

FIELD NOTES: MARCH 2009

• Swans leave, pelicans arrive at Fern Ridge • Rail heard at Mt. Pisgah • Kittiwakes flock to Florence • Longspurs walk the beach

Spring migration has started, as you can see by the reports below, so now is a great time to get out and enjoy your favorite birding locations. As you're doing that, don't forget to let us know what you're seeing.

WATERBIRDS

Ross's Goose	Mar. 14	Fern Ridge Reservoir	JG	They winter here in very small numbers.
Tundra Swan	Mar. 3	SJSR Deflation Plain	B&ZS	Last sighting for this winter
Tundra Swan (2)	Mar. 23	Fern Ridge Reservoir	NS	Typical date for last sighting of the season
Western Grebe	Mar. 30	Delta Ponds	SH	Unusual location
American White Pelican	Mar. 21	Fern Ridge Reservoir	JH	Returning for the summer again

RAPTORS

Turkey Vulture (5)	Mar. 10	Alton Baker Park	AM	First migrants
Osprey	Mar. 7	Fern Ridge Reservoir	EC,ER	Returned to the area a few days earlier than usual
Rough-legged Hawk	Mar. 21	Junction City area	JS	Toward the end of their winter stay
Merlin	Mar. 14	Creswell area	BF	Around in small numbers during the winter

RAILS, SHOREBIRDS, GULLS

Virginia Rail	Mar. 13	Mt. Pisgah	AP,BH	Heard calling from the small marsh near the east trailhead; a typical date for their return to breeding areas
Black-bellied Plover	Mar. 23	Fern Ridge Reservoir	NS	They winter here in small numbers.
Mew Gull	Mar. 11	Delta Ponds area	TM et al.	Small flocks were moving north throughout
Mew Gull	Mar. 11	I-5 area	AC	the Lane County Willamette Valley on this day
Glaucous Gull	Mar. 14	Florence	JG	In the area for about a month
Black-legged Kittiwake (300+)	Mar. 2	Florence area	A&ES	A very large number

PASSERINES

Red-breasted Sapsucker	Mar. 13	Mt. Pisgah	AP,BH	Southern (daggetti) race; Not often found in the Eugene-Springfield area
Black Phoebe (2)	Mar. 2	Cantrell Rd.	PS,SM,DS	A location where they have bred in the past
Say's Phoebe	Mar.	Eugene-Springfield	m.ob.	Larger numbers than usual were found throughout the area this month.
Tree Swallow	Mar. 17	Ada Grange area	B&ZS	First spring report for the area

Violet-green Swallow	Mar. 22	Ada Grange area	B&ZS	First spring report for the area
Cliff Swallow	Mar. 30	Fern Ridge Reservoir	NS	A few days later than is normal
Barn Swallow	Mar. 30	Fern Ridge Reservoir	NS	Returning right on time
Ruby-crowned Kinglets	Mar. 30	Mt. Pisgah	EC	Large numbers of migrants in the area
Orange-crowned Warbler	Mar. 20	Skinner Butte	SH	Returning right on schedule
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Mar. 9	Santa Clara area	MRu	A significant increase in numbers at feeders as migrants starting to arrive
Hermit Warbler	Feb. 24	Eugene, south hills	BMc	A female coming to a suet feeder
Hermit Warbler	Mar. 14	N. Eugene	BG	A male coming to a suet feeder; both birds are most likely ones that wintered locally.
Common Yellowthroat	Mar. 30	Fern Ridge Reservoir	NS	Returning right on schedule
Chipping Sparrow	Mar. 21	Delta Ponds	DH	A little over a week earlier than usual
Fox Sparrow	Mar. 30	Mt. Pisgah	EC	None were found where they're typically common all winter
Lapland Longspur (15+)	Mar. 16	North Jetty beach	B&ZS	A casual migrant along the outer coast
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Mar. 30	Fern Ridge Reservoir	DJ	A few days earlier than usual
Evening Grosbeak	Mar. 27	River Road area	BC	Returning right on time

ABBREVIATIONS

FRR Fern Ridge Reservoir; **North Jetty** North Jetty, Suislaw R.; **SJSR** South Jetty, Siuslaw R.

THANK YOU, CONTRIBUTORS!

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