

## Field Notes: November–December 2009

### • Little Gull big news • Great Grey Owl in McKenzie Bridge • Tropical Kingbird not tropical • Northern Mockingbird swings northward

The November–December period was fairly uneventful except for the week of cold weather in the middle of December. The one exciting discovery was a Little Gull found on Fern Ridge Reservoir—a first for Lane County! Unfortunately, the gull was seen only on the afternoon of its discovery.

#### WATERBIRDS

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<b>Greater White-fronted Goose</b> (14)	Nov. 1	Baker Beach area	AC	A little late for a migrating flock
<b>Snow Goose</b> (5)	Dec. 5	FRR: Royal Ave.	JS	Here in small numbers every winter
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b> (4)	Dec. 7	Kirk Pond	LM,DA	Normally a good location for this species
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b>	Dec. 21	Cushman	A&DH	Another good location for the species
<b>Cinnamon Teal</b>	Dec. 19	Florence CBC	fide RR	A first for this bird count
<b>Canvasback</b>	Nov. 15	Dexter Reservoir	JS	Returned for the winter
<b>Canvasback</b>	Dec. 19	Oakridge	CF	Not common at this location
<b>Redhead</b> (7)	Nov. 15	Dexter Reservoir	JS	A good winter location for this species
<b>Harlequin Duck</b>	Nov. 17	South Jetty, Siuslaw R.	HH	Not often found at this location
<b>Common Goldeneye</b> (3)	Nov. 15	Dexter Reservoir	JS	A normal wintering location
<b>Red-throated Loon</b>	Nov. 4	Dexter Reservoir	LM et al.	Not commonly found inland
<b>Eared Grebe</b> (3)	Nov. 7	Dexter Reservoir	JS, LJ	They've wintered here in the past.
<b>Eared Grebe</b>	Dec. 27	Hills Creek Reservoir	C&MM	Unusual? Few people bird this area
<b>Northern Fulmar</b>	Nov. 1	Kloutchman SW	AC	Still moving south along the coast
<b>American White Pelican</b>	Nov. 23	Fern Ridge Reservoir	JS	Two still present on the reservoir
<b>Brown Pelican</b> (1000+)	Nov. 8	North Jetty Siuslaw R.	HH	Large numbers still around
<b>Brown Pelican</b> (500)	Dec. 19	Florence CBC	fide RR	Still around in high numbers
<b>Green Heron</b>	Dec. 2	Island Park	LM et al.	A few normally winter in the area
<b>Green Heron</b>	Dec. 23	near Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene	LM et al.	A few normally winter in the area

#### RAPTORS

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<b>Turkey Vulture</b>	Nov. 4	Hayden Bridge area	TE	Not an area where the species normally winters
<b>Osprey</b>	Dec. 19	Florence CBC	fide RR	Uncommon along Lane County coast in winter
<b>White-tailed Kite</b> (12)	Nov. 14	FRR–Royal Ave.	JS	Headed to their night roost in the marsh
<b>White-tailed Kite</b> (11)	Dec. 5	FRR–Royal Ave.	JS	Headed to their night roost in the marsh

<b>Bald Eagle</b> (14)	Dec. 7	FRR	LM,DA	Always a good winter location given the large numbers of waterfowl
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>	Dec. 31	Amazon Park, Eugene	DD	First report of this species at this location
<b>Red-tailed (Harlan's) Hawk</b>	Dec. 9	Eugene Airport area	LM et al.	A species that has wintered here in the past
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b> (3)	Dec. 8	Eugene airport area	DS,PS,SM	A typical number for this area

## RAILS, SHOREBIRDS, GULLS, & OWLS

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<b>Virginia Rail</b> (30+) to the CBC	Dec. 19	Florence area	fide RR	Amazing numbers given the cold weather prior
<b>Sora</b>	Dec. 24	Walterville Pond	AB et al.	An uncommon location, especially in winter
<b>Red Phalarope</b> (4)	Nov. 8	North Jetty, Siuslaw R.	AC	A normal time for their southward migration
<b>Little Gull</b> (adult)	Dec. 6	FRR	DI,et.al.	First record for Lane County
<b>Heermann's Gull</b>	Dec. 26	Bob Creek	M&MD	They're staying around late with the pelicans.
<b>Thayer's Gull</b>	Nov. 1	Heceta Head	AC	First report for this winter
<b>Ancient Murrelet</b> (8)	Nov. 1	Klootchman SW	AC	A good number for the Lane County coast
<b>Barred Owl</b>	Dec. 14	Florence	AD	They continue to expand into unoccupied habitats.
<b>Great Gray Owl</b>	Nov. 28	McKenzie Bridge area	fide VT	Always an exciting find!
<b>Short-eared Owl</b>	Dec. 30	Meadowlark Prairie	JS	A good location for this species in the past

## PASSERINES

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<b>Lewis's Woodpecker</b> (6-8)	Dec. 6	FRR: Royal Ave.	LM et al.	Still being seen in the area
<b>Black Phoebe</b>	Nov. 18	W. 11th & Bertelsen	ET	Along Amazon Creek
<b>Black Phoebe</b>	Nov. 27	Delta Ponds	MP	A normal location for the species
<b>Black Phoebe</b> (10)	Dec. 19	Florence CBC	fide RR	A measure of just how common they've become
<b>Ash-throated Flycatcher</b>	Nov. 28	Woahink Lake area	DF	A very rare time and place for this species that normally winters south of the US
<b>Tropical Kingbird</b> (2)	Nov. 11	Florence	AD	A rare, but somewhat regular (every five years or so) fall species along the coast
<b>Northern Shrike</b>	Nov. 4	FRR: Royal Ave.	KP	First report for the valley this winter
<b>Northern Shrike</b> (2)	Nov. 14	FRR: Royal Ave.	JS	An adult and an immature
<b>Tree Swallow</b>	Dec. 13	FRR	VT	Surprising, given the cold weather the previous week!
<b>Western Bluebird</b>	Nov. 1	SE Eugene	LM	Not often found in his neighborhood
<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	Dec. 1	Deflation Plain	B&ZS	A species that has wintered in the past, but not as common recently
<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	Dec. 8	Cox Butte Road	DS,PS,SM	
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>	Nov. 11	Rose Garden, Eugene	LM et al.	A species that usually winters in small numbers
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>	Dec. 16	N. River Road	MRu	

<b>Townsend's Warbler</b> (25)	Nov. 11	Rose Garden, Eugene	LM,et.al.	A normal wintering species, but a large number for one flock
<b>MacGillivray's Warbler</b>	Nov. 21	Westfir	ER	Not a species that normally winters in the area, so to have two is quite unusual!
<b>MacGillivray's Warbler</b>	Nov. 25	Thistle Down Farms	TM,et.al.	
<b>Fox (Red) Sparrow</b>	Dec. 12	N. River Road	MM	A subspecies quite distinct from the Sooty subspecies that winter in large numbers; Two "Red's" were found last winter, so they may be around in very small numbers each year.
<b>Red Crossbill</b>	Dec.	Eugene south hills	TM	Flocks started frequenting the area in mid-Dec.

### Abbreviations

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**FRR** Fern Ridge Reservoir; **m.ob.** many observers; **Deflation Plain** Deflation plain near the South Jetty, Siuslaw River; **SW** State Wayside

### Thank you, contributors!

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