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Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *North American Birds*2 are keyed on page 24.

oregon- washington region



warm weather encouraged many birds to stay late, including record-late dates for Olive-sided Flycatcher and Gray Flycatcher. A total of 11 passerine species were found a month or more beyond their usual departure date. Adding to this pleasing situation were good movements of montane species into the lowlands, plus a solid movement of several "winter finches" into the Region.

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

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

Thirteen reports of Pacific Loon from freshwater areas is somewhat below average for a fall total, and only one Yellow-billed Loon report, at Sequim, *Clallam, WA*, Oct. 4+ (NB, SM) is also well below average. Fifteen Clark's Grebes were reported from the west-side; all but four were from w. Oregon. The numbers and distribution of this uncommon migrant show considerable annual variation. The 9 Regional pelagic trips averaged 100+ Black-footed Albatross per trip, with a high count of 323 off Westport, WA, Aug. 22 (TRW). Both totals are above the long-term average. Four Laysan Albatross were reported off Westport, WA, Aug. 8–Oct. 18 (BrL, TRW, BTw) and none off Oregon. They increased the 1998 regional total to thirteen, about average for the late 1990s. N. Fulmar numbers averaged about 500 per trip and peaked at 1222 off Westport Oct. 18 (TRW), very similar to last fall's excellent numbers. Unusually large counts of Pink-footed Shearwater included a count of 400 from land at Cape Blanco, OR, Sep. 24 (DLA, KC, TR, CD) and 1000 off Depoe Bay, OR, Sep. 12 (MH, GG). Washington pelagic counts were normal, with a peak of 503 off Westport Sep. 12 (TRW). Five Flesh-footed Shearwaters were report-

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It was a remarkable fall in Oregon, with seven first state records (**Manx Shearwater, Brown Booby, Wilson's Plover, Common Ground-Dove, Broad-billed Hummingbird, White Wagtail, Louisiana Waterthrush**). Washington did not fare as well, with "only" two first state records. The fall passerine migration was superb, with good numbers of the usual species and an abundance of vagrants. Topping the list were the Region's first Louisiana Waterthrush, Washington's first Golden-winged Warbler, the region's 6th Canada Warbler, and a wagtail that may well represent North America's first White Wagtail of the race *leucopsis*. And ten Tropical/Couch's Kingbirds this fall wasn't bad either. In contrast, most of the "uncommon" shorebird migrants were downright scarce.

The fall seemed to consist of two seasons. Aug. through Oct. were warm and abnormally dry months. The rains finally started in Nov., which was wet, windy, and warm. The 11.62 inches of rainfall in Seattle in Nov. set a new record for the month. The

ed, a low fall total: two off Oregon (MH, GG) and three off Washington (BrL, TRW). The Jun. appearance of Buller's Shearwaters did not presage a good fall; the peak count was 550 off Westport Oct. 18 (BrL). The low counts of Sooty Shearwaters on pelagic trips continue to concern us, but shore counts of 50,000 on Willapa Bay, WA, Aug. 1 (SM, DD) and 12,000 off Leadbetter Pt., WA, Aug. 8 (M. & C. Shepard) may provide some indication of better onshore abundance. The peak pelagic number was 3691 off Westport, WA, Sep. 12 (TRW). Again, they appeared well inside the Strait of Juan de Fuca in Sep., where they were formerly casual: two off Swantown, *Island*, Sep. 21 (SM, P. Sunby), two off Fort Worden S.P., *Jefferson*, Sep. 23 and Oct. 7 (E. Deal), and one off P.N.P. Sep. 28 (VN). The first Oregon records of **Manx Shearwater** were singles seen from shore off Barview, *Tillamook*, Oct. 6 (†JG) and off Otter Rock, *Lincoln*, Nov. 4 (†JG); previous reports have not been accepted by the O.B.R.C. One off Westport Aug. 22 (†BTw, BrL) was Washington's 3rd for the year and about the 9th overall. There was no repeat of the remarkable numbers of Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel found inside Puget Sound the previous fall; the only report was one off Edmonds Oct. 5 (G. Toffic).

An imm. **Brown Booby** that flew over the pelagic trip boat 15 miles off Depoe Bay Oct. 3 (†MH, GG) is the first Oregon report. The Region's first occurred only last year in *Clallam*, WA. A scattering of Am. White Pelican has been on the westside since spring, which is very unusual. The pair at O.S. was seen through Oct. 6 (B. Morse), a pair was at Sauvie and nearby areas Nov. 7+ (T. Slupesky, R. Korpi), and a pair was near Eugene, OR, Nov. 28 (RRb). Very high numbers of Brown Pelican remained through the period; normally they have almost all departed by early Nov. A count of 500 at LaPush, *Clallam*, Nov. 1 (M. Wilson) is an astounding number for such a late date. Other large, late counts on the Washington coast included 150 at Tokeland, *Pacific*, Nov. 1 (SM) and 60 at Cape Flattery, *Clallam*, Nov. 30 (K. Lei). For the 6th consecutive fall, Brown Pelicans were reported in Puget Sound waters. The total of 11+ reports is the 2nd highest total but is much lower than the 90 reported in the previous fall. Most of the reports came from the Seattle area (three), P.N.P. (four), and the w. shoreline of Whidbey I. (two), and all but one were seen in Nov. Great Egrets were numerous throughout the Region, except coastal Washington and the Puget Trough, where only 13 individuals were reported. Repre-

sentative high counts elsewhere included 98 at F.R.R. Nov. 28 (RRb), 200 at Potholes, *Grant*, WA, Oct. 6 (RH), and 62 at Ridgefield N.W.R., *Clark*, WA, Aug. 8 (WC). Snowy Egrets staged an impressive showing in s. coastal Oregon, with almost daily sightings Sep. 19–Nov. 8 and a peak of 18 in *Curry* Oct. 1 (DM). At the other end of the spectrum, Cattle Egrets were almost unreported. Two near Junction City, *Lane*, OR, Nov. 8 (CW) make for the lowest Regional total since fall 1988, when only two were reported. A Green Heron at Hood Park, WA, Sep. 12 was the 2nd *Walla Walla* record (M&MLD). There are only about 20 w. Oregon records of White-faced Ibis, almost all from spring, so one at F.R.R. in Sep. (K. Larsen) was very notable. Another at Wallula, *Walla Walla*, WA, Sep. 19 (ph., M&MLD) was also a vagrant.

Four single Ross's Geese were found away from their regular migratory route: Woodinville, *King*, WA, Sep. 8 (DBe), Banks L., *Grant*, WA, Oct. 7 (JA), Columbia N.W.R., *Grant*, WA, Nov. 18 (RH), and Sauvie Nov. 19 (HN). This is the highest fall total away from their usual range in the last decade. In addition to the Emperor Goose that has become a permanent fixture on the Sandy R., OR, one was at Sequim, *Clallam*, WA, Sep. 13+ (B. Boekelheide, m. ob.), and one was at Sauvie Nov. 14 (HN), an average fall total. An unusual Willamette Valley breeding record of Ring-necked Duck was a hen and six young at Baskett Slough N.W.R. Aug. 20 (J. Simmons). The Tufted Duck that returned for the 3rd winter on the Columbia R. at Bingen, *Klickitat*, WA, Nov. 9+ (B. Hanson, WC) was the only report. The number of sea ducks found inland was well below normal. The only Oldsquaw were five near Ephrata, *Grant*, WA, Nov. 11 (JA). A Black Scoter at Richland, WA, Sep. 4 (BW) was very rare inland. The total for the other two species was nine Surfs and three White-wingeds, the lowest fall total since 1988. Likewise, only five Red-breasted Merganser reports were received.

KITES THROUGH PHALAROPES

White-tailed Kite numbers remain heartening. Good counts from Oregon include up to 11 at Finley N.W.R. and five at F.R.R. from Oct. on and seven in the Coquille Valley, *Coos*, Sep. 26 (L. Gaynor). Three young fledged from the nest near the Nestucca Bay N.W.R., *Tillamook*, OR, Aug. 16 (F. Schrock). Five were located in Washington: two at Skamokawa, *Wahkiakum*, Aug. 18 (PtSu) and three at Rock Prairie, *Thurston*, Nov. 14 (P. Hicks). Red-shouldered Hawk

reports were liberally sprinkled throughout w. Oregon, including four from the Willamette Valley, where they are still scarce. However, an immature in the Cascades at the Bonney Butte Hawk Watch Station near Mt. Hood Sep. 22 (Hawk Watch International) was very unexpected, and one at Klamath Falls Nov. 15 (KS) was the only interior report. The Swainson's Hawk near Peoria, OR, Sep. 26 was the 2nd *Benton* record (T&AM). Ferruginous Hawks at Sauvie Aug. 20 (HN) and North Portland Sep. 20 (K. Kwan) were also from the westside, where they are not annual. The only Gyrfalcon reported was found near Tonasket, *Okanogan*, WA, Nov. 20 (K. Guse).

The peak count of migrant Sandhill Cranes on Sauvie was about 4000 in Oct. (USFWS, HN), somewhat higher than usual, and 5000 were in the Othello, *Adams*, WA area Sep. 21 (RH). Westside Golden-Plover reports included 21 Americans (none after Oct. 9), 60 Pacifics (none after mid-Oct.), and five unidentified. This total was extremely low for Americans, but a bit better than average for Pacifics. In the interior, three Americans found during mid-Oct. from the Columbia Basin were late (CC, PtSu). A **Wilson's Plover** at Bullard's Beach State Park, *Coos*, Sep. 10–Oct. 4 (J. Pilny, m. ob.) was the first Oregon record and is the farthest n. one has been found on the Pacific Coast by about 500 miles. A Washington record count of 2320 Semipalmated Plovers was made at O.S. Aug. 1 (SM, DD), followed by a near record Oregon count of 1000+ at Pony Slough, *Coos*, OR, Aug. 2 (TR). These counts follow exceptionally high tallies in Jul. and demonstrate the timing of peak pas-



This Wilson's Plover was at Bullard's Beach, Oregon, October 1, a first state record--and about 500 miles north of the northernmost California record. Photographer/Trent Bray

sage through our Region. The Lesser Yellowlegs tally in the interior was impressive, highlighted by 2 large gatherings for e. Oregon: 30 each at Cold Springs N.W.R. Sep. 10 (CC) and Malheur Sep. 20 (AC). Solitary Sandpipers were reported in the lowest numbers since 1990, with 17 in the interior and a paltry five on the westside. An Upland Sandpiper was near Loomis, *Okanogan*, Aug. 20 (†SJ) and another was at Sequim, *Clallam*, Aug. 22 (†SA); they now occur only as vagrants in Washington. Bar-tailed Godwits average about three per fall, so four this fall was about normal. Records came from O.S. on Aug. 16–17 (†T. Schooley, PWS) and Nov. 7–21 (BrL, PWS) and from Tokeland, where at least one was present Aug. 1–Nov. 9. On Aug. 1 the bird at Tokeland was an adult (†SM), and from Oct. 7 on the bird was an immature (†SM, BTw), but what was present in between is unclear.

Only nine Sanderlings were reported from the interior. The Semipalmated Sandpiper westside tally was about 50, and another 20 were in the interior; these represent moderate numbers. Two sight reports of **Long-toed Stint** from Oregon will be evaluated by the O.B.R.C.: one at New R., *Coos*, Aug. 19 (DLA, KC) and one at Tillamook (GL). Pectoral Sandpiper numbers were lower than usual. Peak counts of 44 in the interior at Scooteneys Res., *Franklin*, WA, Oct. 4 (DR), 25 at Malheur Sep. 12 (D. Evered), and 25 at Crockett L., *Island*, WA, Sep. 19 (SM) were less than half of normal. Only three Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were found: one at Crockett L., *Island*, WA, Sep. 26 (SM), another at O.S. Sep. 27 (*fide* SM), and one at Sauvie and nearby Vancouver L., *Clark*, WA, Sep. 27–29 (SRu, WC). Eleven Stilt Sandpipers were found in the interior and seven on the westside, well below average. Only two Buff-breasted Sandpipers were reported: one at Crockett L., *Island*, WA, Aug. 21 (KA) and one at Coos Bay, OR, Aug. 30–Sep. 2 (DLA, KC, TR). The count of four Ruffs was below average: one at Sauvie Aug. 29–30 (HN), one at S.J.C.R. Sep. 10 (MP, HN) and Oct. 1 (SRe), and one at Sequim, *Clallam*, WA, Oct. 4–5 (NB, PtSu). It was a slow fall for Red-necked Phalaropes in the interior, on Puget Sound, and on the ocean. Peak counts for each locale were 212, 500, and 109, respectively. The Regional total for Red Phalarope reports was only 17, five of which came from *Walla Walla* in s.e. Washington Sep. 19–26 (KK, M&MLD)! The only other report away from the outer coast was one in the Willamette Valley at Keizer Nov. 26 (SD).

JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Pomarine Jaeger numbers averaged less than five per trip offshore (TRW, GG), a very poor showing. One at F.R.R. Sep. 19 (D. Jones) and one on Puget Sound off Vashon I., *King*, Sep. 10 (DBe) were in unusual locations. The only interior report of Parasitic Jaeger was one at W.W.R.D. Sep. 19 (M&MLD). A total of 19 Long-tailed Jaegers was reported (TRW, GG, MP), a lower number than some single pelagic trips find in a good year. The tally of 19 S. Polar Skuas in 8 pelagic trips was also lower than average for fall (TRW, GG) but an improvement over last fall. An ad. **Laughing Gull** at Bay City, *Tillamook*, Oct. 3–17 (ph., DBa, JJ) is the 3rd Oregon record. At least 30 Franklin's Gulls were found on the westside, apparently the highest fall total since 1988. The reports included four Nov. reports (VN, DM, HN, MP). Two Little Gulls were found. The juvenile at Point Roberts, *Whatcom*, WA, Aug. 15 (SM) was from the greater Puget Sound region, where expected, but the bird at Summer L., *Lake*, OR, Sep. 4+ (CM, m. ob.) provided a very rare interior record. A Glaucous Gull at Ediz Hook, *Clallam*, WA, Oct. 17 (B. Sundstrom) was early; the only other report was one at nearby Sequim Nov. 28 (SA). Thirteen Sabine's Gulls were reported from the interior, a very high count; whereas the pelagic trips averaged 25 per trip (TRW, GG), only a bit better than last fall's low numbers. Seven of the interior reports were from the Columbia Basin, and six were from the high desert areas of e. Oregon. Additionally, there were 8 reports from shore or inland in w. Washington.

The Elegant Tern "echo" flight was moderate. Largest numbers were the 40–60 birds at the Rogue R. mouth Aug. 3–8 (CD, AD, DM, AB). Other peak counts on the Oregon coast were 33 at Gold Beach Sep. 7 (SM, CD), 15 at the Siuslaw R. mouth Aug. 3 (B. & Z. Stotz), and 10 at Yaquina Bay Aug. 5 (WH). The only birds reaching Washington were four–five at Tokeland Aug. 1–2 (SM, PtSu). Five Forster's Terns, above average, were found on the westside: one at Yaquina Bay, OR, Sep. 13 (WH), one at Seattle Sep. 28 (DBe), two at Salsbury Pt., *Kitsap*, WA, Oct. 5 (PtSu), and one at Everett, WA, Oct. 20 (SM). Oregon's 5th **Least Tern** that appeared in Jul. at Yaquina Bay remained through Aug. 10 (WH, m. ob.) Following another summer of poor Com. Murre reproduction, counts off Westport averaged about 100 per trip (TRW). Some excellent counts onshore, 10,000 at O.S. Aug. 1 (SM), and in Puget Sound, 2800 at P.N.P. Sep. 17

(VN), indicated that adults were probably experiencing low mortality as they moved N. A **Long-billed Murrelet** at Boiler Bay Nov. 6 (†JG) is about the 5th Oregon record. Two Xantus's Murrelets off Depoe Bay, OR, Sep. 12 (CM, SRu) and two off Westport, WA, Sep. 13 (†BTw, TRW) made this the 4th consecutive fall with reports of this species. Numbers of Cassin's Auklets remained frighteningly low until the arrival of the n population in Oct., Aug., and Sep. pelagic trip counts off Westport tallied 10 birds (TRW). Two were found well inside Puget Sound: at Vashon I. Sep. 19 (DBe) and off Edmonds, *Snohomish*, Sep. 22 (SA).

A Band-tailed Pigeon at Malheur Sep. 25 (*fide* CH) was locally rare. The **White-winged Dove** at Eugene Oct. 24 (†JG) was the 6th for Oregon and remarkably the 2nd this year. The **Common Ground-Dove** at a feeder with Mourning Doves in Ashland Oct. 26 (S., L. & K. Clarke, ph.) is the first Oregon record; the northernmost California record is from Death Valley! Details and photos eliminated Ruddy Ground-Dove. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Sam's Valley, *Jackson*, Aug. 31 (ph. G. Shaffer) is the first w. Oregon record since 1977. Two Burrowing Owls in w. Oregon represent expected numbers: one at Bullard's Beach S.P., *Coos*, Oct. 1 (SM, BTw) and one near Halsey Nov. 7 (M. Cutler, P. Vanderheul). The Spotted Owl that appeared in downtown Everett, WA, Nov. 17–18 (SM, F. Bird) drew considerable media coverage, until it was trapped and "returned" to more favorable habitat. Boreal Owls were reported from Sunrise, Mount Rainier N.P., where five were found Sep. 28 (PtSu), near Tollgate, OR, Oct. 9 (PaSu), at White Pass, WA, Oct. 20 (PtSu), and Togo Mt., *Ferry*, WA, Oct. 23 (KK). Fall reports of this poorly known species appear to vary annually, maybe a function of coverage and weather. Oct. was mild, allowing greater observer access into high-elevation areas. Among the many stupendous Oregon birds found this fall, the imm. male **Broad-billed Hummingbird** photographed at John Day Sep. 12–14 (C. & M. O'Leary, T. Janzen) certainly stands out. It is the first Oregon record; the northernmost California record is from *Humboldt*. Rather unspectacular in comparison, the male Black-chinned Hummingbird at Reedsport Sep. 30 (M. Rudolph) was exceedingly rare on the outer coast. Anna's Hummingbirds in the interior at Wapato, *Yakima*, WA, Aug. 27 (A. Stepniewski) and at Joseph Cr., *Asotin*, WA, Nov. 9–14 (*fide* MK) were at locations where they are casual. The male **Costa's Hummingbird**

near Frederickson, *Pierce*, early Aug. to Oct. 3 (S Cave, ph. B. Ramsey) was a long overdue first record for Washington. In Oregon, where they are annual, three males were at a Grants Pass feeder (*fide DV*) for the entire period, and the male at present at Central Point for over a year remained through the end of the period (*fide DV*). Lewis's Woodpecker appeared in unusual numbers on the westside: many at Breitenbush Mt., *Marion*, OR, Aug. 14 (SD); one on San Juan I., WA, Aug. 29 (B. & J. Jensen), one at Kirkland, *King*, WA, Sep. 12-15 (T. Michealson, C. Anderson), one at Ebey I., *Snohomish*, WA, in mid-Sep. (T. Nowak), one at New River, *Coos*, OR, Sep. 20 (J. Carlson), one at Seattle Sep. 20 (AK, DBE), one east of Toledo, *Lincoln*, OR, Oct. 1 (DF), and one near the *Polk/Benton* line Nov. 8 (BTi). An Acorn Woodpecker at Lyle, *Klickitat*, Oct. 11 (WC) was at the species' only known Washington location. The Red-naped Sapsucker in the Rogue Valley Nov. 20 (H. Sands) was both late and unusual on the westside.

TYRANNIDS THROUGH MIMIDS

A number of flycatchers lingered later than normal this fall, but an Olive-sided Flycatcher at Portland Nov. 19 was truly exceptional and is the latest report ever for the Region (M. Calvin). Two Dusky Flycatchers in the Lane Coast Range on Sep. 28 were also late and were at a location where considered rare (TM). During fall, Least Flycatchers are less than annual w. of the Cascades, but two were recorded this year: one at Seattle Aug. 17 (KA) and one at Skagit W.M.A., *Skagit*, WA, Sep. 19 (SM). The *Empidonax* of the fall, however, was w. Oregon's first fall Gray Flycatcher near Gold Beach, *Curry*, Nov. 8, a late date (CD, AB). A Black Phoebe at Albany, *Linn*, OR, until Oct. 20 was n. of this species' expanding range (Fleisher). Eight Say's Phoebes in s.w. and w.-central Oregon Oct. 13 to Nov. 8 were more than average (JG, T. Snetsinger, DHZ, TJW, CD, DM). None were reported from w. Washington. An Ash-throated Flycatcher at F.R.R. Oct. 10-16 was both n. of this species' breeding range in w. Oregon and unusually late (CW). Prior to 1997, there were about 43 records of Tropical/Couch's Kingbirds from the Region (FN 52: 6-11), but in 1997, a record-setting 13 were found. This year, 10 more were located, with a top count of three near Cape Blanco, *Curry*, OR, Nov. 18 (TJW). One in the Willamette Valley at Grand I., *Yamhill*, Oct. 11 was only the Region's 4th away from the outer coast (†RRb), and another photographed and heard near Cape Blanco Jul. 26 and Aug. 8

was unprecedentedly early (TJW). The photographs seem to show an imm. bird, implying N. American origin. Two very late W. Kingbirds were also found: one near Cape Blanco Oct. 13 (TJW) and another in Harbor, *Curry*, OR, Oct. 14 (DM). E. Kingbirds are very local breeders in w. Washington, with actual breeding evidence scarce, so juveniles noted near Everett and Snohomish during early Aug. were noteworthy (SM). A **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** at Malheur Aug. 7 (†R. Gerig) was the 12th for Oregon and the 4th for e. Oregon.

Sky Larks, from the introduced population on Vancouver Island, first appeared at Washington's San Juan Islands on Aug. 15, 1960 (*Condor* 63: 418). After several years of declining numbers, none were reported this fall, making it about a year since they were last seen. This species may now be extirpated from Washington. Purple Martins are scarce breeders in Washington (and British Columbia). Thus, 100 at Budd Inlet, *Thurston*, Aug. 13 was very surprising (BTW, JG), while one at Florence, *Curry*, OR, Oct. 4 was about 3 weeks late (AC). An impressive count of 20,000 Barn Swallows were noted Aug. 30 at the traditional roost in Grand Island, *Yamhill*, OR, (FS). Nine Barn Swallow reports in Nov. were more than normal. The last were seen on Nov. 18 at Portland (DBa) and at Cape Blanco, *Curry*, OR, (TJW). A goodly 16 Blue Jays were found this fall, mostly from mid-Oct. on and mostly in e. Washington. There was one w. Washington record, where barely annual: Seattle Sep. 20-21 (AK); and two w. Oregon records, where also quite rare: Sam's Valley, *Jackson*, Nov. 7-15 (M. Givens) and Ashland Oct. 16-17 (S. Clark). A W. Scrub-Jay at Sequim, *Clallam*, Oct. 22 (J. & P. Fletcher) was a bit n.w. of this species' rapidly expanding range in Washington, while 17 at S.J.C.R. Sep. 27 (HN) were signs of a significant increase in numbers along the current edge of this species' range. Clark's Nutcrackers are less than annual w. of the Cascades away from the Olympic Mountains, so five from w. Oregon and one from lowland w. Washington were very surprising: Coos Bay Sep. 30-Oct. 8 (B. Griffin, TR), Yaquina Head, *Lincoln*, OR, Oct. 5 (S. Gobat, M. Noack), Sugarloaf Mt., *Polk*, OR, Oct. 6 (BTi), near Toledo, *Lincoln*, OR, Oct. 15 (*fide DF*), Mary's Peak, *Benton*, OR, Oct. 19-22 (M. Lofton, E. Pruitt), and near Forks, *Clallam*, WA, Nov. 19 (P. Loafman, K. Mike). More Mountain Chickadees than normal were found away from expected areas, especially in the Puget Sound Region, where nine were found from Sep. 27 onward. White-breasted

Nuthatches are casual in w. Washington away from *Clark*, so one found at Enumclaw, *King*, Aug. 25 was very unusual (F. Boeshe).

Rock Wrens are rare-but-annual fall migrants in w. Washington. Two were found this year: one at Seattle Sep. 28-30 (DBE, KA) and one at Kirkland, *King*, WA, Oct. 4 (M. & J. Hobbs). Canyon Wrens are also reported less than annually from w. Washington and n.w. Oregon. This fall two were found on the w. slope of the Washington Cascades: one at Kelly Butte, *King*, Sep. 12 (DBE) and another at Mount Rainier N.P., *Pierce*, Sep. 26-27 (KK). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Floras L., *Curry*, Nov. 12 was about 70 miles n.w. of that species' breeding range and about 3 months late (TJW, DM, JR, CD). Swainson's Thrushes lingered much later than usual, with three reported during the last week of Oct.: Clackamas, OR (E. Sprechet), Josephine, OR (DV), and Clark, WA (SM). Hermit Thrushes were reported in excellent numbers this fall in w. Washington, with an impressive maximum of 55 at Seattle Sep. 19 (KA). Varied Thrushes were reported early and also in large numbers in w. lowlands, and a high count of 150+ at Bellevue, *King*, Nov. 22 was truly exceptional (R. Conway). Though Gray Catbirds breed locally across much of e. Washington and into n.e. Oregon, migrants are rarely reported, especially after late Aug., so one at Maryhill S.P., *Klickitat*, WA, Sep. 8 (PtSu), one at Cold Springs N.W.R., *Umatilla*, OR, Sep. 10 (S. Hedsen), and a 3rd at Fields, *Harney*, OR, Oct. 26 (M) were unusual. N. Mockingbirds are rare throughout the Region but can occur almost anywhere. This fall there were nine, about average. Five were in w. Oregon, one in e. Oregon, two in w. Washington, and one in e. Washington. All but one were seen after Sep. 18 (RH, AK, VN, TJW, CD, DV, JL, CH).

WAGTAILS

THROUGH WINTER FINCHES

Since 1980, wagtails from the Black-backed/White complex have been recorded at least 28 times along the Pacific Coast from British Columbia through California (*Western Birds* 29: 180-198). Of these, seven have been identified as White Wagtails, subspecies *ocularis*, 13 have been Black-backed, and eight have been unidentified. This fall, a wagtail found at Gold Beach, *Curry*, Nov. 8 appears to have been a **White Wagtail** of the subspecies *leucopsis* (†CD, AD). This would be the first North American record of the east Asian *M. a. leucopsis* and Oregon's first White Wagtail of any race.

Details have been sent out for expert review, and conclusions will appear in a future column. Loggerhead Shrikes are very scarce fall migrants w. of the Cascades n. of the Rogue Valley, so one near F.R.R. Sep. 30 was of note (A. & J. Flora). A **Blue-headed Vireo** at Malheur Sep. 9 is the 7th Oregon report (ph., CM). All but one have occurred between Sep. 6 and Oct. 5 (*Oregon Birds* 24: 74–76). A Hutton's Vireo at Umatilla N.W.R., *Benton*, WA, Sep. 5 was casual in e. Washington (CC).

The fall was superb for rare warblers, including 11 vagrant e. warblers. Almost the rarest of the lot was Washington's first (and the Region's 3rd) Golden-winged Warbler, banded at Turnbull N.W.R., *Spokane*, Aug. 20 (ph., M. Frobe). Tennessee Warblers are annual during fall in the Region, but this year's four reports was better than average: Crow Butte S. P., *Benton*, WA, Aug. 16 (CC), Two Rivers S. P., *Benton*, WA, Aug. 23 (DR), Astoria, *Clatsop*, OR, Sep. 9 (MP), and Euchre Cr., *Curry*, OR, Oct. 1 (CD). Nashville Warblers are not reported annually during fall w. of the Cascades in Washington, so ones at Skagit W.M.A., *Skagit*, WA, Aug. 25 (SM, DD) and at Seattle Sep. 27 (S. Terry) were noteworthy. A Nashville at Coos Bay, OR, Nov. 26 was about 2 months tardy, as was one at Brookings, *Curry*, OR, Dec. 4 (TR, DM). Also about 2 months behind schedule was a Yellow Warbler at Coos Bay Nov. 14–29 (TR). Washington's 11th Chestnut-sided Warbler was at Richland, *Benton* WA, Aug. 20–24 (ph., M&MLD). An imm. Magnolia Warbler near Cape Blanco, *Curry*, Oct. 4 adds to about 30 current Oregon records (TJW, JG). Washington had its 4th and 5th **Black-throated Blue Warblers** with one at Bickleton, *Klickitat*, Sep. 19 (†SJ) and another at Richland, *Benton*, Sep. 20 (CC). Adding to Oregon's more than 30 records of Black-throated Blues was a late bird at Brookings, *Curry*, Nov. 27 (B. Stewart). Yellow-rumped Warblers are often ignored due their abundance, but 1000 at Bateman I., *Benton*, WA, Sep. 26 was an unusual concentration (CC). A Black-throated Gray Warbler at Langlois, *Curry*, OR, Nov. 1 (TJW) and another at Medford, *Jackson*, OR, Nov. 4 (T. Wicklund) were both about a month late. Palm Warblers are regular migrants and winter residents along the coast, but one at Seattle Sep. 20 was at a location where the species is rare (S. Giles). Blackpoll Warblers are now annual in s.e. Oregon, so one at Malheur Sep. 8–9 was somewhat expected (*fide* CH), but three in Washington represented that state's 11th-

13th records: Richland, *Benton*, Aug. 25 (*fide* BLA), Wanapum S.P., *Kittitas*, Sep. 1 (†SM, KA), and Wahluke W.M.A., *Franklin*, Sep. 1 (†SM, KA). This fall's Black-and-white Warbler was found at Carlton, *Yamhill*, OR, Sep. 26 (V. Brown). There are more than 90 records of this species from the Region. An imm. **Prothonotary Warbler** at Malheur Sep. 19–23 was Oregon's 5th and the Region's 6th (†J. & K. Rodecap). N. Waterthrushes made a good showing, with 4 records w. of the Cascades, where barely annual: Astoria, *Clatsop*, OR, Aug. 12 (MP), Skagit W.M.A., *Skagit*, WA, Aug. 25 (SM, DD), Seattle Aug. 30 (B. Vandenbosch), and Skagit W.M.A. Oct. 17–Nov. 2 (SM). One at Malheur Aug. 13 was more expected (CH). Topping the Golden-winged Warbler for best warbler was the Pacific Northwest's first **Louisiana Waterthrush**, photographed and videotaped at Silver Fall's S. P., *Marion*, OR, Nov. 26–30 (C. & J. Lawes, m. ob.). A Hooded Warbler was reportedly banded at the s. end of Upper Klamath Lake, *Klamath*, in mid-Sep. (*fide* KS). If accepted, this would be Oregon's 11th Hooded. Another major rarity was a **Canada Warbler** at Malheur Sep. 9, Oregon's 6th (CM). Finally, in the very late category was a Yellow-breasted Chat at Fields, *Harney*, OR, Oct. 13 (M).

A W. Tanager at Salem, OR, Nov. 11 was about a month late (SD). Am. Tree Sparrows arrived early and in good numbers, with the first birds found at Lyons Ferry S.P., *Franklin*, WA, Oct. 5 (M&MLD), and Seattle Oct. 11 (D. Paulson). Two were found in s. coastal Oregon, where they are casual: Sixes R., *Curry*, Nov. 12 (TJW, JR) and Coos Bay Nov. 11 (TR). Chipping Sparrows, on the other hand, stayed late, with one near Bayview, *Skagit*, WA, Nov. 24–28 (BTw) and another at Sequim, *Clallam*, WA, Nov. 29 (NB). Clay-colored Sparrows are scarce migrants in the Region, so one at Windust, *Franklin*, WA, Sep. 9 was noteworthy (PtSu), as were three in *Curry*, OR, Sep. 27–Oct. 15 (AB, CD, TJW, DM), one in Portland Oct. 2 (L. Whittemore, DHZ), and one at Malheur Oct. 12 (TM). Brewer's Sparrows are very rare w. of the Cascade Crest, so one at Brookings, *Curry*, OR, Sep. 14 (Phil Hicks) and another in Seattle Sep. 22 (KA) were noteworthy. Lark Sparrows have been considered casual on the coast, but they have proved to be regular near the Elk R. mouth, *Curry*, OR. This year there were six during Sep. and Oct. (TJW), with the first two found Sep. 7 (SM, TR). Another was at S.J.C.R. Sep. 7–9 (MP). A Lark Bunting at Newport, *Lincoln*, Sep.

13–14 was about Oregon's 20th (R. Cheek) Red Fox Sparrows are vagrants to this Region, and until their status is determined, all reports should be submitted with documentation. Three undocumented reports from this fall include singles at Richland, *Benton*, WA, Oct. 25 (CC), Washougal, *Skamania*, WA, Oct. 31 (WC), and Joyce, *Clallam*, WA, Nov. 13 (BN). Swamp Sparrows had another good year in w. Oregon, with the first arriving early on Oct 1 at Harris Beach S.P., *Curry* (SM, BTw, BrL). Six were reported from w. Washington Oct. 11–Nov. 23, which is about average (SM, S. Nord, C. Chappell, E. Kraig, KK, BN). White-throated Sparrows were exceptionally numerous this fall, with 29 reports from Oregon and 34 from Washington, including an early individual at Spokane Sep. 1 (JA). The maximum was 11 near Gold Beach, *Curry*, OR, Nov. 8 (CD) Harris's Sparrows, however, were scarcer than normal, with only five reported A Chestnut-collared Longspur at S.J.C.R Oct 9–Nov. 1 (†MP, SRe) was the 6th for Oregon and about the 10th for the Region

Bobolinks are less than annual w. of the Cascades, so one near Sixes, *Curry*, OR, Oct 5 (AB) and another at S.J.C.R. Sep. 14 (S Warner, SRe) were nice finds. During Jul, Washington's first **Tricolored Blackbirds** were found near Wilson Creek, *Grant* Seven of these remained until Aug. 4 (BN) Yellow-headed Blackbirds at Coos Bay Sep 5 (SM, TR), near Cape Blanco Sep 21 (TJW), and at Tokeland Oct. 14 (T. Aversa) were on the outer coast, where rare. Com Grackles are being found more regularly in s. Oregon, but there are still less than 20 records. One was found this fall at Fields, *Harney*, Oct. 13 (†M). A Bullock's Oriole at Cape Meares Village, *Tillamook*, OR, Nov 16+ (M. Tweelincx) was about 2 months late and might attempt wintering. Some of the winter finches made a nice showing this fall. Starting around Oct. 1, Pine Siskins irrupted into the westside with large numbers seemingly everywhere. The maximum reported was 940 at Whidbey Island, *Island*, WA, Nov. 28 (SM). Purple Finches were also more numerous than normal w. of the Cascades (SM), and one was found unusually far east at Richland, *Benton*, WA, Oct 31–Nov. 7 (CC). Evening Grosbeaks, too, were widespread in above-average numbers (JG, SM), with a maximum of 150 near Eugene in early Oct. (D. Gleason). Finally, a White-winged Crossbill at Devil's Peak, *Whatcom*, WA, Aug. 2 (J. Duemmel) was the only one reported and was likely a holdover from last winter's invasion.

