell Road, Portland |
| Yaquina Birders and Naturalists (Lincoln County) | Every third Tuesday (except Jul, Aug) | Hatfield Marine Science Center, Meeting Room 9, South Beach |
| Add your group! Write to the Editor | | |

- 2-4 October 1992, Association of Field Ornithologists and the American Birding Association will hold a joint meeting at Connecticut College, New London, CT. The program will include a symposium on conservation of neotropical migrants and workshops on field techniques; 1- and 2-day field trips. Robert Askins, Box 5461, Department of Zoology, 270 Mohegan Avenue, Connecticut College, New London, CT 06320.
- 17 December 1992 - 3 January 1993, inclusive, 93rd Christmas Bird Count, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022.
- 9-13 February 1993, Pacific Seabird Group, 20th annual meeting, Seattle, Washington, will include a symposium on the status and conservation of Pacific Northwest seabirds. Lora Leschner, Washington Department of Fish and Game, 16018 Mill Creek Boulevard, Mill Creek, WA 98012, (206)774-8812.
- 2-4 March 1993, The Wildlife Society, Oregon Chapter, 1993 Annual Meeting, at the Hotel Newport. Workshop on overview of the Endangered Species Act. Mike Wisdom, Forestry and Range Sciences Lab, 1401 Gekeler Lane, La Grande, OR 97850.
- 4-6 June 1993, Oregon Field Ornithologists annual meeting at Malheur Field Station. Tim Shelmerdine, President, Oregon Field Ornithologists, 6873 S.W. Montauk Circle, Lake Oswego, OR 97035, (503)620-5105.
- 17 December 1993 - 3 January 1994, inclusive, 94th Christmas Bird Count, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022.
- 21-27 August 1994, XXI International Ornithological Congress, Vienna, Austria. Interconvention, A-1450, Vienna, Austria. ♦

Records of banded Peregrine Falcon sightings needed

John Griffith, P.O. Box 701, Coos Bay, OR 97420

Joel Pagel, Peregrine Falcon specialist for Forest Service Region 6, asks birders to record sightings of Peregrine Falcon leg bands.

"I'm trying to find out where the peregrines are wintering," says Pagel, who is based at the Supervisor's office of the Rogue River National Forest, Medford. Ultimately, Pagel would like to get blood samples from the birds as a way of learning during which seasons they pick up the toxins that make their egg shells too thin to hatch in the wild.

Pagel says bands on Peregrine Falcons are blue, silver, or black. He needs to know the date on which birds are sighted, and the color of the bands they wear. He asks that reports be telephoned to him at (503)776-3600.

Pagel monitored 42 Peregrine nests last year in California and Oregon. Of those nests, only 12 produced chicks without his help. At many others, he used a technique called nest manipulation, whereby he replaced thin-shelled eggs with plaster of paris copies to keep the birds incubating. He took their eggs to the Predatory Bird Group at Santa Cruz for hatching. Through manipulation, he was able to replace the plaster eggs with 70 Peregrine chicks the parent birds adopted as their own.

Pagel uses professional climbing equipment to retrieve Peregrine eggs and complete nest manipulation. He also places smooth gravel in nests and occasionally dynamites cliff ledges to make nesting sites. His work was recently featured in an Associated Press story that originated in the Siskiyou National Forest.

At that nest, the site of the worst case of thin shells in Oregon, he released two Peregrine chicks on 7 April 1992. The female Peregrine returned to her nest within 2 minutes after Pagel placed the chicks. Pagel reported a week later that the chicks and adult birds in the nest were doing fine. ♦

Crossword Puzzle from page 49.



WANTED

Back issues of Oregon Birds

The National Museum of Natural History (Smithsonian) is looking for a complete set of *Oregon Birds*. If you have *SWOC Talk* volumes 1-3, or *Oregon Birds* volumes 3 onward — and would like to make a tax-deductible donation — please contact the Editor. If you have any volume or issue of *SWOC Talk* or *Oregon Birds*, that you would be willing to donate or sell, please contact the Editor. Put those musty old issues back to work!

The Editor
3007 N.E. 32nd Avenue
Portland, OR 97212

SITE GUIDE: Where to find a Bobolink in Oregon

Paul T. Sullivan, 4470 S.W. Murray Boulevard #26, Beaverton, OR 97005

Bobolinks are an exciting splash of color and bubbling song at several meadows in eastern Oregon. They arrive in mid- to late-May. The males display by singing on the wing, from utility wires, brushy hedges, or even from tall weed stalks. Some birds select natural meadows, where the females nest on the ground. Others run the gauntlet of nesting in hayfields, where the young may or may not fledge before the mower makes the first cutting in June. By July the males become less obvious and begin to molt. As soon as the young mature the birds make an early departure for their wintering grounds. I have seen 12 birds west of Wallowa as late as 20 July and another 12 at Malheur NWR on 19 August.

There are a number of sites where this species may be found (see map). They are most easily found early in the season and early in the day. Listen for the males' rapid "tink-a-link-a-link-a-link" song.

Site 1. South of Enterprise. From the courthouse drive straight south 1 mile. Do not follow the curve of the highway toward Joseph. This will place you at a crossroads with a sign pointing left to the stockyards. Continue straight south, watching the meadows on either side of the road for the next 1.5 miles.

Site 2. West of Wallowa. The Lower Valley area west of the town of Wallowa is more extensive than the site near Enterprise. Birds have been seen at all the sites marked with an X on the site map, depending upon the crop grown or cut in the various fields.

From the main street of Wallowa (actually First Street) continue straight west past the football field and continue 1 mile past the first crossroad. Here you will have to turn north. Watch for birds on either side of the road. After a half mile you may turn right to return to town. (Or you may come out on this road from Fifth Street in Wallowa.) If you continue north, this road will take you past more meadows, past Rogge's sawmill, and back to Hwy. 82.

An alternative route is to proceed west from Wallowa on Hwy. 82. Take the second right turn and proceed north 1 mile. Look for Bobolinks on both sides of the road as you jog west, then north again. Turn left at the first side road and

survey the meadows. Follow this road west past Bramlet Cemetery and back to Hwy. 82.

Site 3. North of Union. This site historically had Bobolinks, but they have not been seen here in recent years. From Union, take Hwy. 237 north toward Cove. Look in the fields east of the highway for the first 3 miles. Explore Turnbull Lane, a dead end which turns east 1 mile north of Union.

Site 4. South of La Grande. Take the southeast La Grande exit off I-84. Turn south on McAllister Lane, immediately behind the Flying J truck stop. This lane turns west and takes you to Foothill Road. Turn south and follow Foothill Road 3/4 of a mile. Bobolinks are nesting in the green meadows east of the road. This is a private hayfield whose owner cuts his hay late to accommodate the birds. Another mile south brings you to Ladd Marsh overlook, where you may see a Sandhill Crane or even a stray Bobolink. Continue southeast another 1.5 miles to reach an I-84 exit. For those unfamiliar with Foothill Road, it may be more easily found by taking I-84 south from La Grande. Take the last exit before the rest area, turn west, and trace the route backward.

Site 5. Burnt River near Hereford. According to Craig Corder, the Burnt River valley between Unity Reservoir and Bridgeport supports abundant Bobolinks. On a brief pass through the valley in late afternoon, 2 June 1991, I tallied over 18 birds at 5 scattered stops. Take Hwy. 245 east from Hwy. 26. About 4 miles east of Unity Reservoir a side road goes south across the river, east 3 miles, then back into Hereford. Follow the river east to Bridgeport or take Hwy. 245 north to Baker City.

Site 6. South of Prairie City. In Prairie City turn south at the east end of Main Street and follow the signs toward Strawberry Lake. Stop at the south edge of town and look in the nearby meadows.

Site 7. West of Mt. Vernon. Stop along Hwy. 26 in the first mile west of Mt. Vernon. Look and listen for Bobolinks on both sides of the highway.

Site 8. North of Silvies store. Stop along Hwy. 395 1 mile north of Silvies and survey the wet meadows and marsh west of the highway. In addition to Bobolinks this wonderful marsh hosts

Sandhill Cranes, American Bitterns, Sora, Black Terns, and a variety of other species.

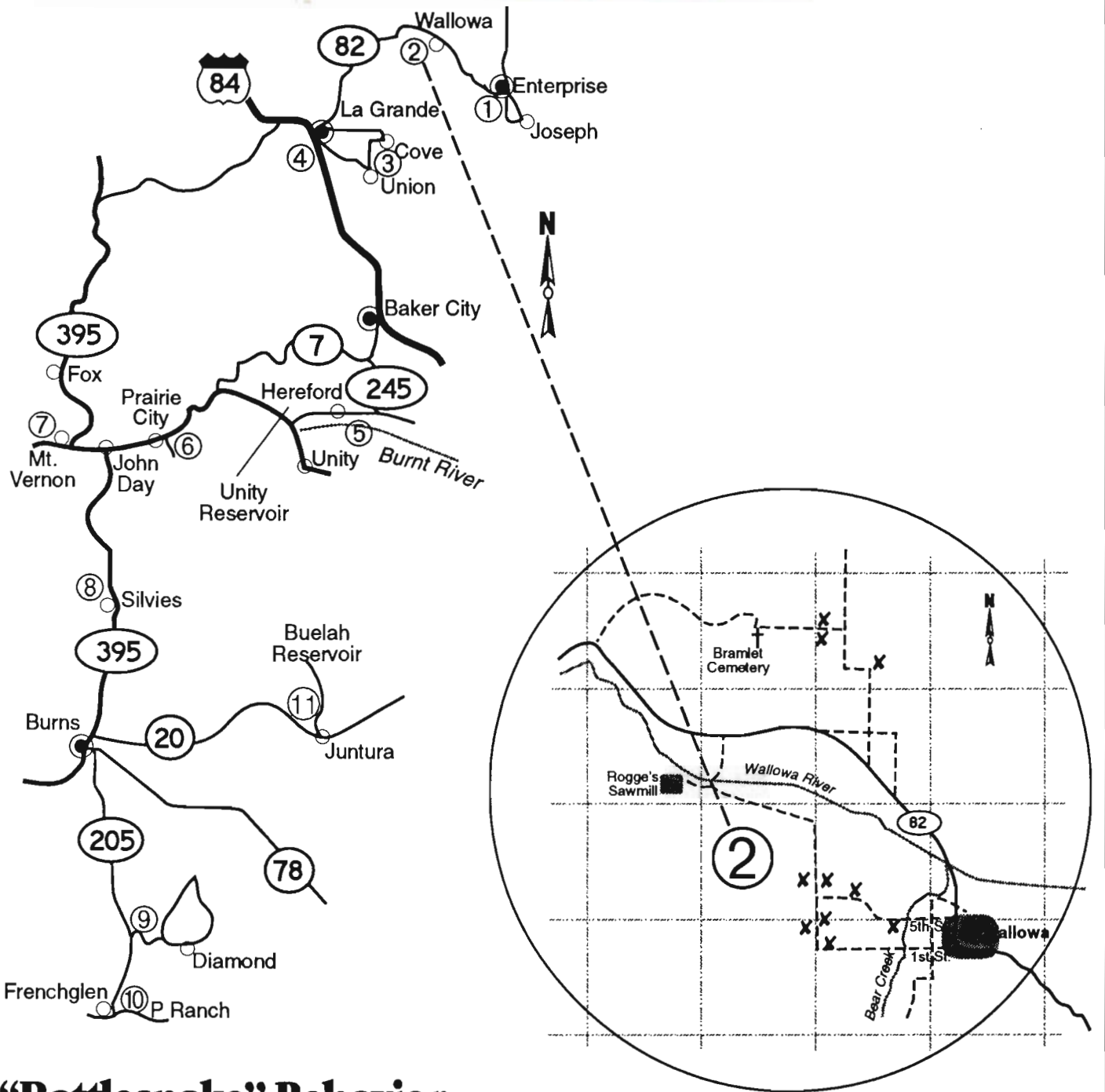
Site 9. Diamond turnoff road, Malheur NWR. Take Hwy. 205 south from Burns to Malheur NWR. Turn east on the road to Diamond, 1.5 miles south of the Buena Vista Station. Park near the junction and survey the wet meadows. You may also continue east 6 miles to another junction, where roads go north to Diamond Craters and east to Diamond. Bobolinks have been seen near this junction.

Site 10. North of P Ranch, Malheur NWR. From the P Ranch station at the south end of the refuge, take the Central Patrol Road north 0.25 mile. Stop where you can pull over and look west through a gap in the screen of willows. You may also park at the P Ranch and walk northwest along the canal to view the meadows. Bobolinks have used these meadows regularly for years.

Site 11. West of Juntura. The valley of the North Fork of the Malheur River west of Juntura contains more Bobolink habitat. The best vantage over the lush hayfields can be had from the road to Beulah Reservoir. It is away from the traffic noise of Hwy. 20 and is slightly raised above the level of the valley. Turn north at the west edge of Juntura and cross the river. Look for Bobolinks between 1 and 2.5 miles from the highway. Birds were seen here in 1987 and 1991. This oasis deserves more coverage. It is closer to Burns than P Ranch. Chukar Park, a campground 6 miles up this road is much like Page Springs campground. ◊



Other Names—Reedbird, Ricebird, Skunk Blackbird, White-winged Blackbird, Meadow-Wink, Maybird, Butterbird, Bob Lincoln, Robert. Illustration from Hausman, L.A., 1946, *Field Book of Eastern Birds*, 1946, G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, page 548.



“Rattlesnake” Behavior

Paul T. Sullivan, P.O. Box 462, Joseph, OR 97846

On 6 June 1987, I left my car and set off hiking up Devil's Gulch east of Joseph. I wore heavy boots, since I knew this was rattlesnake country. As I ascended the narrow, overgrown jeep track I kept an eye on the edges of the trail.

Suddenly it appeared out of the brush: head erect, neck flared, hissing, with tail fanned from side to side and rattling back and forth. I froze at a respectful distance. Then it charged! About 4-5 yards away it lowered its head and tail and came at me. I moved to the other wheel track. Finally, it shook from side to side, mewed like a cat, and charged to within 5 feet. Now my neck ruff was erect, too.

I had never seen a Ruffed Grouse behave like that before.

Keeping to my wheel track, I moved forward. The grouse ran ahead, protesting. I think I heard the peep of young in the bushes.

On my way back down the trail an hour later I was again met with the hissing on the trail. This time a *real* rattlesnake beat a guarded retreat. I again took the opposite wheel track as we passed.

I visited the gulch again on 7 July 1990. I was tracking the call of a Cordilleran Flycatcher when an explosive rattle right at my feet revealed another defensive hen grouse. The flycatcher got away. ◊

SITE GUIDE: Clear Lake Ridge and Devil's Gulch, Wallowa County, Oregon

Paul T. Sullivan, 4470 S.W. Murray Boulevard #26, Beaverton, OR 97005

Where can an Oregon birder hope to find Chukar, Mountain Quail and Ruffed Grouse, Veery, Poorwill, Golden Eagle, Long-eared Owl, Red-eyed Vireo, Canyon Wren, Lewis' Woodpecker, Dusky Flycatcher, and a variety of warblers and migrant shorebirds all in one natural area? The answer is the Nature Conservancy's new Clear Lake Ridge preserve east of Joseph.

Although acquisition is still in progress, the preserve already encompasses significant portions of a treeless ridge and partially timbered canyons. The Nature Conservancy's holdings are interspersed with U.S. Forest Service and private lands. The ridgetop holds 3 playa lakes — shallow basins which rely on rain and snow for their water. One of these, Downey Lake, has hosted nesting Greater Yellowlegs in the past. I have seen all 3 teal, several other species of ducks, Eared Grebe, Wilson's Phalarope, Sora, yellowlegs, and dowitchers there. The ridge also hosts several hawks and prairie species like Horned Lark, and Vesper, Savannah, and Brewer's Sparrow. I have heard Poorwills on the east slope of the ridge and found both Blue Grouse and Long-eared Owl at the head of brushy draws. The Nature Conservancy is attempting to reintroduce Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse on Clear Lake Ridge. All grouse hunting will be temporarily restricted to promote their survival.

Devil's Gulch, a fine riparian area, lies west of the ridge, carved by a tributary of Little Sheep Creek. A hike up the gulch in springtime is a feast for the ear and eye, a stroll through shady glades below sunny rimrock.

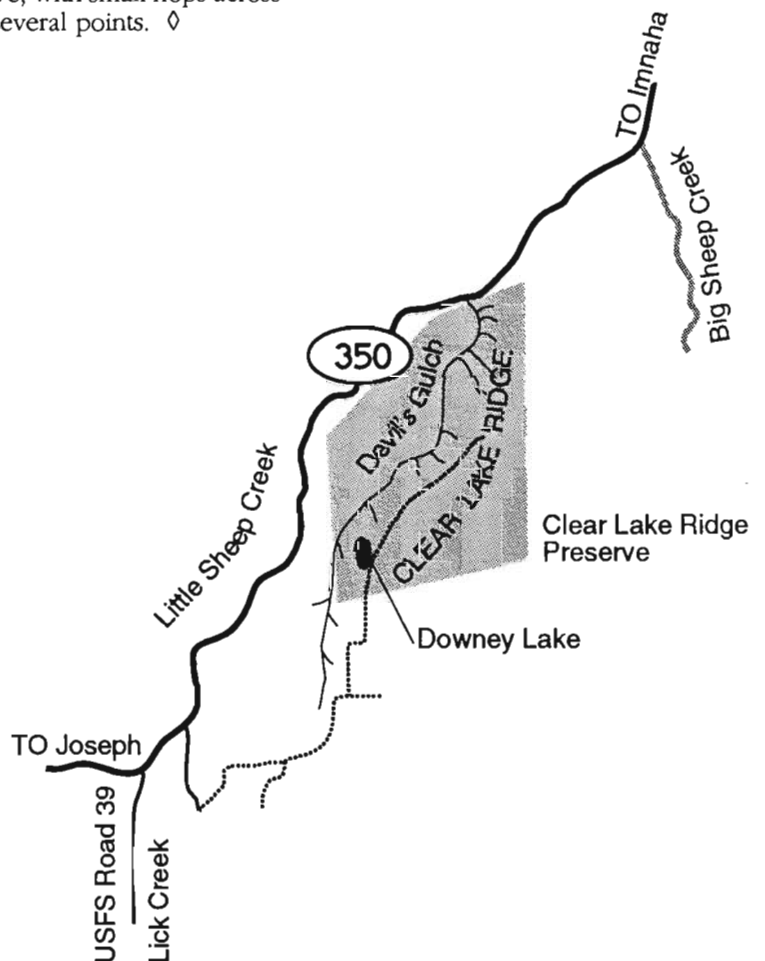
Rufous-sided Towhees, Lazuli Buntings, and Yellow Warblers abound, followed closely by House Wrens, Warbling Vireos, and Veerys (14 Veerys on 6 June 1987). Red-eyed Vireos and Yellow-breasted Chats are readily found, too. Lewis' Woodpeckers nest. Dusky Flycatchers, Northern Orioles, and Western Tanagers call from the cottonwoods. MacGillivray's Warblers and Ruffed Grouse can be heard in the underbrush. Canyon Wrens, Rock Wrens, Chukars,

and swallows can be found on the rimrocks, while Golden Eagles soar overhead. Rufous and Calliope Hummingbirds flit about. Chickadees and kinglets call from the conifers.

As if this were not enough, stealthy birders may find Mountain Quail here, a special sighting for eastern Oregon. I found 2 hens with broods on 7 July 1990.

To visit the preserve, please call the Portland office of The Nature Conservancy (503-228-9561). The road on the ridgetop is impassible much of the year due to snow or muddy conditions.

A Wallowa-Whitman National Forest map would be helpful. They can be obtained locally. You should also carry water plus any food you need. No facilities are available on the preserve. Sturdy hiking boots are recommended for Devil's Gulch. Rattlesnakes are present and the track is primitive, with small hops across the stream at several points. ♦



FIELDNOTES: Eastern Oregon, Fall 1991

Joe Evanich, 5026 N.E. Clackamas, Portland, OR 97213

The term "Indian Summer" was particularly appropriate when describing the general climate throughout Eastern Oregon this fall. The mild, dry summer conditions continued up to late October in most areas with little precipitation noted during August and September. The first major storm fronts occurred around 20 October, resulting in the first snowfalls and low temperatures. Prior to that, most regions experienced unusually warm and dry conditions. By early November, however, temperatures, precipitation levels, and general weather patterns were temporarily back to normal in most areas.

The mild conditions were very beneficial to most migrants, and some species nested later than usual. Low water levels during September and October provided excellent habitat for migrant shorebirds, especially in the basins of Southeast and South-central Oregon.

Abbreviations used in this report include NWR (National Wildlife Refuge); WMA (Wildlife Management Area); HQ (refuge headquarters); s.p. (sewage ponds); SP (State Park); Res. (Reservoir); Lk. (Lake); Cr. (Creek); Mtn. (Mountain); co. (county); m.ob. (many observers); *et al.* (and others); *fide* (reported by). All county names are italicized.

Loons to Ibis

Common Loon numbers were perceived as lower than usual in most areas, especially along the Columbia River (MD, HN, m.ob.); one of the species' major migration stops, Wickiup Res., *Deschutes* recorded a peak of only 40 birds this fall (25 Sep; CM). The only Red-throated Loon report was a single bird at Bend on 9 Nov (TC). Pacific Loons, on the other hand, had a record season with up to 2 at Bend's Mirror Pond from 18 Oct-3 Nov (TC, CM); 2 at Pine Hollow Res., *Wasco* on 3-5 Nov (CC, DL); 2 at the John Day Dam, *Sherman* on 5-9 Nov (NL, CC); up to 5 at Haystack Res., *Jefferson* on 10 Nov (CM); and 1 at Malheur NWR on 2 Nov (RV, CB).

The only Red-necked Grebes re-

ported were 7 birds at the John Day Dam on 11 Sep (NL), and an immature on Wickiup Res. on 25 Sep (CM). Migrant Horned Grebes were reported in small numbers from 5 counties, mainly from 20 Sep-10 Nov; 64 at the John Day Dam on 9 Nov (NL) was the largest concentration reported. Forty Eared Grebes were noted on the La Grande s.p., *Union* on 13 Sep (SR), and the 15 found at Boardman, *Morrow* on 24 Aug included 4 juveniles (CC). Western Grebes were seldom reported; 200 at the John Day Dam on 9 Nov (NL) and 120 at Wickiup Res. on 25 Sep (CM) were the largest numbers noted. The only Clark's Grebes mentioned included singles at Farewell Bend SP, *Baker* on 4 Sep (MD) and Harney Lk. on 13 Sep (CM), and 2 birds at the John Day Dam on

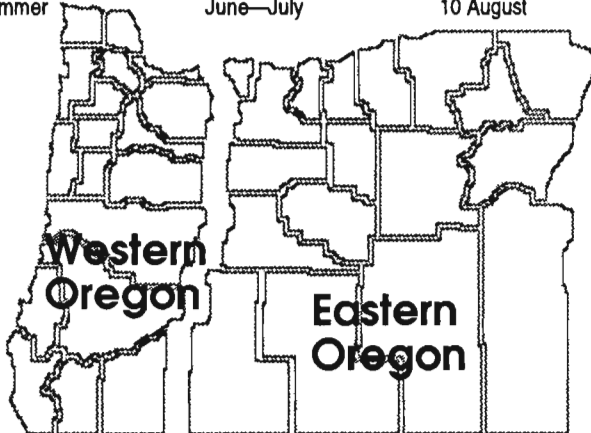
9 Nov (NL).

Post-breeding American White Pelicans peaked at Malheur NWR (Harney Lk.) at 572 birds on 7 Nov (*fide* RV), and a flock of 22 was an unusual find at Bully Cr. Res., *Malheur* on 18 Aug (PTS). Up to 4 pelicans were noted at McNary Dam, *Umatilla* as late as 27 Nov (MD, DL). Unusual records of Great Egrets came from Bully Cr. Res. on 18 Aug (PTS); from Unity Res., *Baker* on 6 Sep (JW); at Ladd Marsh WMA, *Union* on 11 Sep (DB); and at McNary Dam on 27 Nov (very late; MD, DL). **Cattle Egrets** were found again this fall. The 8 birds near Prineville, *Crook* on 5 Nov (Rick Demmer) were only the sixth or seventh record for Eastern Oregon away from the Malheur NWR area and a first record from *Crook*. A single bird was



Oregon Birds and American Birds have synchronized reporting areas, periods, and deadlines. Field reports for eastern and western Oregon are due to the OB Regional Editor and AB Regional Editor at the same time.

| Season | Months | Due date |
|--------|-------------------|-------------|
| Fall | August—November | 10 December |
| Winter | December—February | 10 March |
| Spring | March—May | 10 June |
| Summer | June—July | 10 August |



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| Corvallis area | Elzy Eltzroth | 6980 N.W. Cardinal Corvallis, OR 97330 745-7806 |
| Rogue Valley | Marjorie Moore | 357 Taylor Street Ashland, OR 97520 482-1303 |

at Malheur HQ on 20 Sep (JFG). The 10 Black-crowned Night-Herons at McNary Park (at the dam) on 6 Oct (CC) were probably preparing to winter, but the singles at Dufur, *Wasco* on 9 Nov (DL) and at Prineville on 1 Aug (CM) were most likely wandering through the areas. After an excellent nesting season in *Harney*, wandering White-faced Ibis were noted as far away as Powell Butte, *Crook* on 7 Aug (TC; 21 birds, also a *Crook* record) and near Mt. Vernon, *Grant* during Aug and early Sep (LF, TH).

Waterfowl

The first migrant Tundra Swans were noted 13 Oct at the John Day Dam (4 birds; DL) and 27 Oct at Hatfield Lk., *Deschutes* near Bend (8 birds; TC); numbers peaked in most areas during late Oct and early Nov. The lone swan at Wamic, *Wasco* on 10 Aug (DL) was quite out of season, and a flock of 120 swans at Willow Cr. Res., *Morrow* from 1-7 Nov was an unusual local record (RM). A Greater White-fronted Goose at John Day, *Grant* on 26 Aug was early (C&MO); the first "normal" migrants appeared 1 Sep at Ochoco Lk. (1 bird; LR) and 30 Sep at Malheur NWR (2 birds; DL). The 120 White-fronts at Wickiup Res. on 12 Oct (CM) was the highest number reported. Single Snow Geese were found 27 Sep at Malheur NWR (PTS, CC) and 18 Oct in Bend (TC); the lone bird at Odell, *Hood River* on 11 Nov was an unusual local report (PTS).

Twenty-two Wood Ducks were found at McNary Park on 27 Nov (MD), and 3 rather late birds were at the unlikely site of Drewsey, *Harney* on 3 Nov (CC). Migrant waterfowl usage of *Harney* Lk. at Malheur NWR peaked on 7 Nov; an aerial survey over 70% of that area that day recorded the following numbers (*vide* RV):

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Swan, species | 227 |
| Canada Goose | 2105 |
| Snow/Ross' Goose. | 1300 |
| Green-winged Teal. | 2675 |
| Mallard. | 325 |
| Northern Pintail. | 240 |
| Northern Shoveler. | 200 |
| Gadwall. | 6962 |
| American Wigeon. | 5715 |
| Canvasback. | 1005 |
| Redhead. | 9370 |
| scaup, species | 210 |
| Common Goldeneye. | 1 |
| Bufflehead. | 22 |
| Common Merganser. | 20 |
| American Coot. | 10,250 |

A Eurasian Wigeon at Pine Hollow Res. on 5 Nov was the only report of that

species (CC). Up to 500 Greater Scaup were already settling in for the winter at Mosier, *Wasco* by 3 Nov (DL, *et al.*); 4 on Willow Cr. Res. 11 Nov (RM) and 1 at The Narrows, Malheur NWR 29-30 Nov (DL) were the only others reported.

There was a virtual invasion of scoters in Eastern Oregon this fall. There were 7 reports of **White-winged Scoter**: an immature at Wallowa Lk. on 13 Oct (SR); up to 4 at Haystack Res. on 27 Oct (LR); up to 3 at the Prineville s.p. on 3 Nov (TC, first *Crook* record); an immature at The Narrows on 6-7 Nov (RV, *et al.*); singles at Summer Lk. WMA and in Christmas Valley, *Lake* on 6 Nov (CM, SS); and 1 at Hatfield Lk. on 10 Nov (CM). There were 3 **Surf Scoter** reports: 1 at Haystack Res. on 27 Oct (LR); a female on the Dufur s.p. on 5 Nov (CC); and 2 birds at Hatfield Lk. on 5 Nov (CM). Equally unusual were the single **Oldsquaws** on the Prineville s.p. 3-11 Nov (TC, first *Crook* record) and on Haystack Res. 2-11 Nov (LR, CM). Rounding out the list of "coastal" ducks seen this fall were single Red-breasted Mergansers at Ochoco Lk., *Crook* on 3 Nov (TC) and at the John Day Dam on 9 Nov (NL).

Raptors, Gallinaceous Birds

The first Bald Eagles of the season appeared in most areas in mid-Oct; the first census of wintering eagles at Malheur NWR found 1 adult and 6 immatures on 22 Nov (*vide* RV). Accipiter movements were noted mainly from late Aug to mid-Nov, and there were 8 Northern Goshawk reports — 4 from *Grant*, 2 from *Union*, and 2 from northern *Harney*. The first Rough-legged Hawk was found at Hermiston, *Umatilla* on 4 Oct (CC), a typical arrival date. A very rare **Red-shouldered Hawk** was reported without details from the P Ranch, Malheur NWR on 14 Sep (C&MO). There were only 3 Peregrine Falcon reports this fall — 1 at Summer Lk. WMA on 28 Aug (CM); 1 at Bully Cr. Res. on 18 Aug (PTS); and 1 at Malheur HQ on 18 Sep (HN).

Based on all the reports received, gallinaceous birds must have had a productive nesting season. Gray Partridges were reported more frequently and in larger numbers than usual in *Baker*, *Union*, and *Wallowa*, and there were 3 reports of the species from the Long Creek area of *Grant*. Six partridge were also reported south of Wright's Point, *Harney* on 12 Sep (CM). A female Spruce Grouse was seen on Mt. Fanny, *Union* 14 Sep (KK), and another female with young was found there on 1 Sep (JW). A Blue Grouse observed in juniper-sage wood-

land at only 3400 feet on Sutton Mtn., *Wheeler* was in unusual habitat (RM). Four Mountain Quail were also an unusual find on Sutton Mtn. 6 Oct (RM). A Northern Bobwhite was observed north of Ontario, *Malheur* on 16 Aug (JE). Bobwhite found in this part of Oregon and in northern *Umatilla* are probably the only long-established (albeit declining) populations in the state.

Cranes, Shorebirds

A pair of Sandhill Cranes nested in the Wallowa Valley and raised 2 colts this August; this may well be the farthest north nesting record for the Greater Sandhill Crane in Oregon (DB, *vide* Grande Ronde Bird Club).

Due to the extensive habitat created by low water levels throughout Eastern Oregon, shorebirds were remarkably well monitored this fall. Thirty species were reported from 9 counties; as usual, most were recorded in *Deschutes*, *Harney*, and *Umatilla*. Black-bellied Plover were found in typical small numbers ranging from 6 Sep-12 Oct; the 6 at Wickiup Res. was the highest number recorded (CM, TC). The pair of Black-bellied Plover at Hatfield Lake on 22 Sep was a *Deschutes* first, a long-overdue record (TC). There were only 2 Lesser Golden-Plover reports: 1 at Malheur Lk. on 28 Sep (PTS, BB, *et al.*), and 2 at Wickiup Res. on 12 Oct (CM; third co. record). Semipalmated Plover moved through in normal small numbers during Aug and early Sep. Snowy Plover numbers peaked at 14 birds in the *Harney* Lk.-Stinking Lk. area of Malheur NWR during late Aug (*vide* RV).

Black-necked Stilt numbers increased at Malheur NWR during late Aug to 1338 birds; American Avocets peaked there in early Sep with 2482 birds (*vide* RV). A flock of 10 stilts at Boardman on 24 Aug (CC) was the only extralimital report received. Four Solitary Sandpipers were reported at Mud Lk., Malheur NWR on 21 Aug (RV), and singles were at Mosier on 24 Aug (DL) and at Haystack Res. on 15 Sep (JG, TC, CM). Marbled Godwits were reported only from *Harney* this fall; small numbers were found mainly around Malheur Lk. from 22 Aug-12 Oct (CC, PTS, HN). A juvenile **Ruddy Turnstone** at Ochoco Lk. on 1 Sep (LR, TC, CM) and 2 of that species at Boardman on 24 Aug (CC) were outstanding records. The *Crook* record was a *Crook* first (TC).

Peep numbers peaked during Aug and early Sep; in addition to the typical Least and Westerns, there were more than the usual number of Baird's Sandpipers reported. The 95 Baird's at Malheur

Lk. on 22 Aug (RV, GI) has to be one of the largest concentrations of the species ever recorded anywhere in Oregon. Five **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were recorded: 1 at Hatfield Lk. on 18 Aug (CM); 2 at Ochoco Lk. on 1 Sep (TC, first *Crook* record); 1 near Lower Klamath NWR, *Klamath*, on 7 Sep (Ray Eckstrom); and 1 at Buena Vista Pond, Malheur NWR on 15 Sep (CM). Pectoral Sandpipers were in good numbers in most areas, mainly from mid-Sep to early Oct. The peak concentration of 100+ Pectorals at Malheur Lk. on 28 Sep. included an extremely rare and well-described juvenile **SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER** (PTS, BB, *et al.*). This would be only the second record of the species for Eastern Oregon. Another **SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER** was meticulously detailed from near Lower Klamath NWR, *Klamath*, on 24 Sep (Ray Eckstrom, drawing). These represent only the second and third **SHARP-TAILED** records for Eastern Oregon. Four Dunlin were at Hatfield Lk. on 11 Nov (TC), and there were 5 Sanderling reports: 1 at Boardman on 24 Aug (CC); 2 at Wamic on 14 Sep (DL); 4 at Thief Valley Res., *Union* on 20 Sep (CC; a first co. record); 3 at Unity Res. also on 20 Sep (CC); and 1 at Summer Lk. WMA on 30 Sep (CM, SS).

The juvenile **Stilt Sandpiper** found near the La Grande Airport, *Union* on 20 Aug (JE) was the only report of the species this fall; it was also a first co. record. Red-necked Phalaropes peaked at 530 birds on Malheur Lk. on 22 Aug (*vide* RV), and 2 **Red Phalaropes** appeared at Summer Lk. on 30 Sep (CM, SS, *et al.*).

Gulls to Woodpeckers

Bonaparte's Gulls were found in higher than usual numbers, mainly from mid-Sep to mid-Oct; most reports came from the Malheur NWR area. Two juvenile Franklin's Gulls at Thief Valley Res. on 20 Aug (JE) were the only ones reported outside the species' normal Harney Basin range. Single Herring Gulls appeared at the Deschutes River mouth on 18 Aug (DL, DA); at Malheur Lk. on 27 Sep (third-winter bird; CM); and at Wickiup Res. on 12 Oct (adult bird; CM). The only noteworthy tern report was a single Common Tern at Malheur Lk. on 15 and 27 Sep (CM, C&MO).

The Band-tailed Pigeon found 22 Sep at Benson Pond, Malheur NWR was the only one reported (GI). A migrant Flammulated Owl at Long Mtn., *Harney* on the unusual date of 13 Nov (*vide* RV) is probably the latest record for the

species in Oregon. A Northern Pygmy-Owl found in open juniper-sage woodland on Sutton Mtn. from 6-8 Oct was in unusual habitat for the species (RM). **Boreal Owls** continue to be found with surprising regularity. At least 4 (and possibly as many as 6) different birds were heard and/or seen along Skyline Rd. in the Umatilla NF of extreme northwest *Wallowa* from 11-15 Oct (MD, DL, VT, KK, *et al.*). Several **Boreal Owls** were heard at Todd Lk. near Bachelor Butte, *Deschutes* on 2 Oct (TC *et al.*).

A female Broad-tailed Hummingbird was at a Umatilla feeder on 13 Aug (MC, CC), and another female appeared near Frog Lk., *Wasco* on 17-18 Aug (DL, DA, DP). The latter bird was found in a clearcut amid a mixed flock of 100+ hummers. Noteworthy woodpecker finds included an immature Red-breasted Sapsucker at Malheur NWR from 27-30 Sep (HN, *et al.*), and an extremely rare **YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER** at Silver Lake Ranger Station, *Lake* on 9 Sep (SS, CM); this is approximately the eighth record of the latter species in Oregon.

Flycatchers to Waxwings

In general, passerine migration was uneventful and apparently on time. Due



Boreal Owl, 19 October 1991, Table Rock lookout 2 miles north of Oregon on FR 64, Columbia Co., Washington. Photo/David Herr.



Boreal Owl, 12 October 1991, Wallowa Co., Oregon. This ghostly image taken by flashlight and fast film. Photo/Verda Teale.

to the mild summer-like weather and a lack of storm fronts up to late Oct, there were few waves or concentrations of small land birds noted. Many species that depart by mid-Sep lingered for an additional month, taking advantage of the mild conditions.

Flycatchers were virtually unreported. A Gray Flycatcher at Malheur NWR on 2 Oct (SJ, DH) seemed late. An Ash-throated Flycatcher at Hermiston on 6 Sep (CC) was north of that species' normal range. A **BLUE JAY** was reported at a bird bath in La Grande on 25 Nov (G&FV, *vide* Grande Ronde Bird Club). Single Scrub Jays at Bend on 4 Aug to the end of the period (TC); at the Malheur Field Station on 2 Oct (SJ, DH); at a Mt. Vernon feeder from 14 Oct to mid-Nov (*vide* Grant Co. Bird Club); and at a La Grande feeder from 25 Nov into Dec (JC; second co. record) were all highly unusual. It would be interesting to note if these jays belonged to the bright Western Oregon subspecies, or to the more subdued-plumaged Great Basin race. Two Northern Mockingbirds were reported: 1 near Bend on 1 Sep (CM), and another at McNary Park on 14 Sep (CC). The first Bohemian Waxwings of the season were noted 1 Oct in La Grande (*vide* Grande Ronde Bird Club), and on 26 Oct in Umatilla (MD, MLD). A remarkable **PHAINOPEPLA** (female) was found in a city park in Lakeview, *Lake* on 26 Sep (BW); if accepted by the Oregon Bird Records Committee, this would be the third state record.

Warblers to Finches

There were remarkably few vagrant warblers reported from Eastern Oregon

this fall. The most outstanding was an adult male **MAGNOLIA WARBLER** found along Crowley Rd. in *Malheur* on 28 Sep (DA, DL, NM) — definitely a first co. record! The only other report that qualifies as unusual was the first-year male American Redstart found at Malheur HQ on 15 Sep (JE). A very late Yellow Warbler was studied in the town of Umatilla on 30 Nov (KK). Another "eastern" vagrant reported was a **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** at the P Ranch on 31 Aug (C&MO). A late Lazuli Bunting was found at Cold Springs NWR, *Umatilla* on 15 Sep (CC).

Migrant Fox Sparrows were noted at McNary Park on 6 Oct (CC) and at Malheur NWR on 27 Sep (CM). Although considered regular now in Western Oregon during the winter, **Swamp Sparrows** are still very rare east of the Cascades; 2 birds were found at McNary Park from 26 Oct to the close of the report period (MD, MLD, KK; fourth co. record), and 1 bird was at Fields, *Harney* on 12 Oct (SS, TC). For the fifth consecutive year a Harris' Sparrow has appeared at a feeder just south of La Grande (27 Nov+; BBr); a remarkable record if this is the same individual returning each winter. There were at least 6 White-throated Sparrow reports (*Crook, Deschutes, Harney, and Umatilla*), ranging from 17 Sep-13 Oct (CM, HN, TC, MD, *et al.*). An immature Black-throated Sparrow was at Page Springs Campground, *Harney* on 4 Sep (*vide* RV). Surprisingly, there were no reports of Tree Sparrows as of 30 Nov. The best find of the fall for Oregon was the remarkable **LeCONTE'S SPARROW** found and photographed at Fields on 12 Oct (GL, JJ, *et al.*); this is only the second

record for the state (the first was also at Fields).

Tricolored Blackbirds were observed near Prineville on 5 Nov (6 birds; CM). Eight Rosy Finches were reported from Mt. Jefferson on 7 Sep (CM), and an early flock of 300 was in the lowlands at Rhea Cr., *Morrow* on 15 Nov (RM). After a virtual absence of more than a year throughout all of Oregon, Red Crossbills made an amazing comeback in mid-Aug when good numbers were reported from many mountainous areas. Single Common Redpolls were noted at 2 La Grande feeders the last week of Nov for the only reports so far this season (*vide* Grande Ronde Bird Club). As of 30 Nov, there were no reports of White-winged Crossbills, Pine Grosbeaks, or Snow Buntings from Eastern Oregon.

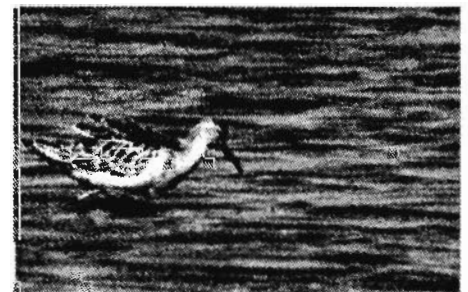
Observers

David Anderson, Barb Bellin (BB), Dave Bronson, Bill Brown (BBr), Carla Burnside, Joyce Coate, Craig Corder, Marion Corder, Tom Crabtree, Merry Lynn Denny (MLD), Mike Denny (MD), Joe Evanich, Anthony Floyd, Lowell Franks, John F. Gatchet (JFG), Jeff Gilligan (JG), David Herr, Tom Hunt, Gary Ivey, Jim Johnson, Sheran Jones, Ken Knittle, Nick Lethaby, Gerard Lillie, Donna Lusthoff, Nancy MacDonald, Craig Miller, Russell Morgan, Harry Nehls, Clarence & Marilyn O'Leary (C&MO), Don Peterson, Lew Rems, Skip Russell, Paul T. Sullivan (PTS), Priscilla Summers (PS), Steve Summers (SS), Verda Teale, Guy & Freda Vaughn (G&FV), Rick Vetter (Malheur NWR), Jim Ward, Bing Wong. ♦



Left: Hudsonian Godwit, 1 September 1991, South Jetty of the Columbia River, Clatsop Co., OBRC record number 251-91-12C. Photo/Harry Nehls.

Below: Ruff, female juvenile, 5 September 1991, Sturgeon Lake south of Coon Point, Sawvie Island, Multnomah Co. Photo/Tim Janzen.



FIELDNOTES: Western Oregon, Fall 1991

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Abbreviations used

- Res. Reservoir
SJCR So. Jetty of the Columbia R.
S.P. State Park
STP Sewage Treatment Ponds
* original observer where there were subsequent observers

Loons through Ducks

As is typical, a small number of Pacific Loons were found inland. A Red-necked Grebe was at the John Day Dam on 9 Nov (NL, SE), and one was at Suttle L. in the central Cascades on 27 Oct (LR). The only Clark's Grebe reported was one at John Day Dam on 9 Nov (NL, SE).

A pelagic trip that went 35 miles off the Columbia R. on 24 Aug produced the following (JJ, GG, BO, DL, et al.):

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Black-footed Albatross | 35 |
| Northern Fulmar | 25 |
| Pink-footed Shearwater | 25 |
| Buller's Shearwater | 2 |
| Red-necked Phalarope | 75 |
| Parasitic Jaeger | 1 |
| Long-tailed Jaeger | 1 |
| So. Polar Skua | 1 |
| Sabine's Gull | 2 |

A pelagic trip that went over 20 miles off the Columbia R. mouth on 21 Sep produced the following (GL, et al.):

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Buller's Shearwater | 40 |
| Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel | 1,000+ |
| Leach's Storm-Petrel | 2 |

The storm-petrels were about 27 miles off shore.

A **Flesh-footed Shearwater** was seen off of Tillamook on 28 Aug (DS). This species is rare at best off Oregon. Six Short-tailed Shearwaters were seen from Yaquina Head on 20 Nov, and a single Fork-tailed Storm-petrel was seen there the same day (NL). A single Leach's Storm-Petrel was seen from shore near Newport 10 Aug (DF).

Twenty-four Am. White Pelicans were at Howard Prairie Res. (Jackson Co.) on 1 Sep (BS). Brown Pelicans were in heavy southward migration during the last week of Oct and the first week of Nov. Two were still at Newport on 29 Nov (JS).

Great Egrets were a bit more common than normal as far north as Tillamook Bay, where up to 6 were present throughout the period.

A Snowy Egret was at Agate Res.

from 1 to 5 Oct (BS, RE, HS). An immature **Little Blue Heron** was at Yaquina Bay from 29 to 31 Aug (RG, et al.). This constitutes the fourth state record. Cattle Egrets made a better than average showing along the coast, and several were also noted in the inland valleys (e.g. 2 near Corvallis 20 to 23 Nov, HH, et al.). A Black-crowned Night-Heron at Gearhart is one of the few records for Clatsop Co. (MP).

A Tundra Swan was very early at Sauvie I. 9-12 Sep (HN, JJ). One very early on 18 Aug was capable of flight (JJ). The first migrant Greater White-fronted Goose reported was one at Fern Ridge Res. on Aug 14 (AF). Individuals of this species sometimes become associated with domesticated fowl and stay throughout the summer. Migrants are often noted by early or mid Aug. A juv. **Emperor Goose** was at Sauvie I. on 16 Oct (JJ). A female **King Eider** was first located at Bandon on 27 Oct, and was present to the end of the period and beyond (JKa). Up to 5 Oldsquaws were at the Forest Grove STP from 10 to 17 Nov (PM, LW, HN, PS). That must be the largest congregation of that species ever reported from an inland location in Oregon. The usual small number were reported from scattered locations along the coast. A few Surf Scoters and White-winged Scoters were reported from various inland locations from early Oct through mid-Nov. A Barrow's Goldeneye was at Tillamook Bay from 2 Nov to the end of the period (SR, et al.) Three Red-breasted Mergansers were a surprise inland at Dalton Pt. on 16 Nov (JJ).

Vulture through Puffins

The last reported Turkey Vulture at Sauvie I. was on 9 Oct (JJ). The last reported from Ashland was 7 Nov (RSk). The last reported Osprey was from Timothy L. (Mt. Hood) on 10 Nov (DL). A Goshawk was at Independence on 31 Oct (RG, BT). Red-shouldered Hawks were perhaps in higher numbers than

ever. As is expected, small numbers were reported from the south coast. One was near Table Rock, Jackson Co., on 26 Oct (RE). Three were at Whitehorse Park, Josephine Co., on 5 Oct (VZ). In the Willamette Valley, one was at Banks, Washington Co., on 25 Aug (DS); one was along Five Rivers Rd., Lane Co., on 1 Sep (D&BM); an imm. was on Sauvie I. on 4 Sep (JJ); one was at Finley NWR on 12 Sep (WC); and 2 were there on 27 Oct (CC, JS, JK, RK). A **Ferruginous Hawk** was well described from Eagle Point on 17 Sep (HS). Two Golden Eagles were seen in Linn Co. on 4 Oct (MH). The first Merlin of the season was one reported from Sauvie I. on 28 Aug (SR). There were 3 **Gyrfalcons** reported. One at the mouth of the Rogue R. on 23 Oct (AB), and one at Brookings on 30 Nov (CD) might have been the same bird. One was seen near the SJCR on 28 Nov (DL, et al.). Several reports of Prairie Falcons were received: 1 near St. Paul on 11 Sep (BB, PS); another or the same bird near there on 24 Nov (DC, MLC); 1 near Albany on 28 Nov (RG); 1 at Basket Slough NWR on 2 Nov (DP); and 2 near Brookings on 27 Oct (DM).

An **American Avocet** was a good find at Sauvie I. on 7 Sep (TL, AF, et al.).

Individual Long-billed Curlews were reported from the north and central coast at various dates from 17 Aug to the end of the period (PP, HN, JG, et al.). Three **Hudsonian Godwits** were at the SJCR on 1 Sep (JG, GL, HN, HH, CC, MC). The usual very small numbers of Red Knots were reported from favored locales along the coast in August and September. One inland at the St. Paul STP on 13 Sep was exceptional (BB). As has been shown to be typical, small numbers of Semipalmated Sandpipers were reported from many locations. The last 2 were seen at Waldport on 14 Sep (BB, PS). Several observers noted that Pectoral Sandpipers were up in numbers from the past 2 years (M&EE, et al.). A total of 12 juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were reported,

FIELDNOTES: Western Oregon, Spring 1991, OB 17(4), 127-28, Winter 1991

Corrections

In the spring summary I spelled Rob Krevitz's name incorrectly. I thank Otis Swisher for the correction. I apologize to Mr. Krevitz.

Additions

A Lark Sparrow was at Sauvie I. on 5 May 1991 (HN).

with extreme dates of 14 Sep at Florence, and 10 Nov at the Nehalem STP (GL, TS, JG, BB, PS, TC, HH, BBa, RL, JK, DFa). Buff-breasted Sandpipers made their annual appearance in small numbers. Up to 6 at the North Bend Airport was an unusual concentration on 6 Sep and for about a week thereafter (J&KW, et al.) One was inland, where the species is very rare, at Sauvie I. on 22 Aug (HN). A juvenile Ruff at Agate L. from 1 through 27 Sep was the first record for the Rogue Valley (RE, et al.). An adult and a juvenile were at the SJCR on 11 Aug (MP). A juvenile was at Sauvie I. from 4 to 7 Sep (JJ, et al.). The only report of a Wilson's Phalarope was one at Sauvie I. on 25 Aug (JJ). An injured Red Phalarope at the Siltcoos R. outlet on 9 Aug was the earliest (MH).

One Long-tailed Jaeger was seen on a pelagic trip off of Clatsop Co. on 24 Aug (BO, JJ, GG, DL, et al.). Three were recorded from a pelagic trip off of Coos Co. on 7 Sep (LT, DL). Two **South Polar Skuas** were recorded: one off Clatsop Co. on 24 Aug (BO, JJ, GG, DL, et al.), and one off Coos Bay on 8 Sep (LT, DL, et al.). One or 2 Franklin's Gulls were at Sauvie I. from 3 Aug through 10 Nov (NL, HN, PS, JJ). The first Glaucous Gulls were one offshore from Tillamook on 26 Oct (*vide* HN), and one at Yaquina Bay on 27 Oct (PS). A **Heerman's Gull** was very much a rarity inland at Henry Hagg L. (Washington Co.) on 27 Oct (SR). The 98 Black-legged Kittiwakes from shore at Brookings on 27 Oct was a high count (CD). A Sabine's Gull was in the Siuslaw R. estuary on 20 Sep (AC, RH), and small numbers were noted at sea on most of the pelagic trips.

Single Forster's Terns were at Yaquina Bay on 9 Aug (RG), and at Sauvie I. on 7

Sep (TL). **Elegant Tern** reports were as follows: 4 at Yaquina Bay on 2 Aug (W&FB), 1 at Coos Bay on 19 Aug (BG), 2 at Brookings on 21-22 Aug (*vide* HN), 4 at the mouth of the Chetco R. on 28 Sep (CD), and 1 at the mouth of the Chetco on 27 Oct (CD). The largest concentration of Common Terns was 100 near Brookings on 12 Sep, with the number there declining to 20 on 15 Sep (CD). Three Arctic Terns were at Brookings from 12 to 15 Sep (CD). Forty Marbled Murrelets at Cape Meares on 11 Sep (RS). Kathy Merrifield visited Yaquina Head 10 times from 4 Aug to Oct 13. Her high counts of Marbled Murrelets were 55 on 25 Aug, and 47 on 15 Sep. She had 6 on 13 Oct. An Ancient Murrelet was inland on the Monmouth STP on 29 Sep (SD, et al.). A **Horned Puffin** was seen near the mouth of the Siuslaw R. on 9 Aug (MH — good details, PSh, AM, TM).

Owls through Warblers

A Short-eared Owl near Tillamook on 2 Sep was probably a migrant (HN), although the species formerly bred there in small numbers. A Long-eared Owl was found injured in Portland in mid-September (*vide* HN).

A **Black-chinned Hummingbird** (probable immature) visited a feeder at Eagle Point on 22 Aug (HS).

Several Lewis' Woodpeckers were reported from the mid-Willamette Valley in October and November (*vide* BB). A Red-naped Sapsucker was near Cougar Res. on 4 Oct (MH).

Two Olive-sided Flycatchers were in the N. Umpqua Ranger District on the rather late date of 24 Sep (MH). A "Western" type flycatcher was at Clear L. south of Mt Hood on 21 Sep (DL). Several Black Phoebes were near the northern edge of

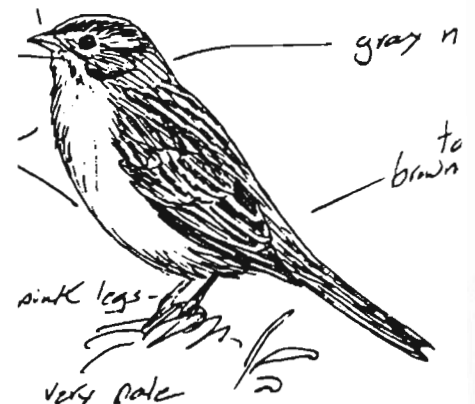
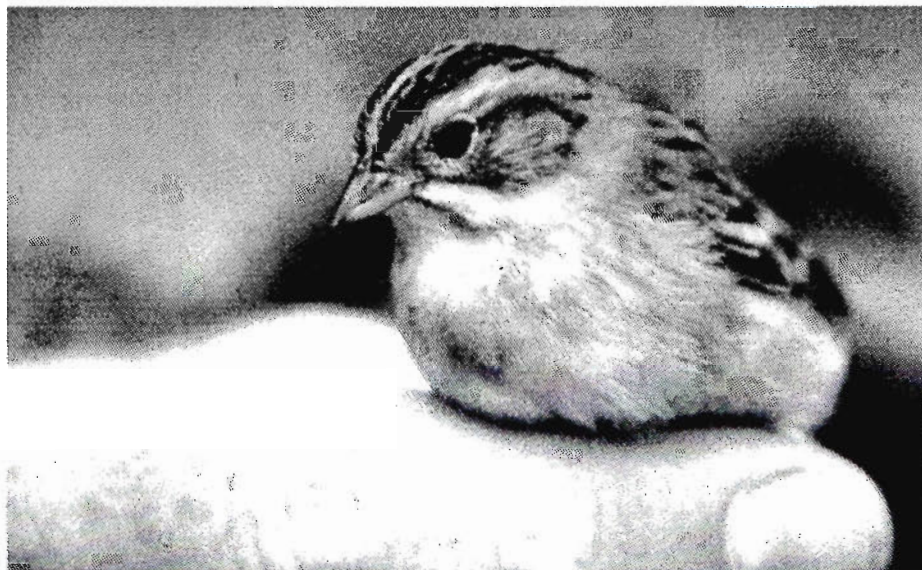
their regular winter range in late November in the Coquille Valley and at Bandon (AC, RH, et al.). A **TROPICAL KING-BIRD** was at Hammond, Clatsop Co., on 17 Nov (JKi). An Eastern Kingbird was at Eagle Point on 9 Sep (HS). MH observed a flock of 1500 Violet-green Swallows on 28 Sep on the Middle Fork of the Willamette R.

A Scrub Jay, rare on the north coast, was at Astoria on 14 Sep (DFa).

Ruby-crowned Kinglets were reported to be far less numerous than normal — doubtlessly a result of the large die-off from the previous winter.

A **Mountain Bluebird** at Astoria on 26 Aug is the only one that I can think of ever in fall from the north coast (DFa). Five Northern Mockingbirds were reported: 1 at Sauvie I. on 1+ Nov (JJ, CR), 1 at Warrenton on 29 Nov (CC, JS, DL), 1 at Brookings on 15 Oct (CD), and 2 during the period in the Rogue Valley (DC, RT).

The latest dates for the following warblers in the Rogue Valley were: Nashville Warbler at Ashland on 16 Oct (RSk), Yellow Warbler on 9 Oct (JW), and Black-throated Gray on 13 Nov (RSk). A **No. Parula** was reported from Yaquina Bay S.P. on 28 Aug (DS, *vide* HN). The third state record of a **PRAIRIE WARBLER** was one that circled a boat off Brookings on 28 Sep (DF, CD, AD, HS, KS, et al.). A **Black-and-white Warbler** hit a window in Hillsboro on 11 Nov and later died at the Portland Audubon Society (SSw, *vide* HN). Several Palm War-



Above: Clay-colored Sparrow, 2 November 1991, Crissy Airfield, just south of Winchuck River, Curry Co. OBRC Record Number 561-91-25A. Sketch/Alan D. Barron.

Left: Clay-colored Sparrow, 27 October 1991, Brookings, Curry Co. OBRC record number 561-91-26B. Photo/Colin Dillingham.

blers were reported from coastal locations.

Sparrows to End

A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was at Brookings on 22 Oct, and another was there on 7 Nov (CD). Small numbers of Swamp Sparrows were reported from various locations, most from near the coast. Now that their habits and calls are becoming better known, Swamp Sparrows are being found to be uncommon, but not rare. In some favored coastal locations, such as near Tillamook and in the Coquille Valley, they are almost common in the proper habitat. A Lark Sparrow at the SJCR on 2 Sep was a rarity (JJ). A Harris' Sparrow was at Portland on 28 Nov (BA). Another was at Newport from 11 Nov to the end of the period (JJ, et al.).

Small numbers of Lapland Longspurs were along the coast from 3 Sep to 27 Oct (m.o.b.). Up to 4 at Sauvie I. from 10 through 17 Nov was a rarity there (NL, et al.). Small numbers of Snow Buntings were reported along the coast south to Yaquina Bay. The largest numbers were up to 9 at Yaquina Head from 16 to 28 Oct (*fide* DFax), and 6 at Yaquina Bay on 3 Nov (WS).

Two male Tricolored Blackbirds were in the Ashland area on 3 Aug (Rsk), and

a female visited a feeder near Eagle Point from 25 Oct to the end of the period. Single Yellow-headed Blackbirds, rare on the coast, were at the SJCR on 7 Sep (MP), and at an Astoria feeder on 22 Sep (DFa). A female **Hooded Oriole** was at the So. Slough Sanctuary near Coos Bay on 1 Sep (JJ). A "**Baltimore**" **Northern Oriole** was in Brookings from 28 Nov to the end of the period (CLO*, CL, CD).

A White-winged Crossbill was seen in the Coast Range of Lincoln Co. on 25 Aug (DS). In the Cascades, 2 were on Larch Mt. (Multnomah Co.) on 11 Aug (GL), 3 were there on 14 Aug (JE), and "many" were near the Three Sisters Mts. from 3-9 Aug (MP).

Observers

BA - Bob Altman; JA - Jim Anderson; AB - Alan Barron; W&FB - Wes and Florence Bell; BB - Barb Bellin (sub-regional editor); WC - Wilson Cady; AC - Alan Contreras; DC - Dave Copeland; MLC - Mary Lou Copeland; CC - Craig Corder; MC - Marion Corder; DC - Dick Cronberg; AD - Angie Dillingham; CD - Colin Dillingham (sub-regional editor); SD - Steve Dowlan; RE - Ray Ekstrom; M&EE - Merlin and Elsie Eltzroth (sub-regional editors); SE - Shari Erickson; JE - Joe Evanich; DF - Dave Fix; DFa - Dan

Fay; DFax - Darrel Faxon; AF - Anthony Floyd; RG - Roy Gerig; JG - Jeff Gilligan; BG - Barbara Griffin; HH - Hendrik Herlyn; RH - Rich Hoyer, Jr.; JKa - Joe Kaplan; JKi - Jack Kiley; JK - Jan Krabbe; RK - Rick Krabbe; NL - Nick Lethaby; GL - Gerard Lillie; KL - Kathy Liska; JL - Jim Livaudais; ML - Maeve Lofton; CLo - Christy Loring; TL - Tom Love; RL - Robert Lucas; KM - Kathy Merrifield; AM - Allison Mickel; TM - Tom Mickel; D&BM - Dawson and Bobby Mohler; MM - Marjorie Moore (sub-regional editor); SM - Steve Moritz; PM - Pat Muller; DM - Don Munson; HN - Harry Nehls (sub-regional editor); RN - Ray Nolan; BO - Bob O'Brien; MP - Mike Patterson; DP - Don Pederson; CP - Chuck Philo; PP - Phil Pickering; SR - Skip Russel; HS - Howard Sands; KS - Kevin Sands; LS - Larry Shapiro; TS - Tim Shelmerdine; PSh - Paul Sherrell; JS - Jamie Simons; RSk - Ray Skibby; RS - Richard Smith; DS - Dave Stejskal; JS - Judy Stevens; BS - Bruce Stewart; PS - Paul Sullivan; WS - Walt Sullivan; SSw - Sandi Swarner; OS - Otis Swisher; LR - Lew Rems; CR - Carol Rogers; TSc - Tom Schmidgall; TS - Tom Staudt; LT - Larry Thornburgh - sub-regional editor; RT - Ric Thowless; BT - Bill Tice; JW - Jerry Waugh; LW - Linda Weiland; J&KW - Jan & Keith Wiggers; VZ - Vince Zauskey. ◊

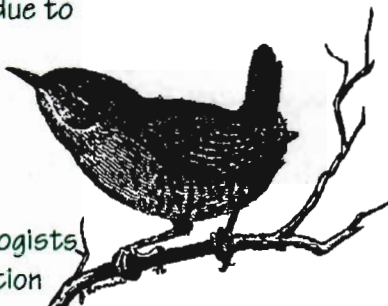
Oregon Birds

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Address correction requested

- 10 June 1992, Spring fieldnotes due to OB and AB Regional Editors
- 24 July 1992, deadline for the next issue of OB — OB 18(3); check your mailing label to see that your OFO membership runs beyond this issue number or this issue is your last!
- 10 August 1992, Summer fieldnotes due to OB and AB Regional Editors
- 25-27 September 1992, Third OFO Fall Weekend at Malheur
- 17 December 1992 - 3 January 1993, 93rd Christmas Bird Count
- 4-6 June 1993, Oregon Field Ornithologists annual meeting at Malheur Field Station



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