

## OVENBIRD RECORDS FOR OREGON

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According to the AOU Check-list (1957) the breeding range of the Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) extends from northeastern British Columbia, central southern Mackenzie, central Saskatchewan, central Manitoba, northern Ontario, southern Quebec and Newfoundland, south to southern Alberta, eastern Colorado, southeastern Oklahoma, northern Arkansas, northern Alabama and northern Georgia.

Since the publication of the Check-list, four Ovenbirds have been recorded in Oregon. Three were on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, approximately 32 miles south of Burns, in Harney County. The first state record was a female (USNM 478486) collected 4 June 1961, followed by a second individual captured, banded and released on 13 June 1963 (Kridler 1968). Littlefield captured, banded and released another Ovenbird at the same locality on 19 May 1973. The remaining record occurred 6 June 1970 when a bird landed aboard a fishing boat approximately 5 miles off Coos Bay, Coos County (Crowell and Nehls 1970).

On 1 July 1949 an Ovenbird was found dead beside a road in Moscow, Latah County, for the only Idaho record (Burleigh 1972). Hunn et al. (MS) list three records for Washington. The first record was one collected 15 November 1956 at Spokane, Spokane Co. The other records are one photographed at Richland, Benton County, on 5 June 1972 and another whose song was recorded at Sullivan Lake, Pend Oreille Co., on 16 June 1973.

Austin (1971) reported 48 records for California with spring sightings more common. This is also true in Oregon where all records have been in the spring. He further reported that species breeding east of the Rocky Mountains, such as the Ovenbird, occur more than three weeks after their migration peak in the east. The mean date for spring migration in California is 3 June which is the same mean date in Oregon.

Permanent banding stations established throughout the Great Basin would help determine migration routes and the true status of the Ovenbird and other eastern species. Since 1960 banding efforts have produced several eastern species at Malheur N.W.R. With additional banding sites in Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, northeastern California and southwestern Wyoming, their migrational patterns and abundance through the intermountain region could possibly be clarified.

## LITERATURE CITED

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*Sketch by Tim Manolis*

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