

## FIELD NOTES: NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010

### • Ancient Murrelets at mouth of Siuslaw River • Gyrfalcon at Green Island • Nashville and Palm Warblers seen in Florence • Lewis's Woodpecker appears at Willow Creek

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The weather was fairly typical for November and December. One of the highlights was a female or immature American Redstart that occasionally visited Brandon's backyard for about a month without any other birders ever seeing it. This was only the fourth record for Lane County. A Gyrfalcon found on Green Island was only the sixth Lane County record. There were three reports of Sandhill Cranes, which normally just migrate through in the spring and fall, as well as three reports of Ancient Murrelets, a species that hasn't been easy to find in the county for a number of years. There was also the somewhat bazaar sighting of a Barred Owl being mobbed by American Crows in a backyard near the corner of Coburg and Cal Young Roads. Last, but not least, a few species warblers popped up in Eugene, and it appears that more of these Neotropical migrants are attempting to winter here than in the past.

#### WATERBIRDS

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<b>Greater White-fronted Goose</b> (50+)	Nov. 8	Oakridge	CF	Not normally found in the area
<b>Snow Goose</b>	Nov. 8	Oakridge	CF	One was spotted with the White-fronted Geese
<b>Brant</b> (5)	Nov. 27	No. coast	AC	Flying south – not common at this time
<b>Canvasback</b> (12)	Nov. 28	Dexter Reservoir	CF	A normal wintering location
<b>Redhead</b>	Nov. 28	LCC ponds	E&VT	They winter in small numbers some years
<b>Redhead</b>	Dec. 5	Dexter Reservoir	AC	They winter in small numbers some years
<b>Hooded Merganser</b> (12)	Nov. 28	LCC ponds	E&VT	A large number for any one location
<b>Red-breasted Merganser</b> (20)	Nov. 11	Siuslaw River mouth	AC	A large number for the Lane Co. coast
<b>Northern Fulmar</b>	Nov. 11	Kloutchman SW	AC	Around in small numbers during the winter
<b>American White Pelican</b>	Dec. 5	FRR	JS	One bird found through the month
<b>Brown Pelican</b> (40)	Nov. 11	Heceta Head	AC	Still around
<b>Green Heron</b>	Nov. 25	East Regional Park	MP	Small numbers winter some years
<b>Green Heron</b>	Dec. 22	Delta Ponds	LM,et.al.	Small numbers winter some years

#### VULTURES TO ALCIDS

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<b>Turkey Vulture</b> (2)	Nov. 15	Lorane area	DG	Late migrants or wintering?
<b>Turkey Vulture</b> (7)	Nov. 29	Willow Creek	CQ	First winter sighting for the preserve
<b>Osprey</b>	Nov. 20	FRR	JS	Last report from FRR.
<b>Osprey</b>	Last wk Nov.	Cottage Grove dam	LK	Not a normal wintering location
<b>Gyrfalcon</b>	Dec. 27	Green Island	RR	Sixth record for Lane Co.
<b>Merlin</b>	Nov.-Dec.	Eugene/Springfield	m.ob.	About normal numbers for time of year
<b>Prairie Falcon</b>	Nov. 21	Eugene airport area	JS	One or two winter most years

<b>Sora</b> (7)	Dec. 18	Florence CBC	fide RR	A large number for the ECBC
<b>Sandhill Crane</b> (9)	Nov. 3	Mt. Pisgah	LM,et.al.	A late report for the area
<b>Sandhill Crane</b> (9)	Nov. 17	Cloverdale Rd area	LM,et.al.	Same birds as above?
<b>Sandhill Crane</b> (39)	Nov. 22	River Bend Hospital	JH	A large number for winter in Lane Co.
<b>Snowy Plover</b> (10)	Nov. 26	Heceta Beach	RM	Not commonly found here
<b>Red Phalarope</b> (3)	Nov. 6	NJSR	DP	A normal time for their migration
<b>Parasitic Jaeger</b>	Nov. 6	NJSR	DP	Never common from land
<b>Heermann's Gull</b>	Nov. 7	SJSR	DF, LC	A few still around
<b>Heermann's Gull</b>	Nov. 11	No. coast	AC	Small numbers flying south
<b>Glaucous Gull</b>	Dec. 26	Florence	DF	They are around in small numbers most winters
<b>Ancient Murrelet</b> (2)	Nov. 6	NJSR	DP	<i>Not commonly found in Lane Co. in the</i>
<b>Ancient Murrelet</b>	Nov. 11	Kloutchman SW	AC	<i>last few years, but maybe things are</i>
<b>Ancient Murrelet</b>	Nov. 27	Siuslaw River mouth	AC	<i>changing after the reports this year</i>
<b>Rhinoceros Auklet</b>	Nov. 11	Siuslaw River mouth	AC	Not commonly found in the river this time of year
<b>Rhinoceros Auklet</b>	Nov. 11	Kloutchman SW	AC	A more normal winter location

## PIGEONS TO SPARROWS

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<b>-crowned Warbler</b>	Nov. 14	Valley River BB	SG	They winter in small numbers most
<b>Band-tailed Pigeon</b>	Dec. 18	Florence CBC	fide RR	They don't normally winter in Lane Co.
<b>Barred Owl</b>	Dec. 12	No. Eugene	CT	In someone's backyard!
<b>Belted Kingfisher</b>	Dec. 5	Gold Lake	LG	The lake was frozen over, but it was fishing where Salt Creek flows out of the lake.
<b>Lewis's Woodpecker</b>	Nov. 12	Willow Creek	TM	First report for the preserve
<b>Acorn Woodpecker</b>	Dec. 6	So central Eugene	NN-P	Not a normal location for the species
<b>Black Phoebe</b>	Nov. 3	Mt. Pisgah	LM,et.al.	First report for this area?
<b>Northern Shrike</b> (2)	Nov. 11	Deflation Plain	AC	A normal wintering location
<b>Tree Swallow</b>	Nov. 11	Siuslaw River mouth	AC	They occasionally winter
<b>Bushtit</b> (100+)	Nov. 10	Millrace	AM	A very large flock
<b>White-breasted Nuthatch</b>	Nov. 14	Delta Ponds	SG	Not commonly found away from oaks
<b>Varied Thrush</b>	Nov./Dec.	Eugene/Springfield	m.ob.	Large numbers reported at feeders/yards
<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	Nov. 11	Aubrey Lane	SH	Found in small numbers each winter
<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	Dec. 17	Florence	KL	Not commonly found at the coast
<b>Orange</b>				winters
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>	Dec. 11	FRR	JS	They winter in small numbers most winters.
<b>Nashville Warbler</b>	Dec. 30	Florence	TM	Very seldom found wintering in Lane Co.
<b>Hermit Warbler</b>	Dec. 20	East Eugene	LM	A species that doesn't winter here, but
<b>Hermit Warbler</b>	Dec. 27	Cottage Grove	MP	There have been a few reports over the last few years
<b>Palm Warbler</b>	Nov. 7	SJSR	DF, LC	Found in very small numbers some

<b>Palm Warbler</b>	Dec. 17	Florence	RH	winters, so finding three is way above
<b>Palm Warbler</b>	Dec. 18	Tiernan boat ramp	A&DH	average for Lane Co.
<b>American Redstart</b>	Nov. 6	No. Eugene	BG	Fourth record for Lane Co.
<b>Swamp Sparrow (2)</b>	Dec. 18	Tiernan boat ramp	A&DH	An area where they haven't been found before
<b>White-throated Sparrow (6)</b>	Dec. 28	River Road area	BC	A large number for anyone's backyard feeder!

### **Abbreviations**

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Bike Bridge (BB), Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw (SJSR), State Wayside (SW).

### **Thank you, contributors!**

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