

FIELD NOTES: APRIL-MAY 2010

- **Broad-tailed Hummingbird – first in Lane County?**
- **Calliope Hummingbirds numerous at local feeders**
- **Great Egrets still here**
- **Acorn Woodpecker at Skinner Butte**
- **Evening Grosbeaks “everywhere” at UO campus**

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April and May were unseasonably wet and cool! This spring would have to be called “the spring of the Calliope Hummingbird” given the large numbers seen at local feeders. Calliope numbers tend to increase in the area during wet, cool springs because of the lack of wildflowers in their breeding habitat – the high Cascades and central Oregon. Despite the weather, most migrants seemed to be arriving on time, though many species lingered in the area instead of moving quickly through – most likely because of the weather. Both Black-necked Stilts and Wilson’s Phalarope, which have nested at Fern Ridge Reservoir for about 10 years, were seen only sporadically this spring. Were high water levels causing them to wander in their search for breeding habitat?

WATERBIRDS

Greater White-fronted Goose	Apr. 22	FRR	JS	220 is a large number for the area
Greater White-fronted Goose	Apr. 30	Eugene/Springfield	DI	5000+ flying over & heading to breeding grounds. During this time of year, flock after flock can be seen & heard flying W/NW over the Valley and Coast Range.
Snow Goose	May 7	Canary Road	B&ZS	An unusually late date
Brant	May 31	Siuslaw River	B&ZS	Last date species was seen along the coast
Eurasian Wigeon	May 8	FRR	VT	Last report for the winter
Blue-winged Teal	Apr. 30	FRR	DS	A couple of days earlier than normal
Blue-winged Teal	May 6	Ada Grange area	B&ZS	First coastal report for the breeding season
Redhead (pair)	Apr. 3	FRR	DS	First report for the breeding season
Tufted Duck	Apr. 17	FRR	A&TM	Last report for this bird’s spring visit
Horned Grebe	May 2	FRR	NN-P	Not usually found at FRR during migration
Clark’s Grebe	Apr. 29	Siuslaw River	B&ZS	Not common along the coast
Murphy’s Petrel	May 12	Cruise Ship, 50 mi out	JG,OS	Rarely seen off the Lane County Coast
Manx Shearwater	May 12	Cruise Ship, 50 mi out	JG,OS	Rarely seen off the Lane County Coast
American White Pelican	Apr. 3	FRR	DS	First report for the summer
Brown Pelican	Apr./May	Florence area	DF	They continue to be seen in good numbers.
Great Egret (3)	May 15	FRR	JS,LJ	Late date – are they nesting?
Black-crowned Night-Heron	Apr. 18	Ferry St. Bridge area	LM	A rare breeding season record

RAPTORS, SHOREBIRDS, GULLS, AUKLETS, & Quail

California Quail	Apr. 30	Dunes City	DF	A rather rare sighting along the coast
White-tailed Kite	Apr. 22	FRR	JS	Normally in their breeding areas by now
Bald Eagle	Apr. 9	Skinner Butte	TM	Nest had at least one eaglet
Red-shouldered Hawk (3)	Apr. 7	E. Regional Park	J&JD	The first report from the area
Swainson's Hawk	Apr. 15	SE Eugene	DD	A normal time for this rare spring migrant
Pacific Golden-Plover	Apr. 24	SJSR beach	B&ZS	Not common during spring migration
Black-necked Stilt (5)	Apr. 1	FRR, E. Coyote unit	SH	A little earlier than their normal arrival
American Avocet	Apr. 18	FRR, E. Coyote unit	DI,SF	Becoming a normal spring migrant
Lesser Yellowlegs	May 6	Meadowlark Prairie	JS	Never as common as Greater Yellowlegs, but
Lesser Yellowlegs	Apr. 23	Greenhill Road	DI	they do migrate through in small numbers.
Solitary Sandpiper	May 13	Meadowlark Prairie	JS	Normal migration window
Willet	May 14	SJSR	DF	Quite rare during spring migration
Wandering Tattler	May 4	Siltcoos River	DF	A normal time for migrants
Whimbrel (2)	Apr. 21	Siltcoos River	DF	A normal time for migrants
Long-billed Curlew	Apr. 10	crab dock	B&ZS	First report of the spring migration
Long-billed Curlew	May 12	FRR	SC	Not found annually in the valley
Marbled Godwit	Apr. 25	Siltcoos River	DF	Found in small numbers during spring
Red Knot	May 4	Heceta Beach	B&ZS	First report for their northward migration
Sanderling (1000)	Apr. 21	Siltcoos River	DF	High numbers for the latter part of migration
Short-billed Dowitcher	Apr. 10	Sutton Beach	DF	First report of the spring migration
Wilson's Phalarope	May 8	Meadowlark Prairie	VT	A few days later than normal
Red-necked Phalarope (2)	Apr. 27	Stewart Pond	JN	Small numbers reported in the valley during
Red-necked Phalarope (14)	May 3	LCC ponds	DD	migration
Bonaparte's Gull	Apr. 12	FRR	SM	Migrate through the valley in small numbers
Caspian Tern (3)	Apr. 8	Siltcoos River	DF	First report for the breeding season
Caspian Tern	May 8	FRR	VT	They regularly migrate through the valley
Black Tern	May 6	FRR	DS	A couple days later than normal
Cassin's Auklet	Apr. 18	NJSR	DI	Not normally seen from land
Rhinoceros Auklet	May 31	Siuslaw River	B&ZS	First seen feeding in the river this spring

PIGEONS, SWIFTS, DOVES & HUMMINGBIRDS

Band-tailed Pigeon	Apr. 14	Siltcoos River	DF	First report for the breeding season
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Apr. 19	Oakridge	CF	First report of this species in the local area
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Apr. 19	Seavy Loop Road	GC	First report of this species in that area
Common Nighthawk	May 30	W. Eugene	VT	A few days earlier than normal
Black Swift (50+)	May 26	SJSR	DF, LC	First report of large numbers migrating
Black Swift (9)	May 27	SJSR	DF	along the coast in Lane County
Vaux's Swift	Apr. 18	Skinner Butte	m.ob.	About a week later than normal
Calliope Hummingbird	Apr. 18	Ferry St. Bridge area	A&DH	The first of at least 10 feeders hosting this
				species in the Eugene/Springfield area during
				the rest of Apr. & first week of May.
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Apr. 30	Ferry St. Bridge area	A&DH	A possible female photographed at their

feeder. Would be a first Lane County record

Passerines: Woodpeckers to Thrushes

Lewis's Woodpecker	Apr. 25	Royal Ave	JS	Last report for these wintering birds
Acorn Woodpecker	Apr. 17	Skinner Butte	DI, et.al.	An unusual location for this species
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Apr. 30	Baker Beach	B&ZS	The first report for the local area
Olive-sided Flycatcher	May 4	Skinner Butte	JS	A few days later than normal
Western Wood-Pewee	May 3	FRR, Richardson Park	DI	Arriving right on schedule
Willow Flycatcher	May 19	Mt. Pisgah	LM,et.al.	About a week later than normal
Hammond's Flycatcher	Apr. 16	Coburg Ridge	TM	Arriving right on schedule
Gray Flycatcher	Apr. 28	Skinner Butte	LM,et.al.	Not annual during spring migration
Gray Flycatcher	May 5	Dorris Ranch	LM, et.al.	About 10 records for Lane County
Dusky Flycatcher	Apr. 19	SE Eugene	TM	Arriving right on schedule
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	Apr. 20	Alton Baker Park	AM	Arriving right on schedule
Ash-throated Flycatcher	May 25	Stewart Pond area	JH	A couple weeks later than normal
Western Kingbird	Apr. 16	Eugene airport	JS	About a week earlier than normal
Western Kingbird	Apr. 16	Willow Creek	TM	About a week earlier than normal
Northern Shrike	Apr. 1	Cantrell Road	DS	Last report for the winter
Cassin's Vireo	Apr. 14	SE Eugene	TM	About a week later than normal
Warbling Vireo	Apr. 17	River Road area	BC	A few days earlier than normal
Purple Martin	Apr. 10	FRR	DS	Arriving right on schedule
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Apr. 3	FRR	AC,TG	Arriving right on schedule
Barn Swallow	Apr. 10	FRR	DS	About a week and a half later than normal
Canyon Wren	Apr. 23	Oakridge area	CF	Less than 10 records for Lane County
House Wren	Apr. 20	Oakhill Road	JS	Arriving right on time
American Dipper	May 1	Cave Creek	B&ZS	Young fledged from nest
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	May 11	SE Eugene	DI	Last report for the winter
Swainson's Thrush	Apr. 29	Elijah Bristow SP	BC	A few days earlier than normal
Mountain Bluebird (female)	Apr. 4	FRR, E. Coyote unit	A&DH	Occasionally found in the valley

PASSERINES: WARBLERS TO FINCHES

Tennessee Warbler	May 27	SE Eugene	DG	About a dozen records for Lane County
Nashville Warbler	Apr. 17	Skinner Butte	DI, et.al.	A few days later than normal
Nashville Warbler	Apr. 18	Florence	SF	Rarely found on the coast
Yellow Warbler	May 7	FRR, Zumwalt Park	TM	About a week later than normal
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Apr. 7	Alton Baker Park	DA,et.al.	Arriving right on schedule
Hermit Warbler	Apr. 21	SE Eugene	TM	Arriving right on schedule
Hermit Warbler	May 7	Canary Road area	B&ZS	First report for the area
MacGillivray's Warbler	Apr. 17	Skinner Butte	DI, et.al.	A few days earlier than normal
Common Yellowthroat	Apr. 10	Fiddle Creek	B&ZS	First report for the area
Wilson's Warbler	Apr. 11	Skinner Butte	A&TM	Arriving right on schedule

Yellow-breasted Chat	May 7	FRR	TM	Arriving right on schedule
Western Tanager	Apr. 18	Skinner Butte	RR	A couple days earlier than normal
Chipping Sparrow	May 1	Heceta Head	B&ZS	First report for the area
Vesper Sparrow	Apr. 18	Dukhober Road	DI,SF	About two weeks later than normal
Grasshopper Sparrow	May 16	FRR, Royal Ave	TM	Singing on their traditional breeding site
Grasshopper Sparrow	May 25	Stewart Pond area	JS	A first report for this area
Fox Sparrow	Apr. 22	Perkins Peninsula Park	JS	Last report for the winter
Lincoln's Sparrow (singing)	Apr. 10	Meadowlark Prairie	VT	Not commonly heard in the valley
White-throated Sparrow	May 4	Veneta	DH	Last report for the winter
Golden-crowned Sparrow	May 17	Skinner Butte	SF	Last report for the winter
Dark-eyed Junco	Apr. 14	SE Eugene	AC	The last date in his yard for the winter
Black-headed Grosbeak	Apr. 21	SE Eugene	TM	Arriving about a week earlier than normal
Lazuli Bunting	Apr. 25	Skinner Butte	BB	A few days earlier than normal
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Apr. 11	FRR, Royal Ave	A&TM	About a week later than normal
Brown-headed Cowbird	Apr. 23	Alton Baker Park	VT	About three weeks later than normal
Bullock's Oriole	Apr. 24	Skinner Butte	BB	Arriving right on schedule
Red Crossbill	May 28	Siltcoos River	B&ZS	Numbers & frequency aren't as high as they used to be in the pine & spruce/hemlock habitats along the coast
Evening Grosbeak (1000's)	Apr. 27	U of O	MP	"Everywhere on campus"

Abbreviations

Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), many observers (m.ob.), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River crab dock (crab dock).

Thank you, contributors!

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