

Oregon–Washington



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Fall is typically the best season for finding rarities in the Pacific Northwest. If fall were a baseball player here, it would be a home run hitter, and fall 2000 would be the Hank Aaron or Sammy Sosa of seasons. There were 39 records of 29 species, one hybrid, and one subspecies worthy of boldface type. And even though the climate was not as hot as the birds, even the relatively cold Nov seemed to have little effect on the Regional avifauna.

Rare seabirds were prominent, both from shore and offshore. For reasons unknown exceptionally high numbers of tubenoses were seen from shore in late fall. Another trend was the movement of eastside corvids into the westside, primarily noticeable in Oregon. Other montane or northern species irrupting

into the region included Northern Hawk Owl and Mountain Chickadee. Several species on the upswing over the last decade continued that trend, most notably Red-shouldered Hawk and Western Scrub-Jay. Finally, the South Jetty of the Siuslaw River, near Florence, Oregon, produced its own Patagonia Rest Stop Effect. The parade of vagrants started in early Sep with Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Ruff, and Elegant Tern. Interest increased in mid-Sep, when a Curlew Sandpiper was found. Visitors over the following couple of weeks uncovered a load of treasures, not the least of which were Eurasian Dotterel, Tropical Kingbird, and Smith's Longspur.

Abbreviations: BRC (Bird Records Committee); F.R.R. (Fern Ridge Reservoir, Lane, OR); Malheur (Malheur N.W.R., Harney, OR); N.S.C.B. (N. Spit Coos Bay, Coos, OR); O.S. (Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor, WA); P.N.P. (Pt. No Pt., Kitsap, WA); Ridgefield (Ridgefield N.W.R., Clark, WA); W.W.R.D. (Walla Walla R. delta, Walla Walla, WA); Y.R.D. (Yakima R. delta, Benton, WA). "Eastside" and "westside" refer to east and west of the Cascade crest, respectively.

Loons Through Raptors

Red-throated Loon movement past Boiler Bay, *Lincoln*, peaked at 1500 on 6 Nov (PP); one at John Day Dam 12 Nov was on the eastside, where rare (PaSu). Washington's 2nd **Arctic Loon** was at P.N.P. 4 Nov (†VN); the first was just this Jan–Feb. Pacific Loons usually do not appear on the eastside until Oct, so singles at Columbia Pt., *Benton*, 1 Aug (BW) and Alkalai L., *Grant*, 27 Aug (SM) were early. Single fly-by Yellow-billed Loons were reported from Boiler Bay 22 Sep, 12 Oct, and 14 Oct (PP, WH). More stationary birds included the summering bird at O.S. that remained until 1 Sep (m.ob.); one at Westport 3 Oct (BS), and an albino at Tacoma 16 Nov–Dec (J. TerLouw, †DP). A concentration of 49 Eared Grebes at Utsalady Bay, *Island*, 21 Nov was probably the largest ever in w. Washington (SM, SP). Seven Clark's Grebes in w. Washington and six in w. Oregon (away from breeding grounds) was well above average; most were from mid-Oct to mid-Nov. A **Short-tailed Albatross** ±32 nmi. w. of Yachats, *Lincoln*, 21 Oct furnished ~5th Oregon and 7th Regional record during the past 50 yr (†G. Gillson); most have been Nov–Jan. Black-footed Albatross counts were high early, including 283 off Westport 19 Aug (TRW) and 180 off Newport 2 Sep (GG), but were low later, with an average of 25/pelagic trip after 5 Sep (TRW, GG). Only three Laysan Albatross were found, all off Oregon during Oct (GG). Northern Fulmar counts peaked twice, first in early Aug, with



Washington state enjoyed an early and unprecedented minor incursion of Northern Hawk Owls, including this bird banded at Chelan Ridge, *Okanagon*, 13 October 2000. Were the more striking invasions of this species into Québec and New England related? Photograph by Bud Anderson.



Oregon's first (and the region's 4th) Eurasian Dotterel was this juvenile near Florence, *Lane*, 24–26 September 2000. Photograph by E. Horvath.

1000+/trip off Westport through 19 Aug, and again in Oct when counts averaged 1800/trip (TRW, GG). Extraordinary numbers were observed from shore, with a peak of 1000 at Boiler Bay 8 Nov (PP). A stunning 10+ **Mottled Petrels** at O.S. 26 Nov provided only ~12th Regional record of live birds (†A. Knue, A. Grenon); most previous records have been from deep water, and all have been Nov–Apr. Ainley and Manolis (*W. Birds*, 1979) argued that Mottled Petrel sightings coincided with fulmar invasions. Aside from an extremely high tally of 3450 Pink-footed Shearwaters off Newport 2 Sep (GG), this species was in average numbers with ~135/trip (GG, TRW). Flesh-footed Shearwaters were scarce, with only ten reports after 22 Sep (TRW, GG). A few early Buller's Shearwaters raised expectations but numbers this fall proved dismal, with an average of 17/trip (TRW, GG). Washington had no count greater than 20! Sooty Shearwater tallies improved somewhat for the 2nd consecutive fall with an average of >1500/trip; peaks included 8260 off Westport 19 Aug (TRW) and 5600 of Newport 2 Sep (GG). Offshore counts of Short-tailed Shearwater were low, totaling just 18; thus, a tally of 500 from shore at Boiler Bay 15 Nov (PP) was unusual. A **Manx Shearwater** was seen from Boiler Bay 1 & 12 Sep (PP); despite being annual in Washington recently, there are only two previous Oregon records. A well-described **Black-vented Shearwater**, seen from Boiler Bay 28–30 Aug (†PP) would be, if accepted, Oregon's 2nd,

following one from Bandon, *Coos*, 22 Nov 1992. A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel at Admiralty Inlet, *Island*, 21 Aug had wandered into the Puget Sound region, where rare (K. Li). Leach's Storm-Petrels are rare after Aug, so singles off Newport 21 Oct (GG) and at Boiler Bay 8 Nov (PP) were remarkable.

American White Pelicans, rare on the westside, included 2 at Blaine, *Whatcom*, throughout the period (D. Robinson), 6 at Agate L., *Jackson*, 16 Sep–30 Nov+ (DV, CD), and 2 at F.R.R. 11 Nov (PV). Brown Pelicans were present in good numbers on the coast again this year, but the only reports e. of Cape Flattery were from Swantown, *Island*, 10 Aug (W. Applegate), Ediz Hook, *Clallam*, 13 Aug (BB), and Kingston, *Kitsap*, 15 Sep (SA). Fall numbers of Great Egrets seemed up again this year, with top counts of 132 in Oregon at N.S.C.B. 2 Aug (DL, KC) and 71 in w. Washington at Post Office L., *Clark*, 12 Nov (RK). Up to 11 Cattle Egrets were near Burbank, *Walla Walla*, 15–18 Nov (MD, MLD), plus singles were at Summer L., *Lake*, 30 Aug (MSL), Coos Bay, *Coos*, 3 Nov (TR), and Green Valley, *Walla Walla*, 9 Nov (MD, MLD); fall dispersal to the Region seems to be declining, especially on the westside. A Green Heron, rare in e. WA, was at Y.R.D. 18 Sep (RF). A subadult **White Ibis** at Newport Res., *Lincoln*, 15–16 Nov provided the first Regional record (†WH); there are only two California records, the last in 1977 (Calif. BRC). The one-footed Emperor Goose

remained in Port Angeles, *Clallam*, throughout the fall (BN); it arrived as a 1st-year bird last winter. A Blue Goose, rare in Washington, was at FEALE, *Benton*, 28 Oct (L. Bowman). A **Whooper Swan** with 3 possible hybrid young at Summer L., *Lake*, 1–6 Nov (MSL, CM, MM) was likely the same bird that has appeared intermittently in the Klamath/Summer L. region since the winter of 1991/1992. Oregon's 3rd **Garganey** was a male at Fernhill Wetlands, *Washington*, 22 Oct (†HN, †F. Shipley); previous Oregon records were 20 Aug–20 Sep, but Washington has a winter record. A male Tufted Duck returned 9 Nov to Bingen, *Klickitat*, for the 6th consecutive winter (R. Gadway, SJ). A brood of Lesser Scaup at Stanwood, *Snohomish*, 9 Aug provided a new nesting location for this rare westside breeder (TA). Only 6 Surf and 4 White-winged Scoters were found on the eastside, well below recent averages of 25 and 17, respectively. Additionally, only 2 Long-tailed Ducks on the eastside, at John Day Dam 12 Nov (PaSu) and Prineville, *Crook*, 13–16 Nov (R. Halvorson), was well below the mean ~7/fall.

Red-shouldered Hawks continue to increase in the Region. Numbers were widely reported as up in w. Oregon, and an extraordinary 7 were in e. Oregon 27 Aug–18 Oct (FM, S. Kornfeld, SS). In Washington, an ad. was at Ridgefield 29 Aug–9 Nov (JE), and an imm. was there 29 Aug and 1–28 Nov (JE, WC, †H. Gilmore); an imm at Spencer L., *Snohomish*, 1–30 Nov provided only the 4th record n. of the lower Columbia R. (vt. SM) and another at Conboy N.W.R., *Klickitat*, 16 Sep was only e. Washington's 2nd (†JE). Single Broad-winged Hawks were seen from hawkwatches at Chelan Ridge 12 & 14 Sep (fide B. Morse) and Bonney Butte 14 Sep (fide HN); Broad-wingeds have been found regularly at Cascade hawkwatches during Sep. More unusual were singles away from the Cascades at Calispell Peak, *Stevens*, 16 Sep (D. Mann) and at Upper Klamath L., *Klamath*, 23 Sep (N Barrett). A Rough-legged Hawk at Walla Walla 7 Sep was ~3 weeks early (HO). Five Gyrfalcons this fall was about average, with singles near Sequim, *Clallam*, 1 Nov (TA), Keystone, *Adams*, 2–3 Nov (JA), O.S. 4 Nov (PtS), Vantage, *Kittitas*, 9 Nov (TA), and a most unusual white bird near Duvall, *King*, in late Nov (M. Postor fide BA). Eight Prairie Falcons in the w. Oregon lowlands 29 Aug+ was above average.

Plovers Through Auklets

A distinctly sub-par 27 American Golden-Plovers were reported, while the Pacific Golden-Plover tally was a meager 40, 19 of which were at O.S. 25 Sep (JB). A **Eurasian Dotterel** near Florence, *Lane*, 24–26 Sep pro-

vided a first Oregon and 4th Regional record (AC, LB, HH, ph. E. Horvath); most of the previous 9 contiguous United States records are from Sep. A Black-necked Stilt at Paterson Slough, *Benton*, 6 Oct was a month late (NL, BW, RF). American Avocets, rare on the westside, were at Gold Beach, *Curry*, 1 Sep (DM), Snohomish 25 Sep–2 Oct (GT), Portland 14 Oct (L. Weiland, P. Muller), and Tokeland, *Pacific*, 21 Sep–10 Nov (S. Gerstle). On the eastside, a congregation of 48,000 at Summer L. 12 Aug was among the largest ever in the Region (DT). Solitary Sandpipers had an average showing with 23 on the eastside and 8 on the westside, but one at Snohomish 2 Oct was among the latest ever for Washington (SP). An Upland Sandpiper at Cape Blanco, *Curry*, 16 Sep furnished the 12th westside record; most have occurred 18 Aug–19 Sep (ph. TJW). A fly-by **Bristle-thighed Curlew** at Boiler Bay 29 Sep awaits Oregon BRC review (†PP); there is only one acceptable fall record from North America s of Alaska (Mlodinow et al. 1999, *W. Birds*). A Long-billed Curlew was at Blaine 19 Oct+ (TA) and 2 were near Tangent, *Linn*, 27 Nov (D. Irons, D. Fix); they are rare in the Puget Trough and Willamette Valley. Astoundingly, at least 7 Bar-tailed Godwits were found in the Region this fall. Four or more were at Tokeland, including this summer's ad. female, which remained to 26 Oct (m. ob.), juv. females 19 Aug–21 Oct (GT) and 21 Oct (DP), and a juv. male 26 Aug–3 Sep (PtS). In Oregon, Bar-taileds were at Coos Bay 4 Sep (†DL, TR), Gearhart, *Clatsop*, 20–22 Aug (†TT), and Idaho Flats, *Lincoln*, 9 Nov (PP). The only eastside Ruddy Turnstones were 2 at Gap Road Pond, *Benton*, 20 Aug (RF). Semipalmated Sandpiper numbers were average, including 26 from the eastside and 56 from the westside, with a maximum of 18 at Crockett L., *Island*, 11 Aug (SM, KA). A concentration of 150+ Baird's Sandpipers at Swanson Lakes, *Lincoln*, 26–29 Aug may well be a Regional record (JA, WH). A Sharp-tailed Sandpiper at Othello, *Adams*, 7 Oct was only e. Washington's 10th (†SM, CB). Seven Sharp-taileds were found on the westside 1 Sep–28 Oct, above the recent average of ~5/fall. Most extraordinarily, a well-studied **nominate Rock Sandpiper** at OS 15 Nov+ (†TA, ph. RTS) provided an apparent first record s. of Alaska (Paulson 1993, *Shorebirds of the Pacific Northwest*). Three **Curlew Sandpipers** were found this fall: an ad. near Long Beach, *Pacific*, 5–11 Aug (D. Taylor, ph. RS) and juvs. near Florence 17–18 Sep (BiS, R. Freeman) and Bandon 25 Sep–2 Oct (†DL); there were only + 15 prior Regional records. The Regional tally of 36 Stilt Sandpipers was about average, with a maximum of 9 at WWRD. 23 Sep (MD, MLD) and late individ-

uals at Othello 7–9 Oct (SM, CB, BF) and near Toppenish, *Yakima*, 8 Oct (AS); there are only 2 previous eastside Oct records. Four Buff-breasted Sandpipers at O.S. 31 Aug provided Washington's best showing since 1995; at least one remained until 3 Sep (TA). In Oregon, 3 were at N.S.C.B. 24–30 Aug (TR), and singles were near Gearhart 22 Aug (TT) and Florence 1 Sep (BiS). Nine Ruffs this fall was well above the 3–4/fall average. Notable were singles on the eastside, where extremely rare, at Summer L. 13 Sep (MSL) and Sprague, *Lincoln*, 15–16 Sep (TL, JA), and a bird lingering late to 23 Oct at Fernhill Wetlands (K. Kaufman). Short-billed Dowitchers were unusually numerous in e. Washington, with a maximum of 5 at W.W.R.D. 26 Aug (MD, MLD). A Short-billed at O.S. 29 Nov was more than a month late (SM, DD). A count of 15,000 Wilson's Phalaropes at L. Abert, *Lake*, 10 Aug was exceptional, but 7500 Red-necked Phalaropes there that day was unprecedented for the eastside (RG). Three Wilson's at F.R.R. 19 Oct were a month late (D. Arendt). Red Phalaropes at Iowa Beef, *Walla Walla*, 6 Aug (MD, MLD) and at Soap L., *Grant*, 5 Oct (vt. SP) provided rare eastside records. Offshore, a count of 360 off Newport 23 Sep (GG) far outstripped all Washington counts, which peaked at 27 (TRW).

Only 25 South Polar Skuas were reported, a poor total. Pomarine Jaegers are rare but increasingly reported from the Puget Sound region. This fall singles were at P.N.P. 9, 14, & 28 Sep (VN) and Thatcher Pass, *San Juan*, 13 Oct (†JB). Pomarine counts on the ocean were subpar, averaging 12/trip, but still above last fall's tallies. Twenty Parasitic Jaegers at P.N.P. 22 Oct represented an excellent count for Puget Sound (C. Wright). Inland, where rare, up to 3 Parasitics were at Klamath Falls, *Klamath*, 20 Sep–18 Oct (KS, FM), one was at Alvord Basin, *Harney*, 30 Aug (DE), one was at Sprague 15–20 Sep (TL, JA), and one was at F.R.R. 11 Sep (M. Nikas). Long-tailed Jaegers were formerly considered casual in Puget Sound, but they have been almost annual recently. This fall singles were near Port Townsend, *Jefferson*, 28 Aug (KA), P.N.P. 13–24 Sep (VN), and Kingston 14 Oct (DD, SM). Long-tailed counts on the ocean were exceedingly poor, totaling only 65 (TRW, GG). Franklin's Gulls continued their decade-long decline in the Puget Sound region, with only one reported, at P.N.P. 10 Oct (VN). Along the outer coast, where normally rare, six were seen 4 Aug–4 Nov. Three more were in e. Washington, where rare, 10 Aug–20 Sep (JA, NL, BW). A Little Gull was at Clatsop Spit, *Clatsop*, 23 Sep (MP), but for the first fall since 1993, none were found in Washington. A

Heermann's Gull was at Klamath Falls 30 Sep (KS, FM) and 2 were there 23 Oct (KS); there are only four previous e. Oregon records, all mid-Oct–early Nov. Twelve Mew Gulls at John Day Dam 19 Nov was extraordinary for the eastside (MD, MLD). A remarkable 12 Western Gulls were found on the eastside, with a maximum of 4 at Priest Rapids L., *Yakima*, 15 Oct (AS). A Glaucous Gull at Neah Bay, *Clallam*, 3 Sep was two months early (BB); surprisingly, only 3 others were found. During Sep, 5 Sabine's Gulls were in Puget Sound, and 3 were in interior w. Oregon, an above-average showing; on the eastside, where rare, an amazing 13 were seen 31 Aug–27 Sep. Offshore, Sabine's averaged 50/trip, better than most of the last decade; peak counts were 179 off Westport 2 Sep and 110 off Newport 7 Oct (TRW, GG). A Black-legged Kittiwake was at Priest Rapids L. 15 Oct (†AS, D. Granstand); there are fewer than 10 e. Washington records. Singles were also reported in Puget Sound, where rare, at P.N.P. 28 Sep, 7 Oct, and 4 Nov (VN). A **Red-legged Kittiwake** off Westport provided ~6th record for Washington on the unseasonable date of 12 Aug (ph. RTS, †BL).

Elegant Terns were not expected during this non-El Niño year, but one was at Boiler Bay 28 Aug and 25 Sep (†PP), 2 were there 3 Sep (D. Heyerly), 2 were near Florence 2 & 19 Sep (†D. DeWitt), and 2 were at Coos Bay, *Coos*, 8 Sep (TR). The gathering of Common Terns off P.N.P. peaked at 2000 on 27 Aug (VN). An Arctic Tern, extremely rare on the eastside, was at Priest Rapids, *Grant*, 10 Sep (BTw). Ten Forster's Terns were found in w. Oregon 20 Aug–16 Sep, with a maximum of 6 at L. Selmac, *Josephine*, 16 Sep (R. Cooper). A Xantus's Murrelet was encountered for the 6th consecutive fall, off Westport 26 Aug (BTw, †GR), a Xantus's/Craver's Murrelet was 50 mi. w of Pistol R., *Curry*, 17 Sep (JG, OS, GL). An Ancient Murrelet at O.S. 9 Aug was about two months early (RTS); another was there 20 Aug (ph. H. Vail). An extremely low total of 16 Cassin's Auklets were found off Washington during Aug, but large numbers appeared off both states during early Sep, as evidenced by peak shore-based counts of 2130 flying past Boiler Bay 7 Sep and 3500 there 15 Sep (PP). Single **Parakeet Auklets** were ~50 mi. off Seaside and off Cape Blanco 17 Sep (†JG, †OS, GL); almost all contiguous U.S. records occurred late Nov–late Apr.

Pigeons Through Swallows

Eastside Band-tailed Pigeons, rare during fall, were at Field's Spring Park, *Asotin*, 15 Oct (J. Lipar) and near Prineville 25 Nov (PVV). Oregon's 7th **White-winged Dove** was at Gold

Beach 6 Sep (ph. GG); there have been five Regional records during the last three years, but only ~11 overall. A small incursion of Snowy Owls occurred this fall, with at least 15 in w. Washington and 4 in w. Oregon. The first was at Blaine 7 Nov (TRW), and the southernmost was at Port Orford, *Curry*, 19 Nov (TJW). **Northern Hawk Owls** staged an invasion into Washington this fall, with singles at Chelan Ridge, *Okanogan*, 13 Oct (ph. BA), Snow Peak, *Ferry*, 14 Oct (†B. Forester), and near Colville, *Stevens*, 12–25 Nov (†KKn, †M. Breece); there are ~11 previous Washington records, mostly mid-Nov–Feb. Burrowing Owls, rare in w. Oregon and very rare in w. Washington, were near Penn Cove, *Island*, 24–25 Oct (B. Merrick), near Salem, *Marion*, 9 Oct+ (SD), and at Baskett Slough, *Polk*, 19 Nov+ (H. Hamann). A **Spotted x Barred Owl** was at Bellevue, *King*, 3 Nov, providing only the 3rd Washington record (ph. TA); Bellevue is within normal Barred Owl territory but is distinctly deficient in Spotted Owl habitat. A Barred at Malheur 6–9 Oct was well away from this species' normal Oregon range (AC, FM, N. Strycker); a Great Gray Owl at Newman L., *Spokane*, 14–21 Oct was away from this species' known Washington range (R. Dexter). More Boreal Owls were reported from the mountains this fall, likely due to increased observer effort: one was at S. Sister 17 Sep (TR), 8 were at Sunrise, *Pierce*, 27 Sep (PtS), 2 were at Clover Flats, *Yakima*, 1 Oct (AS), 2 were above Todd L., *Deschutes*, 13–14 Oct (PaSu), and 2 were near Tollgate, *Wallowa*, 3 Nov (MD). A Common Poorwill at Eugene, *Lane*, 6 Nov was out-of-range and two months late (AC). The Portland Vaux's Swift roost peaked at 30,000 on 23 Sep (J. Lawes). The season's Costa's Hummingbird was at Bend, *Deschutes*, 28 Aug (DT). A well-described female **Broad-tailed Hummingbird** at Asotin 25–27 Aug provided Washington's first record (†C. Vande Voorde); there were two other inadequately documented Aug reports for se. Washington, of birds perhaps driven nw. by extensive fires in Idaho. Lewis's Woodpeckers are rare in w. Washington, so one in Bellingham 17 Sep was noteworthy (TRW). Extremely rare for the outer coast was a Red-naped Sapsucker at Tokeland 24 Sep (PtS).

Least Flycatchers were at Washtucna, *Adams*, 28 Aug (SM) and Oroville, *Okanogan*, 12 Sep (TA); there are only ~6 previous fall Washington records. Another was in Oregon, where also rare, near Sisters, *Deschutes*, 5 Aug (JG). A Black Phoebe, rare in n. Oregon, returned to Milwaukie, *Clackamas*, 12 Nov (J. Fitch). Seven westside Oregon Say's Phoebes was above the 5/fall norm. An Ash-throated

SA Fifteen Tropical Kingbirds this fall set a new Regional record and brought the all-time Regional total to about 85. Half are from the past four years, leading us to wonder if the migratory north Mexican population is having exceptional breeding success. The first Tropical this year was about two weeks early near Florence 30 Sep (CG, AC), with the next report not being until 19 Oct, when three were found at Seaside, *Clatsop* (S. Warner). Three were also at O.S. 21–27 Oct (PtSu, †PWS, †RTS, †TA), where 2 remained through Nov (PWS). The only other Washington sighting was at Tokeland 10 Nov (†B. Shelmerdine). Many, but not all, of these birds were heard calling, confirming their identification as Tropical Kingbirds.

Flycatcher at Tokeland 23 Sep was on Washington's outer coast, where casual (PtS). Oregon's 3rd, and the Region's 6th, **Vermilion Flycatcher** was an ad. male at Irrigon, *Morrow*, 7 Nov (ph. M. Ross); previous records have been Oct–Mar.

A Western Kingbird at Eugene 26–27 Oct was likely the latest ever for the Region (†D. Farrar). Oregon's 13th **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** was at Dallas, *Polk*, 26 Aug (ph. BTi); most previous records are from May and Nov.

Rare for the Oregon coast was a Loggerhead Shrike at the Sixes R. mouth, *Curry*, 19 Nov (TJW). Washington's 2nd **Blue-headed Vireo** was at Palouse Falls, *Franklin*, 28 Aug (†SM); the eight previous Regional records were 8 Sep–5 Oct. Gray Jays, rare in the Willamette Valley, were near Cottage Grove, *Lane*, 8–26 Aug (TM), Pedee, *Polk*, 15 Aug (TB), and Philomath, *Benton*, 26 Nov (S. Fitzpatrick); given the number of corvids on the move, these birds may not have come from the nearby Coast Range population. Thirty-plus Pinyon Jays near Waldo L., *Lane*, 24 Sep provided an extremely rare westside record (fide T. Mickel). Twenty-one Clark's Nutcrackers were found at widely scattered locations in w. Oregon, which is also highly unusual. Interestingly, most were during Aug, and none were found in w. Washington away from known breeding areas. Black-billed Magpies staged a minor invasion into the westside, with singles at Lynwood, *Snohomish*, 27 Oct (A. Cunha), Discovery Park, *King*, 28 Oct (R. Weiner), and Monmouth, *Polk*, 4 Nov (JL). Constituting an above-average fall, 12 Blue Jays were reported, mostly 10 Oct–10 Nov; the only

westside bird was at Joyce, *Clallam*, 30 Oct (BN). A Western Scrub-Jay at Monroe 14 Nov provided *Snohomish* with its 2nd record this year and 3rd overall (KA), while singles at Oak Bay 16 Sep (D. Watkins) and Sequim 20 Oct (J.&P. Fletcher) were at the n. end of the Olympic Pen., where rare. A flock of 5000+ Common Ravens near Baker 18 Aug was extraordinary, especially for early fall (DS). A concentration of 100+ Bank Swallows at Ridgefield 31 Aug was unprecedented for w. Washington (BTw, SM). An extraordinary 250,000 Barn Swallows were near Dayton, *Yamhill*, 17 Sep (FS).

Chickadees Through Finches

Nearly 50 Mountain Chickadees were reported mid-Sep+ in Oregon w. of the Cascades, where normally rare, with a maximum of 12 at Mt Bolivar, *Coos*, 6 Oct (TR); surprisingly, none were reported in lowland w. Washington. Three Bewick's Wrens near Desert Aire, *Grant*, 8 Oct were at a new location (SM, CB), and one at Saltese Marsh 11 Nov was the farthest e to date in *Spokane* (WH); both are likely a signs of continuing range expansion on the eastside. A **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** at Hood Park, *Walla Walla*, 23 Sep was e. Washington's 2nd and only the 7th for the state (†MD, MLD); previous records are all Oct–Jan. In Oregon several were seen in late fall on the coast, where rare: Flores L., *Coos*, 14 Nov (TJW), Newport, *Lincoln*, 29 Oct (FS), Langlois, *Curry*, 14 Oct (TJW), and Cutler City, *Lincoln*, 25 Nov (GL, DB, J. Johnson). A Swainson's Thrush at Medina, *King*, 19 Nov was 18 days past Washington's previous late date (†HO). Northern Mockingbirds were at Columbia Pt. 7–9 Aug (BW) and Newport 7 Aug (E. Horvath); the Region averages ~6/year.

Oregon's 3rd **Blue-winged Warbler**, first found during July at Indian Ford Creek, *Deschutes*, remained until 29 Sep (T. Bickler). A **Tennessee Warbler** at Graysmarsh, *Clallam*, 1 Sep was about Washington's 10th (†SA); most previous records are late Aug–mid-Sep. A **Northern Parula** at Vantage 1 Sep was only the 2nd fall and 10th overall record for WA (†KA); 1–2 at Malheur 27 Aug–10 Sep (JG, DE, AC) and one at Hart Mt., *Lake*, 3 Sep (PaSu) added to ~50 previous OR records, most from May–Jun. A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** near College Place, *Walla Walla*, 19–22 Oct was Washington's 14th, but only the 2nd in fall (J. Goodhew, ph. MD). Palm Warblers are uncommon on the outer coast during fall and rare elsewhere on the westside. This fall they seemed more numerous than normal on the coast, and singles elsewhere were at Cattle Pt., *San Juan*, 19–21 Nov (J. Flynn, †S. Vernon) and

Ebey I., *Snohomish*, 11 Nov (SM, PB). A Blackpoll Warbler at Malheur 6 Oct (AC, FM) and another at Fields, *Harney*, 14 Oct (M) were in se. Oregon, where this species is now annual. An American Redstart in Seattle 21 Oct was more than a month late and was on the westside where rare at any time (D. Oliver). A male **Hooded Warbler** at Hart Mt. 13 Aug (ph. DT) was joined by a female shortly thereafter; both were seen until 9 Sep (ph. CM) and may have summered locally. Another female Hooded was at Malheur 6–7 Oct (†AC, FM) and a male was there 11 Oct (DE); there are only 6 previously accepted OR records! A **Summer Tanager** at Malheur 20–24 Sep was the ~9th for Oregon (D. Bradshaw, P. Dauble).

An American Tree Sparrow at O.S. 8 Oct provided heavily birded *Grays Harbor* with its first record (DP). In w. Oregon, where rare, this species was at F.R.R. 6 Nov–Dec (J. Bjorklund), near Central Pt., *Jackson*, 7 Nov (DV), and at Jackson Bottom, *Washington*, 22 Nov (HN). Clay-colored Sparrows appeared in good numbers again this fall with one at Cape Blanco 8 Oct (TJW), 3 there 27 Oct (TJW), one at Coos Bay 10 Nov (TR), and one at Ebey I. 11–12 Nov (PB, SM, DD); the last was only w. Washington's 13th. Two Vesper Sparrows at Tangent 30 Nov were two months late (PV), and 2 at O.S. 17 Aug were on Washington's outer coast, where rare (MD, MLD). Lark Sparrows, rare on the westside, were reported from Cape Blanco 30 Aug (TJW), Clatsop Spit 13 Sep (TT), and Salem 3 Nov (SD). A Lark Bunting at Seneca, *Grant*, 4 Sep provided Oregon with its ±22nd record (C & M. O'Leary). A Grasshopper Sparrow at FR R. lingered to 28 Oct (L. McQueen). A Red Fox Sparrow was well documented from Marymoor Park, *King*, 11 Oct (†M. Hobbs), only the ~12th record from Washington, though eventually this form may prove regular. Another was submitted without documentation from Coburg, *Lane*, 19 Nov (R. Robb). Fourteen Swamp Sparrows and 7 Harris's Sparrow both represent typical fall totals. A **Smith's Longspur** near Florence 24 Sep provided a first Regional record (†AC, HH, LB); California's records are from Sep–Oct. Oregon's 8th **Chestnut-collared Longspur** was at Cape Blanco 21 Oct, almost a year to the day after OR's 7th was found at the same place (ph. TJW). Recently, Bobolinks have been almost annual during fall in w. Oregon, but one at Cape Blanco 7 Nov was a month late (TJW); one at Pistol R., 23 Aug was more typical (DM, K. Goldwater). Another at P.N.P. 15 Aug was in w. Washington, where very rare (VN). Three male **Tricolored Blackbirds** near

Vancouver L., *Clark*, 25–26 Nov were Washington's first away from the Columbia Basin, though there is a small colony in near-by Portland (vt. SM, WC). Yellow-headed Blackbirds, rare on the coast, were at N.S.C.B. 22 Sep (TR) and at Cape Blanco 25 Aug and 19 Oct (TJW). A Bullock's Oriole at Cape Blanco 20 Nov was more than two months late (TJW, DM) as was one at Joyce 6 Nov (BN). A Purple Finch in Richland, *Benton*, 29 Aug was more than a month early for e. Washington and unusually far east (SM, NL, BW). A small flock of the always unpredictable White-winged Crossbill were at Johnson Ridge, *Snohomish*, 22 Oct (KKn), and 4 were at Salmo Pass, *Pend Oreille*, 25 Sep (JA). Ninety Lesser Goldfinches near Maryhill, *Klickitat*, 24 Nov was unprecedented for Washington (DMA, SM); 835 American Goldfinches near Maryhill that day was also exceptional (DMA, SM).

Initialed observers (subregional editors in boldface): Kevin Aanerud, Jim Acton, Bud Anderson, Eric Anderson, Scott Atkinson, Tom Aversa, David Bailey, Phil Bartley, Casey Beachell, Luke Bloch, Bob Boekelheide, Trent Bray, Joe Buchanan, Wilson Cady, Kathy Castelein, Alan Contreras, Craig Corder, Merry Lynn Denny, Mike Denny, Colin Dillingham, Steve Dowlan, Dennis Duffy, **Joe Engler** (*Clark*), Duncan Evered, Darrell Faxon, Ruth Fischer, Bob Flores, Chuck Gates, Roy Gerig, Jeff Gilligan, Greg Gillson, Jeff Harding, Warren Hall, Hendrik Herlyn, Wayne Hoffman, Stuart Johnston, Ken Knittle, Elizabeth Kroese, Bruce Labar (BLb), **Bill LaFramboise** (lower Columbia Basin), Nancy LaFramboise, David Lauten, Paul Lehman, Terry Little, John Lundsten, Maitreya (M), David Mandell (DMA), Frank Mayer, Al McGie, **Tom Mickel** (*Lane*), Craig Miller, Marilyn Miller, Steven Mlodinow, Don Munson, **Harry Nehls** (OR), Vic Nelson, **Bob Norton** (Olympic Peninsula), Hal Opperman, Michael Patterson, Dennis Paulson, Phil Pickering, Steve Pink, Gene Revelas, Tim Rodenkirk, **Russell Rogers** (WA), Richard Rowlett (RRw), Floyd Schrock, Ryan T. Shaw (RTS), Steve Shunk, P.W. Smith (PWS), Dan Stephens, Judy Stevens, Patrick Sullivan (PtS), **Paul Sullivan** (PaS, E. OR), Bill Stotz (BiS), Bob Sundstrom, Todd Thornton, David Tracy, Bill Tice (BTi), Greg Toffic, Bill Tweit (BTw), Paula Vanderheul, Patti Van Vlack (PVV), Dennis Vroman, Terry J. Wahl, Terry R. Wahl, Wayne Weber, Bob Woodley.

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