

Northern Parula Warbler, a male, was in the company of Orange-crowned and Townsend's warblers at Port Alberni, s.c. Van. I., Nov. 9–14 (p.v., J. Cruikshank, S. Prince, †DGC, m.ob.). A Palm Warbler near downtown P.G., Sept. 2 (MAi) provided the first record for the local checklist area. A ♀ Rose-breasted Grosbeak strayed W to Van., Aug. 1 (R. Tayler, LCo). A Lark Sparrow, a casual visitor to Van. I., was at a Tofino feeder Oct. 22 (RP, AD). A Grasshopper Sparrow, accidental on Van. I., was feeding at Jordan R., Oct. 20 (KT). Far north of its normal range, an ad. ♀ Yellow-headed Blackbird strayed to Herschel I., n.e. Yukon, Aug. 12–14 (ph. †CE, ph. †HG, †PS, LC), providing the first documented record for the Territory. Casual on the s. coast, a ♂ Cassin's Finch was at a Maple Ridge feeder Nov. 18–21 (C. Buis, m.ob.). A ♀ House Sparrow at Whse., Aug. 1 (†CE) was the Yukon's first well-documented individual.

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Oregon/ Washington Region

BILL TWEIT AND JEFF GILLIGAN

No region has ever before reported four species of albatross in one season; and that distinction was only part of the outstanding pelagic records this fall from off the Oregon coast. The continuing decline of alcid and Sooty Shearwater numbers tempered the appearance of the rarities however.

Initial survey work by AS in the Cold Creek drainage, on the Yakima Training Center, at the west edge of the Columbia Basin produced some very large counts of passerine migrants and some raptors. It fueled speculation about the importance of the west leg of the Columbia River as a migratory corridor; we hope that the surveys will continue.

We wish to acknowledge our continuing debt to Harry Nehls, former regional editor and still the indefatigable compiler for much of Oregon. When we receive Harry's summary, our report is often half written for us. Thanks very much Harry, and we hope to rely on you for innumerable seasons to come!

Abbreviations: P.N.P. (*Point No Point, Kitsap, WA*); *Sauvie (Sauvie I., Columbia Co., OR)*; S.J.C.R. (*south jetty of the Columbia R., Clatsop Co., OR*); O.S. (*Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., WA*); W.W.R.D. (*Walla Walla R. delta, Walla Walla Co., WA*).

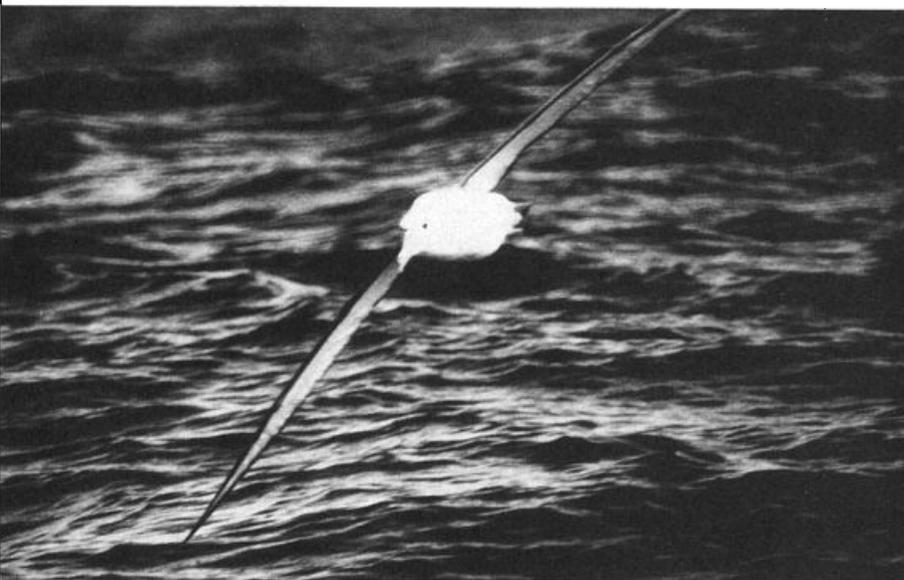
Loons to Ducks

Pacific Loon reports in the interior included six along the Columbia R., 15 on Oregon lakes on the e. slope and in the Cascades, and four on Washington low elevation lakes. Three Yellow-billed Loon reports included early sightings of an immature Aug. 8 at the Lyre R. mouth, *Clallam*,

WA (BN) and one Sept. 26 at Salt Cr. Park, *Clallam*, WA (D. MacRae), and a more normally timed sighting Nov. 14 at the Rogue R. mouth, *Curry*, OR (F. Bowen). Eight Clark's Grebes were reported from the interior, the latest reports were from the Columbia R. at Vantage, *Kittitas*, WA Oct. 11 (PtSu) and at John Day Dam Oct. 27 (HN). On the westside, the only Oregon reports were two at Yaquina Head, *Lincoln*, Oct. 6 (KM) and five Washington reports came from Tokeland, *Pacific* (PtSu), Hat I., *Skagit* (F. Sears), Edmonds, *Snohomish* (SM), and P.N.P. (VN).

The Short-tailed Albatross 44 nautical mi due w. of Cape Falcon, *Tillamook*, OR Nov. 9 (†MF) led off the incredible albatross line-up. Black-footed Albatross counts from pelagic trips averaged 80 per trip, with a peak of 235 off Westport Aug. 3 (TW). The record numbers of Laysan Albatross found this summer continued into early August, with four off Westport Aug. 3 (TW), but then dropped to "norma" levels, with one found during September and October. Indisputably in the clean-up position was the Shy Albatross well photographed over the Heceta Banks, 30 mi off Lane on the c. Oregon coast, Oct. 5 (GG *et al.*). This furnishes only the 2nd Regional record; the first was a specimen collected off Washington in 1951. Northern Fulmar numbers were elevated this fall, with 5 counts >200. The Streaked Shearwater found over the Heceta Banks Sept. 13 (†MF, †R. Rowlett, G. Grace) provided the first Oregon record.





Two views of the Shy Albatross found over the Heceta Banks, off the Oregon coast, October 5, 1996. This bird furnished only the second or third record for North American waters. Photographs/David C. Bailey.

Counts of Pink-footed Shearwater off the central coast of Oregon were atypically high, exceeding 200 for most of the fall (GG); while the average count of 75 off Westport (TW) was more expected. A total of fifteen Flesh-footed Shearwaters were found, evenly divided between the 2 states. Peak counts of Buller's Shearwaters were 290 off Oregon Oct. 5 (GG) and 206 off Washington Sept. 23 (TW); these counts are lower than last fall's numbers but still above the recent year average. Sooty Shearwater numbers continue to fall to unthinkable lows. The peak pelagic trip count was 1577 off Westport Sept. 8 (TW); breaking the previous lowest high count for fall of 2250 in 1994. Even worse, the average count was less than 500/trip! An estimated 45,000 Sooty Shearwaters off

Tokeland, *Pacific*, WA Sept. 7 (W. Smith, R. Wershler) indicated that substantial numbers could still be found onshore at times, and one off Sekiu, *Clallam*, WA Aug. 8 (B. Boekelheide) was unusual for the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The **Wilson's Storm-Petrel** about 70 mi off Nestucca Bay, OR July 24 (†MF, †R. Rowlett) would provide the 2nd Oregon record. A phenomenal concentration of Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels was found over the Heceta Banks Aug. 29 (MF); 10,000–12,000 were estimated. Pelagic trip counts were more typical, averaging 60/trip. Fall records of Leach's Storm-Petrel over the shelf are unusual; one was off Depoe Bay, OR Aug. 10 (GG) and another off Westport, WA Sept. 21 (TW).

Two **Red-tailed Tropicbirds** were seen

about 250 mi off the c. Oregon coast Sept. 10, and one was near there Sept. 11 (MF); there are no Oregon records and only one Washington record, a 1941 specimen. Good numbers of Brown Pelican were along the coast; 1100 were at S.J.C.R., Sept. 18 (RL) and 1000 were off Otter Crest, *Lincoln*, OR Oct. 27 (B. Loehning). Away from the outer coast, records are still noteworthy. The most unusual was a flock of 12 flying along the Willamette R. at Portland Aug. 16 (M. Farley). At least four were found in Puget Sound: one at Tacoma, *Pierce*, Aug. 22–Oct. 30 (*vide* TB), two in Eld Inlet, *Thurston*, Oct. 20 (BSh), one at P.N.P., Oct. 25–27 (VN), and one at Blaine, *Whatcom*, Oct. 7 (PtSu). In the Strait of Juan de Fuca, three were at Salt Cr., *Clallam*, Oct. 5 (D. MacRae) and three were at Port Angeles, *Clallam*, Oct. 21 (*vide* BN).

Excellent counts of Great Egret were recorded in the Columbia R. bottomlands: 70–100 were at Sauvie Sept. 28 (DB) and 89 were at Ridgefield N.W.R., *Clark*, WA Aug. 31 (JE). North of there eight were found, with the farthest north at Jensen Access, *Skagit*, WA Aug. 16–19 (SA). The westside Cattle Egret total of 19 was an improvement over the low numbers of the last 3 falls, with \leq four on the Samish Flats, *Skagit*, WA Oct. 11–Nov. 3 (PtSu, m.ob.), \leq three near Astoria, *Clatsop*, OR Oct. 12+ (MP), four near Skamania, *Skamania*, WA Oct. 17 (PtSu), one at Monroe, *Snohomish*, WA Oct. 24 (KK), \leq five at Florence, *Lane*, OR Nov. 9–10 (B&Z. Stotz), one near Tillamook Nov. 16 (M. Hunter, J. Simmons, HH), and one at Woodland, *Cowlitz*, WA Nov. 24–29 (KK, JE). The number of interior reports was lower than average, with one at Burbank, *Walla Walla*, WA Nov. 16 (B&NL). A dark ibis (sp.) was near Coburg, *Lane*, OR Nov. 9 (B&K Wilson) for a rare fall westside record.

The peak count of Tundra Swan in the lower Columbia R. was 840 (JE). South of Puget Sound, Trumpeter Swans are still far less common than Tundras: 12 were at Ridgefield N.W.R., *Clark*, WA Nov. 25 (JE), one was at Forest Grove, *Washington*, OR Oct. 29 (HN), one was at Nehalem, *Tillamook*, OR Oct. 30 (B. O'Brien) and two were at Arlie, *Polk*, OR Nov. 22 (DP). 75 Gr. White-fronted Goose at Ridgefield N.W.R., *Clark*, WA Sept. 17 were noted as "tule geese," two were radio-collared (JE). Higher-than-expected numbers of the unusual geese were reported, including single blue-morph Snow Geese at Stanwood, *Snohomish*, WA Oct. 19 (SM) and at Everett, *Snohomish*, WA Nov. 23 (SM); imm. Ross' Geese at Woodland, *Cowlitz*, WA Nov. 11–24 (PtSu, KK), near Pacific

City, *Tillamook*, OR Nov. 5+ (JL *et al.*), and near Clatskanie, *Columbia*, OR Nov. 28 (HN); and two Emperor Goose, with the Troutdale, *Multnomah*, OR, bird that has been resident since for a year (*vide* HN) and one at Tokeland, *Pacific*, WA Oct. 16–18 (PtSu). Some 63,500 Canada Geese were counted in the Lower Columbia Nov. 4 (JE), apparently 2/3 of those were “Cackling” Geese. The peak count of “Dusky” Canada Geese was 900 in the Columbia R. bottomlands Nov. 5 (JE), indicating continuing depressed status for this beautiful race. Early Eur. Wigeon were at Crockett L., *Island*, WA Sept. 16 (SM) and at Yaquina Bay, *Lincoln*, OR Sept. 29 (KM). Only two were reported from the interior: at Two Rivers Park, *Benton*, WA (DR) and at Spearfish Park, *Klickitat*, WA (SM). A ♀ Tufted Duck was at Portland Oct. 26 (R. Korpi *et al.*) and a male was on the Columbia R. at Bingen, *Klickitat*, WA Nov. 8–24 (S. Johnston *et al.*); often they are unreported in fall. Twenty Oldsquaw, a distinguished number, were reported from the interior: four from e. Oregon and sixteen from e. Washington, with a peak count of nine at Coulee L., *Grant*, Nov. 2–3 (W. Hall, JA). A huge gathering of scoters was seen from the air off Seaside, *Clatsop*, OR Sept. 18, most of the 30,000 birds were Surf Scoters (RL). Other notable high counts were 5000–6000 Surf Scoters at Oak Harbor, *Island*, WA Aug. 12 (RR), >8000 Surf and White-winged (2:1 ratio) at Sea Lion Caves, *Lincoln*, OR Oct. 6 (AC), and 3000 White-winged at Penn Cove, *Island*, WA Nov. 24 (SM). Twenty-five Surf and only six White-winged scoters were found in the interior; the Surf numbers were above average and the White-winged were below. Finally, 13 Red-breasted Mergansers reported from the interior was normal.

Kites to Phalaropes

White-tailed Kites were not reported from any new areas, and only singles were reported n. of s.w. Oregon and inland from the Oregon coast: at Bowerman Basin, *Grays Harbor*, WA Aug. 3 (*vide* D. Beatty), at Finley N.W.R., *Benton*, OR Aug. 18 (S. Maulding), at Sauvie Sept. 3 (R. Wright), at LeBam, *Pacific*, WA Sept. 29 (*vide* TB), at Cathlamet, *Wahkiakum*, WA Oct. 20 (KK), at Kregar L., *Pierce*, WA Nov. 17 (B. Labar), and in *Polk*, OR Nov. 28 (SD, DP, DK). Red-shouldered Hawks continue to increase as a fall visitor in w. Oregon. They are now regular in the Coquille Valley. The farthest north coastal report was at Pacific City, *Tillamook*, Nov. 17 (SD) and the farthest north in the Willamette Valley was at Baskett

Slough N.W.R., *Polk*, Sept. 10–Oct. 19 (BTi, SD). Singles near Detroit, *Marion*, Aug. 28+ (JL, *et al.*), at Lost R., *Klamath*, Sept. 26 (KS), and near Rocky Pt., *Klamath*, Sept. 21 (*vide* KS) were in areas where the species is unusual. A Broad-winged Hawk over Bonney Butte, *Hood River*, OR Sept. 10 (D. Schuetz, A. Clark, J. Hanson) provided the first fall Oregon record since 1992. A one-day migratory count of 46 Am. Kestrel from the Yakima Training Center, *Yakima*, WA Aug. 24 (AS) was an indication of the potential magnitude of the raptor movement along the Columbia R. Gyrfalcon reports included two from w. Washington in *Clallam* and *Whatcom*; three from e. Washington in *Lincoln*, *Yakima*, and *Benton*; and two from e. Oregon: in *Deschutes* and *Wallowa*. The Sandhill Crane survey of the Columbia R. bottomlands Oct. 9 revealed a total of 3800 (HN, USFWS), almost equalling last fall's record count. Seven flying over Astoria, *Clatsop*, OR Sept. 24 was an unusual coastal record (A. Emlin). The 300 Black-bellied Plover at Bandon, *Coos*, OR Aug. 25 represented the highest number reported on the coast (R. Robb). Unusual numbers were reported from the interior: a total of 52 with a peak of 32 at the W.W.R.D., Oct. 16 (M&MLD). A minimum of 32 Am. Golden-Plover were reported from the coast and 14 from the interior, roughly average. All of the >105 Pacific Golden-Plover reports were from the outer coast or n. Puget Sound, this is the highest fall total for this species since 1988. Counts of 350 Semipalmated Plover at Bandon, *Coos*, OR, and 400 at Coos Bay, OR Aug. 31 were during the height of that species' juvenile migration (N. Lethaby, JG). Unusual numbers of Am. Avocet were found in w. Oregon: one at Creswell, *Lane*, Aug. 24 (D. Heyerly), one at Baskett Slough N.W.R., *Polk*, Aug. 27–Sept. 7 (R. Gerig, BTi *et al.*), three at Tillamook Aug. 18–Sept. 4 (JJ, DB *et al.*), one at Ankeny N.W.R., *Marion*, Aug. 23 (R. Daly), and 20 at the mouth of the Pistol R. that provided the 2nd Curry record (F. Hummel).

Solitary Sandpiper reports totaled 13 from the westside and 12 from the interior, unremarkable numbers. Two late individuals were reported at Beaverton, OR Oct. 27 (DL) and at Forest Grove, *Washington*, Oct. 27–Nov. 2 (DL, L. Jevning). The count of 222 Wandering Tattlers at Florence, *Lane*, OR Aug. 2 may represent the largest fall concentration ever reported in the Region (TJ). Hudsonian Godwits, an almost annual vagrant, were reported at S.J.C.R., Oct. 7 (G. Kleinblum) and at Blaine, *Whatcom*, WA Sept. 27–Oct. 12

(J. Bird *et al.*, ph. J. Meche). No Bar-tailed Godwits were reported, for the first fall since 1975! Marbled Godwits, a local species in the Region, were widely distributed. The peak count was 330 at Tokeland, *Pacific*, WA Sept. 27 (SM), and Marbleds were reported from numerous other coastal locales: four at Blaine, *Whatcom*, WA Oct. 6–7 (SM, PtSu), one in *Island*, WA Sept. 8 (SM), 64 on Sequim Bay, *Clallam*, WA Oct. 23 (*vide* BN), 40–50 at O.S., Nov. 25 (BW), 40 at Siletz Bay, *Lincoln*, OR Oct. 8 (RL), 28 at Yaquina Bay, *Lincoln*, OR Oct. 20 (KM), and 70 at Bandon, *Coos*, OR Sept. 14, a very high number for coastal Oregon (T&AM). A total of 39 Sanderling were found in the interior, with peaks of ten at Hood River, OR Sept. 2 (PaSu) and at Atkins L., *Douglas*, WA Sept. 8 (JA). The Semipalmated Sandpiper tally was lower than normal 39 on the westside and 12 in the interior. A Baird's Sandpiper at the Yakima R. mouth, *Benton*, WA Nov. 9–11 (BW) was very late. Reasonable numbers of Pectoral Sandpiper were reported, ≥ 230 on the westside and 140 in the interior. Six reports of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper is the best total since 1991, highlighted by one in the interior at Reardan, *Lincoln*, WA Sept. 7–8 (†JA). The other Washington reports included two at Seattle Sept. 29 and Oct. 10 (KA), one at Lopez I., *San Juan*, Oct. 16–17 (PtSu), and one at Sequim, *Clallam*, Oct. 18–19 (B. Boekelheide). The Oregon report was at S.J.C.R., Oct. 15–20 (TJ, MP, SRu *et al.*). Seventeen Stilt Sandpiper were found on the westside, with the only Oregon report being one at the Rogue R. mouth, *Curry*, Aug. 9 (CD). Seventeen were in the interior as well, for an average Regional total Buff-breasted Sandpiper were absent again this fall, as they were in 1994. Four Ruff reports was normal: \leq two were at O.S., August–Sept. 7 (PtSu), one adult was at Dungeness, *Clallam*, WA Sept. 17 (VN), and a female was at Coos Bay, *Coos*, OR Sept. 15 (T&AM *et al.*). A Wilson's Phalarope at the Yakima R. mouth, *Benton*, WA Oct. 23 (BW) provided a very late date. The only large count of Red-necked Phalarope from a pelagic trip was 810 off Westport Aug. 17 (TW); all other counts were ≤ 140 . Away from the ocean, numbers seemed more normal, with a peak count of 1500 at P.N.B. Sept. 11 (VN); Red Phalarope numbers on the ocean were also very low, with a peak of 70 off Depoe Bay Aug. 31 (GG) and a total of 15 on all other trips (TW). A few Red Phalarope were found in late November onshore in Oregon: two near Falls City, *Polk*, Nov. 19 (BTi), two at the Sus-

law R. mouth, *Lane*, Nov. 24 (PaSu), and one at Philomath, *Benton*, Nov. 27 (B. Thackaberry, D. MacDonald).

Jaegers to Owls

Inland records of Parasitic Jaeger included one at Diamond L., *Douglas*, OR Aug. 24 (R. Maertz), one at Sprague L., *Adams*, WA Aug. 24–25 (JA), one immature at Soap L., *Grant*, WA Aug. 27 (M&MLD), one at W.W.R.D., Sept. 20–21 (D. Svingen), and one at Yakima R. mouth, *Benton*, WA Nov. 10 (B&NL). A flock of 26 on Bellingham Bay Oct. 10 (TW) represented a very large concentration for Puget Sound. It was a very poor year for Long-tailed Jaeger on the ocean, with a total of 15 reported on 12 trips (TW, GG). Onshore, a juvenile was at Philomath, *Benton*, OR Aug. 25 (HH, J. Plissner) and an adult was at Bandon, *Coos*, OR Aug. 25 (E. Dale, B. Kruse). South Polar Skuas were found in average or better numbers, with a total of 26 on 13 trips. The peak count was eight on Heceta Banks Oct. 5 (GG), which provided a new Oregon high count as the previous was seven. One seen in the Strait of Juan de Fuca off Ediz Hook, *Clallam*, Aug. 26 (RR) was a very rare onshore report.

An offshore report of a juv. **Laughing Gull** seen over the Heceta Banks, 30 mi off the c. Oregon coast, Sept. 17 (†MF, T. Pusser, J. Peterson) would provide the 2nd Oregon record, pending review by the Records Committee. Puget Sound reports of Franklin's Gull totaled only five, from P.N.P. (VN) n. to Blaine, *Whatcom* (SM), and w. Oregon had none. This is the lowest fall total in decades. In the interior, singles were reported from W.W.R.D., Sept. 16 (M&MLD), Soap L., *Grant*, WA Sept. 15 (SM), and Boardman, *Morrow*, OR Aug. 16 (T. Shelmerdine). A juv. Little Gull was at Everett, *Snobomish*, WA Sept. 29–30 (SM), an adult was seen at both Everett and P.N.P., Oct. 12–Nov. 12 (SM, VN), and an adult was reported from along the Columbia R. at Sauvie Nov. 16 (*fide* HN). This species is now annual in fall on Puget Sound, but the Sauvie record was an unusual locale. An ad. **Common Black-headed Gull** near Grass Valley, *Sherman*, OR Oct. 19 (†L. Rems) was a first for e. Oregon. Another adult at Everett, *Snobomish*, WA Sept. 30 (KA) was at the locale they frequent most in the Region.

Heermann's Gulls were relatively abundant on the outer coast, as typified by a peak count of >1500 at O.S., Aug. 18 (M&MLD). Unusually large numbers were in Puget Sound: 200 were off Washington Park, *Skagit*, Sept. 3 (SA) and 600 were off Edmonds, *Snobomish*, Sept. 7

(SM). Interior Mew Gull reports included singles at Crow Butte S.P., *Benton*, WA Sept. 14 (SM), at Soap L., *Grant*, WA Sept. 20 (JA), at Wallula, *Walla Walla*, WA Nov. 2 (B&NL), , at Wenatchee, *Chelan*, WA Nov. 30 (J. Tangren), and ≤two at Kennewick, *Benton*, WA Oct. 31–Nov. 11 (DR, B&NL, BW). An ad. Thayer's Gull at Klamath Falls, *Klamath*, OR Nov. 16 (KS) and a first-year at Wenatchee, *Chelan*, WA Nov. 30 (J. Tangren) furnished the usual number of interior reports, and the only interior W. Gull report was at the Yakima R. mouth, *Benton*, WA Nov. 9 (BW). Glaucous Gull reports were scarce: one first-year at Kent, *King*, WA Nov. 22 (KA) and one near Seal Rock S.P., *Lincoln*, OR Nov. 24 (PaSu).

Three Black-legged Kittiwake were found away from the outer coast: a first-year at P.N.P., Oct. 25 (VN), one at Budd Inlet, *Thurston*, WA Nov. 13 (BSh), and a first-year at John Day Dam, *Klickitat*, WA Nov. 29 (SM). The peak coastal number was >300 at S.J.C.R., Sept. 22 (MP). Pelagic counts of Sabine's Gull improved from last fall's numbers, with a peak of 196 off Westport Sept. 21 (TW). A total of 12 reports away from the coast was one of the highest fall tallies ever: An adult was at Everett, *Snobomish*, WA Aug. 20 (KA), another at P.N.P., Aug. 29 (VN), one was at Christmas Valley, *Lake*, OR Sept. 8 (SD), three immatures were at the Hood R. mouth, OR Sept. 12 (DB, JJ), an immature was at Monmouth, *Polk*, OR Sept. 13 (BTi), an immature was at Soap L., *Grant*, WA Sept. 14–20 (†S. Pink, SM, JA), an adult and an immature were at Summer L., *Lake*, OR Sept. 16+ (D. Mehlman), one was at Wallowa L., *Wallowa*, OR Sept. 28–29 (F. Conley), and one immature was at P.N.P., Sept. 30 (VN).

The fall Elegant Tern incursion was small: five were at Coos Bay, *Coos*, OR Aug. 2 (TJ), two were on Marrowstone I., *Jefferson*, WA Aug. 10–11 (†S. Terry), two were at Alsea Bay, *Lincoln*, OR Aug. 11 (KM), one was at Yaquina Bay, *Lincoln*, OR Aug. 13 (D. Copeland), one was at Florence, *Lane*, OR Aug. 25 (T&AM *et al.*), and one was at S.J.C.R., Sept. 11 (HN). As with Sabine's Gulls, there were an unusual number of inland reports of Arctic Tern: three were at Baskett Slough N.W.R., *Polk*, OR Aug. 17 (BTi), three were at Monmouth, *Polk*, OR Sept. 10 (D. Copeland), one was at Soap L., *Grant*, WA Sept. 15 (SM), ≤three were at Banks L., *Grant*, WA Sept. 19–21 (PtSu, KK), and two immatures were at John Day Dam, *Sherman*, OR on the very late date of Nov. 25 (PaSu). The offshore counts were not similar to Sabine's Gull counts—

they were pathetic. A total of 14 were reported in 12 trips, with a peak of five off Westport Aug. 3 (TW).

After a disastrous breeding season for Com. Murre, fall counts off Westport averaged 200 per trip, with 5 counts of <50 (TW)! As expected following a breeding failure and early northward migration, Puget Sound counts were good, e.g. >600 off Useless Bay, *Island*, Aug. 10 (SM). A count of 800 Marbled Murrelets from Port Angeles to Pillar Point, *Clallam*, Aug. 6 was extremely high for the Strait of Juan de Fuca (WDFW, *fide* BN). For the 2nd consecutive fall, Xantus' Murrelet were found offshore, with two off Westport Sept. 21 (TW) and several seen ≤90 mi off Oregon in late August and early September (MF). Cassin's Auklet numbers remained extremely depressed off Washington, averaging only five per trip (TW). Only four Tufted Puffins were seen off Westport all fall (TW)!

A **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** at Elma, *Grays Harbor*, Aug. 3 furnished the first w. Washington report since 1979 (†B. Morse). Snowy Owls at Port Angeles, *Clallam*, WA Oct. 20 (*fide* BN) and Everett, *Snobomish*, WA Oct. 31 (T. Aversa) heralded the best invasion since the incredible winter of 1973–1974. By the end of November, 39 had been reported from Washington, including *Pierce*, *Thurston*, *Grays Harbor*, *Whatcom*, and *Skagit*. The first Oregon report was Nov. 2 at Portland and Tillamook (M. Keyser, B. Dorman, R. Klein), and by the end of November 11 birds had been reported from *Coos*, *Benton*, *Marion*, *Multnomah*, *Clatsop*, and *Tillamook*. None were reported from the eastside. There were two w. Oregon reports of Burrowing Owl, a rare fall/winter visitant: one near Peoria, *Benton*, Oct. 20+ (A. Floyd *et al.*) and one near the lower Elk R., *Curry*, Oct. 17 (TJW). A Great Gray Owl in *Okanogan*, WA Aug. 19 (B&NL) provided the only report, and single Boreal Owls were found on Salmo Mt., *Pend Oreille*, WA Sept. 7 (KK) and in the Blue Mts., *Columbia*, WA Oct. 4 (B&NL).

Hummingbirds to Finches

Up to two Anna's Hummingbirds in College Place, *Walla Walla*, WA Sept. 28–Nov. 15 furnished the 3rd and 4th county records (M&MLD). A ♂ Costa's Hummingbird at a feeder in Grants Pass Nov. 22–23 (B. Buckmaster, D. Vroman, CD) provided the only report of this now annual visitant to Oregon. The ♂ *Selasphorus* (sp.) at Portland Oct. 30 into November was part of an increasing trend of late fall/winter reports of this group (D. Marshall). A very unusual number of

Lewis' Woodpeckers were found on the westside: One was photographed at Port Angeles, *Clallam*, WA Aug. 27–29 (*fide* BN), one was at Nisqually N.W.R., *Thurston*, WA Aug. 30 (M. Carmody), one was at Kent, *King*, WA Sept. 8 (*fide* TB), six were at the Detroit Flats, *Marion*, OR Sept. 19 (DP, DK), and one was at Falls City, *Polk*, OR Nov. 20 (BTi). The only evidence of a movement on the eastside was the peak count of 12 at the Yakima Training Center, *Yakima*, WA Sept. 1 (AS). An Acorn Woodpecker at Lyle, *Klickitat*, Nov. 11 (PtSu) is evidence that some remain at their northernmost locale in the Region. A Red-naped Sapsucker at Medford, *Jackson*, OR Nov. 29 (S. Serman) was both late and unusual for the westside, as was the Williamson's Sapsucker in e. Medford Nov. 3 (M. Benke). White-headed Woodpeckers are not regular in s.w. Oregon, so one on Dutchman Peak Oct. 3 (D. Cronberg) was noteworthy.

A Least Flycatcher mist-netted at Sauvie Aug. 10 (J. Fukuda, M. Stern *et al.*) represented one of few w. Oregon fall records.

The Hammond's Flycatcher near Medford, *Jackson*, OR Nov. 3 (M. Benke) was very late. The Black Phoebe range in w. Oregon appears to be steadily increasing. Reports from n. of their s. coast stronghold included one at E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area, *Benton*, Aug. 22+ (M. Nebeker *et al.*), one at Creswell, *Lane*, Oct. 27 (S. Maulding, S. Nelson), and one near Nestucca N.W.R., *Tillamook*, Nov. 11 (JJ, DB). Five westside Say's Phoebe reports was an above-average fall total: one at Harbor, *Curry*, OR Sept. 12 (P. Hicks), one at Copalis, *Grays Harbor*, WA Sept. 13 (B&GR), one at Manzanita, *Tillamook*, OR Sept. 14 (G. Lillie, JG), one at E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area, *Benton*, OR Nov. 28+ (DP, DK, BTi), and one at Baskett Slough N.W.R., *Polk*, OR Nov. 28 (M. Meikle, DP, DK). An Ash-throated Flycatcher at Coos Bay, OR Nov. 16 (KW *et al.*) was a fall coastal rarity. Two Tropical Kingbirds were reported, a well documented calling bird at Sauvie Nov. 1–17 (J. Morawski *et al.*) and one reported with minimal details at Port Townsend, *Jefferson*, WA Nov. 2 (A. Bradley). A count of 50 Horned Lark at n. Portland Oct. 26 was a very good count for the diminishing Puget Trough/Willamette population (R. Korpi). Eight Cliff Swallow at Baskett Slough N.W.R., *Polk*, OR Oct. 25 (F. Schrock) were very late for that species.

The massive corvid movement noted to the south of the Region was only hinted at by reports from within the Region. A handful of Steller's Jay reports from the desert areas included one at Yakima Train-

ing Center, *Yakima*, WA Sept. 28 (AS), singles in College Place, *Walla Walla*, WA Oct. 7 and Nov. 8 (M&MLD), one in Moro, *Sherman*, OR Oct. 19 (JJ), and five in Touchet, *Walla Walla*, WA Oct. 27 (M&MLD). Blue Jay numbers were above average, but they did not approach the numbers of fall 1994. Singles were near Usk, *Pend Oreille*, WA Sept. 28 (ph., S. Durand), at Gig Harbor, *Pierce*, WA Oct. 7 (*fide* TB), at Richland, *Benton*, WA Oct. 13+ (B&NL), W.W.R.D., Oct. 15 (BW), at Denebo, *Lane*, OR from mid-October–Nov. 3 (B. Fish), College Place, *Walla Walla*, WA Oct. 19 (M&MLD), at P.N.P., Oct. 23 (VN), at Santa Clara, *Lane*, OR Nov. 2–3 (M. Maier), at Omak, *Okanogan*, WA Nov. 17 (S. Ray), at Vancouver, *Clark*, WA Nov. 19+ (A. Hagen), and at Sandy, *Multnomah*, OR Nov. 19–20 (S. Stevenson). The now usual bundle of W. Scrub-Jay reports from new Washington areas included two in *Pierce* (*fide* TB), two in *King* (*fide* RR), one at Tokeland, *Pacific*, Sept. 24–27 (B&GR, SM), two at P.N.P., Oct. 21–Nov. 6 (VN), one at Bayview, *Skagit*, Nov. 1 (*fide* B. Kuntz), one at Kennewick for a first *Benton* record Nov. 4+ (BW), and one at Mt. Vernon, *Skagit*, Nov. 23 (SA). Reports of migrating Clark's Nutcracker came from several areas in the interior and in the Cascades: 22 flying S over Steens Mt., *Harney*, OR Sept. 2 (BT), ≥ 190 passing Diamond Head, *Chelan*, WA Sept. 10–25 (E. Deal, JE), 40 flying S in the *Marion*, OR, Cascades Sept. 24 (JL), and migrants passing over Bonney Butte, *Hood River*, OR all fall (DB). A few stragglers reached the westside: \leq four were at Mary's Peak in the Oregon Coast Range Oct. 16–Nov. 2 (HH, RH *et al.*), one was at Sequim, *Clallam*, WA Oct. 30–Nov. 19 (*fide* BN), and one was at Sutherlin, *Douglas*, OR Nov. 15 (KW).

Similarly, indications of the Mt. Chickadee movement included records from the interior lowlands, numbers in the Cascades, and a roving few on the westside. In the interior lowlands one was very early at Malheur N.W.R., *Harney*, OR Sept. 1 (BT), with two there by the end of the month (HN), and two were at Rock Cr., *Klickitat*, WA Sept. 14 (SM), and two were at Lyon's Ferry, *Franklin*, WA Oct. 12 (M&MLD). In the Cascades, >100 were flying S along Modoc Ridge, *Klamath*, OR Sept. 27 (KS). In w. Oregon there appeared to be a minor invasion, from mid-October+, with reports well scattered inland and a few reaching the coast. Only 2 reports came from w. Washington: one at Parkland, *Pierce* Sept. 19 (*fide* TB) and three in Vancouver, *Clark*, Nov. 1 (S&A Hagen). Three Com. Bushtit feeding

young at Rock Cr., *Klickitat*, Aug. 13 provided confirmed breeding at the very edge of their Washington range (R. West) Both Red-breasted and White-breasted nuthatches were found moving through the desert interior in numbers, with the latter species attracting the most attention as they were found in many areas where they are not of annual occurrence. The peak count of Red-breasted Nuthatch was 50 at Malheur N.W.R., *Harney*, OR Sept. 1–3 (BT). Unusual reports of White-breasted Nuthatches included one at the Yakima Training Center, *Yakima*, WA Aug. 22 for a local first (AS), one at Electric City, *Grant*, WA Aug. 31 (M&MLD), one–two at Northrup Canyon, *Grant*, WA Aug. 31–Sept. 19 (KK, PtSu), two at Malheur N.W.R., *Harney*, OR Sept. 3 (BT), and one at Richland, *Benton*, WA Sept. 19–21 (B&NL, BW).

A Bewick's Wren at Sprague L., *Lincoln*, WA Oct. 28 (KK) was the latest chapter in their range expansion. Peak counts of 625 Ruby-crowned Kinglet Sept. 29, 76 Townsend's Solitaire Sept. 8, 611 Am Robin Sept. 29, and 104 Varied Thrush Sept. 29 in the Cold Cr. drainage, *Yakima*, WA (AS) were indicative of the richness of this migration corridor. A Swainson's Thrush at Eugene, OR on the late date of Oct. 24 was stunned on a window, so a good inspection was had (D. Heyerly) Three Wrentits at Knappa, *Clatsop*, Aug. 28–30 (D. Anderson) were perhaps farther inland than had previously been expected for the coastal population, and one near Mill Cr., *Polk*, Aug. 25 was at or near the n. limit of the species along the w. edge of the Willamette Valley (B. Rupert). Four N. Mockingbird reports was an accustomed number: one resided at Denman in the Rogue Valley, OR, one was at Creston, *Lincoln*, WA Sept. 3 (M. Houston), one was at Tokeland, *Pacific*, WA Oct. 31 (PtSu), and one was at Sequim, *Clallam*, WA Nov. 13+ (*fide* BN). A **Black-backed Wagtail** near the Lower Elk R., *Curry*, Oct. 13 (TJW, CD, m.ob., ph.) apparently represents the 2nd Oregon record and the first Regional since spring 1993.

Peak counts of common migrants from the newly discovered Cold Cr. corridor included 31 Warbling Vireo Sept. 1; 13 Nashville Warbler Aug. 18; and 345 "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped Warbler Sept. 28 (AS). There were several notably-late dates for warblers, including a Nashville Warbler at the mouth of the Winchuck R., *Curry*, OR Oct. 4 (RH); a Yellow Warbler at Warrenton, *Clatsop*, OR Nov. 29 (MP); a Hermit Warbler at Toledo, *Lincoln*, OR Oct. 13 (C. Philo); Wilson's Warblers at Walla Walla, WA Nov. 16

(M&MLD), at Sequim, *Clallam*, WA Nov. 17 (*vide* BN), and at Skagit W.M.A., *Skagit*, WA Nov. 23 (J. Bragg); and a Yellow-breasted Chat at the mouth of Winchuck Oct. 4 (RH). Records of the "regular rarities" were scarce. Red-eyed Vireos were on the coast at Ft. Stevens S.P., *Clatsop*, OR Aug. 30 (MP *et al.*) and in the interior at Malheur N.W.R., *Harney*, OR Sept. 11 (TJ). There were only four Palm Warblers, three in coastal Oregon in early October (RH, MP) and one inland at Davenport, *Lincoln*, WA Sept. 26 (†JA). Black-and-white Warblers were at Umatilla N.W.R., *Morrow*, OR Aug. 28 (*vide* CC), at Port Orford, *Curry*, OR Nov. 4 (M. Myers), and at Seattle, WA Nov. 21+ (†KA *et al.*). Am. Redstarts were at Seattle, WA Sept. 12 (SA) and at Cape Blanco, *Curry*, OR Oct. 3 (CD, S. Hootman, T. Rodenkirk). Northern Waterthrush were at Fields, *Harney*, OR Sept. 2 (B. Labar, BT) and at Skagit W.M.A., *Skagit*, WA Nov. 24–25 (SA). Vagrants were also very scarce; the 3 reports were a ♂ **Black-throated Blue Warbler** banded at Umatilla N.W.R., *Morrow*, OR Sept. 23 (*vide* CC), an imm. **Prairie Warbler** at South Beach, Newport, *Lincoln*, OR Sept. 16 (RL, D. Pitkin), the 3rd record for that location, and an imm. **Blackpoll Warbler** banded at Cape Blanco, *Curry*, OR Sept. 27 (CD, S. Hootman).

A Lazuli Bunting on the outer coast at Tokeland, *Pacific*, WA Oct. 31 was both late and very rare on the n. coast (PtSu). The ♂ Indigo Bunting at St. Helens, *Columbia*, OR Aug. 3 (S. Nemetz, SRu) provided an early date for a vagrant. The peak count of 61 Spotted Towhee in the Cold Cr. drainage, *Yakima*, WA Sept. 8 (AS) was a very large migratory concentration. American Tree Sparrows are very rare on the outer coast; so one near Pacific City, *Tillamook*, OR Nov. 10–13 (JJ, DB, C Roberts) was noteworthy. Four were reported from w. Washington, where they are irregular: including one far west at Joyce, *Clallam*, Nov. 19 (BN). The only Clay-colored Sparrow was at South Beach, Newport, *Lincoln*, OR Sept. 15 (C. Benesh). Two Lark Sparrows were reported from the outer coast, where they are very scarce: one at Ft. Canby S.P., *Pacific*, WA Aug. 26 (*vide* RR) and one near Newport, *Lincoln*, OR Sept. 8 (A. Floyd). A Lark Bunting at Tokeland, *Pacific*, Oct. 29–31 represents about the 11th Washington record (ph., R. Sullivan, T. Aversa *et al.*). Two Swamp Sparrows were on the Oregon coast and three more in the Willamette valley, which does not constitute a good year. In Washington, there were only 2

Puget Sound reports (B&GR, SM), and one in the interior at Crow Butte S.P., *Benton*, Nov. 27 (B&NL). There were 22 White-throated Sparrow reported on the westside and six in the interior, but the scanty numbers may be due to under-reporting. The low number of Harris's Sparrows is probably not an artifact of reporting. Three were in the interior: at Two Rivers Park, *Benton*, WA Oct. 15 (DR), at Painted Hills N.M., *Wheeler*, OR Oct. 6 (L. Rems), and at Antone, *Wheeler*, OR Nov. 16 (PaSu). The only westside report was at Eugene, OR from Nov. 2+ (B. Combs).

Eight Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported from the westside, an above-average total. Oregon had one female at Bandon, *Coos*, Sept. 14 (T&AM). The largest group in Washington was three at Lummi Flats, *Whatcom*, Aug. 5 (J. Duemmel), and singles were in *King Island*, *Wahkiakum*, and *Skagit*. Three Rusty Blackbird were found in Washington, the highest fall total yet. One was at Wallula Junction, *Walla Walla*, Oct. 27 (KK), another was at Spencer I., *Snobornish*, Nov. 3 (†SM), and the 3rd was at Skagit Flats, *Skagit*, Nov. 24–25 (SA, PtSu). A Com. Grackle at Tokatee Ranger Station, *Douglas*, from July 31+ (K&M Graves) was about the 16th for Oregon. The Bullock's Oriole at Ft. Stevens S.P., *Clatsop*, OR Sept. 2 (MP) was rare on the outer coast.

Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches are being found more regularly in the Oregon Coast Range: Four were seen flying over Saddle Mt., *Washington*, Nov. 2 (GG) and three were at Mary's Peak, *Benton*, Nov. 9 (M. Cutler, RH). Evidence of a strong Cassin's Finch movement included singles on the westside at District Line Road, *Skagit*, WA Nov. 7–20 (*vide* B. Kuntz), at Brookings, *Curry*, OR Nov. 11 (CD), and at Medford Nov. 30 (G. Shaffer). A peak count of 20 on the Yakima Training Center, *Yakima*, WA Sept. 8 (AS) was relatively unusual for the interior lowlands, as were singles in College Place, *Walla Walla*, WA Oct. 24 (M&MLD) and at Richland, *Benton*, WA Nov. 12 & 21 (BW). Red Crossbills went almost unreported, except for many on the Oregon coast at Manzanita Aug. 25 (T. Crabtree) and small numbers moving S at Mt. Steens, *Harney*, OR Sept. 2 (BT). Huge numbers, 10,000 or so, of Pine Siskin were at Hart's Pass in the North Cascades Aug. 1 (R. Veit), but the only other numbers of note were small: >50 at College Place, *Walla Walla*, WA Aug. 23 (M&MLD) and 126 at the Yakima Training Center, *Yakima*, WA Sept. 29 (AS). Good numbers of Lesser Goldfinch were found at the n. limit of their range, ≥28

were found at 3 *Klickitat* locations (BN, PtSu, M&MLD, SM). Six were at Portland, OR Nov. 10, where they have declined in recent decades (L. Weiland, P. Muller).

Corrigenda

The Brown Thrasher record for Washington in *AFN* 50: 216 was actually near Deep Cr., *Spokane*, not Reardan, *Lincoln*.

Initialed observers, with subregional editors in boldface: Kevin Aanerud, Jim Acton, Scott Atkinson, David Bailey, **Thais Bock** (Tacoma area), Wilson Cady, Alan Contreras, Craig Corder, Mike & Merry L. Denny, Colin Dillingham, Steve Dowlan, Joe Engler, Michael Force, Greg Gillson, Hendrik Herlyn, Rich Hoyer, Tim Janzen, Jim Johnson, Ken Knittle, Doug Knutson, **Merlene Koliner** (Clarkston area), Bill & Nancy LaFramboise, Roy Lowe, John Lundsten, Donna Luthhoff, Kathy Merrifield, **Tom & Alison Mickel** (*Lane*), Steve Mlodinow, **Harry Nehls** (w. Oregon), Vic Nelson, Bob Norton, Mike Patterson, Don Pederson, Bob & Georgia Ramsey, Dennis Rockwell, **Russell Rogers** (Washington), Skip Russell (SRu), Bill Shelmerdine, Kevin Spencer, Andy Stepniewski, Patrick Sullivan (PtSu), Paul Sullivan (PaSu), Bill Tice (BTi), Terry Wahl, Terry John Wahl (TJW), Katherine Wilson, Bob Woodley.

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