

Field Notes: April/May 2018

Trumpeter Swan, White-faced Ibis, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Rock Wren, Townsend's Solitaire, Indigo Bunting

It seems like the majority of migrants have arrived earlier than "normal" for the last few years. Is this due to global climate change, or are an ever-increasing number of people out looking? The "normal" we use is a spreadsheet we started in 1994 to track migrant arrival dates. Each year the dates are entered into the spreadsheet and the average is automatically readjusted.

Abbreviations: Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), Middle Fork (MF), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR).

WATERFOWL TO TERNS

Trumpeter Swan	May 18	Gold Lake	FT	A very unusual location and date!
Blue-winged Teal	April 10	Meadowlark Prairie	LB	About two weeks earlier than normal
Redhead (4)	April 19	FRR - Royal Ave	RR	Returning for the breeding season
Harlequin Duck	April 26	HJ Andrews Forest	ND	Are they nesting in the area?
Common Poorwill	May 22	MF Willamette River	Csm	Rarely found in the county
Black Swift	May 22	Salt Creek Falls	VB,SH	Returning to their nesting area
Vaux's Swift	April 8	UO Agate Hall	BC	Right on time
Calliope Hummingbird	April 18	Skinner Butte	SH	Small numbers occur during spring migration
Sora	April 13	Stewart Pond	SH,SM	A few days later than normal
Black-necked Stilt	April 15	FRR - Fisher Butte	RR	About a week earlier than normal
Black-necked Stilt (12)	April 25	FRR - Fisher Butte	SH	A very large number!
American Avocet	May 28	FRR - Fisher Butte	VT	They have bred in the past
Pacific Golden-Plover	May 1	Heceta Beach	NS	Rare during spring migration
Red Knot	May 2	Baker Beach	DF	Migrate through in small numbers
Solitary Sandpiper	April 26	Meadowlark Prairie	N&ZS	Migrate through in a very narrow window
Wilson's Phalarope	April 28	FRR - Fisher Butte	JP	About a week earlier than normal
Red-necked Phalarope (4)	May 4	FRR - E Coyote	SH	Rare inland during migration
Caspian Tern	April 9	Florence - Old Town	DF	A normal arrival date
Black Tern	May 4	FRR	SR	Right on time

ALCIDS TO VIREOS

Marbled Murrelet (30)	May 4	Siltcoos River mouth	JS,JL	A large number for Lane Co
Cassin's Auklet (200)	May 18	Siltcoos River mouth	JS	Very large number for Lane Co
Rhinoceros Auklet	April 9	Sea Lion Caves	SH,DP	Returning to their nesting area
Brown Pelican	April 28	SJSR	JP	A very early return date again this year
Great Egret	May 22	W Eugene	VT	Birds seen in a heronry - breeding?
White-faced Ibis (13)	May 11	FRR - Fisher Butte	JS	Rare in the valley during spring migration
Great Gray Owl	May 23	S of Oakridge	Csm	Small numbers breed in the Cascades
Lewis's Woodpecker (2)	April 20	Creswell area	SS	Wintered in the area
Merlin	May 1	Alton Baker Park	LGi	The last report for the winter season
Olive-sided Flycatcher	April 26	Baker Beach area	SH	First arrival on the coast
Olive-sided Flycatcher	April 28	FRR - Perkins	BV,LGi	A few days earlier than normal
Western Wood-Pewee	April 27	Skinner Butte	SH	A few days earlier than normal
Willow Flycatcher	May 13	FRR - Fisher Butte	BC	Right on time
Hammond's Flycatcher	April 16	Springfield	SM	A few days earlier than normal
Hammond's Flycatcher	April 16	Razor Park	LG	A few days earlier than normal
Dusky Flycatcher	April 25	Creswell area	NS	A few days earlier than normal
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	April 11	SE Eugene	AM	About a week earlier than normal
Ash-throated Flycatcher	May 11	Oakridge	MLS	Rare in Lane Co
Western Kingbird	April 18	Skinner Butte	RF	A couple days later than normal
Cassin's Vireo	April 5	Skinner Butte	SH	Right on time
Warbling Vireo	April 5	Skinner Butte	SH	A couple weeks earlier than normal

JAYS TO BUNTINGS

California Scrub-Jay (35)	April 25	FRR - Perkins	AC,VT	All flying south from the point - why?
Purple Martin	April 13	FRR - Perkins	RS	A few days later than normal
Rock Wren	May 4	E Springfield	GG	Rare in the valley during spring migration
House Wren	April 20	Mt Pisgah/Wild Iris R	SH/BB	A couple days later than normal
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	May 23	Mt Pisgah	RR	Third year in a row they've been found there
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	May 8	Wild Iris Ridge	CA	The last report for the winter season
Townsend's Solitaire	April 18	Skinner Butte.....	RR	Always rare on the valley floor in Lane Co
Swainson's Thrush	May 3	SE Eugene.....	TM	Right on time
Evening Grosbeak	April 17	Eugene	m.ob.	Large numbers all around town!
Chipping Sparrow	May 5	Baker Beach	DF	Rarely seen along beach
Vesper Sparrow	April 26	N Eugene.....	BC	A couple weeks later than normal
Black-throated Sparrow	May 8	NJSR.....	DC	Rare spring "overshoot" from the
Black-throated Sparrow	May 11	Oakridge	fide MLS	Great Basin
Grasshopper Sparrow	May 6	FRR - Royal Ave.....	JS,JL	Right on time
Yellow-breasted Chat	April 28	KR Nielsen Rd	SH	About a week earlier than normal
Yellow-headed Blackbird	April 2	FRR	VB	Right on time
Yellow-headed Blackbird	April 21	Ayres Rd area	FW	Normally only found at FRR
Bullock's Oriole	April 26	FRR - Perkins	SH	Right on time
Nashville Warbler	April 14	EWEB - Roosevelt.....	BC	Right on time
MacGillivray's Warbler	April 22	Mt Pisgah/Skinner B	TC/SH	A couple days later than normal
Yellow Warbler	April 22	Skinner Butte.....	PR,BH.....	A few days earlier than normal
Black-throated Gray Warbler	April 7	Skinner B/Harlow Rd	SH/PO	A couple days later than normal
Hermit Warbler	April 23	Creswell area	NS	A couple days later than normal
Wilson's Warbler	April 13	SE Eugene.....	TM	A couple days later than normal
Western Tanager	April 23	E Eugene.....	JG	Right on time
Black-headed Grosbeak	April 19	Bloomberg Rd	AP	A couple days earlier than normal
Indigo Bunting	May 16	Mt Pisgah area	LGG,CSh.....	Rare in Lane Co
Lazuli Bunting	April 20	Junction City area.....	BC	About a week earlier than normal

AC Alan Contreras, **AM** Allison Mickel, **AP** Al Prigge, **BB** Brain Broderick, **BC** Barbara Combs, **BH** Ben Haller, **CA** Cindy Armstrong, **CSh** Chris Shuraleff, **CSm** Cody Smith, **DC** Doug Coleman, **DF** Daniel Farrar, **DP** Diane Pettey, **FT** Forest Tomlinson, **FW** Floyd Weitzel, **GG** George Grier, **JG** Joshua Galpern, **JL** Joshua Little, **JP** John Polo, **JS** John Sullivan, **LB** Laurie Brandt, **LG** Linda Gilbert, **LGG** Lyn Gilmand-Garrick, **LGi** Levi Gruszinski, **MLS** Mary Lee Sayre, **m.ob.** many observers, **ND** Nate Day, **N&ZS** Nancy and Zanah Stotz, **NS** Noah Strycker, **PO** Pam Otley, **PR** Peter Ralph, **RF** Rachael Friese, **RR** Roger Robb, **RS** Randy Sinnott, **SH** Sally Hill, **SM** Sylvia Maulding, **TM** Tom Mickel, **SR** Skip Russell, **SS** Sue Sheppard, **TC** Thomas Cramer, **VB** Vickie Buck, **VT** Vjera Thompson. **Fide** indicates a sighting that was reported to the listed observer.