

## Field Notes: April/May 2019

# Rock Wren, Hooded Oriole, Cattle Egret, Gray Flycatcher

This was a spring of extremes—record rainfall in early April, followed by high temperatures and talk of drought in May! By the end of May the weather seemed more normal, so we'll see what the summer has to bring. The cool, wet weather at the start of the period seemed to slow migrants down. When the warmer weather came, all of the birds appeared to be in a hurry to get to their breeding grounds.

**Abbreviations:** Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

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### WATERFOWL TO SHOREBIRDS

Greater White-fronted Goose.....	Apr 23 .....	Eugene area .....	fide BN .....	Thousands migrating over in the morning
Harlequin Duck .....	Apr 10 .....	Salmon Creek.....	MLS.....	Breeding in the area?
Black Swift (15).....	May 21 .....	South Beach.....	DF.....	Found annually along coast this time of year
Black Swift (1).....	May 21 .....	West Eugene.....	BC.....	Rare in the valley
Vaux's Swift.....	Apr 9.....	Alton Baker Park.....	TJ.....	A couple days earlier than normal
Vaux's Swift (55).....	Apr 9.....	Agate Hall .....	BC.....	First entering the chimney to roost
Costa's Hummingbird.....	Apr 17 .....	Creswell area .....	HL.....	Rare for Lane Co - less than 15 records
Calliope Hummingbird.....	Apr 10 .....	Eugene area .....	BG,MN .....	First of large numbers seen this spring
American Avocet.....	Apr 29 .....	Sutton Beach.....	DF.....	Rare on the coast
Black-bellied Plover (2) .....	Apr 15 .....	Silcoos River mouth .....	DF.....	The first of the season
Whimbrel (10) .....	Apr 14 .....	SJSR.....	DF.....	The first of the season
Whimbrel (22) .....	Apr 25 .....	Eugene airport area.....	JS.....	A very large flock for the valley
Marbled Godwit (4).....	Apr 12 .....	NJSR beach.....	NT .....	The first of the season
Ruddy Turnstone.....	May 7 .....	SJSR.....	RR.....	Uncommon spring migrant
Red Knot.....	Apr 16 .....	Sutton Beach.....	DF.....	The first of good numbers this spring
Pectoral Sandpiper.....	May 5 .....	Stewart Road area.....	DJ.....	Rarely found in the spring
Western Sandpiper.....	Apr 12 .....	Baker Beach.....	DF.....	The first of the season
Short-billed Dowitcher .....	Apr 5.....	Silcoos River mouth .....	DF.....	The first of the season
Solitary Sandpiper .....	Apr 20 .....	Fiddle Creek.....	DF.....	Uncommon along the coast, and early
Solitary Sandpiper (4) .....	Apr 26 .....	Stewart Road area.....	JLi.....	Large number, but normal time and location
Wandering Tattler.....	May 7 .....	SJSR.....	RR.....	Uncommon spring migrant
Wilson's Phalarope.....	May 5 .....	Stewart Road area.....	JLi.....	Right on time
Red-necked Phalarope (3).....	Apr 9.....	FRR - Royal Ave.....	SM .....	First of the season
Red-necked Phalarope (400) .....	May 7 .....	SJSR.....	RR.....	A large number for any day

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### GULLS TO SWALLOWS

Bonaparte's Gull (300).....	May 7 .....	Heceta Beach .....	RR.....	Large numbers migrating north
Glaucous Gull (photos).....	Apr 25 .....	North Lane coast .....	VB,et al.....	Getting late for this species
Black Tern .....	May 4 .....	FRR.....	JG.....	Right on time
Forster's Tern .....	May 17 .....	FRR.....	SH.....	They have bred in the past
Brant's Cormorant.....	Apr 25 .....	Sea Lion Caves.....	LW.....	The first birds on the nesting cliffs
American White Pelican (16) .....	Apr 21 .....	Springfield.....	CT.....	Flying over - headed to FRR?
Cattle Egret.....	Apr 23 .....	FRR - Royal.....	NS.....	Rare in Lane Co, especially in the spring
Black-crowned Night-Heron.....	May 23 .....	Alton Baker Park.....	EZ .....	Rarely found in the spring
Swainson's Hawk (photo).....	May 2 .....	West Eugene .....	MN.....	Rare in Lane Co, but normal time
Great Gray Owl (photo).....	Apr 2.....	Jasper area.....	JR.....	They've been found in the area in the past
Merlin .....	Apr 16 .....	Sutton Beach .....	DF.....	Following shorebirds north as usual
Olive-sided Flycatcher.....	Apr 26 .....	Skinner Butte.....	RF,GM.....	A few days earlier than normal
Western Wood-Pewee .....	Apr 29 .....	Skinner Butte.....	RR.....	A couple days earlier than normal
Willow Flycatcher .....	May 16 .....	Coyote Creek area.....	RR.....	A couple days later than normal
Hammond's Flycatcher.....	Apr 15 .....	Southeast Eugene.....	AM.....	About a week earlier than normal
Gray Flycatcher .....	Apr 30 .....	Mt Pisgah.....	SH.....	Rare in Lane - large number found this spring
Ash-throated Flycatcher.....	Apr 20 .....	Skinner Butte.....	RF,DA .....	A couple weeks earlier than normal
Western Kingbird.....	Apr 7.....	Junction City area.....	BC.....	A little over a week earlier than normal

Loggerhead Shrike.....	Apr 28.....	Cantrell Road.....	SH.....	Rare in Lane Co, but normal time
Cassin's Vireo.....	Apr 13.....	Skinner Butte.....	SH.....	About a week later than normal
Purple Martin.....	Apr 6.....	FRR - Royal Ave.....	TJ.....	A few days earlier than normal
Bank Swallow.....	Apr 6.....	FRR - Fisher Butte.....	NS.....	Rarely found during the spring
Bank Swallow.....	May 12.....	Florence.....	DF.....	Rarely found during the spring

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## WRENS TO BUNTINGS

Rock Wren.....	May 8.....	Highway 99 area.....	JS.....	A spring "over-shoot" from central OR
House Wren.....	Apr 10.....	Alvadore.....	BB.....	About a week earlier than normal
Sedge Wren.....	May 5.....	Waite Ranch.....	DF.....	Seen again after more than a month unseen
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.....	Apr 30.....	Mt Pisgah.....	SH.....	They have nested the last few years
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.....	May 7.....	Skinner Butte.....	JLi.....	Rare away from Mt Pisgah
Swainson's Thrush.....	May 2.....	Creswell.....	NS.....	Right on time
Lapland Longspur.....	May 4.....	Sea Rose Beach.....	SH,et al.....	Rarely found in the spring
Clay-colored Sparrow (singing).....	Apr 25.....	Florence.....	DF.....	A rare record - over wintered?
Lark Sparrow.....	May 16.....	Eugene.....	NC.....	Rare in Lane Co, but normal time
Grasshopper Sparrow.....	May 11.....	FRR.....	AS,EG.....	A couple days later than normal
White-throated Sparrow (5).....	Apr 27.....	Skinner Butte.....	SG,CK.....	A large number away from feeders
Harris's Sparrow (photos).....	May 11/12.....	Florence.....	BO,JLa.....	A very late sighting
Yellow-breasted Chat.....	May 4.....	Walterville reservoir.....	VB.....	Right on time
Yellow-headed Blackbird.....	Apr 1.....	Oakridge.....	MLS.....	An unusual location for this species
Hooded Oriole (photo).....	Apr 20.....	London Springs.....	LA.....	Rare in Lane Co - less than 10 records
Bullock's Oriole.....	Apr 22.....	FRR - Perkins.....	SH.....	A couple days earlier than normal
Nashville Warbler.....	Apr 14.....	Skinner Butte.....	VB,MO.....	Right on time
MacGillivray's Warbler.....	Apr 17.....	FRR - Perkins.....	RH.....	A few days earlier than normal
Yellow Warbler.....	Apr 23.....	FRR - Royal.....	NS.....	A few days earlier than normal
Palm Warbler.....	Apr 26.....	West Lake.....	DF.....	An over-wintering bird
Black-throated Gray Warbler.....	Apr 13.....	Skinner Butte.....	VB.....	About a week later than normal
Hermit Warbler.....	Apr 22.....	Creswell area.....	NS.....	Right on time
Wilson's Warbler.....	Apr 14.....	Skinner Butte.....	VB,MO.....	A couple days later than normal
Western Tanager.....	Apr 3.....	River Road area.....	LMa.....	A very early record
Western Tanager.....	Apr 19.....	Skinner Butte.....	JS,et al.....	A few days earlier than normal
Black-headed Grosbeak.....	Apr 20.....	Eugene.....	KL.....	A couple days earlier than normal
Lazuli Bunting.....	Apr 24.....	Skinner Butte.....	LG.....	A few days earlier than normal

AM Allison Mickel, AS Anne Sammis, BB Brian Brodenick, BC Barbara Combs, BG Brandon Green, BN Bruce Newhouse, BO Bonnie Olson, CK Cary Kerst, CT Cindy Tofflemoyer, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, DJ Dave Jones, EG Eric Gropp, EZ Elias Zuniga, GM Gerry Meenaghan, HL Hydie Lown, JG Joshua Galpern, JLa Jaklyn Larsen, JLi Joshua Little, JR Jim Reed, JS John Sullivan, KL Kit Larsen, LA Laurie Anderson, LG Linda Gilbert, LMa Libbie Marshall, LW Lisa Wallace, MLS Mary Lee Sayre, MN Mark Nikas, MO Megan O'Neill, NC Nancy Clogston, NS Noah Strycker, NT Nikki Thomas, RF Rachael Friese, RH Rebecca Hartman, RR Roger Robb, SG Steve Gordon, SH Sally Hill, SM Sylvia Maulding, TJ Tye Jeske, VB Vickie Buck. Fide references a sighting reported to the listed observer.